

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. 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 any 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 (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Nagel Residence

Other name/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

1411 Wilson Street \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication  
Great Bend \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity \_\_\_\_\_  
state Kansas code KS county Barton code 009 zip code 67530

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.  
In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.  
I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_\_\_ statewide X locally.  
(\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Richard D. Parkratz  
Signature of certifying official

12/6/00  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.  
(\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

\_\_\_\_ entered in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register.

\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register.

\_\_\_\_ removed from the National Register.

\_\_\_\_ other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

Property Name Nagel Residence

County and State Barton County, Kansas

Page 2

5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	No. of Resources within Property	
		contributing	noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u> Total	

Name of related multiple property listing:  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Lustron Houses of Kansas

No. of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:

0

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

DOMESTIC:Secondary Structure

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC:Single Dwelling

DOMESTIC:Secondary Structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT

NO STYLE

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Foundation CONCRETE

Walls METAL:Steel

WOOD:Weatherboard

Roof METAL:Steel

ASPHALT

Other     

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Property Name Nagel Residence

County and State Barton County, Kansas

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C 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.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1950

Significant Dates

1950

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Brack Implements, Great Bend, Kansas (builder)

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Property Name Nagel Residence

County and State Barton County, Kansas

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Ohio State Archives (Columbus); County Historical Society; County Courthouse

Record # \_\_\_\_\_

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property <1

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>1/4</u>	<u>5/1/7/9/1/5</u>	<u>4/2/4/6/2/3/0</u>	3	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>
2	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	4	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>/</u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth Rosin, Partner, assisted by Dana Cloud  
 organization Historic Preservation Services, LLC date July 31, 2000  
 street & number 818 Grand Boulevard, Suite 1150 telephone (816) 221-5133  
 city or town Kansas City state Missouri zip code 64106

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:  
Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Mary Reed  
 street & number 1411 Wilson telephone (316) 792-6641  
 city or town Great Bend state KS zip code 67831

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1

Nagel Residence  
Barton County, Kansas

**DESCRIPTION**

*The Nagel Residence* is a two bedroom, front-gabled Lustron dwelling with a Newport Deluxe Plan. The 23-foot by 31-foot house has "Dove Gray" walls with white trim and a dark green roof.

Resting on a concrete slab foundation, the dwelling has an east-facing, rectangular plan. Porcelain enameled steel panels clad all exterior surfaces. Two-foot by two-foot panels sheath the dwelling's four walls. Narrower, vertical panels, approximately one-foot wide, cover the gable ends. Square "shingles," approximately one-foot square, cover the roof. The eaves of the front-gabled roof overhang slightly along the side walls but are tight on the gable end walls. A Lustron-paneled chimney rises from the center of the south roof slope just off the ridge. One end of each gutter running along the long (east and west) sides of the dwelling terminates in a downspout that is angled slightly toward the house.

Openings asymmetrically pierce the walls of the dwelling. The steel windows have enameled steel surrounds and appear in three configurations: 1) tripartite windows, featuring a single, fixed-pane of plate glass flanked by four-light casements set flush with the body of the dwelling, pierce the dwelling's east and south elevations; 2) pairs of three-light casement windows pierce each of the elevations; and 3) single three-light casements pierce the east and south elevations. A door of modern vintage has replaced the original front door, located at the south end of the east elevation. A steel "shingled" awning supported on pairs of simple triangular steel brackets tops the entrance.

A rear bedroom addition with a flat roof and wood clapboard siding connects the dwelling to the garage. The bedroom has a single door on its east elevation as well as a single door and horizontal band of three small windows on its west elevation. The addition was constructed circa 1974.

The interior of the dwelling retains most of its original Lustron materials and built-in features. Like the exterior, porcelain-enameled steel panels clad the interior walls and ceilings. The wall panels typically measure two-feet by eight feet, with some larger panels below windows, while the ceiling panels are eight feet square. Modern carpet and sheet vinyl cover the original asphalt shingle flooring. Some of the original metal cabinetry in the kitchen has been replaced with new wood cabinets.

One modification from the original design was the omission of the wall between the utility room and kitchen. An employee of the Great Bend Lustron dealer, the original owner chose to make this design modification in order to accommodate an eating area adjacent to the kitchen.

Garage

Adjacent to the dwelling is a one-and-a-half car garage constructed in 1968. Horizontal wood siding clads the east-facing front-gabled frame structure. A metal overhead door fills the single bay in the east elevation. Four-light windows also illuminate the east, west and south walls. As mentioned above, an enclosed breezeway of like materials connects the garage to the dwelling.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 2

Nagel Residence  
Barton County, Kansas

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Site

This property occupies a grassy mid-block lot on Wilson Street in the Crescent Park Addition of Great Bend. A wide concrete drive leads from the street to the garage and a slightly curved walk leads from the street to the front door. An additional walk connects the driveway to the front stoop and to the east door in the breezeway. A woven wire fence runs along the south property line to the southwest corner of the garage. A variety of shrubs line the foundation of the house and garage.

