

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

Historic name Viking Manufacturing Company Building
Other names/site number Ag Press; KHRI 161-3002
Name of related Multiple Property Listing NA

2. Location

Street & number <u>1531 Yuma Street</u>	n/a	not for publication
City or town <u>Manhattan</u>	n/a	vicinity
State <u>Kansas</u> Code <u>KS</u> County <u>Riley</u>	Code <u>161</u>	Zip code <u>66502</u>

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:
 ___ national ___ statewide x local Applicable National Register Criteria: x A ___ B x C ___ D

Patrick Zollner
 Signature of certifying official/Title Patrick Zollner, Deputy SHPO Date 8-22-22
 Kansas State Historical Society Register of Historic Kansas Places listed 8/20/2022
 State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property x meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official _____ Date _____
 Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:
 ___ entered in the National Register ___ determined eligible for the National Register
 ___ determined not eligible for the National Register ___ removed from the National Register
 ___ other (explain:) _____

National Register of Historic Places listed 9/27/2022

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION:
manufacturing facility; communications facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE
WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT: Art Deco/Art Moderne

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE
walls: BRICK

roof: ASPHALT
other: CERAMIC tile detailing

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Narrative Description

Summary

The Viking Manufacturing Company built a new 20,000 square foot plant on the south side of Manhattan, Kansas in 1946, the town's first major post-WWII construction. Located at 1531 Yuma Street, the factory was positioned between the business district and Kansas State University. Occupying the majority of the south side of the 1500 block of Yuma, the U-shaped building is setback from the street with a large grass lawn with mature trees. A parking lot is located west of the building and a rear alley provides shipping and deliver access south of the building.

The building reflects the period in which it was constructed and is classified in the late Art Deco/Streamline Art Moderne styles. The masonry block building has a flat roof with parapet, steel columns and trusses exposed in the factory and concrete floors. The exterior is sheathed in variegated tan brick with black tile detailing and ribbons of glass block that emphasize the building's horizontal form. The glass block extends around the building's curved corners with no exposed structure, a feature common among Streamline Moderne buildings. Operable hopper panels set in the middle of the glass block bays and original multi-light steel sash windows are extant around the building providing natural light and ventilation in all workspaces. The building consists of three primary sections: the front two-story office bay that projects from the center of the rear factory, the one-story rear factory with a U-shaped footprint featuring separate shipping and receiving docks that face a rear court. In 1967, a 12,000 square foot expansion occurred with an addition on the south end of the east facade and a new free-standing building to house the shipping and receiving departments. The 1946 building, including the 1967 addition, and the 1967 building are both contributing resources. A second small free-standing shed with stone veneer was built in the 1980s to store hazardous materials; it is a non-contributing resource. With few modifications to the original plan and most original finishes intact, the building retains a high degree of all aspects of historic integrity: location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, clearly portraying its original 1940s design and light-industrial function.

Elaboration

Context

Viking Manufacturing Company, working with a committee of the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce, selected a site in the 1500 block of Yuma Street twelve blocks southwest of Manhattan's downtown business district to build their new plant. At the time, the site fronted Yuma on the north and was bordered on the south by the Rock Island railroad tracks. The site consisted of four lots in a neighborhood of predominantly single-family homes resulting in relocation of three families.¹ Today the site is bordered by Hwy K-18/Fort Riley Boulevard and adjacent to a hotel, restaurant, and small commercial strip center to the west. To the east, Yuma Street remains a residential neighborhood characterized by modest single-family homes; the north side of Yuma opposite the Viking building also remains residential today and has a neighborhood park in the 1600 block.

The connection to the railroad was a critical consideration in the site selection; a rail spur was built to connect the site to the Rock Island tracks.² While the property was rezoned for construction of the Viking plant in 1945, the transition of the area to a commercial/light industrial cluster occurred forty years after Viking selected the site for their factory when the City of Manhattan embarked on a downtown redevelopment project that would change the face of downtown Manhattan in an attempt to maintain the central business district as the city's primary retail area. Manhattan Town Center, an enclosed shopping mall, opened in 1987 at the east end of Poyntz Avenue at 3rd Street. Although Poyntz continues to serve as Manhattan's main street, it is no longer a through-street but rather, dead ends into a plaza on the west side of the mall. The mall changed circulation patterns within the downtown area, establishing 4th Street as a north-south thoroughfare. Fort Riley Boulevard, connecting Highways U.S. 24, and K-18 on the south side of the city, was developed around the same time and provided a bypass around the downtown area.³

Fort Riley Boulevard/Highway K-18, located along the abandoned Rock Island Railroad, has been the site of significant commercial development in recent decades. The corner of 17th and Fort Riley Boulevard is the commercial cluster immediately west of the Viking Building; 17th Street is a major N/S corridor connecting Fort Riley Boulevard to Kansas State University.

¹ "Choose Site for Factory," *Manhattan Republic*. 14 Jun 1945, 1.

² "Viking Site Changed." *Manhattan Republic*. 12 Dec 1945, 7

³ Alyson Raletz, "Manhattan Main Street Undergoes Changes During City History," *Kansas State Collegian*, 31 August 2001 as quoted in Christy Davis and Brenda Spencer, *Downtown Manhattan Historic District National Register Nomination*. Washington, DC: National Parks Service, 2007.

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Setting

The Viking site is comprised of three-quarters of the 1500 block on the south side of Yuma Street; a separate business also fronting Yuma is located at the northeast corner of the block at 15th and Yuma. The Viking building is centrally located on the four-acre parcel, set back from Yuma on the north with a grass lawn and mature trees. A concrete sidewalk runs along Yuma with a perpendicular walkway extending to the front entrance of the building. Sixteenth Street on the west provides access to a paved parking lot west of the building and to an unpaved alley behind the building. The alley provides delivery/shipping access to docks on the south side of the building and additional parking behind the building. Rear pedestrian access is located in the center of the south facade between loading docks on the east and west. The site backs up to Fort Riley Boulevard on the south but has no access from the bypass.

In 1967 the Viking plant was expanded with the addition of two new spaces totaling 12,000 square feet. The expansion included an addition on the east side of the original building for enlarged finishing and assembly facilities and a smaller free-standing building at the rear to house a new shipping and warehouse system, freeing up the space occupied by those functions in the original building for production.⁴

The free-standing metal-framed building has a shallow gable roof, also with metal siding and roof and is located across the alley south of the east building addition. This building has a concrete ramp leading down below grade along the east side of the building with a concrete dock covered by a shed metal canopy. The east facade has two overhead garage doors and a single man-door fronting the dock. An overhead garage door is located on the west facade and a single door is located on the north facade facing the alley. Built in 1967 to serve as Viking's new shipping and receiving department, the building is a contributing resource on the Viking site.

A second outbuilding – a small wood-frame rectangular shed with a truncated hip roof appears older at first glance but was constructed by Ag Press in the 1980s for use as solvent storage. The building has limestone veneer and a single door on the east. Built in the 1980s, the building is a non-contributing resource on the site of the Viking plant.

Exterior

The Viking building is a one- and two-story, 20,000 square foot masonry structure with a rear-facing, modified U-shaped footprint. The rear legs are the original shipping and receiving departments with loading docks facing a center court on the rear/south. A two-story office bay with rounded corners projects from the center of the north/front facade. Roofs of both bays are flat with a brick parapet with concrete cap. The primary facades are variegated tan brick with glazed black tile detailing that includes banding and geometric shapes. Additionally, the building is characterized by its long horizontal form with curved corners reinforced by continuous bands of glass block windows which extend around the curved corners. Prior to 1967, the building was symmetrical in fenestration but a 7,200 sq.ft. addition was built off the south end of the east facade. The addition is a steel frame structure with low-gabled roof with steel joists and the original metal siding and metal roof. From Yuma Street, the addition is nearly obscured by vines and overgrown trees in the front lawn.

