NPS Form 10-900
Oct. 1990

OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER
LISTED

OCT 16 2008

# 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** Lion Block
**Other name/site number** 135-3960-0001

## 2. Location

Street & number 216 West Main ☐ not for publication
City or town Ness City ☐ vicinity
State Kansas Code KS County Ness Code 135 Zip code 67560

## 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.)

Patrick Zollner 9/3/08

Patrick Zollner, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer 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:)

Lion Block
Name of Property

Ness County, Kansas
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)

COMMERCE / TRADE: specialty store
SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

**Current Functions**
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT / NOT IN USE

## 7. Description

**Architectural Classification**
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate

**Materials**
(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation: STONE: Limestone
Walls: STONE: Limestone

Roof: ASPHALT

Other:

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

Lion Block
Name of Property

Ness County, Kansas
County and State

## 8. Statement of Significance

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

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1887

**Significant Dates**

1887

**Significant Person**
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Tilley, Henry

## 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 listing (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:

State Historic Preservation Office

Lion Block
Name of Property

Ness County, Kansas
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** less than one acre

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

| | Zone | Easting | Northing |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 14 | 420840 | 4256385 |
| 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 A. Bain

Organization _____ Date 20 May 2008

Street & number 103 S. High Telephone 758-788-3971

City or town Ness City State KS Zip code 67560

## 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 Mark D. Bain

Street & number RR1, Box 78 Telephone 785-398-2229

City or town Brownell State KS Zip code 67521

**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

## NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Lion Block is located at 216 West Main Street in downtown Ness City. The two-story late 19th century commercial building faces south toward the Ness County Courthouse and is joined by a party wall with the McFarland Block to the west. Both the Lion and McFarland buildings date to 1887. Together, these two buildings stand alone on the north side of the courthouse square. This nomination includes only the Lion Block.

*Exterior*

The Lion Block is a Victorian-era two-part commercial block in downtown Ness City. The building is rectangular in massing, and its two principal facades (south and east) meet at a canted entrance on the building's southeast corner. The building has a variety of types of windows including large fixed storefront panes, 1/1 and 2/2 double-hung wood windows. The 2/2 windows – of which there are very few – appear to be the original windows. The principal exterior material is smooth-cut limestone blocks, accented by highly decorative carved stone lintels and quoining. A round arch, carved stone pediment marks the building's canted corner entry. The sidewalk in front of the building is set back allowing for access to basement storefronts.

The building features two storefronts with iron framing[1] that flank a central staircase entrance to the second floor. Each storefront features the original recessed, double-door entrance with a covered transom. Tall display window openings flank each entrance, but have been partially covered where panes are missing. A tall, four-pane wood transom window tops the recessed single-door entrance to the second floor. The west storefront is slightly wider than the east storefront.

The building's second story is faced with native smooth-cut limestone resembling bricks and also highly decorative carved stone accents. There are six round-arch, 1/1, double-hung wood windows with carved stone lintels and window hoods. The corners are defined by raised, carved stones that create a quoining effect. They are not arranged symmetrically, but rather are arranged according to interior needs. The west bay contains three windows, with the center window being slightly bigger. A single window is located above the central entrance leading to the second floor. The east bay contains two equally sized windows. The parapet wall includes highly decorative carved stone that reflects the incredible craftsmanship of area stonemason Henry Tilley.[2] Tilley utilized a variety of shapes and designs in his stonework including circular and triangular motifs. Centrally located atop the parapet wall is a carved lion (by Tilley) for which the building is named. Triangular stone carvings are on either side of the lion. The building's construction date (1887) is listed directly beneath the lion. The accent stones are made of a slightly lighter color limestone that contrasts nicely with the primary façade limestone.

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[1] The cast-iron storefronts are stamped "Capital Iron Works – Topeka Kan". The company was established in 1876 by Cyrus K. Holliday, the founder of Atchison, Topeka and the Santa Fe Railroad, and is still in business.

[2] Henry Tilley's house was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2006. It is located at 108 West 2nd, Ransom, Ness County, Kansas.

The building's southeast corner is canted and also features impressive stonework. This canted corner includes a single-door basement entrance, a fixed, multi-paned, full-story window on the first story, and a single round-arch, double-hung wood window with a decorative stone lintel. The parapet atop this canted corner captures the skill of the stonemason in a carved sunflower. The corners are accented by slightly raised decorative quoining.

