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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

Historic name Giffin Grammar School
Other names/site number Giffin Elementary School
Name of related multiple property listing N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & Number: 1834 Beech Street
City or town: Knoxville State: TN County: Knox
Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Claudia K. Stapp 10/3/14
Signature of certifying official/Title: Date
State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of Commenting Official: Date
Title: State of Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register

other (explain):

Jim Smith
 Signature of the Keeper

11-22-2016

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival

MODERN MOVEMENT: International Style

Materials:

Principal exterior materials of the property:

BRICK; STONE: Cast Stone; ASPHALT; METAL: Steel,
Aluminum; GLASS; WOOD

Narrative Description

The Giffin Grammar School is a small, neighborhood-scale elementary school located in the South Haven area of south Knoxville, approximately 2.5 miles from downtown. South Haven is a historically working-class neighborhood, adjacent to the more affluent streetcar suburb of Island Home.

Built over a period of 20 plus years, the Giffin Grammar School is brick building comprised of a series of additions and alterations to the original 1928 structure designed by Knoxville architects, Barber and McMurry. The additions, of which there were at least three (3), demonstrate the transitions in construction techniques and architectural styles from the interwar, pre-depression period to the postwar building boom. The most notable and only attributable addition is from 1950, and believed to be one of the earliest designs of local architect Bruce McCarty, then at the firm of Rutherford and Painter. Two or three other additions were built sometime between the construction of the original Colonial Revival building and McCarty's International Style addition. One of these additions essentially mimicked the original construction, with slightly less ornate detailing, both inside and out, adding two classrooms to the west wing and one classroom to the east wing of the existing building. The second addition comprised a library built in the International style and a small addition to the administrative portion of the 1928 building, which mimicked the existing construction and likely reused the existing glazing. The library, constructed circa 1945 according to information derived from Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, was later subsumed by the 1950 addition.

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Site

The Giffin Grammar School is located in a quiet residential neighborhood composed primarily of single-family homes on narrow lots. The majority of the houses are modest, wood framed bungalows in a variety of architectural styles ranging from Cape Cod Colonial to Craftsman. There are a small number of older and larger Victorian-era houses, as well as later Ranch homes, which are similar in scale to the earlier bungalows. The school is approached from either the north or south via Beech Street, providing two distinct initial impressions of the building. The southern approach presents the façade of the original 1928 Colonial Revival building, fronted by a number of large established trees, which contribute to the impression that the school sits within a wooded grove. In contrast, the north approach presents the façade of the 1950 International style addition, which is fronted by the open expanse of a flat, grass-covered playground. This approach proceeds up a steep hill, emphasizing the sense of both massiveness and horizontality of the building. While the south approach presents a building in a naturalistic landscape, the north approach presents an object on a plane.

The automobile entrance at the southeast corner of the property is flanked to the north by a circa 1950 air raid siren which sits on a wood platform atop two telephone poles. The asphalt paved driveway wraps around the southwest corner of the building, accessing parking areas to the south and east of the building. The drive continues along the east side of the building to form a large paved play area along the northern elevation of the 1950 addition. The paved drive is bounded by a densely wooded hillside which wraps the north and east sides of the property. A small-unnamed creek runs along the base of this hill forming the eastern boundary of the property and joining Baker Creek, which forms the northern boundary of the property, at the northwest corner of the site. Beech Street forms the western boundary of the property and on all other sides it is surrounded by single-family homes.

Exterior

The 1928 building, as designed by Barber and McMurry, is a simple U-shape consisting of two single-bay gabled classroom wings connected by perpendicular, gabled administrative area with a north facing courtyard. The two classroom wings are each single loaded corridors with three classrooms oriented to the perimeter with the corridor adjacent to the courtyard. The administrative area is organized around a primary double loaded corridor. There are two classrooms flanking the perpendicular entry corridor to the south and administrative offices in turn flanked by restrooms and facing the courtyard to the north. The west classroom wing and the administrative area are one story above a vented crawl space. The east wing is two stories with a stairway situated between the south and middle classrooms leading to the lower level. The lower level originally contained the boiler room to the south, and a lunchroom to the north, with the kitchen located at the far northern end. The lunchroom and kitchen were later converted into classrooms, while the boiler room continued to be a service space. The classroom wing corridors originally terminated inside the courtyard, approximately sixteen feet short of the ends of the building.

The exterior of the 1928 building, and the undated classroom addition, is constructed of red brick, load-bearing masonry laid in a Flemish bond pattern with concave joints. The foundation of the building is articulated by a water table/belt course that is capped by a single course of moulded brick, in an ogee shape. This moulded brick transitions between the thicker foundation and the thinner walls above. Cast stone windowsills, quoins, keystones, and voussoirs provide architectural accents on the original building. While most of the cast iron foundation vents are in place, several have been replaced by a brick soldier course without mortar in the head joints. The cast stone windowsills continue on the undated addition; however, the

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watertable element and moulded brick detail is discontinued, showing a clear demarcation between the original building and the first addition. In general, the undated addition is marked by a decreased level of detail and refinement in comparison with the 1928 building.

The main entry to the 1928 building is centered in the south elevation and composed of a set of wooden half-glass double doors set within a recessed alcove. Two deteriorated concrete steps lead from the sidewalk up to a concrete landing inside the alcove. This alcove is accented by ornate painted woodwork consisting of a broken pediment scroll sitting atop simplified fluted Corinthian pilasters. Portions of the woodwork are missing or deteriorated namely the central 'keystone' element and a large section of the dentil moulding on the western portion. The original bases of the pilasters are missing on both sides. The walls and ceiling of the alcove are finished with painted wood paneling. The glazing of the half-glass double doors consists of three equal panes, stacked vertically. The brass door hardware appears to be original. A hexagonal, copper domed cupola sat at the apex of the administrative wing roof, centered over the main entrance until 2011 when it was demolished by the lessee of the building in an attempt to prevent roof leaks.

The south elevation is essentially symmetrical, though it deviates slightly in accommodating the downward slope of the site from west to east. The fenestration consists of two (2) sets of four (4) wood 12/12 double hung windows that are evenly spaced, and symmetrically disposed on either side of the entrance. The windows sit on simple light colored, cast stone sills and are capped by brick jack arches. A gabled bay, which is accented by cast stone quoins, projects 3-4' southward on each side of the south elevation. A round arched, shallow niche is set at the center of each projecting bay. The niches are accented by cast stone sills, springers and keystones. The inner faces of the niches are finished with smooth stucco colored to match the cast stone accents. A roundel gable vent is centered above each niche. The roundels are accented by four (4) biaxially disposed, cast stone voussoirs and a wood grill. The grill pattern is composed of four (4) segments of a circle in a biaxially symmetrical pattern, over a gridded metal mesh. A cast iron coal shoot access door, which was repurposed as a mailbox at some point, is located approximately four (4) feet from the east corner of the south elevation, at about four (4) feet above grade.

The west elevation of the original 1928 building consisted of two (2) classrooms oriented parallel to Beech Street, each of which was articulated by a set of four (4) evenly spaced, double hung windows, identical to those on the south elevation. The undated addition extended the building northward with two (2) more classrooms, which follow the fenestration pattern of the original building. The transition between the phases of construction can be noted by the slight change in brick color, as well as the absence of the moulded brick water table/belt course. A section of narrow concrete sidewalk sits in the lawn, running perpendicular to Beech Street, disconnected from both the building and the public sidewalk, which appears to be a remnant of the original sidewalk that accessed the two (2) rear exits of the original 1928 building. The west wing of the Colonial Revival portion of the school is appended to the north by the entrance to the 1950 International Style addition.

The east elevation of the original building is similar in architectural detailing to the west elevation, the primary difference being that the east side of the building is two stories rather than one. The original 1928 building was composed of three (3) classrooms on the east side, articulated similarly to the west by three (3) sets of four (4) evenly spaced, double hung wood windows. Below the southernmost classroom, a concrete ramp cuts below the surrounding grade parallel to the building to provide access to the boiler room, via a set of large double-doors. A smaller, 6/6 double hung window sits between the first and second set of classroom

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windows, indicating the location of the original stairway, which connects the first floor classrooms to the basement below. A single, half-glass wood door with a transom window sits below the 6/6 window. This door is accessed by a short run of stairs to the north of the door, parallel to the building, which cut below grade. A simple wood framed, sloped metal roof awning sits above this door. A brick chimney exits the roof of the building at the apex of the gable, between the classroom windows and the stair window/door. North of the stair window, two additional sets of classroom windows sit above similarly disposed, boarded up window openings. According to the original drawings the windows at this level matched the width and glazing proportion of the windows above, but were 8/8 sashes, which terminated at cast stone sills, just above grade. Unlike the classroom windows above, these openings appear to be constructed with a concealed lintel at the head, which is indicated by a 2/3-height brick soldier course. Similar to the west elevation, there is an undated addition, which extends the Colonial Revival building northward by one classroom on the east elevation. The transition is again marked by a slight change in brick color, as well as the elimination of the moulded brick water table/belt course. The upper level fenestration continues the pattern of four (4) evenly spaced double hung wood windows; however, there are no lower level windows on the addition. A short brick chimney extends from the apex of the roof at the transition indicating the location of the original kitchen and end wall. A second door exits the east elevation of the 1928 building from the north end. This door mirrors the details of the door at the stairwell. The east wing of the Colonial Revival portion of the school is appended to the north by the gymnasium and cafeteria wing of the 1950 International Style addition.

The 1950 International style addition consists of two (2) rectangular wings connected by a combination stairwell and entrance, with the wings oriented longitudinally along an east-west axis perpendicular to Beech Street. The west wing consists of two levels of three classrooms each, evenly disposed along a single loaded corridor, which runs east-west along the south edge of the addition. The east wing houses a combination gymnasium and auditorium on the main level, with a cafeteria and kitchen housed at the lower level. A recessed stairwell, with mid-level entry door connects the two wings. Generally, the 1950 addition shares a material palette with the 1928 building and earlier additions, being constructed of red brick, with light gray cast stone lintels and large windows. Unlike the earlier building, the 1950 addition is of wood frame construction with a brick veneer, and predominantly metal windows. The windows at the classroom wing are unpainted aluminum frames, while the windows at the gymnasium/cafeteria wing are painted steel frames. The full height transom window at the stairwell/entry is wood. The brick is laid in a Flemish Stretcher pattern, with five (5) courses of stretchers between each Flemish bond course. Typical of the International Style, the 1950 addition is designed with low slope or "flat" roofs and a horizontal emphasis. The 1950 addition to the Giffin School created a new entrance to the building at the northwest corner that is accessed from Beech Street by a concrete bridge and six stairs that lead to a recessed, covered landing. A second stair runs parallel to the bridge, providing access to the lower level of the building and the playground to the north. The bridge, stairs and landing are all on axis with the single loaded corridor about which the 1950 addition is organized. The flat roof of the classroom wing extends over the landing to form a canopy that is flush with the south and west elevations of the addition and is carried by a five (5) inch square steel column at the southwest corner. Welded, round steel pipe railing, consisting of three evenly spaced, and equally sized horizontal pipes, in the style of a ship rail, protects the bridge, both stairs and the landing. The handrail and steel column are painted silver to match the unpainted aluminum storefront vestibule that forms the entrance proper. Full glass, aluminum double doors are flanked by full height sidelights and capped with a tripartite transom to form the west wall of the vestibule. The south wall is symmetrically divided into four (4) panes of glass, with the horizontal division aligned with the top of the doors on the west wall. The north

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wall of the landing is composed of light beige, structural glazed tile in a stacked bond pattern that continues into

the building. A sealed, wood framed clerestory sits atop the wall, aligned with the top of the entry doors. The clerestory, like the glazed tile wall, continues into the building. All of the exterior glazing at the entrance is wire glass. The ceiling of the canopy is flat, smooth gray stucco, which is visually continuous and coplanar with the acoustic tile ceiling inside the building. Overall, the detailing of the covered entry and vestibule blur the boundary between interior and exterior, creating a sense of continuity between the two.

