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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL
REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Hirst-Matthew Hall

other name/site number: MR0018

2. Location

street & number: State Highway 235 Spur

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Bruno

vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Marion code: AR 089 zip code: 72618

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: Public Schools in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Cathryn A. Byrd
Signature of certifying official

7-16-92
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====

5. National Park Service Certification

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

☒ entered in the National Register
_____ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the
National Register

_____ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register

☐ removed from the National Register

☐ other (explain): _____

Delores Byers 9/4/92

for Signature of Keeper Date
of Action

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6. Function or Use

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Historic: EDUCATION

Sub: School

Current: COMMERCE/TRADE

Sub: Manufacturing facility

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS

Craftsman

Other Description: Plain Traditional

Materials: foundation Concrete roof Asphalt
walls Stone other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

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8. Statement of Significance

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: EDUCATION

Period(s) of Significance: 1929-1940

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Robinson, J.G.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

Summary

The Hirst-Matthew Hall is a rectangular-plan, single-story building of the Plain Traditional style of architecture. It features a gable-on-hip roof covering rubble-finished, field-stone veneer walls which rest on a continuous cast-concrete foundation.

Elaboration

Constructed in 1929 by J. G. Robinson, the Hirst-Matthew Hall is a single-story, rectangular plan building that was originally used as classrooms. The gable-on-hip roof is covered with composition shingles and features Craftsman exposed rafters. The front or northern elevation consists of a central bay porch with a gable roof supported by four columns set on a raised concrete platform. This roof contains weatherboarding in the gable end and exposed rafters under the eaves. Access is gained by double-leaf doors with each upper half lighted by four-pane windows. Two six-pane windows compose the transom. Two sets of paired, six-over-six, double-hung windows are symmetrically arranged on both sides of the porch.

The eastern elevation features fourteen nine-over-nine double-hung windows asymmetrically arranged in sets of six, three, and five from the north to south respectively. A narrow, single-leaf door with a six-pane transom and a shed roof is located near the southeast corner of the building. The southern elevation features a centrally placed double-leaf door entrance with a twelve-pane transom covered by a shed roof. Immediately to the east of the doorway is a later one-room, white-painted, concrete-block addition with a shed roof that begins approximately two feet below the main roofline. Comparable composition shingles and exposed rafters are used in the new construction. A single-leaf door provides access to the west. An interior brick chimney is located to the east of the central doorway, and a pair of six-over-six double-hung windows to the west of the doorway completes the southern elevation inventory. Two sets of six side-by-side, nine-over-nine, double-hung windows are symmetrically arranged and comprise the western elevation.

The Hirst-Matthew Hall is currently used as a textile mill/factory.

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Hirst-Matthew Hall

In the early twentieth century, the isolated community of Bruno, fifteen miles from the nearest railroads in Yellville and St. Joe, was divided into two school districts, Numbers 6 and 63. Newspaper accounts reported that students of the respective schools would do battle with taunts and rocks across a stream which divided the two districts. In 1921, J. B. Ewart, a recent graduate of Arkansas State University, arrived in Bruno and founded the Bruno Agricultural School. During Ewart's tenure the two districts were consolidated into the Bruno Consolidated School, and over the years Ewart oversaw the construction of an auditorium-gymnasium, a stone and cement workshop, and a swimming pool.¹

The implementation of the Smith-Hughes Act in Arkansas concentrated initially on agricultural education, with impressive results. In 1923, the vocational agricultural students at Bruno High School organized the Lincoln Aggie Club, believed to be the first Future Farmers organization of its kind in the nation. Smith-Hughes and later New Deal programs allowed the Bruno School to grow into an impressive educational complex, one of the largest in the Ozarks and certainly atypical for a town the size of Bruno.

The construction of Hirst-Matthew Hall by J. G. Robinson in 1929 further expanded the campus of the Bruno school complex and complemented the institution's local reputation in the Ozarks. Hirst-Matthew was probably built through the Smith-Hughes program as well, and may have housed the school's home economics programs. It is currently used as a textile factory.²

Hirst-Matthew Hall, constructed during the period covered by the historic context *The Evolution of the Public School System in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940*, is a representative example of a large stone school building constructed for a rural school district. Its use during this period as a local school building clearly identifies it with this historic context and with this property type. It is significant locally under Criterion A through its direct associations with both the history of the evolution of the public school system in the Ozark Mountain region of the state during this period and the relatively early efforts of J.B. Ewart to create a consolidated local school district that would more effectively educate and train the youth of Bruno and the surrounding area.

