NPS Form 10-900
Oct. 1990

OMB No. 10024-0018

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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A) Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-9000a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Porter Hotel

Other name/site number Porter Apartments, 123-0440-0019

2. Location

Street & number 209 East Main Street ☐ not for publication

City or town Beloit ☐ vicinity

State Kansas Code KS County Mitchell Code 123 Zip code 67420

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Richard D. Faulkner DSHPO May 8, 2004

Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Kansas State Historical Society

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of commenting official /Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I herby certify that the property is | Signature of the Keeper | Date of Action

☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
☐ other, (explain:)

Porter Hotel
Name of property

Saline County, KS
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- [x] private
- [ ] public-local
- [ ] public-State
- [ ] public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- [x] building(s)
- [ ] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter Categories from instructions)

Domestic: hotel
Commerce/ Trade: restaurant

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Work in progress

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Modern Movement

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone: limestone
walls Brick
roof Concete; Synthetics
other

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Name of Property Porter Hotel County and State Saline County, KS

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for Natonal Register

☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☐ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

☐ **D** Property has yielded, or likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ **B** removed from it original location.

☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.

☐ **D** a cemetery.

☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☐ **F** a commemorative property.

☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

Period of Significance

1939

Significant Dates

1939- 1954

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Slack, Frank- Architect

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):
- ☐ preliminary determination of individual lising (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ Previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:
- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☒ Other

Name of repository:

Mitchell County, KS Historical Society

Name of Property Porter Hotel County and State Mitchell County, KS

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 1 acre

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	14	576903	4367774
2			
3			
4			

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title Mary Clement Douglas

Organization Historical Matters Date February 2004

Street & number 259 N. Kansas Ave. Telephone 785-827-8029

City or town Salina State KS Zip code 67401-8515

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

name Ivan Haugh, Continental Real Estate

street & number 2909 SW Plass Court telephone

city or town Topeka state KS zip code 66611

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16) U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503

The Porter Hotel is situated mid-block in Beloit's downtown commercial district. The Porter Hotel is a two-part vertical rectangular block of four stories and basement. The style is Moderne and is devoid of ornamentation. The principal southern and secondary western facades are dark multi-colored rustic brick laid in a running bond interspersed every seventh row with a course of Flemish bond. The principal façade faces south and is composed of three bays at street level. The main entry is centered in the southern façade and is covered with a marquee. Adjacent to the entry bay are commercial suites. The western façade features the coffee shop entrance about midway. A marquee extends from the front of the building to the coffee shop entry. The east and north facades are common brick laid in the same pattern as the principal façade. The roof is a concrete deck with insulating foam and rubber covering, about 10 years old. On the roof is the penthouse for the elevator mechanism and stairwell. The cornice is a rectangular concrete slab. The foundation walls are regularly coursed limestone ashlar, locally quarried. Upper floors are residential apartments and guestrooms, adjacent a center hallway. Windows are regularly spaced. Most doors and windows have brick header courses and all have concrete sills. The hotel has been closed since 1999 and is in good condition. Rehabilitation for senior housing is being planned.

The Porter Hotel is one of the east-end anchors of the commercial district. Adjacent on the west is the US Post Office. Adjacent east is an automobile dealership. Across the street, to the south, is the Mitchell County Courthouse. The Porter Hotel and the Courthouse are the largest structures in downtown Beloit. The Porter Hotel dwarfs the Post Office building and its adjacent neighbor on the east. It is more comparable in massing and scale with the Courthouse.

Exterior

On the principal façade, the hotel door is set into a wood casing, and is flanked by two large, single pane windows with transom bar and window above, also set into wood casings. Above the door and windows is the marquee bearing the words, *Porter* on the two sides and *Hotel* on the front. Above the marquee is a vertical projecting sign reading *Hotel*. Neither the marquee nor the vertical sign are the original. Flanking the hotel entry are two commercial suites. The suite on the eastern side has two large plate glass display windows with transom bar and windows above. A door continues this line with a wood frame plate glass door with transom bar and window above. This line of windows continues around the corner of the building to the east façade. The east facade window is three-light plate glass with transom bar and a 2-light transom window above.