The main wall of the 1950 addition's west elevation, in contrast to the lightness of the entry, is composed of a monolithic wall of brick that faces Beech Street. The roof of the classroom wing is flush with the face of the brick wall, marked by a simple, eight (8) inch metal coping. The concrete bridge, which leads to the entry vestibule at the main level, forms a canopy covering a second entrance at the lower level. The bridge spans from a concrete retaining wall at the south to a rectangular steel beam sitting on square steel columns at the northern edge. The concrete walkway/bridge is constructed of precast double- t planks spanning north-south and capped with site poured concrete slab. The lower entry is flush with the façade and consists of a set of aluminum double doors with sidelights, all glazed with wire glass.

The north elevation of the classroom wing is composed of two continuous bands of aluminum framed ribbon windows sitting on cast stone sills over brick veneer walls. The lower level windowsill is approximately two (2) feet above grade, while a four (4) foot tall band of brick divides the main floor windows from the lower. A painted spandrel band, colored to match separates the upper level windows from the roof soffit. Unlike the west elevation of the classroom wing, the roof slightly overhangs the north elevation. The ribbon windows are divided into nine (9) equal bays by heavy, aluminum-clad mullions. Each classroom consists of three bays of windows, with each bay then divided vertically in thirds. Horizontally, the windows are divided into four rows of panes – the first, second and fourth rows being equal sized panes while the fourth is a double height pane. The first row windows are hopper type operable sashes and the third row is an awning type operable sash, while the second and fourth rows are fixed. Several panes have been broken by vandals, primarily on the lower level. Additionally one pane was removed at each classroom to accommodate installation of a wall unit air conditioner. Most of these non-contributing wall units have since been removed, and the windows boarded up.

The east elevation of the classroom wing abuts an entrance and stairwell, which separates the classroom wing from the gymnasium and cafeteria wing. A flight of concrete stairs, with round metal pipe railing leads from the asphalt paved play area up to a concrete landing and the recessed entry vestibule. Wood, half-glass double doors, matching those at the main 1928 entrance, are centered in a brick wall at the north entrance. A full height wood framed, fixed transom light sits above the doors, divided horizontally in thirds with a centered vertical muntin.

While the 1950 gymnasium and cafeteria wings north elevation is aligned with that of the 1950 classroom wing, it has a number of differences architecturally. The Flemish Stringer brick pattern and flat roof continue, as do the cast stone sills beneath the windows. The roof, rather than being flush with the elevation overhangs approximately a foot on all sides of the gym wing. The fenestration pattern is also significantly different from the classroom wing. Seven large individual, painted steel framed windows are distributed evenly across the north elevation at the main level gymnasium. These windows are composed of twelve

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panes that play on the proportions of the windows at the classroom wing. Proportionally, the windows are divided in fourths vertically with a single-double-single pane width pattern. Horizontally, the windows are divided in sixths, with a single-double-single-double height pattern. The intersection of these two grids creates two larger square panes, which are operable awning type windows, while the other smaller panes are all fixed. The openings at the lower level cafeteria and kitchen are aligned vertically with those at the gym level; however, they vary in type and size. The first four windows to the east are located at the cafeteria, and as such are approximately two-thirds the height of the gym windows. They continue the same vertical division, but are equally divided into fourths in the horizontal. The middle two panes form a single awning type operable pane, with the surrounding panes all being fixed. A set of steel, half-glass double doors with a tripartite transom light divides the cafeteria from the kitchen. The transom light divisions align with the vertical windows divisions at the gymnasium above. The door glazing is divided into three equal, vertically stacked panes, matching the wood half glass exterior doors throughout the rest of the building. The windows at the kitchen are tripartite clerestory type windows. The vertical grid is again aligned with that of the gymnasium windows above. All of the lower level wall opening head heights are aligned.

The east elevation of the 1950 gymnasium/cafeteria building is relatively plain. A single steel door, accessed by a cantilevered steel fire stair, exits the gymnasium at the center of the east elevation. Below that there is a half glass wood door that is aligned with the door above. Two rectangular boarded up windows openings are evenly distributed on the south half of the elevation at the lower level, with an exhaust vent centered between them. The head heights of the lower level openings are all aligned.

The south elevation of the gymnasium wing generally mirrors the north elevation. The window type and distribution at the main level is nearly identical to the north elevation, except that it is composed of five (5) bays compared to seven (7) on the north. The lower level fenestration is composed of two types, which accommodate the change in grade, as it slopes upward to the west. The first two windows at the east side of the south facade are identical to the four western windows on the north elevation. The three (3) windows to the west again follow the vertical division of the gymnasium windows above, and match the head height of the other lower level windows. Horizontally, they are divided on the same grid as the main cafeteria windows; however the bottom row is omitted, creating a nine (9)-pane window. The lower middle two panes form a single awning type operable window, with the remainder being fixed. The west end of the 1950 gymnasium wing abuts the east elevation of the undated, pre-1945 addition.

Interior

The main entry to the original 1928 Colonial Revival building leads to a 1½ height entry foyer which is oriented along a north-south axis. Inside the foyer a red quarry tiled landing leads to a run of five (5) carpeted stairs, and a second carpeted landing. While the entry door casing, entablature, and foyer base moulding appear to be original, the carpeting and wood handrails do not appear to be contributing elements. A half-round arched doorway leads from the foyer into the primary east-west corridor of the administrative wing. Across the corridor, a wood half-glass door, on axis with the foyer, leads into the administrative area that consists of three former offices, and three small closets. To either side of the entry foyer, two sets of distinctive center pivoting wood doors enclose coat closets on the south side of the corridor. Each set of four wood panel doors has decorative metal mesh top panels and uses a hardware mechanism which allows them all to pivot in unison, simply by opening one door. The closets appear to contain both historic and later shelving and coat hooks. One closet door on either side of the foyer has been removed and a 1950s era drinking fountain installed in the niche constructed in its place.

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The east and west classroom wings of the 1928 building are arranged as single loaded corridors, with the classrooms positioned to the exterior of the building. The classroom doors are wood half-glass doors, with hopper-type, six pane transom lights above. Each of the classrooms contains a black chalkboard and built in pantry type cabinet at the head of the classroom, adjacent the door. One door of each cabinet is a three panel wood door, while the other is a twelve (12)-pane glass door. The cabinets and hardware appear to be original. Low built-in, open shelving is located along the outside walls; below the windowsill height does not appear to be a contributing element. Historic picture moulding is installed on all four walls of the classroom, and aligned with the head of the exterior windows. A second row of wood trim is aligned with the window checkrails and forms a datum to which the top of the chalkboard and the built in cabinet are aligned. Later chalkboards have been added at the corridor walls and in between the windows. Characteristic of the period, these classrooms have tall ceilings, and no existing air conditioning. Heating was provided by the cast iron radiators, fed by a central boiler system. Ice tray type fluorescent lighting appears to have been installed in conjunction with the 1950 addition, while light fixtures from later periods are also present. Flooring is a dark burgundy, square vinyl tile, which appears to be laid directly over the original wood floors. Paint color varies, but most classrooms are painted in a light “institutional green” with darker trim and white ceilings. Half of the ten total classrooms in the pre- 1950 portion of the building contain coat closets along the rear wall with central action pivoting doors similar to those found in the main corridor of the administrative wing. A single, wood double hung 12/12 window looks into the courtyard from each of the north-south corridors. Multi-fixture restrooms are accessed from the classroom corridors as well – boys on the east and girls on the west. The restrooms appear to have been remodeled in conjunction with the 1950 addition, as they contain local Tennessee Pink Marble stall dividers that were widely in use during the period. A door at the southeast end of the west classroom corridor accesses a small vestibule which then leads to the courtyard space, which is little more than an unadorned, grass lawn.

Doors at the north end of the corridor, just prior to the junction with the 1950 addition, access the c. 1945 library addition. Unlike the undated addition(s), this wing - which enclosed the courtyard - has a ‘flat’ roof, along with more modern fenestration and fixtures. A large bank of windows looks out from the main room of this addition into the courtyard, with operable hopper type, painted steel framed windows sitting below translucent ribbed glass block – which goes to the ceiling. Along the opposite north wall, a centrally operated, awning type clerestory hints that this wall was originally an exterior wall. The west end of this addition is composed of an office with fenestration matching that of the main library, several closets and a small corridor leading back into the pre-1950 west corridor.

The single loaded corridor of 1950 addition connects the two classroom corridors of the older building to form a ‘racetrack’ type circulation pattern at the north end of the building. The junction is immediately recognizable though, as there is a dramatic change in both material palette and spatial scale. The ceiling height of the 1950 addition drops to approximately ten (10) feet, while the hallway walls change from simple painted plaster, to stacked bond light colored glazed tile. Similarly, the flooring transitions to a lighter colored vinyl tile, and the ceiling changes from plaster to small format, glued-in-place acoustical tile, in a grid pattern which matches the floor. The north wall of the corridor is characterized by a continuous clerestory, recessed classroom doors and aluminum framed pinup boards. The clerestory windows, all of which are wood framed with a natural color finish, alternate between operable jalousie style and fixed windows. The walls of the classrooms door recesses are slightly canted, narrowing from the corridor toward the classroom.

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All six classrooms in the 1950 wing are essentially identical. Unlike the older classrooms, the 1950 classroom doors enter at the center of the room, with closets on the west side and restrooms located on the east. The closet doors are centrally operated, pivoting closet doors, similar to those in the older portion of the building. The restrooms to the east consist of three individual toilet closets, aligned with the corridor wall, a half round stainless steel hand-washing sink in the classroom proper, and a white glazed drinking fountain, also within the classroom. The north walls of the classrooms are almost entirely glazed, starting at about three (3) feet above the floor, while the east and west walls are painted concrete masonry units. The light colored glazed tile from the corridor continues in the classrooms, infilling the wall behind the hand-washing sink and continuing along the lower portion of the east wall – aligned with the exterior windowsill height. Below the windows continuous built-in cabinets conceal steel radiators. The built-in cabinetry continues at the same height along the west wall as open cabinetry. A continuous aluminum banded, laminate worktop caps the low cabinetry, punctuated only by a small stainless steel drop in sink at the east end. ‘Ice tray’ style fluorescent light fixtures, consistent with those in the older building, run parallel to the exterior glazed wall. Aluminum framed chalkboards are mounted in line with the glazed tile along the east wall. The floors and ceilings are consistent with those in the corridor. All of the wood in the 1950 classrooms has a ‘natural’ finish.

