Kansas State Historical Society

Register of Historic Kansas Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating individual properties and districts. The format is similar to the National Register of Historic Places form. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets. Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property
   Historic name  Cimarron Opera House
   Other names/site number  KHRI # 069-25, Odd Fellows Lodge, Clark’s Drug, Remember When Antiques, Financial Management
   Name of related Multiple Property Listing  n/a

2. Location
   street & number  101 S Main St
   city or town  Cimarron
   state  Kansas  code  KS  county  Gray  code  69  zip code  67835

3-4. Certification

I hereby certify that this property is listed in the Register of Historic Kansas Places.

Applicable State Register Criteria:  x  A  B  C  D

Signature of certifying official/Title  Patrick Zollner, Deputy SHPO  Date

Kansas State Historical Society
State agency
**5. Classification**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of Property</th>
<th>Category of Property</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Check as many boxes as apply)</td>
<td>(Check only one box)</td>
<td>(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x private</td>
<td>x building(s)</td>
<td>Contributing 1 Noncontributing buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>public - Local</td>
<td>district</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>public - State</td>
<td>site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>public - Federal</td>
<td>structure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>object</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**6. Function or Use**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historic Functions</th>
<th>Current Functions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Enter categories from instructions)</td>
<td>(Enter categories from instructions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECREATION &amp; CULTURE: Theatre</td>
<td>COMMERCE/TRADE: Specialty Store</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**7. Description**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Architectural Classification</th>
<th>Materials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Enter categories from instructions)</td>
<td>(Enter categories from instructions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LATE 19TH &amp; 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS:</td>
<td>foundation: STONE/CONCRETE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italianate &amp; Commercial Style</td>
<td>walls: BRICK, STUCCO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                                       | roof: MEMBRANE |
|                                       | other: STUCCO  |
Narrative Description
(Describe the current physical appearance of the property.)

Summary Paragraph  (Briefly describe the overall characteristics of the property and its location, setting, and size.)

The historic Opera House is located on the main thoroughfare in the commercial center of Cimarron. The two-story brick building features a commercial design with Italianate detailing. The building has vertical proportions, brick piers divide the façade into three bays, a centered entrance bay flanked on each side by a storefront bay. Each of these upper-story bays house two segmental arched window openings. The storefront reflects a 1950s remodel. The main floor is basically the same as it was originally. The second floor that served as a meeting hall for the Odd Fellows, was remodeled in the 1980s into office spaces for an accounting firm.

Elaboration  (Provide a detailed description of the building’s exterior, interior, and any associated buildings on the property. Note any historic features, materials, and changes to the building/property.)

Setting
The Cimarron Opera House, also known as Hopper General Merchandise Store and Dorean Opera House, opened in 1910 on the southwest corner of Cimarron, Kansas. It is the cornerstone of downtown Cimarron due to its large size and its century-old history. The address is 101 S Main Street, and it continues to be one of the oldest and prominent buildings on Main Street. The building sits within 10 feet of the busy Hwy 400, the main thoroughfare. It faces the main street of town and sits catty-corner from another historic building, now a Chiropractor Office and Mortuary. The historic courthouse is located at the opposite end of the block. The downtown commercial area primarily consists of one-story brick buildings and a handful of two-story structures. Though a couple of buildings are vacant, the business district can be busy.

Opera House Exterior
The Cimarron Opera House is a 50' x 100' brick building. The two-story structure has a flat roof with a parapet, which is stepped between the front and back halves of the building. The commercial design of the east (main) façade has a standard storefront on the lower level and was remodeled in the 1950s. There are aluminum framed large plate glass windows, a smooth plaster finish, and metal awnings. The storefront extends to the north/side elevation with an aluminum-framed entry door and a three-piece window. Above the north door and windows are large signboard spaces. The simple upper floor is divided into three bays: two segmental-arched and double-hung wood windows. A simple distinguished brick cornice, pilasters, raised accent-brick design, and a decorative belt course run above the windows and are the only ornamental elements on the building.

The north elevation features five bays, and the easternmost (bay 1) is shortened and contains the north entrance (described above). The second bay is the largest and has an upper level fire-escape door with transom, accents brick hood, and metal stairs. The third and fourth bays are equally sized; the third has two segmental-arched windows evenly spaced, the fourth has a single double-hung segmental-arched window in the middle of the bay. The westernmost fifth bay has two segmental-arched windows, which are positioned toward the edges of the
bay. The lower level is a historic wood storefront entrance with transom windows and a single and double-door entrance. Between the storefront entrances, the lower level is mostly plastered or painted over with no openings.

