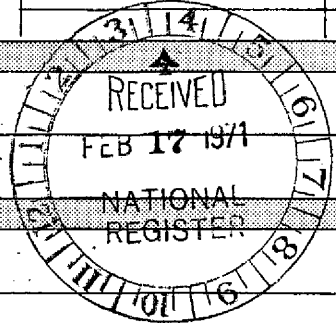


PH 55-111

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
 INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

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



715-20,0026 5/4/71

**1. NAME**

COMMON: (William Allen) White House

AND/OR HISTORIC: Red Rocks

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: 927 Exchange St.

CITY OR TOWN: Emporia

STATE: Kansas	CODE: 66801	COUNTY: Lyon	CODE: III
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME: William L. White

STREET AND NUMBER: 927 Exchange St.

CITY OR TOWN: Emporia

STATE: Kansas	CODE: 66801
	20

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Register of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER: Lyon County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Emporia

STATE: Kansas	CODE: 66801
	20

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration

DATE OF SURVEY: 1939

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

STREET AND NUMBER: in 1939.

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE: DATE:

STATE: Kansas  
 COUNTY: Lyon  
 ENTRY NUMBER: 715-20,0026  
 DATE: 5/4/71  
 FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

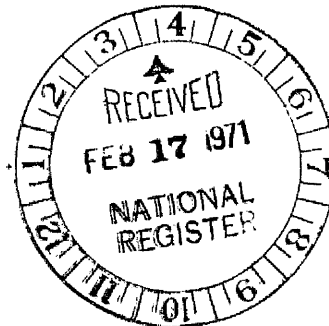
7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The William Allen White House (Red Rocks) is a three-story masonry and frame building surrounded by stately elms and shrubbery. The first story is of red rough-hewn Colorado sandstone while the second story is built of matching red brick. The third floor is of wood frame and half timber construction. The building is rectangular with a hexagonal bay on the northeast corner where the living room is situated. The house has a steep intersecting gable roof covered with slate shingles. There are three dormers on the south side and one on the north to break the roof line. The two chimneys are ornately capped with corbeled brick detail. The north front entrance is sheltered by a small gabled porch, not so steeply pitched as the roof of the house. All windows of the house are rectangular; the third floor windows and those on the second floor above the north entrance are casement, while the remainder are double hung. A colonnade, garden, and courtyard are located south of the house.

After a fire in the early 1920's, the first floor was restored from a new design by Frank Lloyd Wright. The exterior was also modified and the colonnade and sunken courtyard were added.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

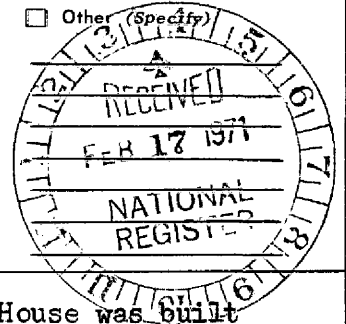
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) built 1880's, purchased by White 1900

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Science              |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture            |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater              |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature/Journalism | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation       |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military                         |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                            |   |  |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The house now known as the William Allen White House was built in the 1880's for Judge Almerin Gillette, a wealthy Emporia lawyer and cattleman. It was built partly of brick and partly of stone from the Garden of the Gods in Colorado. Because of Gillette's financial reverses, the house came into the possession of a mortgage company from whom White purchased it in 1900 for \$6,000. In the early 1920's it was damaged by fire, and the restoration was based on plans drawn for White by Frank Lloyd Wright. The rear courtyard with its colonnade and the living room are said to show best the Wright influence.

William Allen White (1868-1944) was born in Emporia and grew up in Eldorado, where he first worked in a newspaper office. After attending the College of Emporia and Kansas University, he worked on newspapers in Eldorado and Kansas City.

In 1895 he bought the Emporia Gazette. He first gained national prominence with his editorial "What's the Matter with Kansas," which was widely circulated by the Republicans in the election campaign of 1896 as an anti-Populist, anti-Bryan tract. Besides writing for the Gazette, he wrote short stories, novels, magazine articles, and political literature, as well as his autobiography. He received the Pulitzer prize for the best editorial article written in 1923.

