

Historic Resources Intensive Survey of Post Rock Limestone Properties in Lincoln, Mitchell, Rush, and Russell Counties, Kansas



Prepared For
Kansas State Historical Society
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INTRODUCTION

Post Rock Limestone originates from the Fencepost bed, the topmost layer of the Greenhorn Limestone Formation that spans through 18 counties in North Central Kansas, colloquially referred to as “Post-Rock Country.” This Fencepost bed is characterized by its uniformity of thickness, typically between eight and twelve inches, visible brown streaks caused by limonite stain, and pliability when freshly quarried.¹ Slabs of the material often stretched for miles, making for a relatively easy quarry and shaping process, provided availability of the proper tools – the feather and wedge.²

North Central Kansas was once a wide-open landscape, covered in tall grass prairie. This Post-Rock Country is comprised of Republic, Jewell, Osborne, Mitchell, Cloud, Ottawa, Lincoln, Russell, Ellis, Ness, Rush, Barton, Ellsworth, Pawnee, and Hodgeman counties.³ In the 1860s and 1870s, the landscape began to shift as the railroad crossed Kansas and settlers moved into the area. The Homestead Act of 1862 provided settlers with 160 acres of government land, bringing an influx of European Americans west. Land disputes arose in central and western Kansas between Native Americans, cattlemen, and settlers. The railroads spurred on development, encouraging new settlements along their routes, and an agricultural economy to fuel their shipping trade. Homesteaders faced harsh conditions in central Kansas including droughts, blizzards, tornadoes, prairie fires, swarms of grasshoppers, and loneliness in an unfamiliar environment. Not all, but enough settlers persisted that most counties in central Kansas had been organized by the end of the 1870s.⁴

Unrest in Europe brought many immigrants to America in the 1870s. Encouraged by stories of success in the west, promotion by the railroad companies, and the various government land offers, many immigrants settled in Kansas, including those of Swedish, Dutch, Norwegian, Scottish, and English descent.⁵ As these settlements became established, permanent stone structures began to emerge with Post Rock Limestone as the primary material. The early migrants to central Kansas struggled to make their homesteads into permanent settlements. Most pioneers were not farmers and resources were limited. With timber a scarcity, the earliest dwellings were built from prairie sod or clay molded into bricks. However, settlers soon discovered the merits of the abundantly available limestone material, usage of which occurred extensively as the region became more populated. Post Rock Limestone was employed for the construction of dwellings, agricultural buildings, commercial buildings, sidewalks, hitching posts, and fence posts from which the material’s name originates. Early farmers, tending and forming their lands, conflicted with cattlemen who were accustomed to giving their herds free range, which necessitated installation of fencing around property boundaries. As a result, Post Rock and barbed wire became the primary fencing method in Central Kansas.⁶

Established in 1869 by Lutheran Danish immigrants, the city of Denmark, in Lincoln County, reflects its ethnic history through the Post Rock Limestone church built during the first decade of settlement. In 1914, the town of Round Springs, in Mitchell County, constructed a Post Rock building meant to serve as a nondenominational church and community hall. This chapel building and nearby cemetery are all that remain of the town. The town of Liebenthal, in Rush County, was established in 1876 by a group of Volga Germans, or Russian-Germans (descendants of Germans who had migrated from Germany to Russia in

the 1760s). This group of settlers soon spread out and established nearby settlements with additional churches constructed of Post Rock Limestone.⁷

Central Kansas experienced a population boom beginning in the 1880s, and by that time, Post Rock limestone had proven its usefulness and versatility. After 1900, the need for efficient transportation increased, and Post Rock was used to build sturdy and lasting stone arch bridges. While expensive, the durability of these bridges was worth the price. By World War I the process had advanced enough so that building blocks were often smoothed on all faces or rusticated on the exposed side of the block. At this time, however, the frequency of Post Rock construction began to diminish. Transportation improvements provided for easier access to timber and other building construction materials, and a reduction in cattle grazing, as more of the area shifted to growing crops, similarly reduced the need for new agricultural fences. A resurgence of the material occurred in the 1930s when the Works Progress Administration commissioned schools, libraries, municipal buildings, bridges, and park shelters made of Post Rock.⁸

PREVIOUS POST ROCK SURVEY EFFORTS

In 2019, the Lucas Grassroots Center initiated a campaign to document Post Rock resources. This volunteer effort focused on the collection of images and any known documentation, with much of the imagery attributed to photographer Greg Rud. This 2019 information is available in the Kansas Historical Society (KSHS) Kansas Historic Resources Inventory (KHRI) via the search phrase “Kansas – Post Rock Resources Survey (2019)” under “Survey Project, Statewide and KDOT Projects.” Within the KHRI, approximately 182 Post Rock sites are attributed to the 2019 campaign, primarily regarded as reconnaissance level data in need of intensive level documentation and evaluation. Prior to the current intensive level survey effort, analysis of the KHRI database revealed that most of the known Post Rock buildings, structures, and objects were constructed prior to 1910 (**Figure 1**). The available data is reflective of the known history of Post Rock and settlement patterns and construction methods that characterize the North Central Kansas region.

INTENSIVE LEVEL POST ROCK SURVEY

At the request of the KSHS, with funding from a Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) grant, Urbana Preservation & Planning completed an intensive level survey of 50 Post Rock Limestone properties within Lincoln, Mitchell, Rush, and Russell Counties, which form the nucleus of the Greenhorn Limestone Formation. The intensive level survey effort is accompanied by preparation of a Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) intended to support future registration and inclusion of Post Rock properties on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and the Register of Historic Kansas Places (RHKP).

This survey report summarizes the methods and findings of Urbana’s intensive level survey effort including Post Rock property typology, location and distribution of surveyed properties, eligibility conclusions, and recommendations for future identification, registration, and treatment efforts. This report is prepared to conform to the *HPF Grant-Funded Survey Requirements* and is prepared by 36 CFR Part 61 qualified historians and preservation planners Alexandra Baker, MCP, Douglas Kupel, Ph.D., and

Wendy L. Tinsley Becker, RPH, AICP. Field survey work and KHRI forms were prepared by Alexandra Baker, MCP with support from Ashley Losco, MSHP.

This survey effort meets *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation Planning*. Identification of significant sites was undertaken in order to document findings and inform the MPDF, a historic context statement for Post Rock Limestone properties (Standard I). Based on the findings to-date, this survey report includes prioritized recommendations relating to future identification, evaluation, registration and treatment of Post Rock properties (Standard II). The results of this project will be presented to the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review for integration into the broader planning processes (Standard III).

Historic context and in-depth architectural and historical analysis are excluded from the body of this summary report and are instead included in the KHRI Forms / Database submission provided to KSHS, and in the accompanying MPDF.