The west elevation is covered in stucco or concrete. It has two openings, a segmental-arched double-hung window on the upper level and a rectangular double-hung window on the lower level. The upper level is the only visible portion of the south elevation and features no openings. Over the years, some of the exterior materials have been painted. The brick is becoming more fragile with age, and on occasion, a piece or two will fall onto the sidewalk. As of summer 2021, the south side of the building leaks when it rains and requires immediate repair to save the newly renovated interior.

**Interior**

**First Floor**
The first floor is divided into two businesses/storefronts. In the central bay is an entrance vestibule which leads to both stores. As of 2021, the entire building is an antique shop. The north side of the building houses an old-time soda fountain regularly frequented by locals and tourists interested in the novelty. The bar with the original foottail is historic and original to the building. Many of the stools are original from the 1930s when the building was converted to a pharmacy and soda fountain. Much of the décor, aside from the antiques, is original. There is likely original wooden shelving from the retail businesses that historically occupied the building. The ceilings are high and have original pressed metal tiles in good condition. The walls are mostly plaster, but some portions of the plaster have been removed, exposing the original brick structure. The flooring had to be replaced as most of the tiles had deteriorated beyond repair.

The south side of the building is a large open room with a variety of antiques. This half of the structure was originally a hardware store. The ceiling was not well preserved, most of the plaster from the south wall has been removed, and there is another wall covering. The lighting in the building is all contemporary, but the lights and chandelier are period-like. At the back of this side, through a contemporary barn door, are offices.

**Second Floor**
There is no elevator to the second story, only twenty-six narrow and steep steps. For handicapped access, there is an automated chair lift. At the top of the stairs are a landing and a window from which tickets were sold when the building was an opera house. It has also served as a pass-through for the ladies of the social groups. The walls are plaster, but the plaster has been removed, exposing the original brick structure in some places. The second-floor offices retain the original hardwood floors that have been restored to a honey color. In one portion of the office, nearly all of the original woodwork has been retained, including the baseboards, trims, and doors; even the door with the peephole for the Odd Fellows password is still in use.
Where possible, the original mop boards and windowsills have been retained. A portion of the upper floors were remodeled and consist of new moldings, new windows and doors, and trims. A conference room in the northwest corner of the building that was remodeled has retained much of the wood. The conference room table was built with wood that was salvaged from the walls and trim. One of the original display cases from the Hopper Mercantile was restored and sits along one wall. Other features include the modern drop ceiling and carpet in the individual office spaces.

**Basement**

At the back of the main floor are narrow stairs to the basement. The ceiling is approximately eight to nine feet high, and the room is open from one end of the building to the other, with a concrete floor that looks like new. Braces have been added over the years to help support the building. The original store, Hoppers Mercantile, boasted "the largest stock of dry goods in Gray County," and the basement was necessary to provide a continuous supply of goods to their consumers. It had an elevator at one time to get the goods from the lower floor to the sales floor more efficiently.

The Opera House retains its original location and setting in the commercial center of Cimarron. The historic design as a commercial building remains intact with a 1950s storefront remodel. Some materials and designs have been changed on the upper floors, such as the layout from a meeting hall into office space, exposed brick walls, and contemporary barn doors and other finishes. Overall, the building retains good historic integrity on the first floor and exterior elevations.
**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable Criteria**
(Mark “x” in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for State Register listing)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Criteria Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Criteria Considerations**
(Mark “x” in all the boxes that apply)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Removed from its original location.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>A birthplace or grave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>A cemetery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>A reconstructed building, object, or structure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>A commemorative property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Areas of Significance**
(Enter categories from instructions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMMERCE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Period of Significance**
(c1910 - 1975)

**Significant Dates**
1910, 1920, 1950

**Significant Person**
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n/a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cultural Affiliation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n/a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Architect/Builder**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Period of Significance (justification)**
The period of significance begins with the construction of the building in 1910 and continues through the various phases of its commercial history. The period ends in 1975 when Jim Coast purchased Clark Pharmacy, and the general historic commercial period ends.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

n/a
Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that notes under what criteria the property is nominated.)

The Cimarron Opera House is locally eligible for its association with the early commercial history in Cimarron. The building is located on the main thoroughfare and has been a prominent structure in the community for over 100 years. For the first portion of its history, the building housed the Opera House on the upper floor and general store on the first. The Odd Fellows bought the building in the 1920s and used the upper floor as their meeting hall with the Masons. Culvert Drug moved into the lower level in the 1920s. Ralph Clark later bought the building and housed Clark’s Pharmacy; part of the building was used as a grocery. The latest iteration of businesses included the pharmacy, gift shop and soda fountain, and now an antique store.

