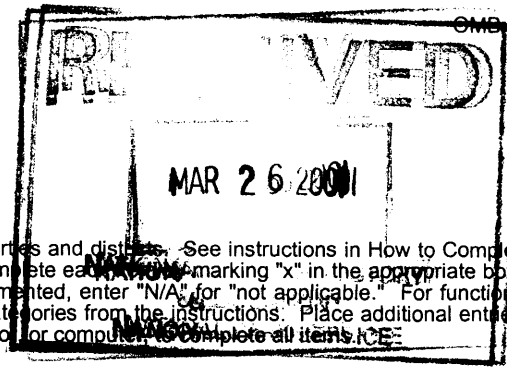


**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**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 any 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 Hernando Elementary School, Old

other names/site number Lakeview School/CI1048

**2. Location**

street & number 2435 North Florida Avenue (US41) N/A  not for publication

city or town Hernando N/A  vicinity

state FLORIDA code FL county Citrus code 017 zip code 34442

**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 forth 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.)

Signature of certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Florida State Historic Preservation Officer, Division of Historical Resources

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
  - See continuation sheet.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper  
Edson W. Beall

Date of Action

5-4-01

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include any previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	2	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	2	total

**Name of related multiple property listings**

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/not in use

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & 20th Century Revivals: Colonial Revival

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls BRICK

WEATHERBOARD

roof ASPHALT

other

**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**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

**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):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 36) 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

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING

**Period of Significance**

1941-1950

**Significant Dates**

1941

**Significant Person**

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Taylor, Henry L.

Works Project Administration

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of Repository

# \_\_\_\_\_

Hernando Elementary School, Old  
Name of Property

Citrus, Florida  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** 1.75 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1	7	3	6	6	1	6	0	3	1	9	7	2	8	0
	Zone		Easting						Northing						
2															

3															
	Zone		Easting						Northing						
4															

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 Kathy Turner-Thompson, Consultant; Gary V. Goodwin, Historic Preservation Planner

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date March, 2001

street & number R.A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough Street telephone (850) 487-2333

city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-0250

**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 School Board of Citrus County

street & number 1007 West Main Street telephone 352-726-1931

city or town Inverness state Florida zip code 34450-4625

**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 amend listings. 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 20503.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1

**OLD HERNANDO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
Hernando, Citrus County, Florida**

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**SUMMARY**

The Hernando Elementary School, built between 1941 and 1942, is located at 2700 North Florida Avenue (U.S. 41), in Hernando, Citrus County, Florida. It is situated east of the west alignment alternative for US 41. This irregularly shaped Colonial Revival style school is of masonry construction, clad with brick and weatherboard siding, and has a combination gable and hip roof. It has very little ornamentation, but notable features include 18/12 single hung sash; round arched windows with arched lintels; 9/9 and 6/6 double-hung wooden sash windows; wire-cut brick laid in a common sixth course header pattern; and a pair of six-light, one panel doors under a six light transom. Sometime between 1974 and 1984, two concrete block buildings, a classroom building and a restroom facility, were constructed north of the original school. These were connected to the original school structure by covered walkways in 1980.

**SETTING**

The community of Hernando is situated on both sides of US 41 in northern Citrus County, which is located north of Tampa, Florida. The school is located on the southeast corner of North Florida Avenue (US 41) and East Parsons Point Road. The building is slightly south of the original town center and adjacent to a vacant lot that overlooks Hernando Lake. The lake is located in northern part of the Tsala Apopka chain of lakes and was named after Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto. Several historic oak trees are situated on the site; the most magnificent one is to the east side of the building. The property is located on a parcel in an area that is zoned for both commercial and rural use.

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

The Hernando Elementary School is a one-story masonry building distinguished by Colonial Revival detailing. The school is constructed of wire cut brick laid in a common sixth course header bond set on a brick pier foundation covered by a brick apron that is flush with the exterior wall. The roof is a combination gable and hip, and the gable ends are clad in weatherboard siding. The school is irregularly shaped and forms a T with one long block containing classrooms intersecting with the short north block that houses the auditorium and cafeteria. The main facade fronts North Florida Avenue (US 41), facing slightly northwest and is located at the juncture of the two blocks on the northwest facade of the building (Photograph 1/10). This area features paired six-light, one-panel doors set under a six-light transom (Photograph 2/10).

