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AUG 14 2019

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Mt. Zion Institute High School

Other names/site number: Winnsboro High School, Old Winnsboro High School

Name of related multiple property listing:

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 250 North Walnut Street

City or town: Winnsboro State: SC County: Fairfield

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

 X A B X C D

<u>Elizabeth M. Johnson</u>	<u>8/13/2019</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
Elizabeth M. Johnson, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

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In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

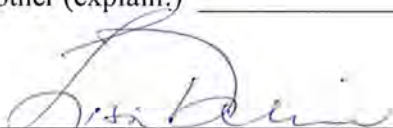
Signature of commenting official: _____ **Date** _____

Title : _____ **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government** _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)


Signature of the Keeper

9/30/19
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site

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Structure

Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>3</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>3</u>	<u> </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- Education/school
- Education/education-related
-
-
-
-

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- Vacant/Not in Use
-
-
-
-

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Modern Movement/Moderne
Lath 19th & 20th Century Revivals: Late Gothic Revival
Late Victorian

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick and Stone, Wood

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The main building at Mt. Zion Institute High School is comprised of three connected sections: the classroom wing, and the auditorium and gymnasium. In addition to this building, there is a separate cafeteria building and a teacherage. Located on North Walnut Street in the town of Winnsboro in central Fairfield County, South Carolina, the property on which the present school sits has a rich history dating back to the 18th century. The main school building was constructed in 1937 to provide high school level education as a complement to the Mt. Zion Grammar School (not extant) that was already on site. Constructed in 1922, the grammar school was similar in design to the current school building (*Figure 1*). Between 1950 and 1955, a brick, one-story cafeteria addition was completed on the north side of the grammar school. It was the only section of the grammar school that survived a 1981 fire. The teacherage, located on the north side of the property, is a late 19th century wood-frame Folk Victorian dwelling (*Figure 2*). The complex is situated on a block bounded by Bratton Street to the north, Gooding Street to the east, Hudson Street to the south, and North Walnut Street to the west. The main building was designed by James B. Urquhart of Columbia, SC. The buildings have not had any significant alterations but interior deterioration from vandalism and weather intrusion is evident.

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Narrative Description

1. Main School Building (1937) – Contributing Building

The main school building on the property is a heavy masonry building with Gothic Revival and Moderne elements. The building includes classrooms and an auditorium/gymnasium. The classrooms are located at the northwest corner of the property, and are oriented parallel to North Walnut Street. The auditorium/gymnasium wing is south of the classrooms, and is connected via a double height masonry hyphen. The auditorium/gymnasium is built at a right-angle to the classroom wing to form an ell. The façade of the auditorium/gymnasium wing fronts North Walnut Street and the wing extends almost the full width of the property between North Walnut and Gooding Streets.

The west façade fronts onto North Walnut Street and contains the main entrance to the classrooms. The three-story classroom block is symmetrical. It is nine bays wide, with a projecting central bay. A flat roof with a knee-high parapet crowns the section and a decorative temple front parapet extends over the center bay. The basement is separated from the main stories by a simple brick water table. Each bay has three four-over-four double hung wood windows divided by wood mullions, except for the central projecting bay which serves as the entrance. A substantial double-sided masonry staircase leads to a landing and then to a central stair providing access to the front entrance, which is recessed into the projected central bay. The central bay features angled cast stone quoins and is decorated with a cast stone shield-shaped panel inscribed with the letters MZI. A pointed-arch portal leads to a vestibule containing the main entrance to the building. The doorway consists of a double-leaf door flanked by a single door on each side. Each door has a transom above with the original wood frames, but the doorways now hold replacement aluminum and glass doors.

The classroom block is connected to the auditorium by a double height brick hyphen. The upper section of the hyphen has three four-over-four windows separated by mullions. The west façade encompassing the auditorium's entrance is two stories on a raised basement with a central projecting bay. An asymmetrical double-split staircase leads to the entrance doors, which are set into a projecting door surround with angled stone quoins. The two doorways, both pointed-arch masonry openings, hold aluminum and glass doors topped by arched transom windows with wood frames. A mark in the brick above the doorways shows that a cast stone shield-shaped panel was removed. This projecting bay also has a four-over-four double-hung lancet windows on each side for each floor. In the center at the mezzanine level, an inset pointed arch frames a single lancet window. The top of the projecting bay features a triangular parapet with cast stone coping.

The south elevation is composed of the auditorium and gymnasium. It has nine bays, five bays for the gymnasium and four for the auditorium, separated by pilasters and three entrances. All of the auditorium windows are missing, but the first two bays had three four-over-four double-hung windows with three four paned windows above. The cornerstone, which was located at the southwest corner of the first bay, has been removed, and the brick has not been repaired. The third bay has an entrance into the auditorium. Above the doors is another large window opening

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which once housed a three four-over-four double-hung window. The fourth bay had a horizontal window on the second floor and two vertical windows on the first-floor, but these windows are not extant. The auditorium and gymnasium are connected by a corridor of lower height which has a covered entrance. The covered entrance extends out from the first bay of the gymnasium and has a tiered profile on its corner and a four-point arch. The gymnasium section of the south elevation has five identical bays separated by pilasters. Each bay once contained a large double-hung window, but these are not extant. At the southwest end of the building, there is a shared entrance to both the gymnasium and the two-story industrial arts classroom section in the rear.¹ This entrance is accessed by a short staircase and is located underneath a covered porch.

The remainder of the south elevation is comprised of the industrial arts section, which has a flat roof with concrete coping. The lower level has two fifteen pane metal windows. The upper level has three metal-framed six pane windows divided by metal mullions. There is a single six pane metal window above the porch. The west elevation is divided into two sections: the rear of the industrial arts section, and the rear of the classroom section. The rear elevation of the industrial arts section is relatively unadorned. There are four multi-paned metal windows on both the lower and upper levels, which are divided by a concrete running course. The rear of the classroom section is different from the east (front) elevation. The center part of the elevation is recessed slightly from the projecting stair hall blocks at the north and south ends. The stair halls have six-over-six wood windows, and the recessed center holds six window openings each with a set of three wood windows separated by mullions. Unlike the main façade, the six openings are loosely paired and the center window in each opening has been replaced with a plywood panel. The three central bays feature an added metal fire escape. A paneled wood nine-light door at the south end of the east elevation leads from the stairway. Above this entrance is a small window with twenty-eight panes arranged in a four-by-seven orientation. At the southwest end of the elevation, a double height enclosed hallway connects the classroom section to the auditorium. The upper part of the connector has a set of three four-over-four windows separated by mullions.

The north elevation of the classroom section contains a central double-leaf entrance into the basement level. The symmetrical facade features a pilaster on either side of the entrance door, making the building three bays wide. On each floor the center bay holds a set of three four-over-four wood windows separated by mullions. The other two bays on this elevation are blank with the exception of a single metal fire door just east of the central entrance. A flat metal canopy spans the two doorways and extends from the building, covering the sidewalk to the street. The north elevation of the auditorium and gymnasium is divided by a one-story enclosed corridor with an entry door. The auditorium section is two-stories on a raised basement. There is a wood-framed triple window at each level. The gymnasium section has five bays separated by a brick pilaster. Each bay has a large window opening; four of the bays have extant windows which have six sections divided by heavy wood mullions. The industrial arts section shares a porch with arched openings with the gymnasium. One of the arched openings has been filled with brick. Like the other elevations of the industrial arts section, there are metal-framed six pane windows on the upper level. The lower level also has a metal-framed multi-pane window but also a door opening that has a modern steel door and wood infill panels.

¹ Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1951.

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Interior

The building contains three levels of classrooms arranged around a single width central corridor with wood floors and plaster walls and ceilings. Most of the original paneled wood doors with nine window lights and transoms are intact. Classrooms retain wood floors, simple wood trim and baseboards, and plaster walls. Some classrooms contain the original blackboards and feature cubby and closet spaces that also serve as connecting passages. Floors are hardwood and ceilings are plaster, but many areas have suffered major water damage. All classrooms have modern metal light fixtures along the ceiling and exposed piping to support the radiator system.

An entrance foyer is located directly inside the front entrance and is flanked by an office along the south wall. The central hall has a high chair rail. Stair halls are located at the east side of the central corridor at both ends of the building, are accessed through heavy steel doors and are concrete with steel railings. Boys' and girls' restrooms are located in blocks adjacent to the stair halls at south and north ends of each floor.

The auditorium has a two-story entry foyer and the main auditorium space. The entry has a high wood chair rail and red clay tile flooring. A steel staircase leads to the second-floor foyer which provides access to the balcony and the projection room. The balcony has steps on either side of the rows of wood theater chairs. The projection room has a roof hatch and a pressed tin ceiling. Four slits in the plaster walls allow for projection. The main auditorium space has a barrel-vaulted ceiling, hardwood floors, and large stage across the east wall. Coffered wainscoting lines the walls and stage front. Wood tripartite windows line each side of the auditorium. These windows have six-over-six vertical sashes. There is a square, four-pane transom above each window. The backstage is accessed at the north side of the stage via a paneled wooden door. There is a small room with a staircase to the stage, and it consists of a long corridor that connects to the south side of the stage. The corridor terminates in an exterior door at the south elevation. A door and stair lead to a room that is adjacent to the stage. A metal ladder leads to a platform over this room. This is the same set-up across the stage. There is a basement level boiler room underneath the stage. The basement is accessible via a concrete staircase by the south entrance.

Access to the gymnasium is obtained via the backstage corridor. The gymnasium is a large room with hardwood floors, which are heavily damaged. The brick walls are exposed and unpainted. There are five sets of double, wood framed windows with nine-over-nine sashes on either side of the gym. Wood bleachers line either side of the gym. Large steel trusses are exposed along with an unpainted wood plank ceiling.

