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 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 (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name  Fort Scott Downtown Historic District
other names/site number  011-574

2. Location

street & number  Oak to Third Street, Scott Avenue to National Avenue  not for publication
city or town  Fort Scott  vicinity
state  Kansas  code  KS  County  Bourbon  code  011  zip code  66701

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this □ 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant on a nationally □ statewide □ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature]
Date 10-28-09

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Kansas Historical Society

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]
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
□ entered in the National Register.
□ determined eligible for the National Register.
□ determined not eligible for the National Register.
□ removed from the National Register.
□ other, (explain;)

[Signature of the Keeper]
Date of Action

[Signature of the Keeper]
Date of Action
### 5. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of Property</th>
<th>Category of Property</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Check as many boxes as apply)</td>
<td>(Check only one box)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>X private</td>
<td>□ building(s)</td>
<td>Contributions: 55, Noncontributing: 25</td>
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<td>X public-local</td>
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<td>□ public-State</td>
<td>□ site</td>
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<tr>
<td>X public-Federal</td>
<td>□ structure</td>
<td>Objects: 59</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ object</td>
<td>Total: 25</td>
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**Name of related multiple property listing**

(Enter 'N/A' if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

3

### 6. Function or Use

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<td>(Enter categories from instructions)</td>
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<td>Commerce/Trade: business; specialty store; restaurant; financial institution; professional</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government: fire station; courthouse; post office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religion: religious facility</td>
<td>Religion: religious facility</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation: rail-related</td>
<td>Work in Progress</td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic: multiple dwelling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recreation / Culture: theater; auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education: library</td>
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### 7. Description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Architectural Classification</th>
<th>Materials</th>
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<tr>
<td>(Enter categories from instructions)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late Victorian: Italianate, Queen Anne,</td>
<td>Foundation: Stone, concrete</td>
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<tr>
<td>Romanesque, Renaissance</td>
<td>walls: Brick, stone, concrete block, concrete</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late 19th &amp; 20th Century Revivals: Beaux Arts,</td>
<td>roof: Asphalt shingles, built-up asphalt, tile</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classical Revival, Spanish Revival</td>
<td>other:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late 19th &amp; 20th Century American</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movements: Commercial</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modern Movement: Moderne</td>
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**Narrative Description**

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

See attached continuation sheets—section 7.
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.)

X 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.

X 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 N/A
(Mark "X" in all boxes that apply.)

Property is:
X A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

X B removed from its original location.

□ C a birthplace or 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

Commerce

Community planning and development

Period of Significance
1863-1959

Significant Dates
1869-1870, 1918

Significant Person
(complete if Criterion B is marked)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
C. W. Goodlander; W. E. Glover; Cuthbert & Suerke; Blazer & Vollmer; William Fullerton, William T. Schmitt

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A
□ 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 Record #

Primary location of additional data:
□ State Historic Preservation Office
□ Other State Agency
□ Federal Agency
X Local Government
□ University
□ Other

Name of repository:
City of Fort Scott, Economic Development
Fort Scott Downtown Historic District  
Bourbon County, Kansas  

10. Geographical Data  

Acreage of Property  
Approximately 28 acres  

UTM References  
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)  

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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  Dale E. Nimz, Historic Preservation Consultant  
organization  City of Fort Scott  
date  March 25, 2009  
street & number  1928 Countryside Lane  
telephone  785.842.8992  
city or town  Lawrence  
State  KS  
zip code  66044  

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 SHPO or FPO.)  
Name  See attached list of property owners  
street & number  
city or town  
State  
zip code  
telephone  

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)  

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.
NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Located on higher ground above the Marmaton River to the north and northwest, the Fort Scott Downtown Historic District is located in the center of the business district of Fort Scott, Kansas (pop. 8,297). Fort Scott is the county seat of Bourbon County, Kansas. Throughout much of its history, Fort Scott was served by three main railroads: Missouri Pacific, Missouri, Kansas, and Texas, St. Louis and San Francisco. Because of the railroads and the natural resources of the surrounding region, the town developed a number of industries in the late nineteenth century and some important companies in the early twentieth century that supported the local economy. The Fort Scott Downtown Historic District includes the central core area of the historic commercial district that developed from 1863 until circa 1970 when an Urban Renewal program demolished a number of commercial buildings to the north and east. Historic district boundaries are based on previous historic preservation survey and recommendations by the staff of the Kansas Historic Preservation Office.

Only three buildings in the Fort Scott Downtown Historic District are individually listed in the National Register: the Union Block (18-20 S. Main), Moody Building (126 S. Main), and the Fort Scott Carnegie Library (201 S. National). The Missouri, Kansas & Texas freight depot is individually listed in the Register of Historic Kansas Places.

The Fort Scott Downtown Historic District is a roughly rectangular area of approximately nine-and-a-half blocks with irregular boundaries. Beginning at the northeast corner, the boundary runs from the intersection of East Wall Street with the alley between Scott Avenue and State Street two blocks south to the intersection with Second Street, then west on Second Street two blocks to the alley between Main Street and National Avenue, then south one block to Third Street, then west one-and-a-half blocks to the intersection with Judson Street, then north one block to Second Street, then east to the intersection of Second Street with the alley between Judson Street and National Avenue, then north three blocks to Oak Street, then north to correspond with the property lines for 102 National (inventory #83), then east along the same property line to National Avenue, then south less than one-half block to Oak Street, then east one block to the intersection with Old Fort Boulevard (a diagonal street), then southeast along Old Fort Boulevard one block to the intersection of Wall Street and Scott Avenue, then east on Wall Street approximately one half block to the point of beginning.

Most of the extant historic buildings have identical setbacks with the building fronts extending to the sidewalk. Brick is the primary building material with some stone, concrete block, and concrete. Generally, buildings are one, two, and three stories tall with several taller buildings anchoring the end of blocks. Most of the buildings in the district are two-part and one-part commercial blocks. As defined by Richard Longstreth, the two-part commercial block is the "most common type of composition used for small and moderate-sized commercial buildings throughout the country." These buildings feature a distinction between the storefront level and an upper zone. Most storefronts have symmetrically arranged facades with large display windows flanking a central entrance. The one-part commercial block has only a single story which is similar to the storefront of the two-part commercial block. These commercial buildings

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generally have low-sloping or flat roofs behind raised parapets. Also, the downtown streets were paved with locally manufactured brick during the period of significance and constitute a significant resource.

The historic buildings in the Fort Scott Downtown District represent several architectural style classifications: Late Victorian—Italianate, Queen Anne, and Romanesque; Early Twentieth Century American Movements—Commercial, Classical Revival, Renaissance, and Spanish Revival. The largest group from the late nineteenth century is Italianate with twenty-five examples. There are four Romanesque examples and four Queen Anne examples. The largest group from the early twentieth century is Commercial style with fourteen examples. There are six Classical Revival examples as well as three Renaissance Revival examples and three Spanish Revival examples. Other styles include Gothic Revival, Beaux Arts, and Moderne with single examples.

The district includes forty-two buildings that were constructed before 1900, twenty-five constructed between 1900 and 1929, seven buildings constructed between 1930 and 1959, and nine buildings constructed after 1960. Twenty-four buildings were constructed during the boom years between 1880 and 1889. As the developmental history in the nomination outlines, Fort Scott enjoyed an economic boom and dramatic population increase in the 1880s and prospered through the 1920s, but the population declined after World War II ended.

A substantial percentage of the buildings in the Fort Scott Downtown Historic District retain sufficient architectural integrity to contribute to the appearance and feeling of the district. There are fifty-eight contributing and previously-listed resources in a district of eighty-eight total resources (66%).

Narrative Description

Fort Scott was established in 1842 as a military post. That site has been restored and reconstructed as a National Historic Site administered by the National Park Service. The Fort Scott Historic Site is northeast of Old Fort Boulevard and adjacent to the Downtown Historic District. The well-constructed buildings of the fort were turned over to civilian residents when the U. S. Army abandoned Fort Scott in 1853. Those buildings became the nucleus of commercial development in the town that developed after Kansas Territory was opened to settlement in 1854. In the 1860s and 1870s, contiguous commercial buildings—first wood-frame—then brick and stone—were constructed on the north side of Market Street (present-day Old Fort Boulevard). Commercial development also extended to the west on the north side of Oak Street and to the east on Wall Street. More than eighty of those buildings were demolished by the Fort Scott Urban Renewal Program in the early 1970s. Before Urban Renewal, Fort Scott boasted a commercial district of more than thirteen blocks. The area included in the Fort Scott Downtown Historic District represents the remaining central part of the historic commercial district that developed south of the old military post.

Commercial buildings in the north part of the historic district on Scott Avenue, Main Street, and National Avenue generally are older. The Scottish Rite Masonic Temple and Western Insurance Company Building is a prominent landmark in the center. In the southern part, there are significant institutional buildings—the First Baptist Church at the southeast corner, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, and a cluster of institutional buildings anchoring the southwest corner of the district on both sides of National Avenue. These include the Fort Scott Public Library, Memorial Hall, the Bourbon County Courthouse, and the Fort Scott Post Office and Federal Building.
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Buildings evaluated as contributing usually have been altered over time. Many of the alterations reflect changes common to historic commercial buildings as storefronts and facades were modernized with contemporary materials and designs. Alterations to non-contributing buildings detract from or obscure the historic architectural character, but many of those alterations are reversible. Rehabilitation of these non-contributing buildings could change their status and eligibility for rehabilitation tax credits. Acceptable alterations for contributing buildings generally include: windows which are covered but retain the original openings and recessions, additions which are obviously secondary to the main block, alterations to non-street-facing elevations, and storefront alterations provided that the transom outlines and other major architectural divisions of the storefront are evident.

The following inventory of buildings includes the address, historic name if documented, construction and alteration dates in parenthesis. Also, there is a brief description of each building with architectural style, if evident.

Inventory

1. Southeast corner E. Wall Street and Scott Avenue. Missouri, Kansas, & Texas Railroad Freight Depot, 1870, moved to this location in 1997. Individually listed in the State Register.  
Inventory: 011-1830-00165 Status: contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular wood-frame building with a broadly overhanging gable roof. Oriented north-south on the rear of the lot, it stands on concrete block piers. The building has board-and-batten sheathing. There is a wooden pedestrian entrance door at the northwest corner and four loading doors. There is another entrance in the south wall and a tall window.

History: The Missouri, Kansas & Texas (MKT) Railroad freight depot was constructed in 1870 in the flood plain to the north between the downtown commercial district and the Marmaton River. The railroad tracks ran along the south side of the Marmaton River and the river frequently flooded the adjacent buildings. The associated MKT passenger depot was demolished in 1958 leaving this building as the earliest freight depot in town. The building was donated to the Historic Preservation Association of Bourbon County and moved to this location in 1997. Currently, it is used for museum storage. This is the site of the Fort Scott YMCA Building which was demolished in the early 1970s.

Integrity: Criterion Consideration B applies to this building because it has been moved from its original location. The building was moved roughly three blocks south and two blocks east of its original location in 1997. It is the earliest extant railroad-associated building in Fort Scott and one of the earliest MKT-associated buildings in Kansas. Railroads were very significant in the historical development of Fort Scott and this building is one of the few surviving resources illustrating this theme. Although it has lost its integrity of location and much of its association with other railroad resources, the structure retains its architectural integrity including its design, workmanship, materials, and feeling.

2. 15 Scott Avenue. Blue Lodge Masons Building, Moderne style, ca. 1924.  
Inventory: 011-1830-00122 Status: contributing.
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Description: This is a rectangular three-story commercial building with a five-bay front and a flat roof and parapet. The building is a reinforced concrete frame with a brick front and brick infill in the side walls. The south side and end walls have been stuccoed. The Moderne-style façade has a round-arched opening to the upper floors at the southwest corner, brick detailing at the foundation, raised piers between the bays, ornamental raised brick panels, and geometric ornamentation in three piers above the recessed central entrance. There are paired 1/1 double-hung windows on the first and second floors and paired nine-light windows with a central hatch sash on the third floor. A bank of three windows lights the central entrance bay. In the rear wing, there are twenty-five light casement windows on the first floor, 1/1 double-hung windows, and 6/6 double-hung windows on the third floor. Paired windows on the first floor flanking the entrance have been covered.

History: Built to house the Blue Lodge Masons Building in 1924, the lodge lost its building in the 1930s during the Depression. Then, Mr. Campbell purchased the building for Campbell’s Laundry. When the laundry closed in the 1970s, the Masonic Lodge purchased the building.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: This is a contemporary rectangular one-story brick building with concrete foundation and a hipped roof. It is located at the rear of the lot facing First Street. There are central entrances in the south and east facades. Windows are 1/1 double-hung sash.

Integrity: This building was not constructed during the period of significance and is, therefore, listed as a non-contributing resource.

Inventory: 011-1830-00124 Status: contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a three-bay front and a flat roof and parapet. There is a one-story rear wing. The Commercial-style facade has two storefronts with central entrances flanking the central entrance to the second floor. The building has modest brick ornamentation with a raised brick panel and a central square plaque above the second floor entrance, brick header belt courses, smooth-cut second floor window sills and lintels, a brick header course above these windows, three square inset plaques, a raised header belt course at the eave, and a smooth-cut parapet cap. There is a shingled awning on brackets shading the second floor windows. The storefronts have been altered with non-historic bulkheads, display windows, metal entrance doors, metal awning, and a covered transom. The letters “AUS” and the date of construction, 1923, are engraved in the plaque above the entrance.

History: The building was built by Norwegian immigrant Arthur F. Aus, a plumber. He and his wife, Minnie (Minerva Bowlus), lived upstairs at 101 1/2, the apartment above the 101 storefront on the corner. His plumbing shop was located in the 103 storefront. Above the plumbing shop, at 103 1/2, were two apartments, which were rented out. Generally throughout the building's history, it has housed commercial or professional offices on the first floor with apartments on the second floor. (Sources: Arthur Aus’ obituary; 1930 US Census; city directories)
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Section number</th>
<th>Page</th>
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<tr>
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<td>5</td>
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</table>

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**Integrity:** The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

5. **105 Scott Avenue. Jones Baking Company, 1926, Commercial style.**

Inventory: 011-1830-00125  
**Status:** contributing.

**Description:** This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a three-bay front and a flat roof and parapet. There is a one-story rear wing. The Commercial-style facade has a side entrance to the north flanked by a display window and two bays with paired display windows to the south. The building has modest brick ornamentation with a soldier course storefront lintel, raised brick piers, a header belt course, corbeled brick detailing above the second floor windows, two header belt courses, an inset stone plaque, "JB Co. 1926," and a stepped parapet with a smooth-cut stone parapet cap. There are paired double-hung windows in the end bays flanking three windows in the central bay. Display windows and the metal entrance door appear to be non-historic. The storefront transom has been covered and there are shed awnings above the second floor windows.

**History:** The Jones family built this building in 1926 for the Jones Baking Company. Previously, the business was located in the Eagle Block (see 10-12 N. National Avenue – resource # 79). The company stored flour in the basement and used large coal-fired ovens in the southeast part of the first floor. The family lived on the second floor in one large apartment until about 1938 when they lost the building because of the Depression. Leon Ellsworth bought the building and Justus Dickinson, a Fort Scott contractor, converted the second floor into two apartments. During World War II, government offices were located in part of the first floor. After the war until 1956, a locker plant occupied the building. Then George Sherlock, who bought the property in 1954, operated a mattress and awning factory in the building and lived in one of the second floor apartments.

**Integrity:** The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

6. **111 Scott Avenue. Fort Scott Fire Station, 1891, ca. 1915, Classical Revival style.**

Inventory: 011-1830-00127  
**Status:** contributing.

**Description:** This is a rectangular two-story brick building with a flat roof and parapet and a one-story rear section. There is a large opening to the north with a glazed paneled overhead door and a side entrance with a glazed paneled wooden door and overhead transom. The second floor has three bays with 1/1 double-hung wood windows. These openings have smooth-cut stone sills and flat lintels. There is a molded projecting eave cornice and a projecting smooth-cut stone parapet cap. Alterations include the removal of a bell tower shown in early historic photographs and widening the main entrance to accommodate fire trucks when the department was motorized after 1915. Non-historic awnings shade the second floor windows.

**History:** Fires have been a recurring problem in the history of downtown Fort Scott. In July, 1891, the town instituted its first professional fire department which was located in this building. Firemen housed fire
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Engines and equipment on the first floor and lived on the second floor. The department changed to motorized equipment in February, 1915.²  

**Integrity:** The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.  

Inventory: 011-1830-000128 **Status: non-contributing.**  

**Description:** The original block is a rectangular stone building with a projecting front entrance and bell tower and basement. It has a gable roof. Construction on this block began in 1870 and, reportedly, the building finally was completed in 1884. The church was stuccoed in 1915. A three-story brick ell wing with a gable roof to the northeast was constructed in 1952 and a one-story brick education building with a gable roof to the north was constructed in 1964.  

The main church has a projecting sill under the triple round-arched windows in the entrance tower. There are projecting lantern ornaments at the front roof corners and a molding with raised ornamentation at the tower eave. The windows in the church have three stacked sashes of 12-light, 9-light, and 12-light windows. The church has been extensively altered with a contemporary stair and landing to the entrance and the additions to the north and east.  

**History:** After the Fort Scott Town Company donated lots at this location to the First Baptist Church in 1866, the congregation held its first worship service in 1870 in the basement of this building. However, the panic of 1873 delayed completion and the stone structure stood with boarded windows and unpainted walls in 1873. Some church members wanted to abandon the property to creditors, but the congregation persevered. Over the years, the building has been altered and two modern wings have been added.  

**Integrity:** Criterion Consideration A applies to this building since it was and is owned by a religious organization. Even though this is one of the oldest surviving buildings in the downtown, because of the alterations and modern additions, this building is non-contributing. Nevertheless, it is important to include the property within the boundaries of the district because this particular parcel was part of the original town plat and owned by the Fort Scott Town Company. The current congregation's association with the parcel dates back to 1866 and the earliest days of development in downtown Fort Scott.  

8. 108 Scott Avenue. Ellsworth Building, ca. 1928, Commercial style. Inventory: 011-1830-00126 **Status: non-contributing.**  

**Description:** This is a rectangular one-story brick building with a three-bay front defined by raised brick piers. It has a flat roof and parapet. There is a plaque with the name, "Ellsworth," set in the central panel above the storefront. There are paired windows in the north and south side walls. Although the form is evident, there have been several alterations. The storefront to the north has non-historic metal display windows, paired entrance doors, a covered transom and awning. Also, there is a display window at the northeast corner. To the south, one bay has been filled with a non-historic overhead door and the other  

bay has been infilled with wood, a 1/1 window and entrance door. The original stepped parapet has been altered and reconstructed.

History: Mr. Ellsworth constructed this building in about 1928 to house an automobile dealership. In the late 1940s, it housed an army surplus store. Later, Lightwine Chevrolet occupied the building.

Integrity: The appearance of the parapet wall has been significantly altered (sometime after 1989). Because of this change, the building is non-contributing.


Description: This is a two-story brick and tile commercial building with a low gable roof. The overall form is rectangular with a recessed bay on the northwest corner where the front block is not as wide as the rear block. Also the rear wing is not a full two stories in height. The main north façade has two side entrances flanking display windows. Reportedly, the builder used salvaged materials extensively. There are wooden recessed six-panel entrance doors. Windows on the second floor are twelve-light paired casements. There is a concrete foundation, multi-colored brick walls, smooth-cut sills and flat lintels, and ornamental quoins at the front building corners. There are two exterior chimneys on the east and west wall and an interior chimney on the east between the front and rear blocks. Also, there is a side entrance in the east side of the rear block.