The suite on the western side of the entry has 3 large plate glass windows topped by a transom bar and window above. There is no outside entry. All window and door casings are painted wood. On the upper floors, guestroom windows are regularly spaced wood frame 4 light/1 light sash windows with brick headers and concrete sills. The corner rooms have paired windows. Some windows have window screens. All windows were made by Andersen Windows.

The western facade continues the line of the main façade with 2 large display windows with a fixed 3-light transom window over two-light plate glass. A third of the way northward is a wood-framed, wooden door in line with the stairwell windows. Immediately north is the coffee shop entrance, a wood framed glass door flanked by narrow side lights in the same configuration as the plate glass windows with transom bar and window above. Non-functional shutters frame the side lights. A marquee covers the west side windows as far as the coffee shop entrance. The original marquee extended on north as evidenced by the dark stain above the coffee shop windows. North of the coffee shop entrance are two 2-light plate glass windows with a 3-light transom above each. North of the coffee shop is a wood-frame door to the kitchen. On the far northwest corner is a 4 light/1 light sash window in the same style as the hotel guestroom windows. Upper floor guestroom windows are regularly spaced wood frame 4 light/1 light sash windows with brick header courses and concrete sills. A third of the way northward on this façade are stairwell windows, offset midway between floors. Some windows have window screens.

The northern façade features a one story shed expanding across the western two-thirds of the facade. It contains two plain outside service entrances, a 4 light/1 light sash window with concrete sill, a chimney, regularly spaced hotel room windows, and roof drains. The center service door is wood framed and paneled. The west door is wood framed with 6 lights above a panel.

The eastern façade on ground level is comprised, street to alley, of one set of commercial display windows, three 4/1 sash windows, a door between the commercial suite and hotel offices, and a door into the women's restroom. To the rear of this door are three large window openings filled with glass block. Centered in each glass block wall is a casement window and room air-conditioner. The upper floors have regularly spaced 4 light/1 light sash windows. Windows have concrete sills. Some windows have window screens.

Interior

The hotel contains approximately 28,900 square feet plus a full basement of 7200 square feet. On the second, third and fourth floors are 27 apartments and 6 rooms.

The interior of the building has no load-bearing walls. The structural steel framework bears all the weight. The dividing walls are steel wall studding, metal lathe, overlaid with multiple coats of plaster. Floors on the main floor are terrazzo over reinforced concrete. All other floors are concrete covered with carpeting, bought directly from Carolina mills and sewn in place.

The main floor features a small vestibule, lobby, hotel registry and business offices, elevator, stairwells, coffee shop and kitchen, private dining room, and 2 commercial spaces. The commercial suites have entrances from the vestibule. The eastern suite also has an outside entrance. The coffee shop has its own outside entrance as well as an entrance from the hotel lobby. The dining room entrance is from the lobby. The kitchen has an outside entry as well. The elevator was the first installed in Beloit. The lobby retains most of its original light fixtures.

Originally the hotel had 54 guestrooms, and three apartments. Six of the guestrooms had only a water closet and lavatory. The rest had complete bathrooms, many with showers in tub. On the second, third, and fourth floors, the corner rooms had doors connecting to adjacent rooms. The second and third floors each had a small apartment on the west side. The Porter family lived in the third and largest apartment, on the second floor across the entire front of the building. On the second, third and fourth floors were rooms used by traveling salesmen to show their wares. Each room was complete with full or half bath, Murphy-style bed in closet and display space. The residential floors have gum woodwork.

Copper piping and American Standard fixtures were installed through out the hotel. The boiler provided continuous hot water to both radiators and bathroom fixtures. Andersen windows were placed in every window opening. The telephone system is a private branch switchboard with telephone connections, both local and long distance, in each room, the first in Beloit. Window unit air-conditioners were added later. An enclosed steel stairwell runs from the lobby to the roof on the west side of the building, adjacent to the elevator. Another stairwell runs on the east side of the building from the lobby to the basement.

The north third of the basement contains the boiler, a small kitchen, and electrical room. The electrical panel is mounted on a hollow clay tile block dividing wall. A small storeroom used as a liquor locker completes the north portion of the basement. The mechanical room is divided from the basement lobby by a single wooden paneled door. A stairwell from the lobby to the basement enters into the northern room. Dividing the basement approximately in half is the elevator shaft. The elevator extends from roof mechanical penthouse to the basement and opens onto a secondary lobby, lined with stone giving the appearance of rubble. Across from the elevator is a small room once used as a beauty shop. The south third of the basement contains a large room used as a banquet hall and recreation room. Double wooden paneled doors separate this room from the lobby. Its walls are also faced with stone giving the appearance of rubble. The color and texture suggest Dakota sandstone which is plentiful in the area.

