

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only
received OCT 2 1981
date entered NOV 16 1981

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic McKinley High School

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 1500 East Boulevard not for publication

city, town Baton Rouge vicinity of congressional district 6th--Henson Moore

state LA code 22 county East Baton Rouge Parish code 033

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: headquarters

4. Owner of Property

for various community
human services organiza-
tions

name East Baton Rouge Parish School Board

street & number 1050 South Foster Drive

city, town Baton Rouge vicinity of state LA 70806

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. East Baton Rouge Parish School Board

street & number

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title La. Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1981 federal state county local

depository for survey records La. State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

McKinley High School is located on East Boulevard in a light commercial-residential area of Baton Rouge. The two story gray brick building has a long front, two rooms deep, with a small rear wing forming a "T". It is entered at the center through a columnar loggia. The interior features large transomed doors and chair rails. Otherwise it is plain. The exterior is treated with features which are loosely designed to evoke the Italian Romanesque. These features include: (1) the articulation of the facade with paired windows set in round arch bays, (2) the central pavilion with its great round arch encompassing 3 arched windows and its shallow gable top, (3) the use of polychromy in the wide central arch, and (4) the gradual widening of all arches towards the keystone.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) black history

Specific dates 1926 **Builder/Architect** Architects: Jones, Roessle & Olschner

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criteria A and C Baton Rouge

The McKinley High School Building is locally significant because of the role it has played in the education of blacks in the Baton Rouge area. Prior to its construction in 1926 and opening in September 1927, the only place area blacks could receive a secondary education was at a joint elementary-high school named Baton Rouge High School (1914-1927).* When McKinley was completed, the high school program of this school was phased out. Thus, the McKinley High School was the first school in Baton Rouge constructed solely for the purpose of providing a high school education for area blacks. For many years it served as the only secondary educational facility for blacks within a 40 mile radius of Baton Rouge.

McKinley High School was converted to a junior high school in 1949 when a new high school was constructed on McCalop Street. In 1956 McKinley became an elementary school and then was phased out as a school in 1972. Since that time it has been used by various community groups such as the South Baton Rouge Community Action Service, the South Baton Rouge Health Referral Center, and the South Baton Rouge Head Start Center.

*One presumes that this school (Baton Rouge High School) is the present Perkins Elementary, given the c. 1915 date of the latter and the location. Even if they are one and the same, the building has been modified beyond recognition.

McKinley High School is also significant in the area of architecture as an unusually pretentious black secondary school. Other examples across the state are typically much humbler structures. Most were frame rather than brick, and most had little or no ornamentation. In addition, the building is a local landmark in the South Baton Rouge-upper Highland Road area, most of which has a residential scale.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Research Report Prepared by Powell A. Casey, 1976, Baton Rouge.
East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Minutes, 1925, 1926, 1927.
East Baton Rouge Parish Courthouse Records
"History of McKinley High School," Report from a Committee of A. H. Jackson, Principal,
J. M. Frazier, Jr. and Mrs. F. P. Williams, undated.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approx. 1.5 acre

Quadrangle name Baton Rouge West, La.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A	1 5	6 7 4 9 0 0	3 3 6 8 0 5 0	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

See attached sketch map.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Allen Broussard, Federal Aid Coordinator
City of Baton Rouge and Parish of
organization East Baton Rouge date June 1981
street & number P. O. Box 1471 telephone 504-389-3054
city or town Baton Rouge state LA 70821

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date September 22, 1981

For HCERS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Beth Grovona
Keeper of the National Register

