

PH 0010235

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Alabama	
COUNTY: Mobile	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70-2-01- 27 001	2/16/70

1. NAME

COMMON: Barton Academy

AND/OR HISTORIC: Barton Academy

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 504 Government Street

CITY OR TOWN: Mobile

STATE: Alabama CODE: 01 COUNTY: Mobile CODE: 097

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<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 (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Board of School Commissioners of Mobile County

STREET AND NUMBER: 504 Government Street

CITY OR TOWN: Mobile STATE: Alabama CODE: 01

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Mobile County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER: South Royal Street

CITY OR TOWN: Mobile STATE: Alabama CODE: 01

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Building Survey

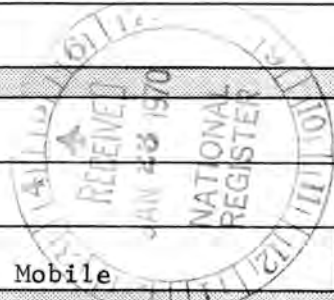
DATE OF SURVEY: 1935 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER: _____

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D. C. CODE: 08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Alabama
COUNTY: Mobile
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE						
STYLE:	GREEK REVIVAL					
PLAN:	Rectangle with protrusions. Entry Hall extends to front with open portico above. Single small rooms extended to rear of corners. Original plan had central stair hall with stair running from ground to cupola. One large classroom on each side of central hall with office in small rooms at rear corners. This arrangement typical for first two floors. Third floor divided into four rooms plus office on each side of central stair hall.					
MATERIALS & METHODS OF CONSTRUCTION:	Stuccoed brick exterior walls, wood floor joists and girders supported on wood columns. Corbeled brick footings. Stuccoed cornice carried by limestone slabs cantilevering from exterior wall and counterweighted by roof trusses. Wood cupola and lantern. Low pitched roof originally tin clad.					
EXTERIOR APPEARANCE:	Symmetrical composition. <u>Three</u> stories with lowest floor slightly heavier than upper two. <u>Doric pilasters</u> run from second floor to cornice all four sides. Central portico extends to front at entry; enclosed at ground floor with open porches, second and third floor. Six Ionic columns run from second floor to cornice and support low pitched pediment. Deep overhanging cornice with parapet above all four sides. Heavy drum and cupola, with dome surmounted by lantern. Twenty-eight wood Ionic columns around cupola. Exterior walls stuccoed and scored to simulate large scale stone.					
SCALE AND PROPORTION:	Typical stout Greek Revival appearance. Cupola and drum extremely heavy to successfully compensate for foreshortening when seen from ground.					
INTERIOR APPEARANCE:	Plaster walls and ceilings on split lath. Ground floor stucco over brick. Other floor yellow pine. Back banded door and window trim. Exposed interior columns of wood, Doric Order. Cupola only portion retaining any original finishes.					
IRON WORK:	Massive cast iron gateways, posts cast in the form of bundles of elm and birch bound with leather thongs containing an ax and blade fascies. Fifteen slender lances of iron between each post. Wrought iron railings over entry portico at both first and second floor porches.					
PRESENT:	Renovation 1968-70 nearly completed. Completely new interior plan. Exterior sand blasted and painted. East and West wings were extended to sides and rear in late 19th Century. Structure bolstered and extended to rear in 1913-14. Principal facade remains unchanged.					

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

2. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Barton Academy, completed in 1836, was the first public school in the State of Alabama. The school was named for Willoughby Barton, a member of the Alabama Legislature and sponsor of the act which created the Board of School Commissioners for Mobile County, Alabama's first local board of education.

The land for the building, a part of the Price Tract, was acquired on May 25, 1830.

Henry Hitchcock, Alabama's first attorney general, headed the committee appointed to secure plans and establish the school. A large part of the money used to construct the building ^{came} from Hitchcock's private fortune.

Private and denominational schools were held in Barton Academy from 1836 to 1851. The Mobile School Commissioners appropriated money to these Catholic, Methodist, Trinity and Bethal groups, as there were then no purely public schools in Mobile County or anywhere in Alabama.

The Mobile school authorities were the first in Alabama to provide a definite income for the support of public education. This income was derived from land grants and fines and a tax on the sales of slaves, livestock, and other commodities. There was also a license tax on shows, theatres, and similar amusements. These funds were supplemented by revenue raised by a lottery. Barton Academy was built with funds raised partially by lottery.

Barton Academy became Alabama's first public school in 1852. The year before Mobile voters had the choice of selling the academy with the sale proceeds going to private schools or retaining Barton Academy and setting up a public school system. Mobile voters voted for public schools. Willis G. Clark, chairman of the school board, was sent to study the school systems in the Northern states.

The County Superintendent of Education has used a portion of the building for his office since 1857, except for 1925-26 and 1968-69 when building renovations were made. Certain other school administrative offices were located there when most of the building was used for classrooms.

Barton Academy continued to operate as a public school from 1852 to May, 1965, when decreasing enrollment brought about by shifting population patterns led to the closing of the classrooms. When current renovations are completed in March, 1970, Barton Academy will house all of the offices of its founding organization, the Board of School Commissioners of Mobile County.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Brantley, William H., Jr. "Henry Hitchcock of Mobile," The Alabama Review. University, Alabama: University of Alabama Press, 1952, Vol. 5, No. 1.
 Brown, Virginia P. and Helen M. Akens. Alabama Heritage. Huntsville: The Strode Publishers, 1967.
 Hamilton, Peter. Mobile of the Five Flags. Mobile: Gill Printing Co, 1913.
 Jackson, Walter M. and Marie Bankhead Owen. History of Alabama for Junior High Schools. Montgomery: Dixie Book Company, 1938.
 Summersell, Dr. Charles G. Alabama History for Schools. Birmingham: Colonial Press, 1961.
 _____ Files, Board of School Commissioners of Mobile County.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 . .	0 . .		30 ° 41 ' 18 "	88 ° 2 ' 52 "	
NE	Occupies entire block					
SE	30 41 18	88 2 52				
SW	0 . .	0 . .				
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: <u>1.766 acres</u>						
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES						
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE			
All in Alabama	01	Mobile	097			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE			

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director, Alabama Historical Commission;
Margaret R. Ingate, Mobile; Michael Fazzio, Architect, City Planning Comm.

ORGANIZATION: Alabama Historical Commission DATE: January 14, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER: 305 South Lawrence Street

CITY OR TOWN: Montgomery STATE: Alabama CODE: 01

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Nils B. Howard, Jr.</u></p> <p>Title <u>Chairman, Ala. Historical Commission</u> <u>State Liaison Officer</u></p> <p>Date <u>January 15, 1970</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Ernest Allen Casually</u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>FEB 16 1970</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>William J. Mustagh</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>FEB 17 1970</u></p>
---	--

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



Barton Academy, Mobile, Ala.