History: Contractor Dan Frier built this building in 1945 for the Harold Hicks auto supply business on the site of the former post office. It was constructed of Fort Scott brick and some material from an earlier building was incorporated into the building. Because of war-time shortages, Mr. Hicks used brick remaining from the Fort Scott factory which had closed and salvaged doors. Mr. Hicks came to Fort Scott in 1937 and started his business on June 13, 1938.

Integrity: Although no historic photographs document the early history of this building, it appears changes have been made to the roofline. This property is listed as non-contributing, but further historical evidence and/or rehabilitation could make this building contributing.


Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick building with a stone water table and foundation and a flat roof and parapet. It has three main bays with an arcade of three storefronts divided into nine bays by ornamental cast iron posts supporting a storefront lintel. Storefronts have recessed central entrances flanked by large display windows and transoms. There are four windows arranged asymmetrically in each bay. Window openings have smooth-cut stone sills with segmental brick arches accentuated with end stones. There is a raised brick dentil molding at the eave, a projecting belt course, and a central stepped parapet with the name, "Ohio Block," and the construction date, 1906. There is a slightly projecting eave cap and two chimneys.

History: In the June, 1906 Sanborn map, a two-story brick building with three sections (from plans) was recorded. The west was to be storage, the center, a restaurant, and the east section, a steam laundry.
Apparently, the interior was subdivided because the July, 1912 Sanborn map recorded five sections: 113 East First, Wells Fargo Express; 115, tailor; 117, plumbing; 119, laundry; and 123, Fort Scott Laundry. Those sections were identified in the 1909 city directory as the Wells Fargo Express, Henry Brown, tailor, Gem Hotel, and the Fort Scott Steam Laundry. Reportedly, Q. L. Cooper leased the center two storerooms for a restaurant and boarding house and the eastern half of the second floor for lodging rooms. W. J. Calhoun and Company leased the western half of the second floor. Later, the building housed the Courtland Hotel.3

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

Status: non-contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with an asymmetrical entrance to the first floor and a side entrance to the south to the second floor. The side entrance has a segmental arched opening. It has a stone foundation. There is a rear brick and stone wing. There are two arched window openings with smooth-cut stone sills on the second floor with 1/1 double-hung windows. There is a full-length metal storefront lintel. Above the windows, there is a stepped brick belt course and two recessed panels. Alterations include the storefront which has been infilled with brick and four windows and a wooden entrance door since 1990. The second floor entrance transom has been covered with plywood. There is a non-historic awning above the storefront and each second floor window. Also, the flat roof and parapet has been covered with a non-historic gable roof with a plywood-covered gable end. This was added in 1986.

History: Urged by his brother C. W., S. O. Goodlander came to Fort Scott in 1863. This appears to be a building constructed in 1880 by S. O. Goodlander which was mentioned in the Fort Scott Monitor December 31, 1885.

Integrity: This building is non-contributing because of the addition of a gable roof in 1986 and an infilled storefront.

12. 14 Scott Avenue. Eagles Hall, 1924, Commercial style. Inventory: 011-1830-00121
Status: contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a central entrance and side entrance to the south leading to the second floor. It has a flat roof and parapet. The storefront has two bays with overhead transoms. There is a glazed paneled wooden entrance door. There are two window bays on the second floor with three 9/1 double-hung windows each. The façade has raised brick end piers, a decorative parapet with a central raised semicircular arch, and the Fraternal Order of Eagles emblem set under the parapet arch.

Alterations include non-historic awnings on the storefront and above each window bay. There is a non-historic metal security door on the second floor entrance. A non-historic shed-roofed addition is attached to the southwest corner of the building.

3 Calhoun, historic photograph, 110.
History: This building was constructed on the site of the C. W. Goodlander undertaking business. Previously, the Eagles Lodge met at the Tremont Hotel and they purchased that building in 1910. After constructing this building the Eagle’s aerie occupied the second floor with a bar, poolroom, meeting room, and dance floor. The first floor was a bakery. The Junge Baking Company (with headquarters in Joplin) operated at this location from the 1930s until the early 1950s. Later, the building housed an implement dealership operated first by Fred Bland and then Charles Magee. The property was recorded as a two-story brick store with lodge hall on the second floor in the September, 1925 Sanborn map.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a first-floor entrance to the west and a stair entrance to the east. There is a low-sloping roof and parapet. Ornamental features include decorative Italianate window hoods and sills. The eave is ornamented with brick belt courses, four recessed panels, a molded raised brick eave cornice and end piers. Second-floor, double-hung windows with a fixed upper sash appear to be non-historic windows in the original openings. Although a typical pattern has been retained, the storefront has been altered with non-historic doors, covered display and transom windows, and a non-historic awning.

History: According to the 1990 survey, this building and the adjacent building were not shown in a historic photograph of Wall Street from 1883. In 1884, this building’s street address was 112 E. Wall Street. By 1888 it had been re-numbered as 114. According to the Sanborn maps, this building has housed numerous businesses including a cigar factory (1884, 1888); confectionery (1893); tailors (1899); confectionery (1906); cigar factory (1912, 1917). In the September 1925 Sanborn map, the building was occupied by a store. According to the 1990 survey, Needham Hardware occupied the building for many years and later Mayco-Ace Hardware. When the urban renewal program threatened these buildings in the early 1970s, Mayco-Ace Hardware moved to a new building at 203-205 Scott Avenue.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with entrances to the east. There is a low-sloping roof and parapet. Ornamental features include decorative Italianate window hoods and sills. Like the adjacent façade at 114 E. Wall Street, the eave is ornamented with brick belt courses, four recessed panels, a molded raised brick eave cornice and end piers. Second-floor double-hung windows with an upper fixed sash appear to be non-historic windows in the original openings. There are two glazed wooden entrance doors. A glazed panel in the door to the east to the second floor has been covered. Although a typical pattern has been retained, the storefront has been altered. Transoms have been covered and there is a non-historic awning.

History: According to the 1990 survey, this building and the adjacent building were not shown in a historic photograph of Wall Street from 1883. In 1884, this building’s street address was 114 E. Wall Street; by
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1888 it had been re-numbered as 116. According to the Sanborn maps this building has housed numerous businesses including a hardware and stove store (1884, 1888); cigar factory (1893, 1899); and pool room (1912, 1917).

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: This is a rectangular three-story brick commercial building with a four-bay front. It has a flat roof and parapet. There is a recessed glazed wooden entrance door with an adjacent entrance to the second floor. There are large non-historic display windows with a non-historic awning. On the second and third floors, there are masonry openings with smooth-cut stone sills and low-arched lintels. The windows are 1/1 wooden double-hung sash. A large Masonic emblem is embedded between the second and third windows on the third floor. The eave is ornamented with a stone belt course and vertical paired stone inserts forming panels as raised brick dentil molding and a slightly projecting brick cornice.

History: According to the 1990 survey, this building was built to house a Masonic Hall in 1867. "Subscriptions to the amount of $5,300 were taken yesterday at this office [for Masonic Lodge and Odd Fellows Hall] ... building will be put up next to the brick block now in course of erection by B. P. McDonald on the corner of Wall Street and Scott Avenue." (Fort Scott Monitor 24 July 1867 and 7 August 1867). In 1884, this building's street address was 116 E. Wall Street. By 1888 it had been re-numbered as 118. According to the Sanborn maps this building has housed numerous businesses including a drug store (1884, 1888); the Fort Scott Monitor occupied the building with composing on the second and bookbinding on the third floor (1893); "storage and setting up barrels" (1899); a plumbing business (1905); lodge hall on third floor (1912); furniture storage and lodge hall (1917).

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

16. 120-122 E. Wall Street. 1867, Italianate style. Inventory: 011-1830-00011 Status: contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with side entrances. It has a flat roof and parapet. There is a glazed wooden main entrance door with overhead transom. The entrance to the second floor has a non-historic door with overhead transom. There are four double-hung wooden windows on the second floor. The second floor has an elaborate pressed metal façade with raised belt courses and paneled end piers. Ornamental vertical panels and a molded belt course accentuate the windows. There is an elaborate eave cornice with four raised piers, garland ornament, a projecting cornice with a central pediment. Alterations include non-historic display windows and awning.

History: In the November 1884 Sanborn map, this two-story brick building was recorded as a boot and shoe store with the address of 118 E. Wall Street. The address changed in the October 1888 Sanborn map to 120 E. Wall Street and the building was occupied by a millinery store with a photographer on the second floor. In the November 1893 Sanborn map, the building was occupied by a lunch room/saloon with the second floor vacant. In the April 1899 Sanborn map, the building was occupied by a repair shop with the second floor vacant. In the June 1908 Sanborn map, the building was occupied by a tailor. In the July, 1912 Sanborn map, the business was recorded as a pool room and by October 1917, it was a general
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repair shop. The building was recorded as a store in the September 1925 Sanborn map. In the 1990s, the
owners had the address changed to 120-122 E. Wall Street.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

17. 124 E. Wall Street. McDonald Block, 1867, Italianate style. Inventory: 011-1830-00152
Status: contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick corner commercial building with a flat roof and parapet
and a recessed central entrance. The first floor storefront has a smooth-cut stone foundation, pier blocks,
capitals, and belt course surmounted with a projecting molding. There are display windows and a glazed
wooden entrance door with sidelights. Three second-floor windows have 2/2 wooden double-hung sashes.
Openings have smooth-cut stone sills surmounted with projecting pedimented hoods. The windows are set
in slightly recessed brick panels with an overhead panel. The projecting brick eave is ornamented with a
dentil molding. There are three separate non-historic awnings on pipe poles and another awning over the
side display window.

History: According to the 1990 survey, this building was constructed in 1867. “Subscriptions to the
amount of $5,300 were taken yesterday at this office [for Masonic Lodge and Odd Fellows Hall] ... building
will be put up next to the brick block now in course of erection by B. P. McDonald on the corner of Wall
Street and Scott Avenue” (Fort Scott Monitor 24 July 1867 and 7 August 1867). In the November, 1884
Sanborn map, the two-story brick building was recorded as a dry goods store with an address of 120 E.
Wall Street. The address changed to 122 E. Wall Street in the October, 1888 Sanborn map. A grocery
store occupied the building in 1893, 1899 and 1906. In the July, 1912 and October, 1917 Sanborn maps, a
plumbing business occupied the building with lodging on the second floor. A store occupied the building in
September, 1925. In the 1990s, the owners had the address changed to 124 E. Wall Street.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

Inventory: 011-1830-00050; Status: contributing.

Description: This is a polygonal two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. The
building was constructed to conform to the irregular intersection of North Main and Old Fort Boulevard
(Market) Streets. The original building was one-story; a second story was added in 1890. The main
Italianate-style façade facing west and southwest is relatively well preserved. It has eight bays forming one
corner storefront and a double storefront. The first floor has bulkheads, display windows, and transoms
with side entrances to individual storefronts. There are smooth-cut stone sills, raised brick segmental-
arched hoods with ornamental keystones, and a projecting ornamental pressed metal eave cornice with
dentil molding and brackets. A cornice above the end bay has the letters, “Clothing,” and a star in the
gabled parapet and a similar cornice ornaments the adjacent storefronts. Windows are 1/1 double-hung
wooden sash. There is a non-historic shingled awning supported on square posts. Rear storefront
entrances with round-arched openings face Old Fort Boulevard. The north entrance has a glazed wooden
entrance door.
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History: Although the exact date of construction has not been determined, this building was most likely constructed after the conflagration of 1873 which destroyed most of the remaining wood-frame buildings located in the north end of downtown. Originally, it was only one story tall. (A drawing in An Illustrated Historical Atlas of Bourbon County, published in 1878, depicts this building as one story. The November 1884 Sanborn map documents this building as two stories.) The 1878 drawing notes this as the J. Rodecker and Maj. Cohen's Star Clothing House. During the Civil War, Morris Cohen and Jacob Rodecker – both German Jews – worked together as clerks at the Leavenworth branch of A. Levy & Co., a New York-based company that both manufactured and retailed clothing. Cohen and Rodecker came to Fort Scott in 1866. In October 1866, the Rodecker & Cohen Company was formed and a clothing store was opened. According to Rodecker's biographical sketch in Cutler's History of the State of Kansas published in 1883, their clothing business was located in three other buildings before 1877, when the store found a permanent home at Main and Market, which they purchased from William Hack. By that time, the building was known as the Star Clothing House. Reportedly, Cohen and Rodecker erected the building's second story. These men had been clerks in the Levi Brothers store, Leavenworth, and the Levis financed the business venture in Fort Scott. The only listing in the 1909 city directory was 13 N. Main Street, furnished rooms, Mrs. A. A. Tiedmann.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: This is a polygonal two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. Brick detailing, window and eave ornamentation is similar to the adjacent Star Clothing House (13-15-19 N. Main). It has a three-bay front with a side storefront entrance to the north and a second floor entrance to the south. There is a storefront transom, but the metal entrance door and display windows are non-historic. Second floor windows have smooth-cut stone sills with raised brick detailing and raised brick segmental arched window heads with an ornamental keystone. Windows are 1/1 wooden double-hung sash. There is an ornamental pressed metal eave cornice with a dentil molding, projecting end brackets and a molded eave cornice. There is a non-historic shed-roofed awning with corrugated metal roofing supported on square posts. There is a rear storefront entrance with central entrance with paired glazed wooden entrance doors flanked by display windows facing Old Fort Boulevard. A shed-roof awning with corrugated metal roofing runs shades this façade.

History: According to the 1990 historic preservation survey, this building was constructed about 1880. In the 1884 Sanborn map, it was recorded as a two-story brick store selling boots and shoes. Later, it housed J. H. Crane, optometrist and C. W. Liggett Jewelry. According to the 1909 city directory, Rodecker Brothers, clothing, were listed at this address with photographer S. E. Dunham and real estate agent J. B. Fulton on the second floor. Photographer William J. Brockman later had his office at this location. Louderback's A & P Grocery was a well known business at this location from 1925 to 1941. James Bahr bought the property in 1951.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

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Description: Although this polygonal one-story brick commercial building has a layer of twentieth century brick over the original façade, the rear façade appears to date from the nineteenth century. It has a flat roof and parapet. There is a side entrance to the north flanked by display windows. The metal entrance door and display windows are non-historic and the transom has been covered. There is an awning with corrugated metal roofing supported on square posts.

History: In the November, 1884 Sanborn map, this building was recorded as a boot and shoe store. The 1889 city directory recorded the J. B. Smith boot and shoe store at this location. According to the 1909 city directory, the G. W. Roberts clothing store occupied this location.

Integrity: Despite the altered main storefront and covered transom, the secondary rear façade facing Old Fort Boulevard has original masonry openings with infill. The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a recessed central entrance and a flat roof and parapet. The storefront has been altered with non-historic display windows and a metal entrance door. The transom has been covered with wooden board and battens. The second floor façade is fairly well preserved. There are square smooth-cut stone end quoins, smooth-cut stone sills, and projecting semi-circular window hoods over the three windows with 1/1 double-hung sash. These have been covered from the inside. At the eave, there is a molded belt course, a sign panel with the "Empress" painted on the brick, and a projecting ornamental pressed metal eave cornice with end blocks. The storefront has a non-historic shingled shed-roofed awning on ornamental posts.

History: In the November, 1884 Sanborn map, this building was recorded as a two-story brick dry goods store. The 1889 city directory recorded M. J. Richardson's dry goods store at this location. The building housed Fort Scott Furniture in 1896. By 1911, however, the building housed the Picture Land Theater. At the time, there were four theaters in Fort Scott: the Rex, the Vaudette, the Theaterette, and Picture Land. In 1920 the name was changed to the Empress Theater which remained at this location until the 1950s.4

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

22. 5 N. Main Street. Ca. 1884, Italianate style. Inventory: 011-1830-00043 Status: contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. It has a three-bay front with an asymmetrical entrance flanked by display windows and a side entrance to the second floor to the north. On the second floor, there are smooth-cut stone windowsills and rough-cut stone lintels. There is an ornamental molded pressed metal eave cornice with an end block to the north. Windows have 1/1 double-hung sash. The storefront has been altered with non-historic display windows and metal entrance door. There is a shingled shed-roofed awning on square posts.

4 Calhoun, 258-259, historic photos, 1918.
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History: In the November, 1884 Sanborn map, this building was recorded as a two-story brick "99 cent" store. The building housed various retailers. In 1889 L. R. Kaylor, musical merchandise, occupied the storefront. By 1896, L. Wagner, dry goods, occupied the first floor with F. G. Lotterer, brick manufacturer and Lincoln W. Griffin, physician, had offices on the second floor. The American-Pacific Tea company occupied the building in 1909. By 1918 Louderback's Tea, Coffee, and China Store was located at this address. In 1924 E. R. Kreyer, jeweler, had the storefront along with the Martin Piano Company, and later, the Ellis Music Company. By 1938 it was the Rex Billiard Parlor.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

23. 1-3 N. Main Street. Van Fossen Block/Louderback Building, 1885, ca. 1980, Italianate style. Inventory: 011-1830-00041; Status: contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a low-sloping roof and parapet. It has a double storefront facing west and a rear storefront at the southeast corner of the block. The north storefront has a recessed central entrance. There is a central entrance to the second floor and the corner storefront has a recessed side entrance. The second floor front has seven bays with 2/2 wood, double-hung sashes. There are ornamental raised window hoods. There are similar windows and ornamentation on the second floor of the south façade. The eave is ornamented with elaborate corbelled, paneled, and molded brick detailing, and end blocks. The first floor storefront has been altered with non-historic sheathing display windows, and entrance doors. Window openings on the first floor of the south façade have been filled with brick. Also, there is a prominent two-story ornamented awning and balcony with a low sloping shingled roof supported on square posts.

History: This building was constructed in 1885 and occupied in April, 1886. Originally known as the Perry Van Fossen Block, the property belonged to the Louderback family for more than eighty years in the twentieth century. In 1889 the first floor of 1 North Main was occupied by the Boston Shoe House and the Missouri & Kansas Telephone Company. Later, there were dry goods stores in the building. In 1909 it housed the Fort Scott State Bank. The Streeter Blair Clothing Store was located on the corner from circa 1918 until he moved across the street on October 29, 1920. By 1922, the Midwest State Bank was located here. In 1938 the Crown Drug Store was recorded at this address and remained for many years. Offices on the second floor housed attorneys and realtors, and by 1936, insurance agents. The adjacent storefront, 3 North Main, housed W. K. Poage, clothing, and the Western Union telegraph office in 1889. In 1918, the J. M. Bright clothing store occupied the storefront. After about 1930, it housed the Howell Rug Company and the Ellis Music Company. An optometrist, physician, and the James Burton Abstract office occupied offices on the second floor. The rear storefront, 111 East Wall, housed the Bank of Fort Scott, established in 1876, until the bank's owner, C. F. Drake, died in 1905.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


5 Calhoun, 258-259, historic photos, 1918.
6 Calhoun, 258-259, historic photos, 1918.
This is a rectangular two-story two-bay brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. It has a double storefront with recessed central entrances flanked by display windows. Generally, the building is well preserved. The Kress name is inlaid in the tile entry floors. Display windows and transoms date to the 1930 rebuilding. The storefront has a lintel ornamented with fruit swags typical of the Beaux Arts style, a full-length molded stone belt course under the second floor windows, and ornamental molded pier caps. There are three 1/1 double-hung wood windows with multi-pane transoms in each second floor bay. A row of recessed brick panels ornaments the eave surmounted by raised brick beltcourses and a smooth-cut stone parapet cap. There area metal entrance doors and a non-historic fabric shed awning. In the March 11, 2005 fire in downtown Fort Scott — which started in the basement of the adjacent building to the north — there was some smoke and water damage; an intact firewall saved the Kress from fire damage.