The front/north facade is comprised of four primary bays: the center office bay with the main building entrance flanked by the large open production floor at the rear that extends east and west of the office bay, and the expansion bay on the east. The office bay is two stories in height defined by identical bands of glass block windows with a brick band between, and a brick base and parapet featuring tile detailing. The office bay is seven bays in width and three bays deep counting the curved corner bays with each bay defined by steel columns dividing the bands of glass block that run the perimeter of the facade. Except the central entry bay and curved end bays, the bays of the main building facade are identical. The bands of glass block have concrete sills and an operable steel-framed hopper window is located in the center of each bay, some of which have formerly been replaced and some have rusted and deteriorated frames. The entry bay is slightly recessed with curved glass block and a single aluminum-framed glass door with transom. The glass block is nearly full height on the entry bay with a soldier course of black glazed tile at the base. Short knee walls of the same brick and tile frame the central entrance. "Ag Press" is in lettered signage on the brick facade between the first and second floors, centered over the entrance. The east and west sides of the office bay are identical to the typical bays on the front facade except at the south end of the east side with the band of glass block is shortened on the ground floor to accommodate a single exit door.

The one-story rear factory is two bays deep on the east and west, distinguished by its fenestration. The north bay is five bays wide and five bays deep and has bands of glass block like the front office bay extending around the curved corner bays. The rear factory also has a taller brick parapet that has four bands of black tile and a concrete cap, differing from

⁴ "Viking Plan to Expand." *Manhattan Mercury*. 2 Feb 1967, 1.

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parapet on the front office bay. The south bay of the east and west facades has a continuous band of windows along the top of the facade. These windows are multi-light steel windows with operable hopper panels, most are currently covered by a corrugated panel on the exterior for security and protection. The only detailing on this south bay is the band of black glazed tile, located at the base of the facade matching the rest of the building. The south portion of the east facade is visible inside of the 1967 addition.

The rear/south facade is utilitarian in function and its materials and fenestration reflect that change compared to the front and sides of the building. The rear facade is brick and block with a painted finish in contrast to the variegated brick on the rest of the building. Although the overall form of the building is symmetrical, the masonry openings reflect varied interior functions creating an asymmetrical facade at the rear. The loading docks at the end bays are semi-enclosed with an oversized masonry opening and narrow cantilevered concrete dock with steps on the south. The docks are open to the center courtyard with concrete ramps and stairs along the building. The building has original sliding wood man-doors extant and overhead garage bays with replacement doors at each of the docks.

The center bay of the rear facade has two floors although the facade height matches the rest of the factory bay. A single door is located in the center bay with a replacement aluminum-framed glass door with sidelights serving as the rear building entrance. All windows on the rear facade match the style of the multi-light steel windows on the south end of the east and west facades although the size and configuration vary.

The 1967 addition on the east is a steel structure with metal roof and siding. A single man-door and an overhead garage door with concrete ramp are located on the south facade fronting the alley. The panels in the gable end and around the eaves are translucent fiberglass panels that provide natural light; similar panels are located at intervals in the roof. There are no window openings around the building. The east facade of the original building is visible from inside of the addition, with the original door and window openings extant.

Interior

The original 1945 blueprints illustrate that the main/first floor housed three primary functions: a front office, large open central production room, and packing and shipping in the southeast quadrant and receiving/storage in the southwest quadrant, each of the latter having docks facing the rear courtyard. Between the shipping on the east and receiving on the west was a service core along the south wall of the center bay. It housed a "heat treat" room, superintendent office, first aid and instrument rooms, a clock house, and men's and women's locker rooms/restrooms. The west side of the service core was a two-story space with an employee cafeteria below the raised locker/restrooms and a press pit was located off the north wall of the cafeteria.

The office bay at the front entrance is a two-story space with the interior reflecting the primary exterior design features including the bands of glass block and curved building corners. Perimeter walls are glazed tile with a black base. The existing configuration reflects the original design with no significant alterations in the plan form. A glass block and tile vestibule is enclosed at the front entrance. Three offices are partitioned along the north and west perimeter wall, west of the central entry. East of the entry is open office space with no partitions around the perimeter on the east side. Functional spaces are grouped along the south wall (shared wall with the production floor to the rear). A stair that provides access to the second floor of the office bay, is located opposite the entrance, east of a corridor leading to the rear production floor. West of the corridor is a small bathroom, closet, and a vault. One office is partitioned with glass block and tile at the east end of the service core comprising the single enclosed office in the east half of the office floor. There is a door to the production floor in the east half of the office and an exterior door at the south end of the east facade. Original finishes included plaster ceilings and VAT flooring on the concrete slab. A suspended acoustical tile ceiling and carpet has been installed in most office areas, but the tile and glass perimeter walls and office partitions retain their historic finish throughout. The staircase is metal with tile over concrete treads and a horizontal metal railing with a wood top rail. The second floor of the office bay is open office space with glass block windows and curved corners like the first floor. However, the finishes are more utilitarian with painted block walls in lieu of glazed tile. Like the first floor, existing finishes include suspended tile ceilings and carpeting. A vault located above the first-floor vault, is the only partitioned room other than the stairway.

The plan form of the rear bay is a rear-facing "U" with the original shipping and receiving docks at the east and west legs, facing the center court at the rear. The entire north half of the rear bay was the open production floor. Today there are two rooms partitioned with aluminum-framed glass storefront systems. Centrally located, these partitions extend only to the suspended ceiling, not full height to the roof structure. The service core remains on the south wall of the center bay with some minor changes in configuration. The lower level (original cafeteria) is accessed from the rear corridor and has several non-historic room partitions and contemporary finishes including sheetrock walls, VCT flooring and suspended tile

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ceilings. Other areas of minor alterations include rooms partitioned at the east end of the service core, east of the rear corridor with contemporary finishes including sheetrock walls, VCT flooring, and suspended ceilings. Additionally, there was reportedly a tool room formerly enclosed on the north wall of the production floor in the west wing (not shown on blueprints). Extant is a metal stair accessing a short balcony that was reportedly above the tool room, but the tool room has been removed.

The production floor is characterized by the bands of glass block providing an abundance of natural light in the factory. Historically, there was no finished ceiling in the production area; florescent light fixtures and ducts are seen in historic views with exposed trusses at the ceiling. Today there is a suspended acoustical tile ceiling in most parts of the production floor. The block walls and concrete floors remain exposed in most areas and have formerly been painted (as compared to exposed block visible in historic photos). Steel columns remain exposed throughout, and the steel roof trusses are visible in areas without the suspended ceiling. The 1967 warehouse addition on the east was built to expand production space. It is a utilitarian metal building with exposed steel structure, concrete floor and metal siding accessed through the original exterior openings at the south end of the east facade.

Integrity

Home to Viking Manufacturing Company for twenty-four years and then to Ag Press for fifty-one years, the building retains outstanding exterior and interior integrity. The only major exterior modification was the 1967 east addition designed to expand Viking's production space. Minor exterior changes include installation of contemporary overhead garage doors, some replacement man-doors at secondary facades, installation of panels to protect the multi-light steel windows on secondary facades and replacement of some of the steel-framed operable hopper windows in the glass block bays. Interior integrity is also high with no significant changes in plan configuration of the front office bay and minor partitioning of rooms in the rear production area and service core. Original finishes are present in both the front office area and rear production floor – the most significant being the exposed glass block windows and partitions and glazed tile walls in finished spaces and exposed block walls and concrete floors (now painted) in the rear factory. In the office bay, plaster ceilings are extant above the existing suspended ceiling and existing non-historic floor coverings are reversible. The building continues to convey its 1945 late Art Deco/Streamline Moderne design, the 1967 expansion, and its long-term industrial function.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- 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 is 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 its 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

INDUSTRY

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1946-1971

Significant Dates

1946, 1967, 1971

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Harper, Homer – St. Joseph, MI (architect)

Green, Mont – Manhattan, KS (contractor)

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance spans from the building's completion in 1946 for the Viking Manufacturing Company, through Viking's 1967 expansion, to 1971 when it became home to Ag Press, a Manhattan publishing company that occupied the building through 2022.