①

NPS Number 70.2.01.0001

Title: Barton Academy

Mobile County

Loc. Mobile, Alabama

Photo credit by Thigpen

Photograph By
THIGPEN PHOTOGRAPHY
1442 SO. BELTLINE HIGHWAY
MOBILE, ALABAMA 36605
To reorder specify no. D-144-7

AL3

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Alabama	
COUNTY Mobile	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70-201-0006	DATE 2/16/70

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Barton Academy
AND/OR HISTORIC: Barton Academy

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
504 Government Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Mobile

STATE: Alabama	CODE 01	COUNTY: Mobile	CODE 097
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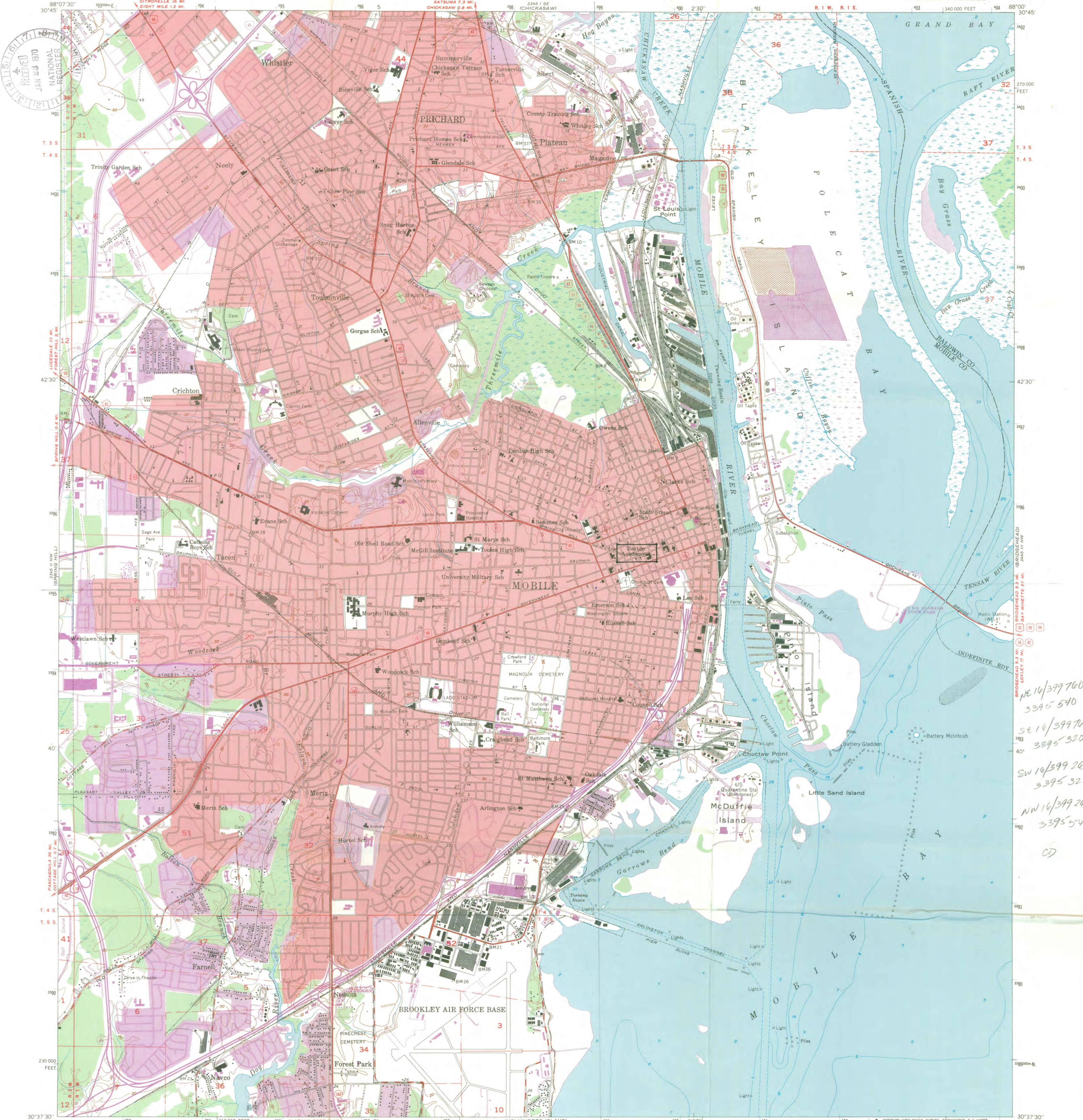


3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:
U.S.G.S. 7.5-minute quadrangle, Mobile
SCALE:
1:24000
DATE:
1953, revised 1967

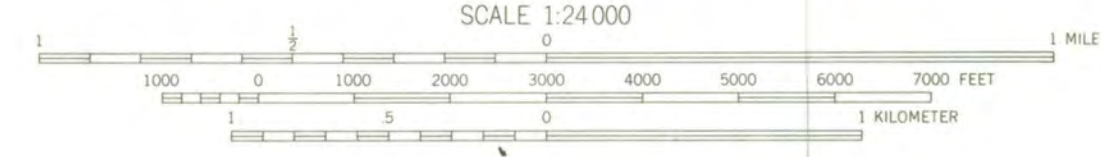
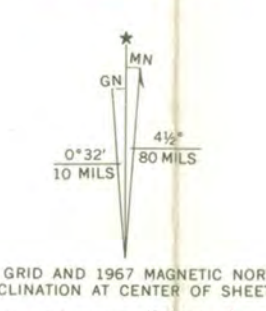
4. REQUIREMENTS

- TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
 2. North arrow.
 3. Latitude and longitude reference.



NE 16/399760
3395540
SE 16/399760
3395320
SW 16/399760
3395320
NW 16/399760
3395540
CD

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS and Alabama Geodetic Survey
Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs
Topography by plane-table surveys 1938-39. Revised 1953
Hydrography from USC&GS Chart 1266 (1:80,000)
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Alabama coordinate system,
west zone
Red tint indicates areas in which only
landmark buildings are shown
Dashed land lines indicate approximate locations
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 16, shown in blue
Revisions shown in purple and recompilation of woodland areas
from aerial photographs taken 1967. This information not field checked
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 1 FOOT



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty — Light-duty
Medium-duty — Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route U.S. Route State Route

MOBILE, ALA.
NE 1/4 MOBILE 15' QUADRANGLE
N 3037.5—W 5800/7.5
1953
PHOTOREVISED 1967
AMS 3345 H NE—SERIES V844

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2019

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Barton Academy
Name of Property
Mobile, AL
County and State
#70000107
NR Reference Number

State/Federal Agency Certification

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

I hereby certify that this additional documentation move removal
 name change (additional documentation) other

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.

Lee Anne Wofford / Deputy SHPO

Signature of Certifying Official/Title:

May 24, 2019

Date of Action



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
- additional documentation accepted
- other (explain:)

[Signature]

Signature of the Keeper

7/2/19

Date of Action

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Barton Academy
Name of Property
Mobile, AL
County and State
#70000107
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Summary Paragraph

The Barton Academy campus on the block of Government Street bounded by Conti, South Lawrence, and Cedar Streets is one of the city of Mobile's most honored architectural and civic accomplishments. Barton Academy was the first public school in Alabama and was named for state representative Willoughby Barton who was responsible for the bill that created the public school system¹. The school opened in 1836, with approximately 400 students in attendance, at grade levels ranging from primary to grammar and high school grades². Today's campus is comprised of the original 1836 building, an annex named the Yerby Building built in 1904-05, and a cafeteria, which was originally used for technical training, constructed ca. 1924. The Yerby Building has enjoyed a variety of uses in its lifetime and has played an integral role in Mobile education since its construction. The Yerby building adds historical significance to the Barton Academy campus as it represents one of the few remaining Beaux-Arts inspired structures in the city and has retained all of the exterior architectural character from the date of construction. This amendment serves to add context for the Yerby Building and technical training building to the original 1970 Barton Academy campus National Register Nomination. Both buildings were not mentioned in the original individual nomination, however they both contribute to the greater conversation of architecture and education in Mobile County. This nomination also clarifies the boundary lines for the nomination. The boundary is seen on the attached site plan. They include the entire campus, which constitutes a square city block.

Narrative Description

Mobile would grow tremendously from Barton Academy's 1836 construction to the turn of the century. This growth necessitated an expansion of the public school system, and despite the erection of numerous new schools within the city by the early 1900s Barton Academy was suffering growing pains. In response, the school board held an emergency meeting on March 2, 1904 at which time they authorized the building of an annex to the main structure, to be done "... without delay."³ At the same time, plans were sent to the County School Commissioners to expand the main building, with improvements including a rearrangement of the interior, erection of two additional wings, and changes to be made to the exits for the inclusion of fire escapes⁴.

