

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

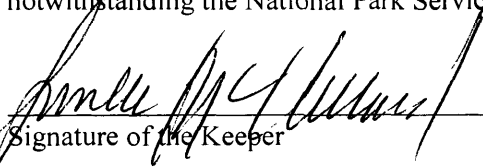
NRIS Reference Number: 06001231

Property Name: Marysville School

County: Spartanburg State: South Carolina

Multiple Name: N/A

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



Signature of the Keeper

January 9, 2007

Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 3: Certification

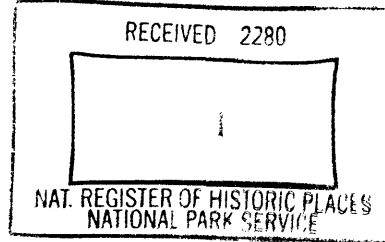
The signature of the nominating official, hereby, certifies that the action requested is a nomination and that the property meets the National Register Criteria for Evaluation at the local level.

The South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office verified this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file

Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)



1231

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 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 Marysville School

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Sunny Acres Rd. not for publication
city or town Pacolet X vicinity
state South Carolina code SC county Spartanburg code 083 zip code 29373

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ___ 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 ___meets ___does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide ___ locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official _____ Date 11/29/06
Mary W. Edmonds

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:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
___ 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		
___ other (explain):		

Marysville School
Name of Property

Spartanburg 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	
<u>1</u>		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	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 Subcategory: Not In Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

No Style

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Wood/Weatherboard
roof Asphalt
other

Narrative Description

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

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 5

Marysville School
Name of Property
Spartanburg County, South Carolina
County and State

The Marysville School is a one story over partial basement, three-room frame building located at the corner of Knuckles Street and Sunny Acres Road in the town of Pacolet, in eastern Spartanburg County, South Carolina. Marysville School resembles a gabled ell building with its "L" shape because the addition of a third room sometime prior to 1950 changed the building's footprint from its original 1915 design. The original plan was a laterally-oriented rectangular building with a shallow rear ell.

Set upon a brick-enclosed, brick pier foundation, the original building had an open pier system, wood-framed walls clad with weatherboard, a hipped roof with exposed rafter tails at the eaves and an interior corbel-capped chimney near the rear that serviced both classrooms. The original section's foundation was later enclosed as a partial basement. The façade faces south toward Sunny Acres Road. An addition built at a right angle to the original building was added sometime between 1935 and 1950, and projects forward from the right [East] side of original building's footprint toward Sunny Acres Road in an ell configuration. This segment is duplicative in style and form as the original, but with a solid brick foundation that is punctuated by diamond shaped lattice vents.

Fenestration on the original block consists of a grouping of five nine-over-nine light, double-hung sash windows on the rear wall of the west room and the east [side] wall of the east room. Two single sash windows with six lights each [likely hinged as either an awning or hopper type window for additional light and ventilation] are located high upon the west elevation of the building, as well as the north wall of the rear ell. A similar fenestration configuration is present on the post 1935 ell addition, with the east wall of the addition having a group of four large windows and the south [front] elevation of the newer ell having the two smaller windows. The east wall contains an additional nine-over-nine light, double-hung sash window at the center of the wall, nearest the point where the addition begins; it provides light to the center hall. Three entrances on the façade provide the only access to the building, except for the three single-leaf entries to the basement along the building's rear wall. One entrance is on the original portion of the building, facing south towards Sunny Acres Road, and at or near the center of the building's facade. Two other doors are located on the addition and face west toward Knuckles Street. The middle door or the one nearest the original building opens into a small hallway between one of the original classrooms and the added classroom, with the two surrounding doors opening directly into classrooms.

The three entrances, located in the corner of the ell on the building's façade, are sheltered by a small shed-roofed porch with solid brick foundation, concrete slab decking, a grouping of three square wooden pillars at the porch's corner, and exposed rafter tails. A small set of brick and concrete steps provides access to the porch from the south side. Located next to this porch on the ground can be seen the semi-circular, block outlined remains of a small landscaped area.

