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Kan. Cong.	Dist. No.	1	1 to the	
Keith Sebel	lius			7
	UNITED STAT	ES DEPARTMENT OF	THE INTERIOR	`
(July 1969)		ATIONAL PARK SERVI		

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

	STATE:	
	Kansas	
	COUNTY:	
	Logan	
	FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
i	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	TER 2 3 1972	

	es — complete applica	ble sections)	-	FB 2 3 1972		
NAME				LD : 0	\	
COMMON:						
AND/OR HISTORIC:	Logan County Cou	urtnouse				
AND OR MISTORIC:						
LOCATION						
STREET AND NUMBER:						
Mair	n street, block :	32				
CITY OR TOWN:						
Russ	sell Springs	1			·	
			INTY:		 	CODE
Kans	sas 67755	20	Loga	an		109
	T		_	I .	ACCESS	IDI E
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNI	ERSHIP		STATUS	TO THE P	ľ
☐ District 🔀 Building	Public Pub	lic Acquisition:		X Occupied	Yes:	
Site Structure	Private	☐ In Process		☐ Unoccupied	▼ Restric	- 1
☐ Object	☐ Both	☐ Being Cons	idered	Preservation work	Unrest	ricted
				in progress	□ No	
PRESENT USE (Check One or	More as Appropriate)			<u> </u>	ł	
Agricultural G	overnment Pa	rk		Transportation	Comment	ts
Commercial I	ndustrial Pri	ivate Residence		Other (Specify)		
☐ Educational ☐ M	Nilitary 🔲 Re	ligious				
☐ Entertainment ☑ M	luseum 🔲 Sci	ientific				
OWNER OF PROPERTY				*		
Ta::::==1	terfield Trail H	istorical A	Associa:	tion and		
i	torical Society			22011 0110		
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CONDITION	☐ Excellent	☐ Good	□X Fair	Deter	iorated	Ruins	Unexposed
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	∏ Alter	red	Unaltered	1		Moved	X Original Site

The old Logan County Courthouse at Russell Springs is a twostory rectangular structure with Renaissance influenced styling. The brick and stone building faces east and measures approximately 60 feet long, 50 feet wide and 45 feet high.

Uniformly sized stone blocks laid in regular horizontal courses form the lower portion of the exterior walls. The remainder of the walls is red face brick laid in a common bond. A wider band of stone separates the stone from the brick masonry at a height even with the top of the rectangular portion of the first floor front windows. The brick masonry is corbeled out to form a cornice with brick brackets under the roof eave.

The steeply pitched hip roof is flat at the top and is covered with wood shingles. A steep, pointed, multi-faced tower roof occurs at the main entrance. The entrance is further emphasized by a wall projection running the full height to the roof line. An elaborate metal ornamental pediment with a palladian window motif terminates the entrance feature. Projecting stone brackets flank each side of the entrance at the first floor.

Each window opening on the first floor front has paired rectangular double-hung sash windows topped by a transom glass with a curved head. The window sill is formed by the stone masonry of the walls, while the window head is emphasized by a combination brick and stone arch. The keystone of this arch is stone while the bricks form the curvature. A stone block at the spring line terminates the arch. The second story windows, which are grouped in pairs, rise from the stone sill which forms a continuous band around the building. Each second story window is capped with a transom glass and an angular arched head of brick and stone. A trio of rectangular windows occurs on the second floor above the main entrance. These windows have semicircular heads and curved brick arches. The frame doors at the main entrance are flanked by rectangular windows.

A two-story stone addition was built on to the west in the 1930's, and a large heavy stone lintel has been removed from the front entrance just above where the museum sign is now placed. Otherwise the building's exterior appears much as it did originally.



PERIOD (Check One of More as	Appenniate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	☐ 18th Century ☑ 19th Century	20th Century
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applica	ble and Known) 188	37-1888	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (C	heck One or More as Appropr	iate)	
Abor iginal	Education	🔀 Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	
Agriculture	Invention	Science	
Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	f
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	☐ Military	Theater	
Conservation	☐ Music	☐ Transportation	

The old Logan County Courthouse in Russell Springs housed the county offices for 75 years beginning in 1888. In February, 1887, the Pioneer Town Site Company of Russell Springs agreed to erect a courthouse and donate it to the county if Russell Springs were chosen the permanent county seat in an election the following December. On April 23, 1887, the town company approved the specifications and plans presented by Alfred Meyer of Atchison and instructed him to superintend construction of the courthouse. George D. Kerns of Russell Springs contracted to build the structure.

Cornerstone ceremonies were held July 7, 1887, and by early October the second floor was almost completed. The deed to the building and grounds was transferred from the town company to the county commissioners in mid-November. The special election on December 22 resulted in a 66-vote margin for Russell Springs as the permanent county seat. The fact that a new courthouse was being constructed there at no expense to the county taxpayers was a major factor in the election. The county commissioners established temporary headquarters in a nearby schoolhouse in January, 1888, and moved into the new \$20,000 courthouse a short time later.

Perodic objections were raised to the county seat remaining at Russell Springs. Russell Springs was one of the two smallest county seat towns in Kansas. Population of the little community was seldom greater than 200 and at times less than 100, and after a branch line was torn up in 1918, the town had no railroad service. However, efforts to move the county seat to Oakley were defeated TELEPTING 1937 election, and a 1945 attempt failed when a petition drive to put the question on the ballot did not obtain sufficient 1921 gnatures. At another election in 1960 the vote to move the county seat appeared to have fallen short of the three-fifths mayority which the legislature required to change the county seat, but then the county election board disqualified eleven voters and (1) appeared the Russell Springs proponents had lost. Court cases followed, but the Kansas Supreme Court ruled in 1963 that the proposition had carried by 2.4 votes and ordered the county seat moved to Oakley. In July, 1963 the county officials moved out of the old courthouse.

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Richard D. Pankratz, Planner ORGANIZATION Kansas State Historical Society Exptember 27, 1971 STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth street Topeka Topeka 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 K Local K Date Name Name Name Name Name Name Name Name Name National State K Local K Local K Local K Miller Title Executive Secretary, Kansas State Historical Society STATE Kansas 66612 NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register. National Register. FER 1210776 SATTEST: Date ATTEST: Keeper of the National Register	9.	MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAPHICAL	REF	ERENCES								
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Form 10-300a (Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE	
Kansas	
COUNTY	
Logan	
FOR NPS USE C	NLY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
FFD 9 9 1077	

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

- 8. An organization, which later became known as the Butterfield Trail Historical Association and Historical Society of Logan County, was formed in Russell Springs in October, 1964, to preserve the old Logan County Courthouse. Its efforts were successful and the old courthouse was dedicated as the Butterfield Trail Historical Museum on September 5, 1965. The old building possesses local historical significance since it was the first permanent county courthouse of Logan county and it was used for 75 years as the center of county government.
- 9. Kiewit, Fred, "Feelings Split a County in Hot Dispute over the Courthouse," Kansas City Star, September 18, 1960.
 - Kull, Ron, "2.4 Votes Enough to Move Courthouse," Topeka Capital, July 11, 1963.
 - Logan County <u>Leader</u> (Russell Springs), October 6, 13, 27, November 10, 17, 24, December 1, 8, 15, 1887; January 12, March 1, 15, 1888; July 3, 1914.

Logan County Times (Oakley), March 3, 1887.

Logan County Times (Russell Springs), February 16, 1888.

Russell Springs Record, March 3, April 28, May 5, July 7, 1887. Topeka Commonwealth, March 22, 1887.

