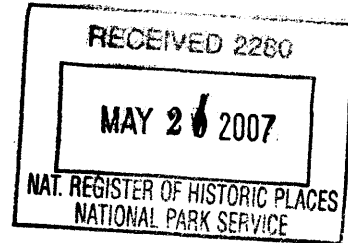


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



603

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 an 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 Triangle School
other names/site number New Union Valley School

2. Location

street & number Fairview Blvd (Highway 100) and Deer Ridge Rd NA not for publication
city or town Fairview NA vicinity
state Tennessee code TN county Williamson code 187 zip code 37062

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 for 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/Title _____ Date _____
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission
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 certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
DSHPO, Tennessee Historical Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
 entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet
 determined eligible for the National Register.
 See continuation sheet
 determined not eligible for the National Register
 removed from the National Register.
 other,
(explain.) _____

Signature of the Keeper Edson H. Beall Date of Action 7-3-07

Triangle School
Name of Property

Williamson County, Tennessee
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 in count)

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	Total

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

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Historic and Architectural Resources of Williamson County MRA

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school

SOCIAL/meeting hall

EDUCATION/school

SOCIAL/meeting hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival influence

foundation CONCRETE

walls Weatherboard

roof METAL

other BRICK/GLASS

Narrative Description

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

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 N/A

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

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** moved from its original location.
- 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

Social History

Period of Significance

1938-1957

Significant Dates

1938

Significant Person

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Johnston, W.L. (contractor and architect)

Sweeney, B.B. (carpenter and builder)

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- 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:

Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County

Triangle School
Name of Property

Williamson County, Tennessee
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 3.48 acres Craigfield 56 NW

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>16</u>	<u>486528</u>	<u>3977254</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John George and Carroll Van West
organization MTSU/Center for Historic Preservation date March 26, 2007
street & number PO Box 80 telephone 615/898-2947
city or town Murfreesboro state TN zip code 37132

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Fairview, c/o Shirley Forehand, City Manager
street & number 7100 City Center Circle, PO Box 69 telephone 615/799-2484
city or town Fairview state TN zip code 37062

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 listing. 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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Triangle School
Williamson County, Tennessee

DESCRIPTION

Triangle School is located off of the intersection of Fairview Boulevard (Highway 100) and Deer Ridge Road in Fairview (2006 population 7,014), Williamson County, Tennessee. Situated on approximately 3.48 acres, the school was constructed by local carpenters in 1938. The school is a one-story, L-plan, frame building resting on a foundation of concrete piers with weatherboard siding and a raised-seam metal roof. The building's interior features, including baseboards, door and window trim, and beaded-board wainscoting, walls, and ceilings remain intact, although some deterioration has occurred due to leaky roof, missing windows, and open doors. The only modifications to the building since its construction has been the partitioning of space in two of the rooms after the building was abandoned as a school and briefly used as a residence by a subsequent owner. These additions caused no destruction of the original floor plan and are easily reversible. Considering that the building has been vacant for a number of years, it is in relatively good condition and maintains its architectural and historic integrity. Adjacent to the west side of the school is a cannery/cafeteria, a one-story rectangular metal gable roof building with a gable-end entrance that was constructed c. 1942. The cannery/cafeteria is a noncontributing building due to the amount of deterioration.

The one-story northwest façade has an offset shed roof porch. Two square posts resting on brick piers support a Colonial Revival styled pedimented porch. The piers rest on the concrete porch floor. Two single wood panel and glass doors are found below the porch. This porch serves as the principal entry to the school. North of the entrance horizontal boards cover window openings. Vertical boards cover the pier foundation on the facade.

The northeast elevation has two parts. The gable front section is a solid weatherboard wall. The side gable ell to the east has four bays of boarded up windows and a rear entrance wood door. A shed roof that extends from the main roof of the building covers the single-leaf door. Corrugated metal covers the foundation.

The southeast elevation of the ell is a solid weatherboard wall with a boarded up window openings. Weatherboards have fallen off and the diagonal boards that frame the school are visible on the exterior. The southeast elevation of the main part of the building contains a single-leaf door and boarded over window openings.

The southwest elevation is composed of the main section and the ell of the schoolhouse. It has seven boarded window bays and a single-leaf wood door located at the rear south corner of the ell. The shed roof of the porch and some weatherboards have fallen off the building.

