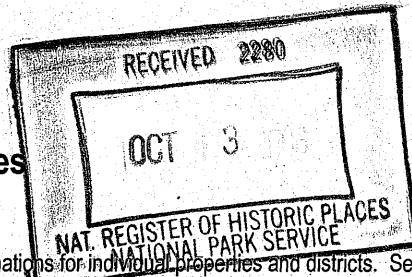


1054

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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-9000a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Oldham, James T., House
Other name/site number 015-1540-0015

2. Location

Street & number 321 S. Denver Street not for publication
City or town El Dorado vicinity
State Kansas Code KS County Butler Code 015 Zip code 67042-2744

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Patrick Zolmer DSHPO 10/5/06
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Kansas State Historical Society

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of commenting official /Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other, (explain:)

Edson H. Beall 11/21/06
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

James T. Oldham House
Name of Property

Butler County, Kansas
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2		total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter Categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation: STONE: Limestone
Walls: STONE: Limestone

WOOD

Roof: ASPHALT

Other:

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

James T. Oldham House
Name of Property

Butler County, Kansas
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- 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 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

ca. 1885 - 1956

Significant Dates

ca. 1885

ca. 1920

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

James T. Oldham House
Name of Property

Butler County, Kansas
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than 1 acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	4	6	8	8	6	8	0	4	1	8	7	2	2	0
Zone		Easting						Northing						

2

Zone		Easting						Northing						

3

Zone		Easting						Northing						

4

Zone		Easting						Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title Christy Davis, Deputy SHPO
Organization Kansas State Historical Society Date 11/1/2005
Street & number 6425 SW 6th Ave Telephone 785-272-8681, ext. 215
City or town Topeka State KS Zip code 66615-1099

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

Name William Jack and Linda Cauble
Street & number 321 S. Denver Street Telephone 316-322-0634
City or town El Dorado State KS Zip code 67042-2744

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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Oldham House
Butler Co., Kansas

Architectural Description

Setting

The Oldham House, built ca. 1885, is located at 321 S. Denver Street in the southeast corner of Block 25 of the Original Town of El Dorado, Kansas (population 12,000). The home is situated on the northwest corner of West Olive Avenue (formerly known as Second Avenue) and South Denver Street. The home sits on a large lot and is surrounded by homes constructed during the housing boom in the 1920s.

Exterior

Overall

The Oldham House is a compound square plan with projections ranging from small bays to room-sized bays and a round tower. Typical of Queen Anne houses constructed in the late nineteenth century, the house features a steep hipped roof with lower cross gables. The principal material is quarry-faced limestone laid in regular courses. Two limestone chimneys pierce the dimensional composition roof.

Most of the home's fenestration is double-hung 1/1 wood with cylinder glass. However, some windows are glazed with leaded or stained glass. Windows have a variety of sizes and shapes, and appear in singly, in pairs, or triplets. Some are rectangular in shape with heavy rectangular stone lintels and sills. Others have segmental arches crowned with keystones. There are also three portal windows and two half-round windows.

The exterior of the home retains a high degree of integrity. The only major non-historic alteration was the construction of a 1-story addition to the west (rear) elevation in 1976. The addition is wood frame with a limestone veneer water table.

Front (East) Elevation

The most striking feature on the front elevation is a round two-story tower. The tower, nestled in the L created by the east- and south- facing projecting gables, houses the home's front entrance, which is accessed via a rounded porch. Although the current front door dates to the 1920s, the door opening retains its historic framing and transom. Window openings also pierce the heavy stone tower. The front-facing second-floor window is a 1/1 double-hung arched window with stained glass upper and lower sash. A 1/1 double-hung window graces the southeast corner of the tower's first floor. A portal window is located on the southeast corner of the second floor.

Heavy limestone piers support the porch's wood-framed roof. Although a simple wood railing creates the appearance of a walk-out balcony on the porch roof, the railing is purely decorative.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Oldham House
Butler Co., Kansas

Section number 7 Page 2

Three window openings penetrate the projecting front gable. The first-floor window is a large picture window with a mission-type muntin pattern. The second-floor opening houses a double arched window, accented by a stone lintel with keystone. A half-round decorative window is nestled in the gable.

