

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED SEP 20 1976  
DATE ENTERED OCT 18 1976

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  \*\*  
Rose School  
AND/OR COMMON  
Rose Center

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
Jackson Street at West Second North Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Morristown  
STATE  
Tennessee  
VICINITY OF  
First  
COUNTY  
Hamblen  
CODE  
47  
CODE  
63  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
First  
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

**CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<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:

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
City of Morristown  
STREET & NUMBER  
144 West First Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Morristown  
STATE  
Tennessee  
VICINITY OF

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Hamblen County Courthouse  
STREET & NUMBER  
CITY, TOWN  
Morristown  
STATE  
Tennessee

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
Tennessee Historical and Architectural Survey  
DATE  
July 1976  
DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS  
Tennessee Historical Commission  
CITY, TOWN  
Nashville  
STATE  
Tennessee  
FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Rose School which is now called the Rose Center, is located at the southwest corner of the schoolyard lot, opposite the old Hamblen County Courthouse. Restoration work is in progress for the exterior of the building and some of the school rooms are temporarily occupied by the county Bicentennial Commission as their headquarters. Both the old Rose School and the courthouse have been selected for preservation as they both are the type of landmarks which serve to enhance the late nineteenth century character of the central business district. The design for the school was influenced by the whimsical Chateausque style which incorporates borrowings from the Gothic and Renaissance Revival styles of the same period. The main interest for this type of architectural treatment is expressed in the lively architectural detail and skillful articulation of the patterned brick facade wall.

The main building is a large, rectangular shape, two-story brick structure, featuring a double brick bearing wall structural system. The cross-hall plan features entrances in each elevation with four equal sized rooms at each corner of the building. The second floor plan is the same and a main staircase is located in the transverse hall opposite the main entrance. The school was designed by Beaver and Hoffmeister, architects, and built by M. Conkle, a general contractor. The building reached its present form in 1892 and two modern additions were constructed during the 1950s. The four modern classrooms and gymnasium are attached, flat-roofed brick buildings located at the back. The gym will be converted into a theater designed to seat 250 persons. The classroom annex will provide classroom space for community art classes and the old main building will feature adaptive restoration designed for an art gallery. The remaining classrooms will be used for the historical museum. The schoolyard has been landscaped with flowering shrubs, trees and evergreens planted by a local garden club.

The most prominent feature of this later Victorian style building is the large, square bell tower which has recently been restored to its original appearance. The open upper stage of the tower features four chamfer design, brick masonry piers supporting the slate clad pointed-style roof. The original school bell has been restored in the open loft. The tower wall is enlivened by a wide expanse of tessellated Flemish bond patterned brickwork and horizontal, graduated corbel ledges. The wide corbel eave and arched corbel frieze extends across the front, rear, and flanking elevations of the building. The facade walls are divided horizontally by a series of corbel course tables which extend around each wall elevation. The symmetrical, balanced fenestration of the main facade is further enhanced by the projecting frontpiece at the centered entrance. This feature serves as the base for two paired, semi-engaged turrets which extend above the eave line. These turrets have candle-snuffer roofs and round-headed windows with carved lambrequins in the heads. The impost section of the arched portal entrance features carved marble portal sculptures designed in the anthemion design. The exterior of this main building will be restored to its original appearance. The original classrooms in the main building feature built-in slate blackboards, wood floors, sixteen foot ceilings and vertical board, bearded wainscot. The ten foot doorways to these rooms have wide transoms and large windows on two sides which provide a plentiful source for ventilation and natural light.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES      1892

BUILDER/ARCHITECT      Beaver and Hoffmeister

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Rose School has been selected for adaptive restoration as the Rose Center. The imposing, two-story brick building was constructed in 1892 as the first high school for the community. It was used as a school building until 1976. It is one of the few important examples of nineteenth-century public building architecture left standing in this community. Designed in the late Victorian style, the Rose School was named for Judge J. G. Rose, a prominent citizen and local businessman. A large stone plaque at the portal entrance lists the names of the architect, building, and building committee members who built the main school building. In 1910 the building became the Rose Elementary School. It was turned over to the Morristown/Hamblen County Historical and Bicentennial Commission in 1967.

The old Rose School is being restored for adaptive use as the town's first civic and cultural center. The adaptive restoration of the school has been planned as the main project of the commission. The stabilization, restoration and preservation work is being funded by a membership drive, and additional reserves from civic and private donations will be used to match grants administered by the state and by the bicentennial commission. A twelve-member board of directors for the Rose Center was created by the commission to oversee the establishment and operation of the museum and cultural center. The Rose Center will contain an art gallery, historic museum and theater. There will be additional rooms available for community programs and activities planned by all the various groups and organizations interested in the fine arts.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Personal interviews and information sent by Ms. Anne Helms, Vice Chairman, Board of Directors of Rose Center, Morristown, Tennessee, August 1976.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1  
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1,7	29,338,0	4,009,84,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Gail E. Hammerquist, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

August 1976

STREET & NUMBER

170 Second Avenue North

TELEPHONE

(615) 741-2371

CITY OR TOWN

Nashville,

STATE

Tennessee

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Herbert L. Harper*

DATE

9/15/76

TITLE

Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acting DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

10/18/76

ATTEST:

DATE

10/15/76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER