

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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received **MAY 6 1986**

date entered

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

## 1. Name

historic Case Library

and/or common Case Hall

## 2. Location

street & number Baker University, Eighth & Grove \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Baldwin City \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of

state Kansas code 020 county Douglas code 045

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	N/A being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name Trustees of Baker University

street & number Eighth & Grove

city, town Baldwin City \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of state Kansas 66006

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Douglas County Courthouse

street & number Massachusetts Street

city, town Lawrence state Kansas 66044

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? \_\_\_\_\_ yes  no

date N/A \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Case Library (ca. 1904-1907) is located on the Baker University campus in Baldwin City, Douglas County, Kansas (pop. 2,829). The two story, Neo-classical limestone structure stands on the southwest corner of the sixteen acre campus, fronting Eighth Street, Baldwin City's main street. Flanked by two modern masonry buildings, Collins Library (ca. 1961) to the north and Constant Hall (ca. 1964) to the south, Case Library stands as the fifth building constructed by the University. The earlier buildings were the Old Castle (ca. 1858, NR 1971), Centenary Hall (ca. 1885, d. 1964), and Rippy Gym (ca. 1908), all located to the east of Case Library and Parmenter Hall (ca. 1865-1871, NR 1976), located to the north of Case Library. Presently, there are twenty-eight buildings which comprise the Baker University campus. Case Library blends well with the University's other buildings, most of which were constructed of native cut limestone blocks. This structure maintains a high degree of external integrity but has been significantly altered inside.

Case Library is a semi-rectangular structure with a low hipped roof, hidden by a parapet wall. It sits on a raised limestone foundation. The main body of the building is constructed of yellowish, rusticated and random coursed limestone blocks. Larger, light tan-grey rusticated and coursed limestone blocks are used for the foundation. The light tan-grey limestone is also employed for the buildings's central pedimented pavilion, which projects from the facade. Whitish, smooth cut limestone is used for the water course, the belt courses, the pavilion's base, and parts of the entablatures.

Oriented to the west, the building's nine bay facade is defined by a three bay, central projecting pedimented pavilion which is flanked by a two bay recession on each side and concluded by one bay, projecting rectangular battlements on both the northern and southern corners.

The pedimented pavilion is composed of two levels of rusticated, light tan-grey limestone block pilaster shafts with foliated Ionic capitals. Four singly placed pilasters define the three first floor portals between them. The recessed entry space hides the aluminum cased, plate glass doors that replaced the original set of wooden doors. The pilasters support an entablature composed of a multiply moulded, white limestone architrave, a rusticated yellow limestone frieze, and a projecting white limestone cornice. On the second floor, four coupled pilaster groupings define the three 1/1 double hung windows between them and support an entablature similar to that on the first level. The windows have flat, white limestone lintels and are accentuated by a smooth cut, white limestone belt course which runs beneath them. The entablature treatments and pilaster groupings extend back along the pavilion's projections, with one pilaster on either side of the pavilion on the first floor and two pilasters on either side of the pavilion on the second floor. A pediment with a foliated, pressed metal facade rests above this. Pressed metal sheets, imprinted with swags, decorate the facade and side parapet walls of the corner battlements. The pavilion sits on a smooth cut, white limestone base. Smooth cut, grey limestone slab steps lead up to the building.

The pavilions's upper cornice treatment continues across the entire building, surmounted by a parapet wall. A beaded, smooth cut, white limestone belt course runs above all of the first and second story windows, excepting those in the pavilion. An unbeaded, smooth cut, white limestone belt course runs beneath all of the first

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** ca. 1904–1907      **Builder/Architect** J.W. Gaddis-Architect  
 William Charles Bauer-Revised plans

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Case Library (ca. 1904–1907) is being nominated to the National Register under criteria A and C for its historical association with Baker University (est. 1858) and for its architectural significance. Chartered as a four-year, liberal arts, co-educational institution by the Kansas Territorial Legislature on February 12, 1858, Baker University is Kansas' oldest institution of higher learning operating under its original charter. Founded by the Kansas Education Association of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Baker University is representative of the many colleges and universities founded by religious organizations in the Mid-west and West during the Nineteenth Century. Case Library, the fifth structure built to serve the University, was the school's first library building. Its four story, steel-shelved and glass-floored stacks provided space for 50,000 volumes. Previous library facilities had been located on various floors of Parmenter Hall (ca. 1865–1871, NR 1976), the University's science building.

Judge Nelson E. Case (1845–1921), a prominent Oswego lawyer and member of the Baker University Board of Trustees from 1883 until his death in 1921, provided \$8,000.00 of initial seed money in 1898 for the construction of the library. In 1906, Andrew Carnegie contributed \$25,000.00 to the library construction and pledged an additional \$12,000.00 for the purchase of books and equipment if the University could justify this money with a \$36,000.00 library endowment fund. The building cost approximately \$52,000.00 to complete. Carnegie funded the construction of three other university libraries and fifty-nine public libraries in Kansas.