The Yerby Building sits directly behind the Barton Academy core building, with a main entrance on Conti Street. The new structure replaced two previous ones dating back to 1854⁵ whose purposes are today unclear, although Sanborn Maps from the period indicate they may have been a boy's high school and a primary school. The Yerby building is two-stories tall and provided extra classroom space on campus, which was initially used to house the grammar school classes⁶. Yerby's total cost of

¹ Encyclopedia of Alabama, *Barton Academy*, accessed February 20, 2019

² *Mobile Press Register*, clipping, October 22, 1936

³ *Mobile Daily Item*, "Barton Academy Improvements," March 2, 1904

⁴ *Mobile Daily Item*, "Schools", April 15, 1904

⁵ Watson, *History of Barton Academy*, 1971, pg. 36

⁶ "Bartonion", Barton Academy yearbook, 1906, caption of a photograph

United States Department of the Interior
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Barton Academy

Name of Property
Mobile, AL

County and State
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construction was reportedly \$40,000⁷. Architect B. B. Smith of Montgomery was responsible for the design⁸. Smith had a prolific career of civic and public buildings, his most well-known being the L&N Union Station in Montgomery⁹.

B. B. (Benjamin Bosworth) Smith was a prominent architect of the early 1900s, who based his work out of Montgomery, Alabama, but constructed buildings across the southeast. Smith was born in Montgomery in the 1860s. His early career was with the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, and so he designed a series of railroad stations and public transportation buildings throughout Alabama, Florida, and Georgia¹⁰. His most significant work for the state of Alabama is the Montgomery Union Station and Trainshed (1898) designed for the L&N Railroad. The station was built to accommodate the increase in railroad traffic through the area and reflects a desire on the part of the railroad company to improve the comfort of passengers as a matter of engineering and architectural pride. The influence of bridge construction methods can be seen in the structure, and it is held as an example of how techniques of metal-framed construction could and would be applied in modern building practices¹¹.

Later in his career, Smith formed a partnership with Frank Lockwood. The firm Lockwood and Smith was officially established in 1901, and the pair worked on various public buildings together, including the only two Romanesque Revival style courthouses in Florida: the Calhoun County (1903) and Bradford County (1903-1904) Courthouses. The partnership was short lived, and the firm had dissolved by the end of 1903¹². Smith continued to work in a civic and public capacity, even winning second place in the 1905 competition to enlarge the Alabama state capitol building in Montgomery. Interestingly, Smith's design came second to his previous partner Frank Lockwood's submission¹³. Smith enjoyed a prolific career for many more years, with such works attributed to him as: the Barton Academy annex (Yerby Building) in 1904-1905, the Florida Suwannee County Courthouse (1904), Sable Mansion (1905), the Flowers Hall at Huntingdon College (1910), Geneva County Courthouse (1912), and the Taylor County Courthouse (1907) and Jail (1910). B. B. Smith passed away in 1930¹⁴.

At first, Smith's new building on Barton square was simply referred to as the Barton Annex or Grammar School, but a few years later the name was changed to Yerby Building to honor Superintendent Yerby. John DuBois Yerby was native to Greensboro, Alabama, and first appears as a Mobile resident in the 1880 Mobile City Directory. He began his life in Mobile as a school teacher in Barton's Boy's Senior Grammar School. By the time he was 27 years old, in 1887, he had been promoted to Principal of said school. Within a decade of that promotion he was given the position of superintendent, which he served

⁷ Watson, *History of Barton Academy*, 1971, pg. 36

⁸ Gould, *From Builders to Architects: The Hobart-Hutchinson Six*, 1997, pg. 106

⁹ Louisville & Nashville Railroad: Montgomery Union Station and Trainshed, National Register application, 1974, Section 8

¹⁰ Suwannee County Courthouse, National Register Application, 1998

¹¹ Louisville & Nashville Railroad: Montgomery Union Station and Trainshed, National Register application, 1974, Section 8

¹² Calhoun County Welcome Home Day: Historical Program Book, October 3, 1987

¹³ Old Taylor County Jail, National Register Application, 1989

¹⁴ Gould, *From Builders to Architects*, 1997, pg. 106

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Barton Academy
----- Name of Property
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from 1894-1900. Those who attended Barton during his time there remember him fondly, and the record shows a light-hearted and devoted teacher. Yerby died suddenly at the age of 40 in 1900, and he and his wife are buried in Mobile's Magnolia Cemetery¹⁵.

Thanks to Mobile's prosperity during the first decades of the 20th century, Barton Academy's student body was again outgrowing its allotted space. In 1923 the primary children were removed from the Yerby Building and the overflow of high school pupils was moved in. This was not enough though and the students demonstrated a peaceful protest by walking the street of downtown Mobile in order to display the enormous size the student body had grown to. Their demonstration was a success, and the school board approved the construction of a large high school, today's Murphy High School on Carlen Street. After Murphy High School was completed in 1926 the Yerby Building was again used as a grammar school.¹⁶

The Yerby Building would house the student overflow two more times before its days as a classroom were concluded. In 1947 elementary students were again displaced to allow freshman high schoolers throughout the city to fill the halls of the Barton annex.¹⁷ The building was left empty again for some time, until the school board decided to relocate its central offices to the Barton Academy campus in the 1960s. While most of the campus was used for this purpose, beginning in 1964 and for a few years after the Yerby Building continued as classrooms, housing some junior high classes.¹⁸ This relocation was short lived, as the school board would need the space by 1968. A major remodel of the main Barton Academy building was undertaken and completed by 1970, at which time all of the interior was completely redone to better suit the school board's need for offices. It was also at this time that steel reinforcement beams were included as part of the structural members of the main Barton building. This upgrade required the removal of all previous historic finishes, leaving it in the condition that we see today. Some of the school board's facilities were temporarily relocated to the Yerby Building during construction.¹⁹ While the school board occupied the campus, Yerby Building was used for mainly clerical purposes, including as the printing room for the Mobile County School Board.²⁰ The Yerby Building and the rest of the Barton Academy campus has remained vacant since the school board's departure in 2007.

The technical training building resides in between the main Barton building and the Yerby building on the Barton Academy campus. The building was constructed ca. 1924, and in 1947 a covered walkway was constructed which connects all of these structures. It is a one-story building, made of concrete, brick, and steel. The floor plan is completely open, and the ceiling is exposed. The brick walls show a discoloration which indicates that the ceiling was lowered, most likely during a 1947 renovation which

¹⁵ *Magnolia Messenger: The Friends of Magnolia Cemetery Newsletter*, "From Barton to Yerby: A Look at Some Important Mobile Educators Buried in Magnolia Cemetery", Fall 2015, pg. 1-2

¹⁶ Watson, *History of Barton Academy*, 1971, pg. 36

¹⁷ Watson, *History of Barton Academy*, 1971, pg. 45

¹⁸ *Mobile Press Register*, clipping, November 25, 1964

¹⁹ *Mobile Press Register*, "School Officials to Begin Move into Historic Barton," undated.

²⁰ *Mobile Press Register*, "Tour of Barton Academy Reveals System at Work", September 24, 1972

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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coincided the construction of the walkway²¹. The brick discolorations also show that the building had windows, but they were inlaid with brick during the 1970 major renovations throughout campus. The steel reinforcement beams running along the ceiling were added in 1976, with the exception of the central support beam. This support beam is the only remaining historic interior feature dating to the original ca. 1924 construction, aside from some of the brick within the walls. In 2014 the roof to the structure was entirely replaced.