The school was built on a slight hill which descends from front to rear, to accommodate for a partial basement. Four small rectangular windows are located on the rear portion of the lower level of this elevation. One window of the same type is located on the west elevation of the original building's basement, while the east elevation has three pairs of the same type. The basement level contains a total of three entrances, the first one a single-leaf solid door located at the extreme left [east end] of the rear elevation's ell and is covered by a small wood

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Marysville School
Name of Property
Spartanburg County, South Carolina
County and State

post-supported hood or shed roof. This door accesses a small kitchen area. Photos taken of this portion of the school in 1935 do not show this door. The right side of the rear elevation contains two entrances on the lower level, both also added after 1935. There was a door on the rear before 1935 was on the left side of this portion. That door has since been bricked-in, and a small rectangular window was put in its place. The door now present on the far right appears to have been the location of a window originally, but it was converted into a door after 1935. Both of these entrances access storage areas.

The main level of the interior, accessed only by the entrances located on the front of the building, contains three rooms separated by a small hallway. All of these rooms—designed as classrooms—are square in design, and all are roughly the same size. The two classrooms adjacent to one another are the original classrooms built in 1915. They are separated by folding doors, which could slide open or closed as needed and are still in place. The third classroom is located in the addition, and was built sometime between 1935 and 1950. This room is separated from the other two classrooms by a small hallway. All of these rooms still contain their original slate blackboards, as well as their original floors and walls.

Built in 1915, the school appears to have undergone few changes between then and 1935, when Marysville School was inventoried and described in a state school building survey performed by the Works Progress Administration (WPA). The addition was built and the doors and windows were added on the rear portion of the building, after 1935 and before 1950.¹

¹ Brian Robson, Interview with Betty Littlejohn, Pacolet, S.C., March 2003

Marysville School
Name of Property

Spartanburg County, South Carolina
County and State

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)

Education
Ethnic Heritage-Black

Period of Significance

1915-1954

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Pacolet Manufacturing Company (Builder)

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 and History,
Columbia, S.C.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Marysville School
Name of Property
Spartanburg County, South Carolina
County and State

The Marysville School is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A, for its association with the history of segregated education in upstate South Carolina. The school was built by the Pacolet Manufacturing Company in 1915 to educate the children of African-American employees who worked in the Pacolet Mills, and served in that function until it was closed in 1954.

By the early twentieth century, the several textile mills owned by the Pacolet Manufacturing Company on the Pacolet River in eastern Spartanburg County known then as Trough, and now as Pacolet, were thriving. The company built villages around its mills for its workers and their families, including Marysville, the area reserved for African-American workers and their families. In many ways, Marysville was similar to the other areas of the mill village, described as "...four rows of houses...and you could see from one end to the 'nother."²

Originally called Gilliam Town, the name of this community within the Pacolet mill villages was changed to Marysville, after Mary Brown Knuckles, the lady who provided Marysville School to the residents of that community.³ The community was built by the Pacolet Manufacturing Company to segregate black and white workers and their families. The mills were strictly segregated according to race, down to the places around the mills where they worked and the particular jobs that they performed. Blacks did not work inside the mills with whites, but were strictly "outside" workers—that is, performing landscaping, cleaning, and maintenance duties.⁴ The same was also the case when it came to educating their children.

In 1915, wishing to keep the mill schools "separate but equal," the Pacolet Manufacturing Company—with the assistance of Mary Brown Knuckles—built this school for the children of its black workers.

More than seventy-five years after attending Marysville School, Ola Smith recounted what it was like: "At the time when I started [1925], it was just two rooms. . . . they had more than one grade in the room it was up to fourth or fifth grade in the first room, and the other side was bigger children. . . . They had folding doors in between . . . [and] they would close the doors so that one class wouldn't disturb the other one."⁵ Marysville School was even more thoroughly described in 1935, when the Works Progress Administration (WPA) surveyed the school for the State of South Carolina School Building Survey. Known in this survey as the Pacolet Mills Colored School, it describes in fascinating detail the condition and make-up of the school as it was in 1935. In one section it describes the size of the two classrooms. Room #1, which was used for grades 3-6, measured thirty feet in width by twenty-three feet in length. Room #2, used by grades 1 and 2, was almost identical, measuring twenty-nine feet wide by twenty-three feet long.⁶ Other information was also made clear

² Betsy Wakefield Teter, ed., *Textile Town: Spartanburg County, South Carolina* (Spartanburg, S.C.: Hub City Writers Project, 2002), p.126.

³ Ruth Watson Trowell, *Pacolet Mills: A Village Called Trough* (Spartanburg, S.C., 1998), p. 23.

⁴ *Textile Town*, p. 126.

⁵ *Textile Town*, p. 126.