Criteria Considerations (justification)

None

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Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary

The Viking Manufacturing Company, located at 1531 Yuma Street in Manhattan, Kansas, is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A & C in the areas of Industry and Architecture, significant locally as Manhattan's first major development project following the end of WWII signaling the beginning of the post-war building boom that would forever change the face of the town. Completed in 1946, the building remains one of the city's outstanding mid-century examples of the Modern Movement reflecting the late Art Deco period and Streamline Art Moderne style with ribbons of glass block and bands of contrasting black tile reinforcing the building's low horizontal form. The glass block windows extend around the curved building corners reflecting a classic detail of the Streamline Moderne style. At the time of its construction, the new plant was touted to be the most modern factory around with abundant natural light and a clean all electric facility (compared to common coal-burning industrial plants).⁵

The period of significance spans from the building's completion in 1946 for the Viking Manufacturing Company, through Allied Farm Equipment's purchase of the Viking Company in 1965 and their expansion in 1967, to 1971 when the building became home to Ag Press, a Manhattan publishing company that occupied the building for the next fifty years.

Elaboration

Manhattan Poised for post-WWII Growth

Much as the rest of the United States, Manhattan experienced an economic boom during the 1920s. In 1922, the city grew faster than any other urban area in Kansas to a population of 10,000 without students.⁶ Manhattanites enjoyed twenty-five miles of asphalt-paved streets and fifty miles of paved sidewalks. Much of the economic growth was due to the arrival of affordable autos and their impact on the transportation of people and goods, the ability for people to move about, the layout and expansion of our cities, as well as new types of businesses related to the automobile. Record high grain prices during World War I fueled the boom years for agriculture into the 1920s and Manhattan enjoyed a boost from the war-time expansion of neighboring Fort Riley. These forces contributed to a decade of expansion and prosperity that Manhattan had not seen since the 1880s. The economic decline began with the stock market crash in October 1929 and worsened with the passage of the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act leading to a drastic decline in farm exports causing crop prices to plummet. The drought of the mid-1930s diminished hopes of agricultural recovery.⁷ Manhattan's population growth slowed from over thirty-nine percent in the decade of the 1910s to fifteen percent in the 1930s.⁸

The building industry was not immune to the economic devastation of the Depression. Building costs soared to seventy-five percent above what they had been in 1929, forcing most businesses to delay new construction or remodeling.⁹ President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal programs had a substantial economic and physical impact across the nation. The Work Projects Administration (WPA) and Public Works Administration (PWA) funded construction projects that provided the only employment opportunity for architects, engineers, builders, and construction workers during this time. There was little to no private development occurring. Manhattan took full advantage of the government-sponsored programs implementing numerous public improvements and building new city facilities. By 1939 federal programs boosted the growth of Kansas State University and helped to stabilize Manhattan's economy. The coming world war would once again, change everything.

During the war and the immediate post-war period, Manhattan continued to benefit from its proximity to Fort Riley, now accessible via a paved highway.¹⁰ Manhattan's Chamber of Commerce implemented a plan to boost business and industry in Manhattan in the postwar decades and its first success story was Viking Manufacturing Company – the city's first major development project to come to fruition in the post-war era.

⁵ "Big Business Comes to Manhattan in Viking Manufacturing Company." *Manhattan Republic*. 26 Jun 1946, 1-2, 6.

⁶ *Manhattan Republic*. 4 Oct 1923, 5.

⁷ Christy Davis and Brenda R. Spencer. *Downtown Manhattan Historic District Multiple Property Submission*. Washington, DC: National Parks Service, 2007, 57-589.

⁸ U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census, 1900-2010. Online at Kansas University Institute for Policy and Social Research, <http://www.ipsr.ku.edu/ksdata/ksah/population/2pop33.pdf> and *Manhattan Republic*. 1 Oct 1925, 7.

⁹ *Manhattan Republic*. 1 Jan 1931.

¹⁰ Davis and Spencer. 59.

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Recruiting Industry

The Kansas Industrial Development Commission (KIDC) was created in May 1939 to ensure Kansas could compete with neighboring states in attracting and keeping new industry. The mandate of the commission was to encourage new industrial enterprises, expand existing ones, and encourage closer cooperation between existing entities.¹¹ The commission was organized into advisory boards for labor, agriculture, industry, press, and civic groups. In order to secure new markets for industrial and agricultural products, the commission sent out letters to 2,000 business leaders around the state asking for suggestions and to understand needs. The result was a campaign based upon local input placed in national media outlets. Advertisements declared: "Opportunity is more than a word in Kansas!" and "Your invitation to Kansas." Across the bottom of each notice was an injunction to the reader to clip it and send it to an out-of-state friend. The result was an increase in tourist traffic and business inquiries.¹² By the end of 1945, Kansas boasted 2,500 manufacturing and processing plants producing 850 products.¹³ At least 400 of those new businesses were started after 1940 and could be attributed to the work of KIDC.¹⁴

Locally, the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce was working in concert with the state campaign to seek and acquire new businesses and industries that would create long-term employment opportunities for the city's residents. At years' end, the Chamber reported that in 1945, it held forty-eight meetings involving over 200 people and publicized Manhattan in fourteen articles in magazines with nation-wide circulation to gain new businesses and industries, including the Viking Company.¹⁵ The campaign promoted the relationship between Fort Riley and Manhattan, and led to eighty-nine building projects initiated with twenty-eight completed, thirty-six begun, and twenty-five planned for the future.¹⁶ An article in the Kansas Electric Power magazine *Service* noted that Manhattan "already boasting of more modern storefronts than any other place of like size in the state," had undertaken a successful remodeling and building program that would put many veterans to work.¹⁷ Fifty new houses and a record enrollment of 12,000 students at the College added to Manhattan's growth.¹⁸

The Manhattan Chamber of Commerce created a committee to liaise with the KIDC. The industrial committee of the Chamber included chairman Walter W. Hofsess, builder Mont Green, businessmen Frank Lemon, Wendell Watson, Henry Bayer, Arthur Peine, Sam Charleston, Evan Griffith, and J.J. Giller.¹⁹ These men would provide the means to bring the manufacturing firm to town.²⁰

Viking Manufacturing Company

John A. Erickson and his brother Carl had founded Viking Manufacturing in 1931 with three employees in Jackson, Michigan. The company grew slowly, but steadily through the depression years. In August 1941, the war in Europe brought new business to Viking, when the firm won a contract to manufacture parts for Navy shells.²¹ During the war years the plant operated twenty-four hours a day in a rented building in Jackson, MI. In late 1944, Viking was informed that the building had been sold and the company would have to vacate.²² Viking was looking for a new space to grow its business. The Kansas Industrial Development Commission learned of the situation and convinced Viking of the advantages of Kansas with its central location in the agricultural belt between the steel mills in Colorado, Kansas City and Chicago. Kansas, and specifically Manhattan with the Kansas State Agricultural College, would provide a ready supply of skilled labor.

The Erickson brothers explained the reasons behind their decision to move Viking to Manhattan were fourfold: the cooperative spirit of the Chamber of Commerce, the town's geographical location for distributing products across the U.S.,

¹¹ *A Venture in Selling Kansas*. Annual Report by the Kansas Industrial Development Commission. Topeka, KS: KIDC, 1940. Accessed online 25 Mar 2022 at <https://kslib.info/>.

¹² Ibid. 19.

¹³ "We Are Proud of Kansas." *Manhattan Mercury*. 21 Dec 1945.

¹⁴ *Selling Kansas to the World*. Biennial Report by the Kansas Industrial Development Commission, July 1, 1944-June 30, 1946. Topeka, KS: KIDC, 1946, 10. Accessed online 25 Mar 2022 at <https://kslib.info/>.

¹⁵ "Busy Year Just Finished by Local Chamber of Commerce." *Manhattan Mercury*. 26 Dec 1945, 8.

¹⁶ *Manhattan Mercury*. 21 Dec 1945.

¹⁷ "Manhattan's Building Goal Subject of Story." *Manhattan Mercury*. 16 Nov 1945, 8.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ *Manhattan Mercury*. 20 Sep 1945, 1, and "Ag Press Buys Viking Plant." *Manhattan Mercury*. 4 Aug 1971, 22.

²⁰ *Manhattan Mercury*. 21 Jan 1948, 6.

²¹ "Testimony of John Erickson, Viking Manufacturing Co., Manhattan, KS." Hearings before the Special Committee to Study Problems of American Small Business: Part 28, Steel Supply & Distribution Problems Affecting Smaller Manufacturers & Users. United States Senate, S. Res. 20, 11-12 Dec 1947, 3501-02.