The two-story industrial arts area is accessed by two doors at the east end of the gym. There are two classrooms per floor and all have metal framed, multi-paned windows. The walls are a combination of painted brick and horizontal wood plank walls. The lower level is accessible via a deteriorated wooden staircase.

3. Cafeteria (c. 1955) – Contributing Building

An ancillary cafeteria building was constructed c. 1955 as an addition to the 1922 grammar school and is now the only extant portion of that earlier building. It is located on the south side of the auditorium and gymnasium. Historic photos show that it was connected to the 1922

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Elementary School, which burned in 1981. There is also a concrete walkway connecting the south entrance to the gymnasium to the cafeteria on the north side. Historic photos show that a metal canopy once ran over this walkway.

The cafeteria is a one story, brick building, with gable roof. A gabled, wooden sided monitor is located off the roof, at the west end of the building. At the east end of the building, there is a cross gable protrusion with two single windows. There are eight bays along the main building: there are seven bays with paired windows; on the north side, the sixth bay has a single door; on the south side, the first bay has a single door. The west end of the building, which is three bays, has wooden siding enclosing the place where the building was originally connected to the 1922 school. There is a double door and a double window. The east end is brick and has a double door.

Interior

The interior of the cafeteria is one large room that terminates at the cross-axis. There is a large window at this wall which indicates that the room beyond may have been a kitchen. The space has linoleum tiles which are heavily damaged. The walls are painted brick. There are pieces of faux wood paneling on the ceiling, but it is now mostly exposed wood rafters.

4. The Teacherage (c. 1880) – Contributing Building

This Folk Victorian, two-story wood-sided building was moved from its original location at the corner of Walnut and Bratton Streets to accommodate the construction of the high school in 1937 (*figure 4*). It first appears on Sanborn Maps in 1900 (*figure 5*), but local history indicates that it may have been built in the 1880s, which is consistent with the style of the building. The building was probably constructed as a private home and later converted into a teacherage.

The building is rectangular in plan with two extensions to the rear, and sits on a red brick foundation. The roof is side-gabled and has a protruding cross gable that extends over the porch to the front, and over the extension to the rear. The rear west extension was originally a one-story addition with a porch running across the entirety of the house at the rear. Between 1912 and 1925, the porch was closed in and extended to connect with a formerly free-standing one-story building on the property. This portion now contains a screened-in porch and it has a gabled roof that is separate from the adjoining section. At the front, a one-story porch with Folk Victorian decorative woodwork extends across the façade. The porch currently does not have an access stair. The front entrance has a double door with a transom above and a decorative wood surround. A single two-over-two window flanks the front entrance. There is a screened porch at the rear.

Interior

The interior of the house features a central hall plan with two rooms to either side on the lower floor and a center hall with one room on either side on the second floor. A bathroom is located just off the hallway area of the second floor. On the first floor, there is a vestibule upon immediately entering through the front door. Parlors are accessible from either side of this area. The rear wall of the vestibule contains a small closet and a door which leads to the back hallway and staircase. An additional two rooms are located off of this back hallway as well as access to the rear porch. A kitchen addition is located at the southwest corner of the first level and is

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accessible from the southwest room as well as the rear porch. The home contains hardwood floors and wood paneling in some rooms. Fireplaces are located in the main rooms.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Education

Politics/Government

Period of Significance

1937 - 1960

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Urquhart, James B.

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Mt. Zion Institute High School is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the areas of politics/government and education and under Criterion C for architecture. The school is significant for its association with the history of New Deal programs in South Carolina. The main school building was built in 1937 by the Public Works Administration and was designed by James Burwell Urquhart, a prominent Columbia-based architect who specialized in school design. The work was partially funded by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) which supported and supplemented local heritage and architecture during the Great Depression. When built, the new high school was a modern addition to the historic campus that had served the town since the 18th century. The teacherage and cafeteria served as support buildings for the school. The period of significance is 1937 when the Classroom Building and Auditorium were constructed, to 1960 when the school was converted to intermediate grades only.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion A: Education

The three extant buildings of Mt. Zion Institute High School represent the last phase of an educational institution dating back to the late 18th century. The land where Mt. Zion Institute High School now stands was first developed for educational purposes with the founding of the Mount Zion Society in January 1777. Though founded in Charleston, the purpose of the group was to support a school in the district of Camden. The institute became an important part of the Winnsboro community with many of the city's streets being named after prominent alumni, all of whom were members of the white elite of South Carolina.² When the British Army, led by Lord Cornwallis, occupied Winnsboro during the Revolutionary War, classes were suspended. It was not until 1783 that the society reorganized and re-opened the school. Though the school was granted a charter to act as a college in 1785, education never went beyond the preparatory level. Nonetheless, the school was often referred to as a college by the local populace.³

The institute was expanded in 1831 to include new buildings, including a Palladian style structure. In 1834, James Hudson, a pivotal educator and director, came to the school and increased its reputation in the next decades. Many graduates of Mt. Zion went on to Harvard

² "Mt. Zion Institute, Winnsboro, South Carolina", <https://www.sciway.net/sc-photos/fairfield-county/mt-zion-institute.html>, accessed January 22, 2018.

³ "The History of Mount Zion," Mount Zion Institute Yearbook, 1949.

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University and other well-regarded colleges and universities.⁴ In 1878, the South Carolina legislature allowed for a special levy to be collected for the establishment of a school district in Winnsboro. It was at this time that Mt. Zion Institute became a public graded school serving white pupils of all ages. It was apparently the first public graded school in the upper portion of the state, and only the second outside of a public graded school in Charleston.⁵ In 1886, a Gothic Revival brick building was erected in order to accommodate the influx of students, but by the early 1920s, it was deemed too small and repairs too costly to warrant its continued use. In 1922, it was announced that A.C. Gilchrist of Rock Hill, South Carolina had been retained to design a new building. Plans for the building included thirteen classrooms and an auditorium with a capacity for 500 people.⁶ Following completion of the school building, which was marked for use as an elementary and high school, the 1886 Gothic Revival brick building was demolished. However, an earlier clapboard sided building was retained for use as a “science hall” and cafeteria. The late 19th century dwelling used as teacherage was also retained and eventually became the residence of the school’s superintendent.⁷ With the exception of the teacherage, no pre-1937 buildings associated with Mt. Zion survive.

By the 1930s, separate facilities for the high school were needed as the 1922 building had grown too small for its enrollment. Building a new, modern high school to provide space for the senior grades was a necessity. Fortunately, the Works Progress Administration was investing in education buildings throughout the country during the Great Depression, and Mt. Zion was able to obtain some of those funds. By 1937, a new high school classroom building, and the attached auditorium and gymnasium were completed. High school yearbooks from Mount Zion show the school as a modern facility with multiple afterschool clubs and activities. For many years, the Mount Zion Wildcats, the school’s football team, won the state championship. Although the campus underwent considerable change from the founding of the Mount Zion Institute in the late 1700s, the school continued to be at the center of education for Winnsboro’s white children through the mid-20th century.

A new cafeteria was constructed c. 1955 in the yard between the 1937 auditorium and the elementary school. In 1956, it was announced that a new consolidated high school would be built for the county, and the high school portion of Mount Zion would be moved to the new facility. There was an outcry from the community who wanted to keep the high school on the campus of Mt. Zion, as it had been a pivotal part of the area for so long. Disregarding the community’s pleas, the Fairfield County School District filed a lawsuit against the South Carolina Education Finance Commission in an attempt to force them to fund the project.⁸ The school district

⁴ Helen Trimpi, “Crimson Confederates: Harvard Graduates who Fought for the South,” (Knoxville, TN: University of Tennessee Press, 2010), 95.

⁵ “Mt. Zion Institute, Winnsboro, South Carolina.”

⁶ “Contract Awarded for New Building,” *The State*, July 4, 1922.

⁷ Insurance Photographs of Schools in South Carolina, 1935-1950, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, accessed January 22, 2018.

⁸ “Fairfield Asks \$500,000 for High School,” *Charleston Evening Post*, November 16, 1956.

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triumphed in the end; by 1960, all the high schools in Fairfield County were consolidated into one, and Mt. Zion Institute became Mt. Zion Intermediate.⁹ In 1981, the 1922 school building burned to the ground. Classes were held in the 1937 high school building until 1991, when the school was closed.¹⁰ Since then, the remaining buildings have been vacant and subject to vandalism and damage from the elements.

Criterion A: Politics/Government

The New Deal was a catalyst for change in early 20th century Winnsboro. Public buildings that were designed to serve a greater civic purpose functioned as an economic stimulus during a difficult era of national and regional history. Developed during President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's administration, the New Deal was a set of federal programs whose purpose was to bolster the depressed economy by creating skilled jobs through the improvement and establishment of public infrastructure, which included schools. Within the first three years of the program, 228 schools were built and 632 schools were altered and improved in the state of South Carolina. In the context of Winnsboro, Mt. Zion Institute High School is an example of the development that occurred as a result of New Deal programs in South Carolina. The construction and establishment of Mt. Zion Institute High School is emblematic of the New Deal's support of modernity and public access to services aimed at improving the lives of South Carolina residents.¹¹

During the early years of the New Deal, Winnsboro was perceived by town leaders as going through an educational crisis. In 1935, when school officials applied to the WPA for building funds for the school, the chairman of the board of trustees for School District Number 14, C.S. McCants, issued a public declaration that said the high school population was steadily growing at an unsustainable rate. In only twelve years, the rate of admission at the school multiplied by five.¹² Expanding access to secondary education for Winnsboro's white students was also paramount. McCants aimed to grow the local high school's student body to include those not seeking a college education. To achieve this, he urged that space was needed for "business training, domestic science, manual and textile classes and other vocational subjects." The school district believed that funding from the WPA would create "the same opportunities that the children of other communities have been enjoying for many years." School District 14 thus applied to the WPA for funding support in a new high school project, one that aimed to increase access to education in a setting equipped with modern educational tools. Of course, this new school would be segregated, admitting only white students. The WPA agreed to fund this project and Mt. Zion Institute High School's design and construction was supported by the federal government. The total estimated cost of the school's construction was \$150,711.¹³

⁹ Kathleen Lewis Sloan, "The Mount Zion Society," *Charleston News and Courier*, April 22, 1962.

