

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration FormNATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Antioch Schoolother names/site number District #20 School; (NeHBS # AD00-140)

2. Location

street & number NA☐ NA not for publicationcity, town Pauline☒ vicinitystate Nebraskacode NEcounty Adamscode 001zip code 68968

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

☐ private☒ public-local☐ public-State☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

☒ building(s)☐ district☐ site☐ structure☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

Noncontributing

4 buildings2 sites6 structures objects Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

NANumber of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Director, Nebraska State Historical Society

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

May 16, 1988In 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

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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Education/school

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Government/township hall**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Other: Vernacular hall typefoundation Brickwalls Brickroof Wood/shingle

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Antioch School is a one-room red brick rural schoolhouse, constructed in 1902 and prominently located on an Adams county hillside in south-central area of Nebraska. In addition to the schoolhouse, the nomination includes several related resources on the schoolhouse grounds which also exhibit high historic integrity and enhance the understanding of the building in its setting. The nomination consists of the following: four (4) contributing buildings--the schoolhouse, two (2) frame privies, located on the north a south sides of the school, and one (1) storm cellar, directly west of school's main entrance. Contributing structures include the following playground equipment: one (1) see-saw/swing combination unit, and one (1) merry-go-round.

The one room red brick Antioch School is located five miles southeast of Pauline (unincorporated), Adams County, in the south central Nebraska plains area; the Nebraska/Kansas border is approximately 30 miles to the south. The one story vernacular schoolhouse, constructed in 1902, has a hipped roof with wooden shingles. The central doorway is located in a brick vestibule which has a tower topped with a distinctive pyramidal roof. Storage sheds are symmetrically located on each side of the vestibule and are later additions (1930's). Three windows, evenly spaced ten feet apart, are located on both the north and south walls. A brick chimney is located on the north side of the building. The main classroom area measures 22 feet in width and 33 1/2 feet in length. Original beaded wainscoting is intact on all interior walls.

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Although the building is categorized as "other" for style, a schoolhouse architecture typology was developed by Andrew Gulliford in America's Country Schools (1984). Gulliford identified several general categories of schoolhouse architecture: folk vernacular, mass vernacular, and architect designed including those from available published plans and more rarely, designs by commissioned architects. The present nomination represents a modification of Gulliford's typology to provide a more accurate evaluation of schoolhouse architecture that includes consideration of both the interior and exterior. The divergence from Gulliford's typology then, does not place classification priority on exterior appearances. According to Gulliford, "folk vernacular" includes log or sod structures, while "mass vernacular" was employed to describe the prevalent one room, frame rectangular rural schoolhouse. Although schoolhouse exteriors reveal an obvious difference between, for example, sod and frame, such structures--particularly one room rural schools--often share the same form. Characterized by a single room, with teacher's desk at one end, windows on both sides of the building and a central doorway, these schools, whether sod, log, or frame are more accurately categorized as the "Vernacular Hall type" (Murphy, 1988).

Gulliford's schoolhouse classification also distinguished between architect designed, or designs inspired by available schoolhouse plans. A second type of schoolhouse, which utilizes such interior features as ventilation ducts for air circulation, and modern heating and lighting, will be categorized as a "Modern School facility." The modified classification of schoolhouse architecture into "vernacular hall type" and "modern school facility" permits the evaluation and analysis of one room rural schools regardless of exterior building materials. The Antioch school, for example, which replaced earlier structures of sod and frame, gives the external appearance of a modern school, influenced by available turn of the century schoolhouse plans. The interior, however, reveals that the building is essentially identical to its predecessors with one central room, and no "modern" ventilation, heating, or lighting systems.

When the Antioch School was under construction in 1902, the Department of Public Instruction published a report entitled School Buildings and Grounds in Nebraska. Written by State Superintendent William Fowler, the book described existing schoolhouses throughout the state and provided plans and recommendations for modern school buildings and grounds. As reported by Fowler, there were 6,773 schoolhouses (both urban and rural) throughout the state in 1902. The majority of these buildings were constructed of wood-- 5,831 --while 464 were built of sod, and 320 were brick. The book provided recommendations and plans for all aspects of schoolhouses: building form, ventilation, interior arrangement, and the organization of exterior space such as appropriate locations for trees and shrubs, outhouses, and playground equipment.