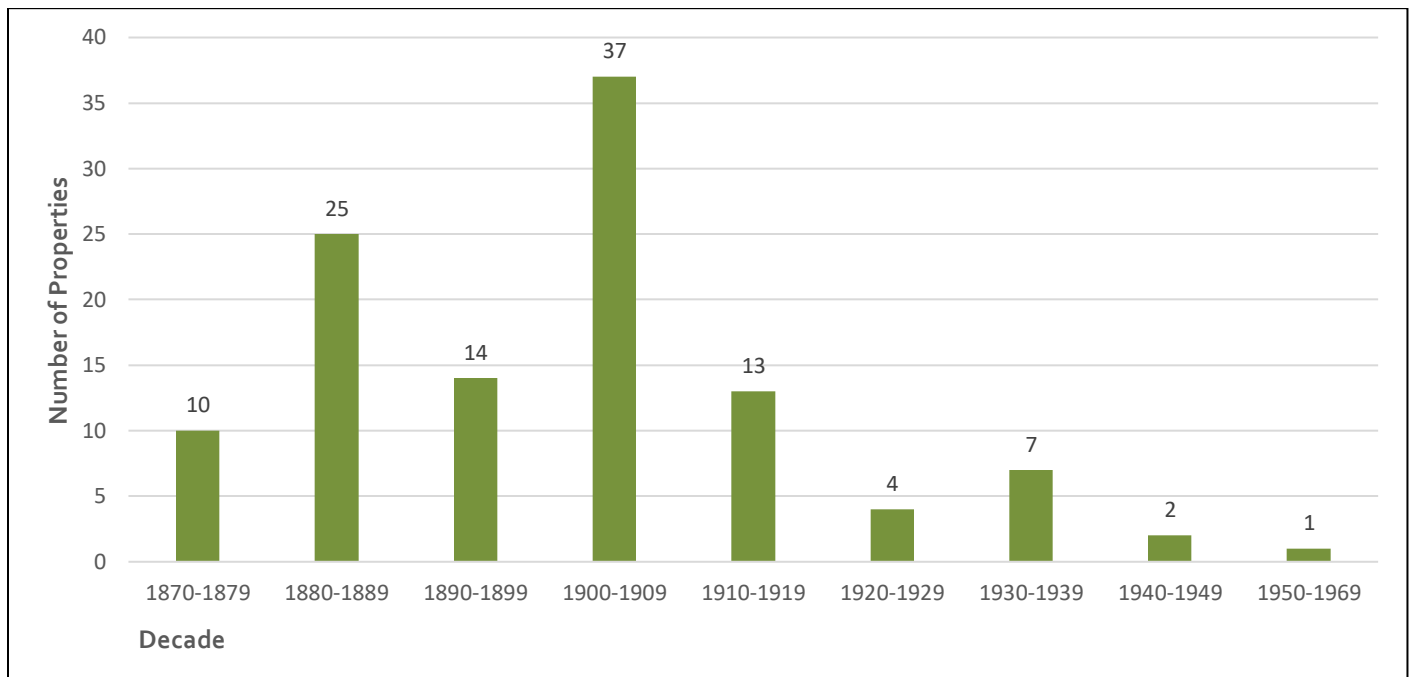


Figure 1. Post Rock Resource Construction by Decade, 1870-1969. This chart reflects 112 properties of the 182 total included in the KHRI. 70 Post Rock properties within KHRI do not have a year-built date assigned.

SURVEY METHODS

SCHEDULE AND REQUIRED DELIVERABLES

This summary report is the culmination of an eight-week timeframe that involved five major tasks: mobilization and engagement, preliminary identification of survey resources, field survey, documentation, and report preparation. The project schedule represented an accelerated effort to meet FY2019 HPF grant requirements and is detailed below with corresponding deliverables (**Table 1**).

Table 1. Milestone Deliverables and Due Dates

| Milestone Deliverable | RFP Submission Date |
|---|---------------------|
| Project Start Date | May 30, 2021 |
| Field Survey | July 6-10, 2021 |
| Survey Inventory Forms Submitted | August 1, 2021 |
| Draft Survey Report Submitted | August 15, 2021 |
| Draft MPDF Submitted | September 1, 2021 |
| Final Survey Report and MPDF | September 24, 2021 |
| <i>Kansapedia</i> article | October 2021 |
| KSHS Training Session / Conference Presentation | Per KSHS Schedule |
| KSHS / Board of Sites Review Presentation | Per KSHS Schedule |

MOBILIZATION AND ENGAGEMENT

The intensive level survey effort was initiated with preparation of a project handout (**Figure 2**) to support the field survey process and encourage public participation. The educational flyer described the survey effort and provided point of contact information for KSHS and Urbana.

Figure 2. Post Rock Survey Handout.

On June 30th KSHS staff distributed the information piece, via electronic mail, to stakeholders in advance of survey work. Recipients included all stakeholders with knowledge of or in proximity to Post Rock properties. Stakeholders were asked to provide location data of any known Post Rock resources, and to provide feedback on properties to be prioritized for documentation as part of the intensive survey effort. Urbana communicated with all stakeholders that offered information and recommendations. Urbana’s survey team additionally distributed print copies while meeting with stakeholders in the field. The early feedback



from survey stakeholders helped to inform identification of new and previously unrecorded Post Rock properties in advance of physical survey. All known property locations were mapped in ArcGIS to understand the distribution throughout the four survey counties.

During field survey, the Urbana team visited local archives and key stakeholders to learn more about Post Rock Limestone in the region, including quarry and processing locales, and representative property types distributed throughout Lincoln, Mitchell, Rush, and Russell counties. The survey team reached out to the four stakeholders referenced in the RFP: Jeannie Stramel of the Lucas Grassroots Art Center, Kyle Peterson of the Mitchell County Museum, Jenny Russell of the Jewell County Community Development Association, and the Post Rock Museum, part of the Rush County Historical Society. Urbana was also in contact with Brad Penka of the Post Rock Museum and Jon Pancost of Bluestem Quarry and Stone Works. While in the field, Urbana met with Kyle Peterson and volunteers from the Post Rock Museum and received photographs of Post Rock resources from the Lucas Grassroots Art Center. Several of the resources suggested by Kyle Peterson and the Rush County Historical Society are included in the survey inventory list. In addition, Urbana met with members of the Russell County Historical Society and the Lincoln County Museum to spend research time reviewing historical images and documents.

After completion of this survey report, the second component of the project engagement process involves publication of an article on *Kansapedia*, presentation of the MPDF to the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review, and facilitation of a training session with KSHS staff.

PRELIMINARY IDENTIFICATION OF POST ROCK RESOURCES

Two criteria form the basis for inclusion in the current intensive survey: eligibility for listing in the NRHP based on an association with the Post Rock Limestone method of construction and retention of integrity. Using KHRI data, stakeholder input, geographic distribution maps, and feedback from KSHS, Urbana assembled a draft list of 81 Post Rock survey sites. Post Rock properties already listed on or formally determined eligible for inclusion on the NRHP or RHKP were excluded from the field survey effort as these locales generally were conclusively documented and thus, the HPF grant funds would be better utilized to document and evaluate lesser-documented or previously unrecorded sites.

The initial list of 81 sites was developed by selecting sites that represented a variety of property types representing different uses for Post Rock Limestone, and that further represented the history of Post Rock Limestone in each of the four survey counties. Urbana developed the initial list with the goal of equal representation for each county: Lincoln, Mitchell, Rush, and Russell. Despite this goal, the number of sites surveyed were greater in Mitchell and Russell counties.