¹⁰ "History," Friends of Mount Zion Institute, <http://www.mtzioninstitute.com/history>, accessed January 23, 2018.

¹¹ Jack Irby Hayes, "The New Deal: 1933-1939", *South Carolina Encyclopedia*, <http://www.scencyclopedia.org/sce/entries/new-deal/>, accessed June 27, 2019.

¹² McCants, C S. "Trustees Plan to Erect School in Winnsboro." *Fairfield News and Herald*, September 12, 1935.

¹³ *Ibid.*

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The WPA paid for the school's construction through a combination of grants and loans. The construction was paid for by the WPA, but organized by another New Deal agency, the Public Works Administration (PWA – then called the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works). The dual federal involvements of the WPA and PWA illustrate how New Deal programs worked to stimulate the economy and culture of South Carolina by providing jobs and opportunities to its citizens while building infrastructure aimed at creating a better future.

Criterion C: Architecture

The WPA, which combined feats of civic engineering with support of the arts, encouraged its projects to reflect the architectural style of the region, which was usually achieved by hiring local architects. By November of 1935, James B. Urquhart & Company, a firm based in Columbia, South Carolina, had completed the design of the high school. James Burwell Urquhart was born in Virginia in 1876. He graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute with a degree in civil engineering. Initially he was involved with the construction of railroads, but around 1901, he moved to Columbia, South Carolina where he worked with the prestigious architect Charles Coker Wilson. By 1907, Urquhart was an associate in the firm. After four successful years, Urquhart left the partnership to form his own firm.¹⁴

Initially, Urquhart designed commercial and public buildings, as well as apartment houses. In 1912, J. Carroll Johnson joined the office and the two worked together until 1917. After that partnership dissolved, Urquhart returned to designing on his own, taking on various associates over the years. He ultimately designed over twenty-eight South Carolina public schools and multiple buildings for state colleges. Urquhart did not have a signature style or design, but worked with a variety of architectural styles. Some of his schools from the 1920s favored a more Classical look, such as Walterboro High School in Walterboro, South Carolina, and Columbia High School in Columbia, South Carolina.¹⁵ By the 1930s, Urquhart began relying more on his associates. According to Wyatt Hibbs, who was the chief designing architect for the firm, Urquhart was more involved in engineering and had little to do with the actual designs produced by his office. As Hibbs served as the chief architect during the years of 1935-1941, it is possible that he designed the new building at Mt. Zion.

Wyatt Hibbs was born in Norfolk, Virginia and graduated from Carnegie-Mellon University before working in Philadelphia as a draftsman with Day & Klauder.¹⁶ By the mid-1920s, Hibbs had moved to Winston-Salem to take a position at Northrup and O'Brien, one of the city's premier architecture firms. His first commission was to design the exterior of the new city hall in the early 1920s. According to a 1982 interview with Hibbs, he based the design off the City Hall

¹⁴ John E. Wells and James E. Dalton” *The South Carolina Architects: 1885-1935* (Richmond, VA: New South Architectural Press, 1992), 185-186.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ “Hibbs, W(illiam) Wyatt,” *1970 American Architects Directory*, 3rd Edition, 403.

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in Hartford, Connecticut.¹⁷ It is not known if Hibbs worked for any other architects in between his time in Winston-Salem and his later career in Columbia with Urquhart. His time in Urquhart's office ended in 1940 and Hibbs moved back to Norfolk, Virginia, where he continued practicing architecture and eventually authored the book "Ghent Houses: Circa 1890-1920" in 1989.¹⁸ Mount Zion High School's Moderne design combined with Gothic Revival elements was not a complete departure for Urquhart's firm. In fact, several schools designed by the firm in the decade before Mount Zion favored a stripped-down Gothic Revival style. Ellis Avenue School in Orangeburg and Shandon Junior High School (now Hand Middle School) in Columbia are examples of this. The firm completed more robust examples of Gothic Revival in the early 1920s. Wardlaw Junior High School in Columbia's Elmwood district is the firm's best and fullest expression of the style.

The use of Gothic Revival design elements may have been an homage to the demolished 1886 Mt. Zion Grammar School building, which was a fuller realization of the Gothic Revival style. However, the deprivations of the Great Depression played a huge role in how architecture was designed and built and encourage a more minimalist approach to established styles. One of the purposes of the Works Progress Administration was to provide work for unemployed architects and artisans.¹⁹ Mt. Zion Institute High School is indicative of the restrictions and subsequent style changes of the period. While the WPA funded the construction of the high school, elements of the building's style could be classified as PWA Moderne, essentially a stripped-down style that grew out of the need for frugality during the Great Depression. The style was known for its combination of Art Deco, Beaux Arts, and Streamline Moderne.²⁰ Another example of this design is the Lexington County Courthouse, which was partially designed by Urquhart's former partner, J. Carroll Johnson. This building combines red brick with a projecting concrete pavilion at the main entrance.²¹ The concrete details (coping, quoins, etc.) of the classroom section and auditorium at Mt. Zion show this influence.

¹⁷ "Northwest Almanac: Preservation of 1920s City Hall building important to Winston-Salem leaders," *Winston Salem Journal*, June 11, 2018.

¹⁸ "Finding Aids: Researching Your Norfolk Property," *Norfolk Main Library*, <https://www.norfolkpubliclibrary.org/home/showdocument?id=266>, accessed June 27, 2019.

¹⁹ "History: WPA Architectural Projects during the Great Depression," *New Mexico Museum of Art*, <http://online.nmartmuseum.org/nmhhistory/art-architecture/wpa-architectural-projects/history-wpa-architectural-projects.html>, accessed June 27, 2019.

²⁰ "PWA Moderne," *McGraw Dictionary of Architecture and Construction*, <http://encyclopedia2.thefreedictionary.com/PWA+Moderne>, accessed June 27, 2019.

²¹ Jessie Childress, *Lexington County Courthouse*, National Register of Historic Places, 2014.

Mt. Zion Institute High School
Name of Property

Fairfield County, SC
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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Mt. Zion Institute High School
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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
 previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

Mt. Zion Institute High School
Name of Property

Fairfield County, SC
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 3.15

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 34.384799° | Longitude: -81.084152° |
| 2. Latitude: 34.383601° | Longitude: -81.083686° |
| 3. Latitude: 34.383816° | Longitude: -81.082682° |
| 4. Latitude: 34.385061° | Longitude: -81.083163° |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Bounded by Bratton Street on the North, Gooding Street on the East, Hudson Street on the South and North Walnut Street on the West. The boundary corresponds to tax parcel #126-01-11-028-00 as outlined on the Fairfield County GIS tax map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with Mt. Zion Institute High School.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Caroline Wilson
organization: MacRostie Historic Advisors
street & number: 3 Broad Street, Suite 301
city or town: Charleston state: SC zip code: 29201
e-mail: cwilson@mac-ha.com
telephone: 843-779-3629
date: 1/18/19

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Mt. Zion Institute High School
Name of Property

Fairfield County, SC
County and State

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Mt. Zion Institute High School

City or Vicinity: Winnsboro

County: Fairfield

State: SC

Photographer: Richard Sidebottom, Caroline Wilson

Date Photographed: November 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1. Mount Zion Institute, west facade, facing northeast
2. Mount Zion Institute, southwest corner, facing northeast
3. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, west facade, facing east
4. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, west facade, facing northeast
5. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium west facade, facing southeast
6. Mount Zion Institute, connector, west facade, facing east
7. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium, window detail
8. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium, west facade, facing east
9. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium, door surround detail
10. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium, window detail

Mt. Zion Institute High School

Fairfield County, SC

Name of Property

County and State

11. Mount Zion Institute, west facade, facing north
12. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium/gymnasium, south facade, facing east
13. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium/gymnasium south entrance, facing north
14. Mount Zion Institute, gymnasium, southeast corner, facing northwest
15. Mount Zion Institute, gymnasium/industrial arts, northeast facade, facing southwest
16. Mount Zion Institute, gymnasium/industrial arts, north entrance, facing southwest
17. Mount Zion Institute, gymnasium, north facade, facing south
18. Mount Zion Institute, gymnasium/auditorium, northeast facade, facing southwest
19. Mount Zion Institute, east elevation, facing west
20. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, south elevation, facing northwest
21. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, north facade, facing south
22. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, northwest facade, facing southeast
23. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, west facade, facing southeast
24. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, lower floor, facing south
25. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, lower floor, facing southeast
26. Mount Zion Institute, lower floor, classroom building, facing north
27. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, lower floor, classroom, facing southwest
28. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, classroom, lower floor, facing west
29. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, lower floor, corridor, door detail
30. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, lower floor, classroom, facing east
31. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, lower floor, classroom, facing northwest
32. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, lower floor, classroom, facing south
33. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, lower floor, classroom, facing northeast
34. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, lower floor, corridor, facing south
35. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, ground floor, stair hall, facing east
36. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, foyer, ground floor, facing southeast
37. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, ground floor, corridor, facing south
38. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, ground floor, office, facing northwest
39. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, ground floor, office, facing southeast
40. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, ground floor, corridor, facing southwest
41. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, ground floor, classroom, facing southwest
42. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, ground floor, classroom, facing east
43. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, ground floor, classroom, facing northwest
44. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, ground floor, library, facing southeast
45. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, ground floor, library, facing south
46. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, ground floor, corridor, facing north
47. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, ground floor, bathroom, facing east

