

Peoria High School Old Main Construction Facts

- The budget for the construction of the building which was to be the largest in Peoria was \$111,000.
- The building of the school was a big thing for the workers in the community since a lot of new jobs were created.
- When building the walls, cement wasn't the only material used as boulders were also inserted. They didn't make a difference at the time, but when air conditioning was added later on the company had a heck of a time drilling through all the boulders.
- The building was built in a mission style with a red tile roof.
- The school was used not only for education, but for community meetings such as church groups or the Farm Bureau.
- To move around the building you had to use stairs. There was a main entrance with stairs at the front of the building that led you to the main floor. Stairs were also available on the east and west sides in the center of the building to get you either to the basement or to the third floor.
- There were no outside stairs as those were added in later renovations.
- What stood out on the main floor were the wood floors.
- Also located on the main floor were the administrative offices and the school library.
- The auditorium had an entrance from the main floor and was set up to seat up to about 200 people. They had meetings, plays and assemblies in the auditorium
- Two big features of the school were the drinking fountains and the indoor bathrooms. These were luxuries at the time.
- The capacity of the school was set up to be around 450 students.
- Rooms were small and this became a problem with the growth that was to follow in the late 60's and early 70's.
- The main building did not include shop areas since those were added in 1927.

- **A gymnasium was not built until 1937 during the depression. That was built through the Works Progress Administration.**
- **The football field was located directly behind the Old Main building.**