Two secondary entrances mirror the main entrance. These are centrally located on the north and south elevations. The north entrance is sheltered by a covered walkway that was installed in 1980. A concrete handicap entrance ramp was attached to this entrance in 1984. The south entrance features a small gable-roofed stoop. An entrance on the east facade mirrors the entrance on the west facade, but was enclosed in 1974. All that remains of this entrance is a small shed roof and stoop. A set of paired metal doors was installed on the

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Section number 7 Page 2

**OLD HERNANDO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
Hernando, Citrus County, Florida**

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east elevation of the north block at the ground level in 1984. These doors provided access to a small elevator, which enabled handicapped children to access the stage.

The main entrance on the northwest facade features paired six-light, one-panel doors set under a six-light transom (Photograph 3/10). The entrances on the south and north reflect the main entrance and are centrally located on these elevations. Although some windows have been enclosed by mechanical and air conditioning equipment, the school retains most of the original windows, the window openings, and the original fenestration pattern. The fenestration pattern on the west facade is irregular. The west facade of the north block features three eighteen-over-twelve, single-hung sash, round-arched wood windows with arched lintels. Each of these is separated by an expanse of wall. The north window was covered on the inside and an exhaust fan was placed in the upper portion of the window when the cafeteria was set up in the auditorium in 1974. One identical arched window is also located on the south-facing portion of the north block. South of the entrance on the west facade are two banks of five nine-over-nine, double-hung sash, wood windows with ca.1960 metal awnings. The two sets of windows are divided by an expanse of wall and a single window, which has been enclosed with mechanical equipment. The south facade features the central south entrance flanked by a set of paired, six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood windows (Photograph 4/10). In 1984, the windows set on the west; the south and the north elevations were also enclosed with mechanical equipment. The east elevation is characterized by an irregular fenestration pattern of six-over-six and nine-over-nine, double-hung sash, wood windows (Photograph 5/10). At the south end, a six-over-six, double-hung sash window is separated from a ribbon of nine-over-nine, double-hung sash windows by an expanse of wall. A small section of wall separates the enclosed window from a pair of six-over-six, double-hung sash windows followed by more wall and what was formerly a pair of nine-over-nine, double-hung sash windows.

North of this area, the former east entrance was enclosed in 1960 with stucco and an eight-light metal casement window. On the east elevation of the north block, two six-over-six double-hung sash windows are located at either end and placed higher than the paired six-over-six double-hung sash windows located slightly south of the center of the block. The north elevation features two six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood windows separated by a small section of wall (Photograph 6/10). This centrally located entrance is covered by a 1980 metal overhang and accessed by a concrete handicap ramp, added in 1984. West of this entrance is a row of five, eighteen-over-twelve, round-arched, single-hung sash wood windows, each separated by sections of wall (Photograph 7/10). These occupy the west half of the elevation. Mechanical equipment partially encloses two of the windows. A small wood shed with a metal flue, ca. 1984, was attached to the building west of the westernmost windows on the north elevation.

A gable roof is featured on the north block, while the south extension has a hip roof. The roof is covered with composition shingles that are not original to the building. A brick interior chimney is located in the north block on the eastern end of the north slope. The building features very few decorative elements. The wood cornice with returns on the gable ends is typical of the Colonial Revival style and bricks laid in a rowlock

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**OLD HERNANDO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
Hernando, Citrus County, Florida**

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pattern delineate the water table. Around the entire school are small grill covered openings regularly spaced below the water table (Photograph 8/10).

