

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Property

\_\_\_\_\_  
County and State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

## SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 13000437

Property Name: Franklin Elementary School

County: Wyandotte State: Kansas

Multiple Name: Public Schools of Kansas MPS

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*fn* Alexis Abernathy 6/23/13  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

In Section 10 of the National Register of Historic Places nomination acreage has been added to state 1.07 acres.

This information has been confirmed with Sarah Martin of the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office.

Alexis Abernathy  
National Register Reviewer  
202-354-2236



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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 Franklin Elementary School  
other names/site number Franklin Center; KHRI # 209-2820-01743

### 2. Location

street & number 1403 Metropolitan Avenue  not for publication  
city or town Kansas City  vicinity  
state Kansas code KS county Wyandotte code 209 zip code 66103

### 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

Patrick Felber 5-7-13  
Signature of certifying official Date  
DSHPO  
Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ 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:

X 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:)

Oliver G. ... \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**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 |              |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1            | 0               | buildings    |
|              |                 | district     |
|              |                 | site         |
| 1            |                 | structure    |
|              |                 | object       |
| 2            | 0               | <b>Total</b> |

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

Historic Public Schools of Kansas

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school

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**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

WORK IN PROGRESS

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**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIA/Romanesque Revival

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**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: Stone: Limestone

walls: Stone: Limestone

roof: Wood: shingle

other:

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## Narrative Description

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### Summary

The Franklin Elementary School, 1403 Metropolitan Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas, is located on the corner of 14<sup>th</sup> Street and Metropolitan Avenue in the East Argentine neighborhood. A residential neighborhood extends to the west, east and south. North of the school across Metropolitan Avenue are railroad tracks and the Kansas River. The building is set back from both streets with a large vacant lot (once used as a playground – Figure 1) to the east and south. A contributing stone wall frames the site along 14<sup>th</sup> Street and Metropolitan Avenue frames the site. An alley runs along the west side of the building between the school and the residential houses that face South 15<sup>th</sup> Street. The school is an L-shaped masonry building on a raised basement with a foundation of coursed limestone blocks. This late example of the Romanesque Revival style has restrained ornamental brick belt courses, recessed panels, round-arched masonry openings a brick eave cornice, and smooth-cut stone detailing.

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### Elaboration

#### Property type

The Franklin Elementary School property is located on fourteen lots of the southwest corner of 14<sup>th</sup> Street and Metropolitan Avenue.<sup>1</sup> Built in 1897 and 1898, the Franklin Elementary School, is an example of the first city schools that were constructed in response to the growth of the area around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Early grade schools were typically four to eight room schools and often rectangular with a central tower exhibiting popular architectural styles such as Greek Revival, Italianate, and Romanesque. In keeping with these patterns, the Franklin Elementary School exhibits Romanesque Revival-style architecture and consists of eight classrooms, which does not include the rooms in the basement. This school is representative of the City Graded School property type as defined in the *Historic Public Schools of Kansas* multiple property documentation form.<sup>2</sup>

#### Exterior

The building is built of rough-faced limestone that is thought to have been quarried in the hills of Argentine. It features an intersecting hipped roof clad in asphalt shingles (historically slate). Much of the following description of the building comes from the local landmark nomination:

The building is two stories, atop a high base with a pronounced batter. The roof is a low-pitched hip, with a built-in gutter and projecting cornice of sheet metal. Most windows have been replaced, but some originals are intact. The windows are large, regularly spaced, double-hung and grouped in pairs. The exceptions are the three east-facing first floor windows of the south wing, which have round arches mimicking the arch of the entry doorway. It is these arched openings that give the building much of its distinctive character; the voussoirs of the arches are massive rough-faced stones that lengthen as they ascend, with the keystones being the longest of all. This in turn tricks the eye into thinking that the window arches are elliptical rather than round.

On the north wing, the classroom windows face north toward Metropolitan Avenue and the river, with blank insets in place of window openings on the east end adjacent to the entry tower. The tower itself is square and centered in the east facade, but projects forward only very slightly from the plane of the adjacent walls. The central entrance is at ground level, with a tall arched opening similar to the arched

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<sup>1</sup> "Franklin Elementary School" Kansas City, Kansas Historic Landmark Nomination (Kansas City, KS: Unified Government, 1993), 1. Internet. Accessed 10 January 2013 < <http://www3.wycokck.org/assets/24E5138B-C410-4918-A172-443A98C1EA72.pdf> >

<sup>2</sup> Brenda R. Spencer, "Historic Public Schools of Kansas," National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) 2005, E-18; F-31.

windows noted above. A single window is centered over the entry at the second-story level, similar in size and proportion to one-half of the double windows found elsewhere. Above this is a metal intermediate cornice, which continues the line and profile of the metal roof cornice to either side. The upper portion of the tower is relatively low, with a horizontal tripartite window immediately above the intermediate cornice line. Above the windows is a second metal cornice topped by a peaked roof that is noticeably steeper than the main hip. Shed-roofed dormers flank the tower.

The south end of the building exhibits much less finished stonework than do the main facades, and may reflect the wall's presumed "temporary" nature. The rear facades are more finished, with regular classroom windows on both floors, but the stonework is noticeably less massive in character than on the front facades. This massiveness, together with the round arches and square tower, suggest the Romanesque Revival style, but only in a very general way. The overall feeling on the building tends to be one of heavy horizontality, emphasized by the classroom window bands and strong cornice line. The one remaining feature of architectural interest is the basement entry door, at the southwest corner of the north wing. This square-headed opening has a sculptured surround and careful masonry work reminiscent of the 1920s, and may have been part of some remodeling and addition work carried out by Rose and Peterson in 1923.<sup>3</sup>

### Interior

The building retains the original floor plan and typical room configuration. As one enters the building through the main east entrance there is a landing with a split staircase going down to the basement and up first floor. The building's back entrance at the southwest corner has a similar configuration. The basement retains the historic configuration of space with separate playrooms for the boys and girls on the north side of the corridor. The girls' bathroom is at the northwest corner and the boys' bathroom is at the southeast corner, as noted on the 1921 building plans (Figure 2). A boiler/maintenance room is adjacent to the boys' bathroom on the south side of the corridor. The basement floor and walls are concrete, and the spaces are largely unfinished. The bathrooms have been stripped of toilets, sinks, and piping.