Elaboration (Provide a brief history of the property and justify why this property is locally significant.)

Gray County History

The City of Cimarron becomes one of the earliest settlements in Gray County. In 1878, Cimarron was named for its location at the head of a branch of the Santa Fe Trail known as the Cimarron Route or the Dry Route. The shorter, favored Cimarron Route headed directly southwest, crossed the panhandle of Oklahoma, then into New Mexico where it reconnected with the Mountain Route near Fort Union. A drawback of the shorter Cimarron Route was that water was less available; thus the name of the Dry Route. The other longer route (Mountain Route) continued west along the Arkansas River to Bent’s Fort in LaJunta, Colorado then south to Fort Union and eventually Santa Fe. Although the water was more available along the mountain route, it took a more extended amount of time to travel to New Mexico along this route. The first use of the Dry Route was in 1822 by William Bucknell.

In March of 1879 Gray County’s first newspaper, the New West was established in Cimarron. The newspaper was proclaimed to be “Devoted to the Development of the Great American Desert.” Kansas is located within the central portion of what was the original Louisiana Purchase. Thomas Jefferson referred to the Louisiana Purchase as being the “Great American Desert.”2 This first newspaper could be considered an indication that the early settlement and development of Gray County involved agriculture and livestock. In 1883 A. T. Andreas in his History of the State of Kansas indicated early development in the county was partly the handling and raising of livestock, stock businesses, and farming.3

By an act of the state legislature of Kansas on March 2, 1881, several Kansas counties’ boundaries were restructured. The new boundaries designated by the Kansas legislature, for the renaming counties would eventually become troublesome for the new counties. Generally, one of the first issues to be addressed was the establishment of a new county seat. Differences of opinions arose between townsfolk whose city was believed to be the better candidate to become county seat. Thus arguments developed amongst the citizens of the county

---

1 This information is a compilation from: National Register of Historic Places, Cimarron City Jail, Cimarron, Gray County, Kansas, prepared by Rick Anderson and Jamee Fiore (2019).
as well as the county governments regarding where to locate the county seats. Gray County was no different than other counties in the process of deciding what city to establish as the county seat.

After several years of often bloody ordeals and erroneous elections, the Gray County seat changed back and forth between Ingalls and Cimarron. Following a special election in February 1893, Cimarron received the majority of votes over the Ingalls’ votes to determine the county seat would be moved for the final time back to Cimarron. By the 1890s, Gray County had a population of approximately 2,400 people.

**Cimarron History**

Cimarron was an active stop along the route of the Santa Fe trail in the mid-nineteenth century, with large numbers of wagon trains, and traders using the path. In the late nineteenth century Atchison, Topeka, & Santa Fe Railway Company developed a rail line along the Santa Fe Trail and creating new communities along the way, and thus Cimarron became a railroad town. At the same time, Cimarron was struggling to maintain position as the County Seat but eventually was given the permanent title.

By the early twentieth century, Cimarron was the only incorporated community in Gray County. Growth and population numbers would continue to grow through the early 1930s. “In 1910, Cimarron remained the county’s only incorporated town, with a population of 587. The town reaped the benefits of record-high crop prices during World War I. By 1918, Cimarron boasted two banks, telephone service, a hotel, four churches and a grain elevator that was haled [sic.] as the ‘most important shipping point between Dodge City and Garden City.’...The population grew to 1,058 in 1920 – and 1,499 in 1930.”

Some of the marketed items mentioned in the article were commodities, livestock, and feed which were shipped out of the community. Consumable goods and products brought into Cimarron and Gray County by the railroad consisted of coal, flour, lumber, agriculture implements, automobiles and gasoline to name just a few. The quality of life for Cimarron’s citizens was expected to considerably increase when a natural gas pipeline supplying fuel for heat, lights, and power would arrive in Cimarron in the fall of 1929. Plans were drawn up to connect a natural gas supply pipeline between Dodge City and the natural gas fields in Hugoton, Stevens County, Kansas. Towns along the route would be able to connect to the main pipeline.

**Cimarron’s Commercial History**

The Cimarron Opera House was built in 1910 and had a primary location at the intersection on the main thoroughfare for over 110 years. The traffic when the Opera House was built included people on horseback and wagons. In a 1930s photo, there are poles for tying up horses or wagons on the north side of the building along the highway. The railroad was newly completed just thirty years prior, allowing the community to thrive with a new wave of citizens and grow the economy. The main road past the building is now a major four-lane highway.