The east elevation of the north-projecting gable can be seen from the front. The east elevation of this small bay is pierced by a centered single 1/1 double-hung arched window on both the first and second stories.

A carport, supported by limestone piers, stretches toward the south off of the home's south elevation. This flat-roofed feature was a twentieth-century addition.

North Elevation

From left to right, the north elevation features the north elevation of the projecting front gable with two single arched windows, a small north projection with double windows on the first and second floors and a portal window in its gable, the north wall of the principal mass with single windows on each story, and the north elevation of the wood-framed non-historic addition.

South Elevation

The detail on the South Elevation rivals only that of the front elevation. From left to right, the one-story non-historic addition has a modern "bay" window. The next bay, part of the home's principal mass, has a 1/1 double-hung window on the second floor, and a kitchen door and window on the first floor. The less-than-room-size south-projecting bay houses an unusual second bay within it. The base of the second bay is square; the second floor of the bay is rounded. The squared part of the second bay on the first floor has a triple window flanked by small windows on its east and west sides. The rounded upstairs bay has a double window flanked by a narrow window on each side. The narrow windows are set at angles. The carport projects to the south and east. The tower and east-projecting bay are also visible from this elevation.

Rear (West) Elevation

The west elevation of the north-projecting gable has no windows. The principal historic architectural feature on this elevation is a centered gable with portal window on the home's principal massing. The second story of the rear elevation has a 1/1 double-hung window. Directly below this window is the original exterior door that now leads to the non-historic rear addition. The gabled west elevation of the addition has a set of French doors that open from the addition to the garden. To the right, the west elevation of the south-projecting bay includes an upper-story window and first-floor door that opens from the dining room to the patio. The rounded bay that extends from the south-projecting bay and the carport are also visible from the west elevation.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Oldham House
Butler Co., Kansas

Garage

The garage, constructed ca. 1920, sits on the southwest corner of the lot and faces south. It is a two-story front-gabled wood framed structure with Craftsman-influenced design. The garage is clad with narrow clapboards on its walls and wood shingles in the gables. A lean-to addition, which extends to the west, was constructed after 1930. The front elevation features a single-car garage door in the lean-to, a single two-car garage door in the principal mass, and both a single and double window in the second floor. The east elevation features a double window, single window, and access doors to both the garage and the upstairs apartment. The rear elevation has a single window on the second floor and both a door and window on the first floor. The interior of the garage has changed little since its original construction.

Interior

Overall

Like the exterior, the home's interior maintains a high degree of integrity. Hard wood floors are exposed both downstairs and upstairs. Rooms feature deep, square baseboards. The home's massive limestone construction creates a window seat of every window opening. Below each window opening is simple paneled trim. Door surrounds and window trim ranges from plain to highly decorative. Some first-floor doors, and all doors off of the main hallway on the second floor have four-panel doors with fluted surrounds, bulls-eye corner blocks, and transom windows. On the first floor, openings that likely historically held pocket doors, now don early twentieth-century French doors. At every historic window opening, plaster curves from the interior wall plane to the window trim on the exterior wall plane. The home's complex shape serves to maximize natural light on the interior, providing light from two to three directions in each room.

First Floor

Entry: The home's front entrance is on the east (front) elevation. Inside a craftsman front door is a small informal entry, which opens toward an oak craftsman staircase. This front stair rises from north to south to a landing, then turns west to east to the second floor. To the left (south) of the entry door is a small closet that is housed in the round tower feature.

Parlor: To the right (north) of the entry is the home's parlor, which fills the building's northeast corner. There are three windows in the parlor, one on the north wall, a small one on the south, and a large picture window on the east (front) wall.