The stairwell, which connects the 1950 classroom wing to the gymnasium/cafeteria wing, is marked by a large Tennessee Pink Marble plaque that commemorates the addition, noting the date, members of the board of education, architects and contractors. The stair is constructed of simple, poured in place concrete with metal nosings and a metal pipe railing, which matches those used at the 1950 entry vestibule and bridge. A set of double doors leads from the mid-level landing to the exterior. A half-round, polished concrete hand-washing sink is located at the base of the stairs, on the west side. The north, east and west walls of the stairwell are painted brick, while the south is gypsum board.

A set of half glass double doors leads from the connecting stairwell into the gymnasium/auditorium at the southwest corner of the room. The light colored structural glazed tile used throughout the 1950 addition continues into the gymnasium, aligned with the bottom of the windowsills. Steel radiators sit below each window, and square wire mesh, installed diagonally, protects them from the interior. Above the level of the glazed tile, the gym walls are painted concrete masonry units, with bullnose detailing at the window openings. Two (2) basketball goals are mounted on the east wall, to either side of the fire exit door. The ceiling is plaster with flush mounted, square light fixtures. Approximately half of the parquet wood floor has been demolished or vandalized. The east wall of the gymnasium is dominated by simple rectangular proscenium and wood skirted stage. The stage skirting, which consists of smooth, vertically oriented, painted boards, conceals stairs at the north and south edges of the stage. Hinged panels of the skirting conceal under stage storage areas. A painted metal door at the northwest corner of the gym accesses the backstage area.

Similar to the gym above, a set of double doors leads from the 1950 classroom wing to the lower level cafeteria wing. The walls of the cafeteria and kitchen are entirely clad, from floor to ceiling in the same light colored structural glazed tile used elsewhere in the 1950 addition. The cafeteria consists of one, large open room, undivided except for two tile clad columns at the centerline, and a kitchen and serving area that occupies the east end of the space. The main cafeteria space has light gray terrazzo floors while the kitchen has a red quarry tile floor. The ceiling of the cafeteria was a 2x4 acoustical tile suspended ceiling system, but the tiles themselves have all been removed. The kitchen has a painted gypsum board ceiling. The kitchen

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consists of a large cooking area, which is separated from the cafeteria by an approximately eighteen (18) foot wide,

painted steel, full height roll-up door. Just north of the roll-up there is a single door with a vision panel, followed by a four foot wide, half-height roll-up door at the dishwashing area. There are two small storage rooms located behind the dishwashing area.

A set of half glass, double doors at the southwest corner of the cafeteria accesses a narrow corridor that connects to the former lunchroom and kitchen. These spaces were converted into a classroom and storage room respectively as a part of the 1950 addition. As such, the lighting fixtures, built in cabinets, chalkboards and closet doors match those found in the 1950 classroom wing, even though this portion of the building was constructed prior to 1945. The classroom itself however is disposed in much the same manner as other classrooms found in the 1928 building, with coat closets located in the short south wall. Low built-in cabinets are located along the length of the east wall and half of the north wall. The remaining half of the north wall is occupied by two individual toilet rooms, separated by a panel of light colored structural glazed tile, to which is mounted a half-round stainless steel hand-wash sink. A door at the south end of the classroom leads to the original 1928 stairwell.

Overall, the interior of the Giffin School is unique in that a significant amount of historic fixtures, finishes, and woodwork from each phase of the buildings construction have survived relatively intact and in place. The evolution of educational techniques and theory can be seen in the variation of classroom size, format and accoutrement throughout the various phases of the building. Similarly the exterior of the Giffin School demonstrates the evolution in construction techniques and architectural styles during a period of significant cultural and technological change in America, from interwar Colonial Revival and traditional construction to post-war International Style and modern stick frame construction.

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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.)

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1928; 1950

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Barber & McMurry Architects

McCarty, Bruce of Rutherford & Painter
Architects

- 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 N/A

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

Property is:

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

Giffin Grammar School

Name of Property

Knox County, Tennessee

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

Knoxville's Giffin Grammar School is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C for architecture, as a significant local example of a building that embodies distinctive characteristics of both Colonial Revival and International styles. Although the styles have fundamentally different expressions, the building stands as a singular, noteworthy architectural addition to Knoxville's built environment. Furthermore, the architects of this edifice have made a significant impact on the built environment for the East Tennessee and Knoxville areas. The Giffin School is a representative example of their body of work during the times of their completion, which also contributes to support the evaluation of Criterion C. The property meets the National Register criterion due to its unaltered representation of two significant American architectural styles. The building was originally designed in the Colonial Revival style in 1928; this portion illustrates a significant architectural style of the early twentieth century. The later portion shows an International Style addition in 1950, highlighting a significant architectural style of mid-century modern traditions. Of the schools built before the WPA era, this school is one of the few to have survived unaltered. The school supported the needs of the South Haven neighborhood for close to seventy (70) years from its inception until 1995.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Planning for the school started in 1925 with the City of Knoxville acquiring the land from C.A. Norman and wife, Eliza George Norman for a purchase price of \$6,000. By December 1926, the Office of City Engineering had surveyed the land and was calling the site the Norman School property. As noted previously, the original school building was designed by Barber & McMurry in 1928 and showcased a Colonial Revival style. The school opened in the fall of 1928 as Giffin Grammar School (it is unknown why the name of the school changed between 1926 and 1928, when it became known as "Giffin School"). As the description mentions in the previous paragraphs, the initial building attributable to the Colonial Revival style consisted of five classrooms on the first floor, a small kitchen and lunchroom in the basement level, and a central heating system. Three more classrooms were added sometime after this and continues the Colonial Revival attributes. A small rectangular room, used for a school library was added to the north elevation creating a central courtyard (ca. 1945). Another small addition was added to the administration area at this time also. In 1950, due to the growth of the surrounding residential neighborhood and the increase of students the school served; an addition was planned. Bruce McCarty, while employed at the firm of Rutherford and Painter Architects designed this addition. This addition added six more classrooms, cafeteria, and a gym. The former kitchen and lunchroom of the 1928 section was converted into a small hall and an additional classroom at the time of the 1950 addition. The school was continuously occupied until 2014. Giffin Elementary School closed in 1995. After the school closed, Remote Area Medical (RAM) occupied the building until 2014.

The school was built in the South Haven neighborhood in south Knoxville. The general size and types of houses indicate that the area is traditionally a middle class residential area. In the late 19th century, a rail car line extended south of the Tennessee River to south Knoxville. This spurred development of this area beginning in the early 20th century. Mead's quarry was just east of South Haven neighborhood. It is likely that many residents near Giffin School were employed by or helped support the economy related to the quarry. At the time of the original construction the school system was a part of the city of Knoxville. The city built many schools during this time. Two examples of schools built at this time are Park Junior High

Giffin Grammar School
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School and Rule High School. Comparatively, Park Junior High School (NR 6/30/1983) was built between 1926 and 1927. Stylistically, Park Junior High School compares because it is a Colonial Revival Style. Park Junior High still stands and was transformed to condominiums in the mid 1980s. Rule High School does not have a clear architectural style associated with its design and has been abandoned since 1991. In 1985, the city of Knoxville no longer oversaw the school system and control of the school system defaulted to Knox County according to state law. Giffin Elementary School was closed in 1995 and it is not clear the exact reason why it closed; however some factors could include the limited lot size, consolidation of other schools, and modern ADA deficiencies in the building. Students in the South Haven neighborhood now attend Dogwood Elementary School.

Architecture

The original construction was designed in the Colonial Revival style, and was designed by the local Knoxville, Tennessee firm of Barber McMurry. The firm of Barber McMurry began in 1915 in Knoxville and has contributed to the area’s built environment with notable public buildings including churches and schools. The architecture firm of Barber & McMurry (currently known as Barber McMurry Architects) was founded by Charles Irving Barber (1887-1962) and Benjamin Franklin McMurry, Sr. (1885-1969). Charles Irving Barber’s father, George Franklin Barber, was an American architect who became known for residential designs that were marketed worldwide through mail-order catalogs. His plans were used for houses in all 50 U.S. States, and in nations as far away as Japan and the Philippines. Charles Barber and Benjamin McMurry both studied at the University of Pennsylvania. At the University of Pennsylvania, Barber & McMurry studied under the notable Beaux-Arts architect Paul Cret. It is this Beaux-Arts tradition that manifested itself in the firm’s early years, including the time of the Giffin school design. The Beaux-Arts style was a strong influence on the architecture of the United States before and during the time of the 1928 section of the Giffin School. Although the classical details of the Beaux-Arts tradition were used on twentieth century buildings, many Beaux-Arts buildings integrated modern construction techniques such as steel framing.

The 1928 section of the Giffin School was constructed of load bearing brick construction. This would be a clue that the available vernacular construction trades guided the decision to use this type of construction. The style of Colonial Revival Architecture connects to the Beaux-Arts tradition by its use of classical details, symmetry, pedimented entry doors, and expression of a hierarchy of spaces (grand spaces to utilitarian spaces). Additionally, Colonial Revival Architecture revisited the design styles of colonial period of the United States. The design styles of the colonial period of the United States included influences from the French, Spanish, Dutch and Georgian (or English Speaking countries). The Giffin School is an example of Colonial Revival Architecture with a connection to Colonial Georgian architecture. The Colonial Georgian style was usually built with brick, with wood trim and columns. The Giffin School expresses a thorough example of Colonial Revival Architecture through its layout and stylistic details. The 1928 section of the Giffin School is symmetrical in plan, the main entry is centered and is flanked by classrooms on either side; the administration suite is centered on the entry and is seen as one enters the building. Although the Giffin School is not a “grand” public building, it expresses a hierarchy of spaces with its main entry hall with arched opening to the corridors of the classrooms. Some noteworthy examples of Barber McMurry designed buildings are Candoro Marble Works in 1923 (NRHP 10/21/1996), Knoxville YMCA in 1928 (NRHP

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11/17/1983) and Church Street United Methodist Church in 1931 (with John Russell Pope) (NRHP 01/29/2009). These examples are revival styles and built within the same time period as the Giffin School. In comparison of style, the Knoxville YMCA is designed in a Colonial Revival style. These examples attest the firm's design aesthetic during this time period of which the Giffin School can be included.

The International Style (or modernist) addition can be attributed to architect Bruce McCarty who was employed by Rutherford & Painter Architects at the time. McCarty has been called Knoxville's most influential architect and has also been noted as Knoxville's gentlemen modernist. He was born in Indiana and briefly attended Princeton to join the US Army Air Corps. His military training brought him to Knoxville where he met his future wife. After his military service he finished his undergraduate studies at Princeton and attended the University of Michigan from 1947-1949. In an interview, McCarty remarked "the school abandoned the Beaux-Arts tradition, so my education was well grounded in Modernism with a particular emphasis on structural design." McCarty embraced the modernist approach to design and championed the style throughout his career. Rutherford & Painter became Painter, Weeks, and McCarty around the mid 1950s when Bruce McCarty became a partner in the firm. His tenure at Painter, Weeks, and McCarty continued with numerous modernist architectural pieces throughout Knoxville. During this time the Hot Point Living-Conditioned House (NRHP 03/15/2010) was built in 1954. Hotpoint Living-Conditioned House was a concrete house and sponsored by Southern Cast Stone and published in several national magazines in 1954. This design led to several new clients involved in post-war medium priced housing, including the National Broadcasting Company, Union Carbide, Knox Homes, and the Zeckendorf Corporation. McCarty would go on to be the founder and senior designer at the Knoxville firm of McCarty Holsapple McCarty. His career spanned more than a half-century, and he designed some of Knoxville's most iconic landmarks, and was the city's most dedicated champion of Modern architecture. Buildings designed or co-designed by McCarty include the Lawson McGhee Library, Knoxville City County Building, University of Tennessee Humanities Complex, Clarence Brown Theatre, and University of Tennessee Art and Architecture Building. McCarty was also the Master Architect for the 1982 World's Fair.