Mt. Zion Institute High School

Fairfield County, SC

Name of Property

County and State

48. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, ground floor, corridor, facing east
49. Mount Zion Institute, ground floor, stair hall, facing east
50. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, stair hall, window detail
51. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, upper floor, classroom door detail
52. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, upper floor, classroom, facing north
53. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, upper floor, classroom, facing northwest
54. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, upper floor, classroom, facing south
55. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, upper floor, classroom, facing north
56. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, upper floor, classroom, facing east
57. Mount Zion Institute, upper floor, facing southeast
58. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, upper floor, classroom, facing north
59. Mount Zion Institute, classroom building, upper floor, corridor, facing north
60. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium, facing north
61. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium balcony, facing south
62. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium balcony, facing east
63. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium, facing northeast
64. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium, facing southeast
65. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium, facing west
66. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium, facing south
67. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium, facing north
68. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium, dressing room, facing west
69. Mount Zion Institute, auditorium, backstage corridor, facing south
70. Mount Zion Institute, gymnasium, facing east
71. Mount Zion Institute, gymnasium, facing north
72. Mount Zion Institute, gymnasium, facing northeast
73. Mount Zion Institute, gymnasium, facing west
74. Mount Zion Institute, industrial arts area, upper floor, facing north
75. Mount Zion Institute, industrial arts area, upper floor, facing northeast
76. Mount Zion Institute, industrial arts area, ground floor, facing northeast
77. Mount Zion Institute, industrial arts area, ground floor, facing northwest
78. Mount Zion Institute, cafeteria, northwest facade, facing east
79. Mount Zion Institute, cafeteria, northeast facade, facing southwest
80. Mount Zion Institute, cafeteria, facing east
81. Mount Zion Institute, cafeteria, facing west
82. Mount Zion Institute, cafeteria kitchen, facing north
83. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, east facade, facing south
84. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, east facade, facing southwest

Mt. Zion Institute High School

Name of Property

Fairfield County, SC

County and State

85. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, east facade, facing southeast
86. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, north elevation, facing northeast
87. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, south elevation, facing northwest
88. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, front foyer, facing southwest (April 2018)
89. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, front foyer, facing southeast (April 2018)
90. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, front door detail
91. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, west parlor, facing west
92. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, west parlor, facing south
93. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, east parlor, southwest
94. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, east parlor, facing southwest
95. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, rear corridor, facing south
96. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, rear corridor, facing north
97. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, west rear parlor, facing northwest
98. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, rear west parlor, facing south
99. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, east rear parlor, facing north
100. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, east rear parlor, facing south
101. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, kitchen, facing south
102. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, kitchen, facing north
103. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, rear corridor, staircase, facing north
104. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, second level hall, facing southwest
105. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, west bedroom, facing southwest
106. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, east bedroom, facing northeast
107. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, east bedroom, facing south
108. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, attic, facing south
109. Mount Zion Institute, teacherage, attic, facing southeast

Index of Figures

Figure 1. Mt. Zion Grammar School ca. 1922

Figure 2. Mt. Zion High School (Main School Building), ca. 1941

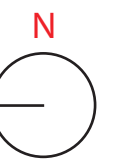
Figure 3. Mt. Zion High School Auditorium, ca. 1950 (School Insurance Photography)

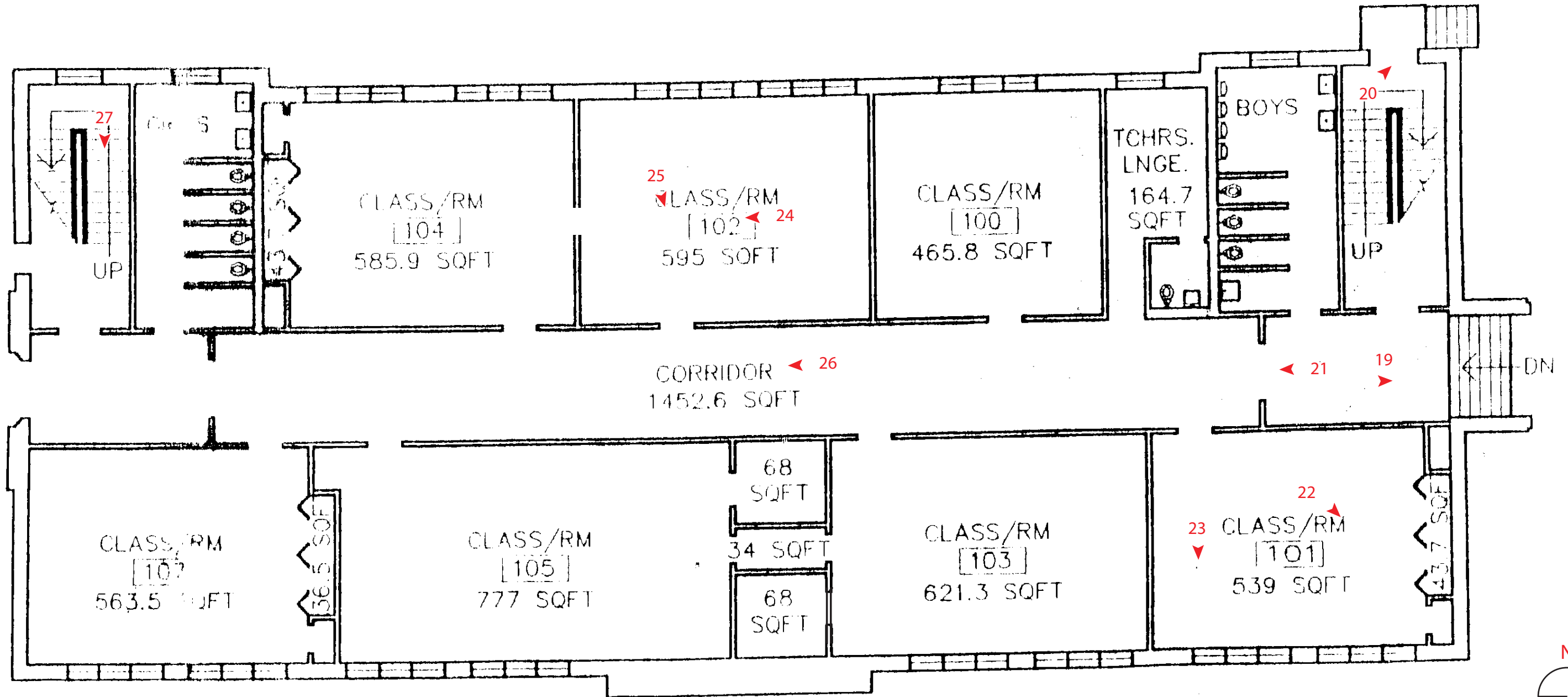
Figure 4. Mt. Zion Teacherage, ca. 1950

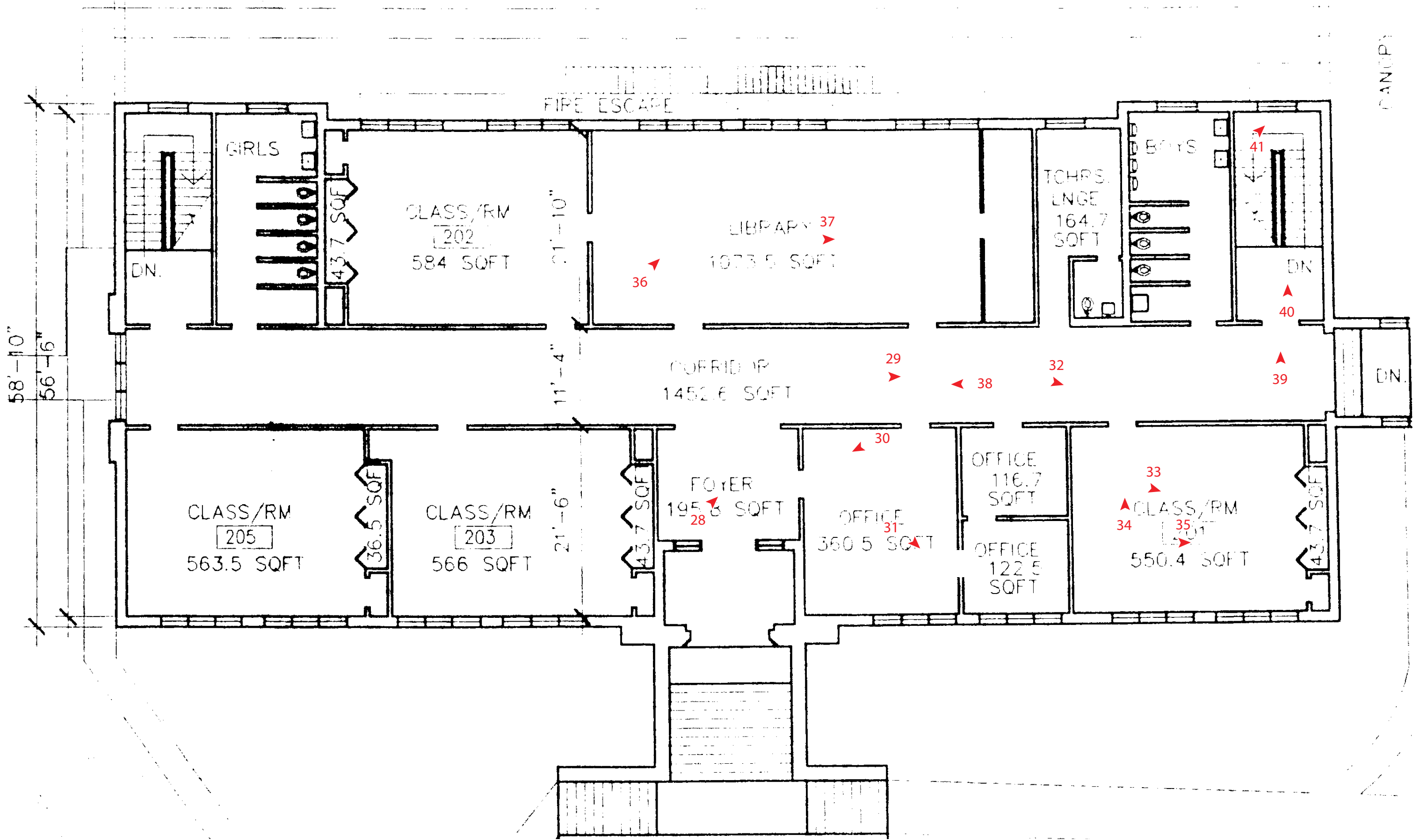
Figure 5. Mt. Zion Graded School Complex ca. 1900 (dwelling is teacherage)