²² Ibid.

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Manhattan's location in the heart of farm country and its skilled workforce.²³ However, a vital consideration was that all seven members of the company's executive team would move their families to Manhattan, a place they had determined was a good location to raise and educate their children. Additionally, there may have been encouragement from one of Viking's employees, Paul Goheen, foreman of the mine machinery department in Jackson plant and former Manhattan resident. According to the *Manhattan Mercury*, Goheen wrote "enthusiastically" to the Chamber about the potential move to the city. Goheen moved back home with Viking, continuing to train workers in the new Manhattan factory.²⁴

When Viking moved to Manhattan, it brought only its executive team with a commitment to hire their workforce locally. Seven families came with the company included founder John A. Erickson, who held forty-seven patents for equipment used by Viking and was president until his retirement in 1951.²⁵ Carl E. Erickson, brother of John, was sales manager / treasurer and later, vice president. Robert J. Buzenberg married Mildred Erickson (daughter of John), who taught Business Administration at Kansas State University 1951-1981. Buzenberg was president of Viking (1951-1971) as well as president of Manhattan's Chamber of Commerce (1968-1970). Peter C. DeGraff, Charles C. Krause, Rueben A. Hefley, and Paul Goheen were managers and sales staff who moved to Manhattan. The local housing market was tight in the post-war era and the Chamber of Commerce helped to find the Viking staff homes. By October 28, 1945, Viking began placing advertisements in the *Manhattan Mercury* soliciting applicants for plant and clerical workers.

The plant was constructed in the fall months of 1945. The factory walls were the last to go up. In the interim canvas "walls" were used to keep the cold out.²⁶ On December 12, three train carloads had arrived with the factory's machinery and the first product rolled off Manhattan's Viking assembly line on January 14, 1946.²⁷

Viking's principal production in Manhattan was hammermills that were used to crush aggregate matter such as corn or wheat into smaller pieces for silage; one hammermill was said to support a 300-acre farm. The products were sold directly to implement dealers. Additionally, Viking manufactured its own electrical motors used to run their machines.²⁸ By 1947 it incorporated larger mills in with mixer wagons and elevators.²⁹ Viking began manufacturing a turf building machine simply called "The Roller Blade" in 1967.³⁰ In addition to agricultural clients, the device was marketed to golf course managers across the United States.

The Viking firm operated at a loss during 1946 and 1947 wholly due to the lack of steel.³¹ In 1950, Viking acquired five defense contracts with the U.S. Army and Navy based primarily on the ingenuity of company president John Erickson and his engineering department, who designed and developed dies, jigs and fixtures which allowed the company to seek customers outside the agricultural industry. Viking won a contract to manufacture ready-service aluminum lockers for storing ammunition on the decks of ships, and for bomb suspension bands. The Army contract was for production of signal flare boxes used inside tanks and four-wheeled dump carts used in the manufacturing of ammunition.³²

The ability to acquire materials continued to strain Vikings production through the post-war years. In 1951, Viking, with sixty employees, maxed out its capacity to manufacture elevators and hammermills due to steel shortages.³³ The company worked through those difficult years. In March 1966, Viking announced it was being acquired by Allied Farm Equipment Inc., a Chicago farm implement distributor. The change led to expansion of business and facilities. In the following year, the addition of 12,000 square feet was part of the integration of Viking into the Allied Farm Equipment parent company. Viking increased its workforce by twenty percent to meet the production requirements.³⁴

²³ "Vanguard of Viking Here." *Manhattan Mercury*. 23 Sep 1945, 1.

²⁴ "Paul Goheen is Viking Convert." *Manhattan Mercury*. 24 Oct 1945, 1.

²⁵ Mildred Erickson Buzenberg obituary. *Manhattan Mercury*. 29 Dec 1998, 2.

²⁶ *Manhattan Mercury*. 12 Dec 1945.

²⁷ *Manhattan Mercury*. 31 Dec 1946, 1.

²⁸ "Vanguard of Viking Here." *Manhattan Mercury*. 23 Sep 1945, 1.

²⁹ "Ag Press Buys Viking Plant." *Manhattan Mercury*. 4 Aug 1971, 22.

³⁰ *Manhattan Mercury*. 12 Feb 1967, 26.

³¹ In testimony before the U.S. Senate in 1947, Erickson detailed the challenges his company faced in getting steel. He stated that Viking was a \$100,000 company with the capacity to employ 250 people, but the lack of high-quality steel supply meant that although they had spent \$300,000 on machinery, they could employ only sixty-one people, cut overhead costs and payroll to the bare minimum just to survive. He added that "we have not even been able to get enough steel to bring our sales up to our break-even point." "Testimony of John Erickson, Viking Manufacturing Co., Manhattan, KS." U.S. Senate. Hearings before the Special Committee to Study Problems of American Small Business, 11-12 Dec 1947, 3501-02.

³² "John A. Erickson Retires as Viking President." *Manhattan Mercury*. 9 May 1951, 2.

³³ Ibid.

³⁴ "Viking Plant to Expand." *Manhattan Mercury*. 2 Feb 1967, 1.

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Five years after purchasing the Viking company, Allied Farm Equipment sold the Viking building in October 1971 to Dean Coughenour of Ag Press Inc. The building would be home to Ag Press for the next fifty-one years.

Ag Press

The history of Ag Press can be traced to 1915 when a weekly newspaper called the *Manhattan Tribune* was founded by Judge C.A. Kimball.³⁵ In 1946, Albert Horlings bought the newspaper and printed it daily from offices at 1207 Moro, in Aggieville, an area of Manhattan near KSU. Twelve years later, Horlings sold the *Manhattan Tribune* (renamed *Tribune-News*) to Ernest R. Woodward and Dean Coughenour. In addition to the newspaper, the pair bought the farm weekly called *Grass & Grain* that had been established four years earlier.³⁶

Woodward had published the *Oberlin Herald* since 1930 and was the Decatur County representative in the Kansas legislature, 1957-1969.³⁷ Woodward's partner was twenty-nine-year-old Dean Coughenour, the managing editor of the Oberlin paper. Coughenour, a graduate of McPherson College, moved with his wife and two kids to Manhattan to edit and manage the publications. They became involved in the Manhattan business and civic community from the time they moved to town and would remain so for the rest of their lives. Dean joined the city commission in 1973 and served as mayor 1976-77.³⁸

Woodward and Coughenour decided to allow the *Tribune-News* to end and focus on *Grass & Grain*. The enterprise was renamed Ag Press.³⁹ After assuming the management role at Ag Press, one of Coughenour's first moves was to revamp *Grass & Grain* by increasing the territory and scope of its content. The livestock and auction subscription paper provided "current information on important issues in agriculture, entertaining features, auction listings, livestock markets and more for farmers, ranchers, stockmen and all in the agribusiness" for much of rural Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Missouri.⁴⁰ Ag Press expanded its plant in 1963 switching the newspaper printing to a web offset press, one of the first in the Midwest. In 1971, they bought the former Viking Manufacturing Company building in Manhattan and moved Ag Press to new quarters. That year, Ag Press's total sales volume was five times its gross over the previous decade, with their commercial printing fourteen times what it had been in 1960.⁴¹

Later Ag Press expanded into commercial printing, specifically small magazines for trade and professional associations (e.g., Llama Breeders in 2004), catalogs, directories, laboratory texts and manuals. In 1989, Sunflower University Press, a local, independently owned, non-profit publisher, moved into the Ag Press building, co-habituating with the presses that print its publications. Ag Press was known to assist others during times of need including printing newspapers and other journals for Manhattan and other towns during weather, equipment or power failures and emergencies.

Weathering changes in the newspaper and publishing business for nearly seventy years (and fifty-one years in the Viking Building), Ag Press ultimately outsourced printing of the *Grass & Grain* publication five years ago and in 2022, sold the building to a Manhattan couple. At this time, Ag Press offices remain in front portion of the building.

Viking Manufacturing Company and Ag Press both played integral roles in Manhattan's civic and industrial history. With a remarkable level of historic integrity, the building clearly interprets its manufacturing/industrial origins and long-term function. The Viking Manufacturing Building is significant as a reflection of the city's mid-century industrial development.

