

PH 0066974

Kan. Cong. Dist. No. 5

Joe Skubitz

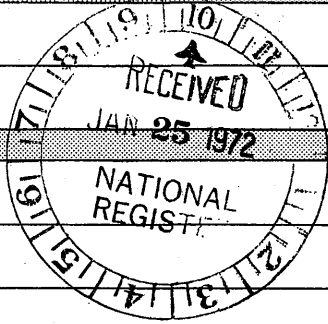
Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE:	Kansas	
COUNTY:	Bourbon	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
APR 40 1972		

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)



1. NAME

COMMON: Union Block

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 24 South Main

CITY OR TOWN: Fort Scott

STATE: Kansas	CODE: 66701	COUNTY: Bourbon	CODE: 011
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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	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" 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 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: Lewis Taman, Cecelia Taman, Benjamin Ordower, and Rita Ordower

STREET AND NUMBER: 120 South LaSalle street

CITY OR TOWN: Chicago STATE: Illinois CODE: 60603

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER: Bourbon County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Fort Scott STATE: Kansas CODE: 66701

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: NONE

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Kansas

COUNTY: Bourbon

ENTRY NUMBER: APR 26 1972

DATE:

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

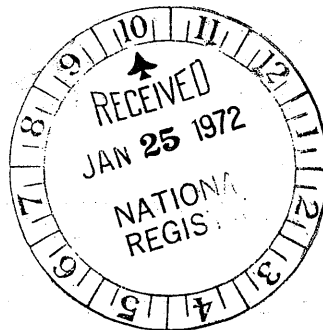
CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 present Montgomery Ward store at 24 South Main in Fort Scott was originally the south part of a large business block known as the Union Block. The building to the north, presently the Ben Franklin store, was also part of the original Union Block, but the identical ornamental iron on its east front was recently removed and replaced with modern metal siding.

The Montgomery Ward store is a rectangular three-story commercial building in the Renaissance style which faces east. The building is approximately 40 feet wide and 120 feet from front to back. The top of the roof parapet is about 50 feet high. The walls are constructed of red brick laid in a running bond pattern. Stamped ornamental metal covers the east facade except for the first floor where a new front of glass, plastic, and metal has been installed. The roof is flat and is concealed behind the parapet. Window openings on the east front are rectangular. The window sills, jambs, and lintels are covered with ornamental metal. Enhancing the appearance of the cornice are two projecting arched panels on the east front. The windows on the brick south wall are paired in rectangular openings. These windows have stone sills. The lintels are arched on top and decoratively treated as are the stone columns separating the paired windows. An ornamental metal cornice terminates the south wall at the roof line. The windows in the west wall are very simply treated with brick sills and shallow arched brick lintels.

In addition to the changes to the east facade, there have been some alterations on the south; one set of paired windows has been bricked up, and what was apparently a side entrance at the southwest corner has been closed. The interior has been considerably altered, but the original staircase is still in use.



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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)

1884

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 checked="" 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

The Union Block in Fort Scott was erected in 1884 by several local merchants, each of whom built and owned his portion of the business block. The south part of the block, which is now the Montgomery Ward store, was built by Dr. J. E. Westervelt, a longtime Fort Scott businessman. When the building was erected, J. E. Westervelt and Company was a dry goods and carpet concern doing both a wholesale and a retail business. In late 1886 Westervelt sold the retail part of his operation to J. B. and R. O. White, who established the firm of White Brothers on the first floor of Westervelt's building. For a short time Westervelt retained the use of the second and third floors and the basement for his wholesale concern; however, within a year or so he had moved to a different location. By 1905 the firm of White Brothers had been succeeded by the White-Osburn Mercantile Company. In 1930 the Cole Brothers Dry Goods Store was in the building, and by the late 1930's the Montgomery Ward store had been established in its present location.

The Union Block stands as evidence of the concern of 19th century Kansas businessmen for and their dedication to fine and lasting architecture. The Union Block is a well preserved example of Kansas urban commercial architecture designed in the Renaissance style as well as an outstanding example of the use of ornamental metal.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fort Scott City Directories by various publishers, 1885, 1888, 1889-1890, 1891-1892, 1896-1897, 1898, 1905, 1930, 1938, 1948, 1959.
 Fort Scott Weekly Monitor, May 29, 1884.
 Fort Scott Monitor, January 1, 1886.
 Fort Scott Daily Monitor, January 1, 1888.
 Fort Scott Tribune, January 1, 1887.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

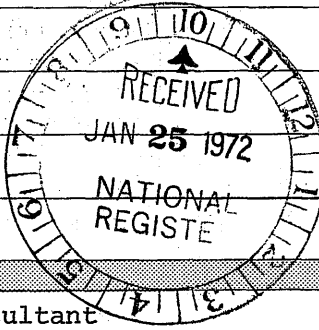
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37	50	28
NE	° ' "	° ' "		94	42	22
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

15/34989C
4189350
①

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: One acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Charles Hall, Architectural Consultant
Richard Pankratz, Planner

ORGANIZATION: Kansas State Historical Society DATE: September 22, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth street

CITY OR TOWN: Topeka STATE: Kansas CODE: 66612 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

Date December 29, 1971

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

Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/26/72

ATTEST:
William H. Murty
 Keeper of The National Register

Date APR 26 1972