FIELD SURVEY

The field survey began on July 6, 2021. The survey involved visiting all four counties, Lincoln, Mitchell, Rush, and Russell. The survey team attempted to visit all 81 Post Rock Limestone sites initially identified. 12 sites were inaccessible, and 69 sites were successfully documented.

The survey team photographed representative views of each accessible Post Rock property including all elevations (where access was permitted), notable features exhibiting unique craftsmanship or other interesting articulations, and associated outbuildings or ancillary structures (where accessible). Interior photography did not occur. Utilizing the KHRI Excel Database, the survey team completed notes documenting the current description and condition, including level of integrity. These observations were expanded in the office using field survey imagery. Field survey was completed on July 10, 2021.

With 69 Post Rock properties available for intensive documentation and evaluation, the Urbana team further refined the property list down to 50 sites that appeared most suitable for inclusion in the KHRI Database and preparation of inventory forms. Under the advisement of KSHS, Urbana selected sites that maintained a sufficient degree of integrity such that they would convey significance and eligibility under the NRHP and RHKP. Several of the survey sites were observed to be in poor condition or in ruins. Thus, while these sites may represent an important aspect of Kansas and Post Rock Limestone construction history, it was thought that HPF grant funds would be better spent to focus on intact and eligible properties.

The survey spreadsheet is included as **Table 2** in the following pages. A map delineating the location of the Post Rock Limestone survey properties is included as **Figure 3**.

DOCUMENTATION

Documentation involved adding the selected 50 properties to the KHRI via direct upload for previously recorded properties (36 properties) and, for newly recorded properties (14 properties), via submission of the completed Excel Database to KSHS with subsequent upload of all corresponding site plans, photographs, and other supporting imagery. Many of the previously recorded properties originated from the 2019 Post Rock Survey led by the Lucas Grassroots Center. As the 2019 survey was primarily a volunteer effort, many of the site records were completed with limited data and content. One of the goals of the 2021 survey led by Urbana was to expand upon this volunteer effort by gathering additional and new data to inform the MPDF.

The "Historic Function Remarks" data field was used to summarize research from Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps and ownership, occupancy, and general property history obtained via digital newspaper searches. Historic function / property history was not identified for all intensive survey properties, but an effort was made to document each site thoroughly. The "Physical Description Remarks" data field, and other fields related to each property's architectural description, were completed using historic and current photos and field survey observations. The "Year of Construction" and "Certainty" data fields were completed using historic research. All other data fields, including addresses, section, township, and range, ownership information, and ancillary structure information were similarly completed.

REPORTING

As previously stated, this survey report summarizes Urbana's efforts and conclusions of the intensive level survey campaign and informs preparation of a draft MPDF on Post Rock resources. The registration

requirements of the forthcoming MPDF stipulates that all 50 intensive level survey properties documented in this survey report are considered eligible for listing on the NRHP or RHKP. The registration requirements include:

- To be eligible for the NRHP / RHKP under the historic context "Post Rock Limestone Construction in Lincoln, Mitchell, Rush and Russell Counties, Kansas: 1870 – 1948," a property must be constructed of post rock limestone.
- An eligible property must be located in or near the Greenhorn Formation in Kansas. The heart of this area is in "Post Rock Country" centered on Lincoln, Mitchell, Rush and Russell Counties.
- The post rock limestone property must have been built during the period 1870-1948. It will probably have been built between 1880 and 1909.
- A post rock limestone property must retain sufficient historic integrity to be able to convey its historic appearance, associations, and significance.

Table 2. Post Rock Properties Survey List.

| | KHRI # | Resource Name | Address | County | Survey Type | NRHP / RHKP Eligibility |
|----|----------------|---|---|---------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | 105-0000-00037 | Spillman Creek 2-Span Masonry Arch Bridge | N 80 th Road, Ash Grove | Lincoln | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 2 | 105-138 | Andreson Building | 22 Denmark Avenue, Denmark | Lincoln | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 3 | | Bank | Denmark Avenue, Denmark | Lincoln | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 4 | | WPA Unused Quarry | Denmark Vicinity | Lincoln | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 5 | 105-3189-00002 | St. Patrick's Catholic Church | 210 N 5 th Street, Lincoln | Lincoln | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 6 | 105-3189-00008 | First Presbyterian Church | 205 N 2 nd Street, Lincoln | Lincoln | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 7 | 105-3189-00017 | Kyne House | 214 W Lincoln Avenue, Lincoln | Lincoln | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 8 | 105-3189-00010 | Lincoln State Bank / Rexall Drug | 101 W Lincoln Avenue, Lincoln | Lincoln | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 9 | 105-0000-00059 | South Fork of Spillman Creek Double Arch Bridge | N 181 Highway, Sylvan Grove | Lincoln | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 10 | 105-250 | Emory H. Cook House | 1286 E Wheat Drive, Sylvan Grove | Lincoln | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 11 | 105-281 | Residence | 1434 N 120 th Road, Sylvan Grove | Lincoln | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 12 | 105-280 | Residence | 905 N 30 th Road, Sylvan Grove | Lincoln | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 13 | 105-263 | Felceman, Frank & Anna, Homestead | 282 N 60 th Road, Sylvan Grove | Lincoln | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 14 | 123-0000-00001 | Round Springs Cemetery Chapel | 2250 W Road, Beloit (vicinity) | Mitchell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |

| | KHRI # | Resource Name | Address | County | Survey Type | NRHP / RHKP Eligibility |
|----|----------------|----------------------------|---|----------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 15 | 123-306 | First Presbyterian Church | 321 E Main Street, Beloit | Mitchell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 16 | 123-307 | Commercial Building | 108 S Mill Street, Beloit | Mitchell | Intensive | RHKP Eligible/ NRHP Ineligible |
| 17 | 123-302 | Commercial Building | 202 S Mill Street, Beloit | Mitchell | Intensive | RHKP Eligible/ NRHP Ineligible |
| 18 | 123-0440-00011 | Bank of Beloit | 101-103 N Mill Street, Beloit | Mitchell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 19 | 123-326 | Moritz Memorial Airport | 1520 W 8 th Street, Beloit | Mitchell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 20 | 123-327 | German Style Barn | 1793 290 Road, Beloit | Mitchell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 21 | 123-324 | Rock Homestead | 1856 290 Road, Beloit | Mitchell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 22 | 123-322 | Beloit City Hall | 119 N Hersey Avenue, Beloit | Mitchell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 23 | 123-323 | Garage | 223 E Main Street, Beloit | Mitchell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 24 | 123-0820-00012 | Blacksmith Shop | 821 Wisconsin Street, Cawker City | Mitchell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 25 | 123-0820-00004 | George W. Dockstader House | 805 1 st Street, Cawker City | Mitchell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 26 | 123-0820-0019 | Parker, Edward E., House | 117 Lake Drive, Cawker City | Mitchell | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 27 | 123-0820-00014 | Residence | 921 Lake Drive, Cawker City | Mitchell | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 28 | 123-305 | Glen Elder Light and Power | 213 S Market Street, Glen Elder | Mitchell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |