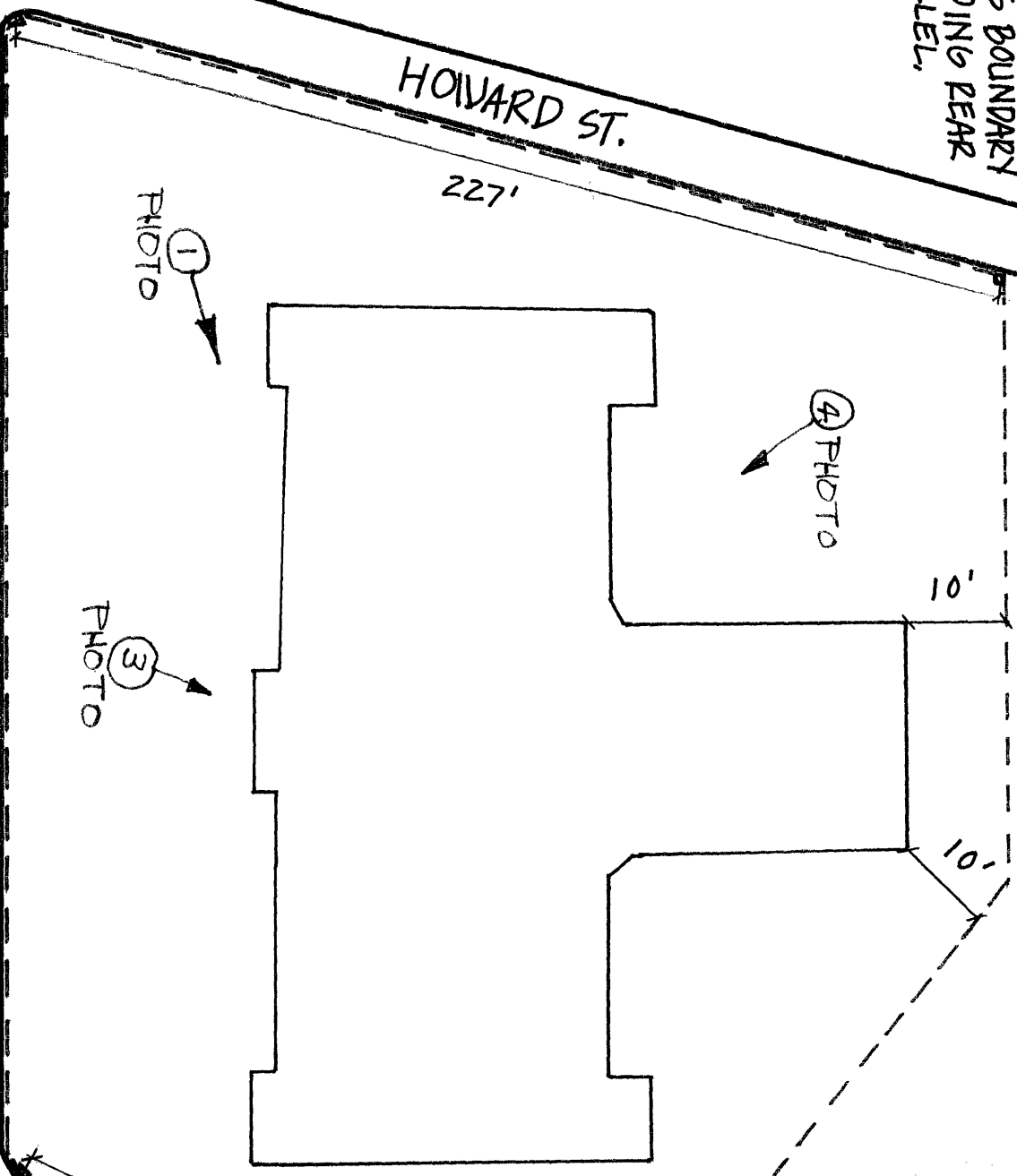
date 11/16/81

Attest:
Chief of Registration

date

MCKINLEY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTE: THIS BOUNDARY & THE BUILDING REAR ARE PARALLEL.



NOV 16 1981

RECEIVED
OCT 2 1981
MCKINLEY HIGH SCHOOL

NOT TO SCALE



NORTH

PHOTO 2

PHOTO 1

PHOTO 3

PHOTO 4

HOWARD ST.

LOUISE ST.

EAST BLVD.

227'

137'

10'

10'