

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
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 Briedwell School
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 11935 SW Bellevue Highway N/A not for publication
city, town Amity vicinity
state Oregon code OR county Yamhill code 071 zip code 97101

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
		<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

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

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 [Signature] Date June 23, 1988
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
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

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] 7-28-88

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Education/Schoolhouse

Domestic/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian/Queen Anne-Eastlake

foundation wood/water table

walls wood/weatherboards

roof wood/shingle

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Briedwell School is located about one mile west of Amity on the south side of Bellevue Highway, just east of the Briedwell Road intersection. The surrounding landscape is predominantly level and characterized by cultivated fields. The front of the schoolyard is shaded by maples.

The school represents a specialized building type which is essentially vernacular architecture showing traces of the Queen Anne/Eastlake style. Of frame construction on a post and pier foundation, the single-story, gable-roofed building is L-shaped in plan, having shed-roofed enclosed space in the crux of the L. The primary gable ridge runs east to west, the secondary gable projects north. The cornice is boxed. A porch is recessed at the center of the facade, and dual entrances give access to the schoolroom through minor east and west cloak room-library spaces. At the northeast corner of the building, the front-facing gable supports a deteriorated belfry framework decorated with scrollsawn fancy work. The exterior is clad with drop siding and gable ends are finished with boards and battens. The front gable contains a bull's-eye window for attic ventilation. Transverse gable ends have louvered vents. Window frames are nicely finished with architrave molding. Double-hung window sash are arranged in pairs or tripartite groupings. In 1940 the double-hung windows in the east elevation were moved to the west elevation and combined with the tripartite grouping there to enlarge the window bank in accordance with current notions about desirable natural lighting for schoolrooms. The opening in the east exterior elevation was filled.

The schoolhouse measures 34 x 32 feet in plan and has a 14 x 14-foot gable-roofed woodshed addition centered on the rear face. The wood shed was converted to a lavatory.

At the west edge of the property, about 50 feet west of the school, stands a post and beam gable-roofed shed, the long axis of which runs north to south. The horse shed-garage measures 28 x 50 feet in plan and is open on the east side. Its north, south and west elevations are enclosed with vertical boards and its roof cover is wood shingles. The shed was built about 1930 and is a contributing feature of the property.

The current owners, James and Lauren Cram, have adapted the schoolhouse for use as a single-family residence and plan to restore the belfry to its full configuration as documented by historic photographs. Alterations resulting from the adaptive use include: 1) addition of a free-standing staircase in the center

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of the schoolroom to provide access to the attic, 2) insertion of a ceiling beam to allow use of the attic space, 3) installation of kitchen counters and wood stove on the perimeter of the schoolroom, 4) construction of a brick flue and openings for three flush skylights in the south, or rear roof slope. No subdivision of the schoolroom space has occurred.

The schoolhouse is more particularly described as follows:

The North Elevation, or principal facade of the school overlooks Bellevue Highway (Highway 153). The front porch is recessed with two separate entrances on the east and west walls of the recess. There is a double-hung window on the north wall of the porch.

Flanking the porch, on the main facade, are small, paired double-hung windows. Above the easternmost pair is a framed wood title panel that reads: "School District No. 7" in red and white lettering. The siding is ship lap. The gable end is clad with boards and battens. There is a bull's-eye window centered in the north gable.

The north gable also supports the belfry. The belfry is composed of four turned columns, radiating fan brackets, and jigsaw eave support brackets. The roof is now gone but originally was a low, pyramidal roof. The bell is no longer in place, either, but its location is known, and it may be re-installed one day.

The East Elevation also has tongue groove ship lap and board and batten siding. There is a slender rectangular louvered vent with a semi-circular crest in the gable end. This elevation originally had a grouping of three standard, double-hung windows. They were removed and added to the existing bank of windows on the west side. Siding was pieced in to fill the opening.

