

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Springfield High School
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Brodie Street, between SC Hwy. 4 and Georgia Street not for publication _____
city or town Springfield vicinity _____
state South Carolina code SC county Orangeburg code 075 zip code 29146

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 ___ nationally ___ statewide x locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mary W. Edmonds 2/15/01
Signature of certifying official Date

Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, S.C. Dept. of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
___ determined eligible for the National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
___ determined not eligible for the National Register
___ removed from the National Register

Edson H. Beall 3/29/01
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

___ other (explain): _____

Springfield High School
Name of Property

Orangeburg County, South Carolina
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	1	buildings
		sites
	1	structures
		objects
3	2	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: EDUCATION

Subcategory: school

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: VACANT/NOT IN USE

Subcategory:

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)
Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
foundation brick
walls brick
roof asphalt
other cast stone

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Springfield High School
 Name of Property

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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 a grave.
- d a cemetery.
- e a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- f a commemorative property.
- g less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
 Education

Period of Significance

ca. 1927-1950

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Urquhart, James Burwell
 Dabbs, J. T.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository:
S.C. Dept. of Archives & History

Springfield High School
Name of Property

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 6.2 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
1 <u>17 474521 3706075</u>	3 <u>17 474318 3705970</u>
2 <u>17 474579 3705957</u>	4 <u>17 474379 3705855</u>

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bradley S. Sauls, Federal Grants Coordinator
 organization S.C. Department of Archives and History date September 1, 2000
 street & number 8301 Parklane Road telephone (803) 896-6172
 city or town Columbia state SC zip code 29223

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Town of Springfield
 street & number P. O. Box 31 telephone _____
 city or town Springfield state SC zip code 29146

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Springfield High School
Name of Property
Orangeburg County, South Carolina
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Narrative Description

Springfield High School is located on Brodie Street between Fandango Street (formerly Walnut Street) and South Carolina Highway 4 in the town of Springfield in northwest Orangeburg County, South Carolina. The school campus is situated on a block bounded by SC Highway 4 to the north, Brodie Street to the east, Georgia Street to the south, and Tammarron Street (formerly College Street) to the west.

There are five structures at the Springfield High School complex associated with the history of education in Springfield. Three of the structures are contributing, and two are non-contributing.

Contributing Buildings

- 1) **Springfield High School (built 1929).** Construction of this two-story, brick high school building began in 1928 by local contractor J.T. Dabbs, but the school was not ready for use until 1929 when the first class was graduated in the new auditorium. Laid in a common bond variation of five rows of stretchers to every one row of alternating headers and stretchers, the building contains a soldier course water table. Featuring baroque-like massing with its projecting central and end pavilions, the building's entrance consists of a triple-arcaded porch or loggia, accented with cast stone bases, capitals and keyed arches. Window configurations are paired nine-over-nine, double-hung sash. Three sets of paired windows over the main entrance are underscored with a continuous cast stone sill and corresponding underpanels consisting of fields of headers. The double-leaf doors at the entrance are capped by a fanlight transom and flanked by a set of paired nine-over-nine windows. Atop of the building is a cast stone cornice and cast stone-capped parapet, behind which is a flat asphalt-clad roof. Centered above the main entrance is a cast stone pediment with a frieze tablet containing the inscription "Springfield High School". Both end pavilions or wings contain on their front and rear elevations brick accented panels with stone cornerblocks. At the terminus of each wing is a centrally placed projecting secondary entry pavilion containing arched portals with double-leaf doors and fanlight transoms. Flanking the entries and set of paired window at the second level are narrow four-over-four, double-hung sash windows. Atop these projecting entry bays and the front and rear wings are slightly-pointed brick and cast stone capped pediments. The main entrance opens perpendicularly to a central corridor on the first floor. At either end of the corridor is a wood balustraded staircase accessing the second floor, as are perpendicular bays containing two classrooms which flank the staircases. The interior hallways and classrooms have plaster walls and beaded board ceilings. The only major alteration to the building took place in 1975 when the auditorium was converted to two classrooms and a library. A dropped ceiling was added which effectively aided the preservation of the original proscenium arch in the auditorium. The auditorium's sloped floor was infilled and capped with a concrete slab to provide a floor for the classrooms and library. The arch can still be

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viewed through the dropped ceiling which has lost most of its tiles. The original windows on each side of the auditorium were reconfigured and the original entrances were infilled with brick. A new entrance was added to the old auditorium on the east side. The interior is generally in poor repair. A failing roof has allowed water to infiltrate the building for at least four years. The original beaded board ceilings have collapsed in several places, but most have survived. The original hardwood floors remain but have also suffered due to water damage; in many places they have warped or are rotting. The plaster walls are presently damp with rampant mold, fungi, and moss growing in the wettest parts of the building.