The interior floor plan reflects the original configuration of the rooms as well as many of the defining features of the original design. The front section of the school is comprised of Room A, Room B, and a cloakroom (see attached floor plan). Room A has vertical beaded-board wainscoting, three feet in height and painted a dark brown, with horizontal beaded-board walls of a light, off-white color extending up to the twelve-foot ceilings, also covered by off-white beaded-board. There is a stage on the north wall of Room A, which is approximately three feet in height, and eight feet deep. Two small rooms that were used for storage and staging areas for programs and presentations flank the stage. The north staging room includes a small single-pane window on the northwest wall. The south staging room has no southwest wall; there is a step down to a narrow cloakroom that extends the length of Room A. Windows in this room, like

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Section number 7 Page 2

Triangle School
Williamson County, Tennessee

most others in the school are paired or tripled six-over-six double-hung sash. While the window frame and sash remain, most of the glass is gone. Wallboard installed c. 1960 covers the ceiling where beaded-board has deteriorated or fallen down. The wood floors are largely intact, but throughout most of the interior, these were covered by a plaster floor covering, installed c. 1960.

The southeast wall of the cloakroom has two six-over-six double-hung sashes flanking a central door with the same four-light, three-panel design as the principal entry doors. This door provides a rear exit from the school's front section. At the south end of the cloakroom there is a five-panel door that opens into Room B; there is a doorway opening into Room A, though there is no interior door.

Room B has similar wainscoting, beaded-board walls and ceilings as well as banks of double and triple sets of six-over-six double-hung windows on the south wall. However, the wallboard that was installed c. 1960 still covers the original beaded-board walls and ceilings. A movable thin wood partition lies between Rooms A and B. This partition could be raised to convert the two rooms into a large auditorium space for school and community functions.

The ell of the school includes Rooms C and D. The ell has exterior entrances at both the northeast and southwest elevations. Each of the two doors repeats the four-light, three-panel design found on the front section of the school. Rooms C and D have banks of six-over-six double-hung windows in double and triple sets on the south wall. Original beaded-board walls and ceiling have been covered by wallboard, installed c. 1960, and the wood floors have been covered with a plaster floor covering, also installed c. 1960.

Room C originally had two banks of windows on both the northeast and southwest walls, but has also been bisected by a hollow wood wall installed c. 1970. This new wall did not replace or cover the original windows, but divided the room so that a single bank of windows would light each space. None of the original walls have been removed or altered, but the original interior doors are missing, with the exception of a solid five-panel door in Room C that opens into Room B.

Room D was originally entered by a rear door, an unexpected arrangement of space that, according to local interviews, existed as early as the 1940s. A subsequent owner c. 1970 installed an interior plaster wall to block this entrance, as well as covering some of the adjacent windows. A second plaster wall in Room D, installed c. 1970 bisects the room into two spaces. A closet added c. 1970 currently covers one of the window banks on the south wall, which abuts an exterior four-light, three-panel door.

There are brick flues visible in each of the four original rooms, once attached to large pot-bellied stoves used for heating. The building was electrified in the late 1940s, but the lighting was not elaborate. The school never had indoor plumbing. Water was provided by a hand-pumped well located at the southeast corner of building. The concrete slab that surrounded the well remains visible. The two sanitary privies once on the site are no longer extant.¹

A small cafeteria building stands on the grounds to the southwest of the schoolhouse. The Works Projects Administration originally constructed this building as a cannery c. 1942. When that agency closed in 1943,

¹ Carl Walker, Sr., interview by author, author's notes, Fairview, TN, January, 2007. A lifelong resident of Fairview, Mr. Walker was principal of Triangle School from 1948 to 1952.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 3

Triangle School
Williamson County, Tennessee

the community converted the building into the school cafeteria.² This is a frame building constructed on a concrete slab foundation with asphalt shingle siding, installed c. 1942, and a raised-seam metal roof. The building is a single room, approximately eighteen feet wide by forty feet long. Eight small windows pierce the northeast elevation of the cafeteria. Six windows pierce the southwest elevation, directly parallel to the windows on the north side, and a single window is at the end. The southeast gable end includes one large window and a plain board door. The northwest gable end includes paneled double-doors flanked on either side by four-over-four windows. There are two brick flues attached to the building, one outside of the northeast wall, and another inside the southwest wall. The current general condition of the cafeteria building is poor and part of a wall is missing. It is a noncontributing building (NC, due to deterioration).

² Ibid.