In 1899 White called himself "an uncompromising Republican." But when the national Republican party split in the 1912 convention, he joined Theodore Roosevelt's Progressives, and in 1924 he ran for governor as an independent to fight the Ku Klux Klan influence in Kansas.

William Allen White was a many-sided person: a friend and confidant of Presidents, a power to be reckoned with in Kansas Republican politics, a crusader and reformer, a local editor boosting his community and his state, and a spokesman for middle class, small town America.

His influence far transcended that of any other small town newspaperman. Publisher of the Gazette for over 40 years, his writings on national and international issues received attention in all parts of the country.

Because of the importance of William Allen White to journalism and politics, his house is considered worthy of nomination to the National Register. The fact that Frank Lloyd Wright's plans were used in the restoration of the home would bring added significance since Wright designed very few Kansas buildings.

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Clymer, Rolla A., "Thomas Benton Murdock and William Allen White," Kansas Historical Quarterly, v. 23, no. 3 (Autumn, 1957), pp. 248-256.  
 Drury, John, Historic Midwest Houses (Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press, 1947), pp. 214-216.  
 Hinshaw, David, A Man from Kansas (New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1945).  
 Johnson, Walter, "William Allen White: Country Editor, 1897-1914," Kansas Historical Quarterly, v. 15, no. 1 (February, 1947), pp. 1-21.  
 Rich, Everett, William Allen White, the Man from Emporia (New York, Farrar and Rinehart, Inc., 1941).

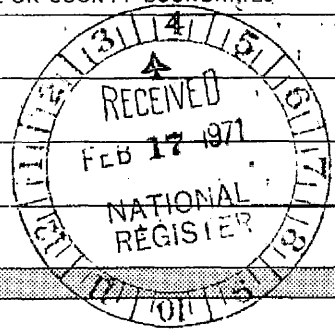
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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	0 0 0	0 0 0		38 24 31	96 10 30	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1

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: Richard Pankratz, Planner

ORGANIZATION: Kansas State Historical Society DATE: December 1, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth St.

CITY OR TOWN: Topeka STATE: Kansas 66612 CODE: 20

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**      **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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  
 Title Executive Secretary, Kansas State Historical Society  
 Date December 30, 1970

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

Paul A. Donnelly  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
 MAY 14 1971

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:  
William Neustach  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 APR 8 1971

Date \_\_\_\_\_

14/746690/4854720

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

12-11-71

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Kansas	
COUNTY	Lyon	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	71530.0026	DATE
		3/14/71