- 2) **Springfield High School Gymnasium (built 1938).** Located directly to the rear of the high school, the gymnasium is of brick veneer construction with a parapeted gable-front roof supported by a steel truss system. At the building's façade is a projecting, engaged and parapeted gable with louvered circular vent and double-leaf entrances flanking a smaller projecting gable-front entry pavilion with cast stone-coped merlons and crenels, as well as a large arched portal. This portal has in recent years been infilled as a stuccoed blind arch with small centered window. Along the two side walls are slightly projecting false buttresses or pilasters with concrete caps. Between each false buttress is a set of three small square windows located just below the roof line and containing a single nine-light awning-type sash. Double-leaf secondary entrances occur near the east ends of these side elevations. Similar windows are on the rear elevation, as are three larger double-hung windows and a single-leaf entrance. Other accents of the building's façade are decorative basketweave patterned brick panels.
- 3) **Springfield Graded School Annex (built ca. 1927).** Facing Georgia Street on the opposite corner of the block from the high school, this one-story brick building was constructed as an annex for the Springfield Graded School (built 1905, demolished after 1960). The annex building contained four classrooms and was connected to the 1905 building by a covered walkway. The building has a hipped roof with intersecting gable-front projections at the front and rear entrances. Each entrance is flanked by a blind round-headed arch. The door surround at the front entrance includes a broken segmental arched pediment, transom and side lights. The large arched rear entrance has been infilled with a modern set of solid double-leaf doors. The windows in each classroom have been altered and reduced in size. The window openings have been infilled with plywood and the modern one-over-one, metal clad storm windows have been substituted. In one classroom, the window openings have been entirely closed off except for an opening for a window air conditioning unit. A modern handicapped access ramp has been constructed at the rear entrance.

Non-contributing Buildings

- 4) **Springfield Elementary School (built 1960).** This one-story brick building is situated adjacent to the high school and connected by a covered walkway. The main entrance has double doors

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separated by single pane window. The entrance also has a transom divided into three single pane windows. The building is brick with some stucco on the classroom wings. The building floor plan is roughly L-shaped with a central entrance at the perpendicular intersection between the classroom wing and the cafeteria. The cafeteria served both the elementary and high schools. Because of its location between the historic high school building and the Graded School Annex, it would be difficult to exclude this modern elementary school building from the boundaries of the nominated property.

- 5) **Bell Tower (built 1976).** The bell tower was built under the direction of the Springfield Garden Club as a replica of the tower that graced the top of the Italianate-style 1905 Springfield Graded School. The new bell tower was built on the site of the demolished Graded School and contains the original 1905 cornerstone, and the bell from the old school. The tower is capped with a pyramidal roof with decorative brackets under the eaves. The brick tower has three arched windows on each side with wrought iron bars. The tower stands in a small public garden at the rear of the Graded School Annex and faces Tammarron Street (formerly College Street). The bell tower was dedicated on April 17, 1976. Because of its location between the gymnasium and the Graded School Annex, it would be difficult to exclude this small but modern structure from the nominated boundaries.

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Springfield High School
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Statement of Significance

The Springfield High School and associated buildings are eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for their association with the history of education in Orangeburg County and South Carolina. In the early twentieth century, rural school districts in the state struggled to maintain a large number of buildings with limited funds. While the power to run the state's education system at the time rested primarily with the counties, the state made some efforts to encourage counties to consolidate their school facilities for more efficient management and improved education. Springfield High School was one of many schools built between 1910 and 1930 as part of this consolidation movement. The school complex is also eligible under Criterion C as an excellent example of the secondary educational architecture that flourished in South Carolina between 1910 and 1930 when the state required improved design standards for new schools. Springfield High School is also significant as an excellent example of the work of prominent Columbia architect James B. Urquhart, who along with his firm became well known throughout South Carolina during the early twentieth century as school designers.