Dining Room: French doors on the west of the parlor open to the home's formal dining room. The dining room features a large square bay on its south side. The squared bay has a triple window on its south side, flanked by a single window on each of its east and west ends. The southwest corner of the room, housed in the larger of two projections, has a door to the exterior.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Oldham House
Butler Co., Kansas

Living Room: A second set of French doors lead from the north side of the dining room to the living room. This room features a bay window on its north side and fireplace on its southeast corner. The fireplace appears to have been a 20th Century addition. From the west wall of the living room, there is access to a small bathroom, beyond which lies an access door to the small, utilitarian basement. The bathroom has a narrow window on its north wall.

Kitchen: From the dining room, one can access the modern kitchen, located at the west end of the historic structure. The south wall of the kitchen has a small window and side door. The north wall has a maid's stair.

Rear Addition: A historic opening on the west wall, which originally accessed a rear porch or lean-to, opens to the home's non-historic addition, which includes a laundry room, large bathroom, a bedroom, and walk-in closet. An exterior door on the west wall of the addition provides access to the rear water garden. The addition was constructed in 1976.

Second Floor

One can access the home's second floor via the front stair or maid's stair. Both lead to a curved wide double-loaded corridor. The south wall of the corridor curves in an unusual serpentine shape.

Master Bedroom: On the south side of the hall at the top of the front stair is the master bedroom. The room features a rounded window bay on the south, with a centered double window flanked by a single window on each side. There is a single window and door to the bathroom on the west wall, and a closet on the north wall.

Other Rooms: Across the hall to the north is the door to another bedroom. This room, situated on the northeast corner of the house, features windows on the east and north, and a closet on the west. A third upstairs bedroom is located to the west on the north side of the hall. This room has a window on its north elevation. At the west end of the hall, there is a small restroom and a steep maid's stair which provides access to the kitchen.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

Oldham House
Butler Co., Kansas

Statement of Significance

Summary

The J. T. Oldham House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as an excellent example of Queen Anne architecture carried out in vernacular materials.

History

James Thomas Oldham

James Thomas Oldham was born November 3, 1841 in Lawrence County, Indiana. Before he came of age, he moved with his family to Southern Illinois and Mount Vernon, Iowa. In 1860, Oldham was one of nine children. A year later, at the age of twenty, he enlisted in the Union Army. His obituary provides a stirring, albeit embellished account of his Civil War service:

“When the civil war opened Mr. Oldham enlisted in company A, Thirteenth Iowa infantry, and served four years of active and continuous service during the entire war. He was in the battles of Pittsburg [sic], Landing, Corinth and the series of battles about Vicksburg, of Kenesaw [sic] Mountain, Micajac [sic] Creek and the direct siege of Atlanta, with its fifty days of fighting and skirmishing, and then in “Pop” Thomas’s division of Sherman’s great march to the sea. When before Atlanta, on July 21, his division was ordered to charge the works. His company had previously been reduced to 46 men, and in the charge they lost 16 men, killed and wounded, having then but 30 men. Next morning his company was placed in the extreme left, and when Hood made his sudden attack he got 23 more of the little company, leaving them with seven men. And when they got together the next morning it was found that five of the seven had one or two bullet holes in their clothing. Mr. Oldham got two through his hat, one bullet stunning him for a few moments. Notwithstanding his strenuous campaigning, it was this boast that he never missed a battle or a meal and never rode in an ambulance.”

According to war histories, twenty-seven of the company’s original members were left when it was mustered out on July 21, 1865.

After the war, Oldham returned to Iowa, where he enrolled in Iowa Wesleyan University for three years until, according to his obituary, he was called home to manage his father’s business. Soon after returning to Mount Vernon, in 1870, Oldham married local Sallie West. By the time the couple moved to El Dorado in 1879, they had two daughters, Alice and Louetta. It is unclear why the Oldhams chose to re-locate. J. T. Oldham’s father John D. Oldham and mother, Caroline, apparently owned property in El Dorado; it was John D. Oldham who conveyed Block 25 to Sallie West Oldham in 1880.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

Oldham House
Butler Co., Kansas

Oldham's El Dorado

The town of El Dorado was platted in 1868 and incorporated in 1871, eight years prior to the time the Oldham's arrival. The original town site, which included the land on which the Oldham House was built, encompassed 140 acres. After surviving a devastating tornado (1871) and battle over saloons, town founders succeeded in attracting families and industries during the late nineteenth century.