The east elevation is completely exposed and faces an alleyway. The east elevation has been parged with a cementious stucco material. Four rectangular double-hung wood windows define the upper story. The first story includes small, fixed rectangular wood window near the front of the building and a single wood door with a transom. This entrance sits about three feet off the ground and there are no steps to provide access.

The rear or north elevation of the building also has been parged with a cementious stucco material. There are several areas where the parging has failed due to heavy water leakage from the roof and limestone blocks are exposed or collapsed. There are two single-door openings on the first level and one single-door opening on the second story. The remnants of a wood staircase or ladder lead up to the second story entrance. Several second story windows are evident, but have been parged over. There is a single-story, shed-roof addition with a concrete foundation and metal siding located on this elevation, but it appears to be attached to the rear of the adjacent McFarland Block.

*Interior*

The interior of the Lion Block includes two first-floor storefront and commercial spaces. The original cast-iron storefronts and display window frames are intact. The two spaces, which are connected by a arch opening or pass-through, are largely open and extend to the rear of the building. The first-floor spatial arrangement of the original interior, which consisted of retail space, is still defined. Some of the plaster walls are extant, but the majority of the walls have been taken down to the wood lathe or framing. Some walls have been covered with sheetrock in more recent years. Other intact historic materials on the first floor include the wood floors, some tin ceiling tiles, and the original storefront doors and display windows.

The second floor of the Lion Block consists of three spacious areas as well as several rooms of smaller dimension including a kitchen, two bathrooms, and several closets. Both stair landings are sizeable with accommodating hallways. Intact original materials include some window and door trim, tin ceilings, wood floors, plaster walls with varying layers of wallpaper, and interior doorways. Some rooms feature lowered ceilings made of some sort of wallboard. Many of the interior doorways are topped with a transom window, several of which still retain the original glass and brass hard ware. A double swinging wooden door opening to the kitchen area has been affixed with quite large and distinctive brass fittings that most certainly were indigenous to that era and style of interior decor although covered with several coats of paint, and they are quite outstanding. A large archway connects the furthermost two west front rooms. Here the woodwork is also intact. However, on one side it has been covered with painted wallboard. While much of the original oak flooring is intact, some areas have been painted or covered with linoleum.

*Summary*

The Lion Block retains a great deal of original fabric, but is in need of structural support as evidenced by the failing rear wall. The roof needs to be replaced to prevent water penetration and further deterioration before the rear wall can be repaired.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lion Block (1887) is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its architectural significance as a good local example of Italianate commercial architecture in a small Kansas town. The building is made of regional materials and area stonemason Henry Tilley contributed his artistic talents to make this building one of the most unique and decorative in Ness City.

*Contextual History*

Ness City was founded in 1878 by Richard Dighton and was incorporated in 1886 just prior to the arrival of the Santa Fe Railroad. A brief building boom occurred during the mid-1880s with the coming of the Santa Fe Railroad, and by 1890 the town's population was 869.[3] [4] Land agents and loan companies were multiplying and offices and stores could scarcely be built fast enough to accommodate the businesses coming in. The boom continued in 1887. In April there were 62 buildings under construction in Ness City. It was during this same time that the Lion Block was being constructed. This building pre-dates the well known and National Register-listed Ness County Bank building that sits one block east and was erected in 1890.

Larger western Kansas towns like Garden City and Dodge City built street rail and water works systems during this period to compete for business and residents as the railroads developed. Smaller towns like Ness City were not immune to this early development. As a town with less than 1,000 people in 1887, Ness City leaders were already planning a "$25,000 waterworks and a street railway."[5] Historian Craig Miner suggests small town boosters and newspaper editors hardly needed to embellish the raw statistics of the land rush and that previously isolated regions were suddenly gaining the attention of speculators.