The South Elevation has a small ell centered on it with standard, double-hung windows on either side, on the main wall plane. The ell measures 14 x 14 feet in plan and has a gable roof, also a back door. The door was a simple shed type with a gap under it which was replaced recently with a standard door with an elongated glass panel. The ell originally was used for storing wood and later was subdivided for lavatories after indoor plumbing became available. There are two hopper-style windows on the east elevation of the ell. Earlier, there were openings for standard, double-hung windows in the south and west elevations of the ell. These have been filled.

The West Elevation has a window bank of five contiguous double-hung windows, which is the major source of natural light to the schoolroom. A separate window

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is found to the south of the window bank. Three of the windows were added from the east side as noted above. The west elevation is clad in the same manner as the east.

The balloon-framed structure is supported by a post and pier foundation about four feet above grade. The foundation is skirted by horizontal boards vertically grooved to imitate cut stone. There is a walk and five steps of concrete leading to the front entrance.

The inside of the school consists of one large class room measuring 23 x 33 feet in plan, a coat room and library, both about 12 x 7 feet, and the 14 x 14-foot ell on the south side of the classroom. There is also an attic above the 14-foot ceiling.

The walls are cedar tongue and groove. The boards in the main room run vertically up to the chalk trays, then horizontally up to the 14-foot ceiling. The ceiling is also tongue and groove cedar.

On the north side of the classroom there is a platform centered between the two entry doors. This is where the teacher's desk was. There are small closets recessed back to each side of the platform. Door and window trim is standard channeled millwork with "bulls-eye" decorated corner blocks. Original door and window hardware is in place.

8. Statement of Significance

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

1895-1930

Significant Dates

1895
c.1930

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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

Briedwell School, a one-room rural schoolhouse of 1895, is located on a parcel of approximately 1 1/2-acres, one mile west of Amity in Yamhill County, Oregon.

Briedwell is at the center of a farming community and was once a station on the Oregonian Railway narrow gauge line which connected Dayton and Sheridan in the Yamhill River drainage beginning in 1879. The line ultimately was taken over by the Southern Pacific Railroad. Today, apart from the school, there is scarcely a remnant of the once active shipping point which served farmers of the surrounding district. The station was named for John W. Briedwell, postmaster for the brief span a post office was maintained at the place (1887-1888). The large warehouse which once stood across the highway from the school was long ago destroyed by fire. The school, therefore, is the principal landmark identifying Briedwell Junction.

Briedwell School was operated as part of Yamhill County School District No. 7 and remained in service continuously until 1957, at which time District 7 was consolidated with Amity Schools. The school served pupils in grades 1 through 8 in its historic period, which is drawn to 1930 to encompass the final phase of property development, namely construction of the horse shed where pupils residing on the outlying farms sheltered their horses during school hours. The shed, built about 1930, subsequently was used as a garage for the teacher's automobile and a play shelter during rainy weather. The horse shed-garage is still standing at the west property line and is counted a contributing feature.

Briedwell School is locally significant in the category of architecture under National Register Criterion C. It is one of only six school buildings remaining in the county which antedate 1900. Of the six oldest, Briedwell School and Gibbs School, both of them built in 1895, are the best preserved and Briedwell School is the only one of the resource group to reflect, albeit in a modest way, the influence of the Queen Anne-Eastlake style. It exhibits some sophistication, possibly pattern-book derived, in the handling of such details as its variegated siding, its nicely-proportioned architrave moldings, its framed title board with stylized drop ornaments, and the horizontal boards of the foundation waterskirt which are scored vertically in imitation of coursed masonry units.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

McArthur, Lewis A., Oregon Geographic Names (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), page 84.
Stoller, Ruth, Schools of Old Yamhill (Lafayette: Yamhill County Historical Society, 1982).
Interview: Doris Leiman, student at Briedwell School 1930-1938, August 1987.
Yamhill County Cultural Resource Inventory (1984), Resource No. B5430/6, I-153.
Miscellaneous newspaper clippings, Amity Sounder, possession of Mrs. Ivan Shields, Amity, Oregon.