Immediately east of the main building is a free-standing ground level annex of 10 rooms, 130 by 14 feet. Its south façade is clad in the same rustic brick, running/Flemish bond as the main hotel. A hip-roofed marquee runs the length of the flat-roofed annex, covering the sidewalk. Windows are metal casements. Each room was equipped with a shower bath, lavatory and toilet. Entry to this course was by way of the hotel lobby. A metal grill work partially encloses the entrance to the annex. The annex was built in 1947 and is slated for demolition.

Known alterations

The original marquee has been altered as has the original hotel sign. The vestibule and office suites have wooden paneling installed over the plaster. Some guestrooms have been connected to make apartments. The coffee shop has been renovated at least twice and is no longer functional.

Summary

The Porter Hotel is in good condition, in need primarily of general maintenance. The exterior of the building retains its original character. The building's interior is substantially the same. Significant character-defining features are intact maintaining the integrity of the historical character of the building's interior.

The Porter Hotel (c. 1939) is being nominated to the National Register under criterion A for its historical association with the growth and development of mid-twentieth century Beloit, Kansas. Built by Mitchell County native W. Earl Porter, the hotel became host to traveling salesmen, tourists, big band era dance bands, conventions, and many Kansas Republican party events during its sixty year history.

US Highway 24, passing through Beloit, Kansas, is a major transcontinental corridor through northern Kansas. Beloit is approximately halfway between Kansas City, Missouri and Denver, Colorado, making it an ideal overnight stopping place for salesmen and tourists. "Big Band" orchestras, traveling between Kansas City and Denver, frequently stopped overnight in Beloit. But Beloit lacked a modern, first-class hotel to accommodate the traveling public.

The national tourism industry was undergoing great change in the early 20th century. The federal highway passing through Beloit, Kansas was originally part of the transcontinental highway called the *Midland Trail*. The Midland Trail was conceived in 1913 to placate Kansas and Colorado towns that had not been selected for the *Lincoln Highway* that ran across Nebraska. Rival trail boosters left motorists uncertain of which route to take. By the 1920's highway officials realized that named trails, supported by entrepreneurial boosters, had outlived their usefulness.

The Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1921 provided funds for 7 percent of each state's road network, and required that three-sevenths of that network being interstate in character. By 1923 the state and federal governments had identified these "main roads" and provided funds on a 50-50 basis to surface these roads. At the same time the number of registered motor vehicles had increased from less than 500,000 in 1910 to over 26 million by 1930.[1] About 1926 the Midland Trail became part of US Highway 40N, the northern route of the former *Victory Highway,* then designated US Highway 40S. By 1936 route 40N was renamed US Highway 24.[2] US Highways 24 and 40 were two of the original 1926 federal highways.[3]

W. Earl Porter, a Mitchell County native, had been a traveling salesman, or drummer, for a number of years. Drummers used to travel the land as wholesale salesmen for commercial houses in major cities. They brought samples of the latest goods to small

town storekeepers.[4] Coming by train and later by automobile, they lived in hotels while out on their circuits.

Tiring of life on the road, Porter became a partner of J. C. Penney, a dry goods magnate, for whom he worked 25 years. Porter held financial interests in and managed J. C. Penney stores in La Grand, Oregon; La Porte, Indiana; and Beloit, Wisconsin, among others. Porter, a frugal man, used his earnings from the J. C. Penney Company to purchase select Mitchell County Kansas farmland. In 1934 Porter was advised to move from Beloit, WI, to a drier climate to benefit the health of his son, Donald. So Porter moved back to his family's farm in Mitchell County, Kansas.[5]

Seeing the need for a modern hotel in Beloit, Porter sold his stock in the J. C. Penney Company to finance the construction of the Porter Hotel. He secured one of the first loans in Kansas from the Small Business Administration, using his Mitchell County farmland as collateral. [6] Porter wanted to accomplish two things with his hotel—boost the local economy, still suffering from the Great Depression, and erect a first-class building for his new business venture.

