

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Kansas
COUNTY: Doniphan
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON:

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
White Cloud School

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: (Block dedicated as  
Southwest corner of Fifth and Main Street "Public Square")

CITY OR TOWN: White Cloud CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 2nd--Bill Roy

STATE: Kansas 66094 CODE: 20 COUNTY: Doniphan CODE: 043

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME: Ma-Hush-Kah Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: White Cloud STATE: Kansas CODE: 20

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Register of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER: Doniphan County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Troy STATE: Kansas 66087 CODE: 20

**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:

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7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The White Cloud School, a two-story red brick structure designed in an Eclectic style, measures approximately 60 feet long, 30 feet wide, 35 feet high and has a basement. The original rectangular structure runs in a southeast to northwest direction with the projecting front entrance way facing northeasterly. Separating the foundation of rough cut stone from the brick is a belt course of smooth cut stone.

The building has basically a hip roof which is intersected by a gable roof over the projecting front entrance way. The frame cornice features some dentils and is supported by decorative coupled brackets. A square frame bell tower with a hip roof extends some 15 to 20 feet above the roof line. It has two louvered windows on each side.

All windows in the original section are of the double hung sash type. Most windows and doors occur in segmental arch openings. An exception is the second floor window over the front entrance which has a semicircular arch. Located within that opening are a small circular window at the top and two rectangular windows with semicircular arches. Another small circular window is placed near the top of the gable above the front entrance. The window and door heads are of smooth cut stone and extend about 12 inches down the side of the openings. Stone sills are supported by cut stone brackets.

A two-story addition of a lighter colored red brick was added to the southwest in 1914, giving the building a T-shaped appearance. The cornice matches that of the original building, but it is supported by groups of three brackets instead of two. The window openings are simple rectangles on the northwest side and squares on the southeast side. There are no openings in the southwest wall. The addition is considerably less attractive than the original whose clean lines are enhanced by decorative stone trim.

The roof is now covered with composition shingles, but otherwise the exterior of the building is believed to be little changed from the original. In the fall of 1972 the roof was resingled, windows were screened and painted, deteriorating cornices were repaired and painted, and the bell was repaired.

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**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1872-73

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The White Cloud School was built in 1872-73 on land dedicated as a public square in 1856. In 1871 local citizens began planning for new educational facilities because an 1865 school building had become overcrowded. A special election held June 9, 1871, resulted in the defeat of a \$25,000 school bond proposal; three weeks later, however, the voters approved a \$15,000 bond issue, and plans were made to erect a new school house.

The White Cloud School building was designed in late 1871 by an architect referred to in contemporary newspaper sources as Mr. Carr. (In all probability he was Erasmus T. Carr of Leavenworth, one of Kansas' most prominent early architects. Carr came to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas Territory, in the fall of 1855 to take the position of assistant superintendent of repairs and later assumed the superintendent's post. He designed and built a considerable number of structures at the fort prior to his departure in 1871, some of which are still standing and are integral parts of the Fort Leavenworth Historic District. He later designed many public and private buildings throughout the state, including part of the state capitol, the state penitentiary, several county courthouses, and many school buildings.)

A local brickmaker, John S. Hook, received the contract for grading the school grounds in late December, 1871, but the construction bids were not obtained until March, 1872, at which time the contract was awarded to M. B. Bowers, a local contractor, for \$11,000. The structure's foundation was completed by two White Cloud men, F. M. Bradley and John Whitham, by late June, and the brick work was commenced a month later.

When the school term began on September 9, 1872, the building was not yet ready for occupancy. Work was finally completed several months later, and the doors of the new school house were officially opened on Monday, January 27, 1873. The final cost of the building was \$13,500, which was \$2,500 above the contract bid. Apparently the school board agreed to pay \$1,000 of the extra expense.

Because of increasing enrollment, the school board voted in April, 1914, to build an addition to the west side of the structure. The contract was awarded to A. G. Gibson of Shubert, Nebraska, and

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(Number all entries)

8. the addition was completed in 1915-1916. The building was used as an educational facility until 1968. In 1970 the city of White Cloud deeded the school to the Ma-Hush-Kah Historical Society which is presently restoring and using it as a museum. (Ma-Hush-Kah is the Indian name for White Cloud.)

The White Cloud School, although not itself an outstanding architectural example, was designed by one of the state's earliest professional architects, Erasmus T. Carr. The building is of importance to the history of White Cloud as it provided educational opportunities for the young people of White Cloud for almost 100 years, as well as facilities for cultural and community activities.

9. Kansas Chief (Troy), August 1, 22, September 12, November 28, 1872, January 16, 30, February 13, March 13, 20, 1873, July 27, 1972. "Museum to Reopen for Summer Months," St. Joseph (Missouri) Gazette, April 10, 1972.  
von Achen, J. Kurt, Lives and Works of Early Kansas Architects (unpublished Master's thesis, submitted to University of Kansas School of Architecture, June, 1966).

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Gray, P. L., Doniphan County History (Bendena, Kan., The Roycroft Press, 1905), p. 37.

Historical Plat Book of Doniphan County, Kansas (Chicago, J. S. Bird, 1882), pp. 35, 87.

History of the State of Kansas (Chicago, A. T. Andreas, 1883), pp. 440, 484, 486.

Illustrated Doniphan County, supplement to The Weekly Kansas Chief (Troy), April 6, 1916, pp. 23, 98.

Kansas Chief (White Cloud), June 15, 29, Dec. 7, 28, 1871, March 14, 21, June 20, 27, 1872.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0	39	58	30	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0	95	17	59	
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1-2 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Richard Pankratz, Planner

ORGANIZATION: Kansas State Historical Society DATE: December 11, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth Street

CITY OR TOWN: Topeka STATE: Kansas 66612 CODE: 20

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION	NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION
<p>As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), 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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name: <u>Nyle H. Miller</u> Nyle H. Miller</p> <p>Title: <u>Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society</u></p> <p>Date: <u>December 18, 1972</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p>_____ Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>_____ Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date: _____</p>

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