The Yerby Building is not only significant to Mobile for the role it played in education, but also as the most intact form of an architecture type that is rarely seen in the city. The Yerby Building stands as one of the finest Beaux-Arts approaches to a building in Mobile, with a combination of building purpose and historical design that is unique in the downtown area²². The Beaux-Arts movement saw popularity in the United States from the late 1890s until the Great Depression of the 1930s. It was launched from the teachings at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts school in Paris, France. They were heavily influence by the classical ideas of Greece and Rome, whose philosophies often were at odds with the developments brought about by the industrial revolution²³. While the Parisian school emphasized the use of stone, iron and steel were increasingly becoming more cost effective and versatile materials. American architects who studied at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts and brought their knowledge back to the states favored the Beaux-Arts movement's emphasis on the "working plan" of a building, and the idea of designing around a structure's purpose. The influence of the movement is especially seen in the civic structures of the period, who use monumental, classically inspired architecture built of modern materials projects the nation's prosperity at the turn of the century.²⁴

The Beaux-Arts movement practiced in the United States was not a direct copying of past styles, but instead an inspired reimagining of revival elements. There was a focus on symmetry, proportions, and a reliance on the axis and cross-axis of a space. Often there were classically inspired columns, porticoes, and pediments paired with iron decorative elements.²⁵ In the state of Alabama specifically, features included symmetrical, and highly formal treatments of ground floor plans and major elevations. Institutional buildings had a penchant for open rotundas, barrel vaulted arcades, colonnades, porticoes, pediments, and domes. These elements were influenced by different past styles depending on the phase of the movement. The structures from the early Beaux-Arts period were inspired by Renaissance uses of classical decoration, versus those of the later period within Alabama which tended more towards a directly classical influence²⁶. Throughout the state various public and private structures were built with

²¹ Minutes, October 22nd and December 10th, 1947, Mobile County School Board Commissioners records

²² Personal correspondence with local architectural historian Cartledge Blackwell, February 18, 2019

²³ Sula, Eldis, *Artes Magazine*, "Beaux-Arts Architecture: Toward a Classical Metropolis," December 2014, accessed February 19, 2019, <http://www.artesmagazine.com/?p=17387>

²⁴ Sula, Eldis, *Artes Magazine*, "Beaux-Arts Architecture: Toward a Classical Metropolis," December 2014, accessed February 19, 2019, <http://www.artesmagazine.com/?p=17387>

²⁵ Old House Journal, "Beaux Arts: A Capitol Idea," November 13, 2009, accessed February 19, 2019, <https://www.oldhouseonline.com/house-tours/beaux-arts-a-capital-idea>

²⁶ Gamble, Robert, *The Alabama Catalog: Historic American Buildings Survey, A Guide to the Early Architecture of the State*, University of Alabama Press, 1987, pg. 144-145

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Barton Academy

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Mobile, AL

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#70000107

NR Reference Number

Beaux-Arts inspirations, and while Mobile did erect some examples few of them are still standing today.

From the 1890s to the Great Depression Mobile was experiencing a general boost in economy and population, just as the rest of the country, brought on by the nation's growing wealth. As such, both public and private structures were constructed at the time, some of which have obvious Beaux-Arts influences. Rudolph Benz's mid-1880s Mobile County Courthouse can be interpreted as an early Beaux-Arts statement. The structure is notable for anticipating the emergence of Neoclassicism by nearly a decade.²⁷ The courthouse featured Ionic columns within a portico across the façade of the building, which rose to meet a gable whose pediment was filled with classically inspired relief sculptures. There was also a side podia leading to the entry, versus the common central stairway. In addition to these classical elements there were also Victorian influences. The three corner towers and large central projection had heavy Victorian inspirations.²⁸ Later examples of Beaux-Arts expression in Mobile that have since been destroyed include the 1916 US Post Office and the Fidelia Club building.²⁹ Washington's acting superintendent of architecture from 1897-1912, James Knox Taylor, is credited with the design of the 1916 post office. Italian Renaissance influence can be seen throughout the building, most obviously in the St. Joseph Street façade whose arcades were inspired by Brunelleschi's Florentine Foundling Hospital (1419-1421). Alabama marble was used as the veneer on the exterior walls and some interior surfaces, giving the building the same clear, white texture as Roman marble structures.³⁰ The Fidelia Club, constructed ca. 1900, was more conservative in design compared to its contemporaries. It was designed in the Italian Renaissance palazzo style, and featured a third-floor loggia, decorative quoining, bracketed cornices, and string cornices marking the story levels.³¹ The other most prominent Beaux-Arts work in Mobile is a private residence.

On the corner of Government and Roper Streets in Mobile sits the J. F. McGowin House. This mansion was constructed in 1903, under the instruction of Montgomery based architect T. J. Smith. The home borrows from the Baroque, Neo-Classical, and Italian Renaissance movements. There are Baroque curves and a semicircular porch on the upper story of the home. The porch features widely-spaced Ionic columns that form a recessed loggia on the second story. The facade also includes repetitive, pedimented windows and strong, vertical lines from the tall, white columns. Most of the Neo-Classical influence appears in the interior.³² Some of the design elements seen in the McGowin House are also seen on the exterior of the Yerby Building.

The Yerby Building sits within the Barton Academy campus and faces Conti Street. The building is heavily influenced by Classical design and compliments the Neo-Classicism of the Barton Academy main building. B. B. Smith's other public and civic works are often attributed to the Period Revival of the late 19th and early 20th century, with a special regard and inspiration for the Richardsonian

²⁷ Gamble, Robert, *The Alabama Catalog: Historic American Buildings Survey, A Guide to the Early Architecture of the State*, University of Alabama Press, 1987, pg. 139

²⁸ Gould, *From Fort to Port*, 1988, pg. 197-198

²⁹ Personal correspondence with local architectural historian Cartledge Blackwell, February 18, 2019

³⁰ Gould, *From Fort to Port*, 1988, pg. 230

³¹ Gould, *From Fort to Port*, 1988, pg. 234

³² Gould, *From Fort to Port*, 1988, pg. 248

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Romanesque movement made popular by the work of Bostonian architect Henry Hobson Richardson³³. However, the Yerby Building does share some distinctive exterior features with a few of Smith's courthouses. The Conti Street façade features two recessed entryways, each flanked by monumental Ionic columns and pilasters. A recessed entryway accentuated by columns is a common theme in Smith's work. The east and west facades are less decorated than that on Conti Street, with simpler entryways and Ionic pilasters. These columns and pilasters have the same effect as those of the McGowin House and give a verticality to the structure. The exterior is made of smooth, white ashlar stone, a hallmark of Beaux-Arts influence. Notably, the majority of Smith's other works are made of stone or ashlar materials, so the material and smooth exterior appearance are part of the architect's style. The Conti Street façade features some raised belt courses to delineate the two stories, but the other three facades are smooth. This technique was also used by Smith on the Old Taylor County Courthouse. The Yerby Building's two stories are marked on the exterior by two rows of windows. The windows are modern and are varying shapes of 4 over 4. Each façade features a larger, central window that is decorated with an arched transom as the centerpiece to the building. The other windows feature either Roman arched or broken, square pediments. The preference for arches is common in Smith's other works, although they are typically used as part of the entryway as well. A decorative entablature runs across the parapet of the entire building, with overhanging eaves held up by corbels decorated with flower motifs. The overall aesthetic of the building is symmetrical and imposing. The façades follow a highly formal plan, with various classical elements for decoration.

