

Inventory Number _____

REGISTER OF HISTORIC KANSAS PLACES---COVER SHEET

Name of Property John E. Frost House 177.5400. ⁰²⁹⁷ ~~177.5400.~~

Location 935 Western
(street and number)

Topeka, Kansas 66606
(city, town, or vicinity location)

The nominated property stands on the northwest corner of 10th and Western, comprised of Lots 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, and 108 in Young's Addition to the City of Topeka.
(legal description)

Shawnee County
(county)

Owner of Property Charles Kent Pomeroy, Jr.

935 Western
(street and number)

Topeka, Shawnee County, Kansas 66606
(city, town, county)

National Register status:

date approved for nomination to the National Register by Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review N/A

date entered in National Register N/A

Description: See attachment.

Description:

The John E. Frost House (ca. 1888) is located at 935 Western in Topeka, Shawnee County, Kansas (pop. 115,996). The two-and-one-half-story frame, Queen Anne structure stands on the northwest corner of 10th and Western in a mixed-use zone. The structure has an eastern facade orientation.

The John E. Frost House is rectangular in plan but projecting bays make its massing appear asymmetrical. An asphalt shingled gabled roof with cross gables covers the building. The building stands on a cut stone block foundation.

Major alterations to the building's exterior include the replacement of the original roofing material with asphalt shingles, the covering over of the wood siding with asbestos siding, and the shortening of the main chimney on the eastern facade. These changes were made in the 1940s and 1950s.

In 1984, the asbestos siding was removed from the eastern facade, revealing that much of the original fishscale shingling and clapboard siding was still intact. Paint analysis, written sources, and consultation with experts resulted in the selection of the green and red color scheme, an appropriate exterior paint treatment for late Victorian wooden residences.

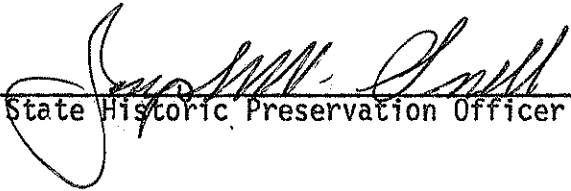
The building's interior exhibits period woodwork in its Eastlake styled staircase, panelled wainscotting, sliding wall doors, and fireplaces.

Although the building has been somewhat altered it still retains a moderate degree of architectural integrity, thus retaining its overall historic character.

Significance See attachment.

Form prepared by Martha G. Hagedorn * date 1-28-86

This property was approved for listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places by the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review on Gilmanville 15, 1986
I hereby certify that this property is included in the Register of Historic Kansas Places.



State Historic Preservation Officer

Feb. 26, 1986

Date

*Based on draft submitted by Charles Kent Pomeroy.

Significance:

The John E. Frost House (ca. 1888) is being nominated to the Register of Historic Kansas Places for its association with John Edward Frost (1849-1921), a prominent land agent with the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway Company, and for its association with Seymour Davis (-1923), the architect responsible for the building's design.

Frost, who studied at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois and Hamilton College in Clinton, New York, became involved with the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway Company's land and immigration work while in Galesburg. He came to Topeka in 1883 upon accepting the position of Chief Clerk in the company's Land Department. He became the General Land Commissioner for the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway Company in 1890 and continued in this capacity until his resignation in 1898.

The Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway Company (inc. 1867) was the major passenger and freight line from Kansas to California in the 1880s and 1890s, promoting settlement throughout the southwest.

Seymour Davis, who served as the Kansas State Architect in the late Nineteenth Century, was responsible for many private commissions in Topeka in addition to the John E. Frost House. These commissions include the Crawford Building and the Columbian Building.