³⁵ *Manhattan Mercury*. 28 Sep 2009, 4.

³⁶ "Weekly Here Purchased by E.R. Woodward, Oberlin." *Manhattan Mercury*. 15 Apr 1958, 1.

³⁷ "Kansas Legislators Past & Present." State Library of Kansas. Accessed online on 5 May 2022 at <https://kslib.info/>.

³⁸ History of Manhattan Mayors and City Commission. Accessed online at <https://cityofmhk.com/DocumentCenter/View/37919/Commissioner-list>.

³⁹ *Polk's Manhattan City Directory, 1957*. Kansas City, MO: R.L. Polk & Co., 1957. Ancestry.com. U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995 [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.

⁴⁰ "About the newspaper *Grass & Grain* by Ag Press." Accessed online on 5 May 2022 at grassandgrain.com.

⁴¹ "Ag Press Buys Viking Plant." *Manhattan Mercury*. 4 Aug 1971, 22.

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Architect Homer Harper and his Art Deco design for the Viking Plant

On August 2, 1945, the *Manhattan Mercury* announced that Viking was granted a building permit to construct a \$95,000 facility on Yuma. Local builder Mont J. Green (1882-1967) was chosen for the construction. Green, a prolific builder who had started as a contractor in ca. 1910 in Center, Kansas, had moved his family and business to Manhattan by 1915. He built a number of public and private buildings across the state including Phillipsburg High School (1915), Eskridge High School (1919), Lyndon Grade School (1921), and the Old Soldiers' Home in Dodge City (1920). His Manhattan commissions include the auditorium (1926) and Alpha Xi Delta House (1938) at Kansas State, the J.J. Marshall Building on S. 4th Street (1924), his home at 1200 Houston St., and the Community House at 120 N. 4th (1917).⁴²

The Viking Company hired architect Homer Harper of St. Joseph, Michigan to design their new plant in Manhattan. Homer Williamson Harper (1881-1947) was born January 30, 1881, to James and Carrie M. Harper in Granville, IL, and married Blanche A. Swenson on July 12, 1912. Harper studied architecture at University of Illinois, continuing his education in Europe before opening his practice in May 1909 in Champaign, IL. In September 1918, Harper's WWI draft registration card shows he was working for the Craftsman Bungalow Co. in Seattle, WA.⁴³ One year later the couple moved to St. Joseph, Michigan.⁴⁴ Harper designed numerous residences, schools, commercial buildings, and industrial plants particularly in southwest Michigan, where he resided most of his professional life. He was active in local civic organizations including Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs. Homer Harper died January 19, 1947, in St. Joseph, MI, when he was struck by an automobile near his home.⁴⁵

Harper's designs include First Congregational Church (1922), Morton School (1932), the Eleanor Club and the Elks Temple, all in Benton Harbor, MI. In nearby St. Joseph, MI, his designs include the Herald Palladium Newspaper Building (1922), Litho-Paints Poster Co. (1927), Watts Manufacturing Co. (1930), Nylen Products Company Building (1936), and the State Theater (1942). Two other downtown movie theaters, the Loma in Coloma (1944) and the Chief Theater in Dowagiac (1945) are credited to Harper.⁴⁶



Figure 1 – Left: Postcard illustrating Nylen Products Building designed by Homer Harper in St. Joseph, Michigan in 1936 (eBay.com, May 4, 2022) Right: Aerial View of Manhattan's Viking Building shortly after construction (photograph hanging in building 2022).

Reflecting the second Art Deco period and the Streamline Art Moderne style, the Viking Manufacture facility is remarkably similar in design to the Nylen Products Building in St. Joseph, Michigan that had been designed by Harper in 1936. The Viking Manufacturing plant was located in Jackson, Michigan in a rented building when Manhattan lured the company to Kansas in 1945. Viking officials may have had a relationship with Harper who had practiced in Michigan for twenty years; they selected Harper to design the new plant for Manhattan. The Nylen Products Company building may have inspired

⁴² Davis & Spencer, 48-49. Also "Mont J. Green Dies of Illness; Services Monday." *Manhattan Mercury*. 12 Oct 1967, 1; "Mont J. Green." Accessed on May 5 at Landmarkhunter.com; *Kansas Construction News*. 10 May 1919, 9; *Kansas Government Journal* 5-7, 1919, 24; *American Builder* 32, 1921, 155; Historic Preservation Services, LLC, "Manhattan Kansas Cultural Resources Survey Report." City of Manhattan, 2003, accessed online on 5 May at cityofmnhk.com.

⁴³ "Homer Williamson Harper." King County, WA. 12 Sept 1918. Ancestry.com. U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc., 2005.

⁴⁴ *Champaign Daily Gazette*. 19 May 1909.

⁴⁵ "Homer W. Harper." *Herald-Press*, 22 Jan 1947, 12.

⁴⁶ "Homer Harper." *Michigan Society of Architects Bulletin* 21, 1947, 2; *Arts and Architecture* 3-4, 1912, 53; *Michigan Manufacturer & Financial Record* 38 1926, 8; *American School Board Journal* 111, 1945, 71; *The Iron Age* 114, 1924, 808; *Industry Week* 75, 1924, 1257; *Iron Age Trade Review* 86, 1930, 116; *American School & University* 5, 1935, 408; and "Movie theaters designed by Homer Harper." Accessed on Cinema Treasures on 5 May 2022 at cinematreasures.org.

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Viking officials to request a similar design from Harper, the basis for the likeness is speculation but the similarity in design of the two buildings is clear.

Art Deco originated in Europe taking its name from the *Exposition Internationale des Arts Decoratifs et Industriels Modernes*, held in 1925 in Paris. It first gained popularity in America the 1920s distinguished as a new style with vertical massing, geometric forms and ornamentation that was a clear departure from traditional revival styles that had dominated American buildings for the previous decades. It was a style that consciously strove for modernity and an artistic expression to complement the machine age.⁴⁷

During and following the Depression, designs became more reserved and generally rejected all forms of ornament. Richard Longstreth describes the second streamlined Art Deco phase that emerged in the 1930s and 1940s: In contrast to the early ornamental phase, these buildings embodied sleek machine inspired forms and motifs. Defining characteristics emphasize horizontality with decorative banding, long stretches of windows, smooth wall surfaces and rounded corners. In the 1930s, designs may have combined the verticality and ornamental richness of the first Art Deco phase with the sleek machine imagery of the second phase but by the 1940s, designs were more reserved with applied ornament seldom found, still imparting the idea of building design enhanced by industrialization but without the art and ornament characteristic of the first phase.⁴⁸

Ward Bucher similarly defines Art Moderne as a style characterized by horizontal elements, rounded corners, flat roofs, glass block, smooth walls, and asymmetrical massing, all intended to look streamlined. The style was frequently combined with Art Deco elements and is also known as Streamline Moderne.⁴⁹ The defining characteristics of the later Art Deco period are often indistinguishable from the Streamline Art Moderne style; both are sub-styles of the Modern Movement and classify Manhattan's Viking Manufacturing plant.

Although the Viking building has a brick facade rather than a smooth surface such as concrete or metal that was common in these sleek designs, the building is characterized by its horizontal massing, flat roof, banded detailing, and use of ribbons of glass block wrapping around the building's curved corners - basic tenants of the later Art Deco period and Streamline Art Moderne styles. The exterior of the building is carried through to the interior with the glass block and curved building corners being a dominant interior characteristic as well. Operable windows and the natural light provided by the ribbons of glass block provided a well-lit and ventilated production floor. Even the 1967 metal shed addition utilized translucent fiberglass panels at walls and ceilings to provide natural lighting for the new manufacturing space.

The Viking Manufacturing Company Building clearly reflects its original 1945 design and 1967 addition representing a practical, industrial approach to design. The building continues to convey its original late Art Deco and Streamline Moderne styles and remains one of Manhattan's outstanding examples of mid-century construction.

⁴⁷ John C. Poppeliers, Chambers and Schwartz. *What Style is It? A Guide to American Architecture*. New York: John Wiley and Sons, Preservation Press, 1983. 88.

⁴⁸ Richard Longstreth, *The Buildings of Main Street- A Guide to American Commercial Architecture*. Walnut Grove CA: Alta Mira Press, 2000, 47-49.