Additional Information

Chartered in 1887, the town of Springfield is a small village located in the northwest corner of Orangeburg County and is one of many small towns that developed along the Blackville, Alston, and Newberry Company's railroad between Columbia and Blackville. The railroad was later sold to the Southern Railroad Company¹. Springfield grew and prospered in the 1890s and early 1900s with the local economy depending upon agriculture and merchants. A small downtown commercial section developed on each side of the railroad tracks, surrounded by a village of residences and churches.

Educational facilities in the Springfield area during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries consisted of numerous small community schools. Education was primarily funded by counties because South Carolina's 1895 constitution decentralized the state's political system. Many rural counties had small, widely scattered populations and had to fund many small schools that did not have the facilities of larger schools in urban areas. As the State of South Carolina attempted to improve education in the early twentieth century, many small one and two-room community schools were consolidated to create larger schools in towns of all sizes all over the state.²

Between 1900 and 1930, the State of South Carolina passed a number of laws aimed at improving education and giving relief to those counties which were struggling to maintain their facilities. Among

¹ Jacquelyn Williams Cooper, Springfield, South Carolina: A Small Town Saga in Orangeburg County (Greenville, SC: A Press, 1988), 39-42.

² Michael Scardaville, et. al., A Brief History of South Carolina Schools from 1895 to 1945 (Columbia, SC: South Carolina Department of Archives and History, 1989), 4.

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these laws was the 1910 School Building Act requiring that buildings constructed with state funds must adhere to certain design standards. Smaller one, two, three, or four-room schools had to follow a set of prescribed plans, but school districts were encouraged to use registered architects for larger buildings. The state also passed the 6-0-1 Act in 1924 which provided increased state funding for education.³ During this period of state intervention between 1900 and 1930, school construction flourished in South Carolina. Not until the onset of the Great Depression did it subside.

The General Assembly of South Carolina passed a law on March 15, 1926, creating a Springfield high school district. This new district consolidated the Sawyerdale, North Goodland, South Goodland, West Goodland, and Middle Goodland school districts. The law also called for a public bond to raise funds for the construction of the new Springfield High School.⁴

Springfield High School opened in the fall of 1928, but the new building was not completed by local contractor J.T. Dabbs until 1929. Much of the second story of the building remained unfinished as the class of 1929 was graduated in the new auditorium in May of that year.⁵

The school's design was produced by architect James Burwell Urquhart of Columbia. Urquhart, a native of Southhampton County, Virginia, moved to Columbia, South Carolina, about 1901 to work as a draftsman in the office of noted architect Charles Coker Wilson. In 1907 he, Wilson and Edwin Douglas Sompayrac, a native of Society Hill, South Carolina, formed a partnership under the name of Wilson, Sompayrac & Urquhart. By late 1910, however, Urquhart had left Wilson's firm to open his own office. Both independently and in association with other architects between 1910 and 1932, prominent among which was a productive partnership with architect J. Carroll Johnson from 1912-1917, Urquhart produced plans for twenty-eight graded school, high school, and college buildings in various parts of South Carolina.⁶ Many schools designed by Urquhart and/or his partners and associates have already been listed in the National Register of Historic Places. They include Columbia High School [1915, in association with J. Carroll Johnson; demolished in 1984], Ridgeway High School in Fairfield County [1921], Walterboro High School [1924], Wardlaw Junior High School in Columbia [1927], Ellis Avenue School in Orangeburg [1930-1931], and Duckett Hall at Benedict College [1924-1925, in association with Atlanta architects Hentz, Reid & Adler]. Springfield High School displays design elements present in Columbia High School of some fourteen years earlier and is quite similar in appearance to the Walterboro High School from five years previous.

³ Ibid., 15-36.

⁴ Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, vol. XXXIV (1925-1926), 1656-1659.

⁵ Orangeburg (S.C.) Times and Democrat, September 1, 1928; Cooper, 101.

⁶ John E. Wells and Robert E. Dalton, The South Carolina Architects, 1885-1935: A Biographical Dictionary (Richmond, VA: New South Architectural Press, 1992), 185-190.