**History:** In the April, 1899 Sanborn map, a one-story wood frame building was recorded at this address. That structure was replaced by June, 1906 when the Sanborn map recorded a two-story brick building with a double store front and central stair. The north half housed a store selling drugs and art goods with a racket store in the south half. S. H. Kress & Company, notions, occupied the south half of the building in 1909. In the 1912 Sanborn map, there was a store selling drugs in the north half and a “5&10&25 cent” store in the south half. The building was damaged by fire on October 8, 1929. Damage was estimated at approximately $15,000 on the building, $20,000 on the store fixtures, and $15,000 on the merchandise of the Kress Store which occupied the building. The Kress Company announced that the building would be repaired at once. There is a 1929 lease agreement between the owner, W. J. Moore, and S. H. Kress and Company.

**Integrity:** The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

25. 19 S. Main Street. Ca. 1888, Italianate style. Inventory: 011-1830-00062 **Status:** contributing.

**Description:** This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. The second floor has well-preserved Italianate-style details and an ornamental pressed metal bracketed eave cornice. There are smooth-cut stone windowsills, semicircular brick arches, and 1/1 wooden double-hung window sash. The three-bay storefront has a recessed central entrance and side entrance with transom and glazed wooden entrance door to the second floor. The first floor three-bay storefront has been altered with non-historic display windows and central entrance door. There is a non-historic fabric shed awning supported on poles.

**History:** In the October, 1888 Sanborn map, a two-story stone building with brick front was recorded at this address. There was a grocery store on the first floor with club rooms on the second floor. The building was shown as the G. W. Roberts Clothing store in a historic photograph of Main Street from circa 1900. According to the 1909 city directory, Webb & Overfield, grocers, occupied 19 S. Main. In the July, 1912 Sanborn map, the building was recorded as a two-story brick building with a one-story rear wing.

**Integrity:** The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

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8 Calhoun, 124-125.

**Description:** This is a rectangular three-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. Originally a two-story building, a third floor was added in 1891. Although the first floor storefront has been altered, the second and third floors retain well-preserved Italianate style features. There are seven bays on the upper floors. Windows are 1/1 double-hung wood sashes with five-light transoms. Masonry openings on the second floor have flat molded lintels and openings on the third floors have filled round arches. There are triple recessed panels outlined by raised brick belt courses under the third floor windows, brick detailed pilasters, a molded brick course at the eave, and a projecting bracketed eave cornice with one end pier at the northwest. The cornice continues along the south façade eave. The south façade also has paired windows with transoms set in semicircular arched openings.

The first floor seven-bay storefront transom has been stuccoed and the display windows and entrances have been altered. There are double display windows to the north, two recessed entrances to the north storefront, display windows, a recessed entrance to the corner storefront, and a display window.

**History:** Built in 1886 by Van Fossen and Wilcox and expanded in 1891, this building housed a dry goods store and a china and glassware store as well as loan and real estate offices on the second floor. The Blue Lodge Masons contracted with the owners to build a third story for their meeting hall and received a lifetime lease for their meeting hall. In a photograph of Main Street (ca. 1900), Calhoun's Clothing Store has the corner storefront and J. S. Yost Hardware occupied the north half of the building. Several attorneys' offices were located on the second floor—W. R. Biddle, R. B Campbell, McClerverty & Padgett, Keen & Gates, O. A. Cheneys, and J. H. Crain.⁹ On April 18, 1919, W. J. Calhoun purchased the building from Charles H. Harbison, paying $10,000 more than the building cost to build.

**Integrity:** The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


**Description:** This is a rectangular one-story building with a flat roof and a parapet with stepped corners. It has a three-bay front with side restroom doors flanking a central service door.

**Integrity:** This building was not constructed during the period of significance and is, therefore, listed as a non-contributing resource.


**Description:** This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. It has a cast iron and pressed metal front. There are four ornamental storefront posts with end posts, a storefront

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⁹ Calhoun, 124-125.
¹⁰ Calhoun, Photograph (first floor, east front), 155.
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Lintel, a molded sill, pilasters, recessed panels, and an elaborate slightly projecting eave cornice with rosettes, urn ornaments, end piers, and the construction date, “1887” centered in the eave. There is a recessed storefront entrance with a glazed wooden entrance door and a side entrance to the second floor with a glazed, paneled wooden entrance door. Storefront bulkheads and display windows have been altered and transoms filled with non-historic plywood. There are four 1/1 double-hung windows on the second floor.

History: The name, Alexander Building, and construction date, 1887, are embossed in the metal eave cornice. In the October, 1888 Sanborn map, the building was recorded as a two-story brick building. It housed a jewelry store and the Tribune steam printing plant on the first floor and the Y.M.C.A. on the second floor. The Tribune also was recorded in the November, 1893 Sanborn map. It was recorded as a crockery store in the April 1899 Sanborn map. Phillips & Searle, confectioners, and the G.A.R. Hall on the second floor were recorded in the 1909 city directory.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

29. 113-115 S. Main Street. Liberty Theater, 1889, ca. 1920, 1980. Inventory: 011-1830-00067
Status: non-contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a stuccoed upper façade and a flat roof and parapet. Although it has been adapted for a movie theater since 1920, the first floor has remaining features of two storefronts. There are three ornamental cast iron storefront posts. The mock shed eave cornice has ornamental terra cotta detail possibly dating from the 1920s. The north storefront (113 S. Main) has a full-length recessed theater entry with two central paired doors flanked by recessed display panels. There is a non-historic fabric marquee. The south storefront (115 S. Main) has a side entrance flanked by four display windows with a transom. The second story façade has been stuccoed. The interior has been converted from one to two smaller theaters.

History: This commercial building was constructed in 1889. It housed a newspaper and architect’s office. By 1897, this was the Requa and Limbocker furniture store, later the Hahn Millinery Store and Liberty Barber Shop with Dr. J. M. Poindexter’s office on the second floor. Requa and Son, furniture, was the business at this address in 1909. The storefront at 113 S. Main became a moving picture house, the Liberty Theater, in 1920. By circa 1942, the adjacent 115 S. Main storefront was incorporated into the theater. Later, this was the Fox Theater. In the 1980s, the interior was converted into two smaller theaters, but owner Michael Flannelly restored the single theater and uncovered historic ornamental murals on the interior walls circa 2001. The Fox Theater marquee was removed between 1990 and 1999.

Integrity: This building has been substantially altered on the exterior and interior and is, therefore, non-contributing.

30. 117 S. Main Street. Ingham Building, ca. 1895, Italianate style. Inventory: 011-1830-00009
Status: contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet with a recessed central entrance and a side entrance to the second floor. The elaborate Queen Anne-style
façade is very well preserved. The first floor storefront has four bays separated by three cast iron posts. There are paneled bulkheads, display windows, paired transom windows, glazed paired wooden entrance doors, a storefront lintel, ornamental brick panels, a full-length smooth-cut stone belt course under the second floor windows. The paired central windows are flanked by single windows. Windows are ornamented with pilasters and projecting ornamental window hoods. The central windows are surmounted by a semicircular brick arch with stone end ornaments. Windows have 1/1 double-hung sashes. The façade is crowned with an elaborate broad pressed metal eave cornice with a central gable, moldings and projected brackets. There are non-historic storm windows on the second floor windows.

History: According to the city directory in 1905, this building was occupied by a restaurant, G. W. Combs, proprietor, and a grocery operated by Edward W. Webb. Henry Ingham bought the building by 1906 and operated his plumbing, gas, and steam fitting business on the first floor with the family living on the second floor. Ralph Ingham, his son, later operated the business. Miss Blanche Ingham, Henry's daughter, continued to live in the building until her death in 1986.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

31. 119 S. Main Street. Richards Building, ca. 1904, 1984. Inventory: 011-1830-00070
Status: non-contributing.

Description: This is a two-story brick and concrete block commercial building. Damaged by a fire in the adjacent building in 1980, the south and east walls were reconstructed as well as the main west façade. It has a recessed central entrance flanked by six-light double-hung windows with shutters. There is a prominent contemporary brick end pier at the southwest corner. The second floor is recessed with the eave supported on two columns. On the second floor, there is a central entrance flanked by windows. The eave is ornamented with a dentil molding surmounted by a gable outlined with a heavy molding.

History: This tract was a gift to Ralph Richards from his father, Joseph H. Richards. Ralph Richards had this building constructed to house a newspaper, the Daily Monitor, and his law offices. The earliest occupant recorded in the city directory was Marble, Blakeley, and Barr, printers. Other occupants included several newspapers, the Singer Sewing Machine Company, and Cheney's Undertaking Company from 1920 to 1941.

Richards was managing editor of the Daily Monitor and operated the Bourbon County Press Association, a syndicate of five country weekly newspapers. He also founded the Vernon-Richards Law Book Publishing Company, Kansas City, Missouri, and the Richards, Shanks, and Hobson Printing Company, Kansas City, Missouri. He successfully negotiated with property owners, federal representatives, and leaders of the Chamber of Commerce in the selection of a site for the Fort Scott United States Post Office and Federal Courthouse. Richards served as a trustee for the Goodlander Children's Home, located in one of the former officers' quarters on the Fort Scott site. After a long career, Ralph Richards was recognized in the late 1950s as "Mr. Historian of Fort Scott." He was an attorney, businessman, writer, civic leader, and philanthropist. His writings included History of the Forts of Fort Scott and the Fateful Borderland and Headquarters House and the Forts of Fort Scott.
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When a fire on July 3, 1980 destroyed the adjacent Townhouse Apartments, this building was damaged. By that time, the building had been donated to the Historic Preservation Association of Bourbon County. Razing the apartment building pulled down the south wall of the Richards building and weakened the west and east walls so they were demolished. The building was reconstructed with block walls and a brick veneer. The front (Main Street) façade was reconstructed to resemble its appearance in earlier photographs.

Integrity: This building was largely reconstructed in 1980 and is, therefore, non-contributing.


Description: This is a rectangular one-story brick building with a corner entrance and a flat roof and parapet. It is set back from Main Street with brick planters and a name stone in front of the building. Masonry openings have round-arched openings. There are 4/4 double-hung windows and a glazed metal entrance door. A clock is set in the raised gable corner of the stepped parapet.

Integrity: This building was not constructed during the period of significance and is, therefore, listed as a non-contributing resource.

33. 126 S. Main Street / 15 E. 2nd Street. Moody Building, 1889, Italianate style.
Inventory: 011-1830-00023; Status: National Register-listed.

Description: This is a rectangular three-story brick corner commercial building with a stone foundation and a flat roof and parapet. The main two-bay façade faces Main Street to the east and the rounded southeast corner bay faces the intersection. There is a central entrance with an adjacent display window. There are three 1/1 double-hung windows in the corner bay and two 1/1 windows in the east bay. In the secondary south façade, there are four main bays divided by two projecting oriel windows on the upper floors and a projecting side entrance bay.

The building is ornamented with smooth-cut stone in a raised belt course, continuous window sills and head moldings and raised brick piers. There is an elaborate pressed metal cornice above the corner bay with a dentil molding and a projecting eave cornice that ornaments the east and south facades. Each of the oriel windows has a conical roof above the eave and the side entrance is surmounted by a triangular wall dormer. The east storefront has ornamental cast iron posts. The south façade has carved stone pier blocks and the side entrance is flanked by ornamental stone columns surmounted by a second floor portico with a metal railing and a mansard roof. The east storefront has been altered; the corner windows have been filled and there is a non-historic metal entrance door and non-historic individual awnings.

History: Erected in 1889 for one of Fort Scott’s leading businessmen, this building was an investment by I. W. Moody. He came to Fort Scott in 1870 and established the Fort Scott Granite and Marble Works. Although Moody began with only three employees, by 1890 the business was the largest marble works in southeast Kansas, employing fifty men with annual sales in excess of $75,000. For years, the operation was located at the northwest corner of Second and Main, but by the spring of 1889, the marble works had moved one block south. On April 11, 1889, the Fort Scott Monitor reported that I. W. Moody had decided on the plans for a new business block to be erected at his former stone yard location. By the first week in
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June, excavation had begun. Sandstone used in the building came on the railroad from Illinois. The building probably was completed in February, 1890. Primarily an apartment building, the Moody Building had a first floor storefront facing Main Street to the east. Miss Louisa Emmert's millinery shop was the first occupant. The completed building was described in the Monitor as "one of the most perfect and ornamental three story buildings in the city." The construction cost was $20,000.

By March, 1891, however, I. W. Moody was in financial difficulty. All of Moody's property not encumbered by mortgages was assigned to his father-in-law. Apparently, Moody survived this crisis because he continued as the proprietor of the marble works for the next fifteen years. In the early twentieth century, the Worster Dental Parlor occupied the building and later it was known as Crider Building. According to the 1909 city directory, it was described at the Worster Building and Waldo Worster occupied suite #9.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

34. 122 S. Main. Grimmseley Building, ca. 1900, Italianate style. Inventory: 011-1830-00072
Status: contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a first floor entrance to the north and a second floor entrance to the south flanking central display windows. It has a flat roof and parapet. Entrances have overhead transoms. The main block is approximately seventy-five feet long with a one-story rear wing. A painted "Master Printers" sign covers the storefront transom. The second floor has an elaborate ornamental pressed metal façade with a projecting bay window to the north and a single 1/1 double-hung window to the south. There are raised belt courses, moldings around the windows, polygonal bay roof, end piers, and a bracketed, projecting eave cornice. The storefront has been altered with non-historic display windows, aluminum storm doors, and an aluminum awning.

History: In the April, 1899 Sanborn map, this property was unimproved. In a 1901 photograph, the storefront was the E. P. Bowen Wallpaper Store. The building was recorded as a two-story brick building with a one-story wood and metal rear wing in the June, 1906 Sanborn map. Guy Johnston bought the property in 1928. Later, it housed Master Printers.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

35. 120 S. Main Street. Ca. 1890, ca. 1920, Commercial style. Inventory: 011-1830-00071
Status: contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with adjacent recessed side entrances to the south. It has a flat roof and parapet. Six tall six-light windows with transoms light the second floor. There is a smooth-cut stone windowsill. Other ornamentation includes raised brick detailing, end pilasters, belt courses, four recessed panels and projecting piers at the eave. The original cast iron store front was replaced in the 1960s with contemporary display windows and metal entrance doors. There are two large contemporary fabric awnings over the storefront and six individual fabric awnings over the second floor windows.

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History: In the November, 1893 Sanborn map, a two-story brick grocery was recorded at this location. Pike's Grocery was shown at this location in a 1901 photograph. Bruce Maguire purchased the building in 1916 from a Mr. Grimmesley in Ohio and operated a meat market. In 1925, his son Bernard joined him in the business and the building was shown in a 1928 photograph. They began adding groceries to the store and remained at this location for fifty years. In 1941 the business expanded to become a frozen food locker business. After 1951, Wallace Darling joined the business and suggested a change to commercial sale and service of refrigeration and heating. Later, it was a home appliance store.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

36. 118 S. Main Street. Ca. 1906, Queen Anne style. Inventory: 011-1830-00069 Status: contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a recessed central entrance and a side entrance to the second floor. It has a flat roof and parapet. The second floor has an elaborate pressed metal façade over wood frame with two prominent projecting bay windows. Each has three 1/1 double-hung windows. Ornamentation includes decorative moldings below and above the windows which are flanked by columns and end piers with pilaster detailing. The second floor façade has mock brick detailing and is surmounted by a decorative slightly projecting eave cornice. The storefront has non-historic display windows and a contemporary shed awning supported on poles.

History: In the June, 1906 Sanborn map, this property was unimproved. Reportedly, this building was constructed about 1906. In the July, 1912 Sanborn map, it was recorded as a two-story brick building with two projecting front bay windows. A grocery occupied the building. Later, Woodward Cleaners occupied the building when it was shown in a 1928 photograph.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: This is a rectangular two-story stone commercial building with adjacent side entrances to the first and second floors. It has a flat roof and parapet. The storefront has Classical Revival detailing with smooth-cut end piers on the first floor and coursed rough-cut blocks on the second floor. There are two window bays each with three 2/2 double-hung windows. The transom area has been covered with wood. Window openings have smooth-cut stone sills and a full-length smooth-cut lintel with a projecting cap. A recessed circular opening in the stepped parapet is ornamented with raised smooth-cut stone and the parapet has a rough-cut stone cap. The storefront has non-historic entrance doors and display windows and a contemporary metal shed awning on poles.

12 Calhoun, 270.
13 Calhoun, 270.
14 Calhoun, 235.
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History: The John Connalbin confectionary, a one-story wood frame building, was shown at 116 S. Main Street in a historic photograph (ca. 1901). In the June, 1906 Sanborn map, a two-story brick building with a stone front (from construction plans) was recorded. The Theatorium was listed at this location in the 1907 and 1908 city directories. Later, it was a confectionary and bakery operated by Harry G. Davis. One of the second floor offices was occupied by Oscar Rice, an insurance agent, who founded the Western Insurance Company here in 1911. A racket store at this location was recorded in the July 1912 Sanborn map.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

38. 100-108 S. Main Street, Scottish Rite Temple Western Insurance Co., 1926.
Inventory: 011-1830-00065 Status: contributing.

This is a rectangular concrete building with a brick veneer on the side wall and stone and terra cotta on the main east and north facades. It has a flat roof and parapet. Although the elaborate detailing is similar to that of the adjacent building, this building was constructed first. It has lavish ornamentation expressing the Spanish Revival style.

The Temple has three bays with bulkheads, horizontal windows, and multi-pane transoms set in arched openings. Letters spelling out the name of the "Scottish Rite Temple" are attached to the first floor façade. There is a projecting belt course forming a sill for a central tri-partite window flanked by single windows with arched heads. There are recessed paired vertical windows above the entrance. Windows are set in molded openings. There is an elaborate ornamental plaque surmounted by a circular ornamental window. The eave has an elaborate terra cotta panel with three sections and a bracketed molding. The southeast corner of the eave has a terra cotta ornamental plaque. The slightly stepped parapet has a terra cotta cap.

History: When C. W. Goodlander arrived in Fort Scott in 1858, he noted that the Masonic Lodge was the only fraternal organization in the town. Lodge meetings were discontinued after the Civil War broke out in 1861, but resumed in 1865. In 1867 the Masons built their first Lodge building at 120 E. Wall. In 1891 the Blue Lodge Masons asked for a lifetime lease on the third floor on the Van Fossen building (23 S. Main) which was added for their use. In 1900, the Scottish Rite Masons purchased the old Huntington House hotel from J. D. Hill and renovated the building for a Masonic Temple which was dedicated on April 28, 1904.

By 1920, however, the Fort Scott Consistory, with 2,500 members, began planning to build a new temple. Dr. C. A. Van Velzer led the organization in negotiation with the Western Insurance Company which resulted in an agreement with Western to buy enough mortgage bonds to reserve the north half of the planned building for the insurance company. This plan required the purchase of the building at 116 S. Main and moving several existing businesses. Two buildings were constructed on the site with an original cost of $500,000. Beginning in the spring of 1923, the southern section, the new Masonic Temple, was constructed first. As soon as this was completed, the old Huntington House was demolished.