During the 1870s and 1880s, many settlers, like the Oldhams, from states to the east purchased inexpensive lots on which to build homes. To accommodate the new families, the founders constructed a new school in 1872. The school population grew so rapidly that the building required an addition by 1879. By 1883, El Dorado boasted a population of 2,000, 600 of which were enrolled in the city's schools.

Although now known for its early twentieth-century role in the state's oil and gas industry, El Dorado's nineteenth-century economy was tied solely to its role as a railroad and trade center for the region's thriving farming and ranching industries. In 1877, the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe railroad completed the line from Florence to El Dorado. In 1883, the St. Louis, Fort Scott, and Wichita Railroad completed a line between El Dorado and Wichita.

This growing regional trade center provided a fertile environment for entrepreneurs like James Oldham. Soon after re-locating his family to El Dorado, Mr. Oldham opened a furniture and undertaking business, constructing a stone commercial building at Fourth and Main. Later, he sold the furniture part of his business, choosing to focus solely on undertaking. Oldham had several business partners through the years. When he died in 1913, his partner was Harry Wiggington, who joined him in about 1905 (accounts vary). According to his obituary, Mr. Oldham's daughter "made a home for him" after his wife Sallie died in 1911.

Following his death in 1913, Oldham was memorialized as a dedicated professional, a devoted Methodist, progressive politician, and an educated and respected member of the El Dorado community. By the time of Oldham's death, El Dorado had rail "lines radiating in five different directions" and boasted a population of over 3,000 residents. The town also had 2 daily newspapers, an electric plant, water works, four banks and a fire department. Although Mr. Oldham did not survive to see the city's second great period of growth, his property would play a key role in it.

Later Owners

Despite facing death both on the battlefield and in his decades-long career as an undertaker, Mr. Oldham seems to have lacked a sense of his own mortality. This is illustrated by the fact that he failed to prepare a will. The absence of a will, coupled with the erratic travel schedule of his daughter Luetta and her husband Albert Parker, who were missionaries to India, resulted in the home's remaining in probate for seven years. For the first few years following Oldham's death, Oldham's business partner Harry

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Oldham House
Butler Co., Kansas

Wiggington and his wife Hattie lived in the home. In 1920, when the estate was finally settled, one of Oldham's two daughters, Alice, and her husband Robert Seymour, a contractor and civil engineer, moved into the house. The Seymours moved to El Dorado from Sigourney, Iowa in 1920 when Alice was 45 years old.

A booming local economy likely factored into the Seymours' decision to relocate to El Dorado. The discovery of oil, black gold, near El Dorado in 1915 caused an enormous shift in the region's economy, a shift that caused the town to live up to its name, meaning "the gilded one." By 1918, fields in El Dorado and nearby Augusta accounted for 9% of the world's oil production, the El Dorado field alone producing 29 million barrels.

The discovery brought both blessings and challenges to the small community. Within a year and a half of the discovery, the population of the town jumped from 1,000 to 7,000. By 1920, it had risen to 20,000. The sudden exponential increase in population caused a housing shortage in town. Although oil companies provided housing for their employees near the wells in settlements such as Oil Hill, which sprang up near El Dorado, the throngs who came to town to supply the oil industry and its employees with goods and services also required housing.

With a combination of un-developed land and construction skills, Robert and Alice Seymour did their part to ease the housing shortage. Between 1917 and 1923 the Seymours developed Oldham's Subdivision. Although there are no specific records on the subdivision, it appears to have included only the southwest quarter of Block 24 (the block to the east). Between 1917 and 1930, four bungalows were constructed in the subdivision. It is speculated that Robert Seymour was involved not only in the platting of the subdivision, but also the construction of the homes, which included west-facing homes at 314, 318 and 320 South Denver, as well as a south-facing home at 514 West Olive Ave. (formerly 2nd Avenue). Among the families who moved into the new bungalows was the family of Louis Lindenbaum, who worked for the El Dorado Iron and Supply Company.