The Porter Hotel was one of four major construction projects in Beloit started in 1938 and completed in 1939.[7] W. Earl Porter purchased lot nine and the east thirty feet of lot ten in block eleven, known as 209 East Main Street, from the American Legion Post.[8] Actual work on the hotel began on 21 October, 1938.[9]

The hotel excavation was begun October 1938 by Porter himself, using his own farm equipment to dredge the basement. Porter used local labor whenever possible. Local business men working in the building trades used their own crews of men. With the exception of the steel framework, all laborers were from Beloit and surrounding areas.

W. Earl Porter selected Beloit architect Frank Slack to design the Porter Hotel. Porter acted as his own general contractor, but hired Fred Wessling, Salina, as the construction foreman. H. P. Knight, Kansas City, was the steelwork foreman.[10] Mike Shea of Shea and Carper, Beloit, supervised the electricians. Jay Myers Plumbing Company, Beloit, was the plumbing contractor. Myers installed copper piping and American Standard fixtures

throughout the hotel. The boiler provided continuous hot water to both radiators and bathroom fixtures.

The hotel featured local and long-distance telephone service from all rooms and apartments not only to the desk but to the outside through a private branch switchboard. It also had the latest in modern long distance booths, built as a part of the hotel.[11]

The marquees over the main entry and the coffee shop were neon-lighted by the Frank M. Schwartz Neon Sales Company, Concordia, KS.[12] The main entry marquee was sixteen feet wide. The marquee along the west side, leading to the coffee shop outside entrance, covered a six-foot wide concrete walk.

The coffee shop would seat 43 and the adjacent dining room seated about 70 people. The coffee shop featured circular counters, booths, and tables. Porter chose mahogany for the coffee shop furnishings. The coffee shop also had an entry from the lobby. The dining room access was from the hotel lobby.[13]

The hotel had 54 guestrooms, and three apartments. Six of the guestrooms had only a water closet and lavatory. The rest had complete bathrooms, many with showers in tub. (This contrasted with Beloit's other hotel that had only community bathrooms.) Andersen windows were placed in every window opening. Carpets for guest rooms and upper hallways came directly from the North Carolina manufacturers. The guestroom furniture was all solid maple by Permalux, purchased through Fred Raleigh's new home furnishings store.[14] The Otis elevator was the first in Beloit.[15]

On the second, third, and fourth floors, the corner rooms had doors connecting to adjacent rooms for the convenience of family parties. To accommodate the needs of traveling salesmen, suites were set aside for them on the second, third and fourth floors. These suites contained either full or half baths and Murphy beds that could be pulled out of closets after the drummers finished showing their wares to the local merchants.[16] The second and third floors each had a small apartment on the west side. W. Earl Porter and

his family lived in a large apartment on the second floor at the front of the building.[17] This enabled them to give special attention to their guests.[18]

When the Porter Hotel opened for business in October 1939, it was one of the finest between Kansas City and Denver.[19] The business community celebrated its opening with congratulations and special official opening day bargains. The Dickinson Theatre held a premier showing of the picture, "Hollywood Cavalcade" which had its world premier showing in Hollywood October 4. The Chamber of Commerce promoted the banquet on Wednesday night at the Porter Hotel, the day of the formal opening.[20] *The Beloit Daily Call* published a special section Monday, August 9, 1939, devoted to the hotel.[21]

Porter gave tours of his building to anyone who wanted to see it at anytime. From the Aug. 5, 1939 issue of the Beloit Daily Call "Sightseer Goes Up At Porter Hotel...Earl Porter has been personally showing interested persons through the building..." . the hotel was having carpet laid, the furniture had just arrived, plastering was being completed, and the finish floor of the coffee shop was being laid that day. It was far from being open to the public. The hotel was officially opened for business October 11, 1939.