The interior floor plan focuses on a central hallway, with rooms placed symmetrically on either side. On the ground floor, the central hallway runs parallel to the two main entryways and uses the entrances on Cedar and Lawrence Streets as exits. The main entrances feature small reception areas that pass through to the main hallway. The plan is ideally suited for classroom spaces and has exits placed to allow for an easy flow of pedestrian traffic. The second story floor plan mimics that of the ground floor, save the addition of rooms within the large classrooms. A main hallway is still the central feature of the plan, but it has been cut back to allow the addition of extra rooms. The combination of Classical design and attention to building purpose attributes this structure to the Beaux-Arts movement, a philosophy that was rarely chosen in Mobile and is now only represented by the Yerby Building and the J. F. McGowin House, both attributed to non-resident architects, T.J. Smith and B. B. Smith of Montgomery. The Yerby Building should be considered as an addition to the Church Street East Historic District National Register application for the role it played in Mobile education and as an architectural symbol of a movement rarely seen in the city.

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³³ Gamble, Robert, *The Alabama Catalog: Historic American Buildings Survey, A Guide to the Early Architecture of the State*, University of Alabama Press, 1987, pg. 127-128

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#70000107

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NR Reference Number

Consulted Resources

Meeting Minutes from the Mobile County School Board Commissioners, years 1898-1909, 1926-1956.

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Barton Academy

Name of Property

Mobile, AL

County and State

#70000107

NR Reference Number

Photo Log

Name of Property: Barton Academy- Yerby Building

City or Vicinity: Mobile

County: Mobile

State: Alabama

Photographer: Meri Beth Slaughter

Date Photographed: February 25, 2019

Description of photographs and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo #1

Exterior, north façade. Camera facing southeast.

Photo #2

Exterior, north façade. Camera facing southwest.

Photo #3

Exterior, west façade. Camera facing east.

Photo #4

Exterior, south façade. Camera facing northeast.

Photo #5

Exterior, south façade. Camera facing northwest.

Photo #6

Exterior, east façade. Camera facing west.

Photo #7

Exterior. Camera facing south down St. Lawrence Street.

Photo #8

Exterior, north façade. Camera facing south.

Photo #9

Exterior, north façade. Camera facing south.

Photo #10

Exterior, north façade. Camera facing south.

Photo #11

Exterior, north façade. Camera facing south.

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Barton Academy

Name of Property

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County and State

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NR Reference Number

Photo #12

Exterior, west façade. Camera facing east.

Photo #13

Exterior, west façade. Camera facing east.

Photo #14

Exterior, west façade. Camera facing east.

Photo #15

Exterior, west façade. Camera facing east.

Photo #16

Exterior, south façade. Camera facing northeast.

Photo #17

Exterior, south façade. Camera facing northeast.

Photo #18

Exterior, south façade. Camera facing northwest.

Photo #19

Exterior, east façade. Camera facing west.

Photo #20

Exterior, east façade. Camera facing west.

Photo #21

Exterior, east façade. Camera facing west.

Photo #22

Exterior, east façade. Camera facing west.

Photo #23

Interior. Ground floor, stairwell. Camera facing east.

Photo #24

Interior. Ground floor, stairwell. Camera facing west.

Photo #25

Interior. Ground floor. Camera facing east.

Photo #26

Interior. Ground floor. Camera facing northwest.

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Barton Academy

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NR Reference Number

Photo #27

Interior. Ground floor. Camera facing north.

Photo #28

Interior. Ground floor. Camera facing south.

Photo #29

Interior. Ground floor. Camera facing south.

Photo #30

Interior. Ground floor. Camera facing west.

Photo #31

Interior. Ground floor. Camera facing south.

Photo #32

Interior. Ground floor. Camera facing southwest.

Photo #33

Interior. Ground floor. Camera facing northeast.

Photo #34

Interior. Ground floor. Camera facing east.

Photo #35

Interior. Ground floor. Camera facing southeast.

Photo #36

Interior. Ground floor, back stairwell. Camera facing south.

Photo #37

Interior. Ground floor. Camera facing southeast.

Photo #38

Interior. Ground floor. Camera facing north.

Photo #39

Interior. Ground floor, stairwell. Camera facing east.

Photo #40

Interior. Ground floor. Camera facing west.

Photo #41

Interior. Ground floor. Restrooms. Camera facing north.

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NR Reference Number

Photo #42

Interior. Ground floor. Restrooms. Camera facing north.

Photo #43

Interior. Ground floor. Camera facing north.

Photo #44

Interior. Stairwell. Camera facing west.

Photo #45

Interior. Stairwell. Camera facing east.

Photo #46

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing west.

Photo #47

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing southwest.

Photo #48

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing south.

Photo #49

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing north.

Photo #50

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing north.

Photo #51

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing southeast.

Photo #52

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing northwest.

Photo #53

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing north.

Photo #54

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing east.

Photo #55

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing east.

Photo #56

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing southeast.

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NR Reference Number

Photo #57

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing southeast.

Photo #58

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing south.

Photo #59

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing east.

Photo #60

Interior. Second floor. Restrooms. Camera facing southeast.

Photo #61

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing south.

Photo #62

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing northeast.

Photo #63

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing southeast.

Photo #64

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing south.

Photo #65

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing west.

Photo #66

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing southwest.

Photo #67

Interior. Second floor. Camera facing south.

Photo #68

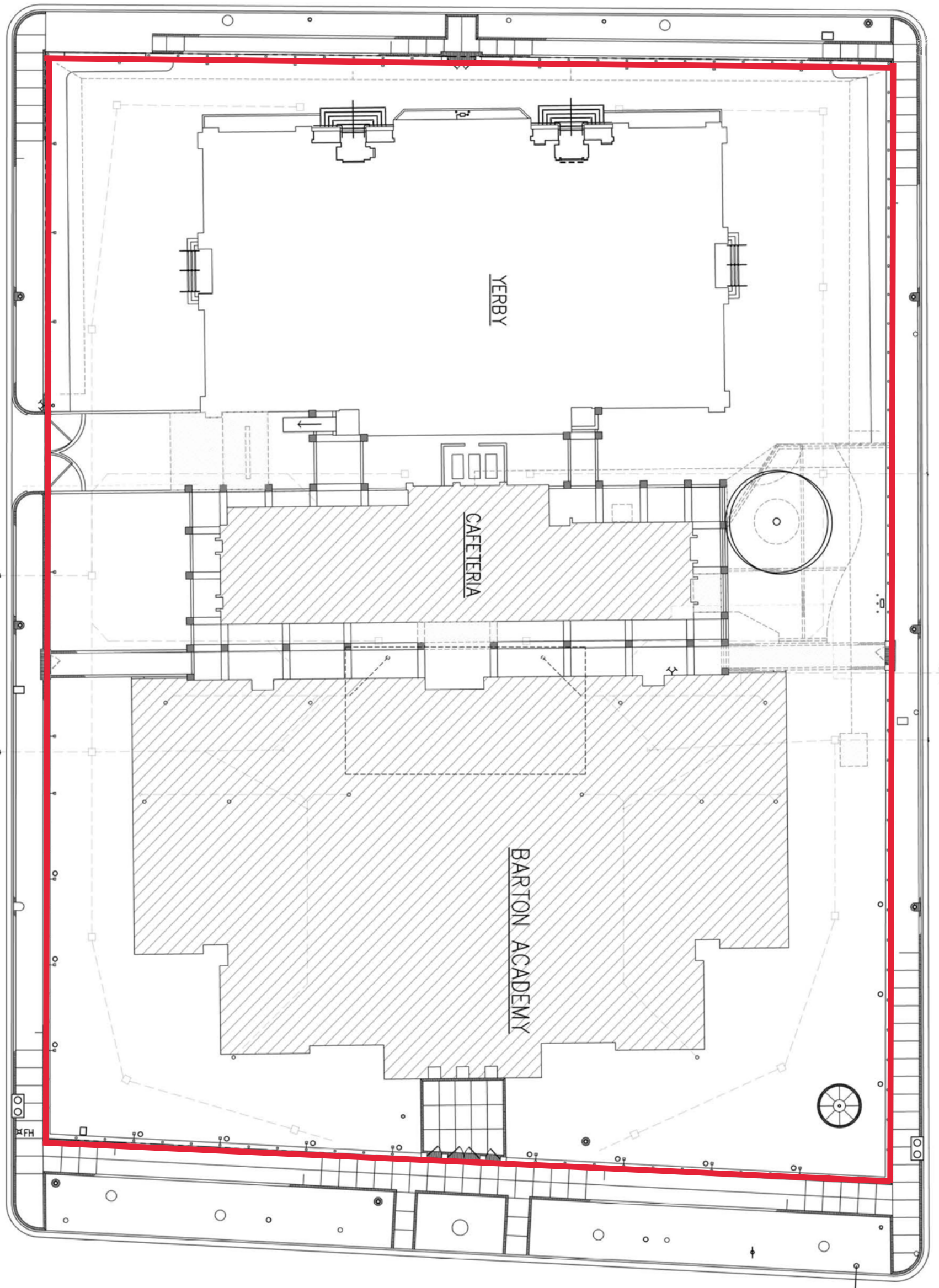
Interior. Second floor. Camera facing west.