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One of the most typical schoolhouse forms, according to Fowler, was the two-by-three plan, characterized by "width two-thirds of the length, a single room without entry or vestibule, two or three widely separated windows in each side, and a door in the center or one end" (p. 11). The main classroom area of the Antioch school measures 22 feet in width and 33 1/2 feet in length, almost perfectly conforming to the 2-by-3 plan. The door is centrally placed and there are three windows spaced ten feet apart on both the north and south walls. The Antioch School also has a vestibule topped by a tower with a distinctive pyramidal roof. Externally, the school exhibits the appearance of a "modern school facility." The interior, however, reveals that the heating, lighting, and ventilation systems are characteristic of the older, vernacular hall type. Although the school's construction of red brick may represent "modernization" in comparison with a sod or frame structure, the school's form and mechanical systems remain the same as earlier schools.

The Antioch schoolhouse grounds, through later modifications, are more characteristic of "modern school facility" design standards. Two frame privies are located slightly west of the school, one to the far north and the other to the far south as proscribed by School Laws of Nebraska for 1901 (Fowler, p. 54). A storm cellar is also located on the schoolgrounds, directly west of the main entrance. Great Plains states are known for their violent storms, especially tornadoes, and storm cellars were common features not only for schoolgrounds, but for farmsteads as well. Immediately south of the schoolhouse are two pieces of playground equipment. While the swing-slide see saw unit and merry-go-round probably date to a later time than the 1902 construction of the schoolhouse, they are of a historic nature and contribute to the overall integrity of the property. The Antioch school was abandoned for several years after the last classes were held in 1964-1965. Since the 1970's, however, the Little Blue Township has used the school as a township hall.

8. Statement of Significance

SEP 14 REC'D

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

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1902-c. 1935

Significant Dates

1902

c.1935

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Significant Person

NA

Architect/Builder

Jackson, George (builder)

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Antioch School is significant under Criterion C as a well-preserved example of the one room rural schoolhouse property type in Nebraska. The building's hillside setting, playground equipment, privies, and storm cellar contribute to the overall integrity of the building in its setting. Under Criterion C, the Antioch School signifies the typical stylistic development of many rural Nebraska schools. In Adams county, and other areas of the state and the Great Plains, schoolhouses were initially sod structures, replaced with frame gable roof buildings, which in turn were replaced with buildings influenced by available schoolhouse plans. Externally, the red-brick Antioch School, constructed in 1902, has the appearance of a modern school that utilized turn of the century ventilation, heating, and lighting systems. Internally, however, the building represents a one room vernacular hall type schoolhouse distinguished from its sod and frame predecessors by its red brick construction material. In this sense, the building is transitional, between the earlier vernacular form and the new modern types. The schoolgrounds however, fulfill the design standards of a modern school facility with properly located frame privies, storm cellar and playground equipment. The period of significance is derived from the original construction date of the school (1902) through c. 1935, the construction date inclusive of all contributing buildings and structures.

Rural schools, as Andrew Gulliford has stated in his book, America's Country Schools (1984) were the norm throughout the United States until World War II (p. 113). According to Gulliford's research, in 1984 approximately 835 one-teacher, rural schools were still in use throughout the United States; of that number, 360 were in Nebraska (p. 113). A gradual decline in the nation's rural population and the consolidation of school districts has resulted in the abandonment and loss of many of these buildings;

☒ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Creigh, Dorothy Weyer, Adams County: The Story, 1872-1972, Hastings, Nebraska: NE Adams County-Hastings Centennial Commission, 1972.
- Fowler, William K., School Buildings and Grounds in Nebraska, Lincoln, NE, Department of Public Instruction, 1902.
- Adams County Historical Society, District #20 School Records, Hastings, Nebraska, Arl.20.
- Guillford, Andrew, America's Country Schools, Washington, D.C.: The Preservation Press, 1984.
- Personal Communication with D. Murphy, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Lincoln, NE, March 18, 1988.
- Pauline Centennial Committee, Pauline and Community 1887-1987, Blue Hill, NE, 1987.