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:

Yamhill County Planning Department

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 1.62 acres Amity, Oregon 1:24000

UTM References

A 1|0 | 4|8|1|3|8|0 | 4|9|9|5|3|6|0
 Zone Easting Northing

C | | | | | | | | | | | |

B | | | | | | | | | | | |
 Zone Easting Northing

D | | | | | | | | | | | |

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated area is located in NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 30, Township 5S, Range 4W, Willamette Meridian, in Yamhill County, Oregon. It is legally identified as Tax Lot 501 at said location and is more particularly described as follows:

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated area of 1.62 acres encompasses Briedwell School, its immediate grounds and a horse shed/garage of 1930 which is counted as a separately contributing feature of the historic school property which was first developed in 1895 and used for educational purposes until 1957.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lauren Cram
 organization N/A date January 15, 1987
 street & number 11935 SW Bellevue Highway telephone (503) 472-4726
 city or town Amity state Oregon zip code 97101

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Of frame construction, the single-story, gable-roofed schoolhouse is essentially a one-room building with an attached rear woodshed and a central recessed front porch. Dual entrances at either end of the porch lead to a cloak room and library space, respectively, in either front corner of the interior. At the northeast corner of the building, a longitudinal gable supports an open belfry. The exterior is clad with drop siding and boards and battens in the gable ends. Windows are double-hung. The front gable contains a bull's-eye window for attic ventilation.

The Briedwell School District No. 7 was formed as early as 1854. Although no exact location of the predecessor school building is known, it was likely very near the present site, which was leased to the district in 1875 by T. R. Harrison. L. H. Baker's report of the district in 1891 described the schoolhouse as well equipped but "entirely too small for the number of pupils enrolled." Thus, the present schoolhouse was erected in 1895.

In 1957, at the time of consolidation of School District No. 7 with the Amity District, Briedwell School was one of only five one-room schools in Yamhill County still in use. Mildred Williams was the last teacher at Briedwell. According to Mrs. Hugh Shields, who taught there in 1933-1934, all eight grades were taught at Briedwell until a few years before the consolidation when some of the 8th graders were taken to Amity.

The building served as an Amish church after its abandonment in 1957 until the 1970s, and during that period was well maintained without alteration. The building was vacant about ten years thereafter and some deterioration occurred.

The school has been adapted by its current owners for use as a dwelling place. In the process, certain features, such as the belfry, are being restored. The characteristic features and finish work of the interior, including tongue and groove cedar walls, wainscoting and chalk board, and standard period mill finish door and window frames with corner blocks are preserved, as is the sense of a single, undivided schoolroom space.

(continued)

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Settlers coming to Oregon's Willamette Valley in the early 1850's included a man named John W. Briedwell. Originally from Indiana, Briedwell and his new wife began their journey in the Spring of 1852. They suffered many hardships on their way and lost most of their belongings. They reached Portland in the winter of 1852. John bought some wheat and ground it into flour to sell and thus sustained he and his wife through the winter. The following Spring he took a claim of 320 acres near Wheatland, in Yamhill County. After 5 years he sold this land to Joseph Watt and purchased 160 acres of land about one and one-half miles west of Amity. As Mr. Briedwell prospered he built a small house and added to his land until he had about 460 acres of some of the choicest agricultural land in Yamhill County.

In 1881 he erected a warehouse on his property, through which the railroad ran. Soon he became an extensive dealer in grain, handling 100,000 bushels annually. He was well known and trusted by the surrounding farmers. Some farmers would travel extra miles just to have John handle their harvest.

The area where his warehouse stood eventually became known as Briedwell. This tiny community was made up of John's wheat warehouse, a train station, a post office and a schoolhouse.

The school was named after John Briedwell and a fellow settler named Enoch Garrison. The first Garrison-Briedwell school was built around 1867. This building was replaced by the existing school, also named Garrison-Briedwell, in approximately 1895. It was built on, or very near, the same location as the old school. This unusually ornate school and the nearby playshed are all that remain of the community of Briedwell. The train still passes by everyday, but no longer stops.

The first school in Yamhill County was a log cabin built in 1843. The Hembree and Millican families built it near Lafayette close to the Yamhill River. As the population of the County grew more schools were built.