⁶ State of South Carolina School Building Survey, Pacolet Mills Colored School, March 18, 1935, L 42259, FR. 493-514, p. 4, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C. (hereafter referred to as School Building Survey).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Marysville School
Name of Property
Spartanburg County, South Carolina
County and State

by this survey which gave evidence of the neglect the school was in by this time. The survey lists two pit toilets used by the students, which were in poor condition. The general cleanliness of the toilet was listed as "bad" and was not satisfactorily screened from flies.⁷ In addition, the coal heating system was listed as not being in use because of bad condition.⁸ Conditions were, however, not all bad. The school did have the means to serve hot lunches to the students⁹, and the overall condition of the school was listed as being in "very good shape."¹⁰ Also attached to this survey was a sketch of the floor plan, and photographs of the school.

It is apparent from the sketch, as well as the photos, that the building underwent many changes after 1935. The most obvious change was the addition of a third classroom, built at a right angle to the front of the building. In addition, changes were made to add a kitchen in the lower level on the rear of the school. Although the exact date these changes were made it not known, Betty Littlejohn, a former student at the school, states they were made before 1950.¹¹

The school, nevertheless, became obsolete by 1954, not so much because it had inadequate facilities, but as a result of the landmark United States Supreme Court decision in *Brown vs. Board of Education*. In that case, the Supreme Court ruled that segregating schools by race was unconstitutional. Also, and perhaps most significant of all though was the fact that the State of South Carolina embarked upon a school building program in 1951 to upgrade school facilities around the state, especially in poorer or underprivileged areas. This so-called "equalization school program," funded by a three cent sales tax, resulted directly from heightened criticism during the years leading up to the *Brown* case of the state's not so equal "separate but equal" policy. The state's building program precipitated consolidation efforts in the black and white communities alike. In addition, by 1954 the Pacolet Mills, houses, and schools, including Marysville School, were the property of the Milliken Corporation. In 1998, Marysville School was acquired by the nearby Montgomery Chapel Baptist Church, which used it for storage. In 2004, the building was given to the Town of Pacolet, which plans to restore and preserve the school as a community center.

⁷ School Building Survey, p. 7.

⁸ School Building Survey, p. 8.

⁹ School Building Survey, p. 8.

¹⁰ School Building Survey, p. 14.

¹¹ Brian Robson, interview with Betty Littlejohn, Pacolet, S.C., March 2003.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 9

Marysville School
Name of Property
Spartanburg County, South Carolina
County and State

Bibliography

- South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.
Works Progress Administration (WPA), State of South Carolina School Building Survey
Pacolet Mills Colored School, March 18, 1935, L 42259, FR. 493-514
- Teter, Betsy Wakefield, editor. *Textile Town: Spartanburg County, South Carolina*. Spartanburg, S.C.:
Hub City Writers Project, 2002.
- Watson, Ruth Trowell. *Pacolet Mills: A Village Called Trough*. Spartanburg, S.C., 1998.

Marysville School
Name of Property

Spartanburg County, South Carolina
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing
17 430800 3864056

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 Brian Robson [with assistance from the SHPO Staff]
organization _____ date December 8, 2005
street & number 131 Hawkins Acres Road telephone (864) 579-7639
city or town Spartanburg state SC zip code 29307

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 The Town of Pacolet
street & number P.O. Box 278 telephone (864) 474-9504
city or town Pacolet state South Carolina zip code 29372

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. 470 et seq.). **Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 10

Marysville School
Name of Property
Spartanburg County, South Carolina
County and State

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is shown as the black line marked "Marysville School" on the accompanying Spartanburg County Tax Map # 7172, dated June 9, 1998, and drawn at a scale of 1" = 400'.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property is restricted to the historic school and its immediate setting.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photographs Page 11

Marysville School
Name of Property
Spartanburg County, South Carolina
County and State

The following information is the same for each of the photographs:

Name of Property: Marysville School
Location of Property: corner of Knuckles Street and Sunny Acres Road
Pacolet, Spartanburg County, South Carolina
Name of Photographer: Brian Robson
Date of Photographs: August 26 and October 27, 2005
Location of Original Negatives: South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

1. Facade
2. Façade/Addition, door/porch detail
3. Facade, door/porch detail
4. Right elevation
5. Rear elevation
6. Rear elevation, left portion
7. Rear elevation, right portion
8. Left elevation
9. Classroom # 1
10. Classroom # 2
11. Classroom # 2
12. Classroom # 3, in addition
13. Classroom # 3, in addition