The north block contains the original auditorium and stage. Like the rest of the interior, it is in fair condition. The south block has a hallway that stretches from the entrance to the east and at the center of the building runs south. The seating area of the auditorium was converted into a cafeteria in 1974 and the area behind the cafeteria, the western portion, was converted into a kitchen. Consequently, walls were erected and some windows were enclosed with air conditioning units. The stage and rear rooms, located in the eastern half of the block, remain in good condition (Photograph 9/10). The rest of the building, the south block, contains classrooms with the original doors, pressed glass panes, entrances, and interior spaces. Throughout the building, the original wood floors were covered with carpet and tile in 1974. Most of the interior walls are surfaced with plaster including the hallway and auditorium, which feature a plaster finish above wood-beaded wainscoting. Acoustical tile with recessed fluorescent lighting was installed in 1974 and 1984. The original classroom doors are four-light over three-panel. The interior auditorium doors are paired, six-light, one-panel doors under a five-light transom. Bathrooms with original doors are located on the eastern portion of the south block. In 1974 and 1984, when air conditioning and a new lighting system was installed, the ceilings were lowered and some windows were enclosed. In 1984, the elementary school was converted into a school for handicapped students. Ten years later, the handicapped students moved to a new facility and the school was closed. The school has remained vacant and unused since that time and is labeled surplus property by the Citrus County School Board.

The building retains a high degree of integrity in the both interior and exterior, because it has been continuously used as a school. It is an excellent example of a rural 1940's school, designed by Henry Taylor and constructed by the efforts of the community and the WPA.

**NONCONTRIBUTING RESOURCES**

There are two non-historic buildings attached to the north end of the school by a covered walkway. One building constructed in 1974 is a simple flat-roof rectangular concrete block building that contains the handicapped restroom facility (Photograph 10/10). The other is a U-shaped concrete block building erected in 1984. It has a gable roof and contains multiple classrooms. The playground area located on the southeast section of the school has some remaining equipment.

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**OLD HERNANDO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
Hernando, Citrus County, Florida**

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**SUMMARY**

The Hernando Elementary School, built between 1941 and 1942, is located at 2700 North Florida Avenue (U.S. 41), in Hernando, Citrus County, Florida. This masonry building replaced the original wood-framed Hernando School, which stood on the same site and was a focal point for the community for 41 years. The school is significant at the local level under criteria A and C in the areas of Community Planning, Education, and Architecture. It is an excellent example of a WPA (Works Progress Administration) project designed by the noted architect Henry L. Taylor. It is the only remaining public historic building in the City of Hernando. It has retained a high level of craftsmanship and integrity and remains a significant architectural resource in the community of Hernando and Citrus County.

**HISTORIC CONTEXT**

The small town of Hernando, Florida, is so named after Hernando De Soto, who crossed the Withlacoochee River in this vicinity. The town was founded in 1881 by the Croft and VanNess families who settled by the shore of the Lake Tsala Apopka. When phosphate was discovered in 1889 in nearby Dunnellon, thousands of people descended on the area and Hernando received an influx of new residents to work the mines. As a result, the West Coast Improvement Company surveyed and platted the town of Hernando in 1891. When the Silver Springs, Ocala, and Gulf railroad arrived in the community, the town of Hernando became an important shipping point for phosphate for the next 20 years.

By 1902, the town supported three doctors, a dentist, two drug stores, and a public well located in the center of Lake Street. Most of the buildings were of wood construction, and susceptible to destruction by fire. A good example of this was the loss of the Edwards and Turner department store around 1911. In 1910, the phosphate industry peaked with 34 mines operating in the county, but World War I devastated the industry in the area. Shipments of phosphate to Germany were suspended and the industry never regained its prominence again. When the mines closed, the workers moved in search of employment and the population fell from 6,731 in 1910 to 5,220 in 1920. The remaining populace turned to farming, turpentine, and citrus and cattle raising to sustain themselves.

Before the 1920s there existed 30 to 35 schools in the general area. Most of them were small elementary schools with 1-4 teachers. If they could afford to, older children continued their education at the County High School which opened in Inverness in 1882. Only larger communities contained segregated schools for African-Americans who composed the primary work force for the phosphate mines. The School Superintendent managed the county school system, with each school district having its own funds and trustees. The trustees, usually a small group of individuals, were responsible for their schools, the signing of monthly and annual reports, and the hiring of teachers.