Although, there are two distinct styles, their respective scales and materiality complement each other and display significant examples of their architectural styles while creating a singularly unique building to Knoxville's history. Interestingly, the fundamentals of the International Style reject references to any historical traditions of design. The fact that the 1950 addition complements the original building is a testament to the skills of the architect Bruce McCarty. Giffin School displays a harmonious example of two unique architecture styles. The unaltered Colonial Revival and International Style have differing design fundamentals; however, the talents of the designers has achieved a unique addition to Knoxville's architectural history. These styles represent clear examples of two local architects' body of work. As has been described above, the expression of the Colonial Revival portion have not been overshadowed or diminished by the minor additions and were certainly not overtaken by the attributable 1950 addition. The public view of the original building also has remained unencumbered throughout the years. The attributable 1950 addition has also stood the test of time and has remained unaltered.

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The Giffin Grammar School building has remained vacant since 2014. During this time there has been some deterioration by time and vandals. Fortunately, the building has been purchased by an organization that envisions a renovation that will maintain the building's historic integrity and seeks to transform the use of the structure to be an assisted living facility for the elderly. Several residents have expressed a desire to re-encounter the new life of the building, many of whom attended Giffin Elementary School in years past. The Giffin Grammar School building will be transformed into another amenity for South Haven and greater Knoxville.

Giffin Grammar School
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9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

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Edens, Matt. "The Barber of Seville - or Knoxville, Rather." *Metropulse* (Knoxville), August 27, 1993, Volume 3 ed., Number 10 sec.

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Neely Jack. "Knoxville Modernism and Bruce McCarty." *Metropulse*. March 18, 2010.

---. "The Architects of Knoxville." *Knoxville Mercury*. April 14, 2016. Accessed April 25, 2016. knoxmercury.com.

---. "Two Architects." *Metropulse*. January 10, 2013.

Nolan, Amy. "Master Architect McCarty dies at 92." *Knoxville News Sentinel*. January 08, 2013.

Spica, Heather Joyce. "Master of His Domain." *Metropulse*. February 19, 2004.

Selected Projects: The Architecture of Bruce McCarty. February 09 – March 1, 2004. Catalog from exhibit, University of Tennessee, Ewing Gallery, Knoxville.

Tumblin, Dr. Jim. "An Architect's Architect." *Bearden Shopper News* (Knoxville), March 11, 2013.

Giffin Grammar School

 Name of Property

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):		Primary location of additional data:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)	<input type="checkbox"/>	State Historic Preservation Office
<input type="checkbox"/>	previously listed in the National Register	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other State agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	previously determined eligible by the National Register	<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	designated a National Historic Landmark	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local government
<input type="checkbox"/>	recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #	<input type="checkbox"/>	University
<input type="checkbox"/>	recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other
<input type="checkbox"/>	recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #	Name of repository:	
Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):			

Giffin Grammar School
Name of Property

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10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 6.3 acres **USGS Quadrangle** Knoxville Quadrangle

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Latitude: 35.953718

Longitude: -83.890486

Verbal Boundary Description

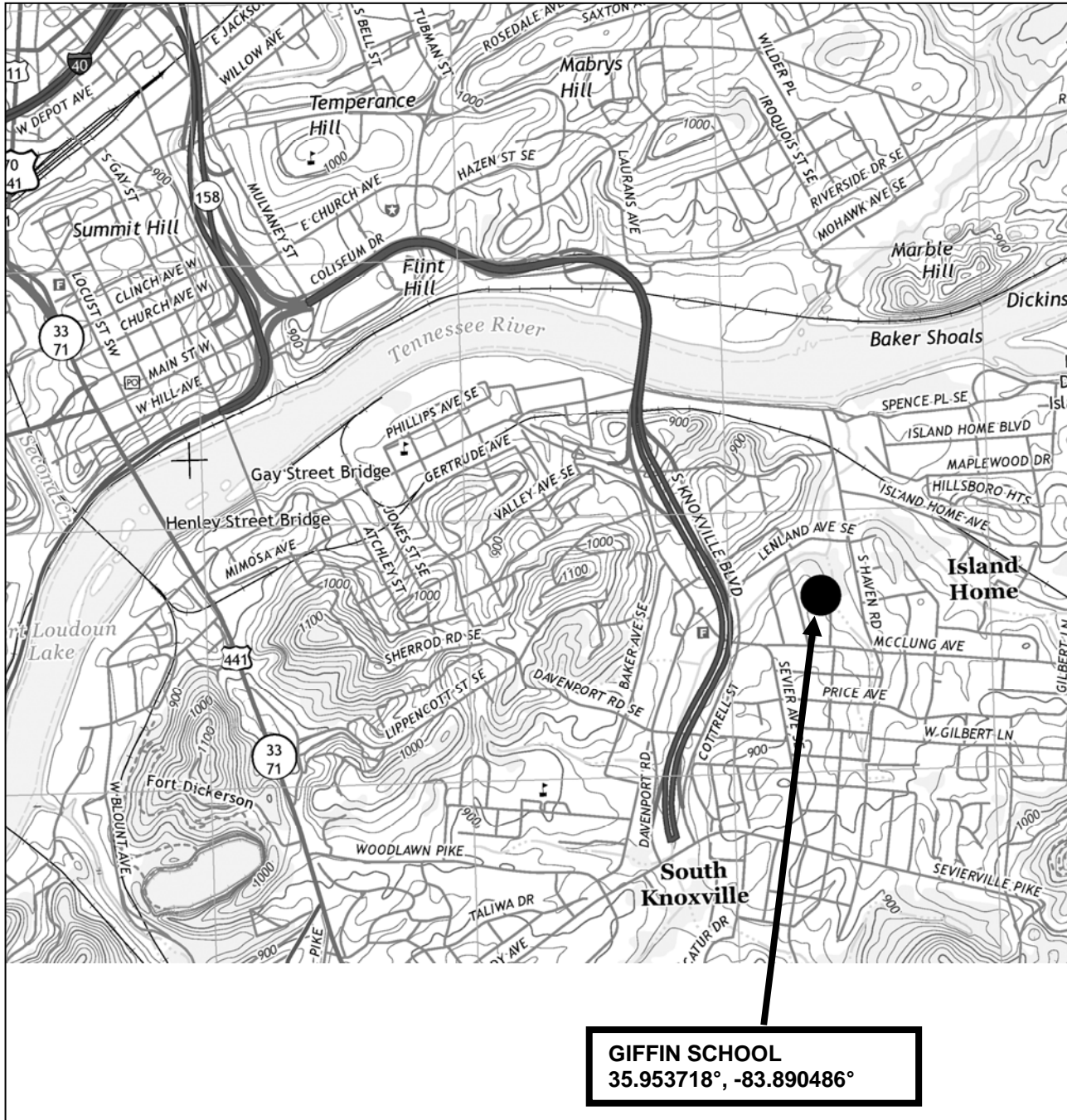
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Situated in District No. 9 of Knox County, Tennessee, and in the 26th Ward of the City of Knoxville, Tennessee. Beginning at a stake in the eastern line of Beech Street 460 feet north 17 deg. 10' west from the intersection of the eastern line of Beech Street and the northern line of McClung Avenue; thence south 89 deg. 47' east 140 feet to a point in an old fence line; thence with the same north 68 deg. 36' east 297 feet to a point on the east side of the Spring branch at James line; thence with the same north 20 deg. 30 minutes west 32 feet to a point, north 2 deg. 30' east 194 feet to a point, continuing with James line and crossing the branch north 26 deg. 30' west 380 feet to a point; thence due west 171 feet to a point; thence south 68 deg. 30' west 216 feet to a point; thence south 44 deg. West 30 feet to the eastern line of Beech Street; thence with the eastern line of the same south 17 deg. 10' east 610 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 6.2 acres more or less. See Map B-1140Y. This property is known as the Giffin School Property.

Boundary Justification

This boundary includes property historically associated with the Giffin Grammar School and the land that is currently associated with the building.

Giffin Grammar School
Name of Property

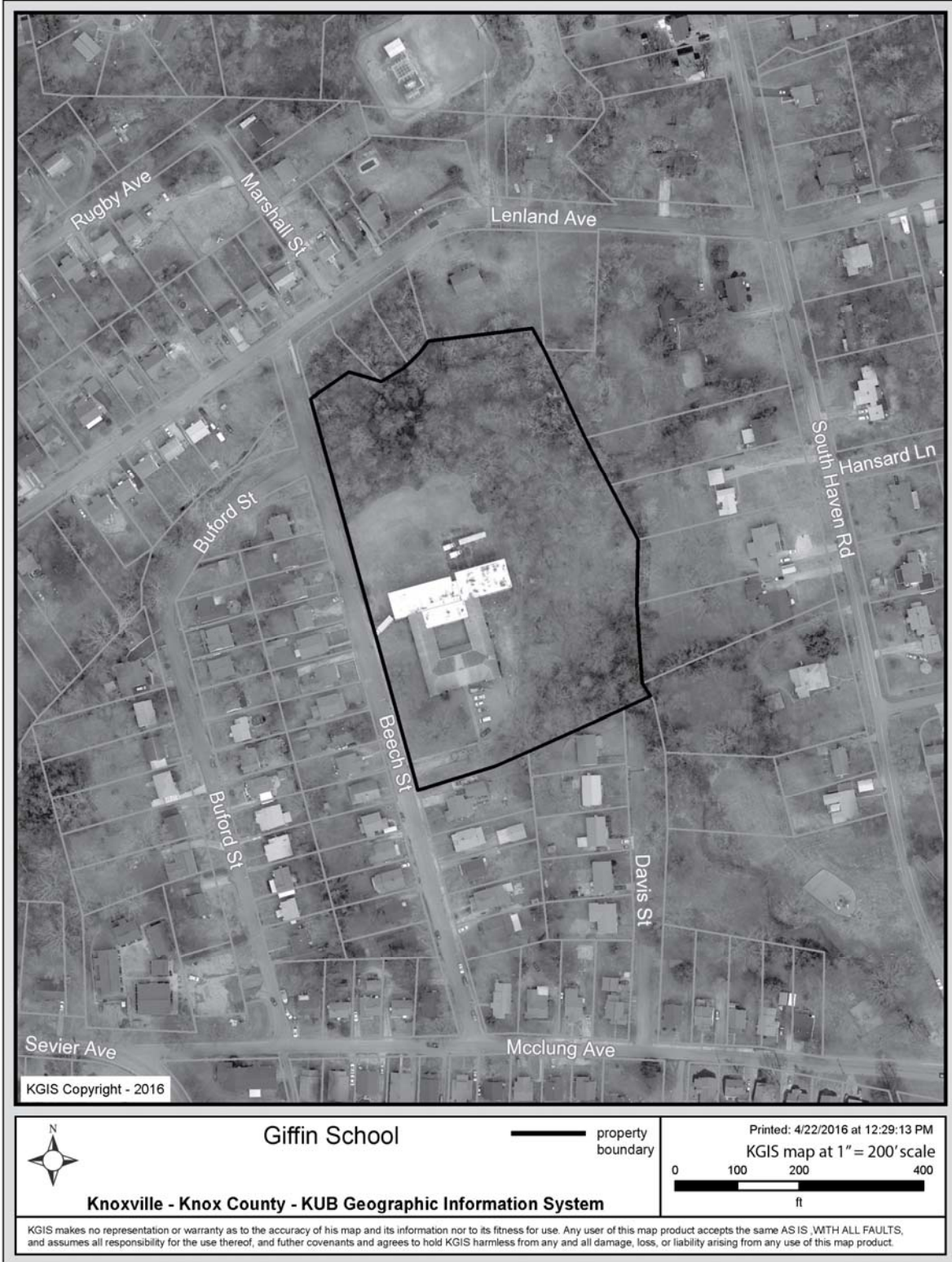
Knox County, Tennessee
County and State



PORTION OF USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP, KNOXVILLE QUADRANGLE, TENNESSEE showing location of Giffin Grammar School. (Scale 1:24 000).

