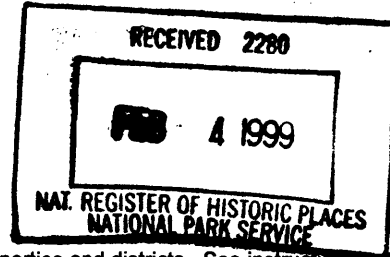


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



279

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 Bellview School
other names/site number Bellview Community Center

2. Location

street & number Highway 101 NA not for publication
city or town Pikeville vicinity
state Tennessee code TN county Bledsoe code 007 zip code 37367

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.)

Herbert L. Hays
Signature of certifying official/Title

1/25/99
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

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:) _____

Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

3/5/99
Date of Action

Bellview School
Name of Property

Bledsoe 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

2	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	1	structures
_____	_____	objects
2	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

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: school

SOCIAL: meeting hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: school plan book

foundation BRICK
walls WOOD

roof METAL
other WOOD

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 year of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1928

Significant Dates

1928

Significant Person

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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:

Bellview School
Name of Property

Bledsoe County, Tennessee
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 3 acres

UTM References Billingsley Gap 110 NW
(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>16</u>	<u>564740</u>	<u>3957100</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
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 Karen L. Daniels/Historic Preservation Planner
organization Southeast Tennessee Development District date September 1998
street & number Post Office Box 4757 telephone 423/266-5781
city or town Chattanooga state TN zip code 37405-0757

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 Bellview School, c/o Eunice Smith
street & number Route 4 telephone NA
city or town Pikeville state TN zip code 37367

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Bellview School
Bledsoe County, Tennessee

Description

The Bellview School in the Bellview Community on the Cumberland Plateau in Bledsoe County is a one-room schoolhouse built in 1928. The building has a T-shape plan, stuccoed brick foundation, board and batten siding, and a painted, corrugated metal covered cross gable roof. The windows are 9/9 wood double hung sash windows.

The main (east) facade has a gable roof projection with a recessed entry. The gable roof projection contains the two cloakrooms for the school. There are two wooden five panel doors. The point of the gable has a lattice vent, and inside the gable is the original school bell. There are two windows in the projecting gable and two windows in the building on each side of the gable. However, the design of the facade is not symmetrical. The northern part of the facade is larger than the southern part. This windowless "bay" is where the teacher's platform is in the interior of the school building. Two knee brace brackets are situated under the gable roof and the rafter ends are exposed.

The north and south facades are plain with no window openings or architectural details. The gable ends of these two sides are closed with board and batten siding.

The west facade has eight window openings. Two windows were removed due to deterioration and the openings closed with board and batten siding circa 1980. There are also two brick chimneys that are partially sided with board and batten siding.

The interior of the building consists of one large classroom with a raised platform on the north end and two cloakrooms located in the east facing gable; one of these cloakrooms was converted to a restroom circa 1970. The interior walls are composed of original material and replacement 1/4-inch thick wallboard with beaded wainscoting and a 12-inch baseboard. The floors were originally oiled wood, but carpeting was installed circa 1970. The ceiling is tiled and has ten milk globe, schoolhouse light fixtures.

One cloakroom, on the south side, remains as original with horizontal plank walls, wood floor and coat hooks. The north cloakroom was converted to a restroom and has paneled walls with wainscoting and a vinyl floor.

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National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Bellview School
Bledsoe County, Tennessee

In 1941 the building was divided into a two-room school by building a partition across the width of the schoolroom. It continued to function as a two-room school until 1964. After the building ceased being used as a school the partition was removed.

The only alterations to the building were the removal of two windows, carpeting the floor, and converting a cloakroom to a restroom. In 1998 the building was rehabilitated, some water damaged wallboard was replaced with sheetrock, mostly on the north end of the building, but also some near the entrance and in the cloakroom.

There have been three outbuildings associated with the school. Two outhouses were located in the woods behind the school and a kitchen was built behind the school. Today, only one of the outhouses is extant. The large field behind the school was used for a ballfield and playground.

Two outhouses were built in 1928 in the woods behind the school building. The outhouses were built of plank siding with metal gable roofs. One outhouse was for girls, the other for boys. The girls' outhouse is extant although it is deteriorated and the area around it is overgrown. Despite its condition it contributes to the significance of the school as part of the historic setting. The outhouses were frame, had board and batten siding, and metal shingled gable roofs.

A well house originally stood on the property. The original building is non-extant, but there is a concrete block well cover located behind the school building. The current cover was built in the 1960s and does not contribute to the integrity of the school site.

In 1940 a kitchen was built behind the school so that the students could have hot meals. The building is not extant, and no written description of it has been found.