**INTEGRITY**

The Nagel Residence is in excellent condition and retains many of its original features, including the Lustron identification tag (#02312), windows, exterior and interior wall panels, interior doors, and floor plan. The Nagel Lustron is also notable for the sensitive addition constructed in the early 1970s. The Lustron's designers anticipated expansion of these dwellings to accommodate the needs of growing families. Garage designs were available and other plans were in progress when the company closed in 1950. In the case of this property, the bedroom addition was constructed in a manner that reinforces the scale, massing and design of the original property. Its secondary location neither detracts from nor minimizes the original Lustron design, which remains readily apparent to the observer. Likewise, the garage is appropriately placed next to the dwelling, set back slightly behind the plane of the dwelling's main elevation. Its roof shape and slope and massing reflect the Lustron's proportions. Materials differentiate both the garage and the addition from the original dwelling. On the interior alterations include new overhead and base cabinets in the kitchen, exterior doors, carpeting throughout and wood wall paneling in the living room. These limited modifications do not impact the overall integrity of the property, and the original workmanship, materials, design, setting, location, feeling, and association of the property are readily apparent to the observer.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 3

Nagel Residence  
Barton County, Kansas

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

*The Nagel Residence* is significant under National Register Criterion C for the area of ARCHITECTURE. It is one of only one hundred Lustron houses documented in Kansas, and an excellent example of the rare Newport Deluxe Lustron model. Of the seventeen Lustrons currently extant in Great Bend, nine, including the Nagel Residence, are located in a five-block area of the Crescent Park Addition, platted in 1949. The dwellings in Crescent Park, including the Lustrons, are typical of suburban expansion that occurred in communities across the country following the end of World War II.

In an effort to solve the post-World War II housing crisis, the Lustron Corporation, lead by Carl Stradlund, applied porcelain-enameled steel technology to residential design, producing a pre-fabricated dwelling that was "...fireproof, ratproof, decay-proof, [and] termite proof. Will never deteriorate or stain, never fade, crack or peel, never need painting, refinishing or reroofing [sic]" (Lustron Corp, [n.d.]). Available in two-and three-bedroom models, these dwellings resembled typical, wood-frame post-war dwellings. However, their steel frames clad on the interior and exterior with porcelain enamel-coated steel panels distinguished Lustrons from more traditional contemporary residential construction.

The Reconstruction Finance Corporation rewarded Stradlund's efforts with \$32.5 million in federal aid, plus the lease of a vacated airplane factory in Columbus, Ohio, for production of the dwelling components. Stradlund applied the tenets of automobile assembly-line mass-production to the Lustron. At the factory all of the components for each dwelling were loaded on a specially designed truck trailer and delivered to the building site, where company-trained builders erected the dwelling following the Lustron instruction manual.

The company actively produced Lustron houses between summer 1948 and June 1950. In Kansas Lustrons typically sold for around \$10,000. Dan Brack, the Great Bend dealer, sold the slightly smaller Newport model for \$8,500. The Nagels, post-war newlyweds, fit the profile of the typical buyer to whom Stradlund marketed the Lustron house. While higher than expected costs for materials, land and site preparations often put the Lustron out of reach of middle-class buyers, the Nagels were able to afford this slightly smaller Lustron through their association with the local builder. As Stradlund hoped, the Lustron's easy upkeep and good price appealed to the Nagels (Nagel 2000). Ultimately, the higher than expected sales costs, lack of a national dealer network, and production problems contributed to national sales that never exceeded 250 units per month. This was far short of the 17,000 units per year that the company promised. The RFC filed foreclosure in March of 1950, and the company ceased production in June of that year having shipped fewer than 2500 of these unique all-steel dwellings nationwide.

**SITE HISTORY**

*The Nagel Residence* was built in early 1950 in the Crescent Park Addition of Great Bend. Platted in 1949 by Soloman M. Brack, Crescent Park was bounded by Broadway on the north, McKinley Street on the east and Highway K96 on the south and west. The sweeping curve of Highway K96 gave the subdivision its name. A grid of streets divided the eighty-five acres into 300 rectangular lots (*Great Bend Daily Tribune*, 1951; Barton County, Kansas 1949).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 4