The Garrison-Briedwell School is one of only six remaining schools in the County that was built before 1900. The building is of Queen Anne influence and is the most ornate of these early schools. Bullseye trim frames all windows and doors, and the hardware--door and window plates and pulls--consists of decorative floral motifs. The belfry is also unusually ornate. There isn't another like it in Yamhill County. Garrison-Briedwell School has the same structural features as the others also: one room classroom, post and pier foundation, shiplap siding, balloon framing and a belfry atop their gable roofs. Briedwell is the only one of the six early schools which still has its belfry substantially intact.

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There is a small attached shed, 14' x 14', on the south elevation. It was first used as a wood shed and was later converted to restrooms, replacing the earlier outhouses. This addition appears to have been built early. Perhaps immediately after the school. It does not have the same skirting as the main structure but it was built with square nails and is sheathed in the same siding.

In 1940 windows were removed from the east elevation of the school and moved to the west elevation. Doris Lehman who attended the school many years ago said it was believed "that if the sunlight came in from the left side it would benefit their (students) learning." This left the west elevation with six large double-hung windows and the major source of light. The east side was patched and a chalkboard was put up on the interior wall. There is a playshed just to the west of the school. Built around 1930, it housed horses ridden to school, the teacher's car, and the children played there when it was too rainy outside.

The current owners are in the process of rehabilitating the school for use as a residence. There will be few changes to the exterior, and alterations to the interior will be minimal. They include the addition of a staircase to give access to the unfinished attic to be furnished for a sleeping area. Addition of the stairs will not adversely effect or remove any interior features with the exception of cutting a hole in the ceiling. All interior features including flooring, bullseye trim and blackboards will remain. No interior walls will be erected in the main room.

Today there are 20 schools listed in the Yamhill-County Cultural Resource Inventory. There are only six schools remaining built before 1900. These include: Gibbs School (1895), Hutchcroft School (1877); Moores Valley (1893); Kutch (c 1880); Pleasant Dale (1887); and Briedwell (1895).

When these schools were constructed each of them had very similar features including steep pitched gable roofs, rectangular plan, balloon frame construction, post and pier foundations, shiplap exteriors, and bell towers.

At the turn of the century, school houses adopted a different look. They became more square in shape, generally with two classrooms rather than one. Hipped roofs tended to replace the gable, foundations were of concrete, some with daylight basements, and belltowers were larger. Of the pre-1900 schools, the Gibbs school is in good condition and is now a museum. Hutchcroft School is in fair-good condition, being used as a clubhouse. It has been moved from its original location. Moores

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Valley school is used for hay storage and is in extremely poor condition. It will soon be lost. Kutch School is a residence and appears to be in good condition. There has been a large window added to one side, c. 1940, and the sides are covered with sheets of aluminum. Pleasant Dale School is on a concrete foundation and is in fair condition. Originally one room, it was increased in size to two rooms in 1914. It is currently vacant. Briedwell is in good condition and is being restored. It is the only one with a belfry left, name panel painted on its front and very must in its original state. In addition to being one of the best preserved of Yamhill County's 19th-century school buildings it is also significant for being the last existing building associated with the once-bustling farm community of Briedwell.

Sources

1. Schools of Old Yamhill by Ruth Stoller
2. Interview with Ruth Stoller - Historian - Yamhill County.
3. Interview with Julie Koler - County Cultural Resource Specialist
4. Oregon Geographic Names by Lewis A. McArthur
5. Interview with Doris Lehman-- student at Briedwell school from 1930-1938.