15 Calhoun, 235.
Two buildings were constructed on the site. Beginning in the spring of 1923, the southern section, the new Masonic Temple, was constructed first. As soon as this was completed, the old Huntington House was demolished. The new temple was dedicated on November 15, 1926. It was erected and furnished for a cost of $600,000. The temple was a magnificent building for its time, comfortably furnished with Oriental rugs and fine furniture. Members entered the temple "under the Tower" (a feature now removed for safety reasons). The auditorium seated 526. There was a stage with electric controls and scenic drops and an organ, music room, and choir loft above the auditorium ceiling. Reportedly, "the auditorium was the most perfect theatrical building this side of the Mississippi." When completed, the interior had elaborate Classical Revival ornamentation.

Integrity: This is one of the key contributing buildings in the Fort Scott Downtown Historic District. The Scottish Rite Temple retains integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Although the building overall has very good architectural integrity because of its massing, scale, and detailing, there have been alterations. A large tower above the Temple entrance, a mock shed roof on the parapet, and an overhang on the south end of the Temple have been removed. In the 1950s, the Van Velzer Tower on the building was struck by lightning twice which weakened the structure and in 1958 the tower was removed. Despite these alterations, the building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

39. 110-114 S. Main Street, Scottish Rite, Spanish Revival style, 1929. Inventory: 011-1830-00065
Status: contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular concrete building with a brick veneer on the side wall and stone and terra cotta on the main east and north facades. It has a flat roof and parapet. The building has lavish ornamentation expressing the Spanish Revival style.

The two similar buildings are divided by a projecting entrance bay ornamented on the first floor with terra cotta ornamentation including three projecting light sconces, two narrow vertical windows, and a projecting cap. There are recessed paired vertical windows above the entrance. First floor bays in the northern section are similar. There is a corner entrance and an entrance in the second bay. The corner entrance has a glazed wooden entrance door with an arched head and the second entrance has paired glazed wooden entrance doors. This section has five bays each with four 1/1 double-hung windows. The bays are ornamented by terra cotta molding. There is an ornamental light sconce on the upper northeast corner and a stepped parapet with an eave cap. The north façade (facing First Street) has six bays with similar detailing. There is a prominent recessed terra cotta panel above the northeast bay, four bays with windows, and a side entrance bay at the northwest corner.

History: When C. W. Goodlander arrived in Fort Scott in 1856, he noted that the Masonic Lodge was the only fraternal organization in the town. Lodge meetings were discontinued after the Civil War broke out in 1861, but resumed in 1865. In 1887 the Masons built their first Lodge building at 120 E. Wall. In 1891 the Blue Lodge Masons asked for a lifetime lease on the third floor on the Van Fossen building (23 S. Main) which was added for their use. In 1900, the Scottish Rite Masons purchased the old Huntington House hotel from J. D. Hill and renovated the building for a Masonic Temple which was dedicated on April 28, 1904.
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By 1920, however, the Fort Scott Consistory, with 2,500 members, began planning to build a new temple. Dr. C. A. Van Velzer led the organization in negotiation with the Western Insurance Company which resulted in an agreement with Western to buy enough mortgage bonds to reserve the north half of the planned building for the insurance company. This plan required the purchase of the building at 116 S. Main and moving several existing businesses. Two buildings were constructed on the site with an original cost of $500,000. Beginning in the spring of 1923, the southern section, the new Masonic Temple, was constructed first. As soon as this was completed, the old Huntington House was demolished.

The Western Insurance Company was founded as the Western Automobile Indemnity Association by Oscar Rice, a local insurance agent. In the early twentieth century, Rice recognized the opportunity for insuring the increasing number of automobile owners. The mutual company was incorporated on November 10, 1910 by several important Fort Scott businessmen—mayor and grain dealer W. E. Brooks; John H. Crain, attorney, A. B. Dickmann, banker; Grif R. Hughes, clothing merchant; T. P. Coppage, railroad superintendent; and W. C. Gunn, real estate and investment broker. The first insurance policy was issued on May 24, 1911. Ray B. Duboc and E. C. Gordon, and Melvin Hurst took over leadership of the company in 1922 when Oscar Rice died. Soon after Rice's death, Western became a stock company. Duboc and Gordon adopted the old Fort Scott blockhouse as a symbol of the company. The Western Insurance Company survived the Depression and eventually became "one of the foremost fire and casualty companies in the country" by 1981. The company merged with Lincoln National Insurance in 1985.

When the Scottish Rite Temple leaders planned their temple, the Western agreed to rent the ground floor offices and to buy bonds which financed the two structures. In the mid-1940s, the Masons had financial difficulties and the Western foreclosed on the bonds. The Masons retained title to the Temple and the Western acquired the northern building. The company completely remodeled their section in 1947. The main entrance was moved to 14 East First Street and faced with marble. The interior remodeling provided three floors of offices with mezzanines.

Integrity: This is one of the key contributing buildings in the Fort Scott Downtown Historic District. The Western Insurance Company building has integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Although the building overall has very good architectural integrity because of its massing, scale, and detailing, there have been alterations. In 1947, the Company remodeled the interior of their section of the building. At that time, the contractor moved the main entrance to 14 E. First Street and covered the first floor bay at the northwest corner with pink and black marble. Extensive interior remodeling provided three floors of offices with mezzanines. Some exterior windows and window openings also were altered. Later in 1968, an elevator was installed. Despite these alterations, the building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

Inventory: 011-1830-00032 Status: non-contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular six-story office building with a brick masonry veneer on a structural steel frame. It has a flat roof and parapet. Reportedly, the "blue rock" strata under the site forced contractors to blast this rock to create a basement and a connecting tunnel across the alley to the adjacent Western Insurance Company building. The Modern-style building has a four-bay front and six side bays to the west.

16 Calhoun, history and images, 163-169.
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with a strong vertical orientation. Windows in the front main façade are set in an ornamental raised frame and the side bays are defined by five recessed continuous vertical glazed panels. There is a prominent overhanging eave parapet covered with corrugated metal.

History: Early in 1966, the Western Insurance Company needed more space and purchased the old Southwestern Bell Telephone Company property and the Standard Oil service station to the west on the southeast corner of First and National. Referring to the adjacent Western headquarters, Clifford Otto recalled, "the officers could not envision leaving a $3,000,000 investment and 45,000 square feet of space, so this opportunity to purchase came at an excellent time." The architectural firm of Marshall & Brown, Kansas City, Missouri, designed the building; the contractor was Freto Construction of Pittsburg, Kansas. After ground-breaking on December 28, 1965, the six-story building was completed on July 22, 1966. The Lincoln National Company acquired the building when it purchased the Western Insurance Company and Western became a division of the American States Insurance Company. 17

Integrity: This building was not constructed during the period of significance and is, therefore, listed as a non-contributing resource.

41. 18-24 S. Main Street. Union Block, 1884, Italianate style. Inventory: 011-1630-00001
Status: National Register-listed.

Description: This is a rectangular three-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. The block consists of three sections—the south is a double storefront with six bays, the center storefront has five bays, and the north section has four bays. The building has an elaborate Italianated pressed metal façade on the second and third floors with ornamental end and window moldings, sills, and eave cornice. The cornice continues on the south façade. There are 2/2 double-hung windows on the second and third floors in front and similar paired windows on the three floors of the south façade. Window openings in the south wall have stone sills and arched lintels with an ornamental metal column between the sash.

Alterations include non-historic bulkheads, display windows, entrance doors, and transoms on the first floor. There are non-historic fabric awnings over the display windows and entrances. The ornamental metal eave cornice on the two north sections was removed and the façade covered with metal about 1971.

History: This building was constructed in 1884 by a group of several local merchants, who each owned an individual storefront. The south part of the block was built by Dr. J. E. Westervelt, who had a wholesale and retail dry goods and carpet business. In late 1886, Westervelt sold the retail business to J. B. and R. O. White, who operated the White Brothers store. For a short time, Westervelt used the basement, second and third floors of the building for his wholesale business, but moved to a different location. By 1905 White Brothers had been followed by the White-Osborn Mercantile Company. 18 In 1930 the Cole Brothers Dry Goods Store occupied the building, but by the late 1930s, the Montgomery Ward store moved into the storefront which it occupied into the early 1970s.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

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18 Drawing, Fort Scott Monitor, 1 January 1889; Calhoun, photograph (View of Main Street from south, ca. 1900), 124-125.
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42. 14-16 S. Main Street. Ca. 1880, ca. 1940, Commercial style. Inventory: 011-1830-00059
Status: non-contributing.

Description: This is a two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. There are two storefronts with recessed central entrances flanking a central entrance to the second floor. The second floor has five bays with nine-light casement windows. The window openings are accentuated by raised smooth-cut stone moldings. The ornamental panels above the windows are defined by raised brick. There is a slightly projecting brick eave cornice. Alterations include non-historic display windows and entrance doors and a shingled awning with flared eaves. The eave cornice has been covered with metal.

History: According to the 1889 city directory, the storefronts at 14 and 16 S. Main were occupied by two difference booksellers. J. M. Bright, dry goods, was located at 14 S. Main in 1896. From 1902 this was the T. W. Atkins drug store, then Kiddoo-Ball Drugs, and James Lear, Jr., Drugs until about 1920. Katzung Women's Clothing opened at 16 S. Main in 1902. The store became the Vogue and later, Litwin's Clothing until after 1990.

Integrity: This building is non-contributing due to the addition of the large French Colonial-style canopy above the storefront and changes to some of the second floor windows and the parapet wall.

43. 10-12 S. Main Street. Ca. 1865, ca. 1910, Italianate style. Status: non-contributing.

Description: This is the south section of McDonald Hall, a rectangular two-story stone commercial block. The building has a flat roof and parapet. There are three sections. The south section has three bays with a side entrance flanked by two display windows to the south and one display window to the north. The central section has two central entrances flanked by display windows. The north section has a recessed entrance flanked by display windows. The second floor façade is rough-cut native stone laid in ashlar bond. Second floor masonry openings have smooth-cut stone sills and smooth-cut Italianate round-arched openings. There are 1/1 double-hung windows set in these openings. The name, "McDonald Hall," is set in the wall above the north section of the building. That section of the eave shows the remnant of a gable eave. The first floor storefront has non-historic display windows and metal entrance doors. There is a shed-roofed awning supported on posts. The eave has been covered with metal.

History: After construction, the McDonald Brothers bank occupied the first floor of 10 S. Main with a hall on the second floor. Alex and B. P. McDonald organized the McDonald Brothers Bank in 1863 and then B. P. McDonald became president of the reorganized First National Bank in 1871. Later, the Citizens National Bank was organized in 1884 and occupied the storefront at 12 S. Main. The McDonald family was associated with the bank until B. P. McDonald retired as vice president in 1907.\textsuperscript{19}

Integrity: This building is non-contributing due to the changes to the parapet wall and storefront.

44. 8 S. Main Street. Ca. 1865, ca. 1910, Italianate style. Status: non-contributing.

\textsuperscript{19} Calhoun, photographs 34, 147, 193 (Wilder House, McDonald Hall); photograph (ca. 1900, Main Street looking north), 124-125.
Description: This is the northern section of McDonald Hall, a rectangular two-story stone commercial block.

History: According to the 1909 city directory, the Cohn Cigar Company occupied this storefront.

Integrity: This building is non-contributing due to the changes to the parapet wall and storefront.

45. 6 S. Main Street. McDonald Hall, ca. 1865, ca. 1910, Commercial style. Inventory: 011-1830-00057 Status: contributing.

Description: Reportedly, this is a section of McDonald Hall with a brick façade constructed in the early twentieth century. It is a rectangular commercial building with a recessed central entrance. There are four windows on the second floor with smooth-cut stone sills and flat brick lintels. Windows are 1/1 double-hung sashes. There is an ornamental brick belt course and slightly projecting ornamental brick eave cornice. There are non-historic display windows and a metal entrance door and a shed-roofed awning supported on posts.

History: This was the second building constructed in Fort Scott for B. P. McDonald. The building housed a bank with a hall on the second floor. Alex and B. P. McDonald organized the McDonald Brothers Bank in 1863 and then B. P. became president of the First National Bank in 1871. In 1870 the National Theater presented plays in the hall for six weeks. In 1873 the Congregational Church met in the hall while they were building a new brick church. According to William Calhoun, McDonald's Hall was built by Alex McDonald who moved his bank to the southern end of the building. Other early tenants were A. H. Campbell, grocery, J. S. Redfield, druggist, as well as Emmert Brothers and Weil Brothers, clothiers. The brick façade to the north was added in the early twentieth century. According to the 1909 city directory, the Glaze & Lewis Department Store occupied this storefront.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: This is a rectangular three-story brick commercial building with a five-bay front. It has a flat roof and parapet. There are two asymmetrical storefronts, each with a recessed central entrance flanked by display windows. Although the structure is the oldest extant building on Main Street, the present contemporary brick façade dates from 1948. On the second floor, masonry openings have smooth-cut stone sills and raised brick surrounds. The windows have nine lights with a central operable hatch sash. There is a name stone centered in the upper eave cornice surmounted by a raised brick soldier course and a tile parapet cap. Windows on the second and third floors in the north (Wall Street) façade are 8-light paired casements. There is a "Wilder House" sign centered on the north parapet. To the west, the rear two-story block retains original brick detailing and arched masonry window openings on the second floor.

Alterations to the main first floor storefronts include contemporary paneled bulkheads, display windows and entrance doors. There is a non-historic fabric awning.
History: The historic Wilder House Hotel was constructed in 1863 making it the oldest building on Main Street. It was the third hotel in Fort Scott. Earlier hotels in the town were converted buildings on the site of Fort Scott. According to C. W. Goodlander, in the spring of 1862, George Dimon decided to build a hotel; so he made brick where the old glassworks were, on the Peter Redinger farm and commenced building the building that is now [1899] occupied by Horace Cohn." When Wall White owned the building, it was called White's Hotel. The Wilder House was named for Carter Wilder, a brother of the journalist Daniels Webster Wilder. For many years, it was known as one of the best hotels west of the Mississippi. In 1889, the building housed Henry Hall, a barber, and the Fort Scott Towel Company. By 1896, Erich and Cohn, confectioners, and the Fort Scott Rapid Transfer Railway Company were listed at 2 S. Main. In 1905 Prichard Brothers Drug Store occupied the storefront and that use continued until after 1990.

In 1889, J. H. Little, tailor, occupied 4 S. Main. By 1898, the storefront housed a restaurant and that continued until circa 1938. It was Smith's Café from 1917 until circa 1938. From 1947 until 1976, this store was occupied by the McCrum-Maupin Shoes, Glenn Maupin and Douglas McCrum proprietors. The storefronts facing Wall Street were occupied by a variety of small businesses including a jewelry store at 14 E. Wall from 1915 to circa 1960. According to local resident Gordon Hurst, the front and part of the north side façade were covered with orange brick in 1948. The front and northeast side window openings and windows were altered at this time.20

Integrity: Although the façade of the Main Street façade has been covered with twentieth century brick, that alteration is characteristic of the contemporary architectural style of the time. The change occurred within the period of significance. Despite these alterations, the building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: This is a rectangular three-story Italianate-style brick commercial building with a corner bay facing the intersection and a five-bay front facing Main Street. It has a flat roof and parapet. Although the first floor front has been altered, the upper floors retain substantial architectural integrity. There is a projecting molded entrance surround with an arched head and a molded storefront cornice. On the second and third floors, paired masonry openings flank a central window opening. These have smooth-cut stone sills and flat brick arches. There is a prominent projecting ornamental pressed metal eave cornice with brackets and dentil molding. Similar window openings and the cornice continue along the south (Wall Street) façade. There is a rear entrance at the southwest corner of the building with three display window bays.

Alterations include a contemporary storefront entrance facing Main Street with paired metal entrance doors and stucco infill with contemporary windows in the east and south display window bays. The entrance has a contemporary semicircular awning and the windows had contemporary shed awnings. Windows on the upper floors are 1/1 double-hung sash that appear to be replacements with aluminum storm windows.

20 Calhoun, Drawing (Wilder House and McDonald's Hall), 34; photograph, 39; photograph, ca. 1948, 170.
History: On May 7, 1874, the Fort Scott Weekly Monitor reported that “A. C. Davidson has been busy perfecting all the arrangements for the erection of what will be the pet and pride of Fort Scott. The report commented that Davidson’s opera house building was situated on “one of the choice locations in town.” The opera house was an important cultural and community center for residents of Fort Scott for nearly forty years. The town’s position as a rail center made it a convenient venue for stage productions traveling from Kansas City to other metropolitan locations.

The building housed the First National Bank on the first floor and the Opera House on the upper floors. Originally, there were offices in the raised basement and two offices on the second floor in the Main Street front. This façade was recorded in a photograph (circa 1900).21 The stage occupied the rear of the second floor to the west. There was a major remodeling of the opera house in 1886 with J. W. Keplinger acting as the main contractor. After the First National failed in 1908, the Kansas State Bank moved into this storefront. The building was last used an opera house in 1914 because of the growing popularity of moving pictures. George W. Marble purchased the building, removed the opera house, rented the second floor for attorneys’ offices, and lowered the bank floor to street level in 1916. This storefront was recorded in a circa 1920 postcard view.22 The Kansas State Bank merged with the Fort Scott State Bank in October, 1917 and then with the Citizens National Bank on March 12, 1924. Later in 1975, the Citizens National Bank erected a new bank building, but the bank continues to be a prominent business in the community.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a four-bay front and a flat roof and parapet. There is a side entrance to the second floor and an adjacent recessed entrance to the storefront with display windows to the north. Entrances and display windows have overhead transoms. The second floor entrance has a glazed wooden entrance door with an aluminum storm door. The Italianate-style façade is deteriorated, but relatively intact on the second floor. There are projecting sills and flat ornamental lintels. Windows are 1/1 double-hung sash. There is an elaborate pressed metal bracketed eave cornice.

The storefront has been altered with contemporary brick, display windows, and a metal entrance door. There is a shed-roofed awning with corrugated metal roofing and a fabric valence supported on posts.

History: This building housed grocers, a bookstore, and, from 1905 to 1938, a drugstore. D. H. Kurtz was the druggist from 1905 to 1930; in 1930 the drugstore became Shoemaker Drug Store #2. The Sheppard law firm occupied an office on the second floor from 1905 to ca. 1938 and the National Union of Railway Trackmen also had an office.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

49. 8 N. Main Street. Ca. 1889, ca. 1910, Commercial style. Inventory: 011-1830-00046

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21 Calhoun, 118.
22 Calhoun, 173.
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Status: non-contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. There is a recessed side entrance to the north with a glazed wooden entrance door flanked by two display windows. There is a narrow storefront cornice molding with a single masonry window opening on the second floor. The opening has a narrow terra cotta molding. Above the window is a belt course of rough-cut stone blocks. The eave is ornamented by contrasting brick belt courses and the parapet has a tile cap.

History: Over the years, this building housed several businesses associated with the Katzung family—G. W. Katzung & Sons, Dry Goods and the Famous Racket store. According to the 1909 city directory, Paul Piotrowski, cleaner and presser, occupied the building. By 1911, it housed a hardware store, a billiard parlor, and the Conine-Larimer Furniture Store. According to the 1889 city directory, Bannus Hudson, attorney, had an office on the second floor and later in the early twentieth century, Throgmartin and Gardiner, the contractors who built many of the roads in Fort Scott and the surrounding area.

