Kan. Cong. Dist. No. 4
Garner Shriver

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

SELGEM

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries – complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
Kansas	
COUNTY:	
Sedgwick	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

173-5880-006

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Arthur W. Kincade House

AND/OR HISTORIC: Henry J. Allen House (preferred name)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 255 North Roosevelt

CITY OR TOWN: Wichita

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Kansas 67208	20	Sedgwick	173

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☒ Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☐ Public XX Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	XX Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☐ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☒ No

PRESENT USE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

☐ Agricultural	☐ Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☐ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☒ Private Residence	☐ Other *(Specify)*	
☐ Educational	☐ Military	☐ Religious		
☐ Entertainment	☐ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Arthur W. Kincade (Chairman Emeritus)

STREET AND NUMBER: Fourth Financial Corporation
P. O. Box 1090

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE
Wichita	Kansas 67202	20

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Register of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER: Sedgwick County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
Wichita	Kansas 67203	20

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Federal Writers' Project of the Work Projects Administration

DATE OF SURVEY: 1939 ☒ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Records destroyed. A guide book, Kansas, was published in 1939.

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE

STATE:	COUNTY:	FOR NPS USE ONLY
Kansas	Sedgwick	ENTRY NUMBER / DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	XX Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	☐ Altered	☒ Unaltered		☐ Moved	☒ Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL *(if known)* PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Henry J. Allen house is an L-shaped two-story structure with a basement. This large "Prairie" style residence designed by Frank Lloyd Wright measures approximately 125 feet long east to west while the one-story north-south wing is about 90 feet long. There is a courtyard on the north side of the main section of the house which is enclosed by the building on the south and east, by a garden teahouse on the west and by a massive brick wall on the north. Designed as a part of the total environment, the courtyard contains a rectangular pool and extensive plantings.

The exterior walls are of yellow-buff brick laid with the vertical joints cut flush and the horizontal joints deeply raked. Ornamental stone trim is used extensively throughout the building, especially for column bases, window sills and planter boxes. Geometric patterns are prominent on the stone columns. Brick pilasters are used to separate each window or door opening and provide a vertical contrast to the strong horizontal lines of the house.

The roof features broad sweeping overhangs, giving a protective feeling, and shelters the windows below from the sun and rain. The roof is a low pitch hip style covered with massive red clay tiles.

All the windows are rectangular and open out as casements. The window frames are wood and painted dark brown. Colored glass is used decoratively in many of the windows.

Carvings and decorations are continued from room to room and area to area. The tile of the patio is extended into the long living room in the north-south wing, thus bringing "the outdoors into the indoors," which was a novelty at the time the house was built.

The house shows the influence of Japanese design and is regarded by some authorities as part of a transitional period while Wright was going from his "Prairie House" era to his "Imperial Hotel" style. Elements of both are said to show through the Allen house design, especially in the low, clean lines and the use of skylights and clerestories.

The simple geometry of the building, the sweeping roofline and the integrated courtyard make it one of the outstanding twentieth century residences in Kansas.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- [ ] Pre-Columbian
- [ ] 15th Century
- [ ] 16th Century
- [ ] 17th Century
- [ ] 18th Century
- [ ] 19th Century
- [x] 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)* 1917-1919

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

Aboriginal
- [ ] Prehistoric
- [ ] Historic

- [ ] Agriculture
- [x] Architecture
- [ ] Art
- [ ] Commerce
- [ ] Communications
- [ ] Conservation
- [ ] Education
- [ ] Engineering
- [ ] Industry
- [ ] Invention
- [ ] Landscape Architecture
- [ ] Literature
- [ ] Military
- [ ] Music
- [ ] Political
- [ ] Religion/Philosophy
- [ ] Science
- [ ] Sculpture
- [ ] Social/Humanitarian
- [ ] Theater
- [ ] Transportation
- [ ] Urban Planning
- [ ] Other *(Specify)*

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Henry J. Allen house in Wichita has the distinction of being the only residence in Kansas designed by the prominent American architect Frank Lloyd Wright. Construction of the house, which began in 1917 and was completed in 1919, was supervised by Wright who was in Wichita periodically during that time. The structure is considered by some architectural historians to be the last of his famous "Prairie Houses." Wright also planned the landscaping, furniture and appointments for the house.

The residence was built for Henry J. Allen, one of Kansas' most influential twentieth century statesmen. Besides attaining prominence as a journalist and acquiring an interest in several major Kansas newspapers, Allen was governor of the state from 1919 to 1923 and served as a United States senator in 1929 and 1930. He was also a prominent figure in national Republican party affairs.

The Allens occupied the house until the late 1940's. Later it was sold to Edgar H. Adair, a rancher and oil man. After Adair's death in 1964, his widow and family continued to live in the house until 1970. In April, 1971, the home was purchased by Arthur W. Kincade, a prominent Wichita banker, who spared no effort or expense to restore the house to its original state.

The Henry J. Allen house merits National Register listing because it is the last of Frank Lloyd Wright's "Prairie Houses" and because it is the only Wright-designed residence constructed in Kansas.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Form 10-300a
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Kansas	
COUNTY	
Sedgwick	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

9. The National Cyclopedia of American Biography (New York, James T. White and Co., 1955), v. 40, pp. 26, 27.
Whiffen, Marcus, American Architecture Since 1780 (Cambridge, Mass., The M. I. T. Press, 1969), pp. 201-207.
Wichita City Directories (assorted publishers, 1918-1969).
Wright, Olgivanna Lloyd, Frank Lloyd Wright: His Life, His Work, His Words (New York, Horizon Press, 1966).

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Downs, Winfield Scott, editor, Encyclopedia of American Biography (New York, American Historical Co., 1952), pp. 32-37.

Federal Writers' Project of the Work Projects Administration, Kansas--A Guide to the Sunflower State (New York, Viking Press, 1939), p. 303.

Hanna, Charles, "Local Frank Lloyd Wright house . . .," Wichita Harper's Journal, March 27, 1971.

History of Kansas Newspapers (Topeka, Kansas State Printing Plant, 1916), pp. 90-92.

The Life-Work of the American Architect Frank Lloyd Wright with Contributions by Frank Lloyd Wright (Santpoort, Holland, C. A. Mees, 1925), pp. 35, 36.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY						OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	37	41	23	97	17	31
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: One acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Charles L. Hall, Architectural Consultant
Richard D. Pankratz, Planner

ORGANIZATION: Kansas State Historical Society

DATE: July 14, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth Street

CITY OR TOWN: Topeka

STATE: Kansas 66612

CODE: 20

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name: Nyle H. Miller
Nyle H. Miller

Title: Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society

Date: July 18, 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS