

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**  
RECEIVED MAR 11 1981  
DATE ENTERED APR 24 1981

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME** *Old Junction City High School*

HISTORIC (Old) Junction City High School

AND/OR COMMON  
Departmental School

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER *6th*  
*SW Corner, Adams at Sixth Street*

CITY, TOWN Junction City

STATE Kansas 66441 VICINITY OF No. 2 Jim Jeffries

COUNTY Geary CODE 061

**CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: None

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME U.S.D. 475

STREET & NUMBER Post Office Box 370

CITY, TOWN Junction City VICINITY OF Kansas 66441

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER Geary County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN Junction City STATE Kansas 66441

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Inventory of Historic Sites

DATE 1973  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Ks. State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN Topeka STATE Kansas 66612

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

## CHECK ONE

## CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT

DETERIORATED

UNALTERED

ORIGINAL SITE

GOOD

RUINS

ALTERED

MOVED

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

FAIR

UNEXPOSED

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Old Junction City High School is a two-story stone building with a raised basement and intersecting hip roof. It is located at the southwest corner of Sixth and Adams Streets on a five-lot tract. The building has a T-plan with the main entrance facing east on Adams Street. This facade is 80 feet long; the structure is 88 feet deep from front to rear.

A round-arched opening supported by foliated capitals distinguishes the recessed entrance which is situated off-center of the main facade. A gabled wall dormer crowns the center of this facade. The dormer contains a small arcade of 5 windows flanked by decorative recessed panels and a round window in the peak.

There are also gabled wall dormers on the north and south facades of the entrance block. These are trimmed with cut stone and each has a palladian arrangement of arches. Tall, rectangular chimneys sit on the ridges of the north and south dormers. At the eave there is a continuous dentilled wooden cornice painted white. Below this cornice there is a simple stone frieze. Windows are wood frame, one-over-one units that are regularly arranged throughout the building. There are two metal fire escapes, one running from the second floor of the rear block, the other from the second floor of the entrance block.

The Old Junction City High School is constructed of coursed, rock-faced limestone obtained from quarries in the Junction City area. The roof is covered with wooden shingles.

Although the interior of the building has been somewhat remodeled, the division of spaces is essentially unaltered. In the basement there is a large lunch room on the west side, toilet facilities, storage space, and the original heating equipment. Two sets of interior stairs connect the basement and main floor, while an exterior stair gives egress to the north side of the building.

On the first floor there is a main office in the northeast corner, a smaller adjacent office and three classrooms, two of which occupy the rear (west) block. Stairs on the north side of the building lead from the first to the second floor. In the front block of the second floor there is a classroom in each corner. The entire rear block of the second floor is one large room. There is a stairway leading to the large attic which is floored, but has been used only for storage. There is a small ladder in the attic providing access to the roof. Throughout the interior finishes are simple and plain.

### ALTERATIONS

The exterior of the high school has remained virtually unaltered since its construction. There is a small storage shed attached to the north side of the building. The basement entrance is also protected by a small frame structure. The basement kitchen has been finished off with modern flooring and fixtures.

# 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1903-04

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Holland and Squires, architects/  
Ziegler and Dalton, builders

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Construction of the Junction City High School in 1903-04 was associated with a period of growth and relative prosperity in Junction City, Kansas. The building was the first in the city to be constructed specifically for use as a high school. It evidences an approach to the design of educational facilities at this time as well as the presence in Junction City of a taste for romanesque styling of the kind originated by the work of H. H. Richardson.

The building was designed by the Topeka architectural firm of Holland and Squires. James C. Holland, the principal partner, was one of the most prominent architects in Kansas during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; Squires became a prominent Topeka architect in the late decades of the early twentieth century. The school was built by general contractors, Ziegler and Dalton, of Junction City. These architects and contractors worked together many times over the years.

## HISTORY

From 1873 to 1904, high school as well as elementary school classes were in the McKinley Building on West Ninth Street in Junction City. Early in the twentieth century, the school board reached the conclusion that a separate high school building was necessary to accommodate an increasing number of older students. A site at the southwest corner of Sixth and Adams Streets was selected in May, 1903. Two months later, in July, a bond issue of slightly over \$30,000 was approved; subsequently the lots upon which the new school would be constructed were acquired for \$3,000 from the Fogelstrom family.