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**OLD HERNANDO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
Hernando, Citrus County, Florida**

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The first school in Hernando was established in 1892. Mrs. R.M. Spires, the Hernando correspondent for the Citrus County Chronicle, stated in a 1952 article that the original school was “first built here in 1892 on or near the present site of the bus station.” Then a teacher with a third grade certificate received \$35 a month and the County Superintendent walked from school to school, paying his official visits, for the sum of \$25 a month. Eugene A. Harrison, the county’s first Superintendent, was Superintendent at that time.

A 1908 photograph of the “Hernando Graded School” shows a one story, L-shaped, wood framed school with a bell tower. Prior to 1920, a new school was constructed in Hernando that, according to a photograph from that period, had only twenty students and one teacher. Later during that same period, an updated photograph in front of the school showed almost forty students. The one-and-a-half story, wood-framed school featured a hip roof with gable dormers, two-over-two double-hung sash windows, and an entrance with a transom and sidelights. School construction continued in the county throughout the boom time of the 1920s. During the depression of the 1930s, the smaller communities that had not received newer schools during the previous decade desperately needed new facilities due to overcrowding and dilapidated buildings. The desperation of this period is reflected by the fact that many cities and counties were almost bankrupt. For example, the City of Hernando, which had been created in 1925 by an act of the legislature, voted to discontinue operations in 1937 due to a lack of money. In order to finance the building of schools for smaller communities, the county government and school board had to pursue grants and other forms of federal assistance.

One such assistance program was the Works Progress Administration (WPA), which was established by the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1935. The WPA provided funding for local, non-federal projects by supplying money to hire local workers to perform the construction. The WPA provided correspondingly wider employment opportunities than other federal relief programs which controlled all aspects of construction, such as the Public Works Administration (PWA). Initially, the WPA funded only small “non-construction” ventures with a cost of under \$25,000 with the maximum employment of white-collar workers. In contrast, the PWA funded large construction projects for which the cost was estimated to be more than \$25,000. Often, applications rejected by the PWA were automatically submitted to the WPA for consideration. Congress approved the final appropriation of funds for the PWA in June of 1938 for project completion by June of 1940. Further allocations allowed project completion to be extended to June of 1941. With the end of the PWA in the 1940s, the WPA became the primary source for funding for small school projects. The Citrus County School Board applied for and received federal assistance for the construction of several schools in the area. These included the Citrus High School (partially demolished), Crystal River Elementary School, Lecanto Elementary School, Floral City Elementary School (extensively altered), and the Homosassa Elementary School (demolished), as well as the Hernando Elementary School. Of these six schools, only three remain unaltered.

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**OLD HERNANDO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
Hernando, Citrus County, Florida**

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**HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE**

On September 3, 1940, the Citrus County School Board formed an agreement "employing the services of an architect for the proposed school building, Hernando, Florida, County of Citrus, Florida, between the Board of Public Instruction for the County of Citrus, State of Florida, and Henry L. Taylor, St. Petersburg, Florida." According to the agreement, the Citrus County School Board intended "to erect a one story school building in Hernando, Florida, with the assistance of the WPA." Although it was apparently impossible to determine the cost of the project since it was based on the actual cost to the WPA for labor and materials, the projected cost was estimated at \$40,000. The School Board agreed to the architectural fee of 6%, which was recommended by the American Institute of Architects for this type of structure. Thus, Taylor was promised \$2,400 plus reimbursement for transportation, telegram, toll call, and living expenses (estimated at \$7000) for designing and supervising the construction of the school. If the project were abandoned in the future, the architect would be reimbursed for expenses and receive two dollars per hour for the time spent preparing the project. The architect in turn agreed to "prepare the necessary drawings, specifications, supervise the work of installation, strive to have the work constructed in accordance with the drawing and specifications, and endeavor to guard the owner against defects and deficiencies in the work and materials."

