Kan. Cong. Dist. No. 3
Larry Winn
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries – complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Anderson County Courthouse

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Fourth and Oak streets

CITY OR TOWN:
Garnett

STATE:
Kansas

COUNTRY:
Anderson

ENTRY NUMBER:
20

DATE:
003-1990-001

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY
(District
Building
Site
Structure
Object

Ownership
Public
Private
Both

Public Acquisition:
In Process
Being Considered

Status
Occupied
Unoccupied
Preservation work in progress

Accessible to the public
Yes:
Restricted
Unrestricted
No

Present Use
(Agricultural
Commercial
Educational
Entertainment

Government
Industrial
Military
Museum

Parks
Private Residence
Religious
Other (Specify)

Transportation
Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

Owner’s Name:
Anderson County

Street and Number:
Anderson County Courthouse

City or Town:
Garnett

State:
Kansas

Code:
66032

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Courthouse, Registry of Deeds, etc:
Register of Deeds

Street and Number:
Anderson County Courthouse

City or Town:
Garnett

State:
Kansas

Code:
66032

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

Title of Survey:
None

Date of Survey:

Federal
State
County
Local

Depository for Survey Records:

Street and Number:

City or Town:

State:

Code:
The Anderson county courthouse at Garnett is a rectangular three-story structure with a full basement. Approximately 102 feet long and 66 feet wide, the building is constructed of red brick laid in running bond with white mortar. The basement story, which projects partially above ground, is built of large rough hewn blocks of limestone laid in even horizontal courses. Limestone is used elsewhere on the building facades to accent windows, trim, and entrance features. A water table course of stone provides the transition between the stone base and the brick walls. The rectangular plan shape is broken at the four corners by semicircular towers and on the main facade by a slightly projected entrance feature.

The roof form is a steeply pitched hip roof of red clay tile with small gable roofs over the entrances on all four sides. The semicircular corner towers have steep cone-shaped roofs. The hip roof terminates in a flat center portion surrounded by a low railing similar to the captain's walk of coastal buildings. From the captain's walk, a square brick bell tower with a steep four-sided roof rises to an approximate height of 120 feet above the ground. The roof line of the main building and the bell tower is defined by an ornamental brick band with corbelled brick brackets uniformly spaced around the perimeter.

Windows on the first floor are simple rectangular openings with five-inch stone sills and massive rough cut flat stone lintels. The second and third floor windows are integrated vertically by a recessed spandrel. Second-floor windows are rectangular with stone sills. Third floor windows have stone sills and semicircular brick arched heads. The windows are linked horizontally at the third floor by a rough stone belt course around the entire perimeter of the building. Semicircular stone trim above the brick arches provides further horizontal integration. The windows in the bell tower are similar to the main windows but scaled down. Clear glass is used in all windows except for those on the third floor which have stained glass.

The building entrances have been accented in several ways. Above each doorway is a fan-shaped window with a semicircular top. The entire entrance feature is surrounded by a wide semicircular arch of rough cut native stone.

A silver-painted statue depicting the Roman goddess Justitia stands on the gable roof over the west entrance.

Although the offices of county officials are in the same location as they were in 1902, various interior changes have been made over the years to accommodate growing need for office space as well as to modernize the building. A new slate roof replaced the old one in 1947, otherwise the exterior is believed to be original except for minor repairs.

The courthouse is in excellent condition and represents the best of George P. Washburn's Romanesque-styled Kansas courthouses.
The Anderson county courthouse in Garnett, built in 1901-1902, was designed by prominent Kansas architect, George P. Washburn.

Originally the Anderson county seat was located at Shannon from March 1, 1856, to April, 1859, but an act of the 1859 territorial legislature designated Garnett the county seat. In 1861 the city of Garnett deeded to Anderson county 400 lots which were to be sold for $100 each to raise funds to erect a courthouse. Evidently the money was not used for this purpose because construction of the present courthouse did not begin until 1901 and tax revenue was used. During the intervening 40 years, a building across the street west of the present location housed the county offices.

The new structure was built by Latimer and Benning, contractors, at a cost of $75,000. By August 30, 1901, the basement had been completed and cornerstone ceremonies were held September 25, 1901. The courthouse was dedicated on Friday, July 4, 1902, with a crowd of 6,000 in attendance. On the following Monday the county commissioners had their first regular meeting in the new building. Plumbing and other minor jobs were still incomplete, however, and the building was not finished until late July.

In addition to its local political importance, the Anderson county courthouse has architectural merit. The building, which is well-preserved and in excellent condition, is a classic example of the Romanesque architecture of George P. Washburn, one of Kansas' most prominent early architects.
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

County Courthouses in the State of Kansas—A Survey of County Courthouses in Kansas... (April, 1966), Compiled by the Historical Activities Committee of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Kansas, p. 48.

Garnett Journal, June 13, June 20, July 11, July 18, July 25, 1902.
Garnett Republican-Plaindealer, July 5, August 30, September 27, 1901; July 4, July 11, 1902.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>SW</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
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LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

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<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: One acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE: CODE | COUNTY: CODE
STATE: CODE | COUNTY: CODE
STATE: CODE | COUNTY: CODE
STATE: CODE | COUNTY: CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Charles L. Hall, Architectural Consultant
Richard D. Pankratz, Planner

ORGANIZATION: Kansas State Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth Street

CITY OR TOWN: Topeka

STATE: Kansas | CODE: 66612

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-663), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☑ Local ☐

Name: Nyle H. Miller
Title: Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date