The first floor has an entrance corridor with five large classrooms, three to the north side of the building and two on the south side. The 1921 building plans list the northwest corner classroom as the kindergarten. (Figure 3) The classrooms have enclosed cloakrooms to either the right or left of the entrance to each room. The second floor mimics the configuration of first floor with three classrooms (with cloakrooms) to the north and two to the south. Access to the second floor is via one of two staircases at the east and west ends of the corridor. At the west-end staircase, several steps lead up to a one-stall bathroom. At the east-end staircase, several steps lead up to a small office.

All the floors in the building are wood and have wood baseboards. The staircase railings are wood. The window trim are also wood, and much of it is painted. The walls and ceilings are plaster, and the ceiling height has been maintained throughout the building. Most of the chalkboards remain in place on the classroom walls. Some historic light fixtures remain.

### Alterations & Integrity

The boys' and girls' toilets have been taken out but the rooms are intact. Some of the chalkboards and parts of the wood floor in some rooms have been damaged and/or spray-painted by vandals. There is contained water damage to the west-end staircase due to a fire in the west entrance platform. Other than these changes and the addition to the school in 1910, no other alterations are known have been made to the building.

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<sup>3</sup> "Franklin Elementary School" Kansas City, Kansas Historic Landmark Nomination (Kansas City, KS: Unified Government, 1993), 2-3. Internet. Accessed 10 January 2013 < <http://www3.wycokck.org/assets/24E5138B-C410-4918-A172-443A98C1EA72.pdf> >

**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**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1897-1963

**Significant Dates**

1898, 1910, 1923

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown (1898); Rose & Peterson Architects  
(1910, 1923)

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance begins with the construction of the school in 1897 and extends to 1963, the 50-year cut-off date established by the National Park Service to provide sufficient passage of time to allow objective evaluation of the historic resource eligibility at the time of its listing.

**Criteria Considerations (justification)**

N/A

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## Narrative Statement of Significance

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### Summary

The Franklin Elementary School is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with local education history and Criterion C for its local architectural significance. It is nominated as part of the *Historic Public Schools of Kansas* multiple property submission, and is an example of the City School property type (City Graded School subtype).

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### Elaboration

Argentine was a prosperous city in the late 1880s due to the influence of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe (ATSF) Railroad and the Kansas City Consolidated Smelting and Refining Company. The railroad came to Argentine in 1875 and by 1890 it was prospering with its property valued at \$900,000 and a workforce of 500. The location of the railroad played an important factor in W. N. Ewing's decision to opening a silver smelter, which caused the community to grow quickly. Silver City, as it was originally called, was platted in 1880 and organized in 1881. The settlement's name was soon changed to Argentine. The peak year for the Argentine smelter was in 1898, when it "produced one-twelfth of all gold produce in the United States; one-eighth of all the silver; and one-fifth of all the lead."<sup>4</sup>

In the 1880s and 1890s the school-age children of east Argentine attended Lowell School, but due to the area's growing population, plans were developed for another elementary school.<sup>5</sup> Land for a new school was purchased by the Argentine Board of Education in 1898 from the Kansas Town Company. The Argentine Republic reported that contractor W. A. Drollinger had been hired to build the new school.<sup>6</sup> By September 1898, the four-room school was occupied by four teachers and students in grades one through eight. Franklin School's first principal was Alice Beckwith.<sup>7</sup> The name of the school was selected through a fundraising process by which the citizens of the district could pay five cents to vote on one of these four names that had been selected by the Argentine Board of Education: Greeley, Franklin, Irving, and Whittier. The name Franklin received the most votes and the money collected was used to purchase a flag for the school.<sup>8</sup>

Shortly after the opening of Franklin School, the community fell on hard times when the smelter closed on October 4, 1901. Alleviating some economic hardship was the founding of the Kansas City Structural Steel Company in Argentine in 1907. However, the closing of the smelter coupled with a major flood in 1903 devastated the community and convinced local leaders to seek annexation into Kansas City, Kansas.<sup>9</sup> The annexation was approved by Kansas City, Kansas on October 15, 1909 and became effective on January 1, 1910.

Also during this same period, regional railroads began recruiting Mexican laborers and the cultural make-up of Argentine began transitioning from largely Eastern European to Hispanic. According to Argentine historian Daniel Serda, "In 1910, 55 percent of all track laborers in Kansas City, Kansas were Mexicans; by 1915 this

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<sup>4</sup> Shutt II, "Silver City," *A History of the Argentine Community of Kansas City, Kansas*, 21-22, 36. William G. Cutler, *History of the State of Kansas* (Chicago: Andreas Publishing Co., 1883), 1245.

<sup>5</sup> Shutt II, "Silver City," 161-162. Also, Lowell Elementary School was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on January 31, 2008.

<sup>6</sup> *The Argentine Republic*, 12 May 1898.

<sup>7</sup> Patricia Adams, "Franklin School" *History of the Public Schools of Wyandotte County Kansas*. 2012. Internet Accessed 22 January 2013 from <<http://kckps.org/disthistory/closedbuildings/franklin.html>>

<sup>8</sup> Shutt II, "Silver City," 162.

<sup>9</sup> Shutt II, "Silver City," 53.

number had increased to 85 percent, and to more than 90 percent by the late 1920s." Kansas City's meat-packing plants experienced a similar shift from Slavic immigrant laborers in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century to Mexican in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>10</sup>

Although the make-up of the community was changing, that of Franklin School remained generally the same. Before the construction of a segregated school for Hispanic children in 1924 – Clara Barton Elementary School – Mexican children had been restricted to basement classrooms at Emerson Elementary in Argentine and John J. Ingalls Elementary in Armourdale. Clara Barton Elementary School was located near the foot of the "Old Southern Bridge" that carried Argentine Boulevard across the Kansas River from Armourdale. The school was destroyed by the 1951 flood.<sup>11</sup> Argentine's Lincoln Grade School served the area's African American students until it closed in 1965.