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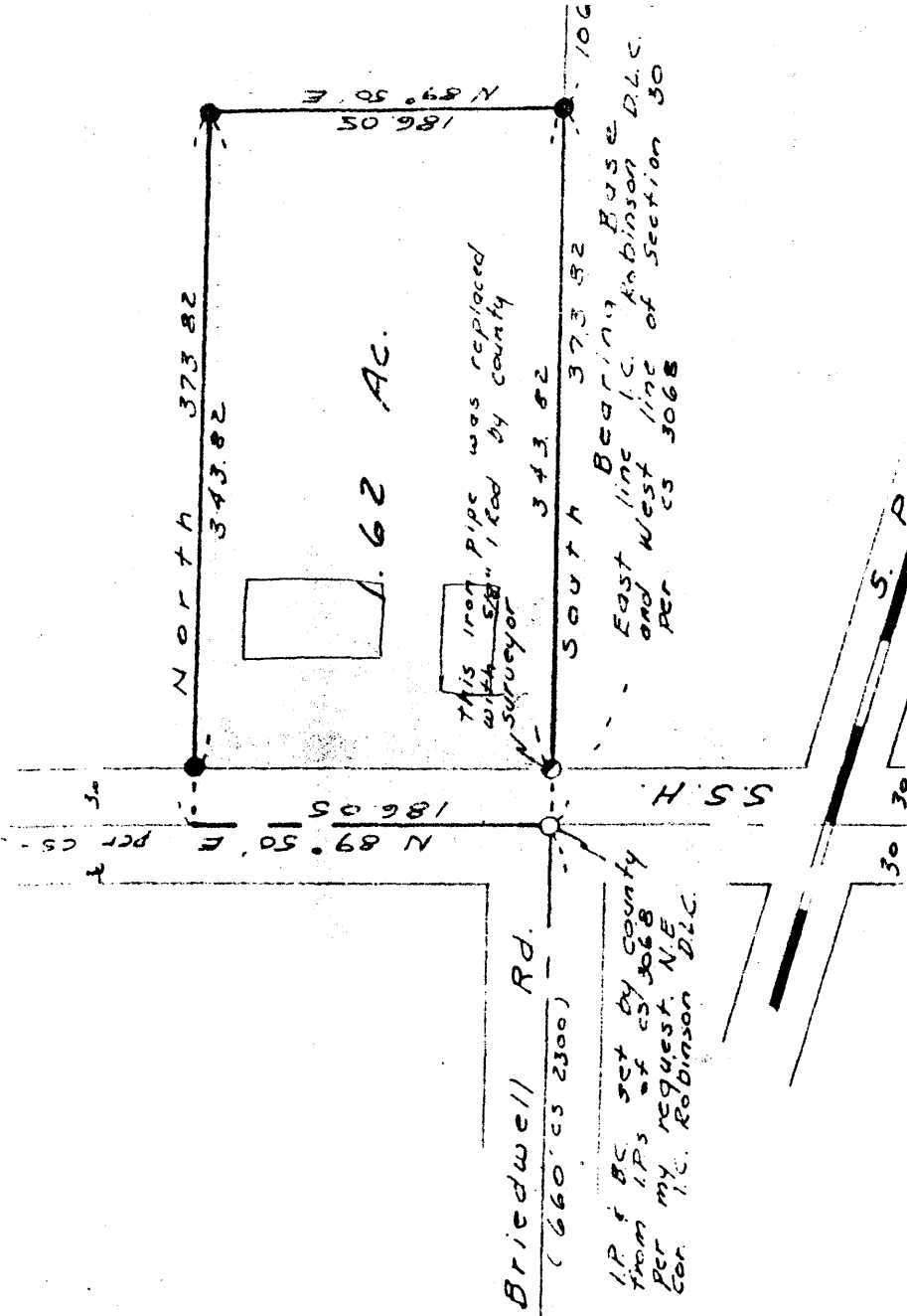
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Beginning at the point of intersection of the south boundary of Bellevue Highway (Highway 153) and the west section line of Section 30, Township 5S, Range 4W, Willamette Meridian, in Yamhill County, Oregon, thence south along said section line 343.82 feet, thence east at a right angle to said section line 186.05 feet, thence north at a right angle 343.82 feet, thence west at a right angle along the south boundary of Bellevue Highway 186.05 feet to the point of beginning, containing in all 1.62 acres, more or less.