The opening of the Porter Hotel and the new Beloit Municipal Building's auditorium made Beloit the convention center of north central Kansas. The hotel was frequently used by organizations for local, district and state meetings.[22] Among those meeting regularly or having receptions or registration at the Porter Hotel were the Beloit Rotary and Lions clubs, many local social and civic clubs, Kansas State Daughters of the American Revolution, Continental Oil Company, Business and Professional Women's Club, Kansas Industrial Development Commission; Golden Belt and Northwest Kansas Dental Societies; Republican Party District Conventions, and many others not listed here. [23]

Another group that used the Porter Hotel frequently was the traveling dance band. As big-name "swing" bands traveled from Kansas City, Missouri to Denver Colorado, the Beloit Elks Lodge booked them for dances. Donald Porter was the dance chairman and hired the bands, often for half price. Bands led by Frankie Carle, Hale McIntyre, the Dorsey brothers, Tiny Hill, Clyde McCoy and many others stayed at the Porter Hotel. It was just around the corner from the dance site, the Municipal Auditorium[24]

With all this activity, the hotel needed more space. In 1947 Porter was granted a building permit for the construction of ten ground floor guest rooms in an annex just east of the hotel. The free-standing annex occupied a space of 130 by 14 feet. Each guest room was equipped with a shower bath, lavatory and toilet. Entrance to the annex was through the hotel lobby. The exterior brick work matched the hotel's main façade.[25]

Because the Porter Hotel was a popular stopping place on a major highway it attracted the attention of restaurant critic Duncan Hines. Hines developed and nurtured a reputation for unimpeachable fairness and exactingly high standards of quality and cleanliness.[26] Hines was so impressed with the food and service of the Porter Hotel Coffee Shop that he included it in the 1958 edition of his book, *Adventures in Good Eating*.[27] As the sophisticated tourist depended on Hines's book, the Porter Hotel Coffee Shop became a destination for fine dining.

Being prominent local businessmen, the Porters took an active interest in the civic life of Beloit and Mitchell County. W. Earl Porter and his son, Donald, were very active in Republican politics. Earl Porter served as Beloit mayor from 1934 to 1943. Every Kansas governor from Schoeppel [1943-1947] to Bennett [1975-1979] stayed or dined at the Porter Hotel. It was a favorite recreation destination of Frank Carlson [Kansas governor, January 13, 1947, - November 28, 1950, resigned--elected to U. S. Senate]. Various Republican funtions from the local county organization to district and state meetings were held at the Porter Hotel over the years. Don was, at one time, the leader of Young Republicans of Kansas. Don Porter was campaign manager for Republican Don Concannon's unsuccessful bid for the governorship in 1974.[28]

But being good businessmen, active in politics, could not save the Porter's hotel from major changes in traveling patterns. As the Interstate Highway system moved traffic to freeways and manufacturers quit sending out salesmen, the hotel began a slow transformation from hotel to a residential retirement community. Twenty-eight apartments were eventually created from the 54 rooms. Florence Naismith, the widow of Dr. James Naismith, moved from Lawrence to Beloit to retire to the Porter Hotel.

Then, in the late 1980's, changes in property tax levies completed the transition from hotel to apartment house. State-mandated property tax re-appraisal sent the hotel's annual tax liability from $3,500 to $14,500. The Porter Hotel could stay in business only if it ceased to operate as a commercial building, in effect, closing the ground floor businesses. The upper floors would then be considered residential. Between 1989 and 1990, the Porter Hotel became the Porter Apartments. [29] Don Porter closed the Porter Apartments in the fall of 1998 or 1999. In 2004 Continental Real Estate, Inc., Topeka, Kansas, purchased the Porter Hotel for rehabilitation into senior housing.