With the annexation of Argentine into Kansas City, Franklin School became a part of the Kansas City, Kansas school district in 1910. During the second half of 1910, an addition with six classrooms was constructed onto Franklin School as a result of the annexation and re-distribution of students. The addition was built by Thompson and Pixley Contractors. During the construction, students attended Lowell School in half-day rotations, until Franklin was reopened in early 1911.<sup>12</sup> (See Figures 1 through 4)

Franklin School played an important role in the 1951 flood. After weeks of heavy rain, Argentine's dikes gave way on July 13, 1951. Permission was granted on July 18<sup>th</sup> to the U. S. Corps Engineers, under Major Lochman to establish a field office at the school and Mr. H. F. McKeniff was in charge. Space was also made at the school for the office of Reno Construction Company and The L. G. Barcus & Sons fields' offices. The playground was used for equipment and an agreement was made that any damaged would be repaired.<sup>13</sup>

The Argentine neighborhood struggled to survive the flood and subsequent urban renewal, which included the construction of the 18<sup>th</sup> Street Expressway that severed east Argentine from the remainder of the community.<sup>14</sup> Enrollment at Franklin School began to decline and the school closed at the end of the 1972-73 school year, and the remaining students were sent to Emerson Elementary School.<sup>15</sup> Between 1962 and 1972, enrollment at Franklin declined from 283 to 202, a decrease of over 28 percent. A revitalization and modernization plan was adopted in the 1969-1970 school year by the Board of Education and the Franklin School soon closed.<sup>16</sup>

In November of 1978, the school board started advertising for bids for the property. The Argentine-Rosedale Improvement Association and the East Argentine Self-Improvement Association, two neighborhood community development groups put together a petition signed by seven neighborhood organizations and around 200 individuals, requesting a five month delay in the taking of bids and their request was granted. At once the neighborhood began a study on the development of Franklin as a cooperative neighborhood center.

The results of the study proposed a multi-purpose center, which would include the Franklin Child Center, Spanish Speaking Office, Adult Education, Food Cooperative and General Store, Coffee Shop and Soda Fountain, Youth Center, Senior Citizen Activities, Community Meeting Room, Dining Room, Kitchen and Playground. Due to the building's deterioration, the cost of materials alone for the needed repairs and renovation was estimated to be in excess of \$34,000. The Board of Education was asked to reduce its

<sup>10</sup> Daniel Serda, "Finding Latin Roots: Hispanic Heritage in Kansas City" *Kansas Preservation* 33, 3 (2011): 10.

<sup>11</sup> Kansas Historical Society, Kansas Historic Resource Inventory # 209-2820-01784. Internet. Accessed 25 February 2013 at < <http://khri.kansasgis.org/index.cfm?in=209-2820-01784> >

<sup>12</sup> *The Argentine Republic*, 15 December 1910, p. 1.

<sup>13</sup> Adams, "Franklin School."

<sup>14</sup> "Franklin Elementary School" Kansas City, Kansas Historic Landmark Nomination (Kansas City, KS: Unified Government, 1993), 2-3. Internet. Accessed 10 January 2013 < <http://www3.wycokck.org/assets/24E5138B-C410-4918-A172-443A98C1EA72.pdf> >

<sup>15</sup> Adams, "Franklin School."

<sup>16</sup> "Franklin Elementary School" Kansas City, Kansas Historic Landmark Nomination, 2-3.

purchase price from \$52,000 to \$5,000. The Board agreed.<sup>17</sup> So after sitting vacant for a number of years the building of the once Franklin School was sold to the Franklin Center Inc. a non-profit corporation for social services in 1979 with a deed that contain a reversionary clause.<sup>18</sup>

In the winter of 2009 the Franklin Center's doors were locked and the windows eventually were boarded up, as it was again vacated. In February 2011 a new board of directors that consists of members of the Argentine community assumed control of the building and are working to restore the Franklin Center.

### *Architecture*

Franklin School's physical characteristics align more closely with the state's earliest graded schools in cities, which "were typically four-, six-, or eight-room schools, often with rectangular and central-tower plans. Greek Revival, Italianate, and Romanesque were the prominent architectural styles among the early city schools."<sup>19</sup> In keeping with these patterns, Franklin School exhibits Romanesque Revival-style architecture and consists of ten classrooms, which does not include the rooms in the basement. Franklin School was constructed in 1898 before the Progressive Movement had truly impacted the construction of city grade schools. It did not feature an auditorium and special art, music, and athletics spaces as many slightly later city grade schools would, but the 1910 addition and interior changes during the 1920s were reflective of Progressive Era changes in education, such as special Kindergarten space.<sup>20</sup>

The building's simple Romanesque Revival style is common for a city graded school constructed in 1898. The defining stylistic elements include the use of rough-faced limestone as an exterior treatment, the hipped roof (originally clad with slate), the central tower with hipped roof, and arched openings on the primary elevation. The voussoirs of the arches are massive rough-faced stones that lengthen as they ascend, with the keystones being the longest of all. This gives the appearance that the window arches are elliptical rather than round.

A revival of the Romanesque style was popularized by H. H. Richardson in the mid- and late-1800s.<sup>21</sup> Richardson used the style in his designs of residences, churches, and institutional buildings. This use of Romanesque Revival was common in Kansas during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, particularly in courthouses and schools.

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<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

<sup>18</sup> Adams, "*Franklin School*."

<sup>19</sup> Brenda R. Spencer, "Historic Public Schools of Kansas," National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF) 2005, E-18.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid., E18-19.

<sup>21</sup> For more on Richardson, see James F. O'Gorman, *Three American Architects: Richardson, Sullivan, and Wright, 1865-1915* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1991).

