NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

1. NAME

COMMON:
Atchison Post Office

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
621 Kansas

CITY OR TOWN:
Atchison

STATE:
Kansas

3. CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY (Check One)</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District ☐ Building ☑ Structure ☐ Object ☐</td>
<td>☑ Public ☐ Private ☐ Both</td>
<td>☑ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress</td>
<td>☑ Yes Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☐ No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture ☐ Commercial ☐ Educational ☐</td>
<td>Government ☑ Industrial ☐ Military ☐ Religious ☐</td>
<td>Park ☐ Private Residence ☐</td>
<td>Transportation ☐ Other (Specify) ☐ Comments ☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entertainment ☐</td>
<td>Museum ☐</td>
<td>☑ Scientific ☐</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

3. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
General Services Administration

STREET AND NUMBER:
16th and F Streets, N. W.

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
D. C.

4. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Register of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:
Atchison County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:
Atchison

STATE:
Kansas

CODE:
66002

5. 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:
The Atchison Post Office, a building with an unusual and massive appearance, is built of coursed ashlar limestone in a Romanesque influenced style. It is of two stories with a full basement. The foundation is also of limestone, and a wide band of smooth stone was used below the first floor windows to indicate the floor line. Transoms divide the first floor and tower windows. All windows have smooth cut sills with the first floor lintels being extremely deep. Two arched entries serve the building. Both are important features, but the south entrance is the stronger and was executed with greater detail.

Two large slate-roofed towers project from the southeast and southwest corners. These towers serve to unite the first and second stories which would otherwise seem to be separated by the first floor roof. The towers also have the only circular windows in the building as well as an interesting corbeled cornice. The large chimney employs a similar cornice. Paired columns and a dentil band frame the rather small second story windows. A composition hip roof protects the structure and finishes the design with simple uncluttered lines.

The building has been remodeled several times but mainly in the interior. In 1950-1951 the ceiling was lowered, new lighting installed, and other improvements made at a cost of $70,000. Except for the removal of some roof ornamentation, the exterior appears to be basically unaltered; however, a rectangular brick loading dock has been added on the north side.
**Construction of the Atchison Post Office**, located at the northeast corner of Seventh and Kansas avenue, was authorized by an act of Congress approved May 16, 1890. The efforts of U. S. Senator John J. Ingalls, whose home town was Atchison, were the main factor in securing passage of the act.

Congress appropriated funds for land acquisition and construction on August 30, 1890, and March 3, 1891. The building site was purchased by the U. S. Government from Dr. Cochrane on March 19, 1891, for $14,500. The contract for construction was awarded June 24, 1892, and the building was occupied March 14, 1894. Construction costs (excluding land purchase) are given by the U. S. Treasury department at $85,393.11. Newspaper accounts and local histories set the amount at $61,703.17.

The Atchison postmaster during the period of construction and opening of the new post office was Solomon R. Washer, whose term of office was from March 20, 1890, to June 7, 1894.

The Atchison Post Office is an excellent example of the use of native stone in the Romanesque influenced style.
Atchison Daily Globe, July 16, 1894.

### Geographical Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Corner</th>
<th>Latitude</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>Degrees</td>
<td>Minutes</td>
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<td>NE</td>
<td>Degrees</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>Degrees</td>
<td>Minutes</td>
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Approximate acreage of nominated property: One acre.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>County</th>
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### Form Prepared By

Name and Title: Charles Hall, Architectural Consultant
Richard Pankratz, Planner

Organization: Kansas State Historical Society

Street and Number: 120 West Tenth Street

City or Town: Topeka

### State Liaison Officer Certification

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 [x]
- Local [ ]

Name: Nyle H. Miller
Title: Executive Secretary, Kansas State Historical Society

Date: Nov. 6, 1971

### National Register Verification

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: ____________________________

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date: ____________________________