When the library opened in August, 1907, it contained 17,000 hard bound volumes, 900 of which had been donated by Case. In 1908, the library's endowment stood at \$28,000.00 and quite soon afterward the institution received the additional Carnegie money. The Carnegie Corporation also provided the University with a \$6,000.00 grant for the purchase of books in 1932.

Case Library was built under the tenure of Lemuel Herbert Murlin (1861–1935), who served as the President of Baker University from 1894 until his resignation in 1911, when he accepted the Presidency of Boston University. Murlin is thought to have been responsible for the initial selection of the architect chosen to design the library, J.W. Gaddis of Vincennes, Indiana.

The Gaddis design was not well received and Dr. William Charles Bauer of the Baker University Physics and Chemistry Department was asked to refine it. Bauer stripped the Romanesque elements, creating a staid, Neo-classical appearance. He maintained the dimensions, materials, massing and general layout. His major addition to the Gaddis design was the introduction of the four story steel-shelved and glass-floored library stacks which doubled the original proposed volume to accommodate 50,000 volumes. Bauer left the University in 1908 and eventually became the Dean of the Northwestern University School of Engineering.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached sheet.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 60' x 90'

Quadrangle name Baldwin City

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UTM References

A 

115	30981610	41291411610
Zone	Easting	Northing

B 

Zone	Easting	Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property is a rectangle measuring less than one acre. It is bounded by Eighth on the west, Grove on the south, Sixth on the east, and Dearborn on the north.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Martha Gray Hagedorn, Architectural Historian

organization Kansas State Historical Society date 1-15-86

street & number 120 West Tenth telephone 913-296-5264

city or town Topeka state Kansas 66612

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Executive Director,  
Kansas State Historical Society

date 4/25/86

### For NPS use only

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

John Alton Byers  
Keeper of the National Register

date 6-5-86

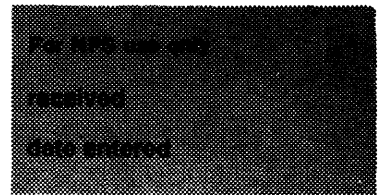
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet 1 Item number 7 Page 2

and second story windows. A beveled, smooth cut, white limestone block water table delineates the foundation. The fenestration used throughout the building is 1/1 double hung, with all of the windows having the same dimensions. The basement windows are placed directly beneath the first floor windows and number the same.

Four sections comprise the building's ten bay, southern side. A one bay, rectangular battlement on the western most section abuts a two bay, rectangular recession to the east. Abutting the recession is a projecting three bay, rectangular section. A four bay, three sided projection marks the eastern most section of the southern side.

The northern side of the building is composed of a four bay, rectangular projection to the east and a four bay, rectangular recession to the west. A chimney rises from the center of the recessed western section.

The building's thirteen bay rear faces east. It is composed of three sections: a three bay, two sided projection to the south; a four bay, rectangular recession in the center; and a six bay, rectangular projection to the north. A chimney rises from the southern corner of the projecting rectangular section on the east side.

Before the extensive interior alterations of 1969, the now partitioned first floor of Case Library housed two open reading rooms, the Librarian's office, and the President's office. Recitation and seminar rooms were located on the second and basement floors. The four story, 34' x 27' steel-shelved and glass-floored stack room in the northeast portion of the building has been reduced by two levels, with classrooms and enclosed staircases filling the space on the first and second floors. Steam heating and electrical systems were installed during the original construction period. The University has plans to remodel the building's interior again in an effort to achieve a more space efficient lay-out. Currently the building houses offices and classrooms for the departments of education, philosophy, psychology, and sociology.

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Continuation sheet 2

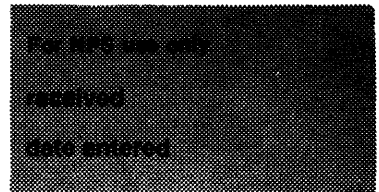
Item number 8

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Since the Palmyra Town Company's donation of the 320-acre tract to the Kansas Education Association of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1858 for the purpose of building a university, Baker University and the town it spawned, Baldwin City, have had a very close relationship. When Case Library opened in 1907, 780 students were enrolled at the University. Baldwin City's population was 1,600. With enrollment dropping significantly during the Second World War and increasing during the Vietnam War, Baker University has a 1985 enrollment of 739. Baldwin City's population stands at 2,829. The University has provided the community with leadership and a cultural center. Case Library symbolizes this relationship, maintaining a high degree of historical and architectural significance.

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Continuation sheet 3

Item number 9

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