On July 8, 1941, the Citrus County School Board passed a new resolution so as not to "expend a large sum of money for repairs" on the existing school. According to the minutes, the plans and specifications for the new school building in Hernando were prepared and approved as a WPA project under State Application Project number 50178 by the governmental agencies on November 14, 1940. The resolution was intended to encourage the WPA official to immediately open the construction of the new Hernando Public School Building. The county, at the time, had only one WPA project under construction, the school at Floral City, which was 75% completed. The immediate opening of the Hernando school project would keep those presently employed on the WPA roll still working. Additionally, the school would "serve a two-fold purpose, to-wit: to provide both a white and colored school building." The School Board intended to move the old school off the present grounds to continue to be used temporarily until the new building was completed.

The School Board was still trying to initiate construction in October and again in November 1941. In October, the School Board passed another resolution to be sent to the WPA to encourage the WPA to open the project. According to the resolution, the school was an "urgent necessity for school facilities for both the white and colored school children, of Hernando." The construction of the school would not interfere with any Defense Project, and the plans had been fully approved by the State Department of Education. The School Board wanted to keep the construction workers at the Floral City School employed by reiterating that the school in Floral City was almost completed. With the completion of this school, there would be no WPA project of any kind in the county. It appeared that the Floral City School would be completed under budget with ample supplies remaining. Steel and \$13,000 of funds could be shifted to the Hernando School once the WPA opened the project. A week later, on November 3, 1941, the Citrus County School Board met in joint session with the

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**OLD HERNANDO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
Hernando, Citrus County, Florida**

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Board of County Commissioners to pass a resolution giving priority to certain WPA projects. The Hernando School received top priority with the request to WPA officials that “the School House Project at Hernando be given first consideration and the urgency of same being opened up immediately.” In addition, the Boards listed two road projects as well as “the Sewing Room Project and the School Lunchroom Project be continued as heretofore and not interrupted or interfered with” as priorities for WPA funding. The Citrus County School Board Minutes, which periodically appeared in the Citrus County Chronicle, did not contain any further references to the construction of the school. The WPA apparently opened the project without public notice and construction started within months after the request.

By September 1942, a school lunchroom (possibly within the existing building) had opened in Hernando. It was managed by Julia Herring and sponsored by the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and the government (WPA). In March 1943, the lunchroom closed because the WPA was discontinued. The PTA pledged to raise money to reopen the lunchroom for the last six weeks of the school year. The teachers during this period were Myrtie Bishop, with a salary of \$120 per month, and Annie Lee Williams, the teacher for the African-American children, with a salary of \$75 per month. Trustees for the Hernando district were listed as Susie Muldrow, Ben Croft, and Rivert Lamon. For the 1942-43 School year, Citrus County supported thirteen white and seven “colored” schools with I. R. Nolen as the School Superintendent.

Although the county population continued to grow during the 1940s, the population of Hernando actually decreased 24.4% from 402 residents in 1940 to 304 in 1950. The migration of individuals from small communities to larger towns prompted a growing trend toward government consolidation. For example, in 1953, citizens voted against reactivating the Hernando City Council. As an unincorporated community, the county government administered services for area residents. Although the citizens voted against reincorporating their city government, Hernando residents fought to keep their local elementary school. Mrs. R.M. Spires, the Hernando correspondent for the Citrus County Chronicle, stated in a 1952 article that, “the attractive modern school building which is the pride of citizens who have worked to keep our school from being swallowed up in centralization is a far cry from the little schoolhouse first built here in 1892.”

Through the years, as the population slowly increased again, new facilities were added to the school to handle the growing needs of the children. In 1956, School Superintendent Roger Weaver and Principal Edna Merriken dedicated the Hernando Elementary School Library in the memory of the late G. W. Bellah, Sr., former Chairman of the School Board for eighteen years. As physical education was integrated into the school curriculum, a playground area was established southeast of the school. By the mid-1970s, the student population totaled 156 children from kindergarten through the fourth grade. The growth of the school prompted the construction of two new buildings. One, a restroom facility, was constructed in 1974, while the other, a U-shaped classroom building, was built around 1984. Due to student population growth, the elementary school moved into a new building in 1983. The Citrus County School Board decided to use the old school, which was renamed the Lakeview School, as a center for the emotionally and physically handicapped.