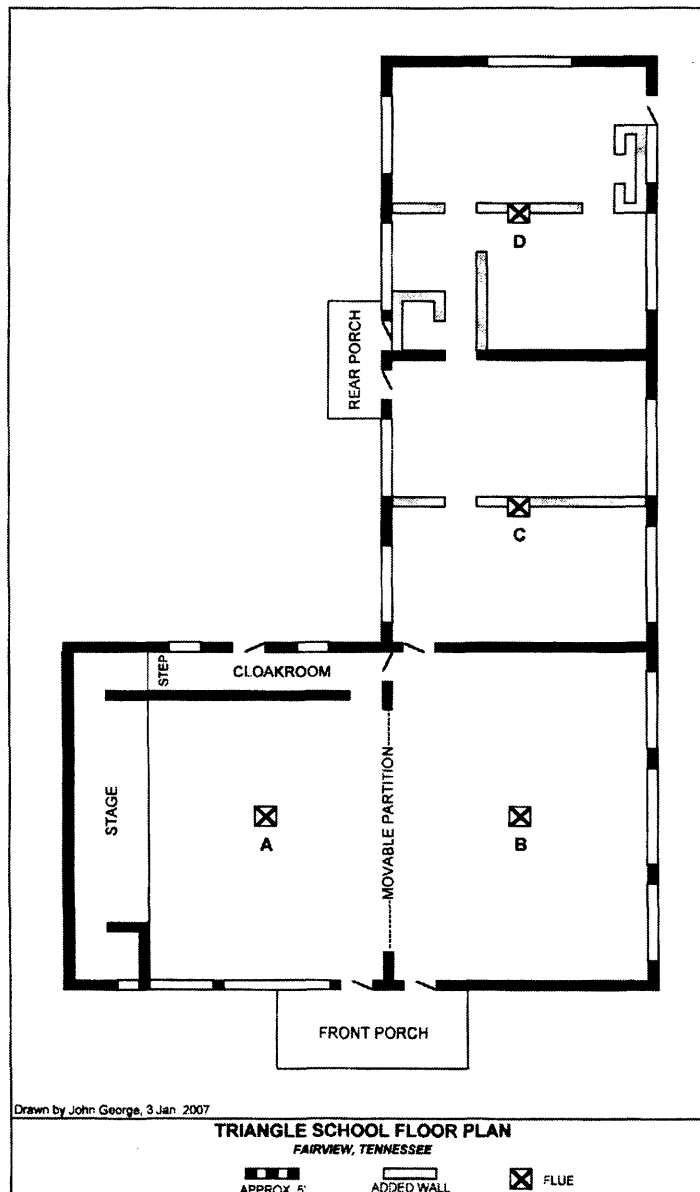
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Section number 7 Page 4

Triangle School
Williamson County, Tennessee

Plan of Triangle School Not to scale



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Section number 8 Page 5

Triangle School
Williamson County, Tennessee

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Triangle School is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its locally significant associations with the development of education in Fairview, a rural community at the western end of Williamson County. Triangle School opened in 1939 to consolidate the students and teachers from several area single-teacher one-room schoolhouses. This provided better facilities and resources for area students. The school's educational mission went beyond instruction for area children and addressed the social and cultural needs of this rural community. Thus, the building is also eligible under Criterion A for its locally significant associations with the social history of western Williamson County. The school was also used by agricultural extension services to teach improved farming techniques to local residents. The cafeteria building was originally built c. 1942 to provide space for a cannery. Local citizens learned to preserve homegrown produce as a response to concerns over rationing and fear of food shortages during this tumultuous time. The school was used as a meeting place for several community groups throughout its history, most notably by local veterans after the Second World War, and served as the setting for numerous community events, picnics, political rallies, and holiday celebrations.³ The building retains its historic and architectural integrity.

HISTORY

Triangle School was conceived in 1938 in a move by the Williamson County Board of Education to consolidate several of the single-teacher one-room schoolhouses in the northwestern section of the county. Triangle was to replace six of these schools: Aden, Coldwater, Fairview, Fernvale, Forest Glen, and Union Valley.⁴ Prior to the construction of the Triangle School, there were twenty-one one and two room schools in the county.⁵ For the school site, the Board purchased approximately 3.48 acres of land at the intersection of Highway 100 and Deer Ridge Road in Fairview from local merchant W.F. Daugherty at a cost of \$166.66.⁶ W.L. Johnston, a contractor from Franklin, was commissioned to draw up the plans for the school and was paid \$10.00 for this service. Hillsboro carpenter Bernard B. Sweeney was awarded the construction contract. The contract called for the new school to be a duplicate of the old Fairview School with the exception that the porch be constructed of wood rather than concrete, and the elimination of the "two little rooms at each end of the stage." Though there is no record of a change in these stipulations, the Board must have reversed their decision on these points: the porch was indeed constructed of concrete, and the "two little rooms" became a part of the finished floor plan. The contract further stated that the project was to be "a lock and key job with two coats of [the] best white paint on the outside." Construction began in October and was finished before the end of the year; Sweeney was paid \$2,183.84 for his work.⁷

Opened for instruction in January 1939, the school furnishings, pot-bellied stoves for heating, and other supplies were generally salvaged from the closed schools, particularly nearby Union Valley.

