

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

received JUN 4 1984

date entered AUG 1 1984

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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

**1. Name**

historic Horace G. Lyons House

and/or common Lyons Homestead

**2. Location**

street & number 4831 Southeast 61st Street not for publication

city, town Berryton  vicinity of

state Kansas code 020 county Shawnee code 177

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

**4. Owner of Property**

name Richard E. and MaryLouise Taylor

street & number Route 2, Box 226

city, town Berryton vicinity of state Kansas 66409

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number Shawnee County Courthouse

city, town Topeka state Kansas 66601

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

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

date 1974  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Dept., Kansas State Historical Society

city, town Topeka state Kansas 66612

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input 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 Horace G. Lyons house is a two-story limestone building with an attached one-and-a-half story kitchen wing. It faces northward, toward the county road, but because the front porch was never built, the house is entered from the back porch on the south.

The main body of the house is essentially square in shape, with a recessed corner at the northwest, where the front entrance was to have been, and a bay window block projecting diagonally from the northeast corner. The projecting block is built of brick, and contrasts vividly with the limestone walls of the rest of the building.

The house has a low truncated or flat-topped hipped roof, the lines of which are broken by two raised sections. One of these is a dormer-windowed, steep hipped roof over the projecting corner block, clad in round-ended wood shingles. The other raised feature is a mansard-roofed attic room with three dormer windows located over the stair hall in the recessed northwest corner. This mansard is clad in pressed metal in a fishscale pattern. There is no roof cresting. The eaves are enclosed by a box cornice supported by Italianate brackets.

The kitchen wing has a hipped roof with four dormer windows. It has a plain cornice with an unadorned frieze board and no brackets.

The fenestration scheme is irregular. The doors and windows have flat stone sills and lintels, except for the large double upstairs window on the south side, which is capped by a brick segmental arch.

The plan of the first floor consists of three corner rooms on the northeast, southeast, and southwest, a stairhall on the northwest, and the kitchen wing on the southwest. A rectangular half-turn staircase leads to a second-floor stairhall which opens onto a narrow east-west hallway. Opening to the hallway are three bedrooms and the low-roofed chamber over the kitchen. The northeast bedroom was originally two small bedrooms. A fixed ladder on the second-floor stair landing affords access to the attic.

The interior woodwork is clear-finished yellow pine. Among the notable interior features are sliding pocket-doors between the northeast and southwest parlors, and a pass-through opening between the kitchen and the southwest room.

The house has changed very little since its completion in 1893. The only major changes have been the installation of a bathroom and laundry in what was formerly the pantry in the kitchen wing, and the removal of a wall between two small rooms on the north side of the second floor to create one large bedroom.

Also located on the three-acre tract are a woodshed, brooder house, chicken house, and privy, all of wood construction and all probably built before 1900.

## 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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** c. 1860, 1893      **Builder/Architect** unknown, but may have been H.G. Lyons himself

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Horace G. Lyons house is locally significant both architecturally, as an exceptionally intact example of a rural Kansas farmhouse of the 1890s, and historically for its association with Horace G. Lyons, a prominent early settler of Shawnee County. As such it meets criteria B and C.

The house is notable architecturally as an example of the eclectic blend of Italianate and Second Empire features which was popular in Kansas in the 1880s and persisted in rural areas into the 1890s. The Lyons homestead was begun about 1860 as a modest limestone house whose original form and appearance are no longer known. It was remodeled extensively over the next thirty-five years or so, being transformed by about 1893 into its present form, which has remained virtually unchanged ever since. Although the front porch was never built, the house shows a surprising degree of architectural elaboration for a small farmhouse. In 1910 a local newspaper referred to it as "one of the finest rural homes in the county." It has retained a very high degree of architectural integrity.

The house was built by Horace G. Lyons, one of Shawnee County's earliest settlers. Born in Pennsylvania in 1832, he moved to Kansas in 1856 and settled the land on which the house now stands. While his primary livelihood was farming, he was noted in his time as a writer of tracts on religious and philosophical subjects. Lyons and his family lived in the house until 1913, when they moved into Topeka, where he died in 1923. His daughter and son-in-law occupied the house from 1913 to 1957, when it became the home of their son and his wife, who resided there until 1970. The present owners began renting the Lyons home in 1971 and purchased it and three acres of the farm in 1977.

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property three acres

Quadrangle name Richland, KS

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UTM References

A 

1	5	2	7	6	0	9	0	4	3	1	4	8	6	0
Zone			Easting					Northing						

B 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

C 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

D 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

E 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

F 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

G 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

H 

Zone			Easting					Northing						

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Three acres in the Northeast Quarter of Section 1, Township 13 South, range 16 East of the 6th P.M. in Shawnee County, Kansas. (See Continuation Sheet)

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

state code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Richard J. Cawthon, Architectural Historian

organization Kansas State Historical Society date May 18, 1984

street & number 120 West Tenth telephone (913) 296-3251

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 *Joseph M. Dill*

title Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society date May 21, 1984

### For NPS use only

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

Entered in the National Register

date 8/1/84

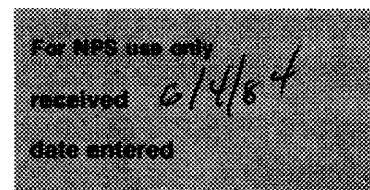
*J. Nelson Byers*  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 1

Wilch, Edna Huyett. The Descendants of Daniel Lyons, 1778-1850. Wichita, Kansas, 1976.

Connelly, William E. A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans. Chicago: Lewis  
Publ. Co., 1978.

The Topeka Daily Capital, August 2, 1910.

This nomination was prepared from materials submitted by Rev. Richard E. Taylor, Jr.

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Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 1

A tract of land in the northeast Quarter of Section 1, Township 13 South, range 16 East of the 6th P.M. in Shawnee County, Kansas, described as follows:

Beginning at a point 313.22 feet East of the Northwest corner of said Northeast Quarter; Thence North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, along the North line of said Northeast Quarter, a distance of 200.0 feet; Thence South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, a distance of 245.69 feet; Thence South 45 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, a distance of 105.62 feet; Thence South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, a distance of 193.69 feet; Thence South 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, a distance of 62.0 feet; Thence South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, a distance of 212.68 feet; Thence North 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, a distance of 563.96 feet to the point of beginning.

This tract contains 3.00 acres, more or less, BUT, is subject to public road right of way over the North side of said tract.