

MANHATTAN'S HISTORIC LANDMARKS & DISTRICTS

Union Pacific Depot

The Union Pacific Depot is a characteristic example of Mission Revival Architecture and an important remnant of Manhattan's quest for economic progress in the early 20th century. The railroad came with many other frontier trails passing through the Kansas River valley.

The Union Pacific, the nation's first transcontinental rail system, was completed to the east banks of the Big Blue River in 1866. Because the Union Pacific was the most important railroad in Manhattan, plans for a permanent depot were completed in 1901. The structure served as a center for freight and passenger traffic within the region and reflects many important events in Manhattan's past including natural disasters, presidential visits, wars, and major cultural events. The

building stands as a good example of railroad architecture from the late 19th century.

The construction of the Union Pacific railroad is also of local interest because the



Union Pacific Depot, 2nd & Yuma

contractor for laying the first transcontinental track for the railroad from Omaha, Nebraska

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to Promontory Point, Utah was General John S. Casement, who bought a ranch near Manhattan during construction of the railroad. Casement's son, Dan, lived on the ranch and become nationally known as a green stock raiser.

*Source: Kansas State Historical Society
National Register of Historic Places - Nomination Form*