At the same time they were involved with the construction of houses across the street, the Seymours also made some changes to the Oldham House. On the first floor, the Seymours added craftsman features, including the front door, main stair, and French doors. It is likely that Robert Seymour, a contractor, made many of these changes himself. Despite a number of updates on the first floor, it appears that the Seymours left the second floor intact.

The Seymours owned the house until 1937, after which city directories and cemetery records indicate they left town (they were not buried in El Dorado). In their sixties, they may have chosen to retire in Iowa. They sold the home to C. N. and Donna McCarter; Mr. McCarter worked for El Dorado Monument Company. The Carters owned the property until 1956 when they sold it to Lott B. and Jesse Leonard. Mr. Leonard was a salesman for Skelly Oil Company, which was founded in 1919 during the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Oldham House
Butler Co., Kansas

early oil days. The company, which merged with Getty Oil Company in 1977, refined the oil from the El Dorado oil fields.

In 1959, the house sold again to J. Frederick and Vera Doornbos. Dr. Doornbos was a physician at El Dorado Clinic. Between 1970 and 1974, the fate of the home remained in flux. Gerald and Roberta Jones rented the house in 1970 and 1971; Mr. Jones was a sanitarian with the Butler/Greenwood County Health Department. Don and Sandra Reynolds purchased the home in 1973, after which they invested a significant amount of time and expense. Work included installation of a new heating and cooling system.

The Reynolds' sold the home to Dick and Diane Morris in 1974. Like Mr. Oldham, Mr. Morris was (and still is) an undertaker, the director of Kirby-Morris Funeral Home. Mr. Morris lived in the home with his wife and children – and later his second wife Denice. In 2005, the Morris' sold the house to the current owners W. Jack and Linda Cauble.

Queen Anne Architecture

The home is also significant as an example of an unusual limestone permutation of Queen Anne architecture. The Queen Anne style became the dominant residential style in America from 1880 until 1910. Known for its asymmetry and rich surface textures, the style provided an opportunity for both high-style designers and vernacular builders to incorporate some or all elements of the Queen Anne in residential architecture. Defined by large turrets, front porches and large decorated gables, the Queen Anne became the first uniquely American style.

Introduced to this country at the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, the Queen Anne had its roots in the designs of English architect Norman Shaw. Shaw blended Classical and medieval ideas, using tile, half-timbering, stucco and brick to create manor houses and urban dwellings. Shaw was a leader in the search for a new architectural expression that would capture picturesque qualities of Gothic style and compete with the Italianate style.

Eminent American architect Henry Hobson Richardson translated Shaw's interpretation, substituting shingles for tiles as facing on the upper walls and stone for brick on the ground story. Richardson designed the Watts-Sherman House (c. 1874- 1876) at Newport, Rhode Island in 1874, regarded as the first American Queen Anne house. As the style evolved in America, only a small percentage of English style masonry and half-timbered designs were built.

Although the vast majority of American Queen Anne houses were built of wood around a balloon frame, Oldham chose to build his house of local limestone. According to an article in the March 23, 1906 issue of the Walnut Valley Times, "Oldham could never understand why people build of wood or brick when we have such an abundance of excellent building stone."

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

Oldham House
Butler Co., Kansas

Balloon frame examples relied upon inexpensive applied ornament to create architectural interest. Fishscale shingles, sunburst panels, spindlework, window frames, porches, and stairs from architectural supply companies or ordered from catalogues. In the few massive limestone examples, like the Oldham House, this exterior variation of ornament is reflected not in applied ornament, but through their construction in the form of arched openings and other details. On the interior, the Oldham House features manufactured stock woodwork on doors and door frames.