| | KHRI # | Resource Name | Address | County | Survey Type | NRHP / RHKP Eligibility |
|----|----------------|--------------------------------------|---|----------|----------------|-------------------------|
| 29 | 123-325 | Fence Posts | Lake Drive, Glen Elder | Mitchell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 30 | 123-5380-00004 | Arnoldy Brothers General Merchandise | 602 Main Street, Tipton | Mitchell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 31 | 165-54 | Barnard Library | 521 Elm Street, La Crosse | Rush | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 32 | 165-58 | Fence Posts | 183 Highway, La Crosse | Rush | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 33 | 165-57 | La Crosse City Park | 316 Peace Street, La Crosse | Rush | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 34 | 165-59 | Statue of Liberty | 316 Peace Street, La Crosse | Rush | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 35 | 165-2910-00002 | Haley, Dan, House (Relocated) | 202 W 1 st Street, La Crosse | Rush | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 36 | 165-52 | Residence | 803 Oak Street, La Crosse | Rush | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 37 | 165-3180-00001 | St. Joseph's Parish Church | 202 Main Street, Liebenthal | Rush | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 38 | | Hunter's Lodge | Main Street, Liebenthal | Rush | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 39 | 167-301 | Residence | 19359 Balta Road, Bunker Hill | Russell | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 40 | 167-310 | Huber, Martin, House | 3522 204 th Blvd, Dorrance | Russell | Inaccessible | Not Evaluated |
| 41 | 167-314 | Dubuque Lutheran Church | 3296 198 th Street, Dorrance | Russell | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 42 | 167-205 | Chegwidden, John, House | 3212 200 th Street, Dorrance | Russell | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 43 | 167-345 | Mellard Road Quarry | Lucas | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 44 | 167-221 | Bill Naegele Farm | 5905 203 rd Street, Lucas | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |

| | KHRI # | Resource Name | Address | County | Survey Type | NRHP / RHKP Eligibility |
|----|---------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------|----------------|-------------------------|
| 45 | 167-199 | Masonic Temple | 213 S Main Street, Lucas | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 46 | 167-264 | Residence | 5471 201 st Street, Lucas | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 47 | 167-267 | Alfred Dorman House | 20177 Luray Road, Lucas | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 48 | 167-209 | Joseph Homan House | 121 E 2 nd Street, Lucas | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 49 | 167-239 | City of Lucas Jail | W 2 nd Street, Lucas | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 50 | 167-236 | Arnold-Alice Cordwell Quarry Site | 120 W 2 nd Street, Lucas | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 51 | 167-231 | Lucas School Gym | 130 N Greeley Avenue, Lucas | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 52 | 167-183 | Novak Farm | 5010 KS 232 Highway, Lucas | Russell | Inaccessible | Not Evaluated |
| 53 | 167-260 | Pertl Homestead | 5087 KS 232 Highway, Lucas | Russell | Inaccessible | Not Evaluated |
| 54 | 167-263 | Spalding, Elisha, Home | 20049 Fairport Lane, Lucas | Russell | Inaccessible | Not Evaluated |
| 55 | 167-273 | Brown House | 198 th Street, Lucas | Russell | Inaccessible | Not Evaluated |
| 56 | 167-258 | Frederking House | 20467 Beatty Road, Lucas | Russell | Inaccessible | Not Evaluated |
| 57 | 167-269 | Dorman, James, Ruins | Waldo Road, Lucas | Russell | Inaccessible | Not Evaluated |
| 58 | 167-266 | Chard, James, Building | Luray Road, Lucas | Russell | Inaccessible | Not Evaluated |
| 59 | 167-328 | Walmer & Carbiener Building | 210-212 S Main Street, Lucas | Russell | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 60 | 167-268 | Bunker, John, House | 5958 202 nd Street, Lucas | Russell | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 61 | 167-262 | Francis, Andy, House | Fairport Lane, Lucas | Russell | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |

| | KHRI # | Resource Name | Address | County | Survey Type | NRHP / RHKP Eligibility |
|----|----------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------|----------------|-------------------------|
| 62 | 167-252 | Superior School #61 | 20080 K-18 Highway, Lucas | Russell | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 63 | 167-201 | Holmes, R.E., House | 19700 Paradise Road, Lucas | Russell | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 64 | | Fence Post | 200 th Street, Lucas Vicinity | Russell | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 65 | 167-3350-00001 | Methodist Church | 201 N Fairview Avenue, Luray | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 66 | 167-285 | Prairie Dell School | 5441 193 rd Street, Luray | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 67 | 167-343 | Mark Herbig House | 202 W 3 rd Street, Luray | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 68 | 167-238 | Cochran House | 2272 193 rd Street, Luray | Russell | Inaccessible | Not Evaluated |
| 69 | 167-3350-00003 | Markley House / Williams House | 5822 195 th Street, Luray | Russell | Inaccessible | Not Evaluated |
| 70 | 167-316 | P.H. Wichers Photo and Pharmacy | 602 N Main Street, Russell | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 71 | 167-4820-00004 | Russell County Courthouse | 401 N Main Street, Russell | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 72 | 167-202 | Gernon House | 818 N Kansas Street, Russell | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 73 | 167-327 | Holland Buggy Step | 305 E 5 th Street, Russell | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 74 | 167-325 | Lincoln Park | 325 N Grant Street, Russell | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 75 | 167-4820-00005 | Russell Junior High School – East | 400 N Elm Street, Russell | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 76 | 167-321 | McConnell House | 1534 N Main Street, Russell | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |

| | KHRI # | Resource Name | Address | County | Survey Type | NRHP / RHKP Eligibility |
|----|----------------|--|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 77 | 167-241 | Heym-Oliver House | 503 N Kansas Street, Russell | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 78 | 167-317 | Ebel, Henry, House | 127 N Lincoln, Street, Russell | Russell | Inaccessible | Not Evaluated |
| 79 | 167-4820-00014 | Old Furney House / Tusten-Cooper House | 11 N Front Street, Russell | Russell | Reconnaissance | Not Evaluated |
| 80 | 167-344 | Fence Posts | 203 rd Street, Lucas | Russell | Intensive | NRHP/ RHKP Eligible |
| 81 | | Hell Creek Bridge | 15 th Street, Wilson Lake | Russell | Inaccessible | Not Evaluated |

