

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY:

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

CARTTER BUILDING

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

303 Broadway

CITY, TOWN

Cottonwood Falls

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
No. 5, Joe Skubitz

STATE

Kansas 66845

CODE
20

COUNTY
Chase

CODE
017

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Unified School District 284

STREET & NUMBER

303 Broadway

CITY, TOWN

Cottonwood Falls

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kansas 66845

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Chase County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Cottonwood Falls

STATE

Kansas 66845

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1971

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kansas State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Topeka

STATE

Kansas

017-1170-003

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Cartter Building is a two story native stone structure located on Broadway just south of the Friend street intersection. It is one block north of the courthouse square and in the center of the community's business district. The building faces east and measures 22 feet on the front and 110 feet from east to west. It was constructed to harmonize with the stone bank building to the north that had been built six years earlier.

The main facade, which faces east, has been constructed of cut stone. Originally the building had an open arcade at the ground floor level with a setback store front. The three stone columns which supported the cantilever above have been removed, probably around 1911 or 1912. The space is now filled in with a flush glass facade. There are four tightly spaced segmental arched windows across the second story. Their frames, which are patterned after those on the building to the north, have a dressed stone band that outlines the window. There is a molding at the springing line and a keystone which accents the arch. The sill is supported by stone brackets which align with the frame. The building is crowned with a metal cornice which breaks into a pediment over the center two windows. The name of the owner and the construction date have been embossed in the typanum of this pediment. Although the cornice is not identical to that of the bank, it is very similar.

The other facades have been constructed of coursed rubble. A later one story stone shed added 20 feet to the rear of the building.

The interior has been extensively remodeled and none of the original building fabric is visible.

The Cartter Building is interesting not only because it displays the high level of the local craftsmanship but also because of the owner's desire to harmonize his building with its earlier existing neighbor.

③ SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1888

BUILDER/ARCHITECT David Rettiger

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Together with the adjacent Chase County National Bank, the Cartter Building is a key element in downtown Cottonwood Falls and complements the Chase County Courthouse (already on the National Register) located on the square one block south. The Cartter Building, which displays the quality of the local craftsmen in working the native stone, enriches its environment and forms an important historical link to the past. With the adjoining bank building, which is of similar construction and style, it helps to anchor the major intersection of the town's business district.

The Cartter Building was erected in 1888 for Dr. William H. Cartter, a prominent rancher, stockman, and investor at Cottonwood Falls. Dr. Cartter, together with his father, Judge D.K. Cartter of Washington, D.C., acquired large holdings of Chase county grazing and farm land in the mid-1870's. Dr. Cartter was a trained surgeon but rarely practiced after moving to Chase county. He was widely known for his interest in stock raising and race horses, and he also had a variety of investments in local commercial activities.

In late November, 1887, he purchased a building site on Broadway, the town's main commercial street, for \$750 per frontage foot. He contracted with David Rettiger for the construction of a two story stone building, the front of which was to correspond with that of the adjacent bank building. The estimated cost was \$10,000. By the first of December excavation work had begun and the following week Rettiger and his men were laying stone. Once on December and again in early February, Rettiger's stone-cutters went on strike because he refused to fire a non-union worker who evidently had not completed his apprenticeship but was working at journeyman's wages.

The building was intended to house Smith and Cartter's grocery store. Dr. Cartter was for a time involved in a partnership with William S. Smith. The daily operation of the business was evidently left to a hired manager.

On April 5 it was announced that the Masons and the Odd Fellows would rent the second floor hall of the new Cartter Building for a lodge room. Before the grocery store was moved in, a grand opening celebration was staged in the new building by Dr. Cartter's oldest son, David K. Cartter. Some 300 invitations were sent out and about 500 people came for the festivities, from Topeka, Emporia and Kansas City as well as from throughout Chase county. The first floor was fitted up as a reception room and the second floor, which featured an eight piece band on a suspended platform in the middle of the room, was given over to dancing. A 11 o'clock supper was served in the nearby Central Hotel. The evening was pronounced a great success and altogether the

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cartter, Bruce, A Story of the Wisconsin Cartters (Lake Mills, Wis., Rural Life Press, 1973), pp. 163, 164, 170.

"Castle-like County Courthouse . . .," Wichita Morning Eagle, November 27, 1955.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

UTM REFERENCES

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE Richard Pankratz, Director, Historic Sites Survey
Cornelia Wyma, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION Kansas State Historical Society

DATE March 11, 1977

STREET & NUMBER 120 West 10th

TELEPHONE 913 296-3251

CITY OR TOWN Topeka

STATE Kansas 66612

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Edgar Langford

TITLE Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society

DATE March 25, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. (continuation sheet No. 1)

biggest event of its type the county had ever seen.

Smith and Cartter's grocery opened for business in the new location the first week of June. From contemporary newspaper accounts it appears that David K. Cartter and Sherry "Chick" Smith, sons of the two principals, were taking an active role in the operation of the business. The building was transferred from Dr. Cartter's ownership to his son David on August 23, 1888. The younger Cartter sold it June 1, 1892.

Through the years the structure has housed a number of commercial activities and has been altered on the first floor front. In 1968 it was purchased by the local school board for district offices. Together with the neighboring Chase County National Bank, both of which were built by David Rettiger in a similar style, it presents an architectural link to the 19th century development of the Cottonwood Falls commercial district.

9.

Chase County Centennial (n.p., 1972), pp. 34, 81, 104, 107.

Chase County Historical Sketches, Volume I (Emporia, Kansas, Emporia Gazette, 1940), pp. 57, 391, 392.

Chase County Historical Sketches, Volume II (n.p., 1948), pp. 54-57, 198, 391, 392, 394.

Chase County Leader (Cottonwood Falls), September 1, 1887--June 7, 1888;
January 30, 1890; November 17, 1904.

Ellsworth, D.A., "History of Chase County," Cottonwood Falls Leader, March 4,
May 2, June 10, August 26, October 14, November 4, 1936.

History of the State of Kansas (Chicago, A.T. Andreas, 1883), p. 1358.

COTTONWOOD FALLS QUADRANGLE
KANSAS—CHASE CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

6780 IV NW
(SAFFORDVILLE)

32'30" 177 COUNCIL GROVE 20 MI.
STRONG CITY 1.4 MI. 716 2570000 FEET 718 96°30'
38°22'30"

Carter Building
Cottonwood Falls, Kansas
UTM Reference
14 714760 4249730