> Railroad projectors, railroad land agents, and registers and receivers at new public land offices, working in and through new towns and revitalized older towns, contributed mightily to creating in western Kansas of 1886-1887, for the first and last time in its history, the gaudy atmosphere of high boom.[6]

By the close of the 1880s, the courthouse square was faced on two sides with solid blocks of two-story commercial buildings.[7] Early founder Ross Calhoun had donated this land for a courthouse in 1880, but it was not erected until 1917.[8]

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[3] Frank Blackmar, Kansas: *A Cyclopedia of State History*... vol. 2 (Chicago: Standard Publishing Co., 1912), 352. Accessed online at: http://skyways.lib.ks.us/genweb/archives/1912/n/ness_city.html
[4] M.D. Millbrook, *Ness Western County Kansas* (Millbrook Printing Company, 1955), 119.
[5] *Ness City Times*, 12 August 1886, 21 July 1887, and 22 September 1887. As quoted in Craig Miner, *West of Wichita: Settling the High Plains, 1865-1890* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1986), 207-8.
[6] Miner, *West of Wichita*, 202-203.
[7] Ibid, 130.

*Property History*

The Lion Block was erected in 1887 during this economic boom time. Local newspapers from that year provide colorful accounts of the progress of the buildings construction and opening. The earliest newspaper articles refer to the building as the Lion Block – referencing the carved stone lion atop the parapet – or the Shepard Brothers Block. The Shepard Brothers financed the construction of the building to house their photography studio. They expected the building to be completed and occupied by August 15, 1887.[9] An early sketch of the Lion Block appeared in an 1887 publication entitled *Handbook of Ness County, Kansas*. The sketch depicts the building as "Shepard's Art Gallery", with the west storefront housing the post office. Other early businesses occupying the Lion Block included a land office operated by McCartney and Busick,[10] George O. Hunt and Company dry goods, [11] and J.E. Reid Dry Goods to name a few.[12] The Ness City Baptist Church, which organized in June 1900 with 29 charter members, first met on the first floor of the Lion Block[13] as did the Boy Scouts during the 1920s and early 1930s.[14]

Stephen A. Shepard was an accomplished photographer and artist who, along with his brother, financed the construction of the Lion Block to house his studio and collection.[15] He married Lulu F. Frothingham of Ness City in 1889. Having lived a number of years in Ness City, he died in Great Bend on November 19, 1903 at age 52 leaving behind his wife, young daughter, and grown son.

According to an undated history compiled by longtime area resident Mabel Maranville Hoss, whose father and grandfather belonged to the local IOOF Lodge, the second story of the Lion Block served for many years as the meeting space for the lodge beginning in about 1900. This lodge was organized on December 27, 1879 in the new Masonic Hall at Sidney, and by 1885 was meeting at the Ness City Opera House building. She recalled that the IOOF met on Mondays and that they were active in helping their neighbors, uplifting the sick and dying, and assisting with funerals and burials of the dead. They organized social functions to raise money for their endeavors. The second floor of the Lion Block was the setting for many social functions including soups and suppers, dances, and meetings. The Lion Block was sold to Donald Bain in 1973, and the organization then met at the Old Christian Church building.[16]

The second floor was also the meeting place for other organizations and events including extension unit and Farm Bureau meetings, receptions, and family and class reunions. The Clod Hopper Dance Club

[8] Ibid, 98.
[9] *Ness City Times*, 1887, page 76.
[10] Mary Lou Hall, *Early Day Businesses of Ness City, Kansas* (Sir Speedy Printing, 1995), 67.
[11] Ibid, 57.
[12] Ibid, 47.
[13] M. D. Millbrook, *Ness Western County Kansas*, Millbrook Publishing Company, page 217.
[14] Interview with Bob Gantz, Ness City, Kansas May 16, 2008.
[15] C.S. Burch, *Burch's Handbook of Ness County, Kansas*, Chicago, Illinois: C.S. Burch Publishing Company, 1887, page 11.
[16] Mabel Maranville Hoss, *The Lions* [sic] *Block* (unpublished manuscript, Ness County Historical Society, undated). Copies filed with National Register nomination files, Kansas State Historical Society.

began hosting dances at the Lion Block in the late 1930s. Local resident Al Hass recalled the events in an interview: Music was provided by local citizens, among them Paul and Tony Haas and the Bayless Family of Jetmore. Most played the fiddle or other type of stringed instrument. An old piano, abandoned long ago, still stands in one of the upstairs rooms. Al Haas, brother to Tony and Paul recalls that many good times were had at those dances. Square dances, round dances, waltzes, and polkas were popular. Generally, a fee of 25 cents was charged for each person. Those attending typically provided coffee and desserts. The dances commenced at 7 PM, at 9:30 they paused for refreshments, and then continued dancing until about 11. No alcohol consumption was allowed and if one elected to leave, they were not permitted to come back that night.[17]

