

MANHATTAN'S HISTORIC LANDMARKS & DISTRICTS

Riley County Courthouse

The Riley County Courthouse was constructed in 1904-1906 by J.C. Holland and Frank C. Squires. Arches on squat columns, central bays rising to form a clock tower, and gabled wall dormers are defining features of the Riley County Courthouse and an excellent example of the Richardsonian Romanesque style.

In addition to standard Courthouse offices, through the years, the Courthouse also included room for the Grand Army of the Republic, County Commissioner of the Poor, the Riley County Red Cross and Emergency Relief, the Rural Resettlement Administration, the Farm Security Administration, the Farms Home Administration, the Welfare Department, the Health Department, the Civil Defense Office, and the State Parole office.

The changing nature of these offices reflects the priorities and needs of the county and its citizens. For instance, Judge Morris had so



Riley County Courthouse, 100 Courthouse Plaza

much business marrying soldiers that were at Camp Funston, marrying them day and night, in 1918 he just moved into the Courthouse in order to be available at all hours.

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The most recent renovation in 1985-1986 removed all county offices except court offices from the building, reflecting the growth and development of the county and its court system.

The Riley County Courthouse retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is a significant representation of early 20th century courthouses in Kansas.

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