Integrity: Because the storefront has been altered with contemporary display windows and a covered transom, it is non-contributing. There is a shingled shed-roofed awning on pipe posts. Also, the second floor façade appears to have been re-faced with contemporary brick. The paired second floor windows are covered.


Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. There is a side entrance to the second floor and an adjacent storefront entrance with display windows to the north. The storefront has contemporary aluminum display windows and entrance door. The second floor entrance has a non-historic wooden entrance door and the transom has been filled with wood. The storefront transom has been covered with corrugated metal. There is a shingled shed-roofed awning on posts. The second floor façade has been covered with mock shingle metal sheathing. The second floor window has 1/1 double-hung sash with an overhead transom.

History: Although the front has been substantially altered, this building probably dates to the late 1880s. According to the 1909 city directory, the Clair Shoe Company occupied this location with D. W. Cochran, real estate, and Garrison Commission Company on the second floor. The Crane Jewelry Store and the Crane Optical Parlor were located in the building from 1918 to 1941.

Integrity: This building is non-contributing because the second floor is covered with metal drastically altering the historic appearance of the building.

51. 12-14 N. Main Street. Liepmann's Clothing House, 1895, ca. 1938, Commercial style. 
Inventory: 011-1830-00052 Status: contributing.

This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. It has a recessed central entrance flanked by display windows. The three-bay second floor façade is well preserved with a smooth-cut stone belt course under the windows, ornamented pilasters between the window bays and an ornamented belt course above the window bays. Central paired windows are flanked by a bank of three
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windows. The windows have 1/1 double-hung sash with transoms. There is a brick panel at the eave with the name, "Liepmann's Clothing House," spelled out in raised letters. A corbelled and molded brick cornice ornaments the parapet. Reportedly, the original display windows and entrance were altered about 1938. There is a shed-roofed shingled awning supported on posts. Aluminum storm windows have been installed on the second floor windows.

History: Reportedly, this was not the Liepmann family's first business location in Fort Scott and this was not their first building on this property. In 1895, the family decided to build a more substantial building. In 1909 the property was recorded as the Liepmann Block with M. Leipman & Brother (brothers Morris and Joseph Leipman), clothing occupying the storefront. Liepmann's Clothing Store operated until circa 1930. By 1938, the A & P Grocery was located at this address.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

52. 16-18 N. Main Street. Ca. 1889, Italianate style. Inventory: 011-1830-00051 Status: contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a seven-bay front and flat roof and parapet. It has a double storefront with recessed central entrances. The second floor bays are defined by raised brick piers. There is a 1/1 double-hung window in each bay. There is a continuous narrow projecting belt course under the windows. The narrow central window has a flat arched head. Flanking windows have brick arched heads. The adjacent windows have flat arched heads and the end windows have brick arched heads. Above the windows, there is an ornamental terra cotta belt course and the metal eave cornice has ornamental decorated panels with a projecting bracketed parapet.

The storefronts have been altered with contemporary board and batten bulkheads, display windows, covered transoms, and metal entrance doors. Each storefront has a shed-roofed awning supported on posts with turned ornamentation.

History: S. G. Lamping, confectioner, was recorded at 16 N. Main in the 1889 city directory. Later, the storefront housed F. D. Tonney's grocery. In 1909 the Fort Scott Realty Company occupied the building along with lawyer C. B. Griffith, Linfield Brothers, pawnbrokers, and J. R. Smith, justice of the peace. In 1916 Franz Bachman moved his confectionary and ice cream manufacturing operation to this location. He operated the business until he died in 1934, but his son-in-law Bernard McGuire and daughter Lucy continued the business until 1941. The Williamson family owned the building from the mid-1950s until 1990.

B. F. Barnes, billiard parlor was recorded at 18 N. Main in 1889. Otto Neubauer had a restaurant there in 1896-1898 and then it housed a grocery from 1902 through 1938. The Kaufmann Grocery Company occupied the store in 1909. O. J. Queens, auto dealer, was recorded at the address in 1920. The second floor housed realtors, attorneys, insurance agents, hairdressers, a constable and justice of the peace.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

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Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a three-bay front and flat roof and parapet. It has recessed side entrances to the storefront and second floor. There is a storefront cornice with a belt course under the second floor windows. Brick detailing on the second floor is very similar to that of the adjacent building (16-18 N. Main). Window bays are defined by raised brick piers. There are paired 12/12 double-hung windows in the central bay flanked by single windows. The central opening has a flat brick arch and the side openings have brick arched heads. There is a belt course above the windows and an elaborate pressed metal eave cornice with ornamental end brackets, cornice molding with brackets, and a projecting parapet molding.

The first floor storefront has been altered with contemporary display windows, a covered transom, and metal entrance doors. There is a shingled shed-roofed awning supported on posts with ornamental brackets.

History: In the October, 1888 Sanborn map, a two-story brick building was recorded at this location with a grocery and a billiard hall on the second floor. According to the 1909 city directory, the Kansas State Bank and the Fort Scott Slaughter and Packing Company were located at this address. E. C. Fuhrmann, furnished rooms, occupied the second floor.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

54. 22 N. Main Street. Samuel Berner Building, ca. 1895, Queen Anne style. Inventory: 011-1830-00053 Status: contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a three-bay storefront surmounted by two ornamental bay windows. It has a flat roof and parapet. There is a recessed central entrance flanked by sidelights, cast iron posts, display windows and surmounted by a transom. The second floor façade is well preserved with pressed metal sheathing ornamenting the bay windows. Each bay has four 1/1 double-hung windows. The bay is ornamented with a molded base, pilasters between the windows, a bracketed cornice and mock mansard roof. Ornamentation above the window includes a corbeled belt course and a bracketed eave cornice with ornamental end piers. There is a contemporary awning with corrugated roofing supported on posts with a spindledwork frieze.

History: In the October, 1888 Sanborn map a two-story brick building with a double store front was recorded at this location. It had a meat market to the north and a barber to the south with a hardware storeroom in the rear of the second floor. In the November, 1893 Sanborn map, the building was shown with two bay windows. It housed a shoemaker to the north and a grocery and meat market to the south. There were offices on the second floor. Reportedly, the building was constructed by Samuel Berner about 1895 so it may have been renovated or reconstructed. It housed a meat market until the early 1960s when Nelson Brown closed the business established by his father, J. A. Brown. Like many commercial buildings on Main Street, the basement housed offices (real estate) and small businesses such as a barbershop.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

55. 24 N. Main Street. Crain and Nelson Hardware, ca. 1889, Queen Anne style. Inventory: 011-1830-00054 Status: contributing.
Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a three-bay storefront surmounted by two ornamental bay windows. It has a flat roof and parapet. There is a recessed central entrance flanked by display windows and surmounted by a transom. There are wooden paneled bulkheads and a glazed wooden entrance door. The façade is well preserved with elaborate pressed metal sheathing ornamenting the bay windows. Each bay window has decorative raised panels, pilasters separating the three 1/1 double-hung windows in each bay, a sunburst motif above the windows, and a projecting molding cornice. The eave has patterned sheathing, a projecting molded eave cornice, and a corner gable rising above the northern bay.

History: Built for a hardware store, this building has been occupied by a variety of retail stores selling pianos, jewelry, music, dry goods as well as a grocery, bakery, and restaurant.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

56. 26 N. Main, Bourbon County Senior Center, 1977. Status: non-contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick building with a corner entrance, one bay facing the east (Main Street) and a four-bay side façade facing the north (Old Fort Boulevard). It has a flat roof and parapet. The corner bay has a central entrance with a glazed wooden entrance door flanked by fifteen-light sidelights with an over transom. There is an rear entrance in the north façade. Windows are 1/1 double-hung sash with metal storm windows. There is a hipped awning supported on posts along the south, corner, and part of the north facades. The parapet above the entrance bay is slightly raised and there is a parapet cap.

Integrity: This building was not constructed during the period of significance and is, therefore, listed as a non-contributing resource.


Description: This is a rectangular one-story Ranch style brick commercial building with a low-hipped roof and a hipped vent structure centered on the ridge. The main façade toward National Avenue to the west has display windows divided by raised brick piers. Also, there are display windows in the side facades and a recessed central entrance in the south facade.

Integrity: This building was not constructed during the period of significance and is, therefore, listed as a non-contributing resource.


Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. The main southern front faces Wall Street. The western eight-bay section has four storefronts and the eastern eight-bay section has a double storefront. It has two recessed central entrances with glazed metal entrance doors, brick bulkheads, and display windows. There is a suspended metal awning and the
transom has been covered with corrugated metal. The eastern double storefront is the most ornate. It has an elaborate pressed metal Italianate style storefront cornice with dentil molding. There are ornamental end pilasters and the windows are separated by ornamental raised columns. There are paired central windows in arched openings flanked by three windows with transoms and flat lintels. These openings have been covered with plywood. Above the windows, there is an elaborate ornamental molded cornice, three recessed panels, and a projecting bracketed eave cornice. The name, "Millrose Block," is centered in the raised central parapet with raised urn ornaments on the corners.

The second floor entrance is located between the two sections. It has a glazed metal entrance door with overhead transom. A window opening above this entrance is covered. The east storefront cornice continues above this entrance and there is a small single window above the cornice. The eastern half of the western section has recessed central entrances, brick bulkheads, display windows, and glazed metal entrance doors. There is a suspended metal awning and the transom is covered with corrugated metal. The adjacent storefront has recessed central entrances with glazed wooden entrance doors, display windows, and brick bulkheads, a metal awning, and covered transoms. This storefront is divided by two cast iron posts supporting a metal storefront lintel. There is an ornamental cast iron corner post. The southwest corner of the second floor façade has an elaborate pressed metal ornamental panel. There are smooth-cut stone sills and rough-cut stone lintels. Windows on the second floor 1/1 double-hung sash with attached shutters. The western end façade has one first floor window opening that has been covered. The nine-bay second floor façade has elaborate pressed metal ornamentation. There are three central arched openings with a metal balcony flanked by three flat-arched openings. These openings have individual cloth awnings.

History: The name Millrose Block is embossed in the ornate pressed metal façade of the east part of the storefront facing Wall Street and in the west façade facing National Avenue. In the October, 1888 Sanborn map, the H. G. Herrick livery stable, a one-and-a-half story stone building was recorded at this location. The Millrose Block replaced that building by the time a two-story brick building was recorded in the November, 1893 Sanborn map. The new block had a central stair in the west façade. It housed a grocery to the west with offices on the second floor. A telephone office and tailor occupied the two storefronts to the east facing Wall Street. In the April, 1899 Sanborn map, the grocery remained with the telephone office and gas company office to the east. The public library occupied the east half of the second floor. According to the 1909 city directory, this was known as the Redfield Building with the Fort Scott Safety Deposit & Storage Company at 1 E. Wall and the Fort Scott Building & Loan Association at 7 E. Wall.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

Inventory: 011-1830-00146 Status: contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular one-story brick commercial building with a stone façade. It has a flat roof and parapet. There is a double storefront with recessed central entrances. The facade has ornamental tile bulkheads, a smooth-cut stone block belt course above the storefront, coursed stone, and a stone eave cap. Alterations include non-historic display windows, metal entrance doors, and shed-roofed awnings.
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History: C. W. Goodlander, a notable Fort Scott builder and businessman, operated a lumberyard on this property until he sold the business to A. J. Agar in 1903. The J. E. Agar & Company Lumberyard was recorded at this location in the June, 1906 Sanborn map. The Fort Scott Gas & Electric Company was recorded at this address in the 1909 city directory and the July, 1912 Sanborn map recorded a one-story brick building with a stone front, occupied by the company, at this location. Later Othick Abstract occupied the building.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

60. 6 E. Wall Street / 7 S. National Avenue, Tribune-Monitor Building, ca. 1925, Classical Revival style. Inventory: 011-1830-00098 Status: contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. The main north façade (facing Wall Street) has a nine-bay front. The long west façade (facing National Avenue) has fourteen bays with a side entrance and another storefront on the southwest. The eastern half of the building has a recessed side entrance with a non-historic metal entrance door and three adjacent display windows. A central entrance to the second floor and the western storefront has been filled with brick. There is a cashier's window centered in the western bay. There are stone piers and bulkheads, sign panels above the storefronts, smooth-cut stone sills, flat brick lintels, and an ornamental terra cotta cornice and overhanging eave cap. Windows on the second floor have 8/1 double-hung sashes. Three first floor bays in the western façade have been filled with brick. There is a single metal entrance door, display windows, and paired metal entrance doors in the western façade. Windows on the second floor of the western façade have 8/1 wooden double-hung sashes. There is a shingled shed-roofed awning over the two entrances to southwest and five cloth awnings over windows to the north.

History: Of several Fort Scott newspapers, the union of the Tribune and Monitor was the most long-lived. On April 3, 1917, George W. Marble purchased a tract of four lots on the southeast corner of Wall and National from Mrs. Elizabeth Wilson Goodlander. This was the site of the former Goodlander Lumberyard. The building was constructed in 1925. The Tribune-Monitor had presses in the basement of the eastern part of the building with business offices on the first floor and news-writing and layout areas, conference room, and executive offices on the second floor. When the building was finished, the Kansas Utilities Company leased the National Avenue storefront for more than sixty years before renovating their building on Stanton Street and moved there.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: This is a rectangular one-story brick commercial building with a barrel-truss roof and central stepped parapet. It has a five-bay front with a central entrance. The entrance bay has a non-historic metal entrance door flanked by display windows set in board and batten infill. Three other bays have been filled with board and batten sheathing. There is a non-historic overhead door. A full-length shingled shed-roofed
awning shades the storefront. There is a plaque centered above the entrance and a smooth-cut stone parapet cap.

**History:** In the July, 1912 Sanborn map, the lumberyard to the north was vacant and this lot was unimproved. A one-story brick garage with a capacity of forty cars was recorded at this address in the October, 1917 Sanborn map. The Western Insurance Company purchased the building and remodeled it for storage in the 1970s. After Western merged with American States Insurance, the Tri-Valley Developmental Center purchased the building.

**Integrity:** Because the entrance bay has been altered and other bays have been infilled, this building is non-contributing.

**Status:** contributing.

**Description:** This is a rectangular one-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. The building has three storefront bays; the storefront bays to the north have side entrances and the southern storefront has a central entrance. There is a full-length storefront lintel with an upper façade covered with ornamental pressed metal sheathing, divided by brackets, and surmounted by a projecting eave cornice with a dentil molding. The central storefront has a glazed wooden entrance door with display windows and a bulkhead covered with wood. Bulkheads, display windows, and doors appear to be non-historic. The storefront transom has been covered. There is a metal shed awning on the southern storefront and a suspended flat metal awning over the other two storefronts.

**History:** This property was unimproved in the July, 1912 Sanborn map. The one-story brick building with a wood and metal front was recorded in the October, 1917 Sanborn map. 15 S. National housed a tailor. 17 S. National was a milk depot. 19 S. National was an ice depot. Reportedly, the Liepman family owned this building which also was used as a restaurant.

**Integrity:** The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

63. 11 E. First Street. Stout Building, 1924, Commercial style. Inventory: 011-1830-00033
**Status:** contributing.

**Description:** The main part of this building is a rectangular three-story brick building with a flat roof and parapet. Designed for mixed use, the first floor has two storefronts for businesses and the second and third floor are apartments. A former auto service station with a long gable-roofed awning with tile roofing supported on square brick masonry piers is attached to the western end of the main block. A triangular one-story tile block office building is attached to the northwest corner of the main block. The small office has two corner entrances now covered with plywood and two bays with paired three-light windows. The lower half of the windows has been covered.

On the main building, the first floor has a five-bay front with two bays in the west side façade. There are two storefronts with side entrances. The east storefront has an entrance flanking a display window and an adjacent display window. There is a glazed wooden entrance door with overhead transom. The west
storefront has a display window bay and an entrance with a glazed wooden entrance door and sidelights. There is an overhead-loading door to the west. In the west façade, there is a wooden entrance door and glazed wooden panel flanked by a wooden overhead loading door. On the second floor, there are eight bays; seven have paired 1/1 wooden double-hung windows and one has a single window. Openings have brick sills and flat brick lintels. On the third floor, there are twelve bays with a single 9/1 wooden double-hung window. These openings have a slightly projecting ornamental brick arch above the window. The eave is ornamented with stepped brick courses and a recessed panel brick course. Several windows on the second floor have been covered with plywood.

History: This building was constructed and owned by the Stout family—grandfather W. H. Stout, father H. L. Stout, and son Howard Stout. H. L. (Lee) Stout built this apartment/commercial building at the same time as the Western Insurance Company/Scottish Rite Temple building was rising across the street to the south. For many years, the Western "girls" who worked across the street lived in the apartments on the second and third floors of the building. A tile-roofed canopy attached to the west side of the building sheltered a service station. This business opened June 28, 1924 to serve the automobiles traveling on U.S. Highway 69 which followed National Avenue through town.  

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

64. 111 S. National Avenue. Ca. 1925, Commercial style. Inventory: 011-1830-00106

Status: non-contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular one-story three-bay brick commercial building with a flat roof and shaped gable parapet. There is a non-historic entrance to the south with brick bulkheads, display windows, paired metal entrance doors, and a fabric awning. Two display windows to the north are similar.

History: The October, 1917 Sanborn map recorded a two-story wood dwelling on this property, but it was replaced by a one-story brick garage with a capacity of thirty cars in the September, 1925 Sanborn map. The building had a steel trussed roof and concrete floor.

Integrity: This building is non-contributing because of the alterations to the former garage bays - specifically the addition of brick bulkheads.


Status: non-contributing.

Description: This is a rectangular one-story three-bay steel frame and concrete block commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. It is an example of the enframed window wall building type. There is a central entrance with paired metal entrance doors, transom, and display windows. Side bays have display windows with low brick bulkheads. There is a suspended flat metal awning. Large window bays above the storefront have been covered. The storefront frame is pebble-cast concrete or stucco.

24 Calhoun, photograph, 175.
History: Construction of this building began in 1943, but it was not finished until 1945 when building materials became available for civilian projects. The building was constructed for the father of Alvin Ruddick and Ben Keith was the contractor. An interview with the property owner in 1989 indicated that the building had undergone three major renovations.

Integrity: Because the main façade has been altered, this building is non-contributing.


Description: This is a two-story brick Gothic Revival church with a high-pitched gable roof and an irregular plan. There is flat-roofed entrance wing to the south. A gable-roofed rear wing to the north links the original church with a rectangular two-story brick parish house with a high gable roof. Even though the buildings are no longer used as church, they are well preserved. The entrance wing has a paneled wooden door with a round-arched transom facing west. There is a dentil molding at the eave and an ornamental crenellated stone parapet cap. The sanctuary has a large arched stained glass window surmounted by a circular window with stone ornamentation. A smaller circular window is located in the gable eave. Both the main gable and the rear gable roofs have a cross on the ridge. The parish house has four-light wooden windows on the first floor and 6/6 wooden double-hung windows on the second floor.