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Adams, Patricia. "Franklin School" History of the Public Schools of Wyandotte County Kansas. 2012. Internet Accessed 22 January 2013 from <http://kckps.org/disthistory/closedbuildings/franklin.html>

Adams, Patricia. "History Overview" History of the Public Schools of Wyandotte County Kansas. 2012. Internet Accessed 22 January 2013 from <http://kckps.org/disthistory/history\_overview.htm>

The Argentine (KS) Republic. 12 May 1898; 15 December 1910.

Cutler, William G. *History of the State of Kansas*. Chicago: Andreas Publishing Co., 1883.

Franklin Elementary School (Franklin Center). Internet. Accessed 8 January 2013 at <http://www3.wycokck.org/assets/24E5138B-C410-4918-A172-443A98C1EA72.pdf>

Serda, Daniel. "Finding Latin Roots: Hispanic Heritage in Kansas City." *Kansas Preservation* 33, 3 (2011): 8-15.

Shutt II, Edwin D. "*Silver City, A History of the Argentine Community of Kansas City, Kansas.*" MA Thesis, Emporia State College, 1976.

Spencer, Brenda R. *Historic Public Schools of Kansas National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF)*, 2005.

**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: **Kansas Historical Society**

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):   N/A  

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property**

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

**UTM References / Latitude-Longitude Coordinates: See Figures 5-6.**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1                                   
Zone Easting Northing

2                                   
Zone Easting Northing

3                                   
Zone Easting Northing

4                                   
Zone Easting Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (describe the boundaries of the property)

All of Lots 1 to 6, Block 10, except the East 25 feet thereof deeded for street purposes, together with the 50 foot vacated street lying between said Lots 11 to 18 and 1 to 6, all in KANSAS TOWN COMPANY'S 4<sup>th</sup> ADDITION TO ARGENTINE, now in Kansas City, Wyandotte County, Kansas.

**Boundary Justification** (explain why the boundaries were selected)  
The boundaries include the lots historically associated with the property.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Amber Booth  
organization Franklin Center Inc. date February 2013  
street & number 1403 Metropolitan Avenue telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Kansas City state KS zip code 66103  
e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Historic images, maps, etc.)

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**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Franklin Elementary School  
City or Vicinity: Kansas City  
County/State: Wyandotte County, KS  
Photographer: Sarah Martin  
Date of Photos: 1 March 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 13 East (front) and south (side) elevations, facing NW
- 2 of 13 South (side) elevation, facing N
- 3 of 13 East (front) and north (side) elevations, facing W
- 4 of 13 Arched windows on first story of east elevation, facing W
- 5 of 13 Interior, main entrance staircase on east side of building, facing E
- 6 of 13 Interior, first floor corridor, facing E
- 7 of 13 Interior, typical classroom
- 8 of 13 Interior, typical classroom, showing chalkboard and radiator detail
- 9 of 13 Interior, second floor corridor
- 10 of 13 Interior, typical classroom
- 11 of 13 Interior, typical coat closet showing built-in cabinet
- 12 of 13 Interior, basement playroom at northeast corner of building
- 13 of 13 Interior, basement bathroom at northwest corner of building

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**Property Owner:**

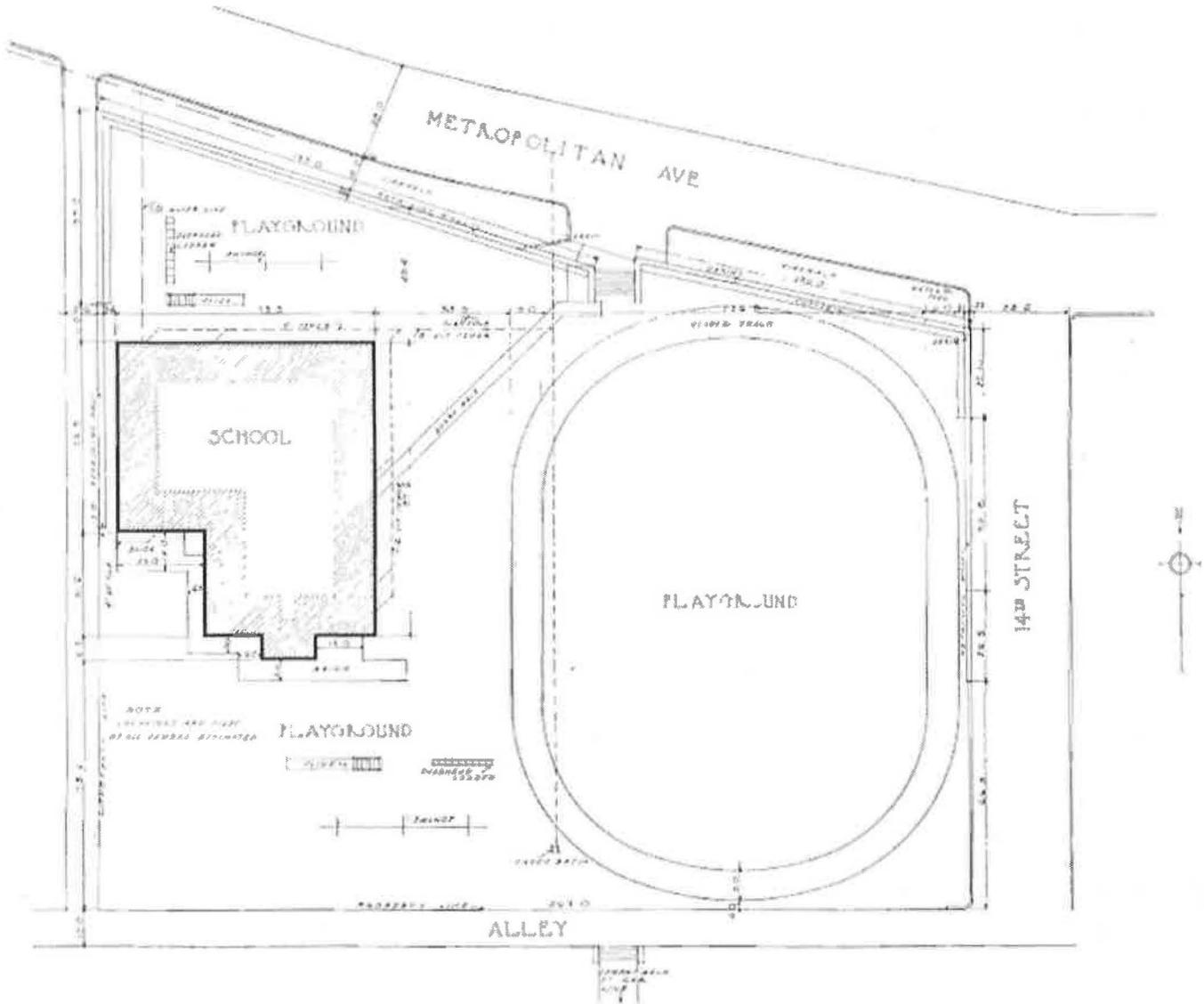
(complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name Franklin Center Inc.  
street & number 1403 Metropolitan Avenue telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Kansas City state KS zip code 66103

