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Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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Unexposed
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Original Site

The Williamson site was first recorded during the archeological survey for the then-proposed John Redmond reservoir. The survey was carried out by the Archeological Division of the Kansas State Historical Society under contract with the National Park Service. The site was in a narrow terrace remnant at the base of a limestone bluff above Eagle creek near its confluence with the Neosho river.

One short season of controlled investigations of the site was conducted in 1963 by Society archeologists. It was found to be a multiple component site with at least four vertically stratified prehistoric cultural habitation levels. Portions of the upper three zones were excavated and identified as representing, from top to bottom, Late Woodland, early Middle Woodland and Late Archaic. The fourth and oldest zone was inundated by the reservoir pool before the investigations could be completed.

The Late Archaic component was marked by burned limestone fragments in piles or loosely scattered throughout the level. Distinct chipped stone dart points, other stone tool sections and a grinding slab were recovered. Two human burials (adult females) and a dog burial were also found. Two radiocarbon dates from this level were B.C. 1550 ± 100 and B. C. 1650 ± 190. The materials are similar to those recently designated as the El Dorado Phase.

The top of the site is now at the conservation pool level of the reservoir.

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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Pre-Columbian)	☐ 16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE S: (II Applicat	le and Known)		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch.	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
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Several aspects of the site have particular significance. It is vertically stratified with at least four different cultures represented. Such relationships are very desirable for establishing relative chronological sequences. The presence of a specific Archaic level with its distinctive artifact assemblage and associated burials provides excellent material for comparative and diagnostic study. These burials are the second oldest dated measureable finds in the state. Also, the site still has potential in its fourth and deepest level which was inundated by the pool. Wave and current action has probably caused some damage to the site but portions of it may still remain.

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