History: While Fort Scott was still a small frontier town, Bishop Henry Lee visited in October, 1858 and at the request of local residents, he organized a parish. The church was organized in the summer of 1859. This was the second church in the community and the members met in the old land office. The cornerstone for an Episcopal Church building in Fort Scott, at Jones (National Avenue) and Birch (Second Street) was laid on July 25, 1863 but that building was not completed. Later in 1888, a second church was erected on the northwest corner of 4th and Judson. Finally, the cornerstone for this third church building was laid on July 19, 1903 and the building was completed the next year. In 1904 Reverend Albert Watkins, rector at the time described the church, “this third building is about one hundred feet in length and thirty feet in width of pressed brick and Carthage stone trimmings, in design simple Gothic. The building is very impressive and there is harmony of proportion, color, and outline... The cost, not including the memorials, was $10,000, and, with the exception of $1,000, the whole amount was raised in Fort Scott.” Later on June 16, 1928, the St. Andrews congregation dedicated an eighteen-room Parish-Community House costing $25,000 which was located in the rear to the north of the original church. At that time, the church also was re-decorated, re-lighted, and re-wired. 

Integrity: Criterion Consideration A applies to this building because a religious congregation owned it and, historically, it was used for religious purposes. The building contributes to the significance of the district because of its Gothic Revival architecture. It retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


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25 Reverend Summer Walters, “St. Andrews Church, Fort Scott, Kansas, Seventy Years, 1859-1929,” 11-12, 26-28, 31. Kansas Collection, Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas, Lawrence; See also: Culhoun, History and photograph, 200.
Description: This is a rectangular one-story Second Renaissance Revival-style brick institutional building with a hipped roof. It has a raised foundation of coursed ashlar cut-limestone blocks. It has a three-bay front and three side bays. A brick exterior chimney is centered in the south façade. A stone stairway with square piers leads to the central entrance. This has glazed paneled wooden entrance doors and an arched transom covered with an iron grill set in a round-arched opening. There is an ornamental cut-stone surround with keystone set in a coursed stone panel with extended quoins. "Public Library" is inscribed above the entrance, "AD" and "1902" are inscribed in circles below "Public Library." Cast iron light posts with glass bowls stand on the stone piers beside the stair. A wooden entablature with dentil molding ornaments the eave. Each of the building's corners is ornamented with extended stone quoins.

The first floor windows are 1/1 double-hung arched wooden windows with smooth-cut limestone sills. The upper sash has six panes forming a U around a center arched pane. The lower sash has a central rectangular pane flanked by two smaller panes. Limestone impost stringers and keystones ornament these windows. There are two of these windows in the west, three to the east, and five in both the north and south facades. Also, there are three smaller windows in the southern façade's eastern section. One of these openings is covered and two have 4/1 double-hung windows. The foundation has 6/1 double-hung wooden windows surmounted with incised stone flat arches. There is a side entrance door to the basement with sidelights in the north façade and another door in the south elevation.

The original roofing (probably clay tiles) has been replaced with asphalt shingles. Two oculus roof dormer vents are located on the east and west roof slopes, but three similar vents on the north and south roof slopes have been removed.

History: Fort Scott residents organized a library association in 1883. A public library was established by Eugene Ware who requested a bequest for his favorite charity from New York City investor George Opdyke. Ware selected books for the library, purchased them, placed them in his office, and the library opened in March, 1891. Eventually, the city agreed to provide for its maintenance and the library was chartered and moved to the Redfield Block. In 1901 the community received an $18,000 Carnegie Library grant. The city donated land and the building cornerstone was laid in 1902. However, the library was not completed until 1904 and the books were moved to the new building in February, 1904.26

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

68. 1 E. Third Street. Memorial Hall, 1925, Classical Revival style. Inventory: 011-1830-00038
Status: contributing.

Description: This is a two-story Classical Revival-style brick building with a flat roof and parapet set on a raised stone foundation. Basically, the structure is rectangular, but the main entrance and the hall are rotated to face the intersection of Third and National. The main southeast façade is semicircular with a monumental Neo-Classical façade. It has semicircular smooth-cut stone steps rising to three recessed entrances with paired glazed metal entrance doors surmounted by transoms. Between the entrances, there

26 Calhoun, 129.
are two large carved stone plaques. The semicircular entrance cornice is supported on eight Ionic stone columns. Above the cornice, there is a brick panel with a central ornamental carved stone panel and carved end blocks set in a stepped parapet ornamented with carved blocks and a stone parapet cap. Beside the entrance, there are raised brick bays with an entrance to the main block in the southern façade and an entrance to the basement in the western façade. These bays have stone ornamentation and stone parapets. The entrances also have ornamental stone surrounds. Above the windows, there is a smooth-cut stone belt course. There are six window openings to the west in the stone foundation and a recessed rear entrance with a molded stone surround. These have 2/2 lights. There are 15-light windows flanking the rear entrance. Window openings in the foundation to the south have 2/2 lights. On the first and second floors, there are two window bays in the west and south facades. These are framed with stone pilaster moldings, smooth-cut stone sills and lintels. The larger first floor windows have fifteen lights and the upper windows have nine.

History: The Western Insurance Company sold the tract of land for this community building to the city for a modest price of $10,000. On April 7, 1921, the Fort Scott Tribune reported the Chamber of Commerce’s interest in seeing a new community hall erected. Convention Hall, an early meeting hall, was still standing, but was demolished in 1922. The first bond issue for a community building was defeated, but eventually in November, 1922, a bond issue passed with a margin of 184 votes. Architect William T. Schmitt, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, designed the building.

The building was dedicated as a memorial to the memory of World War I veterans. For many years, the building was used for high school basketball games. The building has a theater that is occasionally used for music productions, but rarely for dramatic productions. Fort Scott city offices are located in this building. The building also houses meeting rooms for the G.A.R., D.A.R., Jaycees, and American Legion.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: This is a rectangular three-story Classical Revival-style public building with a flat roof and parapet. It stands approximately in the center of a city block and all four facades have similar design and ornamentation. The main seven-bay front faces National Avenue to the east. Five slightly projecting central bays are framed with cut-stone moldings and there are four columns with Corinthian capitals set in the three central bays.

The courthouse foundation is constructed of large rough-cut coursed stone blocks. The raised basement is sheathed in coursed smooth-cut stone blocks with a projecting stone water table and wide belt course between the first and second floors. There are three recessed entrances with 10-light wooden entrance doors. Windows are wood 6/6 double-hung sashes. There are similar windows on the second and third floors. Second floor windows have upper lights of ornamental art glass. Between the second and third rows of windows, there are square ornamental plaques. The eave is ornamented with a brick belt course, a projecting stone eave molding surmounted by a central stone panel rising to a stepped parapet with a molded parapet cap. The remainder of the parapet has a smooth-cut stone cap.
A large brick elevator shaft has been constructed projecting from the central bay of the north side of the courthouse. The Southeast Kansas Correctional Facility is attached to the north and extends to the northwest. This addition is the main alteration to the original Bourbon County Courthouse. This is a rectangular one-story brick and concrete building with a flat roof. It has a recessed central entrance to the east flanked by two window bays to the south and three window bays to the north.

History: After an earlier courthouse was destroyed by fire on January 12, 1929, the Bourbon County Commissioners quickly approved the plans and let bids for a new Classical Revival-style courthouse on the same site by March 26. The architects for the new building were Cuthbert and Suerke of Topeka and the contractors were Thogmartin & Reis. The successful bid for the project was $160,470 and the county treasurer, D. A. Drake, issued bonds for $150,000 to finance the construction.

The new Bourbon County Courthouse was officially opened to the public on June 12, 1930. To mark the occasion, the Fort Scott Chamber of Commerce sent invitations to dignitaries in the surrounding counties. "A suitable program was arranged with music furnished by the Fort Scott Band at different intervals during the day. Lemonade was served to the hundreds of people who passed through the courthouse from 8:00 o'clock in the morning until 9 at nite [sic]. Large baskets of flowers, emblems of good luck and potted plants were in every room sent by business houses and well-wishers of Bourbon County."

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

Three memorials are situated on the east front lawn of the Courthouse.

69a. Civil War Monument, east front lawn of the Courthouse, 1906. **Status: contributing object**

The Soldiers' Monument designed by A. A. Menezes and built by D. P. Bruce (a local monument cutter) was dedicated on Memorial Day, May 30, 1906. The statue represents a soldier at parade rest. With its base, the monument is thirty feet tall. It is New Hampshire granite, weighs thirty tons, and the original cost was $2,000. The monument is inscribed "in memory of volunteer defenders of the Union, 1861-1865." Morris Liepmann was chairman of the monument committee.

69b. This monument recognizes veterans of the Spanish-American War, east front lawn of the Courthouse, ca. 1905. **Status: contributing object**

69c. This monument recognizes veterans of World War I, east front lawn of the Courthouse, ca. 1920. **Status: contributing object**

70. 210 S. National Avenue, Bourbon County Health Department, ca. 1980. **Status: non-contributing.**

Description: This a rectangular one-story building with a gable roof located southeast of the Bourbon County Courthouse on the same block. It is wood-frame construction with brick veneer on the base surmounted by board and batten sheathing. There are two entrances with glazed entrance doors to the south.
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Integrity: This building was not constructed during the period of significance and is, therefore, listed as a non-contributing resource.


Description: This is a rectangular four-story Classical Revival style concrete building with a smooth-cut stone veneer. The Federal Building has a flat roof and parapet. End bays project slightly. There is a slightly projecting water table and a belt course above the first floor openings. There is a modest eave molding and smooth-cut cornice with “United States Post Office and Court House,” in metal letters centered above the entrance. There is a shaped parapet with parapet cap. From the rear, the masonry elevator housing rises from the building roof.

The main nine-bay façade facing National Avenue has steps leading to three central entrances. These have paired glazed entrance doors with four-light overhead transom windows. Six flanking window bays have seven-light windows. On the second, third, and fourth floors, there are 1/1 windows in the end bays and triple windows with a 1/1 central sash in the seven central bays. These are aluminum replacement windows.

History: On January 6, 1935, the Topeka Capital reported that residents of Fort Scott were anticipating the beginning of construction on a new post office and federal courthouse building for the town. Bids were to be opened on February 1 for a building estimated to cost $268,000. It would be of fire-proof construction, four stories in height with a basement, with cut-stone and brick outer walls, a marble and terrazzo interior and equipped with a fast-speed elevator. W. E. Glover of Topeka was the architect in charge. In addition to the post office, the federal building housed a federal court room with judges' chambers, clerk of the court, jury rooms, U. S. Marshal's offices, district attorney's office, civil service offices, and internal revenue offices27 According to the WPA, “A Guide to Fort Scott,” the building was completed in 1936. The Post Office and Federal Building was remodeled in 1963. The $340,000 project was announced in the Fort Scott Tribune June 27, 1963. Air conditioning and new aluminum windows were the planned major improvements.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: This is a rectangular two-story Classical Revival-style concrete building with a brick veneer. It has a flat roof and parapet. There are brick steps leading to a central entrance in the seven-bay façade. The entrance has a glazed metal entrance door, sidelights, and transom. It is accentuated by a smooth-cut stone surround surmounted with a slightly projecting molding with a bell ornament. Central bays are ornamented by paired pilasters surmounted by a broad stone entablature with a projecting eave molding. Above the raised basement, there is a smooth-cut stone belt course and a similar course above the second floor windows. Two more belt courses ornament the eave which has a smooth-cut stone parapet cap.

27 “New Federal Building Pleasing to Fort Scott,” Topeka Capital, Bourbon County Clippings, KSHS, 133.
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Windows in the central bays on the first floor have ornamental sills, sidelongts, and a nine-light transom with sidelights. First floor windows in the end bays have similar transoms. On the second floor, there is a single nine-light window with sidelights over the entrance. Other windows in the central bays have 1/1 sash with sidelights. There are 1/1 windows in the end bays on the second floor. There is a central interior brick chimney.

Originally, the building did not have a full second story. In 1957 the Western Insurance Company carried out a major renovation of the building and constructed a second floor by building new supporting columns founded on bedrock.

History: The Central Life Insurance Company received a state charter in 1907 as the first legal reserve insurance company in Kansas. Grant Hornaday was president, C. C. Nelson was vice president, and Lee Stout was secretary-treasurer, and R. S. Tiernan was vice-president and agency manager. The company opened in the rear of the Stout building on the northwest corner of West Wall Street and National Avenue. They moved into this new office building in 1925. Blazer and Vollmer were the designers and contractors for the building's main floor with mezzanine. The Central Life Insurance Company grew steadily for more than thirty years operating in five states with policies worth twenty million dollars.

In 1945 the company merged with the Victory Life Insurance Company of Topeka and the Western Insurance Company (located one block east) bought this building about 1957. The new owners carried out a major renovation: two large vaults, one in the basement and one on the first floor were removed. A second floor level was constructed by building new supporting columns on bedrock. William Fullerton designed the renovation and M. W. Watson was the contractor. In 1987, Lincoln National Life Insurance acquired the Western Insurance Company. The company used this building as a claims processing center until the company closed its branch in Fort Scott.  

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: This is a rectangular one-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. It has a corner entrance flanked by a display window and a drive-through awning projecting from the center of the south side façade. There is an overhanging mock mansard roof at the eave. The building is set back from National Avenue in the middle of the lot.

History: This building was constructed in 1976 to serve as a drive-through pharmacy. L. Denton and J. W. Maycumber were the contractors.

Integrity: This building was not constructed during the period of significance and is, therefore, listed as a non-contributing resource.


26 Calhoun, Historic photograph, 265.
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Description: This is a rectangular one-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. The window wall type storefront has a recessed side entrance with paired metal entrance doors flanked by display windows. The bulkhead and north end wall are faced with stone. The cornice is covered with corrugated metal.

History: This building was constructed about 1962 to house Elmer’s Café, operated by Mr. Pargen until he retired in 1981. Then the Hammer Insurance Agency occupied the building. J. W. Maycumber was the contractor.

Integrity: This building was not constructed during the period of significance and is, therefore, listed as a non-contributing resource.


Description: This is a two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. Exterior detailing on the second floor is well preserved. There are three window bays with smooth-cut stone sills, single 1/1 wood double-hung windows flanking a pair of windows, transom windows with an ornamental cross, and raised brick segmental arched window hoods. There is an ornamental pressed metal eave cornice with projecting brackets and eave cornice. The first floor storefront has been altered. It has a side entrance to the second floor and a side entrance to the storefront with display windows to the north. The entrances have glazed metal entrance doors with overhead transoms. The storefront lintel is covered and the transom is covered with a non-historic metal panel.

History: In the November, 1884 Sanborn map, scattered wood frame dwellings were recorded in this location. This building was constructed by October, 1888 when a two-story brick commercial building, a water office was recorded at this address. It was the Fort Scott Water Company’s office in the April, 1899 Sanborn map. The 1909 city directory recorded C. B. Conyers, paints, at this address and a paint and wallpaper store was recorded in the July, 1912 Sanborn map.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: Originally built as a motel with two sections in an ell plan, an office/restaurant to the north and a motel room wing to the south, this building has been adapted (after 1980) to house a restaurant with offices in the rear and offices in the motel wing. The north section is a rectangular wood-frame building with a gable roof oriented east-west. The main front facing National Avenue has an asymmetrical entrance with four window bays to the south and seven window bays to the north. There is a brick pier beside the recessed entrance. A driveway to the south is sheltered under the overhanging roof; the driveway runs under an overhead enclosed and glazed walkway to the wing. The rectangular wing has brick end walls with parapets and a gable roof. On the first floor, there is a central entrance with paired glazed metal entrance doors. There are four paired windows flanking the entrance and nine window bays on the second floor.
History: For many years, this site was occupied by the one-hundred room Goodlander Hotel, a four-story brick building constructed in 1887. In 1957 an oil company inquired about the site as a location for a service station at the downtown junction of U.S. Highways 69 and 54, one block from the heart of the downtown business district. In response, a group of Fort Scott business and professional men organized to save the site for a new, modern hotel. On August 7, 1957, the newly formed Fort Scott Investment Company elected G. W. Marble, publisher of the Fort Scott Tribune, as president, John C. Gross, realtor, vice president, and John Diehl, accountant, secretary-treasurer. The company purchased the site and adjacent lots and signed a demolition contract for the massive brick hotel. At the same time, the city acquired a one hundred-foot long area for a proposed parking lot behind the hotel site.\(^{29}\) When completed, the complex included a motel office and restaurant with a motel court. Dwight Horner was the contractor.

Integrity: This building is non-contributing primarily due to changes (in 1990) to the rear motel wing. Less substantial changes have been made to the exterior of the restaurant section. However, no historic photographs have been located to know specifics.

Status: non-contributing.

Description: Set back at the rear of the tract, this is a two-story stuccoed brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. There is a three-bay front defined by raised piers with an entrance flanked by display windows in the south bay. The central bay has a side entrance with flanking display windows to the north. The north first floor bay and the second floor bays are covered with stucco. Another three-bay storefront to the south faces Wall Street. Although originally designed in the Spanish Revival style, the only remaining decorative elements are the mock shed roofs with red tile roofing that ornament the first floor storefront and the second floor eave. This feature is continued on the south storefront and the side wall of the adjacent building.

History: Durkee and Stout purchased a brick livery stable at this location in 1887. It was demolished and the existing building was constructed in 1935. Some brick from the earlier building was used for the second story. Stout traveled in the Southwest and appreciated the architecture which he imitated in the Spanish Colonial Revival style of this building. Wagner Brothers first leased the building for a tire repair and filling station. It also housed several auto-related businesses, including a Packard and Gibson dealer.

Integrity: This building is non-contributing due to the covering of many second floor windows with stucco.

78. 8 N. National Avenue. Ca. 1895, Queen Anne style. Inventory: 011-1830-00090
Status: contributing.

Description: This is a two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. There is a recessed central entrance flanked by paneled bulkheads and display windows and surmounted by a four-panel transom. A side entrance leads to the second floor. On the second floor, the ornamental pressed metal façade is well preserved. There is a projecting bay window with three 1/1 double-hung wooden windows surmounted by an ornamental glass transom. The bay is flanked by a single window to the south

and three windows to the north. The façade has an ornamental paneled base, paneled pilasters beside the windows, and an elaborate paneled cornice. The eave cornice is ornamented with an arched motif, a projecting pediment above the bay window and a rectangular shaped parapet above the second floor side entrance. There is a full-length non-historic shed awning supported on square posts.

History: This building was completed between 1893 and 1899. The November, 1893 Sanborn map recorded a two-story wood frame building with a one-story brick rear addition; it housed a grocery with a dentist's office on the second floor. By April, 1899, the wood frame section was replaced by a two-story brick structure with the same brick rear addition. The first floor was vacant in 1899 with a dentist's office on the second floor. The building housed a bakery in June, 1906 according to the Sanborn map. Later, the 1909 city directory recorded that the Mead Grain Company occupied the building.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: This is a three-story brick commercial building with a three-bay front, a flat roof and parapet, and a central entrance to the upper floors. Although the first floor storefront has been altered, the Romanesque-style upper façade is well preserved. It has a smooth-cut stone belt course under the second and third story windows. The side window bays have four 1/1 wooden sash flanking paired sash in the central bay. There are ornamental glass transoms. The windows are divided by molded pilasters. Above the windows, there is a wide stone belt course. There are raised brick crosses under the third floor openings and corbelled brick ornament above the openings. The third floor bays are framed by rounded projecting brick columns with stone bases and projecting caps. Another belt course ornaments the third floor window openings. There is a prominent pressed metal eave cornice with a projecting molding, ornamental urns, and a raised arch over the central bay. The first floor storefront has non-historic bulkheads, display windows and metal entrance doors. The southern display window has been covered.