1
SP-1

SITE PLAN - EXISTING
scale - 1:30

Boundary



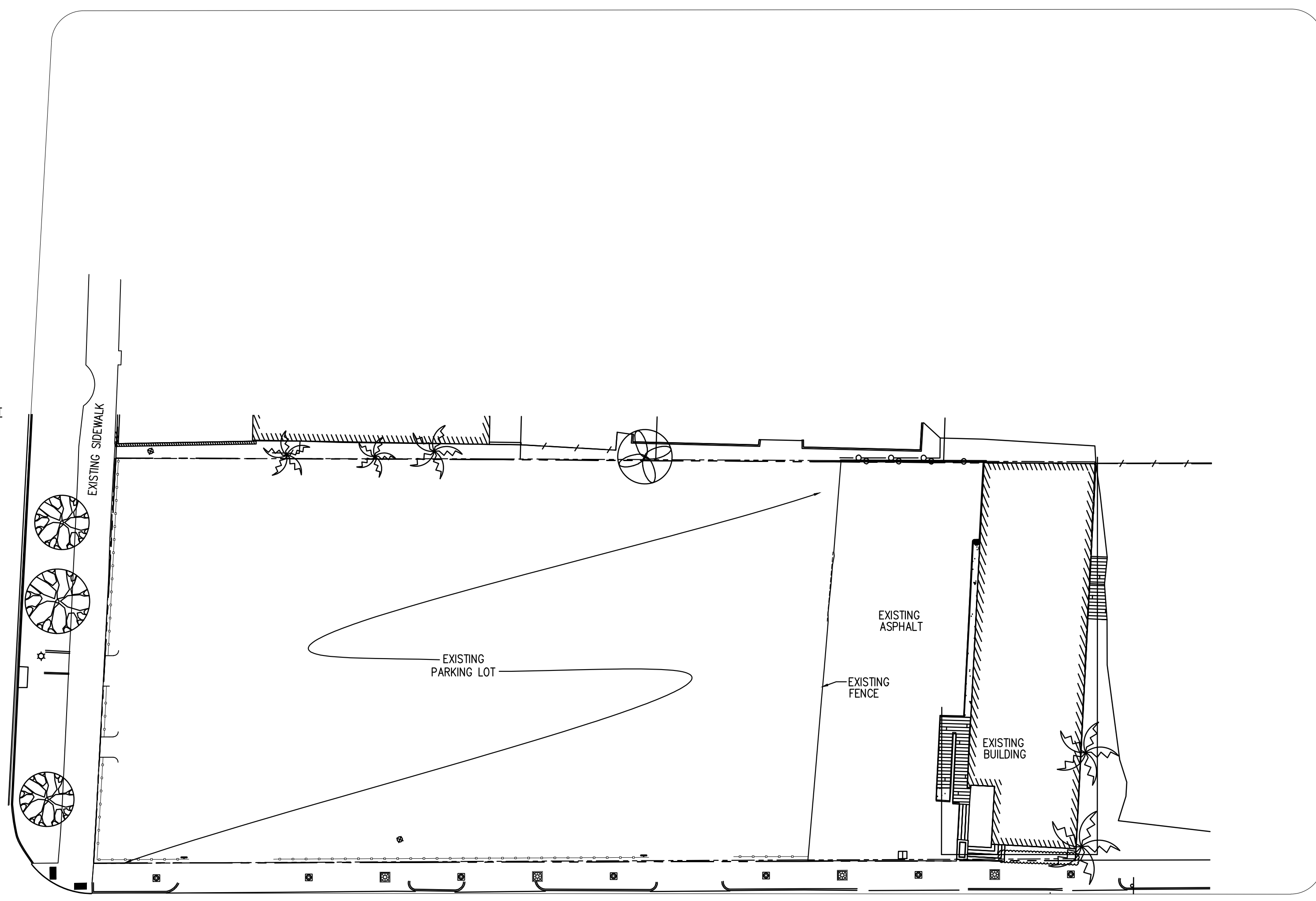
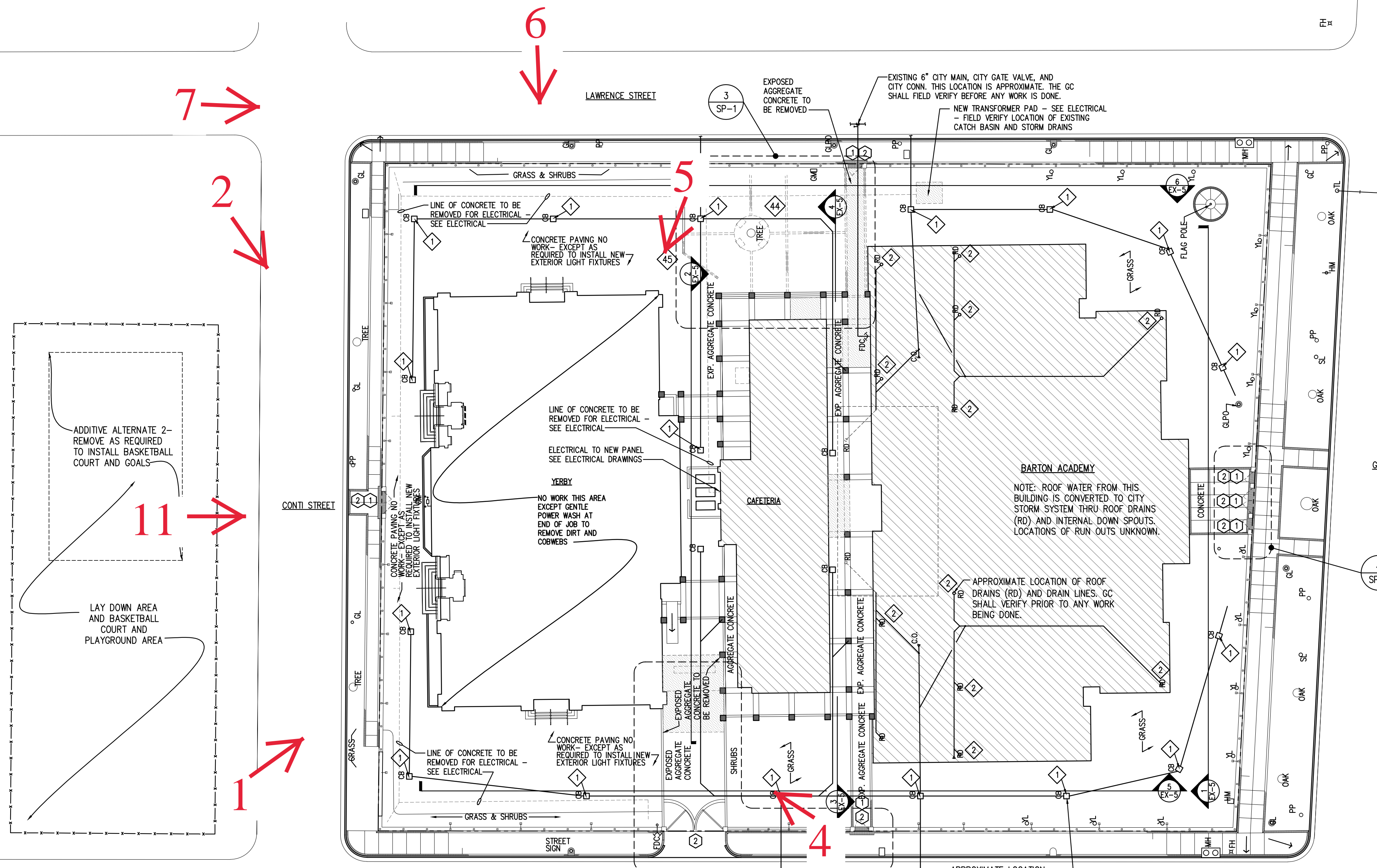
PROJECT