Giffin Grammar School
Name of Property

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Giffin Grammar School
Name of Property

Knox County, Tennessee
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

Name Jarrod Arellano
Organization Red Chair Architects
Street & Number 220 W. Jackson Ave. Date May 26, 2016
City or Town Knoxville Telephone 865-633-9058
E-mail jarellano@redchairarchitects.com State TN Zip Code 37902

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to map.
- **Photographs** (refer to Tennessee Historical Commission National Register *Photo Policy* for submittal of digital images and prints)
- **Additional items:** (additional supporting documentation including historic photographs, historic maps, etc. should be included on a Continuation Sheet following the photographic log and sketch maps)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Giffin Grammar School
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Photo Log

Name of Property: Giffin Grammar School
City or Vicinity: Knoxville
County: Knox State: Tennessee
Photographer: Jarrod Arellano - Red Chair Architects
Date Photographed: April 7, 2016

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

- 1 of 43. Portion of South Elevation. Photographer facing North.
- 2 of 43. Portion of South Elevation, original Main Entry. Photographer facing North.
- 3 of 43. Portion of South Elevation. Photographer facing North.
- 4 of 43. Detail of Main Entry woodwork. Photographer facing North.
- 5 of 43. View of concrete filled archway. Photographer facing North.
- 6 of 43. View of quoins. Photographer facing Northwest.
- 7 of 43. View of Southwest corner. Photographer facing Northeast.
- 8 of 43. View of Southwest corner. Photographer facing North.
- 9 of 43. Portion of West Elevation. Photographer facing East.
- 10 of 43. Portion of West Elevation. Photographer facing East.
- 11 of 43. Portion of West Elevation, 1950 entry and 1928 section. Photographer facing Southeast.
- 12 of 43. Portion of South Elevation, 1950 entry. Photographer facing North.
- 13 of 43. View of Northwest corner. Photographer facing Southeast.
- 14 of 43. View of North access to former play yard. Photographer facing South.
- 15 of 43. View of Northeast corner. Photographer facing Southwest.
- 16 of 43. View of North elevation. Photographer facing East.
- 17 of 43. View of Southeast corner of gymnasium / cafeteria portion. Photographer facing Northwest.
- 18 of 43. View of southeast corner of 1928 section and 1950 gym. Photographer facing Northwest.

Giffin Grammar School
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- 19 of 43. Interior View of Main Entry. Photographer facing South.
- 20 of 43. Interior View from Main Entry. Photographer facing North.
- 21 of 43. Detail of Door Trim. Photographer facing North.
- 22 of 43. View of door to previous administration area. Photographer facing North.
- 23 of 43. View of corridor casework in open position. Photographer facing West.
- 24 of 43. View of typical classroom door. Photographer facing South.
- 25 of 43. View of classroom. Shelves below windows not original. Photographer facing Southwest.
- 26 of 43. View of classroom corridor. Photographer facing North.
- 27 of 43. View of classroom. Photographer facing Southeast.
- 28 of 43. View of Library. Photographer facing Northwest.
- 29 of 43. Detail of clerestory operator. Photographer facing North.
- 30 of 43. View to 1928 classroom corridor. Photographer facing South.
- 31 of 43. View of 1950 classroom corridor. Photographer facing West.
- 32 of 43. View of gymnasium. Photographer facing East.
- 33 of 43. View of gymnasium. Photographer facing West.
- 34 of 43. View of typical 1950 classroom. Photographer facing Southwest.
- 35 of 43. View of 1950 classroom corridor. Photographer facing East.
- 36 of 43. Classroom in 1928 portion of building. Photographer facing North.
- 37 of 43. Classroom in 1928 portion of building. Photographer facing South.
- 38 of 43. View of cafeteria to kitchen Photographer facing East.
- 39 of 43. View of cafeteria. Photographer facing Southwest.
- 40 of 43. View of courtyard. Photographer facing Northeast.

Giffin Grammar School
Name of Property

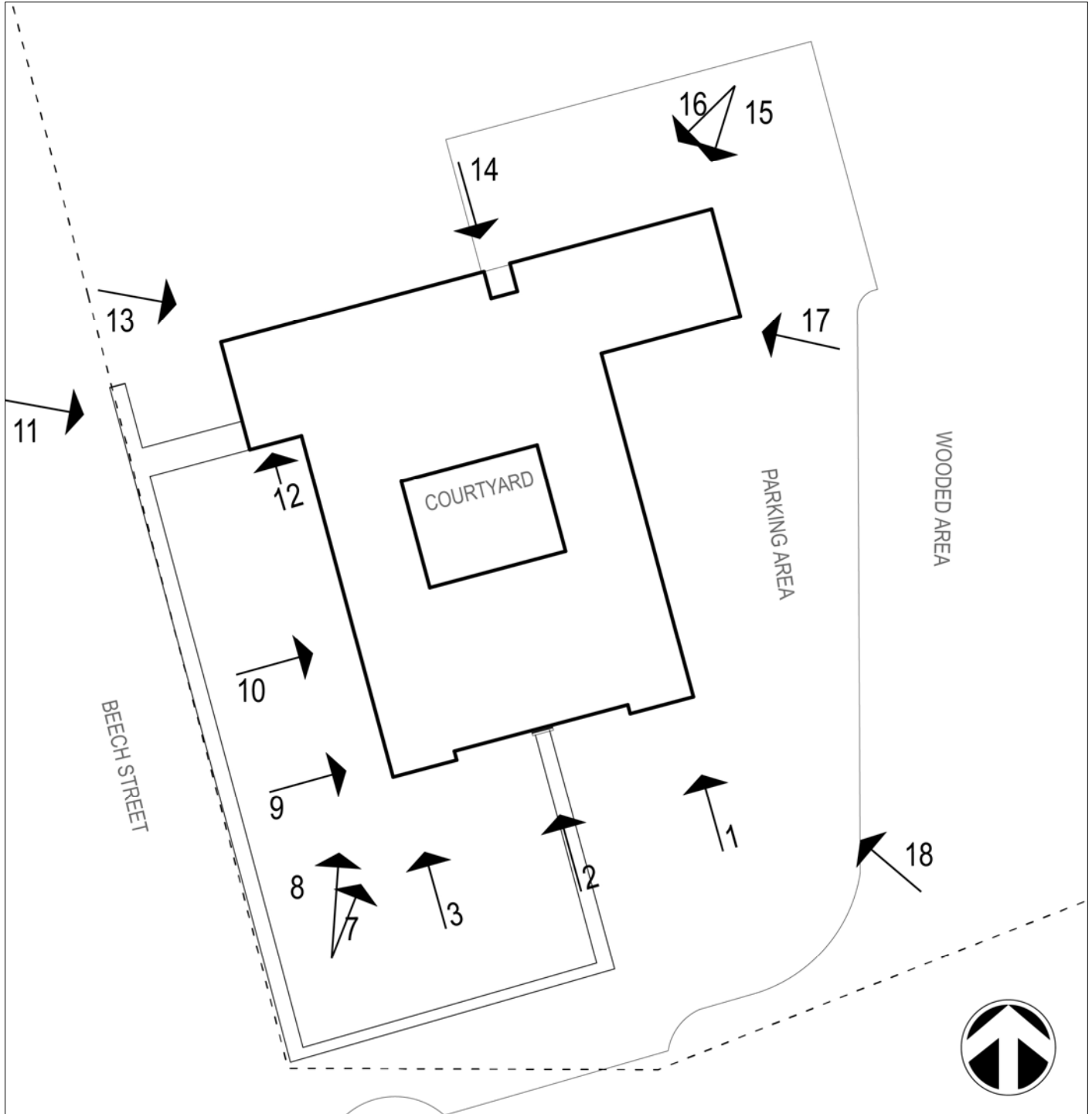
Knox County, Tennessee
County and State

-
- 41 of 43. View of courtyard. Photographer facing North.
- 42 of 43. View of 1950s classroom. Photographer facing south.
- 43 of 43. View of 1950s classroom. Photographer facing north.

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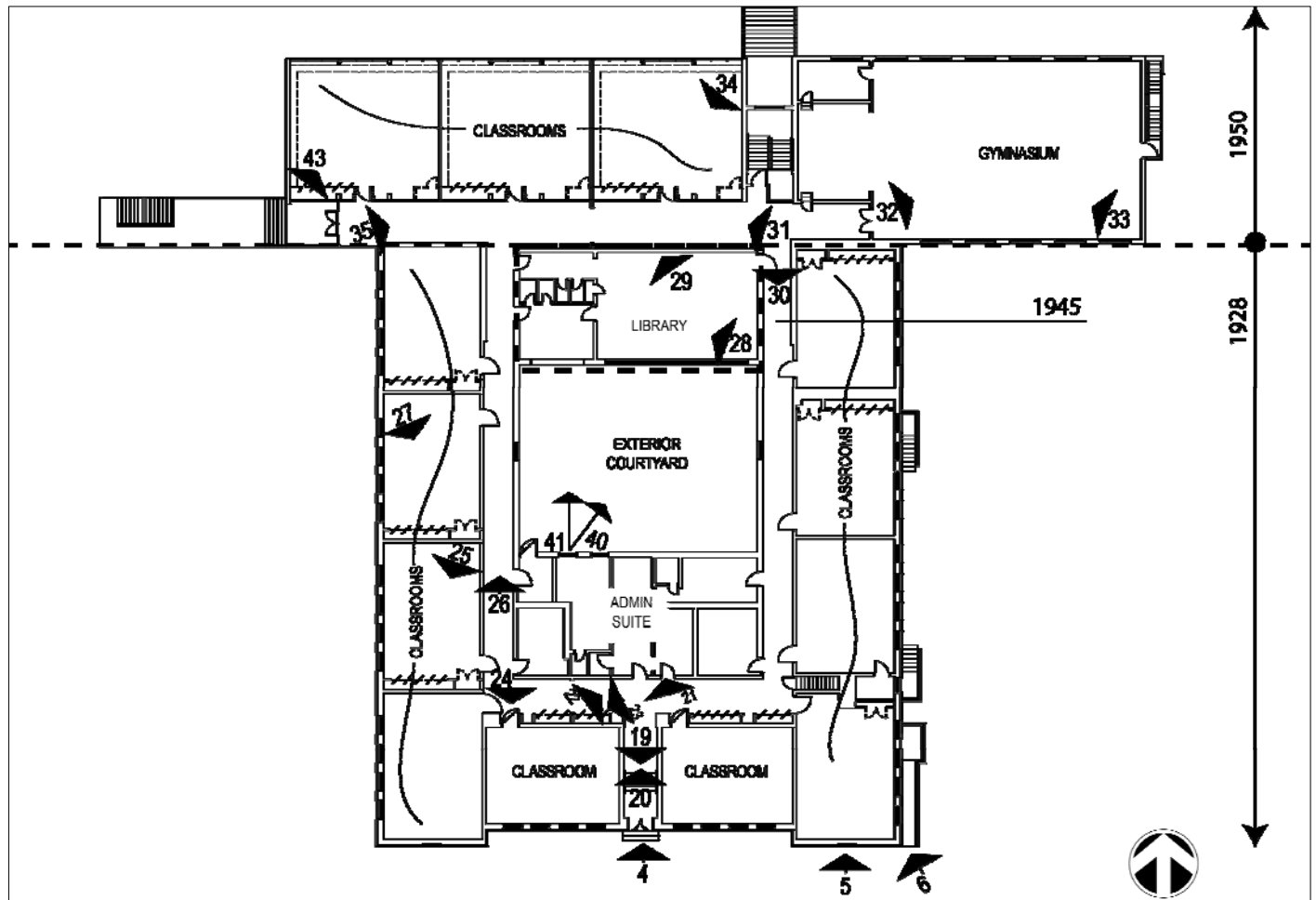
Site Plan and Photo Key (not to scale)