**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 18 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.

Figure 1: 1921 Site Plan

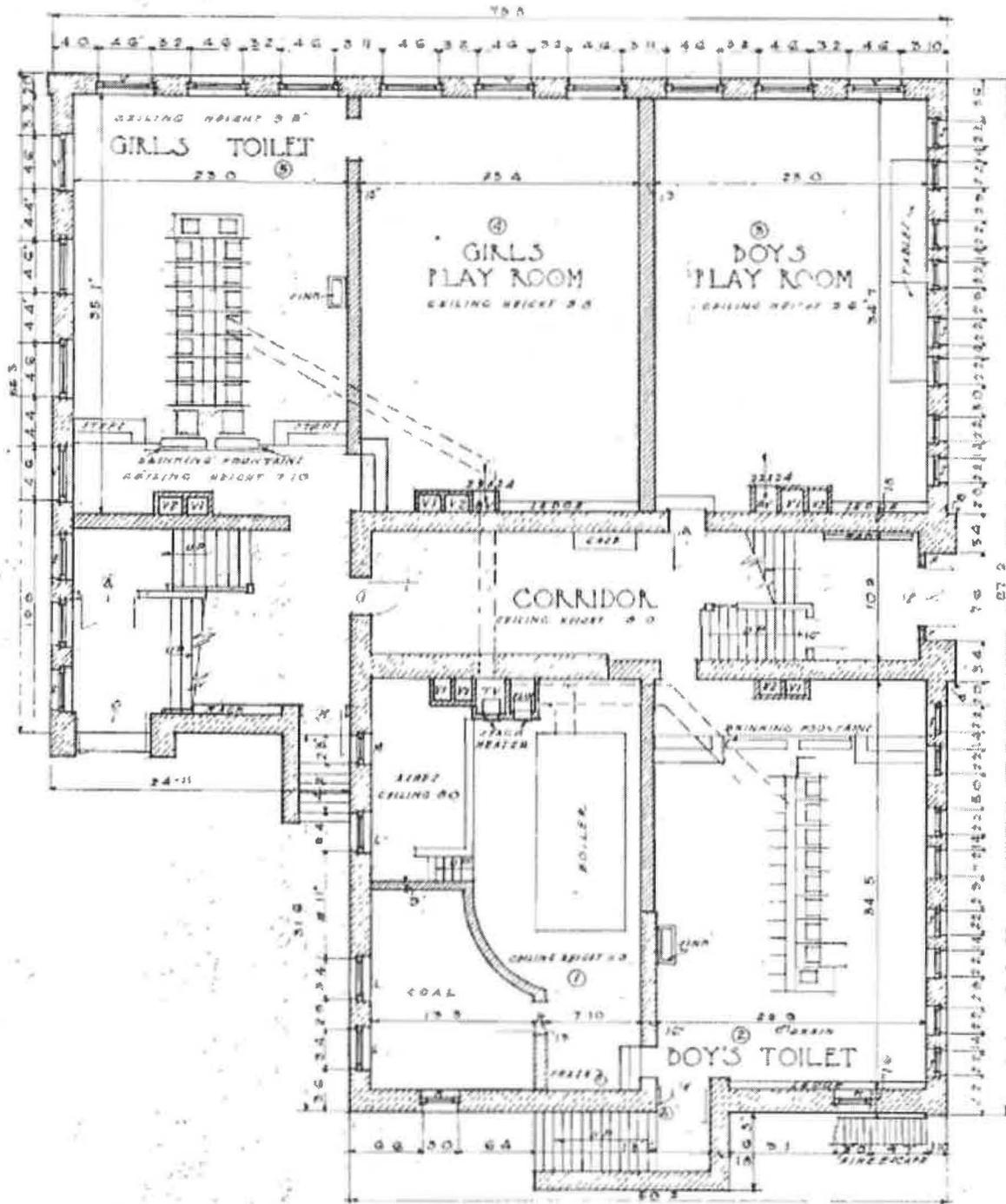


PLOT PLAN  
SCALE 1" = 10'

FRANKLIN SCHOOL

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| TOPPING VALUATION COMPANY<br>KANSAS CITY MISSOURI |                     |
| DATE JAN 1921                                     | DRAWN WANNON WALKER |
| TRACED CARROLL                                    | CHECKED E. F. J.    |
| APPROVED J. J. C.                                 |                     |

