

Contractor McDonald gave up the job when the building was about two-thirds completed, and it was completed under the supervision of the School Board in time for the opening of the fall term of 1908. The dimensions are 123x82 feet. The basement is constructed of Indiana limestone and the walls of light, pressed brick, with heavy stone trimmings. As designed, the gymnasium grading, manual training and domestic science departments; boiler and ventilation rooms, and two shower baths, were in the basement. Eight class rooms were provided for the first floor, together with the library, office, reception and cloak rooms. On the second floor were chemical and physical laboratories, three class rooms, high school and reception rooms. The third story was the auditorium, 78x70 feet, with stage and dressing rooms. Such was the original plan of the central unit of Duval High School. The arrangement has since been changed somewhat, and two annexes have been built to meet growing attendance. The north (Beaver Street) annex was completed in January, 1920, and the south (Ashley Street) annex in February, 1922.^a

Duval High School started in 1875 with a two-year course. It was changed to three years in 1877, and to four years in the fall of 1886. In 1923, the school system of 8-4 was changed to the 6-3-3, but it did not become operative until March 3, 1924, when the Junior High schools, John Gorrie (Riverside) and Kirby Smith (Springfield) were opened. John Gorrie was named for the inventor of artificial ice, whose home was Apalachicola, and Kirby Smith for the famous Confederate general, E. Kirby Smith of St. Augustine; both buildings are precisely alike and their plants are the last word in school equipment.^a

Principals of Duval High School:^b M. F. Swaim, 1875-77; E. J. Hyde, 1877 until his death soon after the opening of the fall term of 1880; W. B. Clarkson, December, 1880 to January, 1884; W. C. Thayer, February, 1884 to 1886; Frederick Pasco, 1886 to February, 1897; W. T. Chapin, February, 1897 to 1898; W. E. Knibloe, 1898 to 1909; F. A. Hathaway, 1909 to December, 1913. R. B. Rutherford, December, 1913 to date.

Principal, Kirby Smith Junior High School, G. F. Sisson, March, 1924 to date.