Giffin Grammar School
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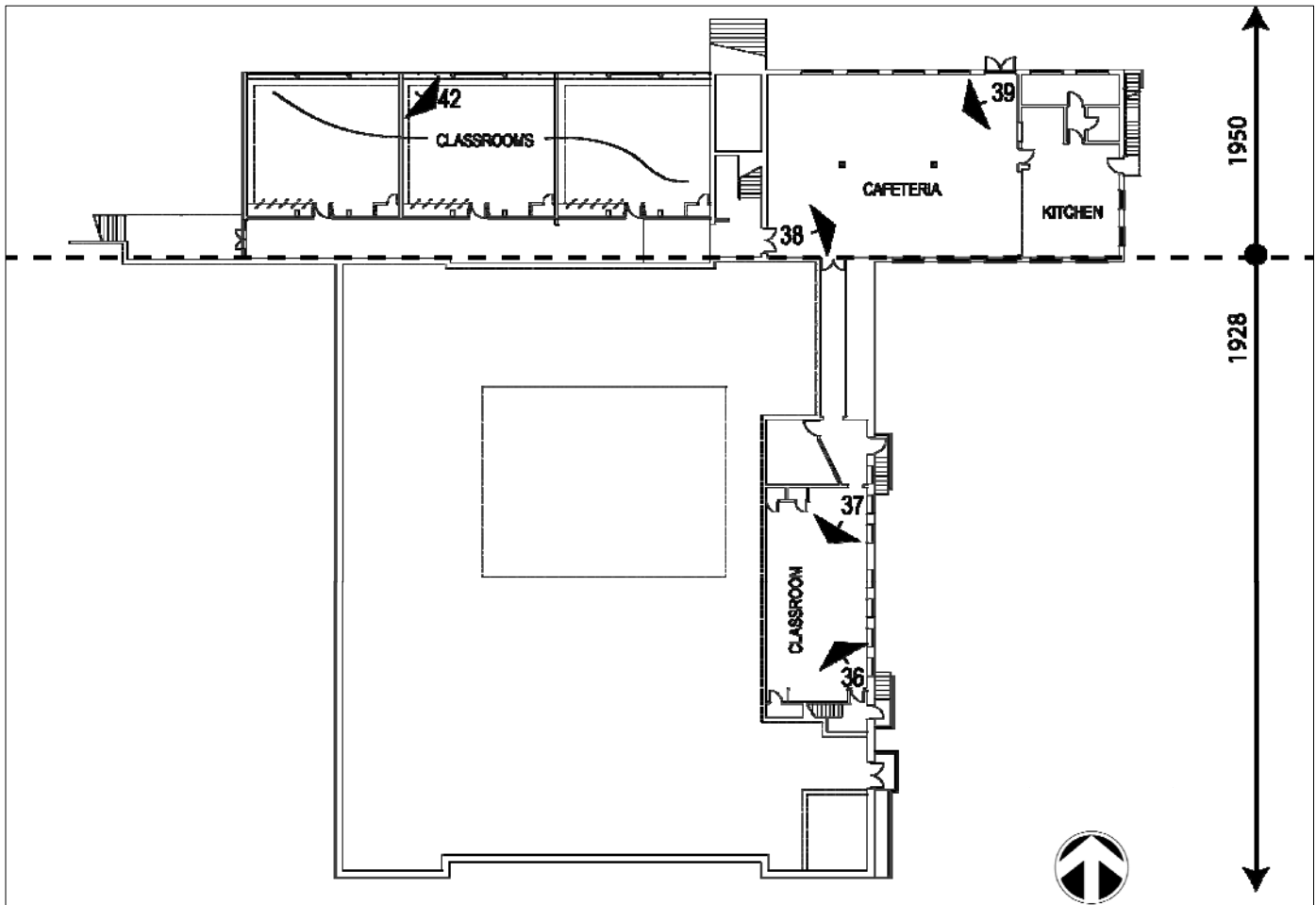
Ground Floor Plan and Photo Key (not to scale)



Giffin Grammar School
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Basement Floor Plan and Photo Key (not to scale)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number _____ images _____ Page _____ 29

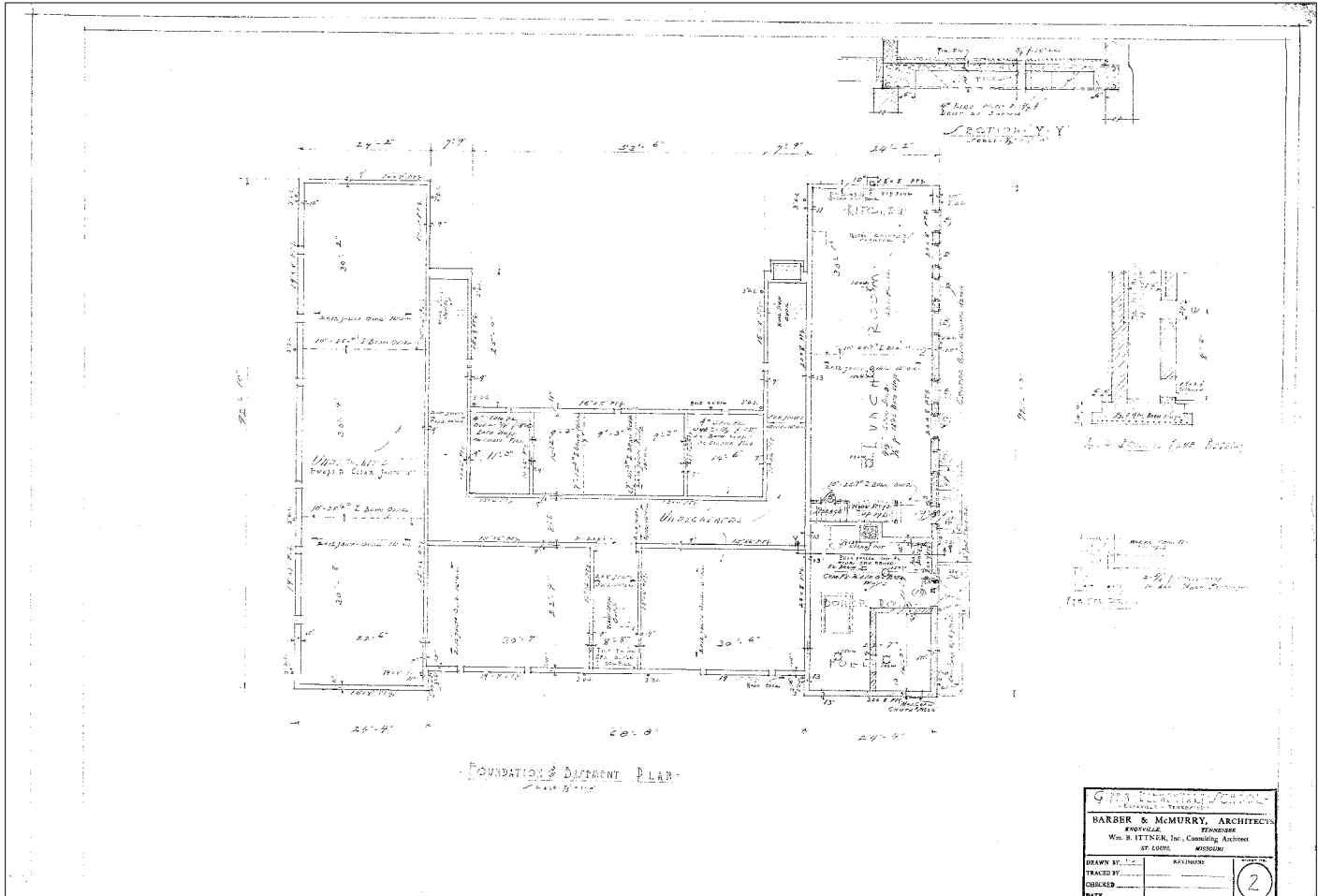


Image 1. Foundation Plan – 1928 portion, Barber McMurry Architects.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Giffin Grammar School
Name of Property
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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number _____ images _____ Page _____ 30 _____