---

5 The first portion of this is a compilation from: National Register of Historic Places, Cimarron City Jail, Cimarron, Gray County, Kansas, prepared by Rick Anderson and Jamee Fiore.
7 National Register of Historic Places, Gray County Courthouse (Old), Cimarron, Gray County, Kansas, National Register # 09000873, form prepared by Christy Davis
In an article from the July 25, 1879 *Optic*, the local newspaper of the time, the following businesses were listed:

General Store, owned by A. D. Wittick, who later organized the Citizens' State Bank.

The family owned a large ranch six or seven miles east of Cimarron as late as 1920.

Groceries and Feed, owned by C. F. Leechan

Dry Goods and Groceries, owned by O. Ruswick

Illinois House and Bakery, owned by Kenneth Fay

Cimarron House, owned by W. J. Dixon

Meat Market, owned by Jas. Mc Donald

Lumber Company, owned by G. M. Mitchell

Coal and Bone Yard, owned by R. Abbott

Saloon and Grocery, owned by J. C. Collier

Saloon and Billiards, owned by Davis and Love

Arkansas Town Company agent and Postmaster - L. E. McGarry

Attorney at Law - L. W. B. Johnson

Real Estate agents - George Foughty and W. P. Peter

Livery Stables, owned by L. A. Pitcher and Bennett and Koehn

Blacksmith - William Trask

Carpenters - five men whose names were not recorded

By 1915, according to the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of that date, the town boasted three barbers, a bakery, two banks, one café, a butcher shop, a grocery store, a jewelry shop, the Odd Fellows Lodge Hall, a print shop, and other general merchandise stores. Off the main street behind the Opera House were sheds of various sizes.

Elsie D. Wagner writes about Cimarron in her book, *The Growth of a Town*; Cimarron was booming during the late 1800s and early 1900s. There was always a general store popping up along the main street. There was an increase in the population of nearly 150% between the years of 1900 and 1910, according to the U.S. Census.

An article from the February 4, 1909 *Jacksonian*, announced the purchase of the corner lots saying, "The lots give a fine location, and the building will be first-class and up-to-date in every respect, taking a place as one of the very best in western Kansas." Later in the article it continues, "This is another step forward for Cimarron and indicates a healthy condition. The new buildings are being built substantially and reflect credit on the town and community."

---


10 *The Sanborn Maps*, 1915.


The first owners, M.J. Hopper and Son, saw the potential of economic growth and were confident enough to invest in a large, brick building on the busy highway of Cimarron. The Opera House was in operation for a few years, and twenty-one years later, it was sold to the Odd Fellows Lodge. The first floor was maintained as a leased retail area, and the upper floor was renovated for the Lodge, which stayed as such for around 50 years. The upper floor remained empty and in original condition until it was renovated as office space.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity or Owner</th>
<th>Building area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 7, 1910</td>
<td>Governor travels to the Opening of the Cimarron Opera House, also known as Dorean Opera House</td>
<td>Main Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>Hopper’s General Store&lt;sup&gt;14&lt;/sup&gt; Cimarron Opera House, aka Dorean Opera House – 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; floor  (open 18 years)&lt;sup&gt;15&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1913</td>
<td>Tudor &amp; Bean</td>
<td>Main Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>Odd Fellow Lodge Purchased Building from Mr. Bean&lt;sup&gt;16&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Entire Bldg.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Business Rental</td>
<td>Main Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Odd Fellow Lodge Opened. Cimarron Opera House, aka Dorean Opera House closed</td>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 4, 1934</td>
<td>Covert Drug Store&lt;sup&gt;17&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Main Floor – North Half</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>14</sup> “Hopper’s Bargain Store,” (ad) *The Book of CHS*, 1913. (Cimarron High School Yearbook).
<sup>15</sup> “Bean Trades Building to Odd Fellow Lodge,” *The Jacksonian*, (Cimarron) 7 May 1931.
<sup>16</sup> “Bean Trades Building to Odd Fellow Lodge,” *The Jacksonian*, (Cimarron) 7 May 1931.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1935</td>
<td>Farmer's Grocery transferred to Trainer's Grocery</td>
<td>Main Floor – South Half</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 14, 1937</td>
<td>Mr. Covert Moved to Oregon and sold to Lloyd Tuggle&lt;sup&gt;18&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Main Floor – North Half</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>Tuggle opened Drug Store and continued Soda Fountain</td>
<td>Main Floor – North Half</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar-30-1944</td>
<td>Fisher bought out Trainer Grocery&lt;sup&gt;19&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Main Floor – South Half</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 15, 1962</td>
<td>Eleanor Schoen opened a restaurant&lt;sup&gt;20&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Main Floor – South Half</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 10, 1965</td>
<td>Harvey Skidmore bought the restaurant&lt;sup&gt;21&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Main Floor – South Half</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 11, 1966</td>
<td>Tuggle turned the south side restaurant into a gift shop</td>
<td>Main Floor North and South halves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1966</td>
<td>Ralph and Malee Clark bought the entire building and continued Pharmacy, soda fountain and gift shop.&lt;sup&gt;22&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Entire Main Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 13, 1975</td>
<td>Jim and Sandi Coast purchased the entire building, continuing all the business.&lt;sup&gt;23&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Entire Main Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Odd Fellow Lodge gave up their charter</td>
<td>2nd floor vacant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Business and building were sold to Matt and Kimberly Monic&lt;sup&gt;24&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Entire Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Gilbert and Beverly Benton purchased the building.&lt;sup&gt;25&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Entire Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Antique Store and Soda Fountain</td>
<td>Main Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The 2nd floor has been renovated into offices</td>
<td>2nd floor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Through the years, owners have worked to maintain the structure and keep it in a safe and functioning condition. The antique store on the lower level contains artifacts of the period. Although the upper story has been renovated into a new office space, there are many original and historic features throughout the structure. When the building was sold in 2019, the community was concerned about the loss of the historic soda fountain and upper floor lodge. Many people had various memories of the lodge hall, like visiting Santa Claus, meetings, celebrations, and school reunions. Many also remembered the old pool table that had been in one of the rooms for the members of the Lodge Hall. The building has been maintained and continues to stand as a cornerstone of Cimarron, ensuring history will be remembered.