Figure 2: 1921 Basement Plan

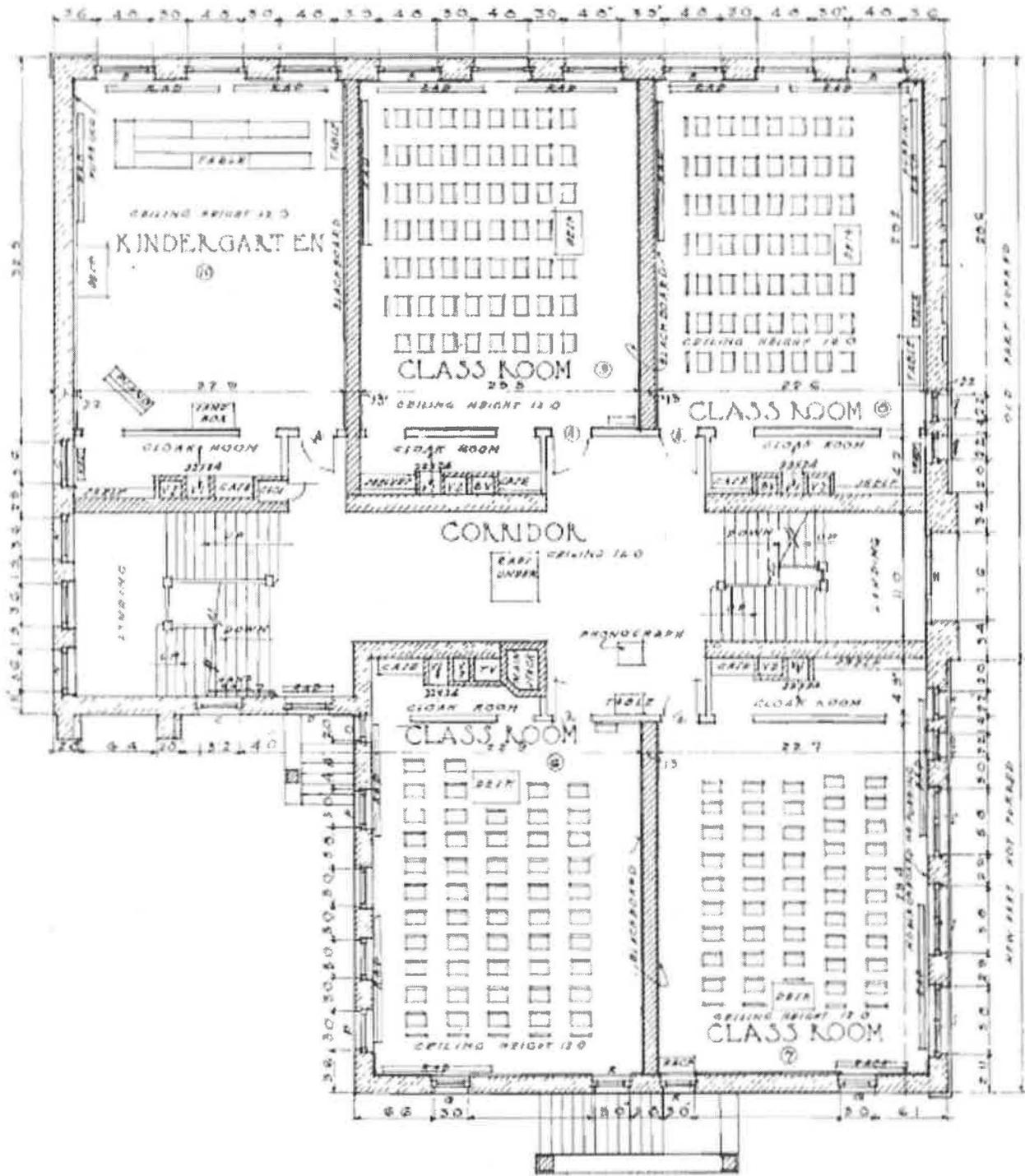


BASEMENT PLAN

FRANKLIN SCHOOL

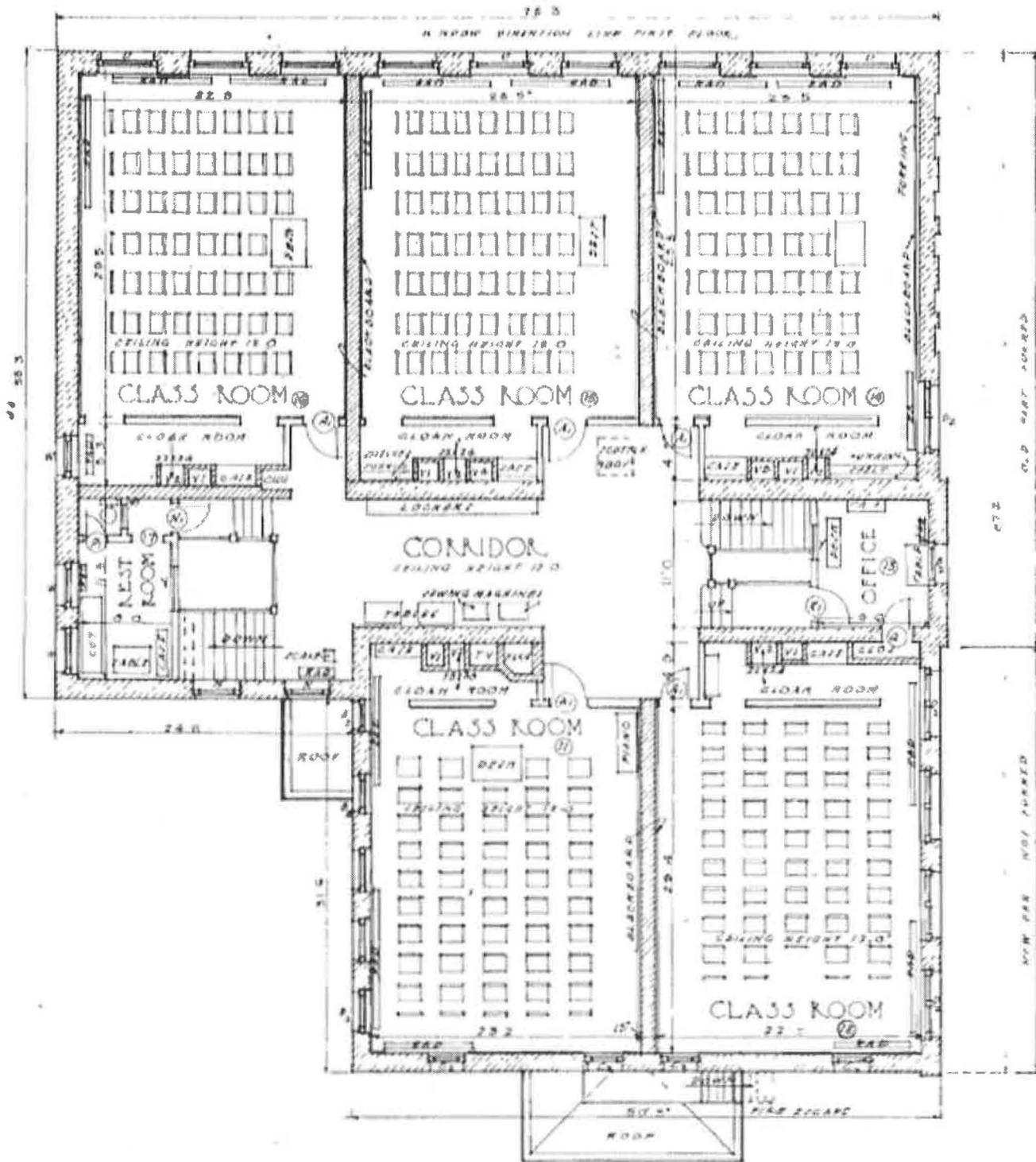
SCALE 0 2 4 6 8 12