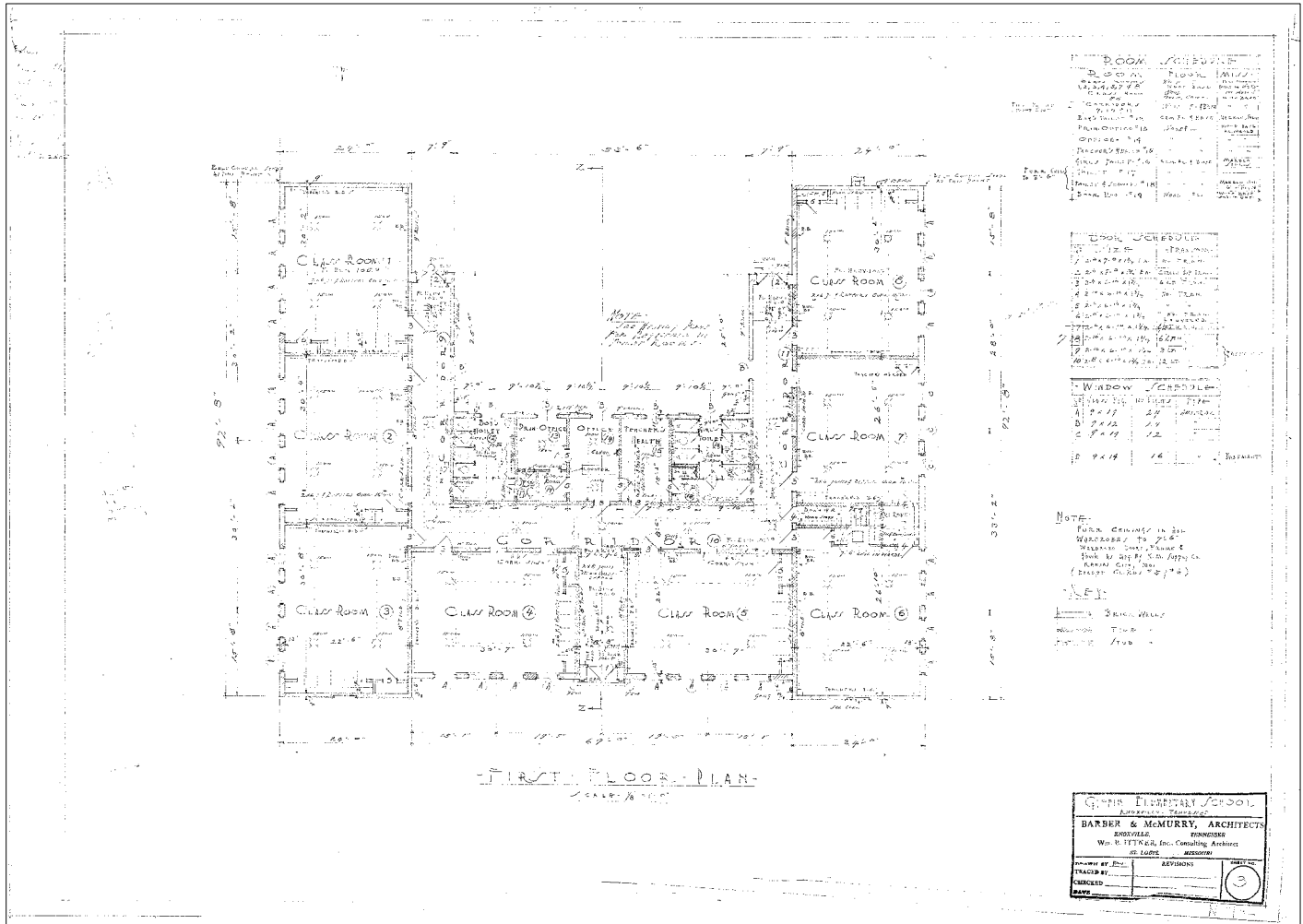


Image 2. Ground Floor Plan – 1928 portion, Barber McMurry Architects.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number _____ images _____ Page 31

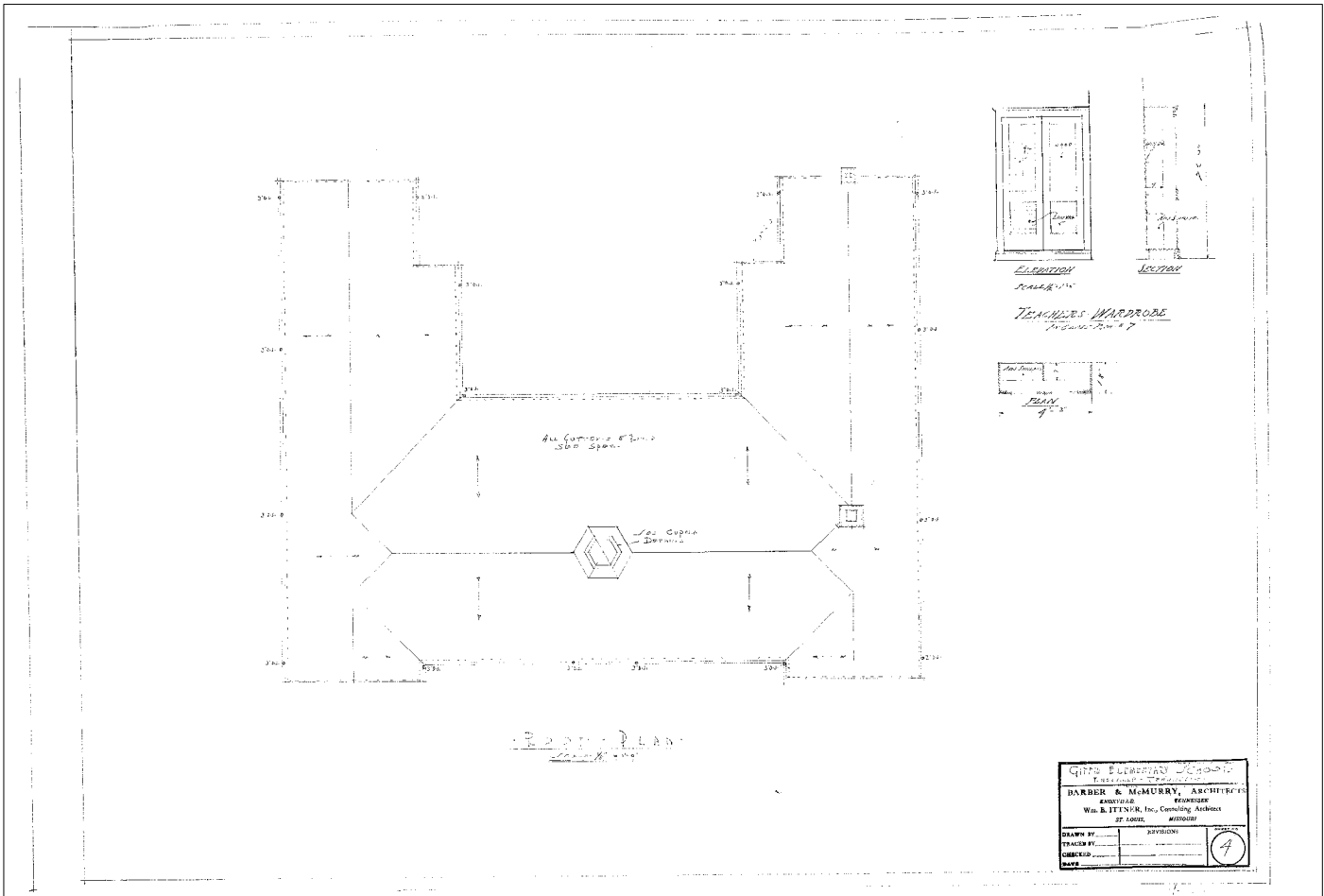


Image 3. Roof Plan – 1928 portion, Barber McMurry Architects.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Giffin Grammar School
Name of Property
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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number _____ images _____ Page _____ 32 _____

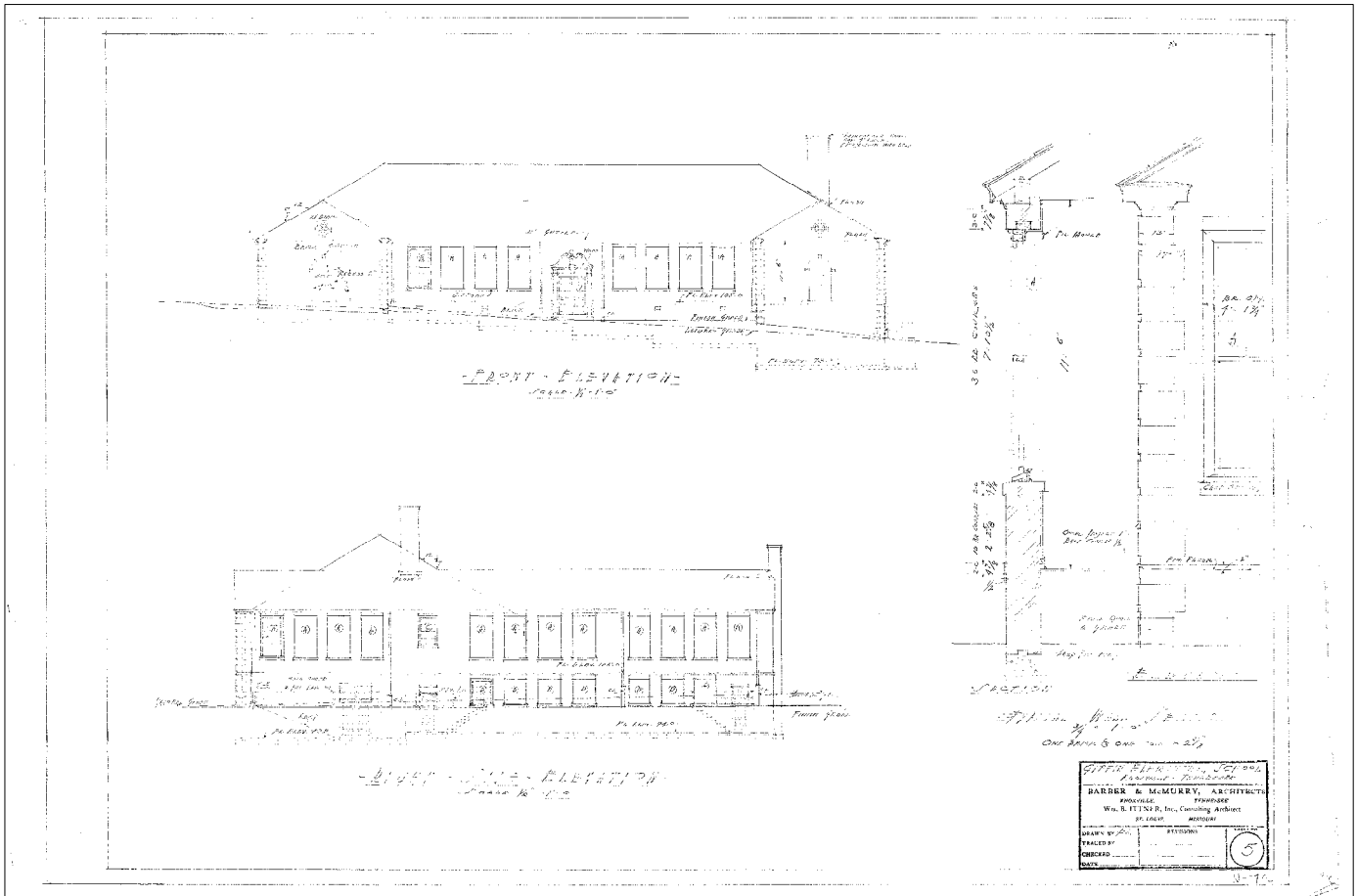


Image 4. South and East Elevations – 1928 portion, Barber McMurry Architects.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Giffin Grammar School
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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number _____ images _____ Page _____ 33 _____

