UNITED STATES DEPARTM STOF 'EINTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Washington

THEME: Educ on--Specialized

D.C.

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INVENTORY	NOMINATION	FURIN	ENTERED		
SEEII	NSTRUCTIONS IN HOW T	O COMPLETE NATION, COMPLETE APPLICABL		3	
NAME	TIPE ALL ENTRIES	CONFEETE AFFEICABL	LE SECTIONS/		
MINAME					
HISTORIC	Shawnee Mission	091-1-	770-0002	0003-0005	
AND/OR COMMON					
	Shawnee Methodist	Mission			
LOCATION					
STREET & NUMBER	3403 W. 53rd Stre	et			
	NOT FOR PUBLICATION				
CITY, TOWN	Shawnee Mission VICINITY OF		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 003		
STATE	DITARTICE PITSTON	CODE	COUNTY	CODE	
	Kansas	20	Johnson	091	
CLASSIFIC	ATION				
CATEGORY					
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP X _{PUBLIC}	STATUS XXOCCUPIED		ENT USE	
XBUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	X_MUSEUM PARK	
STRUCTURE	ВОТН	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENC	
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT		
OBJECT	_IN PROCESS	XXVES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	RELIGIOUS	
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	SCIENTIFICTRANSPORTATION	
	DEING CONSIDERED	_NO	MILITARY	_OTHER:	
OWNER OF	PROPERTY				
NAME	Director	orical Society, Nyl	le H. Miller, Exe	cutive	
STREET & NUMBER					
	120 West Tenth St	reet			
CITY, TOWN	Topeka	VICINITY OF	STATE		
LOCATION	OF LEGAL DESCI		Kansas	56612	
LUCATION					
COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, E	Johnson County Co	urthouse			
STREET & NUMBER					
CITY, TOWN			STATE		
	Olathe		Kansas		
REPRESEN	TATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS			
TITLE	Historic American				
DATE		XXFEDERAL S	STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL		
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS	Library of Congress/Annex, Prints and Photographs Division				
CITY, TOWN	STATE				



_EXCELLENT

CONDITION

__DETERIORATED

XGOOD __RUINS __UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

(restored)

__UNALTERED
XALTERED

X ORIGINAL SITE
__MOVED DA

DATE_____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

At the height of its activity, Shawnee Mission was an establishment of 2,000 acres with 16 buildings, including the three large brick structures which still stand, and an enrollment of nearly 200 Indian boys and girls.

The West Building was the first permanent structure at the mission.

Thomas Johnson, superintendent of the mission, moved his family to the new building in 1839, and school began the same month. Another building, twenty feet square, was erected in the rear and in 1840 the two were joined by seventy-foot walls to make a dining hall seating 200 persons. In later years fifty feet at the end of the West Building were removed. An "historic" porch was reconstructed in 1968, but subsequent research indicates no such porch existed west of the Mississippi in the 1840's.

The East Building, 100x30 feet and two stories high, was built in 1841. It contained fourteen school and lodging rooms for teachers and children. The chapel occupied part of the first floor, and the attic was the boys' dormitory.

The North Building was erected in 1845 to accommodate increased enrollment. It was 100x20 feet, two stories high, with a piazza across the entire length except at the ends.

The building was divided into connecting rooms which were used as the girls' school and dormitory. At one time Johnson and his family lived here as well.

The school was abandoned in 1864 and for the next sixty years the buildings served variously as Union Army barracks, a dance hall, dairy bottling plant, apartments and a boarding house. In 1927 the state bought the three remaining buildings and began restoration work and landscaping on the 12-acre grounds. The West Building has become the caretaker's residence, and many interior alterations have been made. The East and North Buildings are museums. Some rooms have been authentically restored and refurnished. Others are incongruous in style of refurnishing. These rooms were done in the 1930's and '40's by private historical societies. The grounds have been attractively landscaped, with no attempt at historic reconstruction. A brick garage was built behind the North Building about 1935.

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	_LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	XEDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1839-1862

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Shawnee Mission and Indian Manual Labor School was among the earliest of such institutions in the Louisiana Purchase area. The mission was established in 1830 by the Rev. Thomas Johnson. Indian children of many nearby tribes were taught English, manual arts, and agriculture here from 1839 through 1862. At the height of its activity nearly 200 Indian students were enrolled.

The first territorial governor of Kansas had his executive offices at the Mission in 1854, and the first territorial legislature met here in 1855. The pro-slavery assembly unseated all but two of the Free Staters attending and legalized slavery in Kansas by the "Bogus Laws," as the Free Staters who refused to recognize the actions called them. On August 8, 1855, the legislature moved to Lecompton, followed shortly by the executive offices.

The mission declined rapidly after this time. The Indians sold their lands and moved away. Border troubles became serious. At the outbreak of the Civil War, Thomas Johnson, although himself a slaveholder, pledged his allegiance to the Union cause. The Johnsons closed the mission in 1862. In 1864 they moved to Missouri, where Johnson was killed by a band of Quantrill's guerillas on the night of January 2, 1865.

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

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The Shawnee Mission State Park comprises 12 acres out of the original 2,000. It includes the three historic buildings still standing and the sites of outbuildings no longer in existence. The grounds are attractively landscaped and, thus, provide an unobtrusive, although not entirely historic background for the buildings. The boundary, therefore, encloses the 12-acre Shawnee Methodist Mission State Park, as described by the red line on the accompanying map B, labelled "Shawnee Mission" and dated June 17, 1975: From a point at the intersection of Mission Road and 53rd Street, proceed north along a line extending the east curb of Mission Road about 200 meters to the property line of Bishop Meige High School. Proceed east along the property line about 140 meters and then south about 320 meters. Proceed west about 160 meters to the east curb of Mission Road and then north about 120 meters along the curb to the point of beginning.

Form No. 10-301 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

NAME

HISTORIC

Shawnee Mission

AND/OR COMMON

Shawnee Methodist Mission

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

___VICINITY OF

COUNTY

STATE Kansas

Shawnee Mission

Johnson

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

U.S.G.S. 7.5' series -- Shawnee, Kan. and Kansas City, Mo.--

Kan. quadrangles

SCALE

1:24,000

DATE

1964 (photorevised 1974) for both.

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- 1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
- 2. NORTH ARROW
- 3. UTM REFERENCES

INT: 2986-75