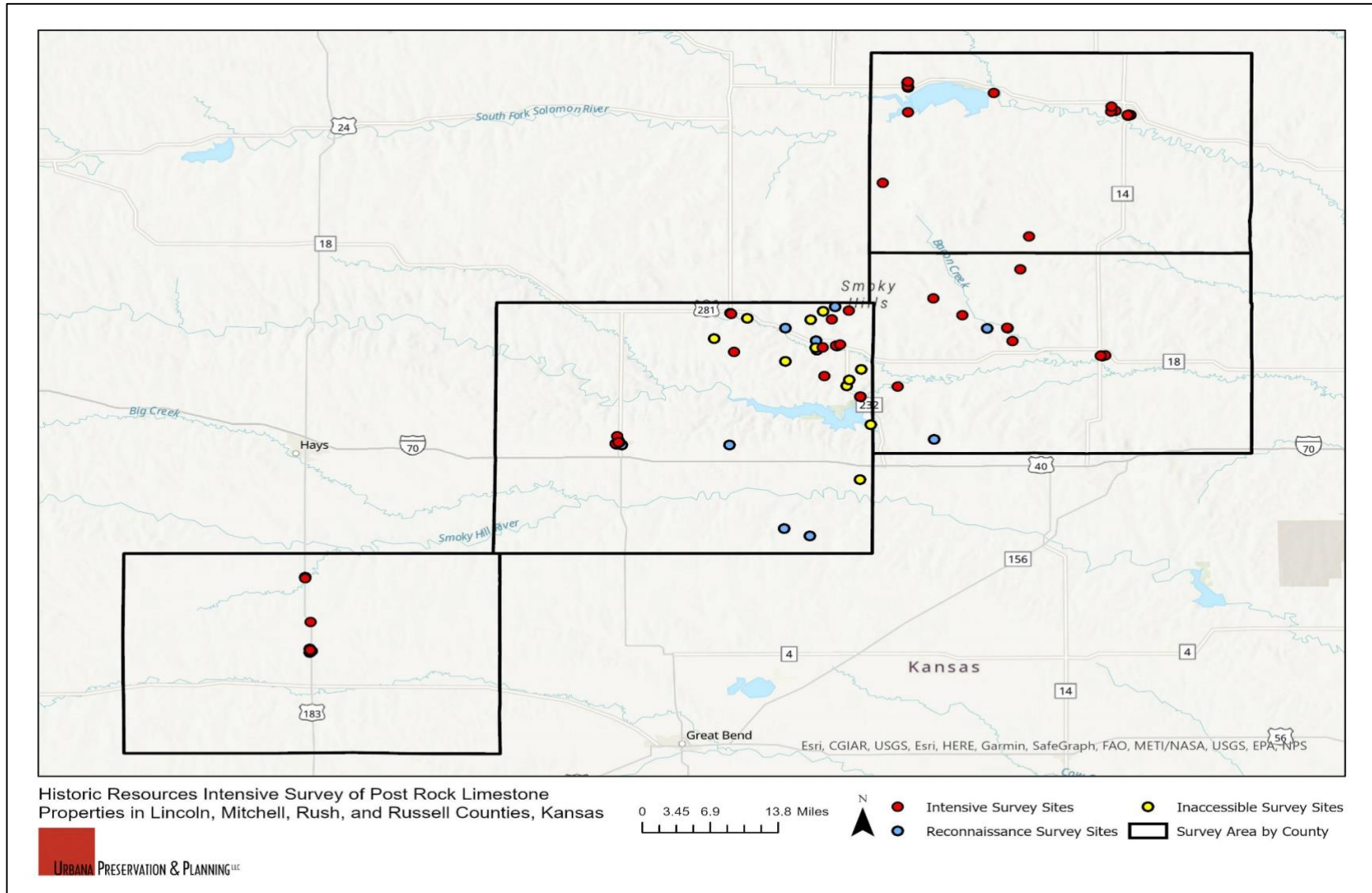


Figure 3. Location of Post Rock Survey Properties.

INTENSIVE LEVEL SURVEY FINDINGS

Survey research and outreach led to the identification of 81 Post Rock properties within the four survey counties (**Figure 3**). Of those 81, 50 properties were documented at an intensive level and were accordingly evaluated for significance under the criteria of the NRHP and RHKP (**Table 3**).

LOCATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF SURVEY PROPERTIES

The 50 intensively surveyed properties represent a small sample of the numerous Post Rock Limestone resources sited throughout the region. Of the 50 sites surveyed, **9** are sited within Lincoln County, **15** within Mitchell County, **5** within Rush County, and **21** within Russell County, respectively equating to 18%, 29%, 12%, and 41% distribution of resources (**Figure 4**).

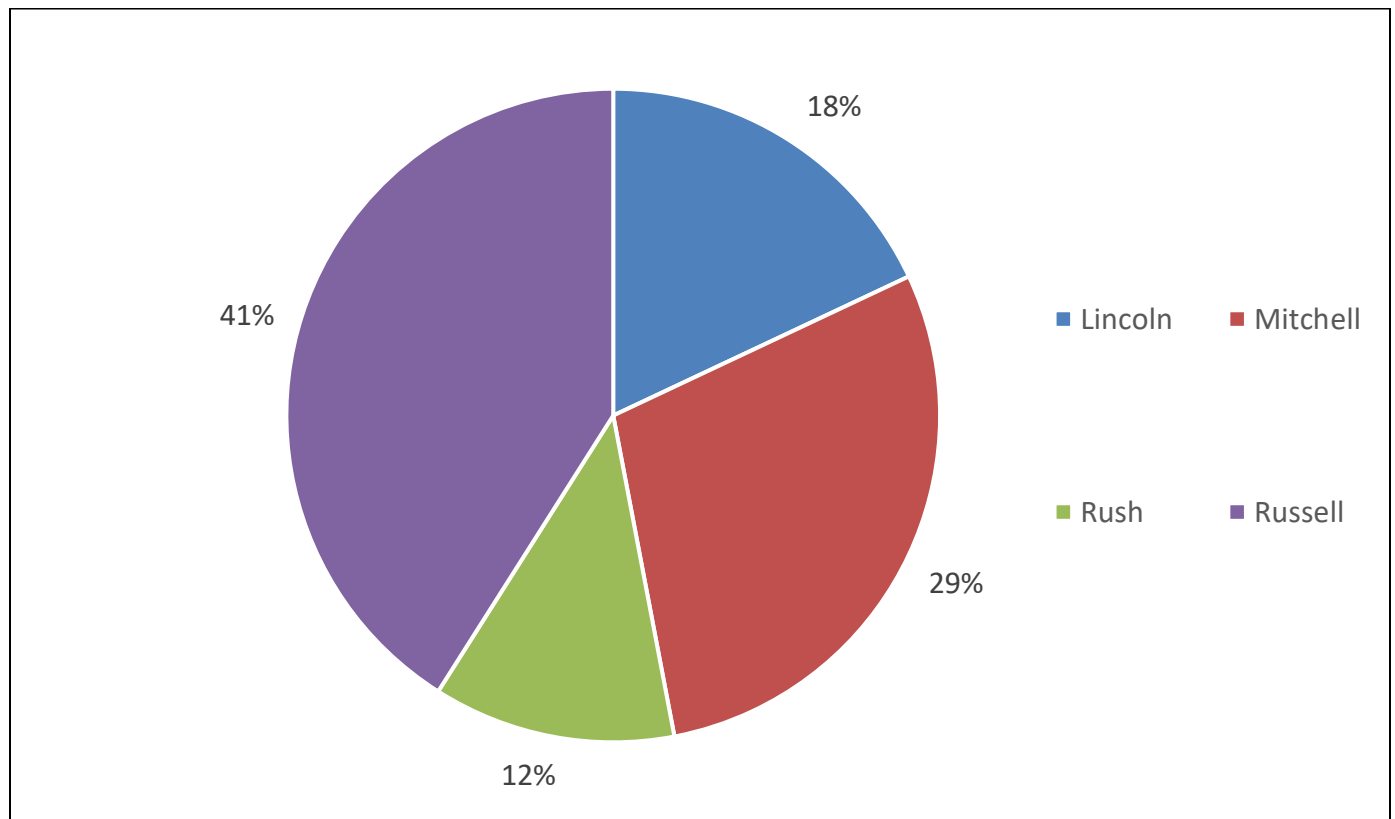


Figure 4. Geographic Distribution of Intensive Level Post Rock Survey Properties

PROPERTY TYPOLOGY

Post Rock property types include Quarrying / Processing Sites and Buildings / Structures / Objects representing the result of the material's extraction and processing.

