

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only

received JUL 13 1983
date entered

1. Name

historic Cowley County National Bank Building

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number 820-822 Main Street N/A not for publication

city, town Winfield N/A vicinity of

state Kansas code 20 county Cowley code 35

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Joan and Leland Kaufman

street & number 1316 East 10th Street

city, town Winfield N/A vicinity of state Kansas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number Cowley County Courthouse

city, town Winfield state Kansas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title State Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date July 1970 federal state county local

depository for survey records Kansas State Historical Society

city, town Topeka state Kansas

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Old Cowley County National Bank building, now called the Kaufman building, sits at the corner of Main and Ninth streets in the center of downtown Winfield. The two and a half story limestone building is one of the most prominent structures in town. Designed in the Second Empire mode, it has projecting pavilions, mansard roof, and segmentally arched windows. In spite of the fact that part of the ground floor has been covered with a brick veneer and aluminum storefront, the building still retains its historic character. Plans are currently underway to renovate the structure.

The old bank building measures approximately 50 feet on the Main street (west) facade and approximately 75 feet on the Ninth street (south) facade. The two main bays on the west facade are divided by a narrow projecting pavilion. Each of the bays contains two windows, but the north bay is wider than the south one. The three bays on the south facade are divided by stone pillars and are flanked by projecting pavilions at either corner. Each of those bays also contain windows, the bay nearest the southwest corner being narrower than the other two.

The most distinctive features of the rough-cut limestone bank building are the three projecting pavilions, the segmentally arched windows with multiple pane, Queen Anne type upper sashes, and the slate shingle mansard roof. The pavilions are located at the southwest corner, in the center bay of the west facade and at the east end of the south facade. Originally these were all entrance bays. The stairs in the west entrance were removed around 1916 and the door was blocked up to make a window. The corner entrance was altered in 1927 when the first floor of the building was lowered to sidewalk level. The three granite columns at this entrance are still located beneath the aluminum storefront. The first and second floor windows have segmental arches. The dormer windows have shed roofs. The windows in the third story of the pavilions have round arches.

A stone sill course is still intact beneath the first floor windows on the south facade. The first and second floors are divided by a stone entablature. Beneath the sheet metal at the cornice line the original pressed metal cornice is believed to be in place.

The bank building was originally constructed on a raised basement that housed additional commercial space. There was an extensive network of these basement businesses connected by underground sidewalks throughout Winfield. Some of the shopfronts and walks remain beneath the sidewalks of Winfield but they are no longer used.

On the interior the second and third floors still retain their historic appearance. Most of the wood window surrounds are still in place. Molded wood baseboards run throughout both floors. Wainscoting is intact throughout the second and third floor halls, offices still have their old paneled doors surmounted by transoms, the floor plan has not been altered in recent times. On the third floor is a large meeting room that was used as a lodge hall. Above what is currently the Hangar is a mezzanine that looked down into the store. It has been closed and the two story space is no longer apparent below. It has retained its pressed metal ceiling with deep cornice, and one of the original fans is still in place.

The first floor was altered in 1927 when it was lowered to sidewalk level. In 1963 the interior was completely remodeled for a clothing store and a loan company. The first floor now contains a restaurant in the southwest commercial space and a clothing store, the Hangar, in the far north space. There is little if any historic fabric left in these spaces. The building has a full basement with dirt floor.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates completed 1886 **Builder/Architect** W.A. Ritchie

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The old Cowley County National Bank is an excellent example of the late 19th century commercial block. Designed in the Second Empire mode by local architects, W.A. and W.J. Ritchie, the building was completed in 1886 for the Farmer's Bank. It has been both a visual and commercial anchor in Winfield since its construction.

The Farmer's Bank building was built and designed by prominent citizens of Winfield. The original owner of the building and the vice-president and manager of the bank was John A. Eaton. Eaton was considered one of the principal capitalists and businessmen of the city. Among other things, he founded a successful bank, served as president on the local board of trade, and was elected as state representative for the 59th district in 1887.

The Ritchie brothers, who had brought their architectural practice to Winfield in 1885 from Lima, Ohio, built a large number of the important buildings in the city in the 1880's. In addition to the Farmer's Bank they designed the First National Bank, the Winfield Savings Bank, the South Kansas College, and John Eaton's residence, to name a few.

The Ritchie Brothers' design of the bank building drew heavily on the then-popular Second Empire style. Certain elements, such as the mansard roof, the pavilions, and the segmentally arched windows were characteristic of that style. Other elements were based more on tradition or function than anything else. For example, the building originally had a corner arched entranceway supported by short robust columns. Entrances of this type were typical of many corner bank buildings in Kansas. The storefront at the north end of the west facade was a conventional storefront. The colored multi-paned windows on all stories were a common fixture in Victorian era buildings and not necessarily with any particular style.

Like most other bank buildings of the period the Farmers' Bank building contained many other businesses. Its first occupants, in addition to the bank, were a druggist, a real estate firm, the Southwest Land Office, and an assortment of attorneys, doctors, and insurance agents.

In 1891 the Farmers' Bank was sold to the Cowley County National Bank which occupied the structure until 1922. Since that time the structure has not been used for banking facilities but has contained a variety of other commercial enterprises. Use of the second and third floors has declined since the 1930's. During WWII the upper floors were used as housing but were again vacant in the early 1950's.

The ground floor of the old bank building is currently being used as a restaurant. Plans for renovation of the rest of the building are currently under consideration by the owners.

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Winfield

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	4	6	7	7	7	2	0	4	1	2	3	2	2	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

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D

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Verbal boundary description and justification The west 75' of Lots 11 and 12, Block 128, original townsite of Winfield. The bank has occupied these lots since its construction in 1885.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Nora Pat Small, Architectural Historian

organization Kansas State Historical Society

date June 29, 1983

street & number 120 West Tenth

telephone (913) 296-5294

city or town Topeka

state Kansas

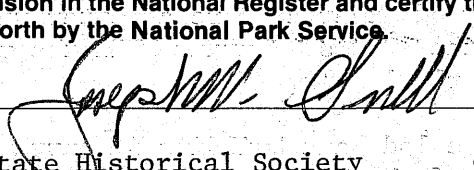
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society

date June 29, 1983

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 8/11/83

for  Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation sheet

Item number

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Caldwell, E.F. Illustrated Southern Kansas. vol. 1, #2, Sept. 1886.

Historic & Descriptive Review of Kansas., vol. III. Topeka: John Lethem, 1891.

"The Little Athens of Kansas." Kansas Magazine. April 1909.

Winfield Courier, Supplemental Edition of March, 14, 1901. (A History of Cowley County)

Winfield Courier. April 1891, June 1896, Nov. 1922, Nov. 1927, July-Nov. 1957, May 1959.

Winfield City Directories, various years from 1885-1976

Winfield Telephone Directories, 1920-1926.