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 # _____

☐ See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 2 acres

UTM References

A 14 559730 4469820
Zone Easting Northing

C _____

B _____
Zone Easting Northing

D _____

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The 2 acre parcel of land is described as the extreme northwest corner of the northwest quarter of Section 25, Township 5 North, Range 9 West, Adams County, Nebraska. The parcel of land is rectangular, measuring 262 feet east-west, and 330 feet north-south, with the northwest corner of the section as its northwest corner.

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses all land historically associated with the property.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carol Ahlgren, Architectural Historian

organization Nebraska State Historical Society

street & number 1500 "R" Street

city or town Lincoln

date April 13, 1988

telephone (402) 471-4773

state Nebraska zip code 68501

5/24/86

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yet remaining schoolhouses continue to be distinct and identifiable cultural features on the rural landscape. Although Nebraska may have a high proportion of rural schools still in use, abandoned schoolhouses are a recognizable but finite feature on the rural landscape.

Abandoned schoolhouses, as Gulliford notes, have always been mobile, especially the one room frame with gable roof variety. Abandoned schoolhouses have been moved for reuse as farm buildings, remodelled into residences, or restored for interpretive museums. Sometimes the schoolhouse continues to serve a community purpose such as Antioch's use as a township hall since the 1970's.

Adams County School District 20 was formed on September 23, 1872 with the first district meeting held on May 8, 1873. The district was located in the extreme southeast corner of Little Blue Township and included nine sections (22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, and 36). The first classes were held in 1876 in a sod structure. In 1882, the school district purchased two acres of land in the northwest corner of Section 25 and replaced the sod building with a one-room frame gable roof schoolhouse, which was used until 1902 when the brick schoolhouse was constructed on the site. Built by local carpenters and brick mason George Jackson, the one room red brick school features a hipped roof, vestibule and tower with a distinctive pyramidal roof (Creigh, 1972, p. 521).

Four rural Nebraska schoolhouses have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Two of the nominated schoolhouses are frame, one is brick and one is stone. All have the characteristic rural schoolhouse rectangular gable roof form with gable end entrances. The Camp Creek School (OT00-37) located in southeastern Nebraska, is a one-story rectangular brick building c. 1870 with a frame vestibule and belfry. The District 10 Schoolhouse (JF00-36) in rural Jefferson county on the Nebraska/Kansas border, is a one-room frame rectangular building that has been used as a museum since 1966. The Freeman Homestead and School (GA00-4) is also a frame rectangular one-room school, part of the complex of buildings and structures that comprise the Homestead National Monument. The J.M. Daniel School in Hayes county, c. 1886, is a one-room stone, rectangular building. In the 1950's the building's interior was remodelled for use as a residence; it is now used for storage. The Antioch School represents a different schoolhouse type with its 2 by 3 form, hipped roof and vestibule tower.

Within the Adams county area of south central Nebraska, the on-going Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey (NehBS) has not been completed for counties immediately west and east (Kearney, Phelps, and Clay counties). Buffalo county, located northwest of Adams county, was surveyed in 1975-1976. At that time,