Nagel Residence  
Barton County, Kansas

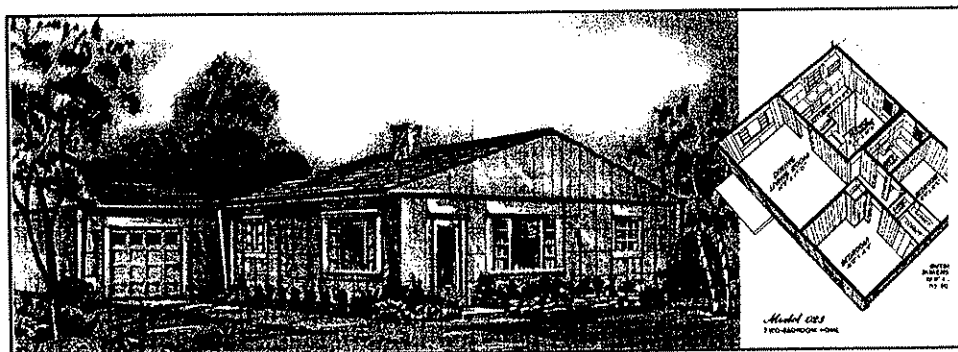
On January 30, 1950, Dan E. Brack purchased Lot 2 of Block 4 in the Crescent Park Addition from Harry R. Schenkel and Andy Bortz (Barton County Deeds 99:442). Over the next six months, Brack's crew built the small Newport Deluxe Lustron at 1411 Wilson Street that Brack utilized as a show home. Its serial number (#02312), as well as the dates of construction, indicates that this was one of the final models shipped from the factory in Ohio. In spite of this late date in the history of the Lustron Corporation, the home provided marketing for eight additional Lustrons subsequently built in a five block area of the Crescent Park Addition, making it one of the densest concentrations of Lustrons in the State of Kansas.

On July 1, 1950, Brack sold the model home to his crew member Harvey W. Nagel and his wife, Joyce (Barton County Deeds 100:65). When the Nagels moved into their new home on Wilson Street it was one of only three homes standing in the 300-lot Crescent Park Addition. The other two homes were wood-frame construction located near the Nagel's home on Wilson and Harding streets (Nagel 2000).

Harvey Nagel was a native of Pawnee County, Kansas. After a brief stint in the Army Air Force, in 1950 Nagel began working for Dan Brack constructing Lustron homes. Brack, reportedly, occasionally had trouble paying his employees, and Nagel was able to purchase his Lustron home at a discount. Nagel also modified the Lustron's floor plan by removing the wall between the kitchen and utility room to accommodate a dinette (See photo number 6, *Ibid.*).

Nagel's career constructing Lustrons was cut short when the company ceased production in June 1950. Mr. Nagel subsequently worked for twenty-two years as a mechanic for the Atlantic Richfield Company, while Mrs. Nagel was an operator for Southwester Bell Telephone. In 1967, following the birth of their second daughter, the Nagels sold their small two-bedroom Lustron (Barton County Deeds 157:56, *Great Bend Tribune* 1996; Nagel 2000).

The Lustron has had three subsequent owners. On August 7, 1968 Franklin Edwards, a local pastor, purchased the Lustron from the Nagels. During his eight-year ownership he built the one-car, front-gabled garage and later connected it to the house with the small back bedroom. In July 1976, Mary J. Laudick purchased the home. Her daughter, Mary Reed, inherited the property in December of 1988; Mary Reed's daughter, Tycee, is the current occupant. (Barton County Deeds 157:56, 182:245, 219:341; Laudick 1999).



Two-bedroom Newport with Lustron garage, elevation and plan. (Lustron Corp., [n.d.]b)



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 9, 10 Page 5

Nagel Residence  
Barton County, Kansas

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**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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Deed Records. On file at the Barton County Courthouse, Great Bend, Kansas.

1938 Aerial Map of Great Bend, Kansas. On file at the Barton County Maps Collection, Great Bend, Kansas.

1957 Aerial Map of Great Bend, Kansas. On file at the Barton County Maps Collection, Great Bend, Kansas.

Great Bend, Kansas, *Daily Tribune*.

1951 *History of Great Bend: Crescent Park Addition*. 10 August 1951.

1986 *Obituary: Harvey William Nagel*. 28 January 1996.

Laudick, Mary

1999 Telephone Interview with Dana Cloud. December 1999.

Lustron Corporation.

[n.d.]a *The Lustron Home*. Lustron Corporation Archives. Box 1, Folder 1. On file in the Archives of the Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, Ohio.

[n.d.]b *Presenting the Lustron Newport: 2 and 3 Bedroom Homes*. Lustron Corporation Archives. Box 1, Folder 1. On file in the Archives of the Ohio State Historical Society, Columbus, Ohio.

Nagel, Joyce.