BARTON ACADEMY of GLOBAL STUDIES, GRADES 6-9
MOBILE, ALABAMA
FPN 18-07 PROJECT BC NO. 2018318

HOLMES & HOLMES, ARCHITECTS
257 NORTH CONCEPTION STREET
MOBILE, ALABAMA



NO.	DATE	REVISIONS



3
1 SITE PLAN - EXISTING
SCALE: 1" = 25'-0"

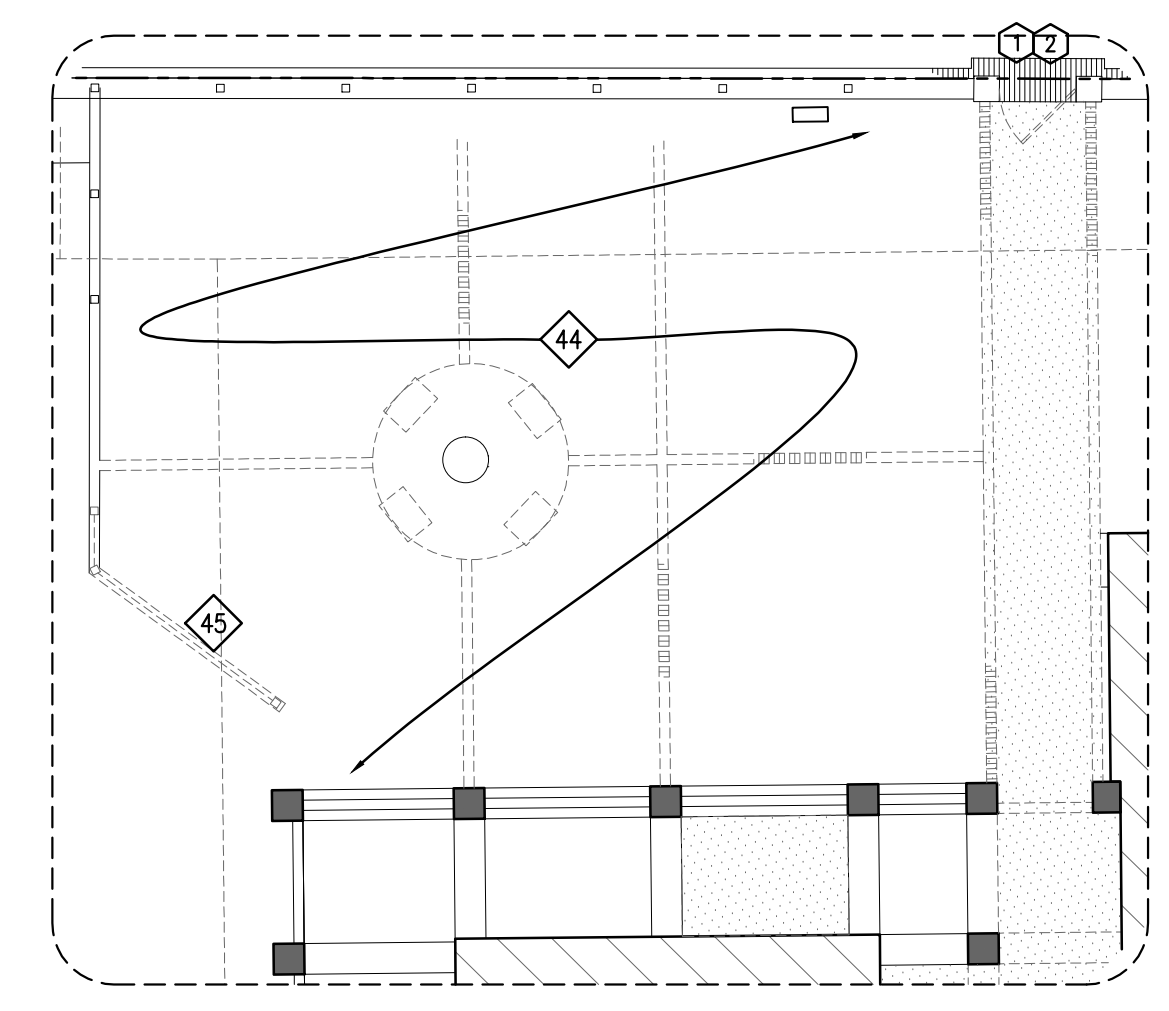
LEGEND:

FDC	FIRE DEPARTMENT CONNECTION	PP	POWER POLE
FH	FIRE HYDRANT	SL	STREET LIGHT (ALLUM POLE)
HM	HISTORICAL MARKER	TL	TRAFFIC LIGHT
GLPO	GAS LAMP POST ONLY	YL	YARD LIGHT - LUMINAIRE LSG #AFL-500 85X135
GL	GAS LAMP ON POST	FB	FENCE BRACE AT POST
GM	GAS METER	FDC	FIRE DEPARTMENT CONNECTION
MH	MANHOLE		

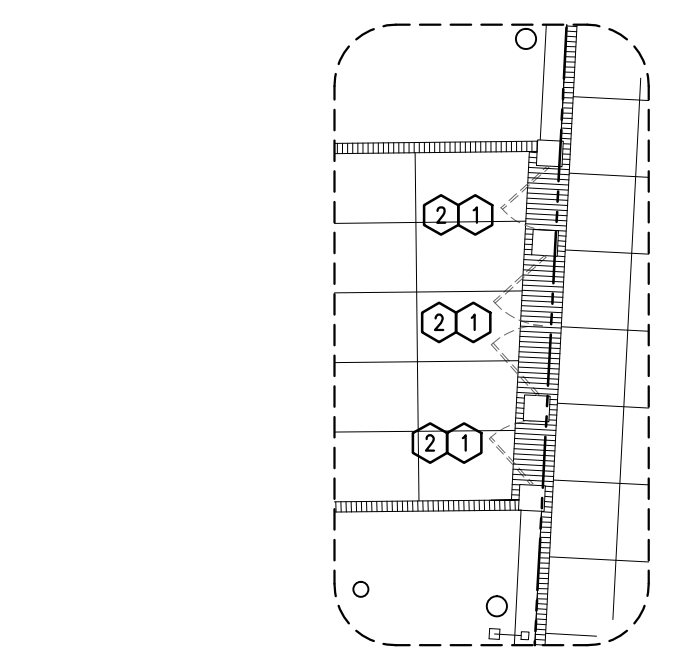
CONCRETE TO BE REMOVED
 LINE OF DEMOLITION

- DEMOLITION NOTES ON SITE PLAN: SEE EX-2 FOR DEMO NOTES 44, 45, 109
- REVERSE SWING OF GATES SO THEY SWING OUTWARD.
 - GATES SHALL REMAIN CLOSED AND LOCKED DURING CONSTRUCTION
 - REMOVE REDWOOD FILLER FROM VARIOUS WALKS AND INSTALL TRAFFIC CAULK. SEE DEMOLITION NOTE 25 ON EX-1.