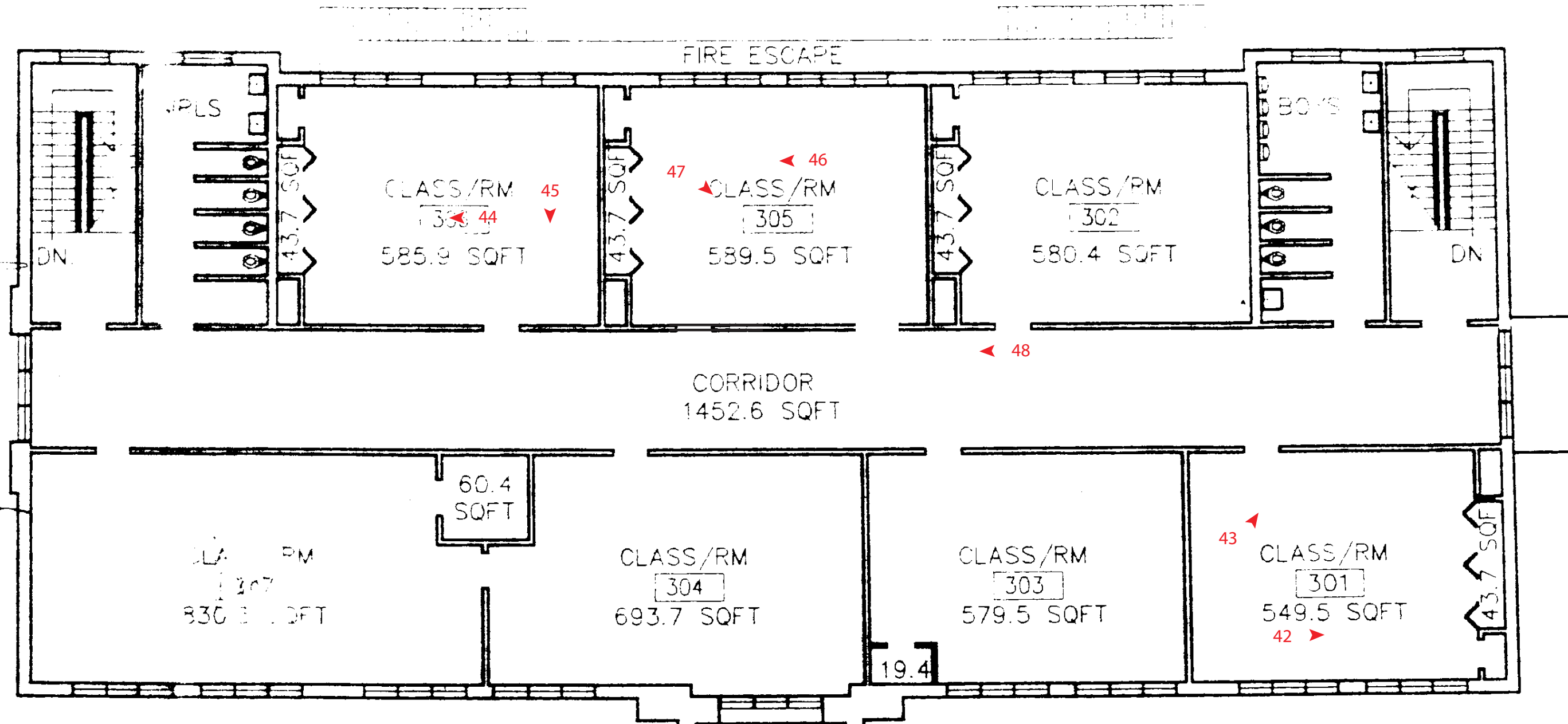
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

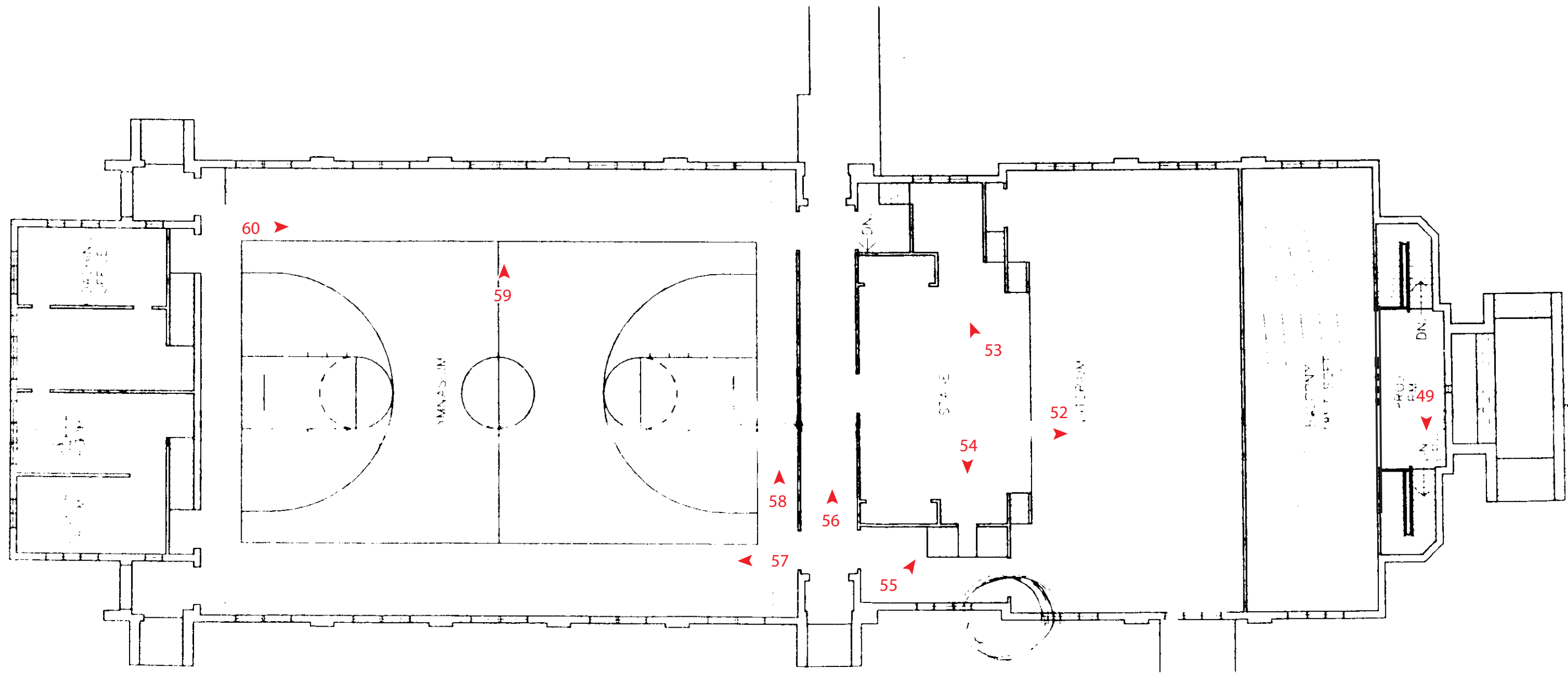
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