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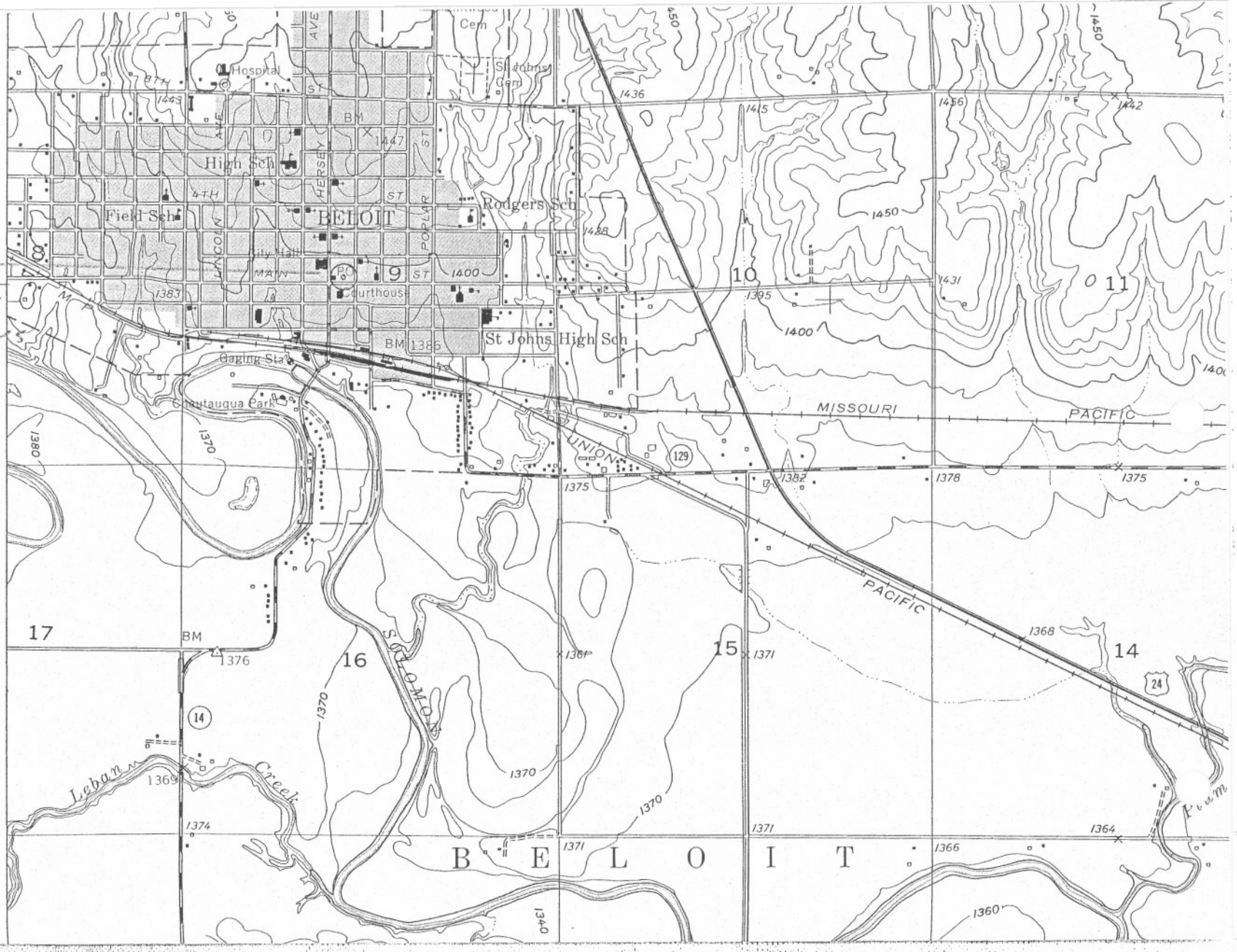
[1] Weingroff, Richard F., From Names to Numbers: The Origins of the U.S. Numbered Highway System (Federal Highway Administration, <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure/numbers.htm.)
[2] Kansas Highways Routelog, US 40.
<http://www.route56.com/highways/highways.cgi?hwy1=40&hist=1>. See also Route 40N/Route 40S. <http://www.route40.net/history/40n-40s.shtml>
[3] End of U.S. Highway 24. <http://www.geocities.com/usend2029/End024/end024.htm>
[4] Robert E. Gould, *Yankee Innkeeper*, The Library of Congress Learning Page: Oral History lesson. <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/oralhist/rgould.html>
[5] Interview with Donald Porter (1217 North Mill Street, Beloit, Kansas), by Mary Clement Douglass, 29 July 2003. Transcript held in 2004 by Douglass (259 North Kansas Avenue, Salina, Kansas). See also W. Earl Porter obituary, undated clipping from unidentified newspaper, Mitchell County Historical Society (400 West Eighth Street, Beloit, Kansas) vertical file. Mr. Porter died 13 July 1964. See also Combine Demonstration at Porter's Saturday, *Beloit Daily Call*, 6 July 1939.
[6] Interview, Donald Porter, 20 July 2003.
[7] Building Boom Gets Under Way, *Beloit Gazette*, 27 October 1938.
[8] Mitchell County Kansas Register of Deeds, Deed Record No. 56, page 140. See also *Beloit Gazette*, 4 August and 11 August, 1938.
[9] First Ground Broke for Hotel October 21, 1938, *Beloit Daily Call*, 9 October 1939.
[10] Beloit's New Hotel, *Beloit Daily Call*, Beloit, Kansas, 12 January 1939, unknown page and column.
[11] Installing New Telephone Systems, *Beloit Daily Call*, 27 April 1939.
[12] *Beloit Daily Call*, special edition, 9 October 1939, advertisement for FMS Neon Sales.
[13] Dining Room Service at the Porter Hotel, *Beloit Gazette*, 12 October 1939.
[14] New Porter Hotel Shows Beloit's Progressiveness, special edition, *Beloit Daily Call*, 9 October, 1939.
[15] Sightseer Goes Up At Porter Hotel, *Beloit Daily Call*, 5 August 1939.
[16] Robert E. Gould, Yankee Innkeeper, The Library of Congress Learning Page: Oral History lesson. <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/oralhist/rgould.html>