⁴⁹ Ward Bucher. *Dictionary of Building Preservation*. New York: John Wiley and Sons, Preservation Press, 1996. 25.

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Poppeliers, John C. and S. Allen Chambers, Jr., and Nancy B. Schwartz. *What Style is It? A Guide to American Architecture*. New York: John Wiley and Sons, Preservation Press, 1983.

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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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
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10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 3.3

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

1 39.58137 -96.58137
Latitude: Longitude:

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated boundary consists of the portion of the west $\frac{3}{4}$ of the site including the original building, 1967 addition, 1967 free-standing building. The boundary is rectangular and approximately 3.3 acres. The north and south boundaries measure approximately 457 feet from both the NW-NE and SW-SE corners, and the east and west boundaries measure approximately 319 feet from both the NW-SW and NE-SE corners.

The nominated boundary is within the following legal description:

WARD 6, ACRES 3.9, BEG 20' E OF NW COR OF LT 243 TH S 100' E130', S215', W585', N3 15', E455' TO POB Plat Book/Page A /54-8 Lot Width: 455.0 Lot Depth: 315.0 Deed Book/Page 0398/0739 0701/0084 0841/0233

The boundary of the nomination is illustrated in Figure 2.

Boundary Justification

The legal description above represents a majority of the original site excluding only the southeast leg of the site behind the Locksmith Shop along 15th Street. This portion of the site is not visually linked with the building from primary public views and does not have a strong functional tie to the building. It consists of a vacant piece of the parcel and does not pertain to the significance of the manufacturing company.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Brenda and Michelle Spencer
organization Spencer Preservation date 17 May 2022
street & number 10150 Onaga Road telephone 785-456-2855
city or town Wamego state KS zip code 66547
e-mail brenda@spencerpreservation.com

Property Owner: (complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name BBX, LLC - Derek Richards, contact
street & number 1135 Westport Drive telephone 785-236-9430
city or town Manhattan state KS 66502

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Photographs

Name of Property: Viking Manufacturing Company

City or Vicinity: Manhattan

County: Riley State: Kansas

Photographer: Brenda Spencer

Date Photographed: 23 March and 22 April 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

<u>Photo #</u>	<u>Direction</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
1 of #24	SE	4-22-2022	Front/north facade from NW
2 of #24	E	3-23-2022	West facade from NW corner of site
3 of #24	E	4-22-2022	Looking E in rear alley behind building with 1980s stone solvent shed and metal building built 1967 for shipping/receiving on south side of alley
4 of #24	NE	3-23-2022	Rear/south facade with original loading docks
5 of #24	NW	3-23-2022	Rear/south entrance and one of two twin loading docks on W end of S facade
6 of #24	W	4-22-2022	Looking W from SE corner of site with 1967 metal building addition and freestanding shipping/receiving department on each side of alley
7 of #24	SW	4-22-2022	Looking SW from N edge of side along Yuma with 1967 metal building addition obscured by trees on east side of building
8 of #24	W	4-22-2022	East side of north office bay with detail of glass block windows, black tile detailing and curved corner
9 of #24	S	4-22-2022	Front building entrance into office bay on north facade
10 of #24	S	4-22-2022	Detail of building entrance into front office bay
11 of #24	NE	4-22-2022	Front entry from vestibule inside north entrance to office bay
12 of #24	NE	4-22-2022	View to NE in first floor of front/north office with block entry vestibule on left
13 of #24	W	4-22-2022	Looking W in first floor of front/north office bay
14 of #24	W	4-22-2022	Conference room on west end of first floor office bay – with curved wall
15 of #24	SW	4-22-2022	Looking SW in E side of first floor office with central office flanked by entrances to rear production floor and open stair to 2 nd floor office bay
16 of #24	N	4-22-2022	Looking down open stair in office bay to front entrance vestibule
17 of #24	W	4-22-2022	Looking W in 2 nd floor of front office bay
18 of #24	W	4-22-2022	Looking W in 1 st floor rear production room
19 of #24	SE	4-22-2022	Looking SE at SW corner of production floor at interior of original west loading dock
20 of #24	SE	4-22-2022	Looking E in open production floor, from W end
21 of #24	S	4-22-2022	Core in southcentral area of production floor with corridor to rear entrance and stairs up to employee restrooms. Out of photo on right is twin stair up to original women's bathroom and the stair down to press room
22 of #24	E	4-22-2022	Looking E in NE corner of open production floor
23 of #24	S	4-22-2022	Looking S in E end of production floor at interior view of original E dock Door on left leads to 1967 addition
24 of #24	W	4-22-2022	Looking W from E end of metal building built as expansion of production floor off east end of original building in 1967-original exterior wall visible

Photo key on following page.

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Riley County, KS
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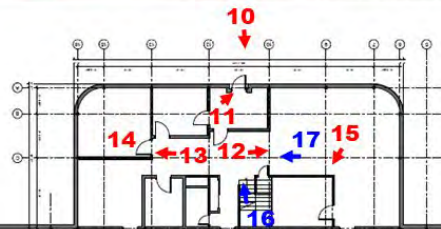
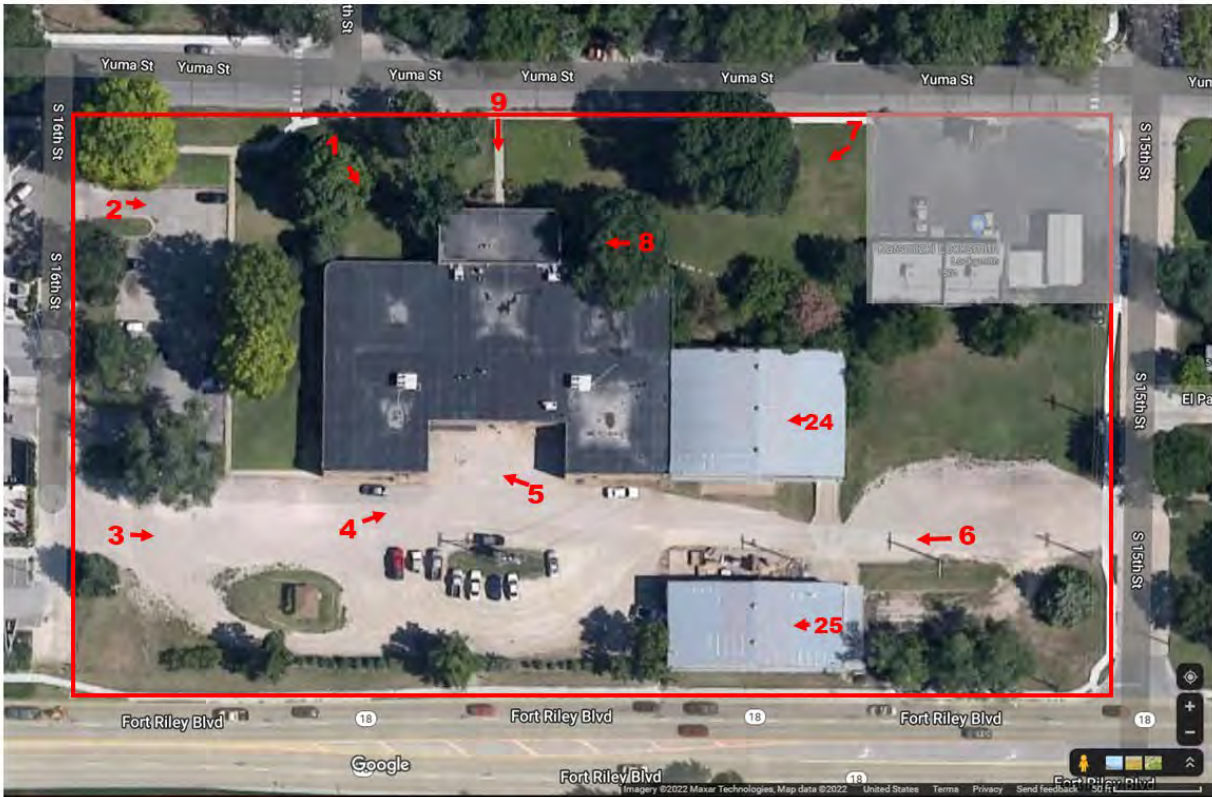
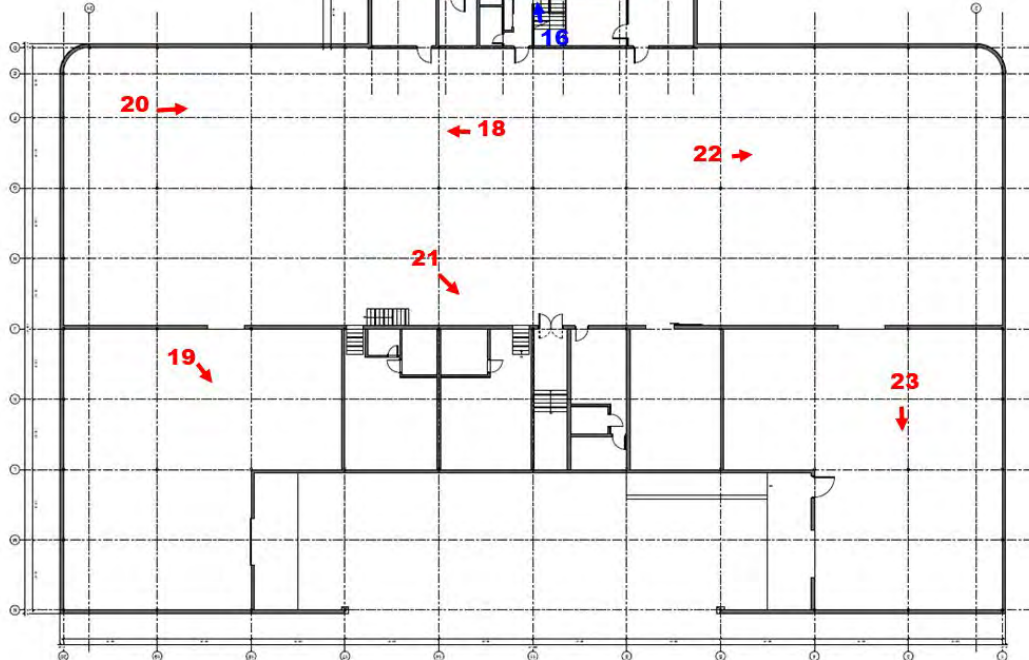