United States Department of the Interior
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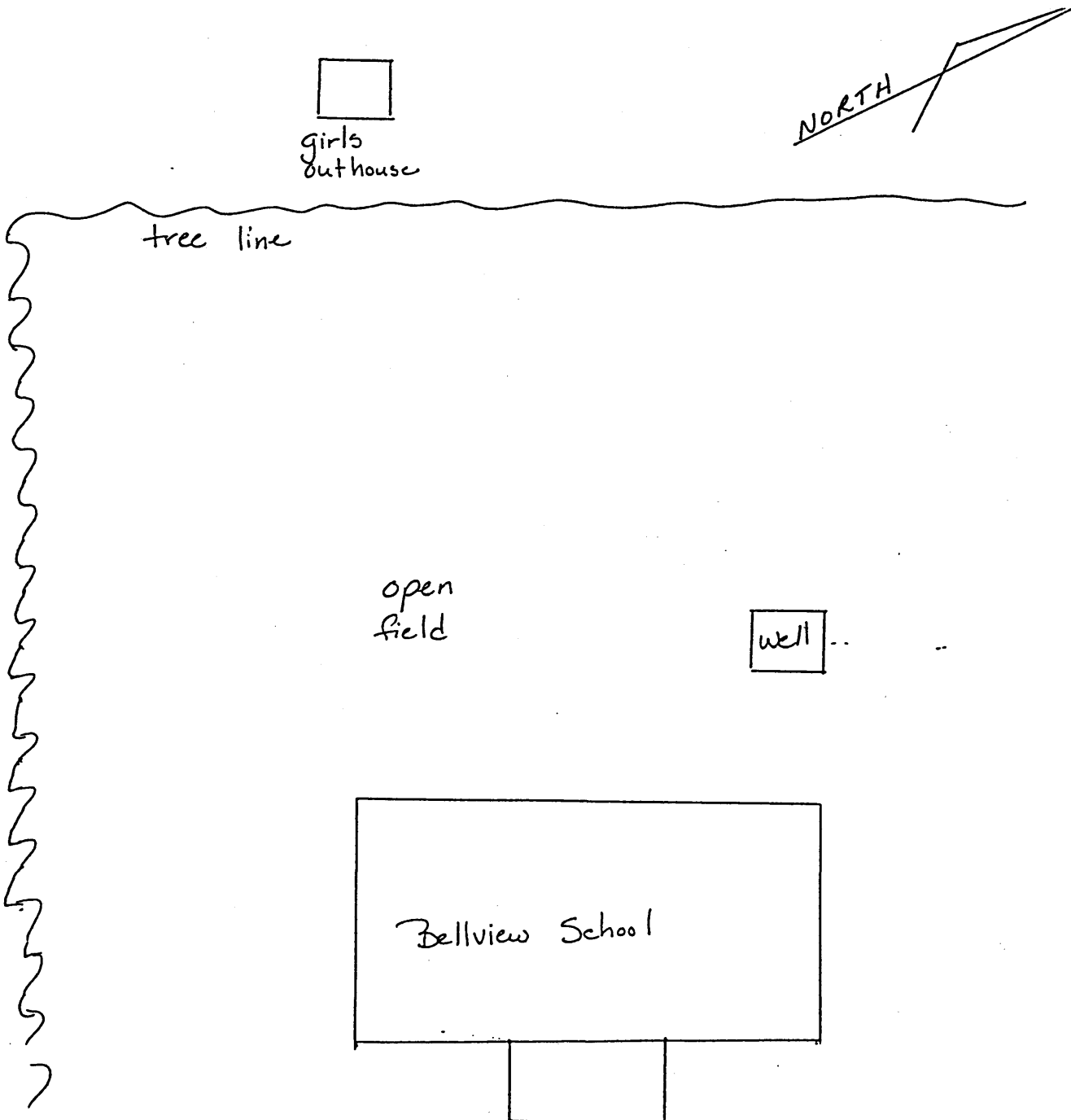
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Bellview School
Bledsoe County, Tennessee

Site Plan

Not to scale



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

Bellview School
Bledsoe County, Tennessee

Significance

The Bellview School in Bledsoe County, Tennessee is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion C for local significance in architecture. Board and batten siding, multiple light windows, wood wainscoting and original lighting fixtures are some of the character defining features of the school. The building retains a high degree of architectural integrity.

In the 1880s the Maple Springs School was opened about two miles from the present location of the Bellview School. The Maple Springs School was a one-room log structure without windows. In 1889 the building was disassembled and moved 1.75 miles and the name was changed to Bellview School. The Bellview School was a one teacher school.

In November 1927 John Seals donated three acres of land to Bledsoe County to build a new frame building. In 1928 Bellview area residents and students at the Taft Youth Development Center constructed the building. They built a one-room building that could be easily converted to a two-room school if necessary. The fixtures from the log school building were moved into the new school.

In 1941, when the nearby Beaver Hill School burned, a partition was built in the Bellview School to convert it into a two-room school. It continued as a two-room school until it closed in 1964, when the school was consolidated into the Mary Walker Elementary School.

In 1964 six schoolhouses located on the Cumberland Plateau in Bledsoe County were consolidated into the Mary Walker Elementary School. They were the Bellview School, the Mount Zion School, the Mount Crest School, the Beaver Hill School (which had already been consolidated with Bellview), the Sampson School, and the Griffith School. The combined schools had 354 first through eighth grade students.

