

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received SEP 6 1984

date entered OCT 4 1984

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Arkansas City High School

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number Robert S. Moore and President Streets, N/A not for publication

city, town Arkansas City N/A vicinity of

state Arkansas code 05 county Desha code 041

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Arkansas City School System

street & number

city, town Arkansas City N/A vicinity of state Arkansas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Desha County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Arkansas City state Arkansas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title AHPP Survey Files

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

date September, 1981

☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

city, town Little Rock state Arkansas

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY

Constructed in 1910, Arkansas City High School is a two story brick Renaissance Revival structure with a three-story central tower of Italian Villa inspiration. Typical Renaissance Revival features include a low-pitched hipped roof, brick quoins, differentiation of materials between first and upper floors and a rectangular plan.

ELABORATION

The Arkansas City High School is constructed of red brick laid in common bond and sits on a raised white painted concrete block foundation. The hip roof has over hanging eaves supported by decorative rafter ends and is covered with asphalt shingles and is pierced on three sides by pedimented and louvered attic vents. Each of the four elevations is symmetrical. A beltcourse of projecting brick separates the raised basement and first floor. The majority of windows are nine-over-one double-hung with stone sills.

The front facade is dominated by a three story square tower that forms the entrance and stair hall of the building. A round arched opening on the first floor is detailed with a stone keystone. A brick panel bearing "Arkansas City High School 1910" is surrounded by a projecting brick border. Stone sills on the upper two floors rest on several courses of projecting bricks and extend across the width of the tower. The second floor has three double-hung windows with diamond lights in the upper sash, which are surrounded by a brick border. The top level of this hip-roofed tower has three one-over-one double-hung windows separated by freestanding Doric columns and flanked by engaged pilasters of the same order. A wood cornice is detailed with dentils and a finial extends from the roof.

The recessed entrance is framed by the arch of the tower. The double doors have ten lights above wood panels and are flanked by five light sidelights. The transom has diamond-shaped lights.

The main body of the building is identical on either side of the tower. Two six-over-one double-hung basement windows are centrally positioned on each side. The top two floors have eight nine-over-nine double-hung windows with eight stone diamonds inlaid in the wall between the two floors.

The south side elevation has six windows at the basement level and two at the center of each upper floor that are six-over-one double-hung. The tops of the two smaller center of the roof slope and heating outlet grilles are located between floors. The north side elevation is identical to the south in its pattern of fenestration. Two basement and one third floor window have been bricked up.

The east rear elevation is similar to the front facade. Differences include the brick chimney, a utility door that replaced two basement windows and a simplified two story entrance projection.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

OMB NO. 1024-0018
EXP. 12/31/84

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

7

Page 1

Stairs at each entrance lead to the basement which has restrooms, dressing facilities and storage space.

Inside the east and west entrances are stairs leading up to the central corridor of this building's main floor, off of which are located four classrooms, one at each corner of the building. Floors are oak and detailing is minimal. Each classroom has a paneled wood door with a four-light transom and simple surrounds. Pressed metal ceilings display a variety of patterns. The walls of each classroom are lined with blackboards. A small cloakroom is located in each. Small rooms used for storage and/or offices are located on either side of the corridor between classrooms. These small rooms have false ceilings and partitions. Stairs at either end of the corridor lead to the second floor where there are three classrooms, one of which extends across the entire north side of the building. This large room is entered through two sets of double doors and has a storage room in the northeast corner. In addition, there are two storage areas over each of the first floor entrances.

Stairs at each entrance lead to the basement, which is devoted to restrooms, dressing facilities and storage.

