

PH 0067024 D

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Kansas	
COUNTY: Chase	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER MAR 17 1972	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Nelson Ranch

AND/OR HISTORIC: ~~S. N. Wood House~~ (preferred name)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: SW 1/4, NE 1/4, Sec. 28, T 19 S, R 8 E
 One-half mile east of Cottonwood Falls

CITY OR TOWN: Cottonwood Falls vicinity

STATE Kansas	CODE 66845	COUNTY: Chase	CODE 017
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Mrs. Ludvig (Selma) Nelson

STREET AND NUMBER: 824 North Ash

CITY OR TOWN: McPherson

STATE: Kansas	CODE 67460
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Register of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER: Chase County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Cottonwood Falls

STATE: Kansas	CODE 66845
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Survey of Historic Sites and Structures in Kansas

DATE OF SURVEY: 1957 Federal State County

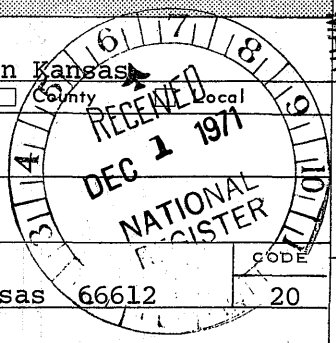
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Kansas State Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth Street

CITY OR TOWN: Topeka

STATE: Kansas	CODE 66612
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The S. N. Wood House east of Cottonwood Falls is a large two-story native limestone ranch house, which is generally rectangular in shape with the main facade on the south. The house was built in two, possibly three, sections. It is known that the east portion is the most recent.

The stone for the west part of the house is crudely laid in a random ashlar pattern with rough irregular joints and horizontal coursing. The stones vary greatly in size and are hand split. No special stone treatment is used around the window and door openings except for the solid stone lintels.

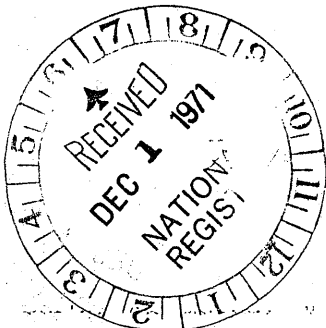
The stone masonry work for the east portion differs in that the individual stones are hand cut to a rectangular shape and the stone work is laid in random but horizontal coursing. The stones vary in size with the larger stones occurring at the building corners and window jambs.

The roof on the west portion is gabled while a hip roof covers the east part. The roof overhang is treated in simple plain lines. Red composition shingles now cover the roof. Window and door openings are simple rectangles with stone sills and lintels. A large porch spans the entire length of the south facade and is supported by ornamental columns. Winged brackets are used at the juncture of the porch roof line and the columns.

The interior of the house has been modernized: ceilings have been lowered and wood paneling placed on the walls. However, the thick interior stone walls are still quite noticeable at the doorways as are the large flat stone door sills.

Located just north of the house is a large stone barn featuring an arched cut stone entrance on the south. The barn was built for Sam Wood in the 1860's at the same time as the house. Other adjacent farm and ranch buildings, although well-kept, date from a later period.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Samuel Newitt Wood, a peripatetic politician of 19th century Kansas, built a large stone house on his farm just east of Cottonwood Falls in Chase county in the 1860's. Born in Ohio in 1825, Wood came to Lawrence, Kansas, in 1854 to work for the free-state cause. He helped establish Chase county in 1858 and settled near Cottonwood Falls in 1859, where on May 30, 1859, he published the first issue of The Kansas Press, the first newspaper in the county. Dissatisfied with the slow growth of the town, he moved paper and family to nearby Council Grove in August, 1859, and lived there for three years.

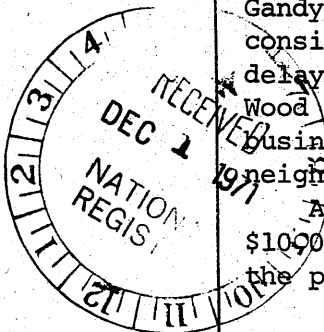
Sam Wood was elected in 1859 as the representative for Chase, Morris, and Madison counties in the territorial legislature. He was a member of the first state senate in 1861-1862 and was in the state senate again in 1867. He also served in the state house of representatives in 1864, 1866, 1876, and 1877, acting as speaker of the house in 1877. Wood had a number of terms as Chase county attorney and campaigned, usually unsuccessfully, for a variety of other positions over the years.

In addition to his political activity Wood had wide-ranging business interests. At various times he was, among other things, a practicing attorney, real estate broker, cattle buyer, cattle raiser, publisher, insurance agent, town promoter, and freight line operator. He was also a militia officer during the Civil War.

After several years in Council Grove, Wood returned to Cottonwood Falls and built the west part of the large stone house. The exact date of the construction is not known. A letter to Wood written in January, 1864, by H. L. Scribner, apparently an employee of Wood who looked after the farm, mentioned a stable being completed, and in May Scribner wrote that he was ready for the builder "to push the house as fast as possible." A letter from a Cottonwood Falls resident, A. P. Gandy, in 1867 indicated that work on Wood's house was going well considering the weather. Whether the construction of the house was delayed until 1867 or the 1867 letter refers to an addition is not clear. Wood used Cottonwood Falls as his base of operations, but his extensive business interests frequently took him to all parts of Kansas and into neighboring states.