In 1965, after the school consolidation, the Bledsoe County Board of Education gave the Bellview School building and grounds to Bledsoe County. The Bledsoe County Quarterly Court authorized use of the school building as a voting place, community center and church.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

Bellview School
Bledsoe County, Tennessee

In 1973 the Quarterly Court authorized spending \$3,000.00 of county revenue sharing funds for work on the building. Work included some rewiring, installing wall heaters, and laying carpets.

The Bellview School, from its beginnings as the log Maple Springs School to its consolidation into Mary Walker Elementary School, reflects the changes in Tennessee's education policies. Tennessee began requiring schools in each county in 1823 when it passed the first school act. The act required counties to elect commissioners to "employ teachers, to build school-houses, and to educate the poor free of charge." (Slater, 22)

It was not until 1907 that the legislature authorized the preparation of plans and specifications for rural schools. The plans were distributed to public school officials throughout the state. This was the first time Tennessee created standardized plans for schools. By 1922 the state had published an additional book of plans.

In 1927 the state legislature approved \$1 million to aid school systems in repairing and replacing their dilapidated or inadequate rural elementary schools. The recipient counties had to match the state funds with county funds that had not already been allocated to education. As part of the new school building program the Department of Education issued Rural School Building Plans, designed by George Mahan, Jr., a Memphis architect. The 1928 plans included specifications that the school grounds be at least 2 acres for a one teacher school, and that every school not having indoor toilets should have two outdoor privies of a type approved by the Department of Public Health.

In 1940 the Bledsoe County School Board records were destroyed in a fire. Included in the records were all the particulars about the construction of the Bellview School including which of the 1928 plans was adapted by the community for the new school, who the construction foreman was, and how much money Bledsoe County put into the construction of the new school.

The Bellview School is architecturally significant and important to the Bellview community for the educational opportunity it provided to area residents. The school functioned before consolidation and before school buses were commonly used. If not for small schools like the Bellview School, many county residents would not have received any education.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 6

Bellview School
Bledsoe County, Tennessee

Bibliography

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Bledsoe County Historical Society. A Pictorial History of Bledsoe County., 1998.

Bledsoe County Quarterly Court Minute Book. January 1965, page 72-73.

Bledsoe County Quarterly Court Minute Book. July 1973, page 454.

Building Plans for Rural School Houses. Nashville, TN: State Department of Education, 1928.

Chase, Thurston. Manual on School-Houses and Cottages for People of the South. Washington, D. C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1868.

Deed. John Seals to Bledsoe County. Deed book 18, page 256-257. 22 November 1927.

Design and Specifications for Public School Buildings. Nashville, TN: Department of Public Instruction, 1907.

Slater, Margaret. "The Evolution of Schoolhouse Architecture in Tennessee." Master's thesis, Middle Tennessee State University, 1987.

Slater, Margaret, et. al. "Study Unit No. 7, Education: Rural Public Schools 1790-1930." Nashville, TN: Tennessee Historical Commission, 1988.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 7

Bellview School
Bledsoe County, Tennessee

Verbal Boundary Description and Boundary Justification

The Bellview School is identified on the accompanying Bledsoe County, Tennessee tax map number 13 as parcel 9, containing 3 acres of land. This is the land donated by John Seals to Bledsoe County in 1927 for the Bellview School.

The tax map for this nomination has a scale of 1"=400'. The Tennessee Board of Equalization prepares this scale map for rural areas. In the past the Tennessee Historical Commission has found that the 1"=400' map adequately meets office needs. The Tennessee Historical Commission does not have the facilities to prepare maps to the scale preferred by the National Park Service.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 8

Bellview School
Bledsoe County, Tennessee

Photo log

Bellview School
Bledsoe County, Tennessee
Date: June 1998
Photo by: Karen L. Daniels
Neg: Tennessee Historical Commission
Nashville, Tennessee

#1 of 12
Southeast corner of school from driveway

#2 of 12
East facade of school from Highway 101

#3 of 12
East facade of school

#4 of 12
Detail of east facade gable.

#5 of 12
North facade.

#6 of 12
West facade.

#7 of 12
South facade.

#8 of 12
Interior, toward south wall.

#9 of 12
Interior, toward south wall.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number photos Page 9

Bellview School
Bledsoe County, Tennessee

#10 of 12

Interior, toward north wall.

#11 of 12

Interior, cloakroom.

#12 of 12

Interior, cloakroom converted to restroom.

164.5 AC. c

23-4

2
22 AC.

Bellview School
Bledsoe County, Tenn.

Map 13

Scale: 1" = 400'



ROAD

8
3.7 AC. c

7
51.5 AC. c

9
3 AC. c

BELLVIEW

17
20.6 AC. c
33.6 AC.

20.01

FARM

2 AC.

20
104.27 AC. c
102.7 AC.

18

19
1.5 AC. c

EW

1 AC. c

18.01
34 AC. c

53