Figure 3: 1921 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Plan



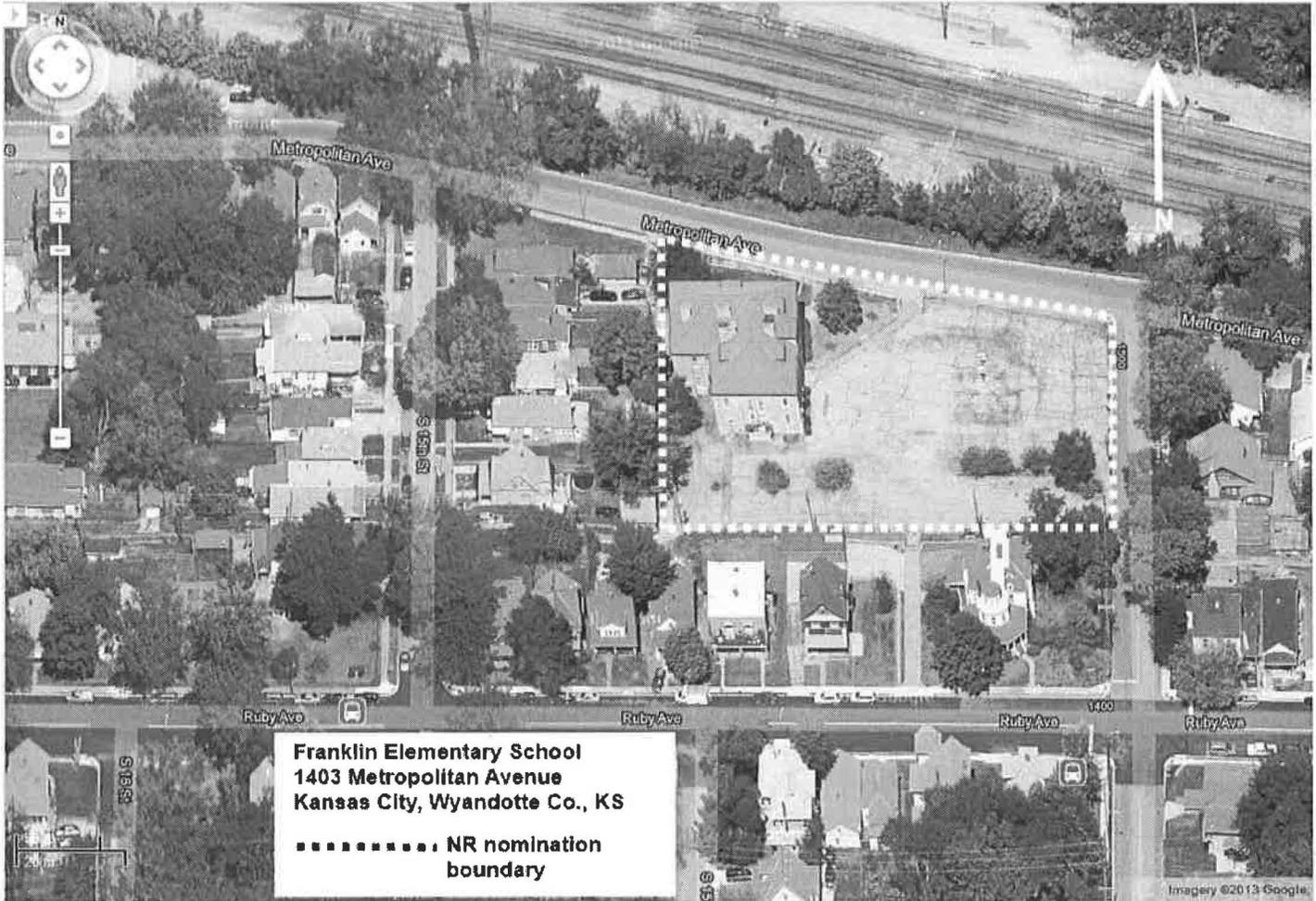
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