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 1910

Builder/Architect

Clyde Farrell

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Arkansas City High School, located on an entire city block in this small south-east Arkansas community, was constructed in 1910 at a cost of \$20,000. Designed by Clyde Farrell, who is known in Arkansas for his public school building designs, the high school represents a dramatic departure from the one room frame schoolhouse it replaced. Although referred to as the "high school", the building served grades one through twelve. The need for a replacement structure had become acute with the town experiencing a boom period at the turn of the century as a result of its strategic location on the Mississippi River. Designated the county seat in 1879, Arkansas City by the 1900's had a growing population whose livelihood depended on the river, agriculture, and the lumber industry. The two story brick Renaissance Revival structure which was constructed in 1910, is rivaled only by the County Courthouse in its visual impact on the flat terrain of this small town. Farrell who worked for noted Little Rock architect Frank W. Gibb for thirteen years early in his career, designed many public buildings throughout the state. Schools were the main thrust of his architectural practice followed by his design for fire stations. The Arkansas City High School is one of Farrell's most successful designs.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Interview with Madge Youree, August 30, 1984.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Arkansas City, Ark.-Miss.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A 15 666870 3720180
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 1 through 28 of Block F in the original city of Arkansas City.

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Fred Kleihauer, edited by AHPP staff

organization Tom Herrin Associates

date August 18, 1984

street & number 639 West Poplar

telephone (501) 236-7358

city or town Paragould

state Arkansas

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

 national state X 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

Wilson S. Lee

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 8-31-84

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 10-4-84

James H. Brown
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Arkansas City High School
Desha County
ARKANSAS

SEP 6 1984

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Entered in the
National Register

Working No. _____
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.4.86
Date Due: 10/4/84 - 10/2/84
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 10-4-84
☐ RETURN
☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

- ☐ excellent ☐ deteriorated
☐ good ☐ ruins
☐ fair ☐ unexposed

Check one

- ☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection

8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- ☐ summary paragraph
- ☐ completeness
- ☐ clarity
- ☐ applicable criteria
- ☐ justification of areas checked
- ☐ relating significance to the resource
- ☐ context
- ☐ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☐ justification of exception
- ☐ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