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**OLD HERNANDO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
Hernando, Citrus County, Florida**

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The Hernando Elementary School is significant for its role in the planning and development of the community. As the only school in the area, the building was a focal point of the development of the area into a community. Many of the other buildings, which were part of the community's development, have been demolished. The Hernando Elementary School is the last surviving public building of historical prominence in Hernando. As a WPA-funded school, the building is typical of the type of construction financed through the public works program of the Roosevelt administration in the 1930s. Projects like the Hernando Elementary School signified a trend toward increased federal and state funding to finance schools and many other aspects of everyday life. Although several WPA projects were constructed in Citrus County during the 1930s and 1940s, this school was the only project of this type constructed in Hernando.

**ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT**

Architecturally, the Colonial Revival style gained popularity after the Philadelphia Centennial of 1876 and continued as a prevalent style through the 1940s. Although one of the most frequently used styles for residential construction, it was rarely used for commercial and public construction. The height and massing of these types of buildings generally required a larger and more grand detailing associated with the Neoclassical style and Beaux Arts Classicism. After 1920, Mediterranean Revival and similar eclectic styles predominated over Colonial Revival. In small communities in Florida, where wood was more plentiful than clay, commercial or public buildings composed of brick were initially rare. Generally, masonry construction was reserved for the most important community buildings such as courthouses and schools. These buildings were often designed in the Colonial Revival style.

The Colonial Revival style is defined by the application of architectural details dating from the Colonial period in America to contemporary building forms. Elements from the Georgian and Federal styles, as well as occasional influences from the Post Medieval English and Dutch Colonial prototypes, were usually applied in an eclectic mixture to a standard building form. Common detailing included: an accentuated front door, usually with a pediment supported by pilasters or a small entry porch; doors with overhead fanlights or sidelights; a symmetrical appearance; windows with double-hung sashes and multi-light glazing in one or both sashes, often set in pairs.

The Great Depression and World War II led to a simplification of the style in the 1930s and 1940s with stylized door surrounds, cornices, or other details that merely suggested the colonial precedents rather than mirroring them. Often, these later buildings are asymmetrical, rather than following the strict symmetry common with earlier examples.

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**OLD HERNANDO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
Hernando, Citrus County, Florida**

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**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Hernando Elementary School is significant at the local level as a fine local example of the Colonial Revival style that was designed by noted architect Henry L. Taylor. Taylor designed the school at the end of his twenty-year residence in Florida. Taylor moved to St. Petersburg, Florida, in 1921 to manage the southern branch of Richney, Parsons, and Taylor, an architectural partnership out of Boston. During the land boom of the 1920s, Taylor designed several notable buildings in St. Petersburg, including the Vinoy Park Hotel, the Florida Theater, St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, St. Paul's Catholic Church, Southside Middle School, Jungle Country Club Hotel (Admiral Farragut Academy), Little St. Mary's Comfort Station, and Jungle Prada, as well as a number of downtown office buildings and St. Petersburg residences. Taylor also acted as chairman of the group of architects who designed Jordan Park, St. Petersburg's first public housing unit.

When the Great Depression hit Florida, Taylor found work as designer for buildings funded through the federal relief programs of the Roosevelt administration, such as the WPA and the PWA. Through these programs, he designed the Bradenton Post Office, Yankeetown Elementary School in Levy County, the civic center in Inverness, Citrus High School of Inverness, and the Hernando Elementary School. The Hernando Elementary School, designed in 1940, was one of Taylor's last Florida designs. In that year, he moved to Washington, DC, to work for the Supervising Architect's Office of the Bureau of Public Buildings. Taylor died in 1958 in Arlington, Virginia. Most of his Florida work appears to have been designed in the Mediterranean Revival and Romanesque Revival styles. Citrus High School (only the former library remains from a 1985 fire) and Hernando Elementary School were atypical designs for Taylor due to his use of the Colonial Revival style for those buildings.

