

Inventory Number \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTER OF HISTORIC KANSAS PLACES--COVER SHEET

175-3160-0001 + 0002

Name of Property (Old) Rock Island Depot and Hotel

Location 1 East Railroad Street  
(street and number)

Liberal, Kansas 67901  
(city, town, or vicinity location)

Tract 1, Railroad Addition in the northwest quarter of Section 4, Township 35,  
(legal description) Range 33

Seward County  
(county)

Owner of Property St. Louis Southwestern Railway Company

Southern Pacific Transportation Company, One Market Plaza  
(street and number)

San Francisco, CA 94105  
(city, town, county)

National Register status:

date approved for nomination to the National Register by Kansas Historic  
Sites Board of Review 8-10-81

date entered in National Register \_\_\_\_\_

Description: On the north side of the railroad tracks and east of Liberal's main street,  
Kansas Avenue, the old Rock Island Depot and Hotel buildings are near the southern  
boundary of the town's central business district.

Both buildings are similiar Mission style designs. The depot, which is east of  
the former hotel, is distinguished by a central two-story cross-gable section between  
two one-story wings. The two-story hotel has a rectangular plan. Both buildings have  
concrete foundations, brick walls to the midline of the first story and stuccoed frame  
walls above to the eave. Gable ends terminate in a curvilinear parapet with stepped  
edges. The eaves are extended on exposed rafters and the gable roofs are covered with

red clay tiles. All exterior woodwork is painted white. The most prominent feature  
is a one-story frame verandah on the east, south, and west sides of the hotel building.  
Both buildings have suffered from a lack of maintenance. The depot is particularly  
deteriorated and vacant. The first floor of the hotel building is used for railroad  
offices.

Register of Historic Kansas Places

Significance Built in 1910, the old Rock Island depot and hotel are two of the  
oldest surviving buildings associated with the early history of Liberal, Kansas.  
They also evidence the spread of a regional stylistic influence in the design  
of early twentieth century railroad buildings.

Form prepared by Dale Nimz, Historic Preservation Department date 8-14-81

This property was approved for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places  
by the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review on 8-10-81  
I hereby certify that this property is included in the Register of Historic Kansas  
Places.

  
State Historic Preservation Officer

Aug. 17, 1981  
Date