[17] Sightseer Goes Up At Porter Hotel, *Beloit Daily Call*, 5 August 1939. See also Porter Sign Placed Today, *Beloit Daily Call*, 8 August 1939; Girl About Town is a Recent Caller at the New Porter Hotel, *Beloit Gazette*, 17 August 1939; Beloit Is Proud of the New 50-room Porter Hotel, *Beloit Gazette*, 12 October 1939.
[18] Interview, Donald Porter, 20 July 2003. See also Don Porter "It Seems to Me…", *Beloit Daily Call*, 28 January, 2000.
[19] Beloit Is Proud of the New 50-Room Porter Hotel, A Gala Opening for Porter Hotel, Dining Room Service at the Porter Hotel, Modern 'Phone System In New Porter Hotel, A Comprehensive Statement on the Hotel Construction, *The Beloit Gazette*, Beloit, Kansas, 12 October 1939. There were also many congratulatory advertisements from the suppliers of building materials scattered through this issue of the newspaper. See also, Interview, Donald Porter, 20 July 2003
[20] C. of C. Backs Banquet For Hotel Opening, *Beloit Daily Call*, 6 October, 1939.
[21] Merchants Unite To Officially Open New Hotel, *Beloit Daily Call*, 5 October, 1939.
[22] Beloit Is Proud of the New 50-room Porter Hotel, *Beloit Gazette*, 12 October 1939.
[23]See other listings on sheet entitled, "Organizations meeting at the Porter Hotel", Continental Company Is Host At a Dinner, *Beloit Gazette*, 31 October, 1940; B. P. W. Meeting, *Beloit Gazette*, 21 November 1940; Lions Club Observes Second Anniversary, *Beloit Gazette*, 18 January 1940; 14 May 1940; 7 March 1957;
[24] Interview, Donald Porter, 20 July 2003. See also selected newspaper advertisements for American Legion and Elk's Lodge dances, *Beloit Gazette*, and *Beloit Daily Call*. See also page entitled Selected bands playing at the Municipal Auditorium and probably staying at the Porter Hotel."
[25] Ten Room Addition for Porter Hotel, *Beloit Gazette*, 30 October 1947.
[26] Louis Hatchett, *Duncan Hines: The Man Behind the Cake Mix*, (Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 2001). Advertisement <http://www.mupress.org/webpages/books/hatchett2.html>.
[27] Duncan Hines, *Adventures in Good Eating* (Ithaca, NY: Duncan Hines Institute, Inc., 1957), page 137.
[28] Interview, Donald Porter, 20 July 2003. Don Concannon, Hugoton, Kansas, was Republican Party Chairman beginning in 1968.
[29] Southwestern Bell Telephone Company directories for Beloit, 1988-1989 and 1990-1991. See also Donald Porter, "It Seems to Me…", 25 September 1998, *Beloit Daily Call*.

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property stands on Lot 9 and the East 30' of Lot 10, All in Block 11, City of Beloit, Mitchell County, Kansas. The property is bounded to the south by Main Street, to the east and west by adjacent property lines, and to the north by an alley.

Boundary Justification

The boundary contains all property historically associated with the Porter Hotel.

Porter Hotel
Beloit Quad 27'30"
UTM Coordinates
14 576903
4367774