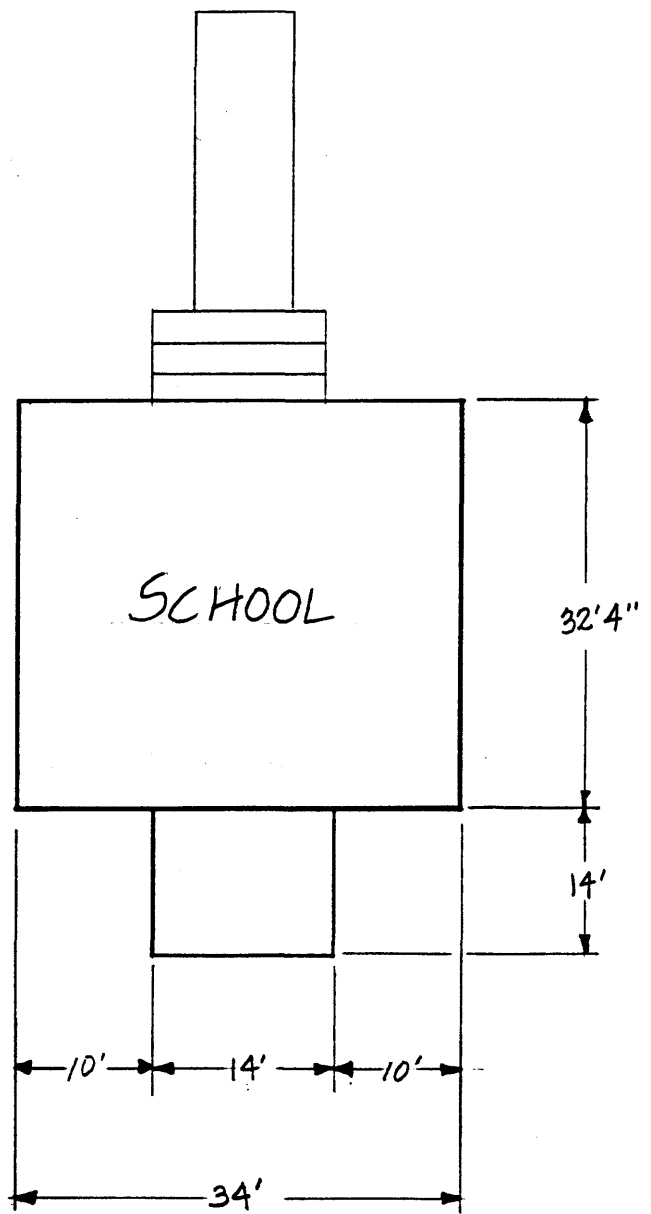
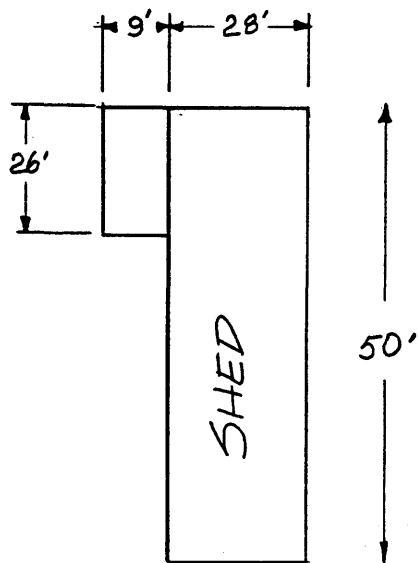
W. I. DUNCAN
 P. O. Box 361
 McMINNINE, OR
 97127-7904

1 Rods set with yellow cap
 led. Duncans 6/5/1942
 1 P. found. from CS 3068 unless
 date of record

VE
 SC of this survey is to
 the tract shown
 on the plat described
 on page 305 of this old school
 plat located on this 162 AC.
 for this survey is iron
 rods from CS 3068.