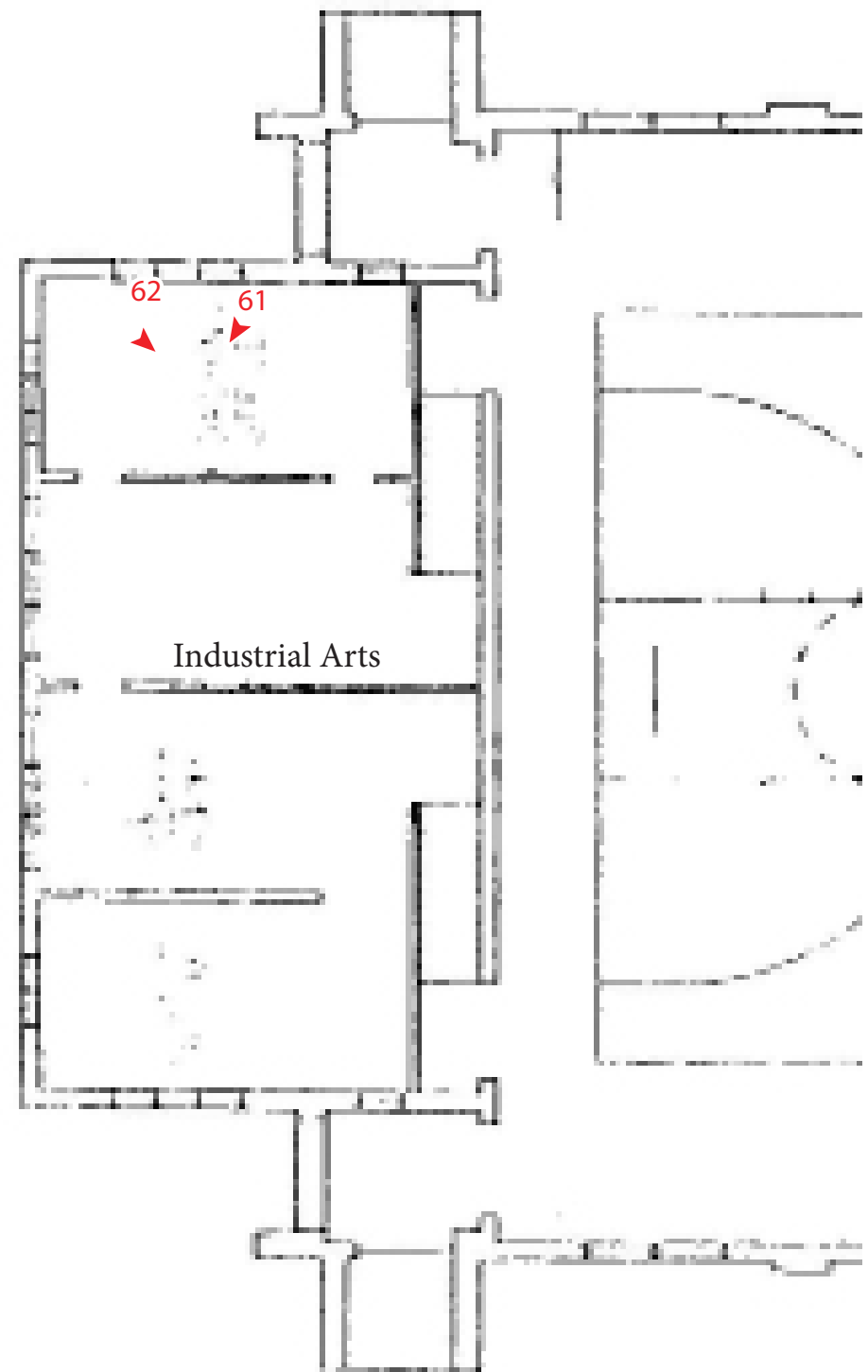
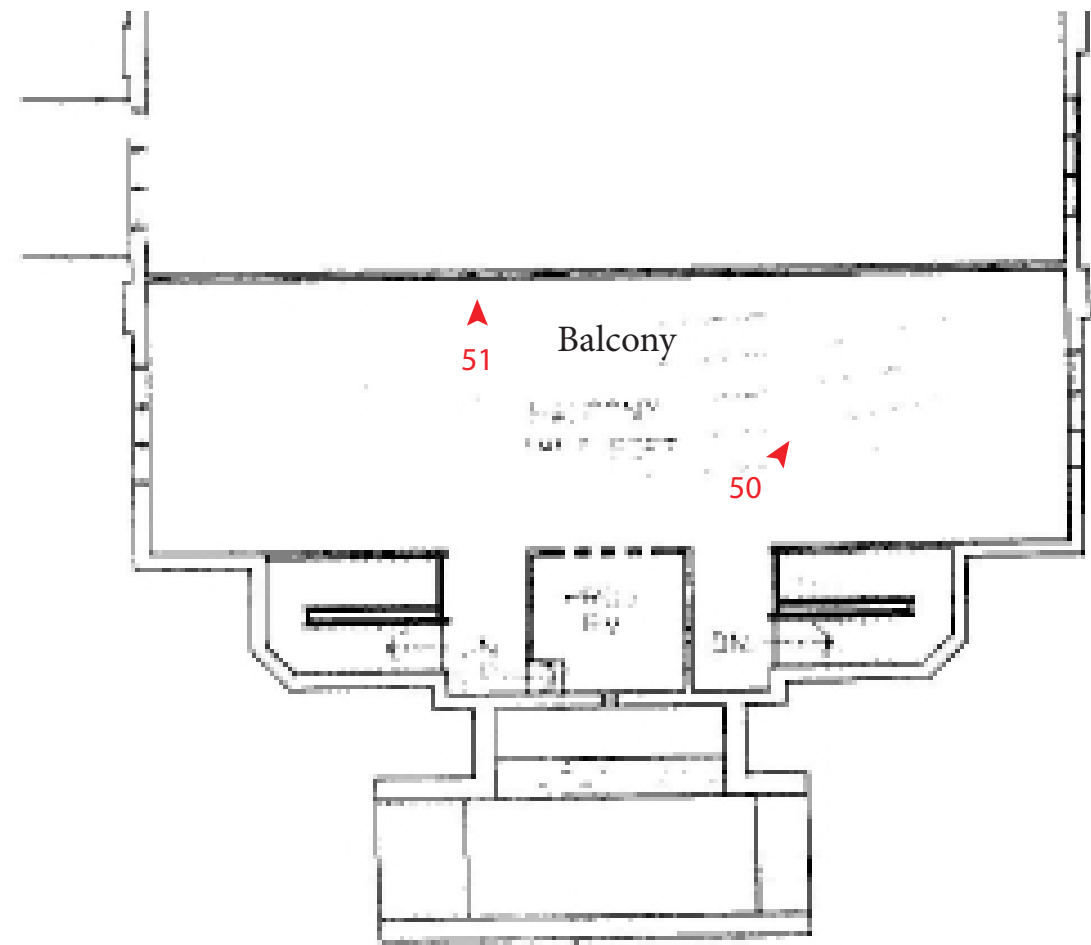















Overview



Legend

-  Parcels
-  Roads

Parcel ID 126-01-11-028-000
 Sec/Twp/Rng //
 Property Address 250 WALNUT ST OLD MT ZION SCHOO
 Winnsboro

Alternate ID 6639
 Class CM
 Acreage 3.15

Owner Address MZI HOLDINGS LLC
 PO BOX 650
 DURHAM, NC 27701

District 28
 Brief Tax Description 250 WALNUT ST
 OLD MT ZION SCHOOL W11
 PLAT: 605-1947

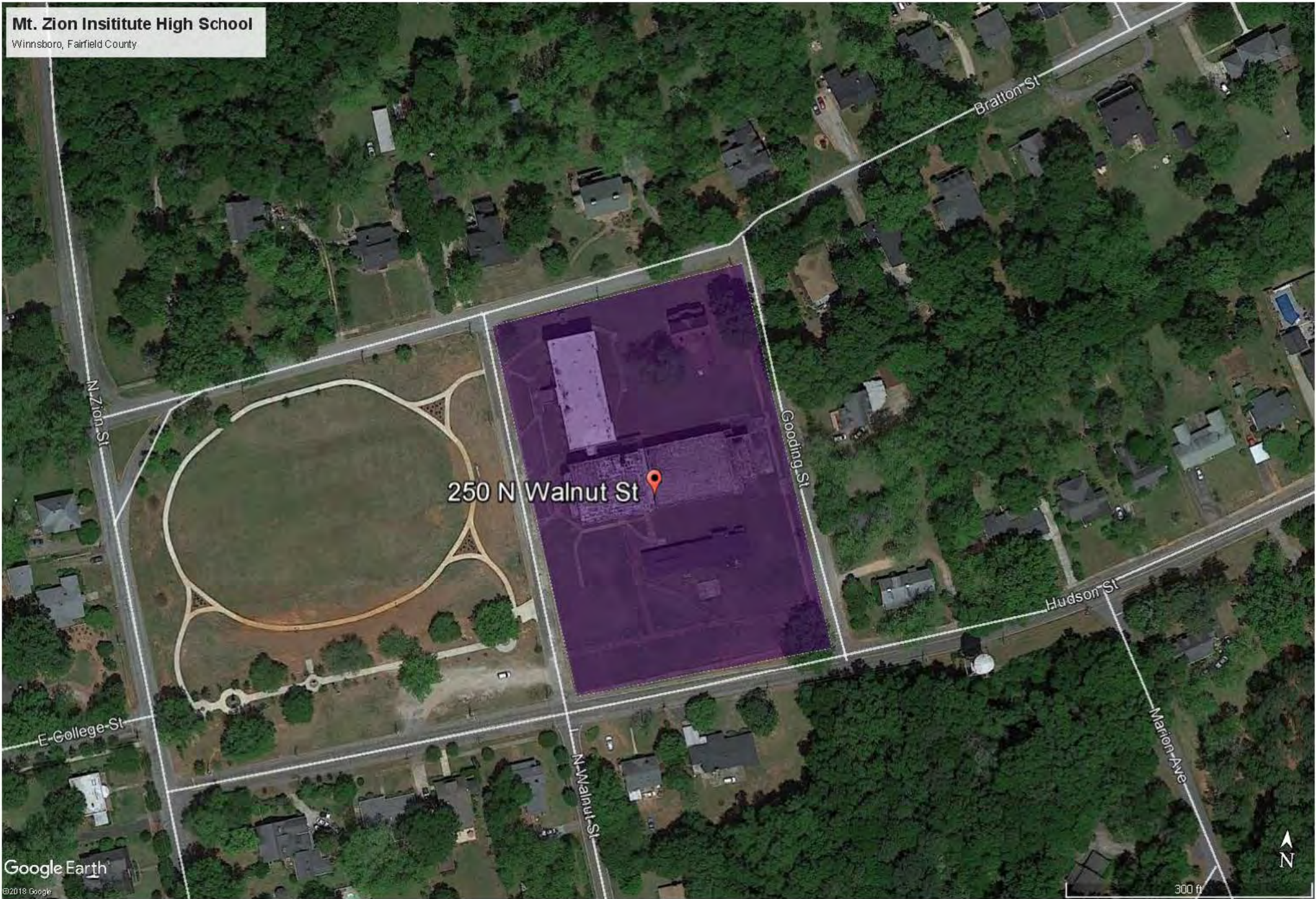
(Note: Not to be used on legal documents)