³ Walker interview.

⁴ See Carl Walker, Sr., "A Brief History of Triangle School," unpublished manuscript in the possession of Carl Walker, Sr., Fairview, TN.

⁵ Carl Walker, May 16, 2007, at State Review Board meeting.

⁶ Deed Book 72, page 467, Williamson County Archives, Franklin, TN.

⁷ Williamson County Board of Education Minutes, Triangle School File, Williamson County Archives, Franklin, TN.

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Triangle School
Williamson County, Tennessee

The earliest documents pertaining to the school refer to it as "New Union Valley," though this name was never official. The teachers of the school named it Triangle because the grounds were roughly triangular in shape, and the school was known by this name for the rest of its history. The school opened with three teachers: Nelle Walker, who served as principal and taught grades 9-10, and Madeline Sullivan and Ila Thompson who taught grades 1-8. The first enrollment included a total of 115 students. Later that year, grades 9-10 were dropped because of low enrollment and a limited curriculum that did not meet state standards. The school continued to serve grades 1-8 throughout its existence, though it never employed more than four teachers at any one time.⁸

A cannery was built on the school grounds c. 1942 during the Second World War. Massive stoves were used to prepare locally produced vegetables that were sealed in tin cans, due to rationing and fear of food shortages during the war years. This building would later serve as the school cafeteria.⁹ Electric service was established at the school after the war. The school never had indoor plumbing; there were separate privies for boys and girls located on different parts of the grounds. Water was provided by a hand-pumped well near the building.¹⁰ Soon after the Works Projects Administration ceased activity in 1943, eliminating funding for the cannery, school officials converted the building into a cafeteria for the school. Most of the kitchen equipment remained, for use by cooks, but the workspace of the cannery and its tables were replaced by tables and benches for the children.¹¹

Local resident Carl Walker became principal of Triangle School in 1948. The last surviving faculty member of the school, Walker fondly remembers his time at Triangle. He wore many hats in his employment there: principal, teacher, secretary, bookkeeper, and nurse among them. He also coached boys and girl's basketball, baseball, and softball. He is especially proud of one his boys basketball teams that won the county tournament, which was no easy task considering that his team had to practice on an outdoor dirt court and were competing against larger and better-funded programs from Hillsboro and Franklin.¹²

Walker recalls that he taught grades 7 and 8 in Room A (see floor plan). Grades 5 and 6 used Room B, grades 3 and 4 were in Room C, and grades 1 and 2 used Room D. With the help of some of the older students, he had to light the fires in the stoves each morning, and make sure that they were safely extinguished at the end of the day. The school day usually began with a devotional each morning in the auditorium, when the moveable partition between rooms A and B was raised to increase the usable space. Afterwards, each class would go to their assigned rooms. The ample school grounds provided a place for the children to enjoy recess. The children especially anticipated "Blue Ribbon Day", as the best students were awarded blue ribbons and participated in a parade in Franklin, considered a great honor.¹³

Walker left Triangle in 1952. The school continued with four teachers for another decade. In 1962 a new modern school, Fairview Elementary, was built nearby. The students were transferred to the new school and Triangle was closed. Shortly thereafter, the school and grounds were sold at auction and purchased by Dr. Evangeline Bowie. Dr. Bowie and members of her family used a portion of the school as a residence

⁸ Ibid.; Walker interview.

⁹ Walker interview.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Walker interview.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Triangle School
Williamson County, Tennessee

up until Dr. Bowie's death in the mid 1990s. The Bowie family gave a substantial portion of Dr. Bowie's property to the City of Fairview, including Triangle School. The school has been vacant since that time; the city maintains the property, and though the building has fallen in some disrepair, it is in generally good condition considering its age.¹⁴

From its inception, Triangle School was an important focal point for the community of Fairview. Representing elements of the best in rural school design for its period, it served an important function in the education of children and adults in the vicinity, as well as a community gathering point, until it was closed in 1962. It remains as a symbol of community history, growth, and pride. The City of Fairview, like other municipalities in Williamson County, is a dynamic and growing city, and the site of Triangle School has great potential for development. The city has recently established a historical commission that is committed to preserving important historical landmarks in the community. Triangle School, remembered as an important focal point in the community's history, has been identified as a high priority for preservation and adaptive reuse by the commission.¹⁵

¹⁴ Rick Warwick, interview by author, author's notes, Franklin, TN, December 2006. Mr. Warwick is a historian with the Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County.