History: This building was shown in a line drawing published in the Fort Scott Monitor 1 January 1889. The fifty-foot wide storefront to the south was to be leased by George W. Stephenson for a dry goods store. The Eagle Block was built by F. G. Eaton, a capitalist, E. J. Schwinn, carpenter and contractor, and J. P. Miller, a confectioner and baker. The cost was $22,000. A distinctive feature was its large gilded eagle on the parapet above the central entrance. In 1903 John Glunz purchased the Eagle Block and moved his saddlery here.30

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: Although similar in style and material, reportedly, this building is separate from the adjacent Eagle Block. It is a three-story two-bay brick commercial building with a side entrance and a flat roof and

30 Calhoun, 60.
parapet. On the second and third floors, smooth-cut stone belt courses continue from the adjacent building. On the third floor, projecting round brick columns divide the bays. There is an elaborate pressed metal eave cornice with raised urns flanking a raised pediment. The first floor storefront has three historic metal posts, non-historic display windows, metal entrance door, sidelights, and transom. The storefront transom has been covered with wooden shingles and there is a mock hipped shingled awning. The second and third floor windows have been covered with board and batten sheathing.

History: With its similar architectural detailing, this building probably was constructed at the same time as the adjacent Eagle Block (completed in 1888). In 1907 the building housed the George Gaugel Bakery.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: This is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. The façade is well preserved although elements of the storefront have been altered. The storefront has two cast iron posts supporting a lintel. The recessed central entrance is flanked by display windows with an overhead transom. The second floor façade has three bays including a wide central bay with three 1/1 double-hung wooden windows with ornamental transoms set in a brick arched opening with a smooth-cut stone sill and belt course. The construction date, "1888," is set above the central windows. Flanking windows have 1/1 double-hung sash. These are set in brick arched openings with ornamental keystones. Above the side windows, there is smooth-cut stone ornament. The building has a wide ornamental pressed metal eave cornice with brackets and a central raised arched parapet.

History: Clif Crain operated a hardware store in at least two locations before building this handsome building on National Avenue in 1888 for his store. Crain started work for Morley Brothers Hardware in 1875 as a traveling salesman. In September, 1883, partners Crain and Nelson bought the Morley Brothers store. After Crain, the building housed hardware businesses operated by Armstrong Davis, Leon Harlan, and Clarence Price.

Integrity: The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.


Description: The original block is a rectangular one-story stuccoed concrete block commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. There is a large rectangular ell addition to the south and rear additions. The main block has a side entrance to the north with a glazed entrance door and a rear entrance at the northwest corner. There are two large windows south of the entrance and a bank of two windows in the north wall. Ornament includes a projecting metal-covered awning to the east and north with a tall projecting shaped metal "Nu-Grille" sign centered above the east façade. The addition has a low gable roof with

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31 Historic image, Calhoun, Fort Scott: A Pictorial History, 60.
32 Calhoun, 60; Photograph, 153.
corrugated metal roofing. It has an entrance at the southeast corner, a glazed metal entrance door, and two large windows.

**History:** According to the owner in 1989, this building was constructed in 1946. At the time U. S. Highways 59 and 54 intersected at Wall and National, one block to the south, funnelling travelers and shoppers toward this roadside diner. There were only stools and a counter in the original building to the north. A modern dining room has been added to the south.

**Integrity:** The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

83. 102 N. National / 3 West Oak, Stout Building, 1912, Romanesque style. Inventory: 011-1830-00082

**Status:** contributing.

**Description:** This exterior of this building has been recently rehabilitated. It is a rectangular two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and parapet. It has a rubble stone foundation. As a corner building, it has two main facades facing National Avenue to the east and Wall Street to the south. The east façade is distinguished by an arcade with seven round-arched openings and one infilled opening. The south façade has five round-arched openings. There are two recessed entrances to the north and south of the east front with recessed two-part display windows and a recessed entrance in the south front. There are five basement window bays. To the east on the second floor, there are eight bays with triple double-hung windows with an overhead transom. To the south on the second floor, there are six bays with five similar windows. The masonry arcade openings are ornamented with tooled stone blocks. On the second floor, there is a brick belt course under the windows and flat rough-cut stone lintels. There is raised brick panel and an ornamental brick eave cornice. The northeast opening is filled with non-historic paired doors and plywood. There are 1/1 double-hung windows in the north façade and round-arched masonry openings in the foundation.

**History:** The Fort Scott Grain & Implement Company erected this building on the northwest corner of Oak and National Avenue in 1911. Partners Durkee and Stout owned the company. H. L. Stout and his father, William H. Stout, constructed and owned other buildings in downtown Fort Scott. Durkee & Stout sold John Deere and Kingman implements, International mowers, spreaders, and binders. They sold buggies, carriages, and wagons. The company also sold Cadillac, Jeffries, and Reo touring cars as well as Goodyear, Goodrich, and United tires. Later, the Tribune-Monitor reported on October 22, 1915, that Lee Stout had sold out to C. F. Miller. Stout kept his grain and elevator business, but Miller consolidated the two implement houses in Fort Scott under his ownership. Miller moved from his old location on the north side of Market Street into the new building so he would have ample room to display implements and automobiles. At the time, Miller had the Ford agency.

**Integrity:** The building retains sufficient architectural integrity to be listed as a contributing resource.

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33 Calhoun, 148.

34 Calhoun, 157.
84. Brick streets, ca. 1915. **Status: contributing structure.** Streets throughout the district were paved with locally manufactured brick after 1915. These streets are a significant feature contributing to the historic district.
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE  

The Fort Scott Downtown Historic District in Fort Scott, Bourbon County, Kansas is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its significant historical association with the commercial, economic, and urban development of Fort Scott during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. During the period of significance, downtown Fort Scott was the center of local commerce and business activity. Because of its railroad connections, local businesses, and manufacturing enterprises, Fort Scott was important in the regional economy as well. The district is significant in local history.

Also, the Fort Scott Downtown Historic District is eligible for listing under Criterion C in the area of architecture because the extant properties represent significant examples of popular architectural styles. As a whole, the district is a relatively well-preserved example of the architectural styles, commercial and institutional building types and methods of construction characteristic of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. A substantial majority of the buildings in the district retain sufficient integrity of location, setting, materials, feeling, and association to be listed as contributing properties in a district listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The beginning of the period of significance (1863-1859) is defined by the construction of the earliest surviving permanent buildings in the district (Wilder House, 1863, and McDonald Hall, 1865) and the end is the fifty-year closing date for periods of significance. Although some activities from the historical period continue, a more specific ending cannot be defined at this time.

The following history provides a historic context outlining the economic and population growth and urban development of downtown Fort Scott. The context is based on current knowledge and is subject to revision and additions. As the context describes, the downtown commercial district was the economic and social center of the community for most of the history of Fort Scott.  

Developmental history  

Fort Scott was established in 1842 as a military post on the western frontier. This post was located on the Marmanon River at a midpoint on the Military Road between Fort Leavenworth to the north on the Missouri River and Fort Coffey in the Cherokee Nation lands to the south. The garrison at Fort Scott was intended to prevent European American settlers from moving into the country west of the Missouri border that was reserved for Native Americans and to protect the settlers from any Native American raids.

Soldiers from the First Infantry Regiment stationed at Fort Scott began to construct the fort buildings using local materials. They built a mill to saw native lumber on a stream one mile northwest of the fort that they named Mill Creek. Soldiers also located a clay bank and built a brickyard and opened a stone quarry near the fort site. Any hardware or building material that could not be made on site had to be brought from St. Louis by ox cart.  

35 Much of the historical information for the inventory of individual properties is based on the Fort Scott Downtown Historical Survey carried out by Connie Banwart in 1989-1990. Those inventories were reviewed and updated in 2007-2008 by Fort Scott residents Connie Banwart, Kate Emmett-Sweetser, and Becky Mann.  
36 Fred Campbell, Jr. and Don Miller, Historic Reflections of Bourbon County, Kansas (Virginia Beach, VA: Donning Company, 2005), 201.
The U. S. Army abandoned Fort Scott in 1853 because the area was to be opened for settlement. Later in 1854, after Congress approved the Kansas-Nebraska Act, the area west of the Missouri River and the Missouri state line became Kansas Territory. The act provided that the actual settlers would vote on whether slavery would be allowed in the new territories and, after the population was established, settlers would vote for the territories to enter the Union as slave or free states. Between 1854 and the beginning of the Civil War in 1861, Fort Scott developed into a frontier town. Although the United States government maintained ownership of the land, local residents adapted the abandoned Fort buildings for residences and business houses. The area around Fort Scott developed rapidly with new settlers advocating slavery and those who wanted to prohibit slavery or even abolish it. While the pro-slavery settlers initially dominated the elections and the territorial legislature and violence broke out in 1856, by 1860 free state settlers controlled Kansas Territory and the area around Fort Scott.

Pro-slavery settlers first designated Bourbon County after a county in Kentucky and incorporated Fort Scott as a town in August, 1855, but they did little to develop the town. On June 1, 1857, a party of free state supporters from Lawrence came to Fort Scott and joined with a group of pro-slavery supporters (Wingfield Company) to form a new Fort Scott Town Company. The leaders were George Crawford, president, G. W. Jones, secretary, Hiero T. Wilson, treasurer, and Norman Eddy, E. H. Weir, D. W. Holbrook, W. R. Judson, T. R. Blackburn, and E. S. Lowman. In 1858 the Bourbon County seat was moved to Mariton City, six miles west, to protect the county records from the threat of border raiders. Once the free state settlers had a majority, the territorial legislature passed an act incorporating the Fort Scott Town Company on February 27, 1860. The town site included approximately three hundred and twenty acres. In 1863, county residents voted to move the seat of government to Fort Scott.37

Pioneer settler Charles W. Goodlander described the town as he saw it when he arrived late in April, 1858.

37 Campbell and Miller, Historic Reflections, 203-204, 206.
ground between where the Tremont house stands and the bluff where Fisher's house is located, was densely covered with trees and underbrush..."38

After the Civil War began on April 12, 1861, the old Fort once again served as a Federal outpost and supply depot. Approximately three thousand troops were stationed at Fort Scott. Businesses flourished to supply the needs of the soldiers. With this protection, Fort Scott also became a refuge for Native Americans, escaped slaves, and others displaced by the war threatening the settlers along the Missouri-Kansas border from the Indian Territory in the south to Kansas City, Missouri. Relative security and the demand for supplies from the local garrison stimulated the local economy and encouraged the construction of commercial buildings. When the war ended on April 9, 1865, Fort Scott was a busy military post, but the troops gradually left the town during the next year. The fort buildings were returned to the civilian owners and again became the center of the commercial district.

According to local historians Fred Campbell, Jr. and Don Miller, "Fort Scott's business district began to grow in the early 1860s with the many wooden frame buildings on Bigler Street located south of the fort and later called Market Street. North Main Street (then Williams Street) began to grow at this time with the building of the Wilder House and the Miller Block in 1863 and McDonald Hall in 1865, while most other buildings in this neighborhood were of wooden frame." The Wilder House Hotel was built of locally manufactured brick from the old military post brickyard by George Dimon. C. W. Goodlander built the Miller Block (demolished 2005) and McDonald Hall of local stone.39 Goodlander built or supervised the construction of most of the buildings erected in the early days of Fort Scott and continued as a building contractor until ca. 1900.40

At the end of the Civil War, Fort Scott had a population of about eighteen hundred residents and the town began to grow rapidly. Union veterans and foreign immigrants came to Kansas to claim land and create farms and businesses. The prospect of a railroad building south from Kansas City, Missouri, to Fort Scott also helped boost the local economy. The town also benefited from the federal request to purchase land for a National Cemetery at Fort Scott which was approved by the governor on January 14, 1870.41 The National Cemetery was located one-and-a-half miles south of Fort Scott. Later, the government requested that federal authorities and city leaders cooperate to build a macadamized turnpike from downtown Fort Scott to the cemetery. Jones Street was chosen as the route and on June 1, 1880 the name was changed to National Avenue.42

A writer in Kansas Farmer described Fort Scott in 1870, "Fort Scott itself is situated upon a rise of ground in a large bend of the Marmaton River. It is enough above the river bed to make it pleasant, and still remain unbroken by bluffs and ravine-cut hills. The stream is of no value as a water power, we believe, but lend much to the value and attractiveness of the city. Around the city in nearly every direction, the land rises to

39 Campbell and Miller, Historical Reflections, 208; Mary L. Barlow, The Why of Fort Scott (Fort Scott, KS: 1921), 20.
41 Fort Scott Daily Monitor 14 January 1870.
42 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 97.
quite an eminence. From these heights, the view is very fine, as you look down upon the city, resting upon a raised center in this vast amphitheater.\(^{43}\)

The architectural character of downtown Fort Scott was further affected by a destructive fire that began on April 21, 1873 in the rear of George Smith’s saloon on Bigler (later Market) Street. Since most of the existing commercial buildings were wood frame structures, the fire spread quickly and burned all the buildings on the two blocks from Stanton to Hendricks Street. Twelve businesses were destroyed or badly damaged. Despite the losses, merchants began re-building more fire-proof brick, iron, and stone buildings.\(^{44}\)

Federal troops again returned to Fort Scott on December 9, 1869, to police the violent reaction by disgruntled land seekers against the builders of the Missouri River, Fort Scott, and Gulf Railroad south through the Cherokee Neutral Lands, including a strip four miles wide and twenty miles long on the southern border of Bourbon County. The troops used Fort Scott as their headquarters while they patrolled the railroad right-of-way to protect the railroad construction crews. After the railroad offered its land at a more reasonable rate, the settlers’ resistance ended. The federal troops were removed from Fort Scott on April 14, 1872, and eventually, the railroad claim was upheld by the U. S. Supreme Court in a decision on November 21, 1872.

The long-term prosperity of Fort Scott was founded on the arrival of the railroads. The first railroad, Missouri River, Fort Scott, and Gulf, finished to Fort Scott in December, 1869. On December 6, workers drove the last spike to complete the track down the north side of Wall Street and on December 7, the first freight train arrived with a load of merchandise.\(^{45}\) In December, 1870, the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas (MKT) Railroad connected Fort Scott with St. Louis and built southwest toward Texas. The MKT passenger depot was completed on January 7, 1871. Also, the Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis and the Kansas, Nebraska, and Dakota built lines to Fort Scott. The first passenger train to Topeka from Fort Scott left on December 9, 1886.\(^{46}\) Eventually, the various lines were consolidated into three main systems serving Fort Scott: the Missouri Pacific, Missouri, Kansas, and Texas; and the St. Louis and San Francisco.

From the arrival of the railroads through the late 1880s, Fort Scott experienced an increase in residents and a building boom. By 1873, Fort Scott was a center of coal mining activity. As the Kansas City Times reported, "Fort Scott, situated in the center of the coal basin of Kansas and Missouri, must inevitably become by reason of her location if for nothing else, the manufacturing center of the Southwest. Surrounded by timber, coal, rich agricultural resources, plenty of stone, water, and convenient to both iron and lead, she can not, even if she would, avoid becoming a center of smelting works, rolling mills, and foundries."\(^{47}\)

\(^{46}\) Banwart, *Rails, Rivalry, and Romance*, 134.
In 1873, city leaders began replacing board sidewalks with paved on Market and Main Streets in the business district. Workers completed a fine brick paved sidewalk running from Market Street along the east side of Jones Street to the MKT depot by the end of the year.\(^{48}\)

In the 1870s, Fort Scott had an active gasworks, the Fort Scott Illuminating and Gas Company, which converted the abundant coal in region to gas, tar, and coke. This company had the first franchise for street lights in town. J. W. Pinkston leased the gasworks and sold in the early 1880s to L. K. Scofield. This enterprise ended when a natural gas pipeline was brought to town.\(^{49}\)

By the early 1880s, the town was rapidly expanding and contractors began construction of a municipal water works. This was located next to the Marmaton River between Fourth and Fifth Streets. An earthen reservoir on a hill supplied water by gravity feed to the whole city. In addition to municipal supply and fire protection, the water system became important to the railroads who needed large amounts of water for steam locomotives.\(^{50}\) The first telephone exchange began operation in Fort Scott in 1881. A competitor, the Mutual Telephone Exchange, opened in 1894. By 1905, the two were consolidated as the Missouri and Kansas Telephone Company and the company began an extensive rebuilding program. In 1917 the company was taken over by Southwestern Bell.\(^{51}\)

Mule-drawn street cars operated by the Bourbon County Street Railway Company, were placed in service on September 26, 1883. As soon as the tracks were completed, J. W. Pinkston sold the business to Issac Stradden, who operated a local wholesale grocery business.\(^{52}\) Although the Fort Scott and Suburban Street Railway Company applied for a charter on September 2, 1889 to build an electric powered transit system, the system was not completed until a few years later.\(^{53}\)

The establishment of the street railway system accompanied a building boom in the 1880s. Local investors planned to replace "the decayed frame buildings of small dimensions and diminutive size erected in the pioneer days of Fort Scott." As the Fort Scott Banner reported, "probably never in the history of Fort Scott has spring opened out so auspiciously in all branches of trade as at present. The building boom surpasses anything ever before witnessed. Not less than $200,000 is now being expended on business houses already in process of erection, and possibly not less than that sum in private residences."\(^{54}\)

By 1887, the freight traffic on railroads that ran in seven directions from Fort Scott stimulated the town's prosperity. It had a sorghum sugar factory and a brick factory producing 60,000 bricks a day. Gas wells were being dug throughout the town, hundreds of houses were begin constructed, and there was not one vacant store building in the town. By June, 1887, Fort Scott had become the fourth largest town in Kansas with a population of approximately 14,000 people.\(^{55}\)

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\(^{48}\) Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 66.
\(^{49}\) Calhoun, Fort Scott: A Pictorial History, 92; Campbell and Miller, Historic Reflections, 219.
\(^{50}\) Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 111, 113.
\(^{51}\) Calhoun, Fort Scott: A Pictorial History, 170.
\(^{52}\) Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 117.
\(^{53}\) Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 167, 173.
\(^{54}\) "Local News," Fort Scott Banner 3 April and 10 April, 1884.
\(^{55}\) Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 144, 147.
The boom continued after the Missouri Pacific announced on February 8, 1888, that the Fort Scott machine shops would be the main point of repair and maintenance for equipment on over four hundred miles of railroad. By 1888, Fort Scott had three operating brick yards. Most brick buildings in town used Fort Scott brick, but millions of brick were shipped to other towns. In May, 1888, investors established a new hydraulic cement works north of town on the Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis railroad.

Construction also began in 1888 on an electric light plant (Fort Scott Electric Light and Power Company) at Second and State Streets. After February, 1889, electric lights were common when a transmission network of poles and wire was erected all over town using the same poles as the telephone and telegraph companies. The electric company became Fort Scott Consolidated Service in 1900, Fort Scott Gas and Electric in 1910, and then Fort Scott Utilities. In 1923, the company was renamed Kansas Utilities. In 1952 Kansas Gas & Electric became the electric utility company in Fort Scott.

Fort Scott became a second-class city in 1888 and reached its peak as a first class city in 1888 with a reported population of 16,159 residents. However, the Federal census of 1890 recorded an official population of only 11,942. The period of greatest growth for Fort Scott occurred from 1865 to 1888 with some loss of population at the end of the decade. The boom has ended, but Fort Scott still was a solid city. The town's leading industry was the Missouri Pacific Railroad shops established in November, 1887, and employing over two hundred men by 1893. The shops served several divisions in Missouri and Kansas. Even though the population had decreased, residents of Fort Scott still believed in the potential growth of their town.