The style lent itself to an eclectic mix of highly decorated surfaces and asymmetrical proportions. Plain wall surfaces were avoided through such devices as towers, turrets, tall ribbed and molded chimneys, projecting pavilions, porches, balconies, jettied second floors, and chamfered or canted bays. Clapboarding integrated with fishscale shingling, pebble dash, spindlework and sunburst panels were widely used to break up the horizontal wall plane. Steeply pitched hipped roofs with cross gables and bracketed eaves defined most house types. Like most Queen Anne Houses, the Oldham House features a steep hipped roof. Like many wood-frame examples, the Oldham House has a two-story tower with steep conical roof.

Fenestration added an important element to the Queen Anne style's vocabulary. In addition to frequent bay windows that might contain curved glass, swinging casement windows with small, diamond-shaped panes; stained, leaded and etched glass windows; colored glass panels; and sash windows decorated with small colored glass panes provided typical fenestration options for house designers. Like many features associated with the Queen Anne style, the latter window treatment was introduced to the American public through a popular building catalogue of the day, the 1876 edition of Palliser's. Like most Queen Anne Houses, the Oldham House as a series of window sizes and designs, including stained glass windows on the front elevation, portal windows in gables, and narrow windows in the various bays.

Pattern book and builder's catalogues provided an opportunity for the Queen Anne style to be disseminated. These were inexpensive publications that reached thousands of people. George Barber's first pattern book, *Cottage Souvenir*, was published in 1887. The publication included twenty-five designs and cost \$.85. Intended for the public at large, these publications encouraged the mixing and integration of various stylistic elements. Although the source of the design of the Oldham House is unknown, it is likely that both the design and construction were carried out by a local stonemason using limestone quarried nearby.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 10

Oldham House
Butler Co., Kansas

Bibliography

Abstract of Title, 321 S. Denver Street, El Dorado, Kansas.

El Dorado City Directories 1885, 1906, 1915-1916, 1920, 1923, 1927, 1929, 1931, 1935, 1937, 1941, 1946, 1959, 1961, 1970, 1972, 1976, 1977.

El Dorado Cemetery Records, Butler County Historical Museum.

"El Dorado, Kansas." 1917, 1923, 1930. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps - Kansas.

U. S. Census, 1860, 1900, 1910.

Blackmar, Frank. *Kansas: A Cyclopedia of State History Embracing Events, Institutions, Industries, Counties, Cities, Towns, Prominent Persons, Etc.* Chicago, Illinois: Standard Publishing Company, 1912.

Cutler, Willaim G. *History of the State of Kansas.* Chicago, Illinois: A. T. Andreas, 1883.

Miner, H. Craig. *Discovery!: Cycles of Change in the Kansas Oil and Gas Industry, 1860-1987.* Wichita, Kansas: KIOGA, 1987.

Mount Vernon Centennial Committee. "Civil War Days." *A Centennial History of Mount Vernon, Iowa 1847-1947.* Mount Vernon, Iowa, 1947. Excerpts at <http://www.usgenet.org/usa/ia/county/linn/history/civilwarmtvernon.htm>.

"James Thomas Oldham, Butler Pioneer and Veteran, is Dead." *El Dorado Republican.* 14 July 1913, p. 1.

"Oldham and Wigginton." *Walnut Valley Times.* 23 March 1906.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10, 11 Page 11

Oldham House
Butler Co., Kansas

Verbal Boundary Description

East 156.7 feet, Lots 5 & 6 and East 156.75 feet & South 38 feet, Lot 4, Block 25

Boundary Justification

This boundary includes all of the property historically associated with the Oldham House.

Photographic Information

The following information is consistent for all photographs:

Oldham House
Butler County, Kansas
Photograph by Christy Davis
November 1, 2005
Digital image archived at Kansas State Historical Society

The following information is specific to each photograph:

<u>Photo #</u>	<u>Description of View</u>
1.	View of the front elevation from the east.
2.	View from the south.
3.	View of rear elevation from the west.
4.	View from the northwest.
5.	View from the northeast.
6.	View of front porch from the east.
7.	View of interior staircase.
8.	View of door and transom detail.
9.	View of second floor hall wall.
10.	View of detached garage from the south.