Date created: 7/9/2019
 Last Data Uploaded: 7/8/2019 10:15:55 PM

Developed by  Schneider
 GEOSPATIAL

Mt. Zion Insitute High School

Winnsboro, Fairfield County



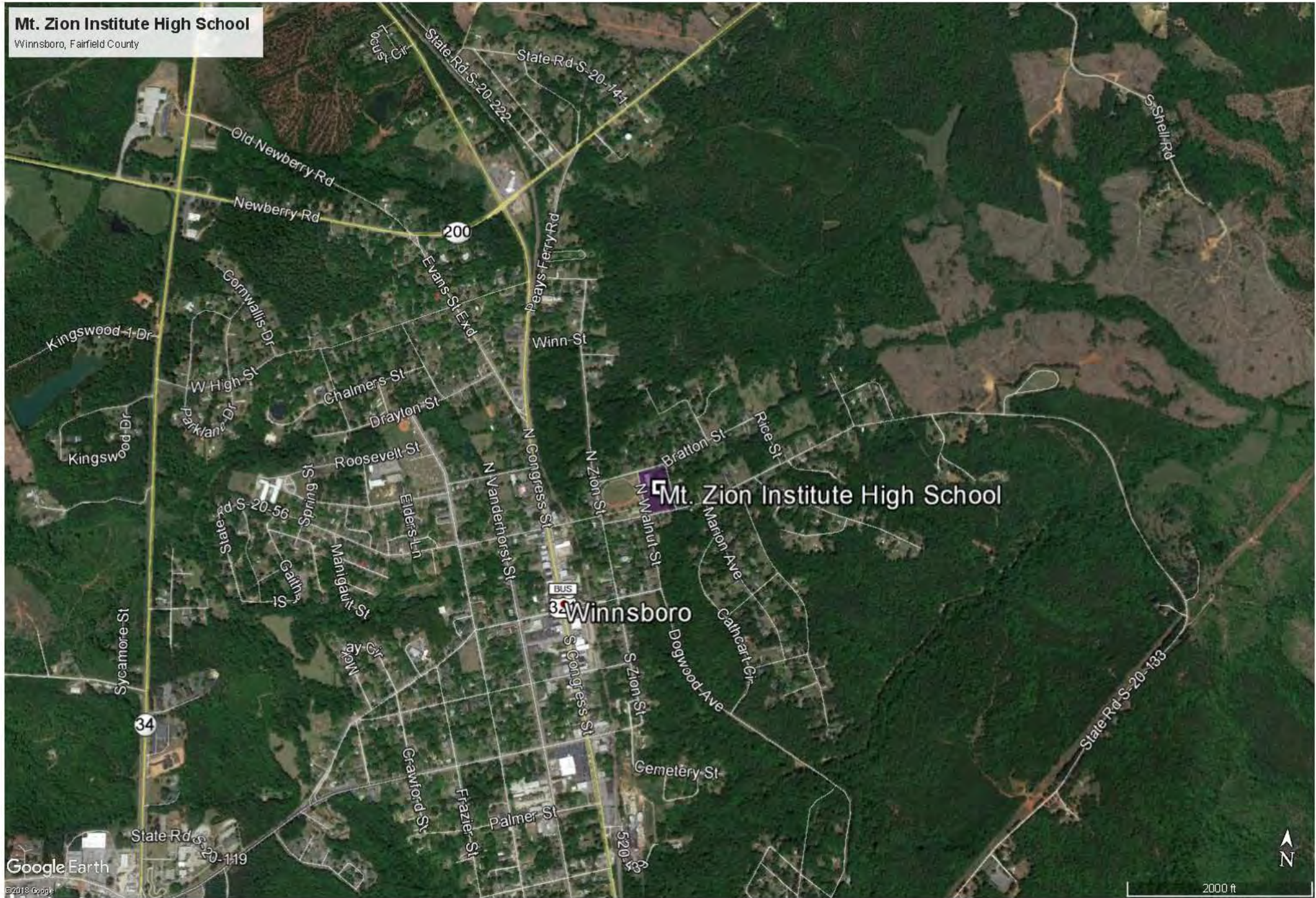
Google Earth

©2018 Google

300 ft

Mt. Zion Institute High School

Winnsboro, Fairfield County



Google Earth

©2018 Google



2000 ft

Mt. Zion Institute High School

Winnsboro, Fairfield County









NO PARKING
EXCEPT FOR
EMERGENCY VEHICLES
OR VEHICLES WITH
PERMITS



NO PARKING
IN FRONT OF
THIS BUILDING





KEEP OUT



KEEP
OUT

NO
SMOKING
NO
ALCOHOL

**KEEP
OUT**

NO TRESPASSING
NO LOITERING
THIS PROPERTY
IS UNDER THE
JURISDICTION OF
WINNSBORO
PUBLIC SAFETY



KEEP
OUT
NO ENTRY
NO ACCESS
NO ENTRY



KEEP
OUT





































FALL
11/20

Blue graffiti tag on the right wall.



KNIGHTS
OF

CDS

SRH

[Large black graffiti signature]





Handwritten graffiti on the left wall, including the word "Godv" in blue and other illegible markings in black and red.





201

CRS

CRS

CRS





sed eady
FREE
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W/ K
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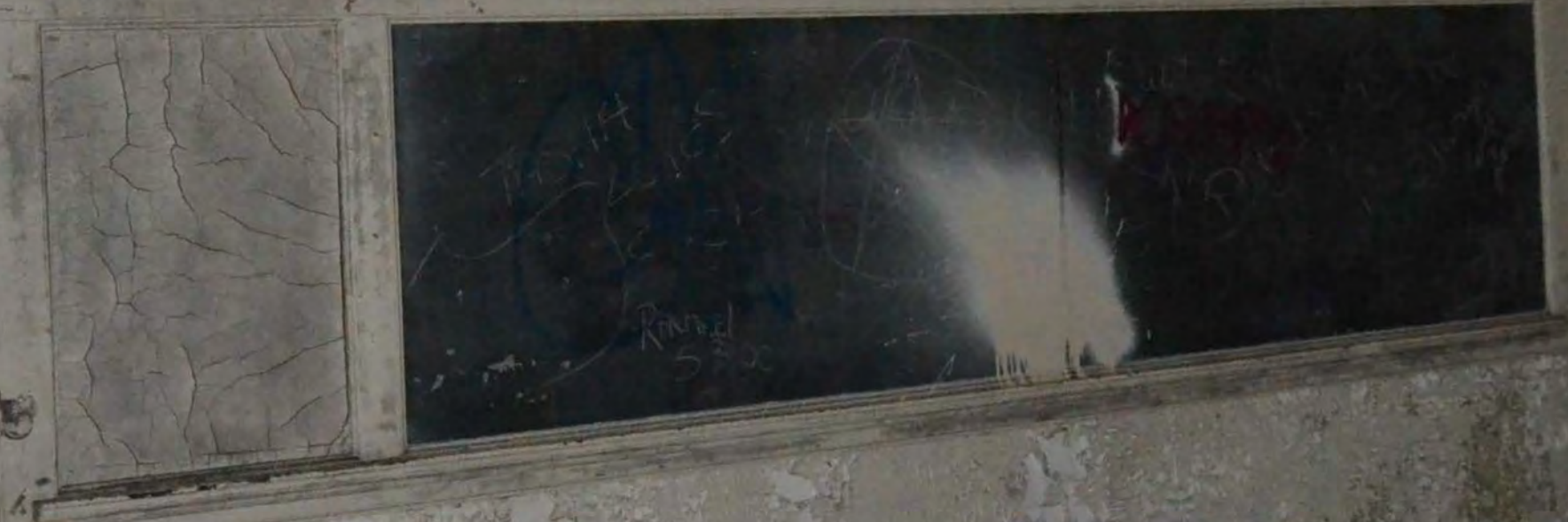
I. W. R. P.