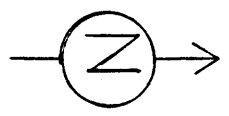
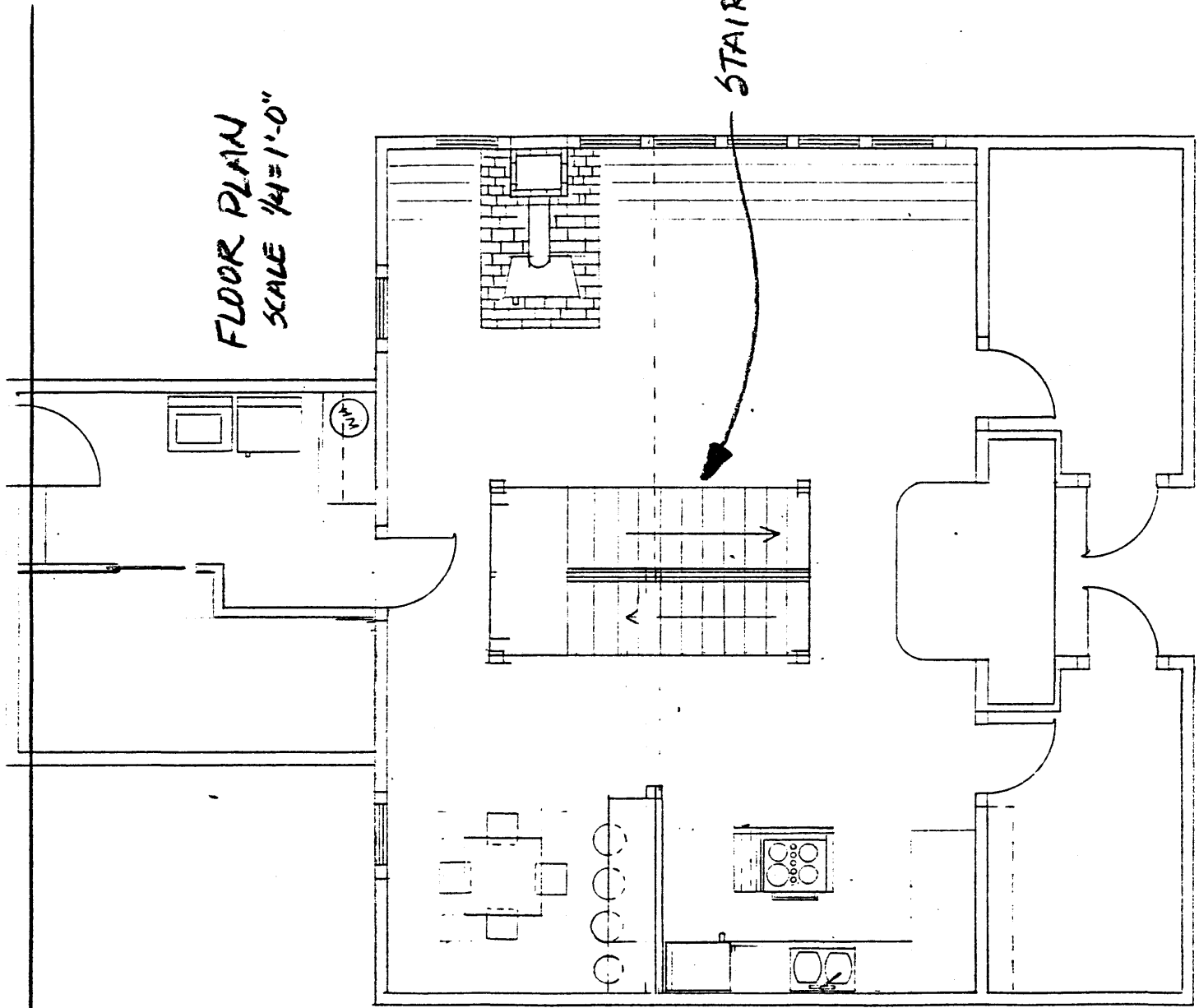
Date: 26 Feb. '84



BRIEDWELL SCHOOL & PLAY SHED DIMENSIONS

FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/4"=1'-0"

STAIRCASE



YAMHILL COUNTY CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

T 5S R 4W Sec 30 1/4 NW

Resource No. B5430/6

I-153

COMMON/HISTORIC NAME: Briedwell School

