



CITY OF HAYSVILLE
200 West Grand Avenue
Haysville, Kansas 67060

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Contact: 316-529-5900

Haysville's Vickers Petroleum Service Station Added to Historic Register

Haysville, KS (August 12, 2019) After a rigorous application process, Haysville's iconic Vickers Station has been added to the Register of Kansas Historic Places and is being considered for listing on the National Historic Register. The City of Haysville expects findings from the National Register to be available within the next 60 days.

Located at 140 N. Main Street, the Vickers Station was built in 1954 and is the first service station in the nation to feature the architecturally significant 'batwing' design. The batwing concept, developed by architect John M. Hickman, was at the forefront of the Futurism style. Mr. Hickman, who apprenticed under Frank Lloyd Wright at the University of Illinois, also designed downtown Wichita's Century II Performing Arts and Convention Center and Wichita State University's Ablah Library.

The feeling evoked by the property reflects its period of significance. With its bold geometric form, the service station easily embodies the character of Post-War Modernism. Having two historic gas islands in front of the station, the property is easily distinguishable as a service station.

The Vickers Station is of historic importance for more than oil industry history and first-of-its-kind architecture. When an F4 tornado cut a trail of destruction through the center of Haysville in 1999, the original exterior masonry of the Vickers Station was one of the few structures on the east side of Main Street left intact. Prior to the tornado, the building sat vacant for many years, but the community was inspired to preserve Vickers Station after seeing the destruction throughout town. In 2007, the interior was remodeled to serve as office space and is now home to the Haysville Chamber of Commerce.

Additional information regarding the National Register will be shared with the media once it is received.

For more information about Haysville, visit www.haysville-ks.com, follow us on Facebook.com/HaysvilleKs or contact the City of Haysville at (316) 529-5900. For more on the Kansas Historical Society, visit www.kshs.org.

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