Chloé













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AV
"ZK"
200







DARE TO KEEP KIDS OFF BRICKS

old dog



















KEEP
OUT













NO TRESPASSING











































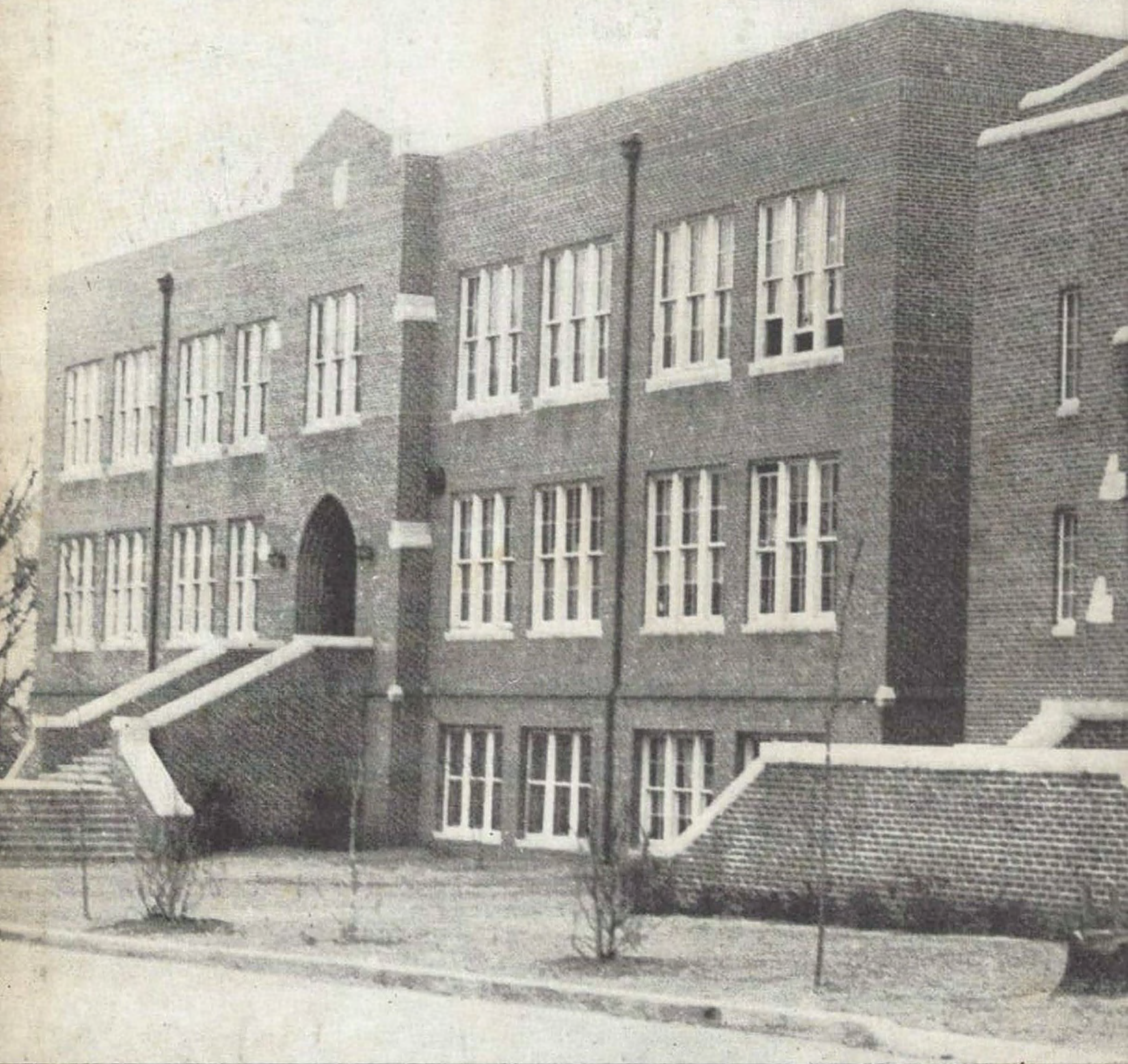




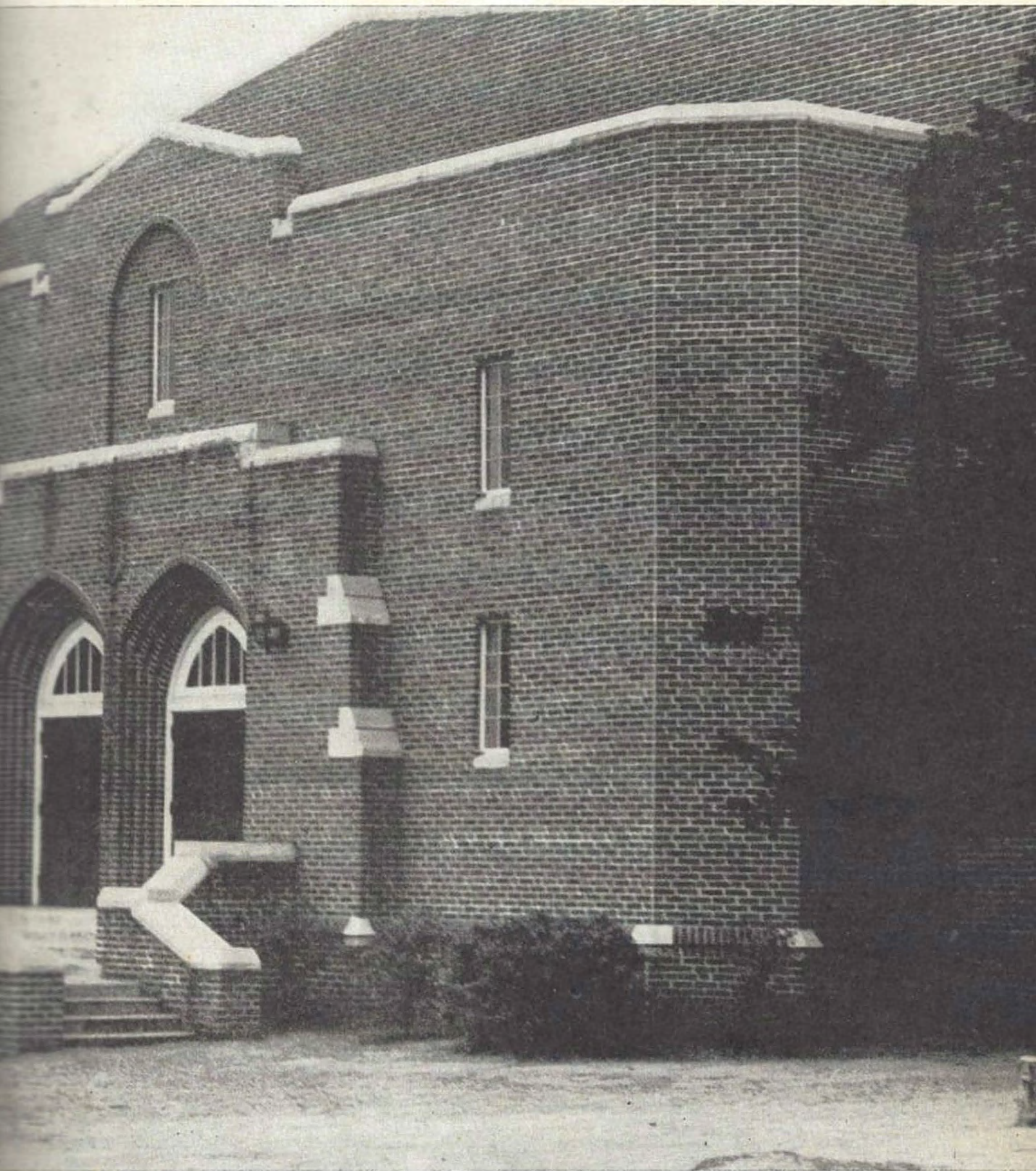








*On the hills of dear old Fairfield
Proudly stands our school;
All hail to thee, our Alma Mater,
Conquer and prevail.*

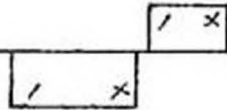
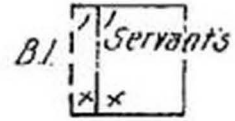
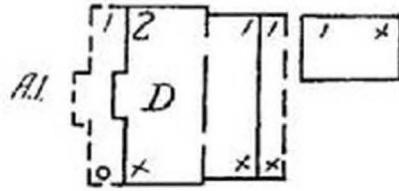


*Loyal students ever loving
Honor and obey,
All hail to thee, our Alma Mater,
Mount Zion, all hail!*



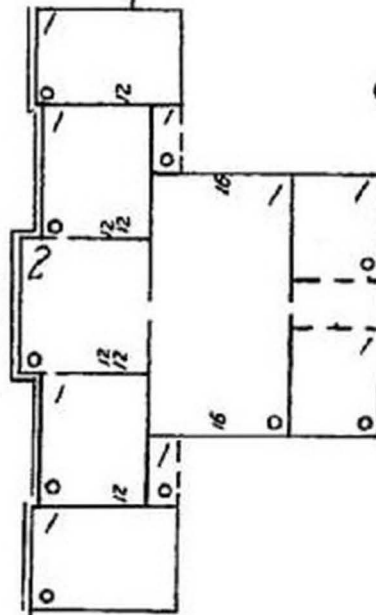


CIST.
15,000 GAL'S



M.T. ZION,
GRADED SCHOOL.
HEAT: COAL STOVES.

Cist.



66'

HUDSON ST.

36'

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Mt. Zion Institute High School

Multiple Name:

State & County: SOUTH CAROLINA, Fairfield

Date Received: 8/14/2019 Date of Pending List: 9/13/2019 Date of 16th Day: 9/30/2019 Date of 45th Day: 9/30/2019 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number: SG100004445

Nominator: SHPO

Reason For Review:

<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PDIL	<input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue
<input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Photo
<input type="checkbox"/> Waiver	<input type="checkbox"/> National	<input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary
<input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission	<input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource	<input type="checkbox"/> Period
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> TCP	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years
	<input type="checkbox"/> CLG	

Accept Return Reject 9/30/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary AOS: Architecture, Education, Government; POS: 1937; LOS: local. Architect James B. Urquhart. Significant for its association with the history of the New Deal programs in SC.

Recommendation/ Criteria NR Criteria: A & C.

Reviewer Lisa Deline

Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2239

Date 9/30/19

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
ARCHIVES & HISTORY



August 13, 2019

Ms. Joy Beasley
Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places
National Register of Historic Places
1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop 7228
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Beasley:

Enclosed is the National Register nomination for the Mt. Zion Institute High School in Winnsboro, Fairfield County, South Carolina. The nomination was approved by the South Carolina State Board of Review as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C at the local level of significance. We are now submitting this nomination for formal review by the National Register staff. The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Mt. Zion Institute High School to the National Register of Historic Places.

If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address below, call me at (803) 896-6179, or e-mail me at vharness@scdah.sc.gov.

Sincerely,

Virginia E. Harness
Architectural Historian and National Register Co-Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office
8301 Parklane Rd.
Columbia, SC 29223