At the end of the boom, in an ordinance published on January 2, 1889, city leaders changed the names of several major streets in the downtown district: National Avenue, formerly Jones; Wall Street, formerly Weir; First, formerly Locust; Second, formerly Birch; Main, formerly Williams. Those streets were eventually paved with Fort Scott brick. In 1915, the Fort Scott Brick & Tile Company, which had burned, reopened as Western Shale Products. The company motto was "pave with brick—they outlast the bonds." Most streets in Fort Scott were paved with local bricks and they were shipped all over the country and as far as Panama for construction of the Panama Canal. The brick company produced more than fifty million bricks during its fifty-year operation. The brick company operated from 1888 until it closed in 1936 when the supply of clay finally ran low.

Another indicator of change was the announcement on October 12, 1900 that Grant Hornaday, Fort Scott banker, along with several Davenport, Iowa business associates, would take over the street car system and power plant and proposed to have the cars running by November 1. The company chartered as the Citizens Railway Company had eight and one half miles of electric and one and a half miles of horse track (fairground segment). On January 2, 1901, the Citizens Street Railway was included in a new corporation.

56 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 157
57 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 158.
58 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 161 165.
59 Calhoun, Fort Scott: A Pictorial History, 92.
60 Campbell and Miller, Historic Reflections, 218.
61 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 188.
62 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 283.
63 Campbell and Miller, Historic Reflections, 219-220.
which owned and operated the electric light plant, steam heating plant, and street railway system. Under a new charter, the company became the Fort Scott Gas and Electric Company.

In 1904, automobiles first began to appear on streets of Fort Scott and the effects of this new form of transportation eventually ended the streetcar system and changed the face of downtown Fort Scott. In 1907 local boosters insisted that Fort Scott had a strong commercial and industrial economy for a town of its size. At the time, the town had two daily newspapers, three banks and a building and loan association, four produce companies, a candy factory, two marble works, an overall factory, a mattress factory, two bottling works, three iron foundries, an automobile factory, two steam laundries, two automobile garages, a wholesale saddlemaker, a packing house, two hydraulic cement plants, the largest sorghum syrup works in Bourbon County, two ice plants, a pottery works, and a large flouring mill. Other major businesses were the Central Life Insurance Company, the Fort Scott Wholesale Grocery, the brick and tile plant, and the machine shops of the Missouri Pacific and St. Louis-San Francisco Railroads. Fort Scott had a range of urban services including the Mutual and Bell Telephone Exchanges (reportedly, there were more telephones in use in proportion to its size than any other town in Kansas). The town was lighted by electricity, had natural gas service with thirty-two miles of gas mains, ten miles of sewerage system, and forty miles of water mains. Fort Scott boasted of its street railway, municipal waterworks, YMCA building, opera house, public library, and the best hotels in Kansas.

At the height of this urban development, however, larger economic and demographic forces began to erode the population and prosperity of Fort Scott. The recession of 1907-1908 almost ruined the Missouri Pacific Railroad. The company mortgaged land and laid off thousands of workers. The railroad closed the machine shops in Fort Scott for a week and then hired back only non-union workers. The Missouri Pacific resumed normal operations in July, 1908.

In that same year, the First National Bank of Fort Scott failed and locked its doors on November 21, 1908. The bank president, Grant Hornaday, also was president of the Gas & Electric Company. C. I. Martin replaced Hornaday as president of the street car company and the cars kept running. Two years later, there was much discussion of interurban proposals to link Fort Scott with the coal mining and manufacturing in southeast Kansas but these did not materialize. After financial difficulties beginning in 1914, the streetcar system finally shut down on January 9, 1918. It finally closed because of a decline in ridership as more and more people acquired automobiles. At the same time, because of World War I, the coal needed to generate electricity was in short supply. Without the convenience of streetcars, local residents used the taxicab service that began at this time.

The Borden Condensary plant at Fort Scott opened in 1918 and, with this market, the local milk production industry remained important until the plant closed in the 1950s. In 1930 Bourbon County was a dairy

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64 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 203, 205.
65 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 225.
66 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 232.
67 Campbell and Miller, Historic Reflections, 225.
68 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 245, 247, 255.
69 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 301.
70 Campbell and Miller, Historic Reflections, 233.
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center with many farmers producing milk for the condensary. In January, 1930, the plant shipped 58 cars of canned milk to various parts of the country.71

Another major development in the local economy was the success of two local companies. In 1908, H. L. Stout and P. H. Tiernan organized the Central Life Insurance Company. The first office was located in the rear of a structure on the northwest corner of Wall and National, but the company prospered and built a fine new structure (102 S. National) in 1925.72 In 1910, Oscar Rice, a local auto dealer, decided to organize a company to insure the new machines. The company was chartered as the Western Automobile Indemnity Association in 1914 with local investors. Rice hired E. C. Gordon, Ray Duboc, and Melvin Hurst, added fire and casualty insurance, and grew to be a major company in the nation and a major employer in Fort Scott. The company established its main office in the north half of Scottish Rite Temple building in 1929 and later built a six-story annex across the alley to the west in 1967. Lincoln National Corporation purchased the company in 1987 and moved the operation out of town.73

After World War I ended, the railroad labor unions went on strike for higher wages. A major strike in 1922 actually had a negative effect on the organized workers employed by the three railroads in Fort Scott, especially in the railroad shops. Many were replaced by non-union workers.74

From 1865 to 1954, Fort Scott was a segregated community—parks, schools, churches, business district, swimming pool, and medical facilities. The black business district ran from Scott Avenue on First Street to State Street. Many black families brought to Fort Scott to work on section and steel gangs maintaining the railroad tracks. Gordon Parks, notable photographer and writer, born in Fort Scott in 1912, experienced segregation in 1920s.75

Despite the problems associated with some local industries, the successes seemed to outweigh the problems. Plans for a new Masonic Temple were announced in the Topeka Capital on August 13, 1925. The project was scheduled to start on October 1. The Scottish Rite Cathedral, the southern unit of the monumental building (100-108, 110-114 S. Main) was dedicated November 15, 1926. When the northern unit was completed in 1929, it was considered one of the most magnificent Masonic buildings in the state.76 Another landmark from this period was Memorial Hall (1 East Third). Memorial Hall was built in 1925 as a memorial to those from Fort Scott and Bourbon County who served in World War I. The building was dedicated September 6-8, 1926.77 Another landmark building, the Bourbon County Courthouse, burned in 1929, but the county quickly rebuilt. The new modern courthouse was dedicated and opened to the public on June 12, 1930.

As the automobile became an important mode of transportation, Fort Scott boosters tried to capitalize on their highway connections. In 1915 Bourbon County had fifty miles of hard-surfaced roads. In 1922, boosters promoted Fort Scott’s location on the Great Atlantic and Pacific paved highway (later US 54). By

71 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 331.
72 Calhoun, Fort Scott: A Pictorial History, 84.
73 Campbell and Miller, Historic Reflections, 231.
74 Campbell and Miller, Historic Reflections, 233.
75 Campbell and Miller, Historic Reflections, 228-229.
76 Topeka Capital 14 November 1926.
77 Campbell and Miller, Historic Reflections, 233.
1924, one thousand miles of paved road connected Fort Scott to other towns in every direction. In 1930 Bourbon County had nearly one hundred and fifty miles of paved roads. Local residents promoted Fort Scott as a highway center with four national highways running in four different directions. Highway 73-E was considered "the main artery of auto traffic from Kansas City to the entire southwest." Also, U.S. Highway 54 became popular as an east and west thoroughfare through the state and was surfaced practically all the way from Fort Scott to the Colorado line.

Like other communities, Fort Scott was hurt by the Depression of the 1930s. Companies cut wages, prices dropped, and farmers faced drought. Many businesses failed and hundreds of Fort Scott workers lost their jobs, especially the railroad workers so important to the local economy. In the economic crisis, New Deal programs provided government aid to put Americans back to work. In Fort Scott, the WPA and WPA provided funds for construction of the Eugene Ware School, the junior college wing of the high school, a stadium, band shell, swimming pool, and improvements at Gunn Park. The city constructed a new Marsh Arch bridge over the Marmaton River on Judson Street directly north of the Missouri, Kansas, Texas Railroad depot that opened on March 29, 1933. In 1934 workers took up some brick streets in Fort Scott and removed the streetcar tracks in order to install new water, gas, and sewer lines. The streets then were paved with asphalt. The city constructed a new water treatment plant. Also, bids for a new Federal building and post office to be constructed in downtown Fort Scott were opened on February 1, 1935 that was completed in 1936.

The national economy began to revive in 1939 when war in Europe increased the demand for food and manufactured goods. Railroads prospered, farm prices increased, and the local economy in Fort Scott improved. After World War II ended, however, the economy and population of Fort Scott continued to decline. The Goodlander Flour Mill shut down in June, 1950 because of high production costs and low profits. In 1954 the Missouri Pacific Railroad closed its car and machine shops in Fort Scott. The St. Louis and San Francisco (Frisco) shops in Fort Scott also closed in the 1950s. The Missouri Pacific ended passenger trains in 1958, the MKT in 1958, and the Frisco in 1966.

During the 1950s, local residents began to lobby for the preservation and interpretation of the former Fort Scott military post as a historic site. Early in 1969, the local newspaper reported proudly that the city, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development jointly were planning a major redevelopment of the central business district that would "preserve and enhance the landmarks" of Fort Scott's history as a frontier military outpost. HUD had awarded a grant of more than one million dollars to help plan and rehabilitate Fort Scott's downtown. The city intended to use the grant to rehabilitate the best of the downtown properties and to improve the streets and land use patterns. The planned work included installation of new sanitary sewers and storm drains, construction of off-street parking and traffic

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78 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 313, 317.
80 "Fort Scott A Highspot on Transcontinental Highway," Fort Scott's Business (July, 1930), 3.
81 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 337.
82 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 342.
83 Topeka Capital 6 January 1935.
84 Campbell and Miller, Historic Reflections, 239-240.
85 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 375.
86 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 401, 409, 438.
signals, and the demolition of deteriorated structures. Since the approach to the historic fort area were blocked from view by nineteenth century buildings, the plan called for demolition of those structures to reveal the restored parade ground and associated buildings. Project engineers planned to provide parking for visitors and access to the old military road (now U. S. Highway 69) from the fort site. After the designation of Fort Scott as a National Historic site, fort buildings were reconstructed and the site was restored in the 1970s. The area just north of the present downtown commercial district became a significant visitor attraction.

Some years later, however, local historian Donald Banwart commented that the federal urban renewal program of the 1980s paid owners of old buildings to tear them down. “Many sound and historic old buildings were torn down in the business district of Fort Scott leaving vacant lots not yet filled with any building.” The urban renewal project destroyed approximately eighty-five buildings and considerably diminished the size of Fort Scott’s downtown business district.

Another important economic change that affected downtown Fort Scott was the sale of Western Insurance Company to the Lincoln National Corporation, Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 1987. After the acquisition, Lincoln National closed the Fort Scott offices. As Banwart recalled, “the closing of the Western Insurance Companies downtown caused a number of businesses on Main Street to close. Business development moved from the downtown area south to the area along National Avenue and passed [sic] Fifteenth Street on out Highway 69.” More recently, a fire started in downtown Fort Scott on March 11, 2005 and spread to adjacent properties, damaging nine historic buildings. Despite the cumulative effects of urban renewal and destructive fires, more than eighty commercial and institutional buildings remain in the downtown commercial district and these form the core of the Fort Scott Downtown Historic District.

The population of Fort Scott declined in the twentieth century. As local industries closed and workers lost their jobs, businesses also left the historic commercial buildings in downtown Fort Scott. Today, the establishment of a historic district is a much-needed strategy for local economic revitalization.

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88 Campbell and Miller, Historic Reflections, 241.
89 Banwart, Rails, Rivalry, and Romance, 451.
90 Campbell and Miller, Historic Reflections, 243-244.
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National Register nominations


Union Block, 24 South Main (1971).

Register of Historic Kansas Places

Miller Block, 1-5 South Main (2005) demolished.

Newspapers


VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Fort Scott Downtown Historic District is a roughly rectangular area of approximately nine-and-a-half blocks with irregular boundaries. Beginning at the northeast corner, the boundary runs from the intersection of East Wall Street with the alley between Scott Avenue and State Street two blocks south to the intersection with Second Street, then west on Second Street two blocks to the alley between Main Street and National Avenue, then south one block to Third Street, then west one-and-a-half blocks to the intersection with Judson Street, then north one block to Second Street, then east to the intersection of Second Street with the alley between Judson Street and National Avenue, then north three blocks to Oak Street, then north to correspond with the property lines for 102 N National (inventory #83), then east along the same property line to National Avenue, then south less than one-half block to Oak Street, then east one block to the intersection with Old Fort Boulevard (a diagonal street), then southeast along Old Fort Boulevard one block to the intersection of Wall Street and Scott Avenue, then east on Wall Street approximately one half block to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

District boundaries are based on survey data and recommendations by the staff of the Kansas Historic Preservation Office. The Fort Scott Downtown Historic District includes the central core area of the historic commercial district that developed from 1863 until circa 1970 when an Urban Renewal program demolished a number of commercial buildings to the north and east. Before Urban Renewal, Fort Scott boasted a commercial district of more than thirteen blocks. Historic buildings included in the Fort Scott Downtown Historic District represent the remaining central part of that district which developed south of the old military post and retains the highest degree of integrity. Because of fires and demolition, the surviving historic commercial buildings east, west, and northwest of the district are scattered and several have been altered. There are churches, modern buildings, and residences to the south and a residential district to the west. The existence of historic brick streets within the district adds to the integrity of the overall district — even in the blocks that have experienced alteration and demolition.
PHOTOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Fort Scott Downtown Historic District, Bourbon County, Kansas

Photographer: Brad Finch, Dale Nimz

Location of negatives: Kansas Historic Preservation Office

1. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District1.tif, Southeast corner E. Wall and Scott Avenue, MKT freight depot, view from southwest, 1/24/2009.

2. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District2.tif, 15 S. Scott, Blue Lodge Masons Building, view from west, 1/24/2009.

3. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District3.tif, 101-103 S. Scott, Patterson Building, view from west, 1/24/2009.


5. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District5.tif, Streetscape, east side S. Scott, view from southwest, 1/24/2009.

6. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District6.tif, 121 E. First, Ohio Block, view from east southeast, 1/24/2009.

7. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District7.tif, Streetscape, south side E. Wall, view from northeast, 1/24/2009.

8. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District8.tif, 118 E. Wall, Masonic Hall, view from north, 1/24/2009.

9. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District9.tif, 13-19 N. Main, Star Clothing House, view from northwest, 1/24/2009. [BF photo 95, district #18]

10. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District10.tif, 1-3 N. Main, Van Fossen Block, view from southwest, 1/24/2009.

11. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District11.tif, 117 S. Main, Ingham Building, view from west, 1/24/2009. [BF photo 130, district #30]

12. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District12.tif, Streetscape, east side S. Main, view from south southwest, 1/24/2009.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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13. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District13.tif, Streetscape, 2nd and Main, view from southeast, 1/24/2009.

14. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District14.tif, 126 S. Main, Moody Building, National Register, view from east, 1/24/2009.

15. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District15.tif, 100-108 S. Main, 110-114 S. Main, Scottish Rite Temple, Western Insurance Building, view from northeast, 1/24/2009.

16. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District16.tif, Streetscape, west side S. Main, view from southeast, 1/24/2009.

17. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District17.tif, 18-24 S. Main, Union Block, National Register, view from east, 1/24/2009.

18. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District18.tif, Streetscape, west side S. Main, 2-4 S. Main, Wilder House, in foreground, 1/24/2009.


20. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District20.tif, 24 N. Main, Crain & Nelson Hardware, view from east, 1/24/2009.


22. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District22.tif, 1-11 E. Wall, Millrose Block, view from west southwest, 1/24/2009.

23. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District23.tif, 6 E. Wall, 7 S. National, Tribune-Monitor Building, view from north, 1/24/2009.

24. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District24.tif, Streetscape, east side South National Avenue, 1/24/2009.

25. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District25.tif, 123 S. National, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, view from southwest, 1/24/2009.


27. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District24.tif, 1 E. Third, Memorial Hall, view from southwest, 1/24/2009. [BF photo 79, district #68]


30. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District30.tif, 102 S. National, Central Life Building, view from east, 1/24/2009.

31. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District31.tif, Streetscape, 8-10-12-14-16 N. National Avenue, view from southeast, 1/24/2009.

32. KS_Bourbon County_Fort Scott Downtown District32.tif, 102 N. National, Stout Building, view from southeast, 5/14/2009.
## Property Address | Owner Name | Owner Address | City | ST | ZIP  
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---  
15 S. Scott | William R. Larkin | 14 S. Main | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
207 E. First | Max H. Patterson | P. O. Box 386 | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
101-103 S. Scott | Terry & Linda Lawrence | 103 S. Scott | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
105 S. Scott | City of Fort Scott | P. O. Box 626 | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
111 S. Scott | First Baptist Church | P. O. Box 151 | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
123 S. Scott | JS Real Estate | 123 Scott Avenue | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
108 S. Scott | Bison Brothers LLC | P. O. Box 588 | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
114 E. First | Kancourt LLC | 121 E. First | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
20 S. Scott | James & Lois Shoemaker | 16 Scott Avenue | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
14 S. Scott | James & Lois Shoemaker | 16 Scott Avenue | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
114 E. Wall | Sharon K. Reed | P. O. Box 58 | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
116 E. Wall | Sharon K. Reed | P. O. Box 58 | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
118 E. Wall | Kancourt LLC | 1983 255th Street | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
120 E. Wall | Spencer D. Ernst | 26606 Ziealler Rd | Cleveland | MO | 64134  
124 E. Wall | Kancourt LLC | 1983 255th Street | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
13-19 N. Main | Ethel N. Parsons | 8400 Foster | Overland Park | KS | 66212  
11 N. Main | L. Roxine Poznich | 1102 Wall | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
9 N. Main | Steven & Laura Dunfee | 501 N. Franklin | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
7 N. Main | Eastern Shawnee Tribe | P. O. Box 350 | Seneca | MO | 66485  
5 N. Main | Merle D. Humphrey | 5 N. Main | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
1-3 N. Main | Stephen McGinnis | 111 Orange Tree Lane | Georgetown | TX | 78626  
17 S. Main | Parsons Development, Inc | 14 S. Main | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
19 S. Main | Parsons Development, Inc | 14 S. Main | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
21-23 S. Main | Parsons Development | 14 S. Main | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
105 S. Main | City of Fort Scott | P. O. Box 151 | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
109 S. Main | Addies Place LLC | P. O. Box 588 | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
113-115 S. Main | NS Investments LLC | P. O. Box 588 | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
117 S. Main | His. Pres. Assoc.Bourbon Co. | 1210 S. Main | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
119 S. Main | His. Pres. Assoc.Bourbon Co. | 1210 S. Main | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
123 S. Main | Gary & Susan Hoffmeier | 402 N. Cottowood | Iola | KS | 66749  
126 S. Main | Lloyd Mckenney | P. O. Box 305 | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
122 S. Main | Master Printers, Inc. | P. O. Box 152 | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
120 S. Main | Wallace L. Darling | 1369 Marblecrest Dr. | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
118 S. Main | Roshbrary, Inc. | P. O. Box 208 | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
116 S. Main | Fort Scott Lodge | P. O. Box 789 | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
100-108 S. Main | Scottish Rite Temple | P. O. Box 789 | Fort Scott | KS | 66701  
110-114 S. Main | Scottish Rite Temple | P. O. Box 789 | Fort Scott | KS | 66701
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