2000 Telephone interview by Dana Cloud, 16 February 2000.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Lot 2, Block 4, Crescent Park Addition, Great Bend, Barton County, Kansas.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The boundary includes the city parcel on which the house and garage are located.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number   Photographs   Page 6

Nagel Residence  
Barton County, Kansas

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Photographer:      Dana Cloud  
Date of Photographs:    October and December 1999  
Location of Negatives:   Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka, Kansas

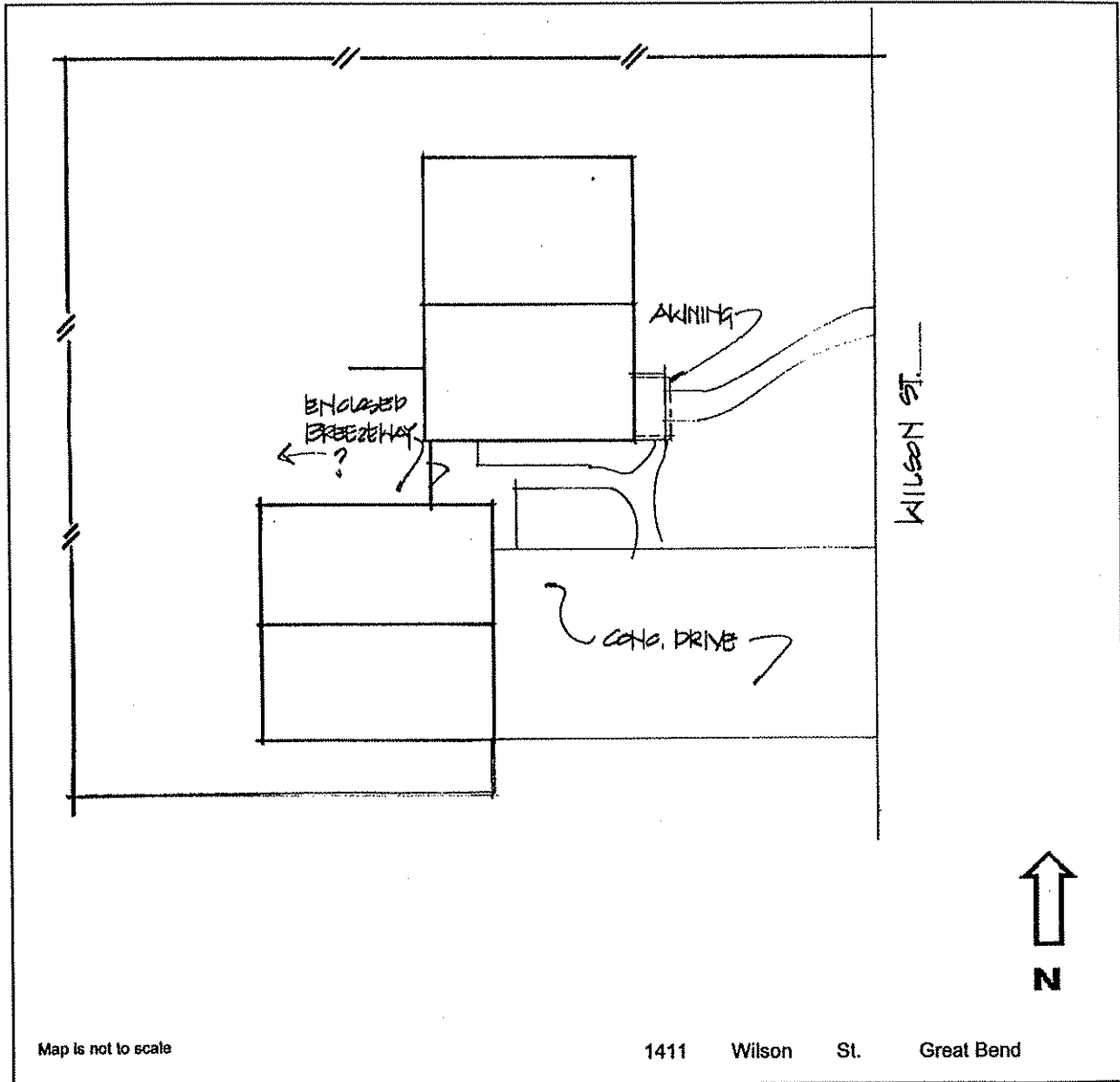
- 1) House and garage. View looking northwest.
- 2) East and north elevations of dwelling. View looking southwest.
- 3) West elevation of dwelling with rear addition and garage. View looking east.
- 4) Window detail.
- 5) South and west elevations of garage. View looking northwest.
- 6) Kitchen and utility room. View looking north.
- 7) Overhead storage.
- 8) Bedroom storage.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section -- Site Plan Page 7

Nagel Residence  
Barton County, Kansas



Map is not to scale

1411 Wilson St. Great Bend