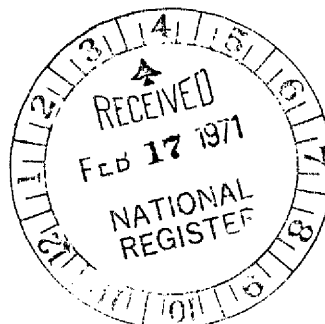
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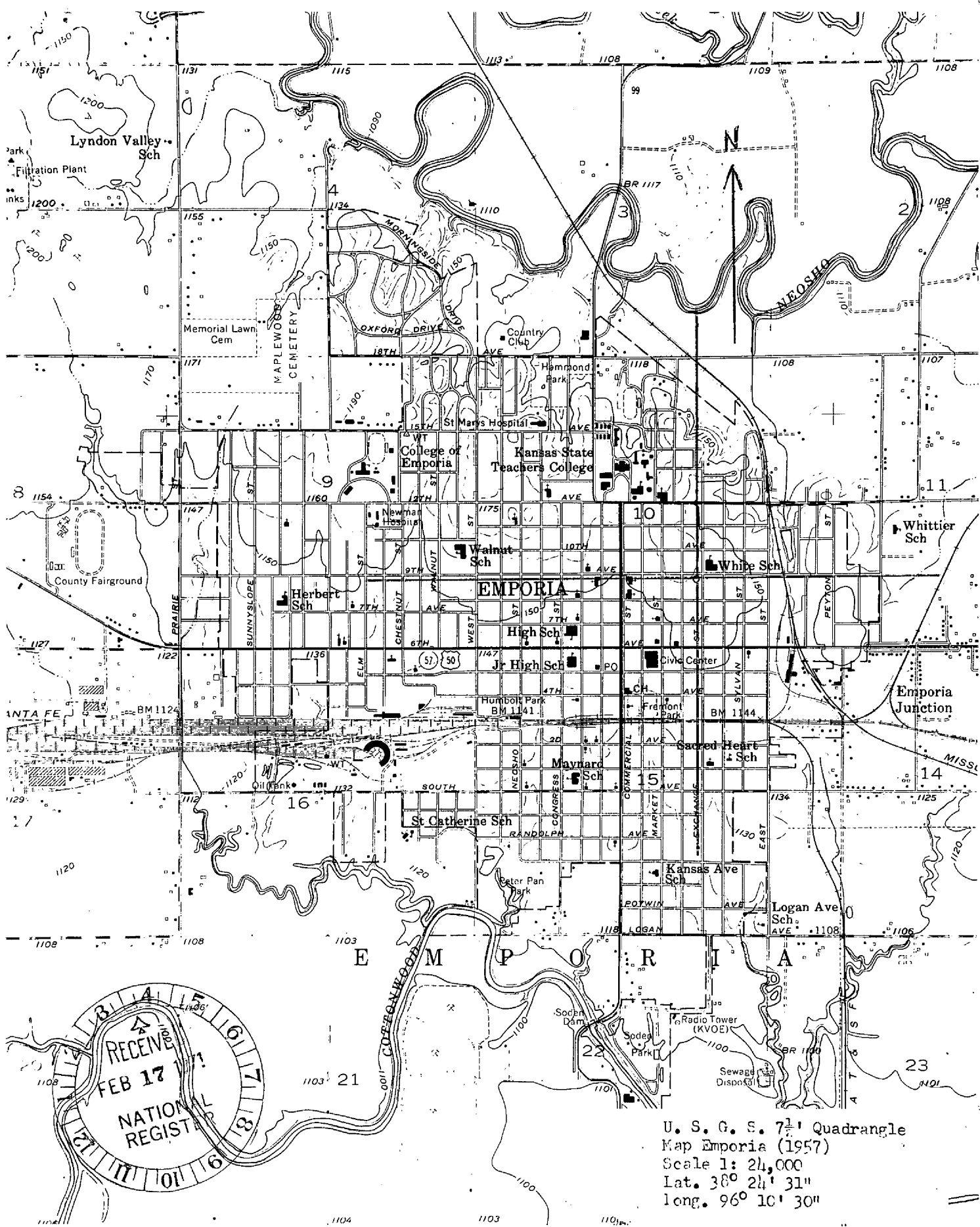
6. National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings (federal)  
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
801 19th St., N. W.  
Washington, D. C. Code: 11

Survey of Historic Sites and Structures in Kansas (state)  
1957  
Kansas State Historical Society  
120 West Tenth St.  
Topeka, Kansas 66612 Code: 20

9. White, William Allen, "Autobiographical Material," Manuscript  
dated June 5, 1899, in the Kansas State Historical Society  
library.

White, William Allen, The Autobiography of William Allen White  
(New York, Macmillan Co., 1946).





U. S. G. S. 7 1/2' Quadrangle  
 Map Emporia (1957)  
 Scale 1: 24,000  
 Lat. 38° 24' 31"  
 long. 96° 10' 30"

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Kansas	
COUNTY Lyon	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

71.5.20.0036 5/14/71

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: William Allen White House  
AND/OR HISTORIC: Red Rocks

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
927 Exchange St.

CITY OR TOWN:  
Emporia

STATE: Kansas 66801	CODE 20	COUNTY: Lyon	CODE 111
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3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:  
U. S. G. S. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' Quadrangle, Emporia

SCALE: 1: 24,000

DATE: 1957

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

