

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name Conway Springs " Spring House"

historic _____

and/or common _____

2. Location West Spring Avenue (city park)

street & number _____

city, town Conway Springs, Kansas _____ vicinity of Conway Springs is located about 25 miles
sw of Wichita

state Kansas code 67031 county Sumner

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name City of Conway Springs, Sumner Co. Kansas

street & number P.O. Box 187

city, town Conway Springs, Ks. _____ vicinity of Wichita state Kansas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. _____

street & number _____

city, town _____ state _____

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title _____ has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date _____ federal state county local

depository for survey records _____

city, town _____ state _____

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

Enclosed with this application are pictures of the Spring House as it currently stands.

The structure itself is a large, conventional roofed shelter supported by four concrete and brick posts. The shelter and posts are in good condition. The concrete retaining walls are in need of repair, however, the flooring in the Spring House is in good condition.

The architecture of the structure represents turn-of-the-century American styling and is compatible with many of the older homes surrounding the park.

The Spring House has not been altered since its construction in the early 1900's. It remains essentially the same as when this structure was built.

The Spring House set on the original site in the middle of the city park and has open and free access to anyone.

Three springs currently flow from the floor and walls of the house and drain out to the northeast.

8. 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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance

The Spring House is significant in the development of the community know as Conway Springs. The Spring House was the reason for and the center of development in the late 1800's and early 1900's.

The architecture of the structure represents turn-of-the century styling which is reflected in many of the homes surrounding the park.

Without the springs in the area and the construction of the Spring House on its current site, the city would in all probability, not be born.

The extremely pure water produced by the springs is the ^{genesis} genesis for a business that still thrives today.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Conway Springs Centennial Edition 1884 to 1984
Conway Springs Star (newspaper)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property one square block
one acre

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mayor A.J. Bozarth

organization City of Conway Springs date _____

street & number P.O. Box 187 telephone (316) 456-2345 2232

city or town Conway Springs, Ks. 67031 state Kansas

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 _____

title _____ date _____

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date _____

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date _____

Chief of Registration

Historic Preservation Department
 Kansas State Historical Society
 120 West 10th
 Topeka, Kansas 66612
 (913) 296-3251

PRELIMINARY SITE INFORMATION QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire is intended to provide preliminary information to the Historic Preservation Department to assist in evaluating a property's eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places and/or the Register of Historic Kansas Places. It is not a nomination form. If, on the basis of this information, the property appears to meet the criteria for the National Register or state register, a nomination form will be sent to you. If you have any questions about this questionnaire, contact the Historic Preservation Department at (913) 296-3251.

Please be sure to include at least two photographs of the property with this questionnaire. In answering these questions, you may use additional pages as necessary. Return the questionnaire to: Historic Preservation Department, Kansas State Historical Society, 120 West 10th, Topeka, Kansas 66612.

1. Name of the Property: Spring House		
2. Address or description of location: City Park (one square block) W. Spring Avenue	3. Original Use: Public water supply	4. Present Use: Picnic Pavilion
	5. Date(s) of Construction and of any major changes: Original construction in 1883 Closed in the 1950's	
6. Name and address of Owner: City of Conway Springs P.O. Box 187 Conway Springs, Kansas 67031	7. Original owner or occupant: Hiram Cranmer	
	8. Architect or builder: Unknown	

9. Why is the property historically or architecturally important?

When homesteaders came to the area in the 1870's, the seven springs were a natural attraction as about the only source of water in the area. Later, Hiram Cranmer, who farmed the land the springs are located on, claimed the spring water had medicinal value. Drinking and bathing in the water was recommended for the benefit of those suffering from the Stomach Ailment, Kidney Trouble and Rheumatism.

People came from all parts of the country to take advantage of these springs. A large hotel, the "Spring Avenue Hotel," was built near the springs to take care of those who came.

In 1909, Conway Springs was awakened to the realization that it had the best water in the United States, 99.99% pure. The site of the water springs was made into a park with the springhouse covering two of the original springs.

10. Briefly describe the property. (Describe the original form and any major changes, inside and out, that may have occurred. Be sure to point out any notable features. If the property includes outbuildings or notable landscape features, mention them also.)

The "Spring House" is located in what is now the city park. Enclosed are pictures of the structure as it has been transformed over the years. The pictures depict more accurately what the structure was like and what it looks like now.

11. Are there plans for the rehabilitation or renovation of the property in the near future? If so, please describe them.

There are no firm plans for renovation at this time, however, the City would like to prevent any further deterioration of the structure and the possibility of extensive renovation in the future should not be ruled out.

12. Is the property endangered? If so, explain.

No

13. Is Register listing being sought for grant eligibility or tax benefits? If so, explain.

Not at the present time.

14. Name, address, and telephone number of person submitting this questionnaire:

Sherrill K. Orr
City Clerk
P.O. Box 187
Conway Springs, Kansas 67031

(316) 456-2345

15. If the person submitting this form is not the property owner, has the owner been contacted and does the owner consent to the consideration of this property for nomination to the National Register?

Contacted: Yes X No

Consents: Yes X No

16. Submitter's interest in the property:

The "Spring House" is an intricate part of the history of Conway Springs. The city would like to do everything possible to preserve the heritage for future generations.

17. Date questionnaire submitted:

December 10, 1984

18. Additional remarks:

See enclosed attachments