<sup>17</sup> “Covert Drug Store to Move to New Location,” The Jacksonian, (Cimarron) 19 July 1934.
<sup>18</sup> “Covert Drug Store is Sold to Lloyd Tuggle,” The Jacksonian (Cimarron) 5 May 1934.
<sup>20</sup> “Mrs. Eleanor Schoen Buys Cimarron Café,” The Jacksonian (Cimarron) 16 March 1961.
<sup>21</sup> “Skidmores to Open Café in Cimarron,” The Jacksonian (Cimarron) 10 September 1964.
<sup>23</sup> “Jim Coast Buys Clark Pharmacy.” 22 January 1975.
<sup>24</sup> The Jacksonian, (Cimarron) December 4, 2013.
<sup>25</sup> The Jacksonian, (Cimarron) November 13, 2019.
9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form)

“Jim Coast Buys Clark Pharmacy,” 22 January 1975.
National Register of Historic Places, Cimarron City Jail, Cimarron, Gray County, Kansas, prepared by Rick Anderson and Jamee Fiore.
Sanborn Maps, 1915
The Jacksonian, (Cimarron)
The Larned Eagle-Optic, (Larned)
The Topeka State Journal, (Topeka, Kansas)
(ad) The Book of CHS, 1913, (Cimarron High School Yearbook).

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property       Less than one acre

Provide latitude/longitude coordinates OR UTM coordinates.
(Place additional coordinates on a continuation page.)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84:__________
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)
1  37.806669  -100.348680  2
Latitude:  Longitude:  Latitude:  Longitude:

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)
The boundary includes the entire parcel of Lots 1 & 2, Block 5 (width 50’, depth 140’).

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)
The boundary is the full parcel that is historically associated with the Opera House.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Beverly Benton
organization __________________________ date __________________________
street & number Po Box 243 telephone __________________________
city or town Cimarron state KS zip code 67835
e-mail beverly@fmikansas.com
Cimarron Opera House
Name of Property
Cimarron, Gray County
City and County

Property Owner:
name ____________________________
street & number ____________________________ telephone ____________________________
city or town ____________________________ state __________ zip code __________

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

Photographs
Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each digital image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to a sketch map or aerial map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn’t need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photograph Log

Name of Property: Cimarron Opera House
City or Vicinity: Cimarron
County: Gray State: KS
Photographer: Beverly Benton (owner)
Date Photographed: Spring 2020

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of #:
1. view, SW, looking at the north and east elevations
2. view SE, Looking at the west and north elevations
3. Interior, first floor, view from back, looking towards east/entrance
4. Interior, first floor, view from back, looking towards east/entrance
5. Interior, first floor, looking toward the west wall/back of the room
6. Interior view of the shelving and exposed brick wall
7. Interior, second floor hall
8. Interior, second floor corridor
9. Entrance, stairs to upper level
10. Interior office

Figures
Include GIS maps, figures, scanned images below.
1. Aerial of the Opera House
2. Commercial downtown context
3. Overview of Cimarron and surrounding area
Cimarron Opera House

Name of Property

Cimarron, Gray County

City and County

Photo 1

Photo 2
Cimarron Opera House
Cimarron, Gray County
Name of Property
City and County