Figure 4: 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Plan



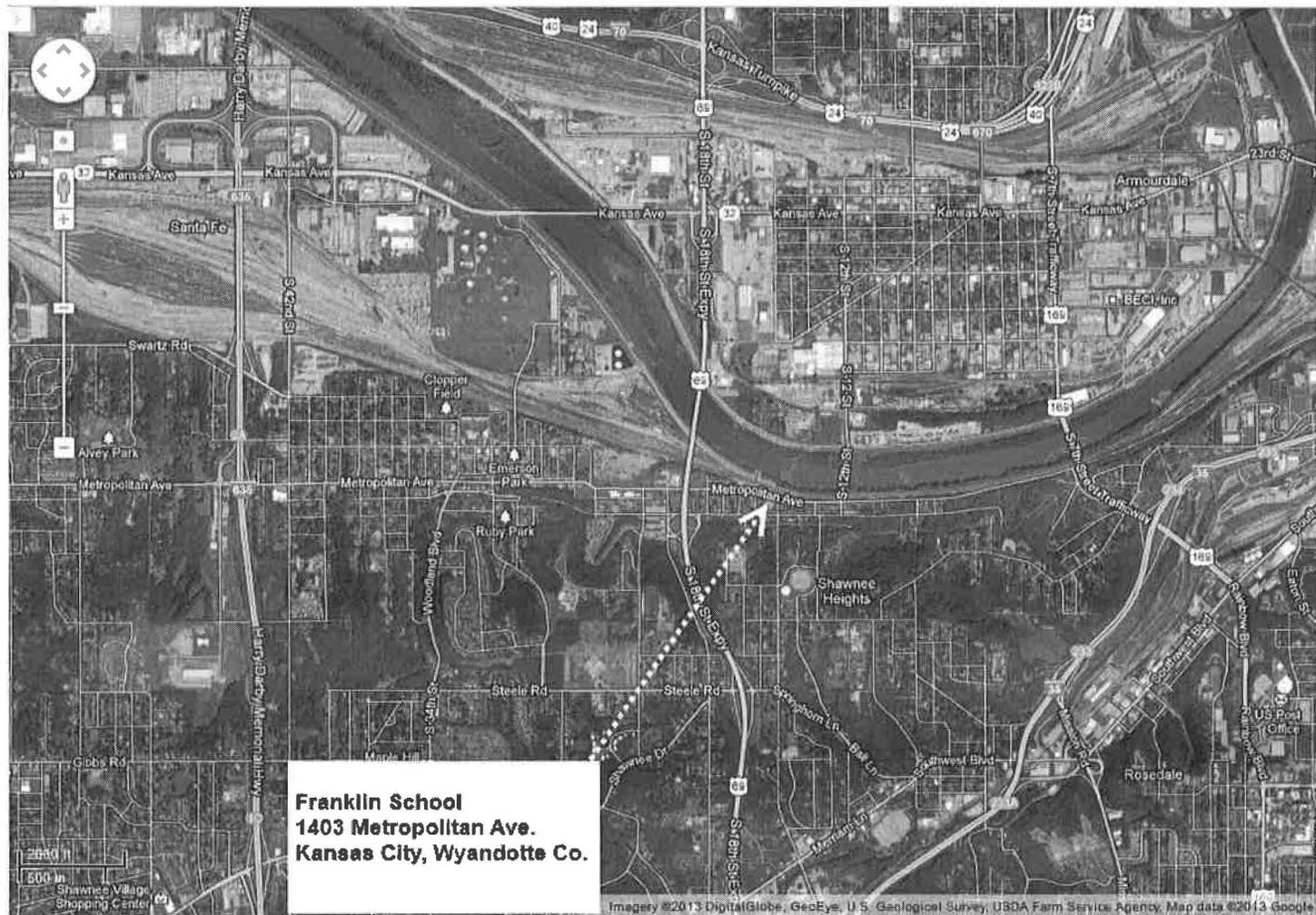
SECOND FLOOR PLAN

Figure 5: Aerial Image & Lat/Long Coordinates



Latitude / Longitude: 39.07225 -94.64522  
Datum: WGS84

Figure 6: Contextual Map





WESTERN  
NO. 2  
691-3306

WALKER





FRANKLI





EXIT



EXIT









89

89







VHD  
L3

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Franklin Elementary School

MULTIPLE NAME: Public Schools of Kansas MPS

STATE & COUNTY: KANSAS, Wyandotte

DATE RECEIVED: 5/10/13      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/07/13  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/24/13      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/26/13  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000437

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT 6/26/13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*a good local example a City school property  
type*

RECOM./CRITERIA A+C

REVIEWER Abernethy DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

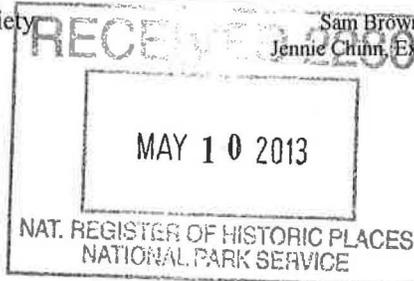
TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

Kansas Historical Society

Sam Brownback, Governor  
Jennie Chun, Executive Director



May 8, 2013

Carol Shull  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
1201 Eye Street, N. W.  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor (MS 2280)  
Washington, DC 20005

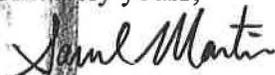
Dear Ms. Shull:

We are pleased to submit for your consideration the following National Register documents:

- Belleville High School – Belleville, Republic County, KS (new nomination)
- Naomi & Leona Apartment Buildings – Wichita, Sedgwick County, KS (new nomination)
- Ellington Apartment Building – Wichita, Sedgwick County, KS (new nomination)
- McNee Barns – Elmdale, Chase County, KS (new nomination)
- Click Farmstead – Beloit, Mitchell County, KS (new nomination)
- Franklin Elementary School – Kansas City, Wyandotte County, KS (new nomination)
- Baker, Cassius & Adelia, House – Wamego, Pottawatomie County, KS (new nomination)
- Creed-Mills House – Douglass, Butler County, KS (new nomination)
- Doniphan Waddell Truss Bridge – Doniphan County, KS (relocation request)

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I may be reached at 785-272-8681 ext. 216 or [smartin@kshs.org](mailto:smartin@kshs.org).

Sincerely yours,



Sarah J. Martin  
National Register Coordinator

Enclosures