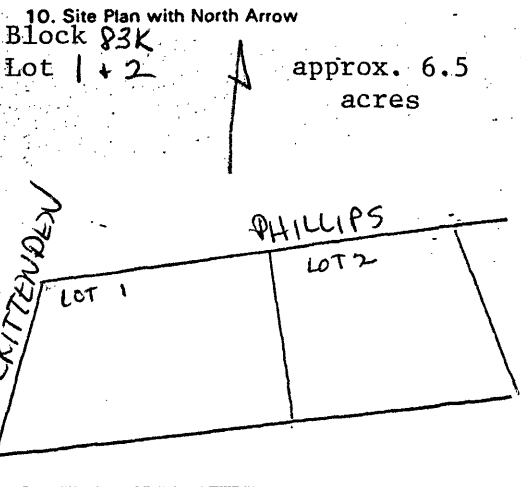


KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Site No. SE-1

1. Historic Name(s) Original Owner		James Russell Lowell Elementary School		22. ADD/County	JF	0516
2. Present Name		James Russell Lowell Elementary School		23. U.S.G.S. Quadrant (15'/75')	East Louisville	079
3. Location		4501 Crittenden Drive		24. UTM Reference	16	609500 4227200
4. Owner's Name		Jefferson County Board of Education		Zone	Easting	Northing
5. Owner's Address		3332 Newburg Road/ Lou., KY 40218		25. Coordinate Accuracy	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Open to Public Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	7. Visible from road Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	8. Ownership		26. Prehistoric Site	Object	
		Private <input type="checkbox"/>		Historic Site	Structure	
		Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	Other	
		State <input type="checkbox"/>		27. National Register District Name:		
		Federal <input type="checkbox"/>				
9. Local Contact/Organization Louisville Landmarks Commission 727 W. Main St. / Lou., KY 40202				28. Significance Evaluation meets National Reg. criteria <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		



11. Architect	
12. Builder	(1931) Geo. H. Rommel
13. Date	1916; 1931 A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14. Style	A. Vernacular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. Art Deco <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
15. Original Use	educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
16. Present use	educational
17. Condition	good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No. Stories	2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Single Pile	NA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Double Pile	<input type="checkbox"/>
Floor Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Structural Fabric	brick; tile A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Decorative Fabric	wood A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cement B. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Roof Form	hipped; built up

29. Status	Date
National Landmark	<input type="checkbox"/>
National Register	<input type="checkbox"/>
Landmark Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kentucky Survey	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local Landmark	<input type="checkbox"/>
HABS/HAER	<input type="checkbox"/>
30. Historic Theme	
Primary	architecture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Secondary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
31. Endangered	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
32. Preservation Project Status	<input type="checkbox"/>
Actual Cost in \$1,000s	<input type="checkbox"/>

18. Description

The 1916 section of Lowell Elementary is a one-story brick structure on a raised basement with a slate roof. The building is symmetrical with a central entry bay and flanking wings, each containing a projected bay. The eaves are very wide throughout the school design. The roof gables over the entry bay, the flanking projecting bays and the windows on the sides of the

(Continue on Back)

19. History

Lowell Elementary School was built in 1916 in Highland Park, at that time outside the Louisville city limits. It was known as the East Highland Park School. Annexation of Highland Park and many areas of South Louisville into the corporate city limits in the 1920s caused this

(OVER)

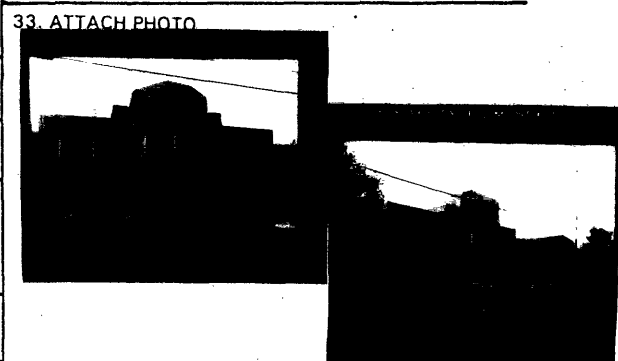
20. Significance

Lowell Elementary is an excellent example of both the vernacular, institutional architecture of the period (1916) and of the Art Deco style as it was incorporated

(OVER)

21. Source of Information

Caron Annual Directories of the City of Louisville
Jefferson County Board of Education, Archives
Kramer, Carl. Louisville Survey Central and South,
Louisville Community Development Cabinet, 1978.



Roll No. Roll 144 / Roll 143

Picture No. 5-10 / 23-24

Direction _____

34. Prepared by

M. A. Allgeier
Researcher

35. Organization

Louisville Landmarks Commission

36. Date 3-9-83

37. Revision Dates _____ 38. Staff Review _____

18. building, and the gables are all supported by knee braces. The entry is arched with double doors and a transom light. Small paired arched windows are located above. Paired arched windows also flank the entry. All other windows are six-over-one and paired or single. The basement-story windows are smaller with relieving arches. The ends of the building are identical, each containing a large arched opening nearly the full height of the building with paired doors on the ground level. Blind arched windows flank the entrance. A cupola/bell tower is centered on the building. It is four sided with arched openings supported by columns.

The 1931 section of the school faces Phillips Lane and is connected to the older school by a one-story corridor. It is also symmetrical with a two-and-one-half-story entry bay which is three sided and has a hipped tile roof. Wide cement pilasters rise from the foundation to the cornice with stylized cement panels just below the sectional cement cornice line. Round windows are located on the third level of this bay, standard windows on the second and paired doors on the first in each side of the three-sided bay. The flanking wings are two story and the same cement pilasters between paired windows. On the end wings, which are gabled, the cornice line contains decorative brickwork and windows are located only on the first floor with large arch motifs in brick above.

19. and several other county schools to fall under Louisville Board of Education. For several years, thereafter, the overcrowding of schools in this area was a political "hot potato". Finally, in 1931, several new schools were built in the area. Additions were also made to existing schools, as was the case with Lowell Elementary.

20. into an institutional design. The original section of the building is reminiscent of the vernacular residential styles of this same period. It is intact including the only bell tower on a public school building remaining in Louisville.

In 1931, when several new school buildings were constructed in the south end, nearly all used the Art Deco style. Lowell Elementary is the finest example of these, and one of the finest city wide. The unusual entry tower with cement pilasters, panels and cornice with stylized motifs is typical of the style and well adapted here to an institutional use.

Combined, these two very different building styles compliment one another and are an integral part of the development of Highland Park as a suburb of Louisville.



The buildings occupy City Block 83K Lots 1 & 2. The site contains the two buildings described herein and surrounding lawn, with paved areas to the rear.