PHOTO KEY
VIKING MANUFACTURING CO. BUILDING
1531 Yuma Street, Manhattan, KS
Aerial View from Google Maps 2022
Floor Plan diagram provided by building owner



FIRST FLOOR

Note—Photo numbers in blue are on upper floor (shown on 1st floor plan)

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
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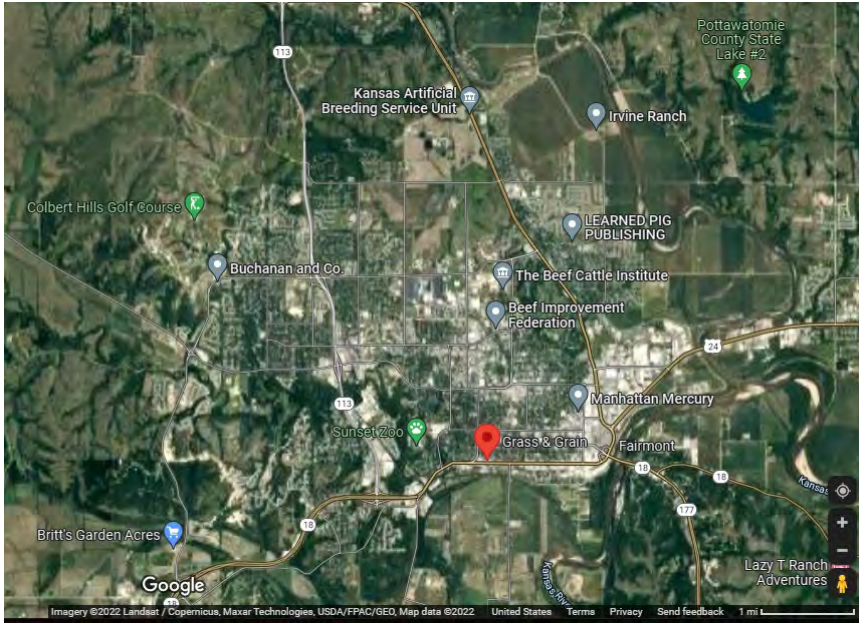


Figure 2 – Context/Site Plans
Viking Manufacturing Co. Building, 1531 Yuma Street, Manhattan, KS
WGS 84 Lat 39.58137; Long -96.58137
Highlighted box shows nomination boundary
Google Maps 2022

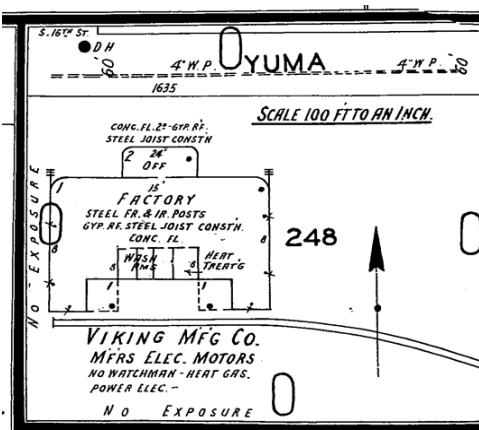


Figure 3 – March 1947 Update, 1930 Sanborn Map, Manhattan, KS, Excerpt Sheet 11
Viking Manufacturing Co. Building, 1531 Yuma Street, Manhattan, KS