Interestingly, several area residents including Bob Gantz recalled that school classes were held in the Lion Block because their school was overcrowded and their new school building was being constructed. The students were primarily in the lower grades – one through eight. Although Gantz was not able to recall the specific dates, he believes it most surely would have been during the time the courthouse was being constructed across the street (1917).[18] Chester Barrows, Milton J. Baer, and Chesney Floyd recalled going across the street at recess and watching dirt being removed by horses and slips in preparation for the construction of the courthouse.[19] Local historian Mary Lou Hall's book suggests classes were held in the southeast corner of the building and that the city library occupied the southwest corner for several years.[20]

*Henry Tilley, stonemason (1844-1915)*[21]

Henry Tilley was born in Ware, Somerset, England, on July 26, 1844. He immigrated with his family to Iowa in 1857. It is recorded that he joined the Iowa Cavalry in 1863 and was honorably discharged in 1865. After his two years in the Cavalry, Henry returned to Pocahontas County, Iowa, where he homesteaded 160 acres. In 1866 Henry married Isabel Hancher. And in 1873 he and Isabel, with their two children, moved to Ness County, Kansas. Henry learned the trades of stone cutting and masonry from his father, Mathew Tilley.

In 1879 Henry Tilley bought a quarter section near the town site of Schoharie in Ness County, Kansas. Schoharie was an early community in Ness County, consisting mainly of a post office and a school. The post office existed only between 1881 and 1889. Henry's father and mother came from Iowa and bought a portion of Henry's land and Henry helped his father build a house there. The *Walnut Valley Times* on September 20, 1879 reported, "Mr. Mathew Tilley has his splendid mansion on River Street newly enclosed. Go that way and see what Henry and his father can do and if you want a fancy job you will know you can find a workman that can do it." The house featured a rose design on the gable end and the

[17] Interview with Al Haas, Ness City, Kansas, May 16, 2008.
[18] Interview with Bob Gantz, Ness City, Kansas May 16, 2008.
[19] Mabel Maranville Hoss, *The Lions* [sic] *Block* (unpublished manuscript, Ness County Historical Society, 1993). Copies filed with National Register nomination files, Kansas State Historical Society.
[20] Hall, *Early Day Businesses of Ness City, Kansas*, 88.
[21] Information about Henry Tilley taken from "Tilley House" National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 2006.

date 1879. It is believed that Henry also built a house on his land during this time. Page 214 of Minnie Millbrook's Ness, Western County, Kansas, shows the "home of early day settler, Henry Tilley" as a modest, stone structure. In 1881 both Mathew Tilley and Henry Tilley sold their land and their houses to Moses Langellier, and the families returned to Iowa.

According to his declaration for pension, submitted in 1912, Henry returned to Kansas for one year in 1884 before returning to Iowa again in 1885. However, he may have returned between 1885 and 1887 as he is cited as the builder of several other stone buildings in Ness County during those years. Letters written from both Henry and Isabel to Isabel's mother in Iowa and also letters from Isabel to Henry describe the tough times the family was experiencing during these moves. Henry was a farmer and a stonemason, but it was difficult to earn a living in the slow economy of that newly settled part of Kansas. Henry and Isabel had five children in all. It is not known if Isabel and the children accompanied Henry on all of these moves between Iowa and Kansas. Henry was definitely settled in Ness County, Kansas, by 1897. The family moved to Ransom, in Ness County in that year and lived there till Henry died in 1915.

Henry Tilley had his own stone quarry southwest of Ransom and he used that stone to build several stone buildings in the business district of Ransom. These included two banks, the S & D Mercantile (1900), and the Scherzinger Mercantile. These buildings composed nearly the entire west side of the business district of late 19th century Ransom, Kansas. Henry Tilley also built the Ransom Grade School (1902) and the Christian Church (1904). Unfortunately, the Tilley House is the only remaining example of his work left in Ransom.