An early rendering of the proposed design for the new high school building appeared in the Junction City Daily Union on July 29, 1903. The rendering showed a building with multiple towers. Since the bids on this design, which range from \$27,422 to \$28,888, were deemed too high, the school board requested modified plans from the architects in September. The architects devised a design which eliminated the towers.

A contract based on the simplified plans was awarded to the construction firm of Ziegler and Dalton for their bid of \$24,820 on September 10, 1903. The Holland architectural firm and Ziegler and Dalton had earlier collaborated to build the Junction City Opera House (1898) and the Geary County Courthouse (1899). At the same time a motion to name the building after incumbent president Theodore Roosevelt was defeated.



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The original finish of some of the woodwork has been painted over. Over the years some temporary partitions have also been added. Many rooms have modern light fixtures and much of the electrical wiring has been added in surface-mounted conduit. A metal ridge ventilator has been placed in the south part of the roof.

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Excavation for the new high school building began October 6, 1903. The Daily Union reported: "The work of getting out the stone at the quarry has been in progress for several days and the stone is being hauled to the building site." This material, Junction City limestone, was generally reputed to be the best in the state.

The formal cornerstone laying took place in January, 1904. Located at the northeast corner of the building, the cornerstone reads "Junction City High School, 1903." The contents of a metal box placed in the cornerstone included copies of the 1902 and 1903 Junction City High School yearbooks, copies of each of the Junction City newspapers, a class roll of 1904 with individual signatures of the students, and similiar documents.

The school opened its doors for the first time September 12, 1904 with an enrollment of 192 students. In a statement September 16th, the Junction City Union congratulated the school board by saying, "Its new high school building is one of the finest in the state. In giving this handsome building to the cause of education the city has made ample room for the pupils and has supplied them with better facilities for obtaining a more thorough education."

The sufficiency of the space was short-lived. From 1904 to 1918, the building served as a four-year high school. After a junior high school was constructed in 1918, the building was used as a three-year high school. The last high school class to graduate from the building was in 1929 and was composed of 61 members.

In the fall of 1929, the old Junction City High School became a seventh grade building. In the 1950's it was converted to a sixth grade building with five classes. A kindergarten class was also held in the basement. For many years the building housed the superintendent's office, the administrative office and board of education meeting room.

Recently, the building has been used for Headstart classes, a class for educable mentally retarded, a personal-social adjustment program, and an upgraded room. After the 1979-80 school year, however, the building was vacated and is not used at the present time. The board of education is debating the debating the future of the building and a final determination has been postponed.

The Departmental School is the only turn-of-the century school building remaining in Junction City. According to contemporary accounts, the school was a source of community pride and admiration. It evidences a local taste for romanesque styling which was popular nationwide in the late nineteenth century largely due to the influence of the work of the Boston architect H. H.

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Richardson. As the noted American critic Montgomery Schuyler had observed in 1891, "Since (Richardson's) death has 'extinguished envy' and ended rivalry, the admiration his work excited has been freer to express itself either in direct imitation or in the adoption and elaboration of the suggestions his work furnished."

Architects like J. C. Holland in Kansas evidenced an acquaintance with and acceptance of this national style. In a 1904 biography, James C. Holland was identified as "one of the leading architects of the West." After learning the carpenter trade in his native Ohio, Holland worked during 1876 with the architectural firm of Rumbaugh and Bacon in Toledo. He attended Cornell University in 1880, but then returned to Ohio to occupy the chair of architecture at Ohio Normal University. Holland came to Topeka, Kansas, in 1885 where he built up a successful practice from 1895 to 1898 he served as state architect. Holland's firm specialized in the design of public buildings and was credited in 1918 with the design of sixteen courthouses in Kansas. The idiom of the romanesque revival, as inspired by the work of Boston-based architect, H.H. Richardson, was extensively used by Holland throughout his career in Kansas.

THE ABOVE STATEMENT REFLECTS CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING AND IS ACCORDINGLY SUBJECT TO FUTURE REVISION.

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The boundary of the property runs from the west edge of Adams Street at Sixth Street south to the alley, west along the north edge of the alley to the east edge of the property line of the residence adjacent to the schoolyard at the west, then north along this property line to the south edge of Sixth Street, then east to the point of beginning.