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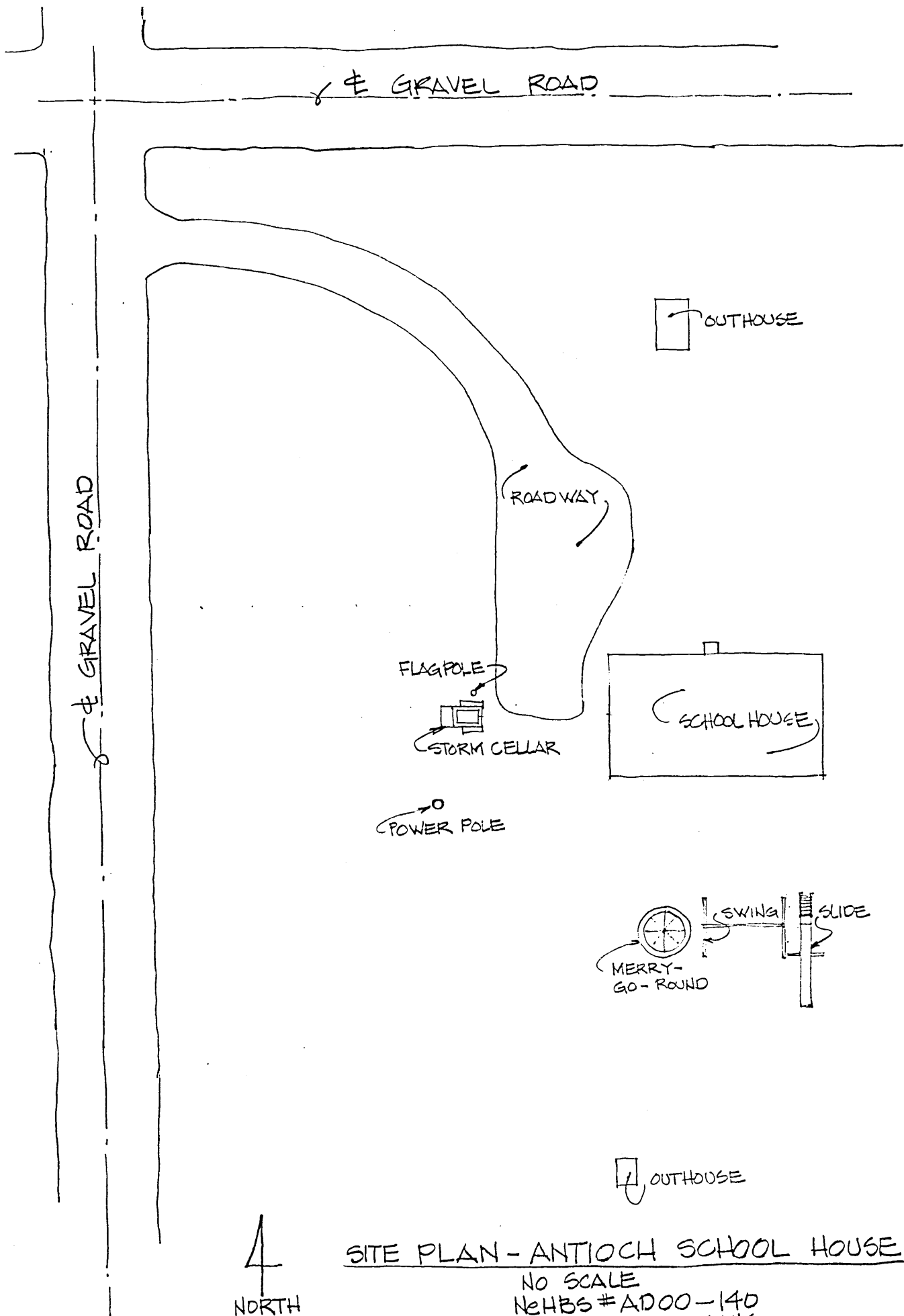
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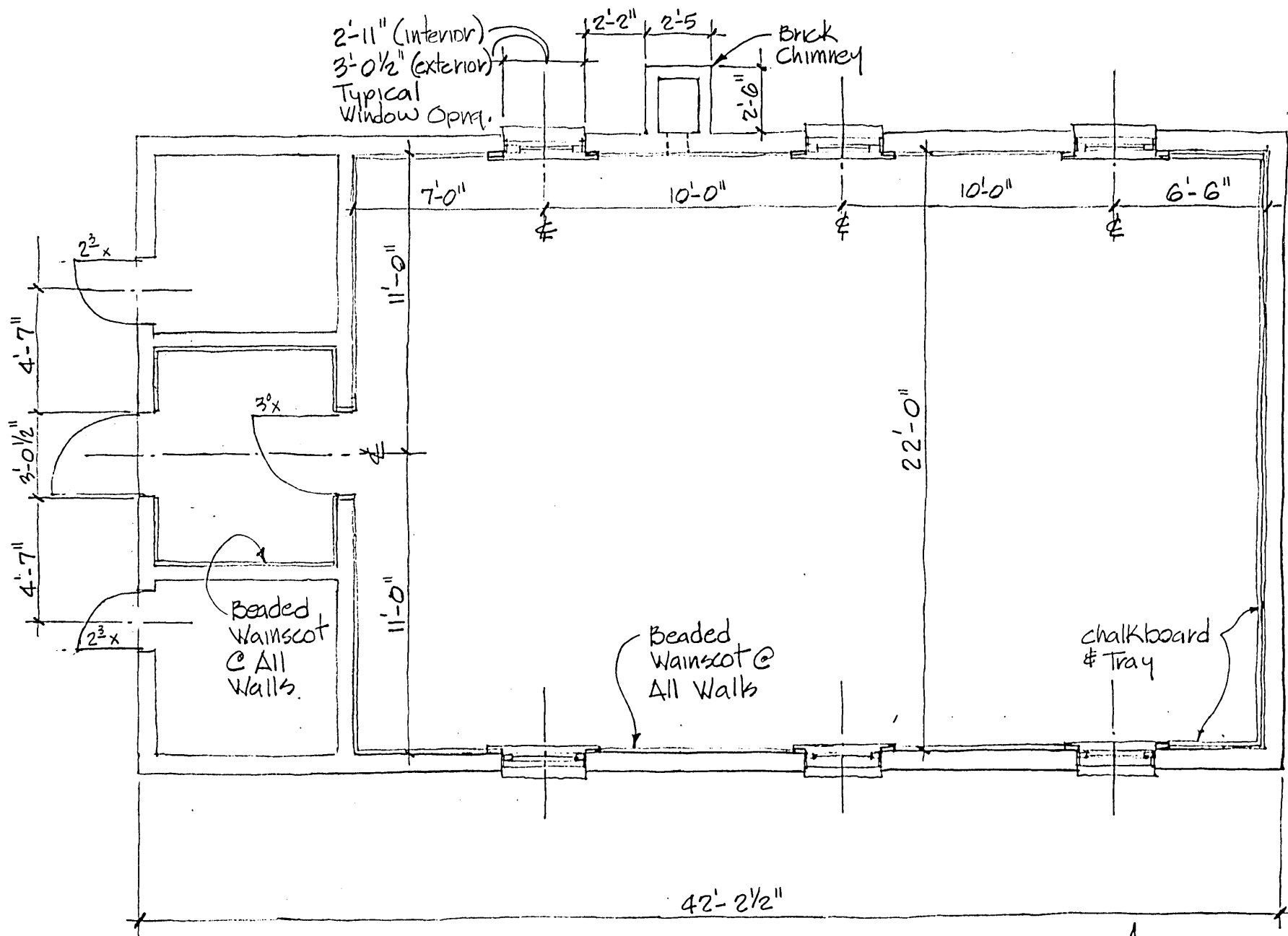
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six extant rural schools were identified. The material and style of these schools ranged from one room gable roofed frame buildings, to brick two story structures. In Fillmore county, east of Adams county, a one-room brick schoolhouse with a striking external similarity to the Antioch school was featured in previously cited 1902 report. The school was described as a "model rural school", meeting the latest ventilation, heating, and lighting standards (Fowler, 1902, pp. 204, 207). The building, however, has either been destroyed or moved from its original location. The Antioch school, while displaying the external appearance of a turn-of-the-century model rural school, utilized the ventilation, heating and lighting of a frame or sod schoolhouse.