A total of nine Post Rock Limestone property types were identified within the KHRI (**Figure 5**) at the start of this intensive level survey effort:

- 1 quarry,
- 38 rural post rock residences,
- 16 agricultural building or structure,
- 30 urban post rock residences,
- 30 commercial buildings,
- 10 educational buildings,
- 25 religious buildings,
- 28 government buildings, and
- 4 post rock objects or replacements for other materials.

As represented in Table 3, on the following page, the intensive survey effort documented a representative sample of all nine known property types including:

- one quarry,
- 6 rural post rock residences,
- 5 agricultural buildings or structures,
- 8 urban post rock residences,
- 11 commercial buildings,
- 3 educational buildings,
- 5 religious buildings,
- 9 government buildings, and
- 2 post rock objects or replacements for other materials.

Summary descriptions and representative examples are provided for each property type and associated sub-types within the following pages.

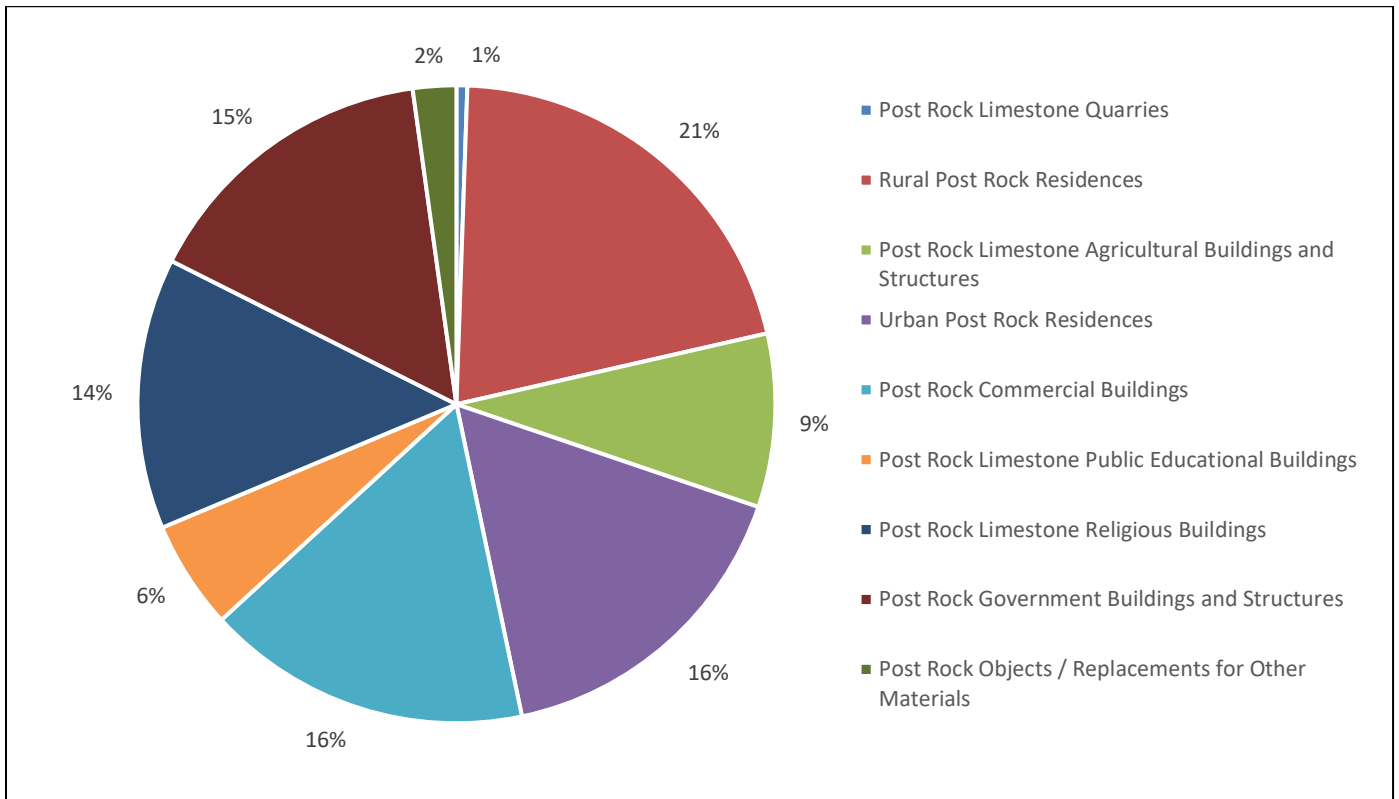


Figure 5. Post Rock Property Categories Represented in KHRI Database prior to intensive survey.

Table 3. Intensively Surveyed Post Rock Property Types

| Intensively Documented Post Rock Property Types | Number of Sites Surveyed |
|---|--------------------------|
| Post Rock Limestone Quarrying and Processing Sites | |
| • Quarries | 1 |
| Post Rock Limestone Buildings / Structures / Objects | |
| • Rural Post Rock Residences | 6 |
| • Post Rock Agricultural Buildings and Structures | 5 |
| • Urban Post Rock Residences | 8 |
| • Post Rock Commercial Buildings | 11 |
| • Post Rock Public Educational Buildings | 3 |
| • Post Rock Religious Buildings | 5 |
| • Post Rock Government Buildings and Structures | 9 |
| • Post Rock Objects / Replacement for other Materials | 2 |
| Total | 50 |

Post Rock Limestone Quarrying and Processing Sites

These sites are locations of Post Rock quarrying and processing, where Post Rock was exposed, split, cut, processed, and prepared for transport. Quarries and processing locations represent a significant element of Post Rock Country history. The material derived from these sites helped to build the North Central Kansas region.

The Mellard Road Quarry was identified as part of intensive survey efforts. No longer in use, the quarry is located within an active agricultural field and measures approximately 815 feet long, 75 feet wide and four feet deep. Post Rock limestone blocks are scattered throughout the quarry, offering evidence of the site's historic function. Feather markings, visible at these remnant surfaces, represent the extraction process. The Mellard Road Quarry supplied Post Rock limestone for projects in Lucas, Kansas.