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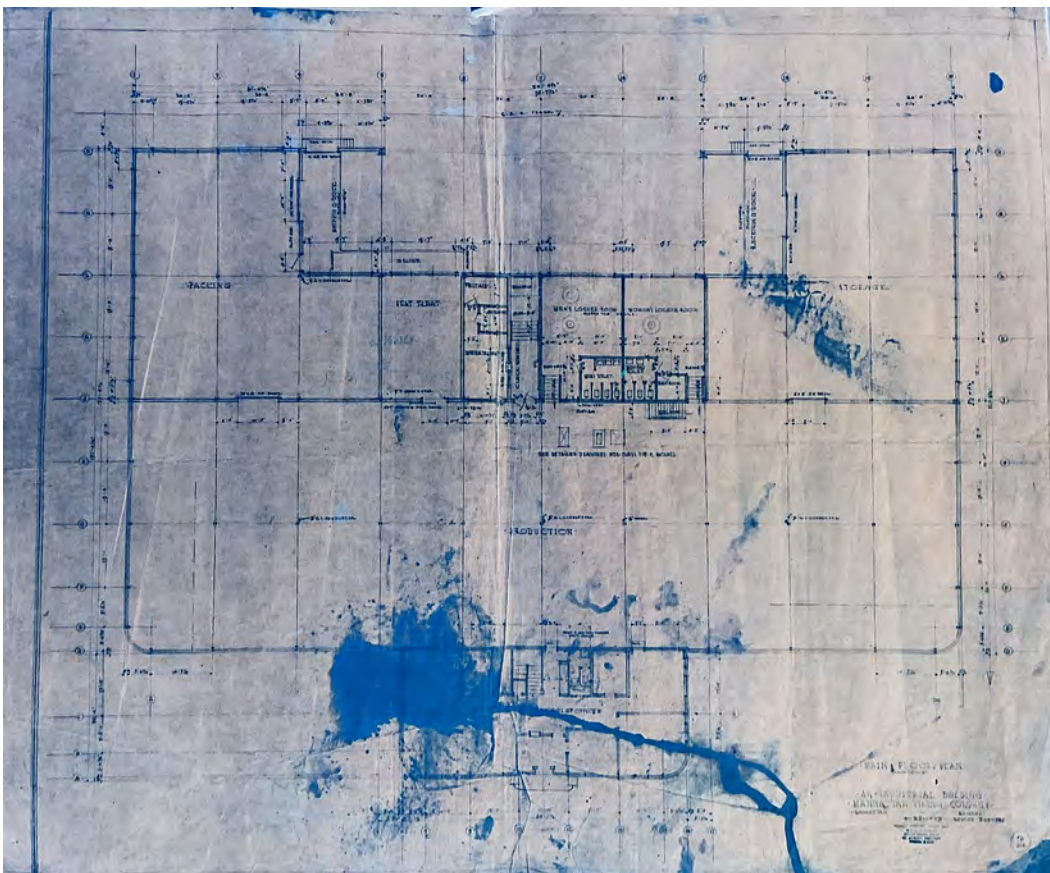
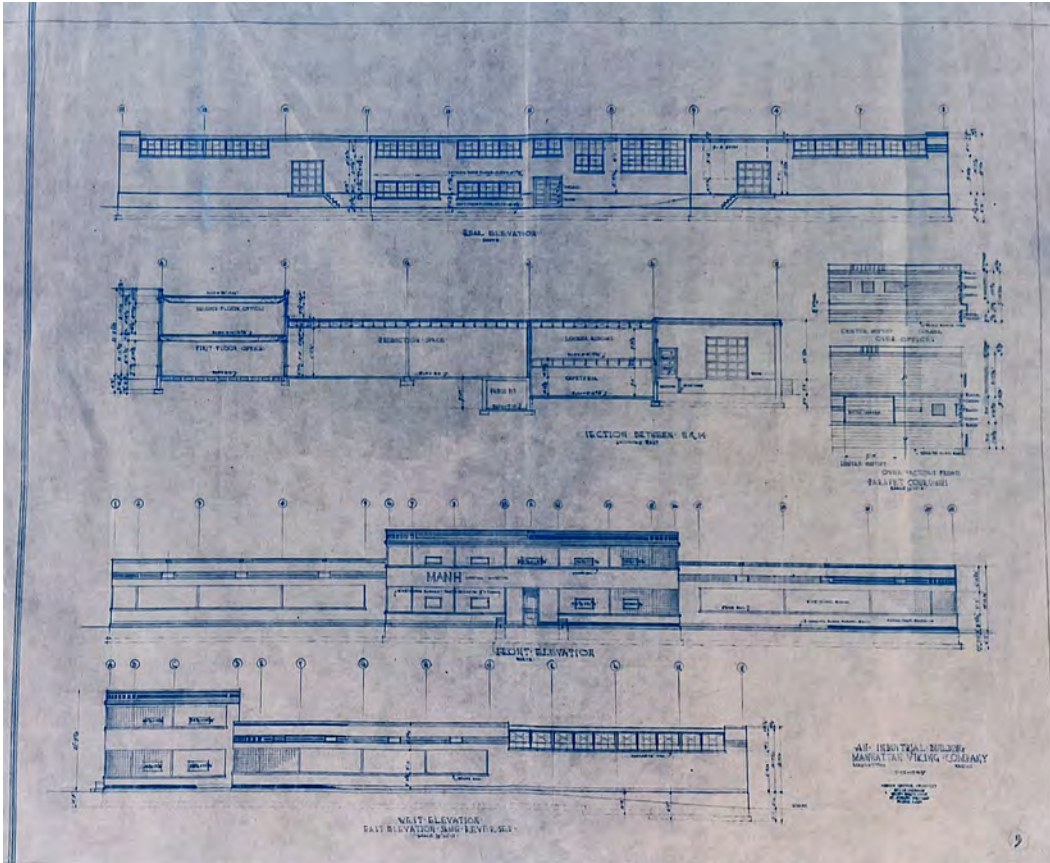


Figure 4 – Select sheets from original plans provided by owner

Plans labeled:
An Industrial Building
1945
Homer Harper, Architect
St. Joseph Michigan

Upper: Elevations
Lower: First Floor Plan

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Figure 5 – Undated View of Viking Manufacturing Co. Building and Employees
Photo provided by Ag Press.



Riley County Historical Society & Museum

Figure 6 – Undated Views of Viking Manufacturing Co. Building Photo provided by Riley County Historical Society and Museum (RCHS) and may not be reproduced outside this nomination without written permission from RCHS.

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

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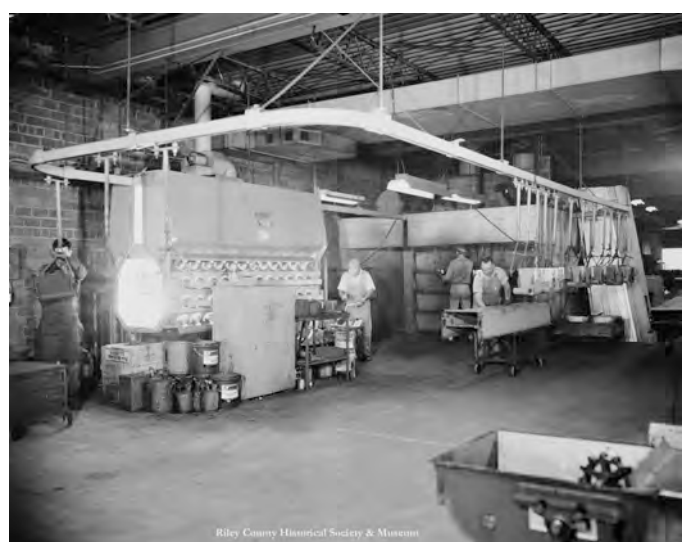
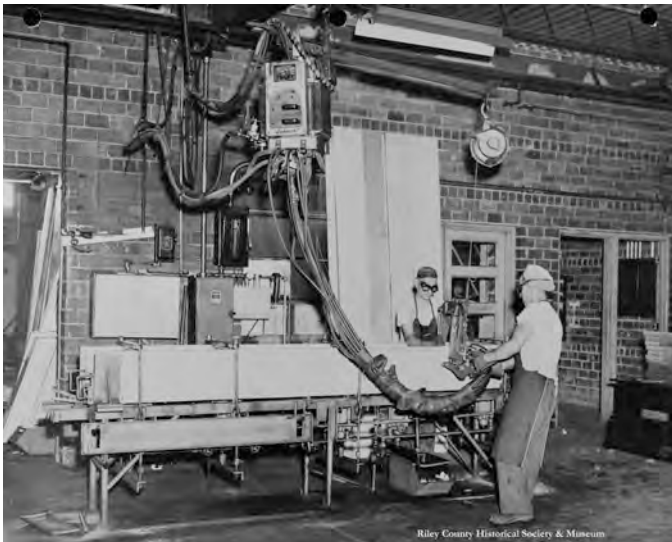
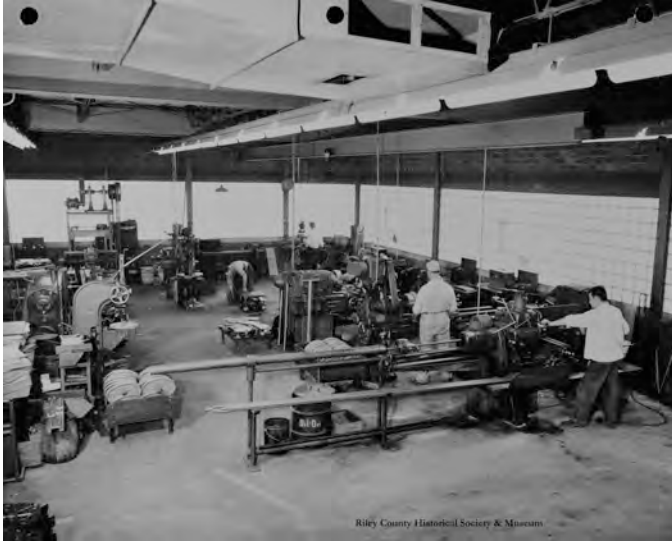


Figure 7 – Undated Interior Views of Viking Manufacturing Co. Building
Photos provided by Riley County Historical Society and Museum (RCHS) and may not be reproduced outside this nomination without written permission from RCHS.

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

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Photo 1



Photo 2

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Riley County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 3



Photo 4

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Riley County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 5



Photo 6

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Riley County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 7



Photo 8

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Riley County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 9



Photo 10



Photo 11

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Riley County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 12



Photo 13

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Riley County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 14



Photo 15

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Riley County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 16



Photo 17

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Riley County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 18



Photo 19

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Riley County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 20



Photo 21

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Riley County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 22



Photo 23

Viking Manufacturing Company Building
Name of Property

Riley County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 24



Photo 25