¹Harrison Daily Times, April 5, 1940.

²Frank W. Cannaday, "Arkansas," in *Education in the States: Historical Development and Outlook: A Project of the Council of Chief State School Officers*, 79-115.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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See "Public Schools in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940" Multiple Property Form, Section H.

___ See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- _ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- _ previously listed in the National Register
- _ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- _ designated a National Historic Landmark
- _ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- _ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- X State historic preservation office
- _ Other state agency
- _ Federal agency
- _ Local government
- _ University
- _ Other -- Specify Repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: Approximately one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>519670</u>	<u>3999500</u>	B	___	___	___
C	___	___	___	D	___	___	___

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at a point formed by the intersection of a line running along the eastern edge of State Highway 235 Spur with a perpendicular line running parallel with the building's southern elevation and located 50 feet to the south thereof, proceed easterly along said line for a distance of approximately 225 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel to the building's eastern elevation; thence proceed northerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a line running parallel to the building's northern elevation; thence proceed westerly along said line for a distance of approximately 225 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the eastern edge of State Highway 235 Spur; thence proceed southerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes both the historic resource and all the surrounding property known to have been historically associated therewith that retains its integrity.

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11. Form Prepared By

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Name/Title: Kenneth Story, National Register Coordinator

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: July 15, 1992

Street & Number: 225 E. Markham, Suite 300 Telephone: (501) 324-9346

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201

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

Section number _____ Page _____

Public Schools in the Ozarks MPS
ARKANSAS

Date Listed

COVER Substantive Review

9/4/92

92001115 Aggie Hall

9/4/92

92001113 Aggie Workshop

9/4/92

92001098 Agriculture Building--University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

9/4/92

92001125 Alco School

9/4/92

92001203 Bergman High School

9/10/92

92001214 Berryville Agriculture Building

9/10/92

92001215 Berryville Gymnasium

9/10/92

92001178 Boswell School Substantive Review

9/4/92

92001112 Bruno School Building

9/4/92

92001128 Buford School Building Substantive Review

9/4/92

92001099 Business Administration Building--University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

9/4/92

92001194 Cafeteria Building--Cleveland School

9/10/92

92001200 Calico Rock Home Economics Building

9/10/92

92001213 Caraway Hall--Arkansas Tech University

9/10/92

92001217 Cedarville School Building

9/10/92

92001206 Center Valley Well House

9/10/92

92001100 Chemistry Building--University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

9/4/92

92001101 Chi Omega Greek Theatre--University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

9/4/92

92001202 Clarksville High School Building No. 1

9/10/92

92001123 Coal Gap School

9/4/92

92001122 Damascus Gymnasium

9/4/92

92001118 Dodson Memorial Building

9/4/92

92001121 Durham School

9/4/92

92001192 Enterprise School

9/10/92

92001110 Eros School Building

9/4/92

92001205 Everton School

9/10/92

92001116 Fairview School Building

9/4/92

92001120 Fishback School

9/4/92

92001212 Girls' Domestic Science and Arts Building--Arkansas Tech University Substantive Review

9/4/92

92001196 Guy High School Gymnasium

9/10/92

92001197 Guy Home Economics Building

9/10/92

92001114 Hirst--Mathew Hall

9/4/92

92001102 Home Economics Building--University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

9/4/92

92001210 Hughes Hall--Arkansas Tech University Substantive Review

9/4/92

92001106 Jamestown School

9/4/92

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Hirst--Mathew Hall
NAME:

MULTIPLE Public Schools in the Ozarks MPS
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Marion

DATE RECEIVED: 7/28/92 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/14/92
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/30/92 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/11/92
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 92001114

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 9/4/92 DATE **Entered in the
National Register**

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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

CLASSIFICATION

☐ count ☐ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

☐ historic ☐ current

DESCRIPTION

☐ architectural classification
☐ materials
☐ descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ applicable criteria
☐ justification of areas checked
☐ relating significance to the resource
☐ context
☐ relationship of integrity to significance
☐ justification of exception
☐ other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

☐ acreage ☐ verbal boundary description
☐ UTM's ☐ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

☐ sketch maps ☐ USGS maps ☐ photographs ☐ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



HIRST - MATTHEW HALL
BRUND, MARION Co., ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY V. DEBOSE
FEBRUARY, 1990
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW FROM SOUTH



HIRST-MATTHEW HALL
BRUND, MARION CO., ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY V. DE ROSE
FEBRUARY, 1980
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW FROM NORTH

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500028