(Mellard Road Quarry, photographed July 2021. View of abandoned quarry; left. Image of Post Rock limestones left at quarry; right.)

1 Post Rock Quarry and Processing Site was included within the KHRI prior to this intensive level survey effort.

1 was intensively documented as part of the current survey effort.

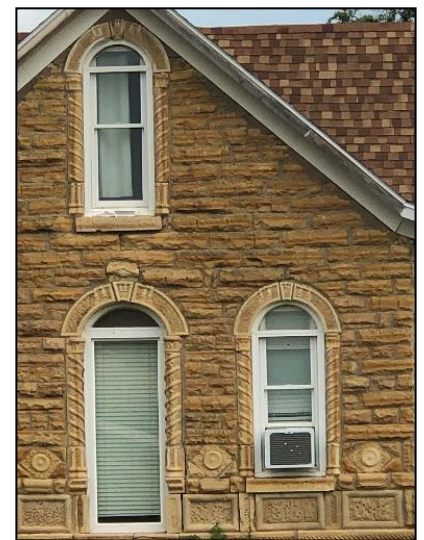
Post Rock Limestone Buildings / Structures / Objects

A majority of resources survey were buildings and structures constructed of or decorated with Post Rock limestone, and objects made of Post Rock. In many instances, structures and objects made of Post Rock serve as replacement for other materials. Buildings constructed of Post Rock are similar in form and function to other buildings with the exception that they are made of and / or decorated with the specific type of limestone found in the top layer of the top layer of the Greenhorn formation. These resources varied in property use, architecture style, and decorative treatments. This category includes the following sub-types.

- a) Rural Post Rock Residences
- b) Post Rock Agricultural Buildings and Structures
- c) Urban Post Rock Residences
- d) Post Rock Commercial Buildings
- e) Post Rock Public Educational Buildings
- f) Post Rock Religious Buildings
- g) Post Rock Government Buildings and Structures
- h) Post Rock Objects / Replacement for Other Materials

Rural Post Rock Residences

Noted for its intricate carvings and articulations, the Emory H. Cook House is an excellent example of a rural Post Rock Residence. This residence is built in the vernacular style with Romanesque details. The primary building material is Post Rock limestone, excluding a rear addition constructed on horizontal siding. The front door is framed by limestone columns on each side with a striped design. The front elevation features three vinyl windows within the original arched framing with limestone columns. At the bottom of the elevations are decoratively cut limestone blocks. The dwelling was built by Emory H. Cook, an Irish immigrant who arrived in Kansas in 1876. Mr. Cook initiated construction of his home in the mid-1880s. The original construction campaign took several years to complete due to the intricate carving and craftsmanship.



(Emory H. Cook House, photographed July 2021. South and west elevations; left. Detail photo of decorative carvings at south elevation; right.)

38 Rural Post Rock Residences were included within the KHRI prior to this intensive level survey effort.

6 were intensively documented as part of the current survey effort.

Post Rock Agricultural Buildings and Structures

The Bill Naegele Farm is a significant example of a Post Rock agricultural property. The farmstead includes several outbuildings made of Post Rock limestone. The property is an active farm with most of the structures in use. However, at least one of the Post Rock limestone farm structures has deteriorated and is in ruins. This property also has a Post Rock fence surrounding the property. Many of the fence posts are made of the standard Post Rock stones, however, a few are larger and flatter, some with a unique circular cut out at the center.



(Bill Naegele Farm. Post Rock limestone barn; top, left. Post Rock limestone barn and additional Post Rock limestone structure in ruin; top, right. Agricultural fence with limestone posts; bottom left. Post Rock fence; bottom right.)

16 Post Rock Agricultural Buildings and Structures were included within the KHRI prior to this intensive level survey effort.

5 were identified as part of the current survey effort.

Urban Post Rock Residences

The residence at 202 W 3rd Street, Luray is an example of a well-maintained Post Rock residence in an urban setting. The residence is a single-family dwelling on a large corner lot in a residential area of Luray. While many of the documented Post Rock residences are built in the vernacular style, this residence represents a dwelling built in the Craftsman style. The property has an ancillary building also constructed of Post Rock.



(202 W 3rd Street, Luray. Photographed July 2021. The Craftsman style residence; left. The Post Rock limestone outbuilding; right)

30 Urban Post Rock Residences were included within the KHRI prior to this intensive level survey effort.

8 were identified as part of the current survey effort.

Post Rock Commercial Buildings

The Buick GMC in Beloit is an example of a commercial building constructed of Post Rock limestone. The building in downtown Beloit was originally constructed as a garage in 1914. The Buick GMC Building is a two-part commercial block building at the front along East Main Street and one-story at the rear.



(Buick GMC, Beloit. Photographed July 2021. Front elevation of the commercial building; left. Rear elevation of the commercial building; right.)

30 Post Rock Commercial Buildings were included within the KHRI prior to this intensive level survey effort.

11 were identified as part of the current survey effort.

Post Rock Public Educational Buildings

The Prairie Dell School is an example of a Post Rock public education building. The Prairie Dell School sits within an open field in a rural setting. The front elevation has a partial-width entrance porch cover with a front gable roofline supported by square posts constructed of small, square Post Rock limestone blocks. An exterior brick chimney is located on the north elevation. Although the building is no longer in use it continues to represent a rural school building constructed of Post Rock Limestone.



(Prairie Dell School. Photographed July 2021. The south and west elevations; left. The south and east elevations; right.)

10 Post Rock Public Education Buildings were included within the KHRI prior to this intensive level survey effort.

3 were identified as part of the current survey effort.

Post Rock Religious Buildings

A notable example of a Post Rock religious building is St. Joseph's Parish in Liebenthal. St. Joseph's Parish Church is a Gothic Revival church constructed of Post Rock limestone. The large church is two stories with a front gable roofline and a three-story front tower and steeple. The sanctuary roof is clad in tile while the steeple is clad in wood. The front (west) elevation along Highway 183 has pointed arch entrances with wood framed doors and transoms. The church was built in 1905 in the town of Liebenthal. Churches were historically some of the first buildings built within a new settlement. The religious community would have taken great care and pride in their church, which accounts for the ornate features seen at St. Joseph's Parish.



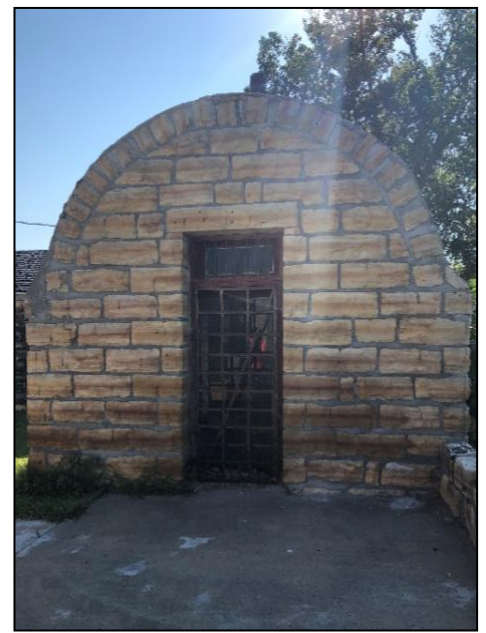
(St. Joseph's Parish Church. Photographed July 2021. The front elevation of the church; left. The rear elevation of the church; right.)