The Hernando Elementary School is a modest, asymmetrical version of the Colonial Revival style with simple architectural details that suggest the Colonial Revival influence. The school displays masonry construction of wire cut brick set in a common sixth course header pattern, multi-light, double-hung sash, wood windows, round arched single-hung sash windows with arched lintels, paired doors with multiple lights and panels, transoms, and a wood cornice with returns, all of which are hallmarks of the Colonial Revival style. The existing alterations are mostly interior and are generally reversible. Therefore, the school retains its integrity in terms of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The school is the only substantial Colonial Revival style building which remains in the Hernando community, and it is a good example of this style as it was applied to public buildings.

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**OLD HERNANDO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
Hernando, Citrus County, Florida**

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

Legal Description

Begin at intersection of North Boundary of SE1/4 of NE1/4 with East right-of-way Line of SR 45 being South 89 degrees 9M 30S E 28 four feet from northwest corner of SE1/4 OF NE1/4. Then south 31 degrees 30M Ease AL E right-of-way LN 354.8feet. Then north 89 degrees 55M 45S E 417.47 FT, then north 0 degrees 15M 30S W 293, 16 feet to north boundary of SE1/4 OF NE1/4. Then north 89 degrees 9M 30S W AL north boundary 601.6 feet to point of beginning, and commence at SW COR OF NE1/4 OF NE1/4, then south 89 degrees 3 9M 5S E AL S BDRY OF NE1/4 OF NE1/4 328.53 FT being in northwest corner of Hernando Baptist Church property. Then north 0 degrees 47 M11SW 32.6 feet to point on south right-of-way line of property road, Then south 84 degrees 4 0 M18 SW AL S right-of-way of property road 329.5 FT to point of beginning. DESC IN O R BK 48 PG 186 &BK 100 PG 151 1991 LESS OUTS OR BK 898 PG 1811 (7 0000-1010)

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary encompasses all historical elements that are associated with the Old Hernando Elementary School and contribute to the significance of the property.



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Hernando, Citrus County, Florida**