As early as 1864 Wood was advertising his Chase county farm for sale--\$100000 for 1,080 acres. After the construction of the house and barn the price went up. On January 30, 1867, in the Chase County Banner

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cartter, David K., "Doctor William Hanford Cartter...", Chase County Historical Sketches, v. 2 (Chase County Historical Society, 1948), pp. 54-58.
 Chase County Banner (Cottonwood Falls), January 2, 10, 17, 24, 30, February 6, March 13, 20, April 17, May 28, 1869.
 Chase County Courant (Cottonwood Falls), October 30, November 6, 1874.
 "Colonel Samuel Newitt Wood," United States Biographical Dictionary (Chicago, S. Lewis and Co., 1879), pp. 297-299.
 Gaeddert, G. Raymond, "First Newspapers in Kansas Counties 1854-1864," Kansas Historical Quarterly, v. 10, no. 1 (February, 1941), p.29.

Handwritten notes:
 265
 1/11/71
 TC

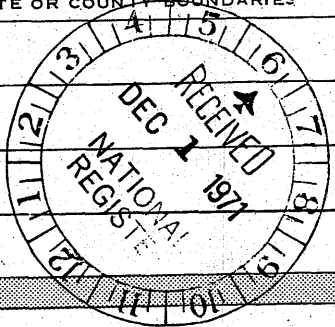
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38	22	14
NE	° ' "	° ' "		96	31	10
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **two-three acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Richard Pankatz, Planner**

ORGANIZATION: **Kansas State Historical Society** DATE: **May 28, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER: **120 West Tenth Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Topeka** STATE: **Kansas 66612** CODE: **20**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Nyle H. Miller
 Nyle H. Miller

Title: Executive Secretary, Kansas State Historical Society

Oct. 28, 1971

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connally
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

MAR 17 1972

Date: _____

ATTEST:

William M. [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

MAR 7 1972

Date: _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) No. 1

STATE	Kansas	
COUNTY	Chase	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
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(Number all entries)

8. Wood advertised as follows:

"Well watered with the Cottonwood river and Buck Creek; containing 1,400 acres; 1,000 acres under fence, 150 acres timber, 300 acres broke land; over 1,000 acres of first class river bottom; no better land in the world. A Stone House and Stone Barn, costing over \$5,000. Will sell the whole 1,400 acres for \$28,000."

However, it was not until 1874 that Wood sold the large farm to Judge David K. Cartter of Cleveland, Ohio. Although the judge only visited the farm occasionally, a son, Dr. William H. Cartter, moved his family from Cleveland to the farm and lived there until his death in 1904. Although he apparently did not practice his profession to any great extent in Chase county, the east addition to the house carries the local name of "Dr. Cartter's Office" and was evidently built during the early part of the Cartter residency. The property later passed to Dr. Cartter's son-in-law, Charles Gregory, and his brother William. The Gregory family lost the ranch following a mortgage foreclosure in 1933, and it became the property of Ludvig Nelson, whose widow is the present owner.

Samuel N. Wood moved westward across Kansas with his promotions and schemes along with the line of settlement. He was murdered June 23, 1891, as a consequence of his role in the county seat war of Stevens county in extreme southwest Kansas. His body was returned to Cottonwood Falls for interment.

The large rambling ranch house is significant because of its connection with Sam Wood, one of Kansas' most flamboyant 19th century politicians. Regarded by many contemporaries as one of the founders of statehood, Wood was a key spokesman and prominent participant in territorial politics from 1854 to 1861 and in the formative years of statehood.

9. The Kansas Press (Cottonwood Falls), May 30, June 13, 1859.

The Kansas Press (Council Grove), October 17, 1859, October 12, 1863, November 30, 1863, August 20, 1864.

Letters to S. N. Wood from D. K. Cartter, July 28, August 4, and August 16, 1874 (S. N. Wood Collection, Kansas State Historical Society Manuscript Division).

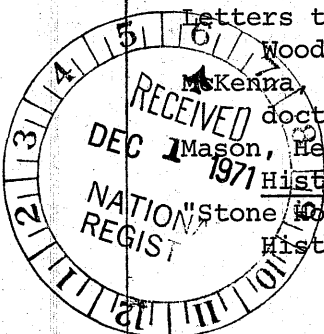
Letter to S. N. Wood from A. P. Gandy, January 29, 1867 (S. N. Wood Collection, Kansas State Historical Society Manuscript Division).

Letters to S. N. Wood from H. L. Scribner, January 20, May 28, 1864 (S. N. Wood Collection, Kansas State Historical Society Manuscript Division).

McKenna, Sister M. Berard, Samuel N. Wood: Chronic Agitator, unpublished doctoral dissertation at St. Louis University, 1968.

Mason, Henry F., "County Seat Controversies in Southwestern Kansas," Kansas Historical Quarterly, v. 2, no. 1 (February, 1933), pp. 55-61.

"Stone Houses," Chase County Historical Sketches, v. 3 (Chase County Historical Society, 1966), pp. 369-375.



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet) No. 2

STATE	
Kansas	
COUNTY	
Chase	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
MAR 17	1972

(Number all entries)

Supervisors and Commissioners Journal No. 1, Chase County, Kansas, March 15, 1859--August 20, 1861. (Copy in Kansas State Historical Society Manuscript Division).

Wood, Bessie M., "Col. Samuel N. Wood and Family," Chase County Historical Sketches, v. 1 (Chase County Historical Society, 1940), pp. 424-427.