25 Post Rock Religious Buildings were included within the KHRI prior to this intensive level survey effort.

5 were identified as part of the current survey effort.

Post Rock Government Buildings and Structures

The Lucas City Jail is a modest example of a Post Rock government buildings. The Lucas City Jail was built in 1902 and is located one block south of downtown Lucas. The jail has a barrel roofline covered with stucco and concrete, most likely for maintenance. The building is constructed of large Post Rock limestone block. At the front (east) elevation is the entrance with wood framing, a front metal security gate, and interior wood frame plexiglass door, and a fixed transom with metal bars. On the south elevation is a small square window with metal pars. At the roofline is a metal chimney connected to the tin stove on the interior. The unique shape of the structure, as well as its historic relevance to the town of Lucas, make this structure a notable property.



(Lucas City Jail. Photographed July 2021. The side and front elevation; left. The front elevation; right.)

28 Post Rock Government Buildings and Structures were included within the KHRI prior to this intensive level survey effort.

9 were identified as part of the current survey effort.

Post Rock Objects / Replacement for other Materials

Holland Buggy step is located at the corner of East 5th Street and North Elm Street in Russell surrounded by residential buildings. The step is constructed completely of Post Rock limestone in a U-shape. On the north side of the step is a large divot for the step. A metal loop is at the southwest corner for tying off a horse or buggy. On the south side is the etching "GW Holland." Holland worked as a criminal lawyer in Russell around 1905. The buggy step is one example of how Post Rock was used as objects.



(Holland Buggy Step. Photographed July 2021.)

4 Post Rock Objects were included within the KHRI prior to this intensive level survey effort.

2 were identified as part of the current survey effort.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Post Rock Limestone is an important element of life in North Central Kansas. The material speaks to the determination of early settlers in the area and was used to create lasting homes, churches, stores, and municipal improvements, and agricultural fences throughout the state. Settlement of Central Kansas would not have happened as it did without this material. Extant Post Rock buildings, structures, and objects tell the story of Kansas' early years. It is a diminishing resource that should be documented, preserved, and protected for future generations.

Most Post Rock properties documented in the KHRI are rural dwellings, consistent with the established history of the material and settlement. Urban Post Rock residences, commercial buildings, and religious buildings are the next most frequent property type. This is also consistent with historical research as these types of buildings would have been built early in the region's settlement. Post Rock continued to be used for these purposes, and the large number of these types of buildings in the KHRI is consistent with historical settlement patterns.

ELIBILITY FINDINGS

This survey effort and associated MPDF identified and examined 81 Post Rock Resources as part of preliminary survey research at the Post Rock sites throughout North Central Kansas. Of these 81, 69 were photographed as part of reconnaissance survey, and 50 were intensively documented and evaluated, with all findings submitted to the KHRI. Of the 50 intensively documented survey properties, 48 were found eligible for inclusion on the NRHP based on known information, with all 50 found eligible for the RHKP within the context "Post Rock Limestone Construction in Lincoln, Mitchell, Rush and Russell Counties, Kansas: 1870 – 1948." While properties may have other areas of significance, in order to be eligible under the MPDF they must be significant under Criterion C for architecture as examples of a method of construction and use of materials. All post rock limestone buildings, structures, and objects that possess sufficient integrity of design, materials and workmanship in terms of their stone masonry construction technique and that still convey their original architectural intent are significant as representative examples of the post rock limestone method of construction.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on in-person survey work, conversations with survey stakeholders, and historic research, there are several recommendations for next steps beyond the MPDF that accompanies the intensive survey.

1. Future Identification / Survey. The first recommendation is to draw upon local knowledge of the area to identify additional candidates for intensive field survey, both in the four-county area and in additional Post Rock counties. Many Post Rock buildings are undocumented and/or in disrepair. The Urbana team was limited in scope to fifty sites, and our preliminary desk survey was based on previous documentation. In the field, the Urbana team found that local stakeholders were able to provide a wealth of information about Post Rock structures in their vicinity that were not previously documented. The field team was unable to document every structure that was

recommended to them.

- a. Intensive Survey of Remaining Reconnaissance Sites. Urbana identified 81 Post Rock properties and ultimately excluded 31 of these sites from intensive level work. It is recommended that these 31 properties be intensively surveyed in the future.
 - b. Localized Surveys. It is recommended that future surveys focus their project areas on individual cities and the immediate countryside. The Urbana team strived to document sites from a wide range of cities and locations within the four-county survey area. However, as previously stated, the list was limited to sites that were previously documented or that were recommended to them. A survey based on an individual city / community, with tighter geographic boundaries, would allow for more individualized survey work and research.
 - c. Archaeological Survey. For Post Rock sites in ruins or quarrying and processing locations, it is recommended that archaeological survey is integrated into the documentation and evaluation effort, and that these sites are considered for eligibility under NRHP / RHKP Criterion D. An interpretation plan may be part of future archaeological survey efforts, pending positive eligibility conclusions.
 - d. Cultural Landscape. It is recommended that Post Rock properties are similarly considered for cultural landscape recognition, pending future identification and survey campaigns.
2. Education and Engagement. As a key component to future survey campaigns, it is recommended that a coordinated outreach campaign occur to gain additional recommendations of Post Rock sites. To supplement this effort, an ArcGIS StoryMap could be prepared as both an information tool for greater engagement and to communicate the significance and location of Post Rock resources throughout North Central Kansas. Continuing education about historic preservation and registration opportunities for Post Rock resources is recommended. Post Rock is a diminishing resource, yet many Post Rock buildings are in poor condition. Education about historic preservation may motivate the maintenance of these structures. Information about architectural integrity and the history of Post Rock features should be made available.
 3. Registration. It is vital to build on the existing survey and MPDF effort to list properties on the NRHP and RHKP. This is an important next step to recognize and offer some protection to this declining resource. NRHP / RHKP listing will complement existing agency and stakeholder efforts to bring recognition to the Post Rock Limestone resources of Kansas. This current project is solely for survey and production of a MPDF; however, when an MPDF is submitted to the NRHP Keeper of the Register, the submission typically includes at least one or two nominations for properties to list under the new context. This serves as a test to ensure the MPDF contains the information needed to facilitate registration. Each of the 50 Post Rock properties documented by Urbana as part of this intensive survey project is considered eligible for the NRHP or RHKP.
 4. Treatment. With recognized significance, managing agencies, stakeholder organizations, and

individual property and business owners, have an opportunity to consider heritage tourism programming associated with Post Rock properties, as well as other economic development incentives available as part of restoration / rehabilitation and adaptive reuse projects including use of the Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit and the Kansas Historic Preservation Credit. All treatment programs should comply with *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*.

5. Treatment. Preparation of design guidelines consistent with *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation* is recommended for each Post Rock property type to ensure that property owners and occupants have guidance available as they embark on repairs and maintenance or larger rehabilitation efforts.

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