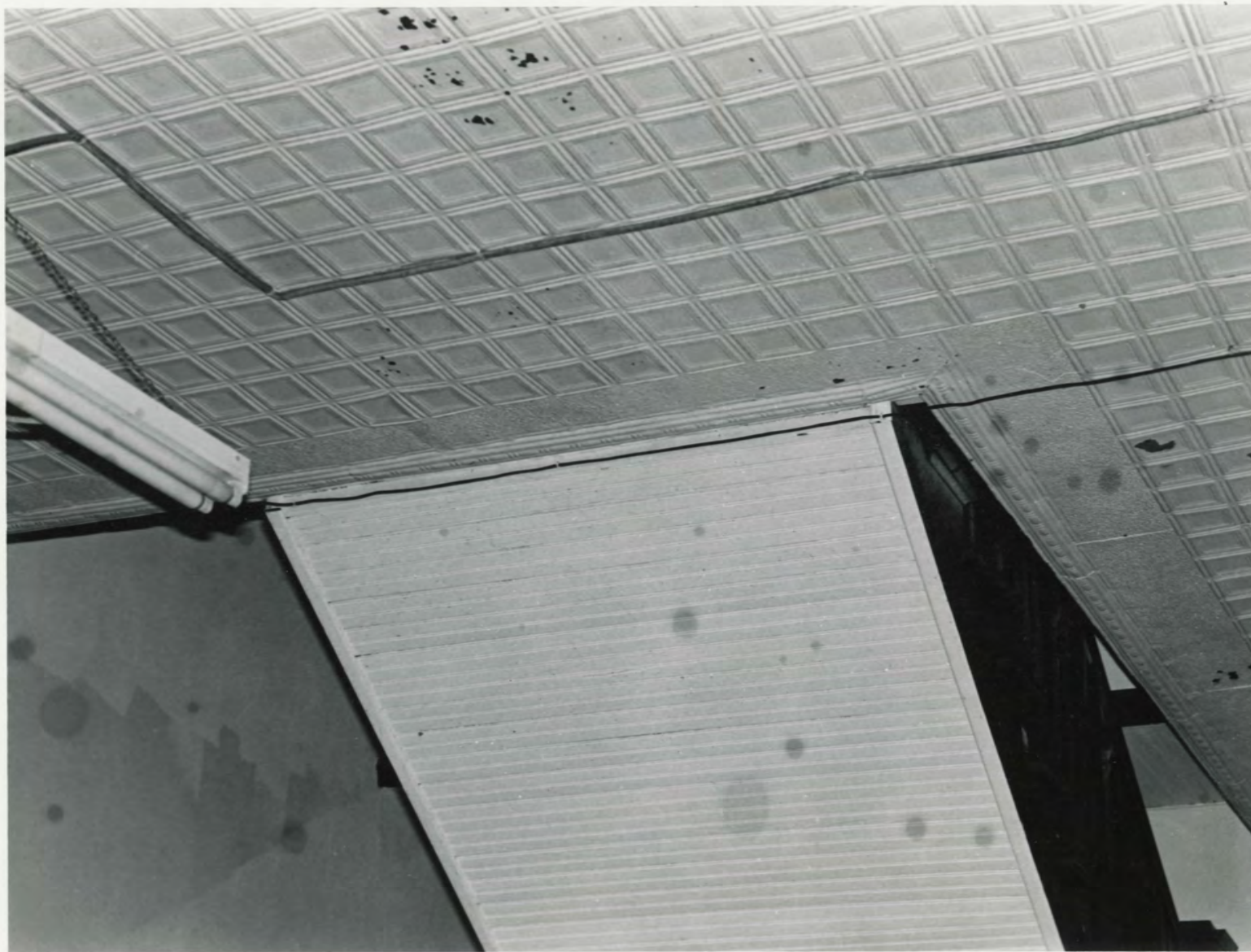
date

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____, Phone: _____



Arkansas City High School

Arkansas City

Desha County, Ark.

Photographed by Alice Jones

August, 1983

Negative at AHPP

Pressed metal ceiling on first
floor.



Arkansas City High School
Arkansas City
Desha County, ARK
Photographed by Alice Jones
August, 1983
Negative at AHPP
Interior (looking into classroom)



Arkansas City High School
Arkansas City
Desha County, Ark.
Photographed by Alice Jones
August, 1983
Negative at AHPP
Viewed from the North



Arkansas City High School
Arkansas City
Desha County, Ark.
Photographed by Alice Jones
August, 1983
Negative at AHPP
First Floor landing.



Arkansas City High School
Arkansas City
Desha County, Ark.
Photographed by Alice Jones
August, 1983
Negative at AHPP
Viewed from the Northeast)
Rear elevation



Arkansas City High School
Arkansas City
Desha County, Ark.
Photographed by Alice Jones
August, 1983
Negative at AHPP
Viewed from the Southeast



Arkansas City High School
Arkansas City
Desha County, Ark.
Photographed by Alice Jones
August, 1983
Negative at AHPP
Viewed from the Southwest



Arkansas City High School
Arkansas City
Desha County, Ark.
Photogrpahed by Alice Jones
August, 1983
Negative at AHPP
Viewed from the South



Arkansas City High School
Arkansas City
Desha County, Ark.
Photographed by Alice Jones
August, 1983
Negative at AHPP
Interior (Classroom)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

ARKANSAS CITY QUADRANGLE
MISSISSIPPI-ARKANSAS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SW 1/4 LAMONT 15' QUADRANGLE

Arkansas City High School
Arkansas City
Desha County, Arkansas
USGS Quad. - Arkansas City, Miss-Ark
Scale: 1:24000

UTM Reference
15 666870/3720180

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1971. Field checked 1972
Projection: Mississippi coordinate system, west zone
(transverse Mercator)
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Mississippi coordinate system,
west zone and Arkansas coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue. 1927 North American datum
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND BY THE ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Interstate Route
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Unimproved road
U. S. Route
State Route

ARKANSAS CITY, MISS.-ARK.
SW 1/4 LAMONT 15' QUADRANGLE
N3330-W9107.5/7.5
1972
AMS 2751 II SW-SERIES V843



ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

August 31, 1984

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1100 "L" Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20240

Re: Arkansas City High School
Arkansas City, AR
Desha County

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nomination for the Arkansas City High School. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Wilson Stiles
State Historic Preservation Officer

WS/AJ/ss

Enclosure/s