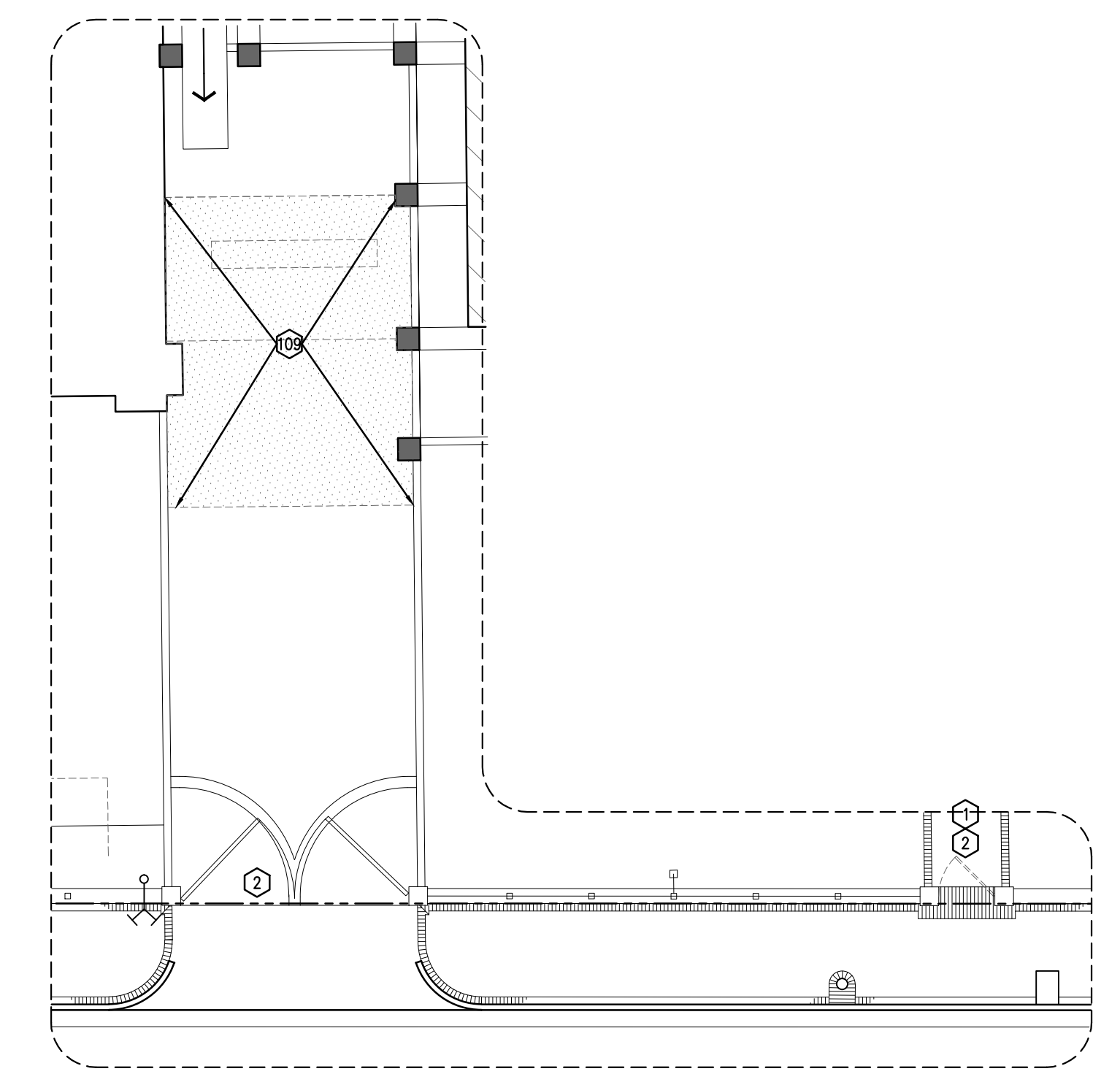
- GENERAL NOTES
- LOCATION OF CATCH BASINS (CB) AND DRAIN LINES IS APPROXIMATE. GC SHALL VERIFY PRIOR TO ANY WORK BEING DONE.
 - APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF ROOF DRAINS (RD) AND DRAIN LINES. GC SHALL VERIFY PRIOR TO ANY WORK BEING DONE.



3
3 ENLARGE COURTYARD PLAN - EXISTING
SCALE: 1" = 50'-0"



4
4 ENLARGED PLAN AT FRONT GATES - EXISTING
SCALE: 1" = 50'-0"



5
5 ENLARGED PLAN AT WEST GATES - EXISTING
SCALE: 1" = 50'-0"

CONSULTANT

HOLMES & HOLMES, ARCHITECTS
257 NORTH CONCEPTION STREET
MOBILE, ALABAMA

PROJECT
BARTON ACADEMY of GLOBAL STUDIES, GRADES 6-9
MOBILE, ALABAMA
FPN 18-07 PROJECT BC NO. 2018318

DATE:
SP-1
SITE PLAN
EXISTING



RENOVATIONS DIV.

1206





ONE WAY









ONE WAY

No Parking























































THIS ROOM FOR CLERK SERVICES

SERVICES

SERVICES





















































CAUTION / CHIPS

















National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

Boston Academy
Collect Co

Ala.
70-2-01-500
SIGN OFF

RECEIPT

2/24/70

Date of Receipt *1/23/70*

	Yes	No	Number
Data Page	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Photo(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Photo Description(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>1</i>
Map(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Map Description(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>1</i>
Logged	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Acknowledged	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

70000107

T/26/70

OK
1/24/70
1/29/70

Mable called to send acreage -

REVIEW

Historian *OK* Comments

Architect *OK - though recent renovations did make some* Comments
than good.

Chief Architect Chief Archeologist Chief Historian

Keeper *OK* Comments

BL 1/30/70
Charles
2/19/70

if checked
ret. to
Berk



Muntz
2/11/70

ENTRY

Chief, OAMP Comments

Date of Entry

Registry Clerk	Yes	No	Date
Assign NPS No.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Acknowledgement Sent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

EDITORIAL PROCESSING

Editor

Federal Register Entry *417* Date *3/3/70*

Annual Edition Entry

OK

FILE FILE FILE

WORKING NO.

23-70-1



ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

70000107

468 South Perry Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900
334-242-3184 / Fax: 334-240-3477

Lisa D. Jones
Executive Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

May 23, 2019



Ms. Joy Beasley
National Park Service
1849 C Street NW
Mail Stop 7228
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Beasley:

Enclosed please find additional documentation to be included with the below listed nomination:

Barton Academy
Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama

The Barton Academy was listed to the National Register of Historic Places on February 16, 1970.

Thank you for including this documentation to the nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lee Anne Wofford".

Lee Anne Wofford
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

LAW/nw

Enclosures

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Additional Documentation

Property Name: Barton Academy

Multiple Name:

State & County: ALABAMA, Mobile

Date Received: 5/24/2019 Date of Pending List: 6/11/2019 Date of 16th Day: 6/26/2019 Date of 45th Day: 7/8/2019 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number: AD70000107

Nominator:

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 7/2/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary AD documentation for Barton Academy accepted.
Comments:

Recommendation/
Criteria

Reviewer Lisa Deline

Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2239

Date 7/2/19

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.