At the turn of the century when the Antioch School was built, Adams county had a total of 89 schoolhouses (Fowler, p. 271). Although the number of schools included both urban and rural schools, the 1975-1976 NEHBS survey identified only three extant Adams county rural schoolhouses. One of the schools, Rising Star, (AD00-222) was substantially altered in 1961 to accommodate current needs. The other rural schoolhouse, Shiloh (AD00-14) was a one-room frame gable roof building. After its last use as a school in 1948, the building served the township as a polling place until the mid 1970's. Abandoned in 1977, the building has deteriorated and may no longer be extant.

According to Guilliford's schoolhouse architectural classification, the Antioch school suggests the influence of available schoolhouse plans readily available by mid-19th century, but utilized later in western states. The Nebraska Department of Public Instruction report of 1902 provided such plans, and lighting, ventilation, and landscaping recommendations in an effort to promote appropriate schoolhouse design. The Antioch School in its setting with grounds, playground equipment, privies, and storm cellar illustrates the influence of such modernization efforts. The building's modernization however, is limited to its construction of brick and the placement of exterior features such as the frame privies. In its prominent hillside setting, surrounded by frame privies, storm cellar and playground equipment, the Antioch school is an excellent example of one room rural schoolhouse in its original setting.





Drawn By: Michael Rindone
Date: 12/23/87
Survey By: Michael Rindone
Date: 12/18/87

Floor Plan - Antioch School House

Scale: 1 cm = 2'-0"
NeHBS # AD00-140

4
North.