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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 18). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property  
historic name Burlington United States Post Office  
other names/site number Same  

2. Location  
street & number 107 S. Fourth Street  
not for publication  
city, town Burlington  
not for publication  
state Kansas  
code KS  
not for publication  
county Coffey  
code 031  
not for publication  
zip code 66839  

3. Classification  
Ownership of Property  
☐ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☒ public-Federal  

Category of Property  
☒ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object  

Number of Resources within Property  

Contributing  
1 buildings  
1 sites  
1 structures  
1 objects  
1 Total  

Noncontributing  

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0  

Name of related multiple property listing: Kansas Post Offices that contain Treasury  

Department Section Artwork, 1936-1942  

4. State/Federal Agency Certification  

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.  

State Historic Preservation Officer  
December 15, 1988  

Kansas State Historical Society  

Signature of certifying official  

State or Federal agency and bureau  

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.  

Signature of commenting or other official  

Date  

State or Federal agency and bureau  

5. National Park Service Certification  

☐ I, hereby, certify that this 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
The Burlington United States Post Office (c. 1940-1941) is located at 107 S. Fourth Street in Burlington, Coffey County, Kansas (pop. 2,901). The one-story, ridge hipped roof, buff colored brick and limestone building has an eastern facade orientation. The building measures approximately sixty feet from north to south and sixty feet from east to west, with a loading dock projecting from the northern elevation. On the facade elevation four limestone pilasters support the building's limestone entablature, a recessed limestone wall spans the center of the facade. A double door pierces the center of the building's facade, a large transom surmounts it. Two large windows flank the door, standing in the recessions between the pilasters. A smaller, double hung window fenestrates each of the buff colored brick walls that conclude the facade's treatment. Wide steps lead up to the entrance. The building retains its copper roof. While not a large post office, the Burlington post office employs materials that are more elaborate than most of the post offices constructed in Kansas during the 1930s and 1940s and appears to be a class B post office rather than the more common C or D type.

The sculpture "Boy and Colt" was installed on the south wall of the Burlington Post Office lobby above the postmaster's door and the two bulletin boards that flank it. This is the traditional location for Section artwork in the smaller post offices. "Boy and Colt" is an Arizona red sandstone sculpture showing a boy leaning against a colt, with his right arm cradling the colt's neck and his left arm resting on the colt's hind quarters. The boy is sculpted in a frontal view and the colt is sculpted from a side view. The sculpture measures 3' high by 2'6" wide by 1' deep and stands on a pedestal. A cornice moulding runs along the top of the lobby wall.

The sculpture was installed on December 12, 1942. In August, 1973 the sculpture's condition was assessed as good, it remains as such and according to current information has not been restored.
A varnished, wooden vestibule projects into the lobby, but does not obstruct the sculpture. The vestibule is a traditional design feature found in most of the post offices included in this nomination. The building retains its marble wainscotting. The post master's door and bulletin boards appear to retain their varnished wood surrounds. The original hanging light fixtures were replaced with almost flush mounted fluorescent lights in 1964. In 1965 the ell shaped lobby was reduced to a straight rectangle. The original wood floor was replaced with tiles in 1963.
8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:
☐ nationally  ☑ statewide  ☑ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  ☑A  ☐B  ☑C  ☐D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  ☐A  ☐B  ☐C  ☐D  ☐E  ☐F  ☑G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)  Period of Significance  Significant Dates

Art  1942  1942

Politics/Government  1942  1942

Social History

Cultural Affiliation  N/A

Significant Person  N/A

Architect/Builder

Kittredge, Robert: Artist

Simon, Louis: Architect

Rokahr, Ernest and Son: Contractor

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Burlington United States Post Office (c. 1940-1941) is being nominated to the National Register as part of the Kansas Post Office Artwork (1936-1942) Thematic Resources nomination at the local and state levels of significance under criteria A and C for its historical association with the Treasury Department's Section program and for the artistic significance of the sculpture that it contains. The sculpture, "Boy and Colt", was carved by Arizona artist Robert Kittredge in 1942. Because the sculpture is less than fifty years old, criteria consideration G, which allows for exceptional significance in the case of properties achieving significance within the past fifty years, is also a factor. The National Register has identified post offices containing Section artwork as being exceptionally significant if they retain integrity from their period of significance.

"Boy and Colt" is an Arizona red sandstone sculpture showing a boy leaning against a colt, with his right arm cradling the colt's neck and his left arm resting on the colt's hind quarters. The boy is sculpted in a frontal view and the horse colt is sculpted from a side view. It is a very simple sculpture that applies no individual character either to the boy or the colt, allowing each to represent the totality of all boys and all colts. "Boy and Colt" is representative of the social realism that was funded under the Section program.

Kittredge was an Arizona sculptor who was residing in Brandon, Virginia at the time he received the contract for the Burlington Post Office. It is likely that Kittredge did not produce this piece of sculpture specifically for the Burlington Post Office, as it is generic, and was a later commission, coming in the last year of the Section program. Kittredge received the commission on May 29, 1942 and the sculpture was installed on December 12, 1942. "Boy and Colt" was installed on the south wall of the Burlington Post Office lobby above the postmaster's door and the two bulletin boards that flank it. It measures 3' high by 2'6" wide by 1' deep. Kittredge received $900 for the commission. "Boy and Colt" is among a limited number of sculpture that was installed

☐ See continuation sheet
in Kansas post offices. Sculpture was also installed in the Columbus, Fredonia and Salina post offices. The Burlington Post Office appears to be an example of a class B post office that received Section artwork in Kansas.

Please see the Kansas Post Office Artwork (1936-1942) Thematic Resources cover nomination for additional information.
9. Major Bibliographical References


General Services Administration. Treasury Department's Section Records - Burlington, Kansas.

Svedlow, Dr. Anthony V. (Mulvane Gallery, Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas). Personal Interview with Martha Hagedorn-Krass, January 8, 1988.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than 1 acre.

UTM References

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Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is located on Lots 13 and 14, Block 49, Burlington, Kansas. The property is bounded to the east by S. Fourth Street, to the north by a public alley, to the south by Des Moines Street, and to the west by adjacent property lines.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire parcel that is historically associated with the property.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Martha Hagedorn-Krass, Architectural Historian
organization Kansas State Historical Society date December 16, 1988
street & number 120 W. 10th telephone 913-296-5264
city or town Topeka state Kansas zip code 66612