Elsewhere in Ness County, Henry built the "Lion Block" on the town square of Ness City in 1887. He also built the New York House near Schoharie townsite. The limestone New York House was originally built in 1881 as the home of Levi M. Bice but also served as a hotel, store, and post office. Henry Tilley also enlarged a stone stable for Bice. He also built the Benjamin VanVolkenburg home near Schoharie in 1890.

An interesting comment on Henry Tilley's skill as a mason can be found on pages 246-247 of Minnie Millbrook's account in *Ness, Western County, Kansas*. "Ness County first displayed its products at a Western Kansas fair held in October 1886 at Garden City with exhibits from fourteen other counties. The Ness display, which won first prize of a silk banner and $150 in cash…consisted of a stone house built of four different kinds of building stone, which abound in the county. The words 'Ness County' were neatly cut in the stone over the door, the whole structure being the work of Henry Tilley of Schoharie. The whole exhibit required seven teams to haul it to Garden City."

Henry and Isabel lived in the Tilley House at 108 West 2nd in Ransom from the date it was built in 1898 until their deaths. Henry died in 1915 and Isabel in 1933.

*Italianate Architecture*

The Lion Block is significant as an example of commercial Italianate architecture. The Italianate style was popular nationwide from 1840 through the boom years of the mid-1880s, spurred on by popular pattern books such as those published by Andrew Jackson Downing. The style was applied to both residential and commercial architecture. Commercial examples, such as the Lion Block, were built in Kansas through the boom years of the 1880s. Character-defining features of commercial examples include the following features found on the façade of the Lion Block: 2-story rectangular massing, tall and narrow window openings with arched tops on the primary facades, a substantial cornice, and 1/1 double-hung wood windows.[22]

[22] See Viriginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Knopf, 2002) and Richard Longstreth, *The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture* (New York: Alta Mira Press, 2000).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Blackmar, Frank. *Kansas: A Cyclopedia of State History*... vol. 2. Chicago: Standard Publishing Co., 1912. Accessed online at: http://skyways.lib.ks.us/genweb/archives/1912/n/ness_city.html

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Hall, Mary Lou. *Early Day Businesses of Ness City, Kansas.* New Windsor, NY: Sir Speedy Printing, 1995.

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Longstreth, Richard. *The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture.* New York: Alta Mira Press, 2000.

McAlester, Viriginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses.* New York: Knopf, 2002.

Millbrook, Minnie Dubbs. *Ness Western County Kansas.* Detroit, Michigan: Millbrook Printing Company, 1955.

Miner, Craig. *West of Wichita: Settling the High Plains, 1865-1890.* Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1986.

NEWSPAPERS

*Ness County News*, August 1887; July 12, 1890, December 10, 1898.

*Ness County Times*, August, 15, 1887.

*Walnut Valley Sentinel*, July, 30 1887.

INTERVIEWS

Gantz, Bob. Personal Interview with Mary Bain, Ness City, Kansas, May 16, 2008.

Hoss, Al. Personal Interview with Mary Bain, Ness City, Kansas, May 16, 2008.

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Original Town, Block 6, Lots 17 and 18.

