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Form 10-300 (July 1969)	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE				Kansas					
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7.	DESCRIPTION								·
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			(Check Or	re)			(Chec	ck One)	
		Alter	red	👔 Unaltered			Moved	KX Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Albany Schoolhouse is a simple rectangular two-story structure of rough cut limestone in the Plains Vernacular style. Rough coursing of the stone tends to discourage any horizontal patterns from developing. Large stone quoining visually reinforces the apparent integrity of the walls. One piece stone lintels and sills are employed for both upper and lower story windows. The much larger lintel over the door in addition to fulfilling obvious structural requirements also tends to accentuate the entry. Three equally spaced windows pierce each story of the side walls and produce a very simple rhythm. The horizontal projection of the roof at the eave establishes a strong termination of the wall and the beginning of a simple yet effective hip roof. Although the present roofing is composite shingles, split wood shingles were no doubt used originally. The building's appearance is much the same as it was originally.

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The old Albany Schoolhouse, reportedly built in 1866-1867, served an area of eastern Nemaha county, which had been settled in 1857-1858 by a colony from New York. (The settlement was named Albany after the New York capital.) The two-story limestone building replaced a frame structure built soon after the settlement was established. The lower portion of the building was erected by the school district for use as a school, and the upper portion was completed through the efforts of the Congregational Society, which used it for many years as a place of worship. Men of the community hauled limestone from a quarry one-fourth mile southeast of the school site, and two masons, William Greene and Bearce Moulton, were hired to lay the stone.

Also making use of the upper floor was the Albany Academy, which operated for about ten years in the 1860's and 1870's and attracted high school age students from Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri. During the peak years the one-teacher elementary school on the lower floor had as many as 70 pupils; the Academy reportedly had 50 to 60 pupils each term.

Albany began to fade when a railroad was constructed a few miles south of the settlement in 1870. Many of the settlers moved south to the tracks and helped form the town of Sabetha. The schoolhouse is almost all that remains of the town.

The old building was last used as a school in 1963. With school district consolidation there was no longer a need for the structure. After standing idle for several years, it was sold in June, 1965, by the Albany school district to the Sabetha Congregational Church for a nominal fee. The church planned to hold the school on an interim basis while awaiting the formation of a local historical society. The Albany Historical Society was established in July, 1965, and the schoolhouse and grounds were transferred to it several months Later. Following renovation work, the school is now maintained as a museum. A number of other buildings of local historic interest have been relocated on the school grounds one-half mile west of FINEL US-75, two miles north of Sabetha. DEC __3 ,971

(See continuation sheet for final paragraph)

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENC	ES						15/260 ² 4424
"Albany Historical Society,"	(Sabetha.	Sabetha	Chamb	er of ('ommerco	o <i>a</i>)	1124
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"Albany, Like Rip, Awakens to	Activity	," Marysv	/ille 2	Advocat	e, Octobe:	r 24,	
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History of the State of Kansa	as (Chicago	р, А. Т.	Andrea	as, 188	3), p. 956	5.	
"Old School Continues to Serv	ve," Topeka	a Journal	, Octo	ober 30	, 1961.		
Sabetha <u>Herald</u> , June 3, June	8, July 22	2, Septer	aber 14	4, Nove	mber 2 and	E	
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Form	10-300a
(Dec.	1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NA	TIONAL	REGISTER	OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE						
Kansas						
COUNTY						
Nemaha						
FOR NPS USE C	DNLY					
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE					
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(Number all entries)

8. The old Albany Schoolhouse is significant for its long service (1867-1963) to the area as an educational facility. Additionally, the building also served as an early place of worship and community center.

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