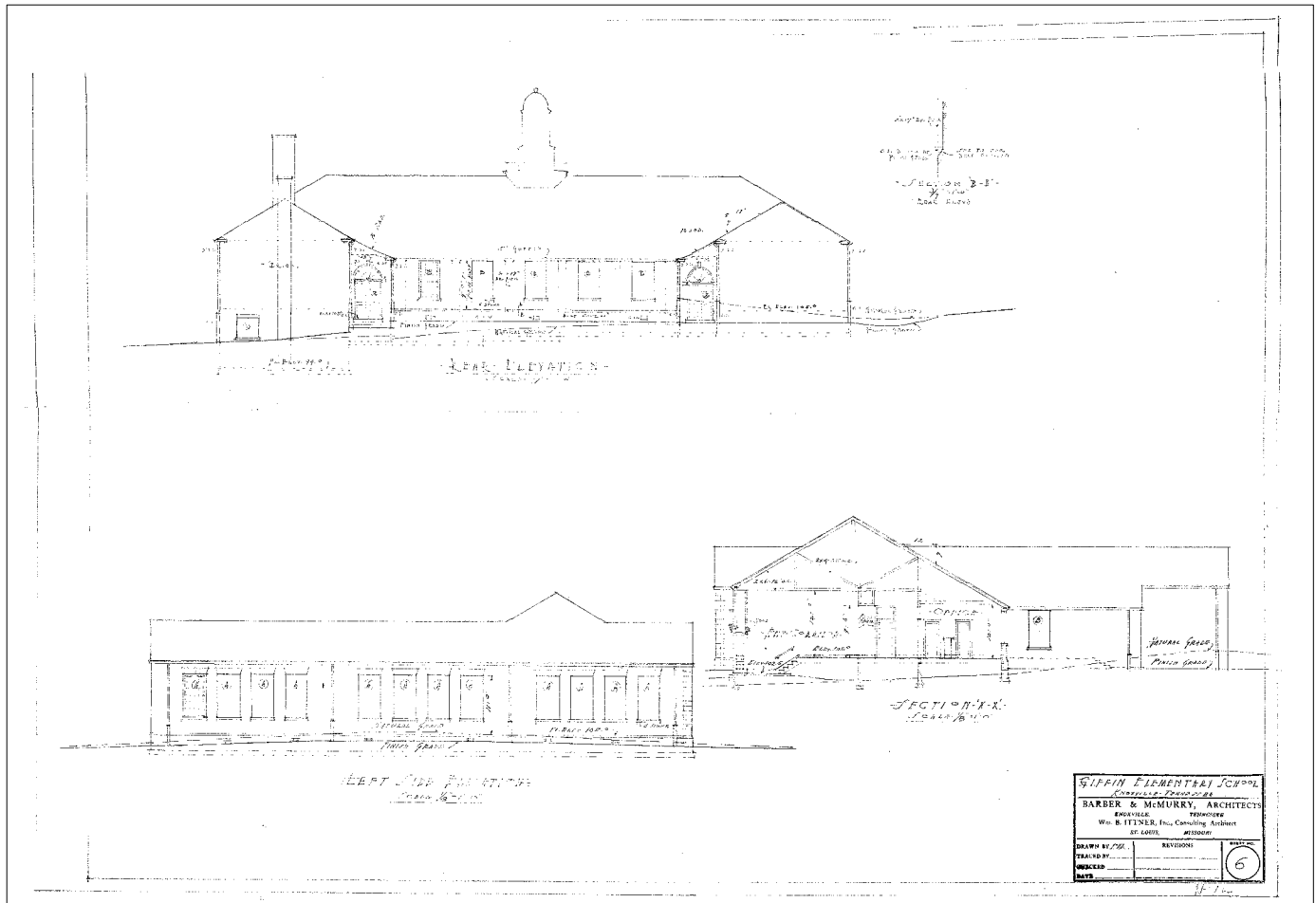


Image 5. North and West Elevations – 1928 portion, Barber McMurry Architects.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Giffin Grammar School
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Section number _____ images _____ Page _____ 34

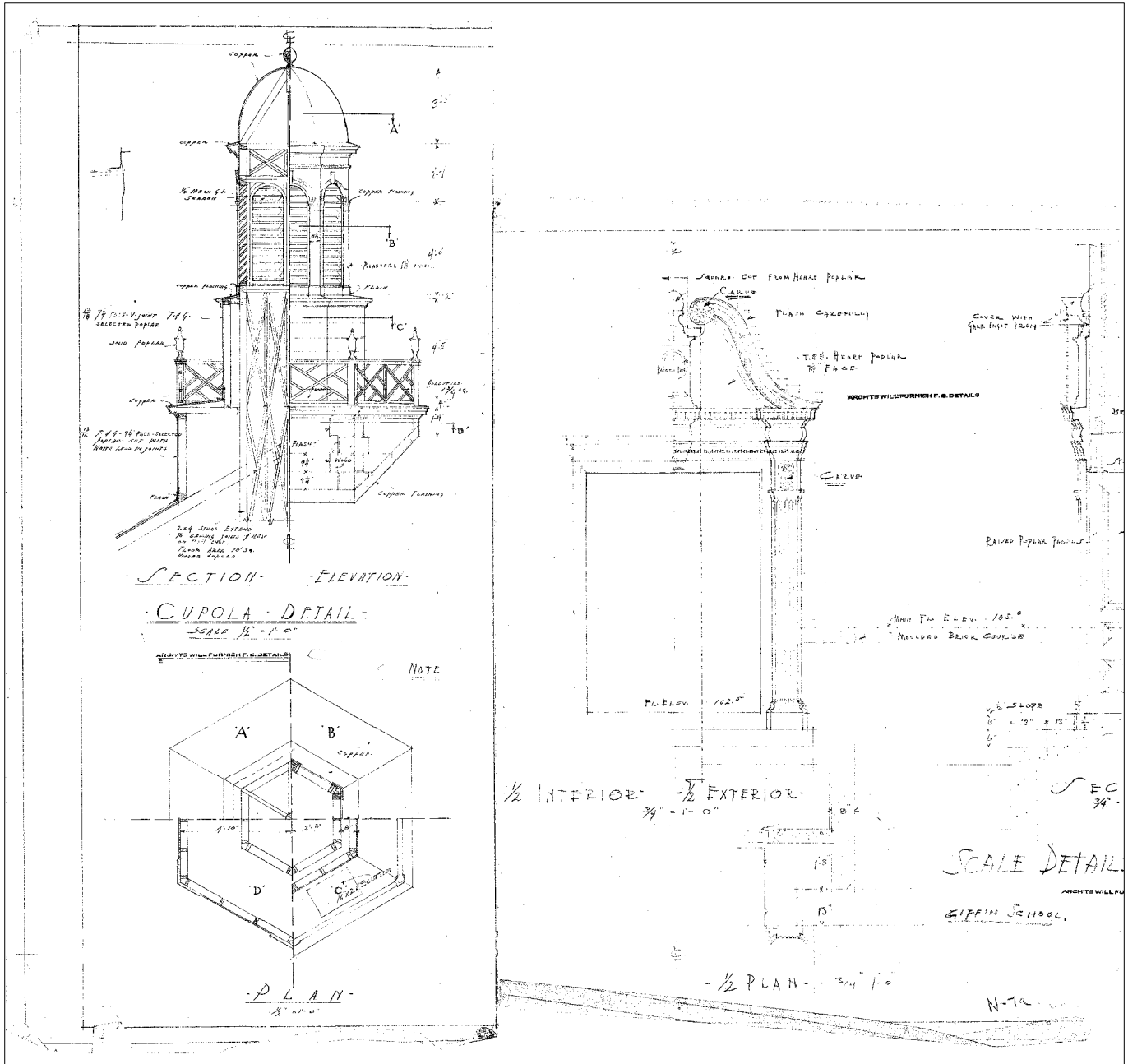


Image 6. Cupola and Entry Details – 1928 portion, Barber McMurry Architects.

Property Owner:

(This information will not be submitted to the National Park Service, but will remain on file at the Tennessee Historical Commission)

Name David Cockrill, Giffin Community, LLC

Street & Number 220 W. Jackson Avenue, Ste. 106 Telephone 865-633-9058

City or Town Knoxville State Tennessee









SimpliSafe
Home Security System

1834





























EXIT











<EXIT

14



















Warmly
welcome
to
the P.E.











EXIT













UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Giffin Grammar School

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TENNESSEE, Knox

DATE RECEIVED: 10/07/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/22/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000788

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: Y PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 11-22-2016 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Automatic Listing due to delayed FR notice

Reviewed - okay

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept C

REVIEWER J. Graber

DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____

DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/~~N~~ see attached SLR Y/~~N~~

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW

CLG: Knoxville, Tennessee
PROPERTY: Giffin Grammar School
ADDRESS: Knoxville, Knox County, Tennessee

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION EVALUATION

NAME OF COMMISSION: **KNOXVILLE HISTORIC ZONING COMMISSION**
DATE OF MEETING: **8/18/16**
HOW WAS THE PUBLIC NOTIFIED OF THE MEETING? **NEWSPAPER - 12 DAYS NOTICE**
 ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER

REASONS FOR ELIGIBILITY OR NON-ELIGIBILITY:
ARCHITECTURE - CRITERION C: COLONIAL REVIVAL & INTERNATIONAL STYLE

SIGNATURE: 
TITLE: Kaye Graybeal, Knoxville-Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission, Certified Local Government
DATE: **8/18/16**

THC STAFF EVALUATION

ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER

REASONS FOR ELIGIBILITY OR NON-ELIGIBILITY:
Knoxville's Giffin School is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C as a significant local example of a building that embodies distinctive characteristics of both Colonial Revival and International Style architecture. Although the styles have fundamentally different expressions, the building stands as a singular, noteworthy architectural addition to Knoxville's built environment. Furthermore, the architects of this edifice have made a significant impact on the built environment for the East Tennessee and Knoxville areas. The Giffin School is a representative example of their body of work during the times of their completion, which also contributes to support the evaluation of Criterion C. The property meets the National Register criterion due to its unaltered representation of two significant American architectural styles. The building was originally designed in the Colonial Revival style in 1928; this portion illustrates a significant architectural style of the early twentieth century. The later portion shows an International Style addition in 1950, highlighting a significant architectural style of mid-century modern traditions. Of the schools built before the WPA era, this school is one of the few to have survived unaltered. The school supported the needs of the South Haven neighborhood for close to seventy (70) years from its inception until 1995.

SIGNATURE: 
TITLE: Caroline Eller, National Register Coordinator-Historic Preservation Specialist DATE: July 18, 2016

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN BEFORE: September 12, 2016

RETURN FORM TO:
**CAROLINE ELLER
TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
2941 LEBANON ROAD
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0442**

 CITY OF KNOXVILLE
LAW DEPARTMENT

Charles W. Swanson
Law Director
cswanson@knoxvilletn.gov

Ronald E. Mills
Deputy Law Director
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August 3, 2016

Caroline Eller
Tennessee Historical Commission
2941 Lebanon Road
Nashville, TN 37243-0442

RE: Hilltop Historic District

Dear Ms. Eller:

Enclosed please find the Certified Local Government National Register Review for Giffin Grammar School, 1834 Beech Street, Knoxville, Tennessee, signed by City of Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Brenda Conn
Legal Assistant

:bc

Enclosure



TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
2941 LEBANON PIKE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0442
OFFICE: (615) 532-1550
E-mail: Claudette.Stager@tn.gov
(615) 770-1089



October 4, 2016

J. Paul Loether
Deputy Keeper and Chief,
National Register and National Historic Landmarks Programs
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

National Register Nomination Giffin Grammar School, Knox County, Tennessee

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct nomination for listing of the *Giffin Grammar School* to the National Register of Historic Places. Certified Local Government (CLG) notifications were sent out to the CLG Coordinator and the Mayor. Both responded and their correspondence is on the enclosed Disk 1.

If you have any questions or if more information is needed, please contact Holly Barnett at (615) 770-1098 or Holly.M.Barnett@tn.gov.

Sincerely,

Claudette Stager
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

CS:hb

Enclosures(3)