¹⁵ Walker interview.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 8

Triangle School
Williamson County, Tennessee

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Triangle School
Williamson County, Tennessee

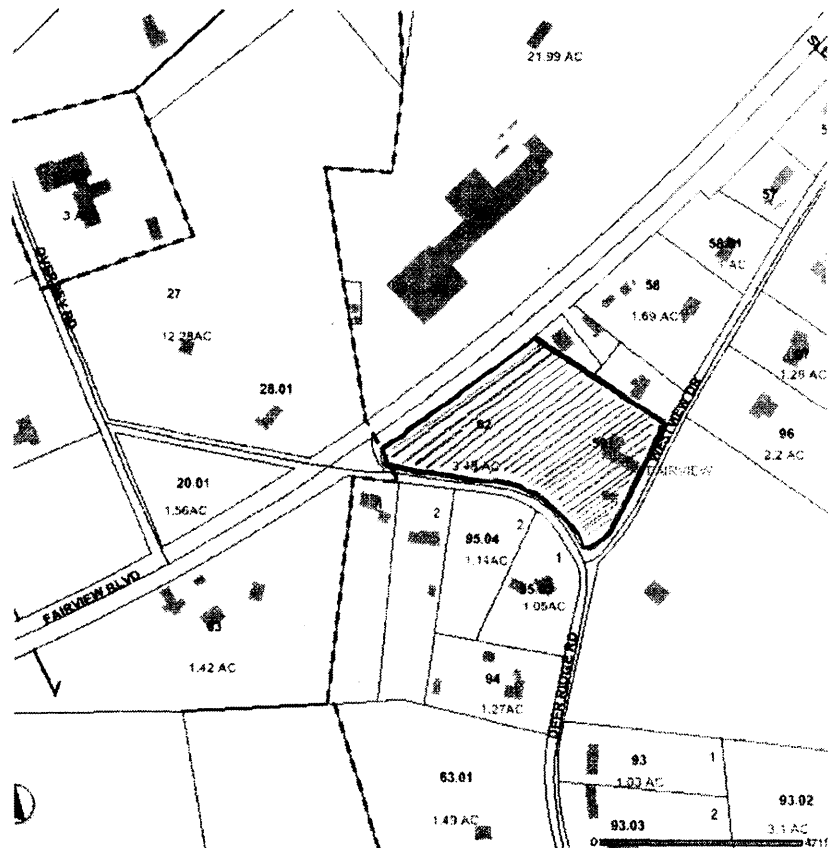
GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the nominated property is parcel 62 on property tax map 69, Williamson County. See attached Williamson County property tax map.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary includes all the land (3.48 acres) currently and historically associated with the Triangle School and owned by the City of Fairview at this location.



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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number photos Page 10

Triangle School
Williamson County, Tennessee

PHOTOS

Photos by: Carroll Van West and Elizabeth Moore
Date of Photographs: July 2006
Negatives/digital images: Tennessee Historical Commission

- 1 of 19 Northwest facade, facing east
- 2 of 19 Northwest facade, facing south
- 3 of 19 Northwest facade, facing southeast
- 4 of 19 View of concrete foundation pier, building facade, facing southeast
- 5 of 19 Southeast and northeast elevations facing west
- 6 of 19 Southeast and northeast elevations, facing west
- 7 of 19 Northeast and southeast elevations, facing west
- 8 of 19 Southeast and northeast elevations, facing west
- 9 of 19 Southeast elevation facing northeast
- 10 of 19 Southeast elevation, facing north.
- 11 of 19 Room A, facing northwest.
- 12 of 19 Room A, showing southwest partition wall.
- 13 of 19 Movable partition between rooms A and B
- 14 of 19 Room A and stage, facing northeast
- 15 of 19 Room B, facing southwest
- 16 of 19 Cafeteria building, facing northeast
- 17 of 19 Gable end of Cafeteria building
- 18 of 19 Triangle School grounds, facing north
- 19 of 19 Triangle School grounds, facing northeast