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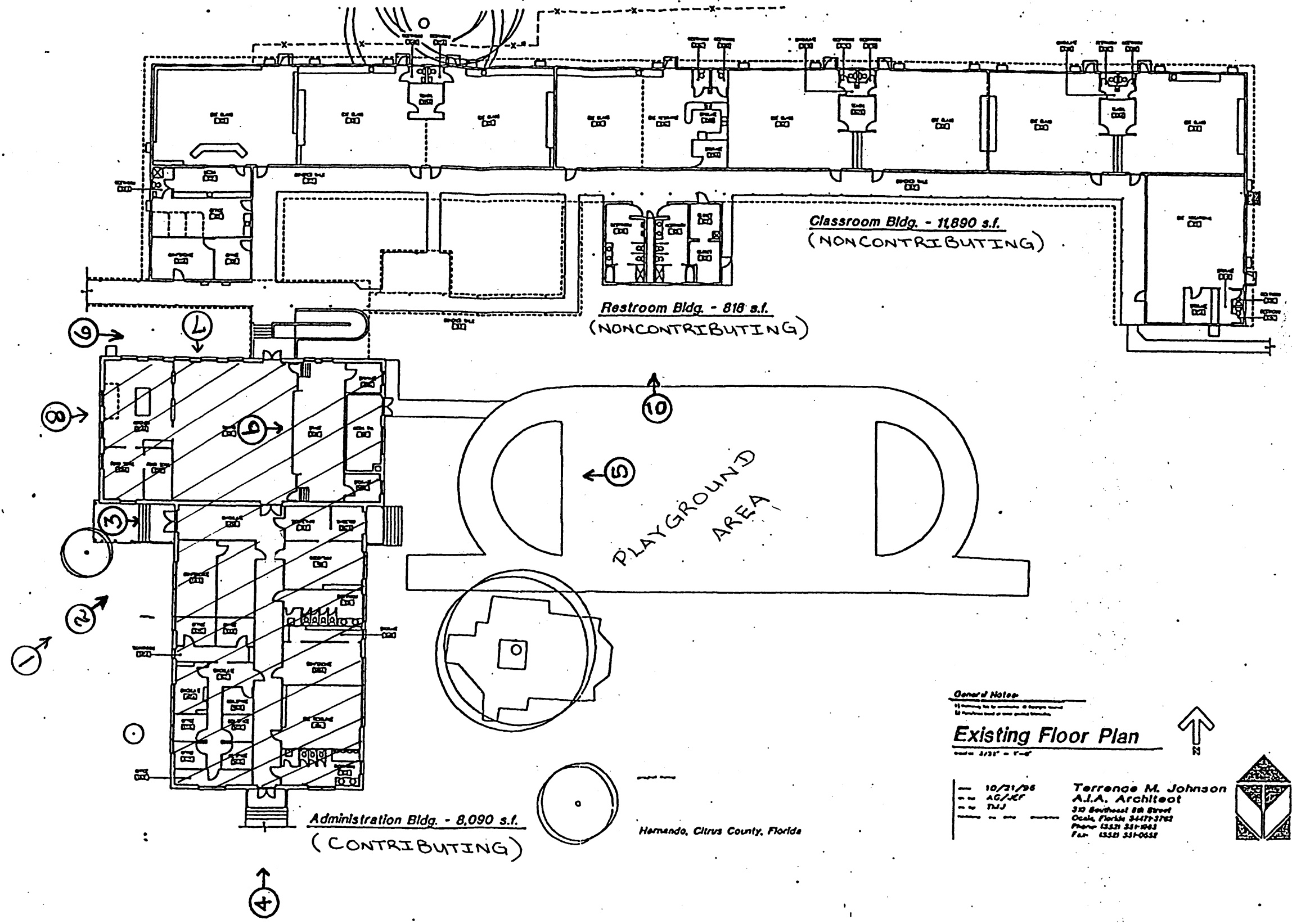
**PHOTOGRAPHS**

1. Old Hernando Elementary School
2. 2435 North Florida Avenue (US41), Hernando, Citrus County, Florida
3. Kathy Turner-Thompson
4. December, 2000
5. Citrus County Historical Society, Inverness, Florida
6. View showing front (west) façade, camera facing northeast
7. Photograph number 1 of 10

Numbers 1-5 are the same for the remaining photographs:

6. West elevation close-up showing roof, shuttered windows , camera facing northeast
7. Photograph number 2 of 10
  
6. Main (west) entrance, showing doors and transom, camera facing east
7. Photograph number 3 of 10
  
6. South elevation showing doors, windows, cornice returns, camera facing north
7. Photograph number 4 of 10
  
6. East elevation showing windows, chimney, grounds, camera facing west
7. Photograph number 5 of 10
  
6. North elevation showing arched windows, covered walkway, camera facing southeast
7. Photograph number 6 of 10
  
6. North elevation close-up showing detail of arched windows, camera facing south
7. Photograph number 7 of 10
  
6. West elevation close-up showing arched windows, water table, grill covered openings, camera facing east
7. Photograph number 8 of 10
  
6. Interior showing auditorium/cafeteria, camera facing east
7. Photograph number 9 of 10
  
6. Noncontributing restroom and classroom buildings, camera facing north
7. Photograph number 10 of 10

**OLD HERNANDO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
 Hernando, Citrus County, Florida  
 Photographs = ♂



**General Notes**

- 1) Existing floor to be removed at location shown
- 2) Existing floor to be retained at location shown

**Existing Floor Plan**

Scale: 1/32" = 1'-0"

10/21/96  
 AG/JCF  
 TJJ

**Terrence M. Johnson**  
 A.I.A. Architect  
 310 Southeast 8th Street  
 Ocala, Florida 34477-3702  
 Phone: 352-311-8643  
 Fax: 352-311-0652



Hernando, Citrus County, Florida

**OLD HERNANDO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
Hernando, Citrus County, Florida

Boundary = 