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Springfield High School
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Springfield High School closed in 1969 when her students were sent to the new Hunter-Kinard High School in the town of Norway. The building was then put into service as Springfield Middle School.⁷ Springfield Middle closed in 1996 and the school has remained vacant ever since. In 2000, the Orangeburg County Consolidated School District transferred ownership of the school buildings (except the gymnasium) to the Town of Springfield. The Town plans to make the school available as an all-purpose community center. In August 2000 the Town secured funds to repair the roof. The Springfield Heritage Corridor Committee received a grant in August 2000 to renovate two rooms in the building for use as the town's tourist welcome center.

⁷ Cooper, 171, 175, 180.

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Springfield High School
Name of Property
Orangeburg County, South Carolina
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Bibliography

Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina. Vol. XXXIV (1925-1926).

Cooper, Jacquelyn Williams. Springfield, South Carolina: A Small Town Saga in Orangeburg County. Greenville, SC: A Press, 1988.

Scardaville, Michael, et. al. A Brief History of South Carolina Schools from 1895 to 1945. Columbia, SC: South Carolina Department of Archives and History, 1989.

Orangeburg (S.C.) Times and Democrat. September 1, 1928.

Wells, John E. and Robert E. Dalton. The South Carolina Architects, 1885-1935: A Biographical Dictionary. Richmond, VA: New South Architectural Press, 1992.

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Section number 10 Page 8

Springfield High School
Name of Property
Orangeburg County, South Carolina
County and State

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the Springfield High School is shown as the bold line on the accompanying Orangeburg County tax map #0013-02, drawn at a scale of 1" = 100'.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated acreage includes the historic Springfield High School, its associated historic gymnasium and graded school annex, as well as the surrounding lot and grounds historically associated with the high school. Also on those grounds and integral to them are the modern elementary school building and reconstructed bell tower structure, both noncontributing to the historic significance of the Springfield High School.

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Section number Photographs Page 9 Springfield High School
Name of Property
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The following information is the same for each of the photographs:

Name of Property: Springfield High School
Location of Property: Springfield, Orangeburg County, South Carolina
Name of Photographer: Bradley S. Sauls
Date of Photographs: August 19, 2000
Location of Original Negatives: South Carolina Department of Archives and History,
Columbia, South Carolina

- 1) Springfield High School, main entrance, oblique view (SW corner)
- 2) Springfield High School, main entrance, oblique view (SE corner)
- 3) Springfield High School, main entrance
- 4) Springfield High School, East façade
- 5) Springfield High School, East façade
- 6) Springfield High School, rear view (NE corner)
- 7) Springfield High School, cornerstone (SW corner)
- 8) Springfield High School, wall details (NE corner)
- 9) Springfield High School, view of converted auditorium wing (NW corner)
- 10) Springfield High School, east entrance, covered walkway to Elementary school
- 11) Springfield High School, window details, West façade
- 12) Springfield High School, ceiling of converted auditorium, historic arch visible through modern dropped ceiling
- 13) Springfield High School, interior, second floor hallway with stairway balustrade at right
- 14) Springfield High School, interior, second floor hallway, stairway balustrade
- 15) Graded School Annex, rear façade
- 16) Graded School Annex, front façade, oblique view (NW corner)
- 17) Graded School Annex, front façade
- 18) Graded School Annex, rear façade, oblique view (SE corner)
- 19) Gymnasium, front façade
- 20) Gymnasium, oblique view (SE corner)
- 21) Gymnasium, rear façade
- 22) Gymnasium, oblique view (NW corner)
- 23) Springfield Elementary School, main entrance (**NONCONTRIBUTING**)
- 24) Springfield Elementary School, classroom wing (**NONCONTRIBUTING**)
- 25) Bell Tower, oblique view (NW corner) (**NONCONTRIBUTING**)
- 26) Bell Tower, oblique view (SE corner) (**NONCONTRIBUTING**)
- 27) Bell Tower, original corner stone from 1905 Graded School located at NE corner (N view) (**NONCONTRIBUTING**)
- 28) Bell Tower, original corner stone from 1905 Graded School located at NE corner (E view) (**NONCONTRIBUTING**)

ORTHOPHOTO MAP OF ORANGEBURG COUNTY SOUTH CAROLINA

MAP GRID MATCH # 9610

E1,916,000

E1,916,500

E1,917,000

SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL
Springfield, Orangeburg County, SC