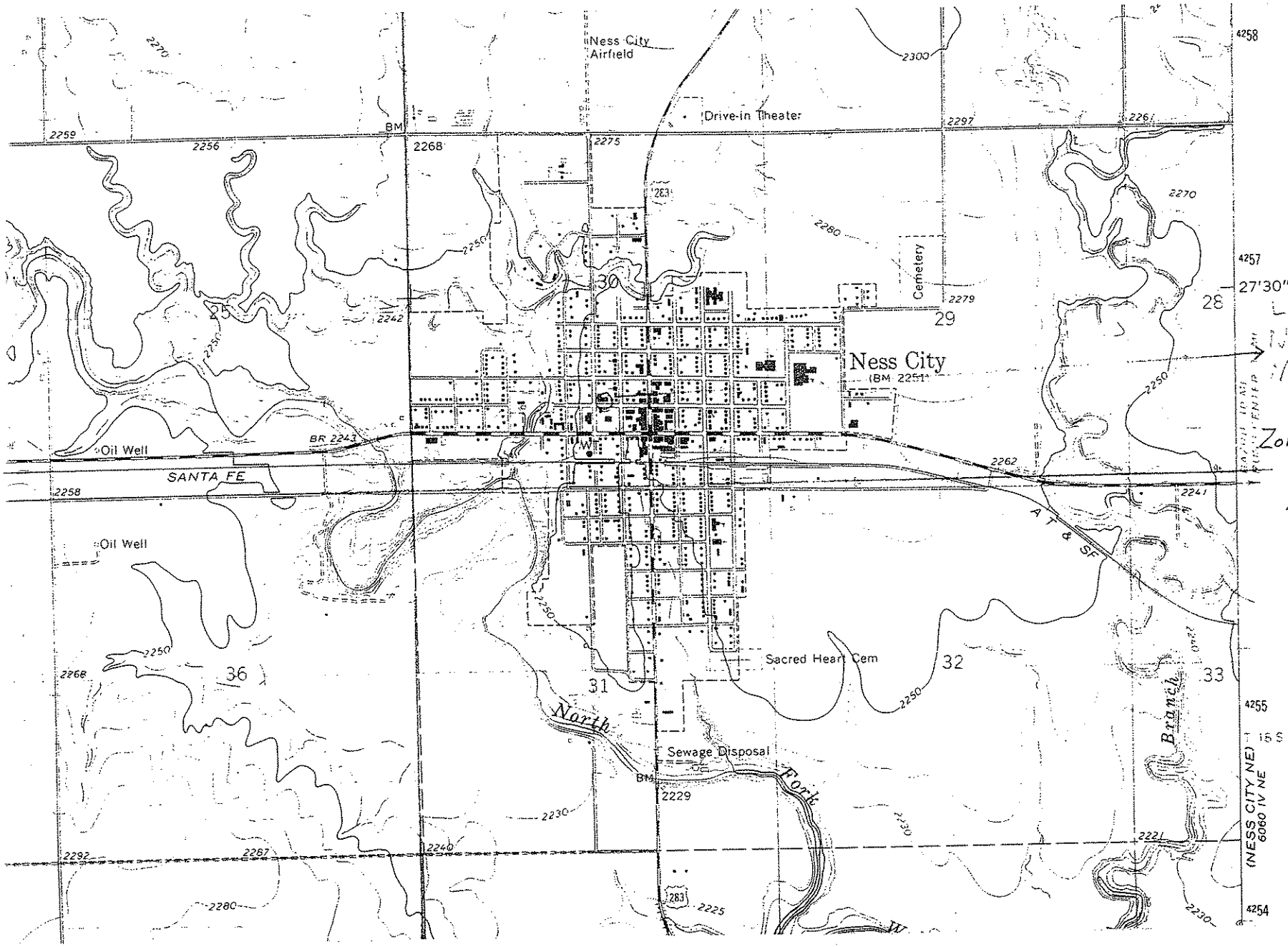
## BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property includes the parcel historically associated with the Lion Block.

## PHOTOGRAPIC INFORMATION

Property Name: Lion Block
Location: 218 West Main, Ness City, Ness County, KS
Photographer: Sarah Martin
Date: January 2008

Photo 1: South (front) elevation showing entire front façade, facing N
Photo 2: Southeast corner showing front and side elevations, facing NW
Photo 3: South (front) elevation showing second story of façade, facing N
Photo 4: Southeast corner showing second story of canted corner, facing NW
Photo 5: Southeast corner showing second story parapet stone of canted corner, facing NW
Photo 6: Southeast corner showing arched top of basement entrance, facing NW
Photo 7: North (rear) elevation, facing S
Photo 8: East (side) elevation, facing SW
Photo 9: South (front) elevation showing close-up of iron storefront framing, facing N
Photo 10: Interior, west storefront space facing front of building, facing S
Photo 11: Interior, west storefront space facing rear of building, facing N
Photo 12: Interior, second floor showing canted corner, facing SE


Ness City Airfield
Drive-in Theater
Cemetery
Ness City
(BM 2251)
Oil Well
SANTA FE
Oil Well
Sacred Heart Cem
Sewage Disposal
North Fork
Branch
AT & SF
27'30"
Lion Block
Ness City
Ness Co. Ks
Zone 14
420840 e
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(NESS CITY NE)
6060 IV NE