

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: North Bass School

Other names/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

## 2. Location

Street & number: 515 Kenny Rd.

City or town: Isle St. George State: Ohio County: Ottawa

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national      X statewide      X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A      \_\_\_ B      X C      \_\_\_ D

<p><i>Barbara Powers</i>  <b>DSHPO for Inventory &amp; Registration</b></p>	<p><b>May 7, 2020</b></p>
<p><b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b>  <u>Ohio History Connection, State Historic Preservation Office</u></p>	<p><b>Date</b></p>
<p><b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>	

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In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

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<b>Signature of commenting official:</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Title :</b>	<b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

*Lisa Deline*  
Signature of the Keeper

6/22/2020  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

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**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)

District

Site

Structure

Object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	sites
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	structures
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

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.)

EDUCATION/school

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/Colonial Revival

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### Summary Paragraph

The North Bass School is located on North Bass Island, Ottawa County in Lake Erie. North Bass Island is the northernmost Ohio island, situated less than 2 miles south of the United States/Canada border, north of South Bass which includes the village of Put-in-Bay, Middle Bass Island and Kelleys Island, roughly 60 miles northwest of Cleveland and 18 miles north of Port Clinton, the Ottawa County seat. The North Bass School is a purpose-built, one-room school with a teacher's residence. Built in 1952 of concrete block with red brick facing veneer, it was Ohio's longest and last operating one-room schoolhouse. The school was specifically constructed as a "fireproof" school (photo 14). The school was constructed within a vineyard and designed as a mid-century, minimal traditional brick ranch plan with Colonial Revival elements. The classroom having a northern wall of 14 windows including seven (7) operable awning windows to capture indirect northerly light and to also provide ventilation. The building is intact as built and remains operational with only cosmetic updates. The nomination includes the school building and surrounding playground site. There are no non-contributing resources included in the nomination. A concrete sidewalk traverses from the road to the front of the school building, crossing south east and south along the building and connecting to a concrete pad with picnic tables off the rear (west) of the building, also used for the children's play area in wet times and soft soil. On the property toward the northern boundary are three (3) propane storage tanks which are used for heating the school and providing hot water. The North Bass School retains historic integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, feeling, and association.

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### Narrative Description

Built in 1952 the North Bass School is a rectangular building with small rear extension and gable roof. The building has a concrete block foundation and structure with red brick facing laid in

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stretcher running bond. The mid-century, minimal traditional brick ranch influence is evident given the building's overall, twin intersecting open gable design and form. The gable roof pitch is accomplished with rafters attached to the brick faced concrete block walls. The façade includes a front gable projection featuring a Colonial Revival detail of a blind brick ornamental arch infilled with header brick bond (photo 7) with stone accents at the keystone and central points of each vertical side and the full lower, horizontal sill (photos 1, 2, 3). To the south of this projection the façade features a recessed porch with square wood columns. The main school entrance is the only opening on the front elevation and it is a single door with upper light and plain surround with sidelights.

The entrance opens immediately to a hallway with drinking fountain and to the right are coat hooks and location for student boots and materials. The entry hallway turns right to the classroom and left to the restrooms, teacher's residence and a boiler/utility room.

The interior space includes 1392 sq. ft. with the 22' X 34' classroom being the northern portion of the building. The classroom is accessed through the front door and to the right (photos 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16). Within a 5' X 8' front hallway is a drinking fountain and area with coat hooks. The classroom is also accessible through the rear door of the building (photo 5) which leads to the playground to the west of the building. By entering the rear door, the galley kitchen is immediately to the right (photo 13) and the classroom/teacher storage are accessible to the left (photo 12). Entering straight through the rear (western facing) door provides access to the classroom.

The classroom's northern wall includes fourteen (14) windows in a seven (7) wide and two (2) high format. The upper windows are fixed while the lower windows are operable awnings for ventilation thus moving rain away from the opening and providing lower opening ventilation (photo 6). The classroom windows have a total surface of 148 sq. ft. The northern classroom wall also includes the building's original book storage and shelf space below the windows (photos 15 and 16).

The classroom's east (photo 8) and south walls (photo 10) include chalk and bulletin boards. The western wall is an alcove that is used primarily for classroom bookshelves and location of the teacher's desk area (photo 9).

The western (rear) classroom door includes an area for storage of school supplies (photo 12) and an entryway to the 8' X 7' galley kitchen which also leads to the teacher's living quarters (photo 13). The kitchen includes the original cabinets, sink, counters, and stove. The south, east and north walls of the kitchen are glazed tile identical to the bathrooms and lower classroom walls while the east wall is cabinets and counters. A single-hung window faces west providing the teacher an opportunity to see the playground while providing light and ventilation to the kitchen.

Upon entering the school from the front door, to the left is a boys' bathroom and access hallway to the boiler room with its fireproof door (photo 14). Adjacent to the boys' bathroom to the west

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is a girls' bathroom with an attached shower that is also accessible to the teacher's shower which is accessed via the teacher's bedroom residence. Each bathroom has a single-hung window.

The 10' X 15' teacher's bedroom/living room occupies the southwest portion of the building. The room includes two (2) single-hung windows with one facing south and one facing west (photos 4 and 5).

The structural system of the school is concrete block with red brick exterior and a combination of interior surfaces including glazed tile (classroom, restrooms, kitchen), exposed brick (boiler room), and sheet-rock which is painted or covered with paneling (classroom, teacher's apartment). The roof shape is an intersecting gable with the classroom gable peaking east to west and the restroom/teacher's apartment area peaking north to south (photos 1-6). Original vinyl tile remains in the kitchen, bathrooms, and hallways. The original carpet in the teacher's bedroom was replaced with similar carpet and the original vinyl tile was replaced in the classroom due to age and wear.

The front porch has a 6' X 23' concrete stoop that covers and protects the front entry (photos 1, 2, 3). The covered porch faces east and provides a view of Pelee Island, Ontario, Canada, which is directly east of the property and is the only other land mass that can be seen from the school.

The building includes a 14' X 15' fuel oil storage room on northwestern portion of the building (photos 5 and 6). The fuel oil tanks were removed in 1970 through the western wall. Original bricks were restored to repair the opening created for the removal. Currently, the room is used for storage and remains only accessible from the outside. A square, single-hung window provides light and ventilation to the storage room on the northern wall. Propane replaced fuel oil as the heating source and three (3) tanks are visible on the northern portion of the property (Figures 4 and 5).

Alterations to the original property have no structural changes but include 1986 replacement of the wood windows and doors with aluminum products of the same dimensions and locations. The roof was re-shingled with asphalt shingles in 2004. The fuel oil boiler was replaced with propane heater in 1970 and the fuel oil tank was removed and three (3) propane tanks now occupy the northern portion of the property. In 1955, the male teacher was replaced by a female teacher and the "boys" and "girls" bathroom signs were reversed.

The school grounds also include the original playground equipment sans a "monkey" bar (photos 4 and 5). The original playground equipment included a concrete play and outdoor eating/patio area, swings, and a merry-go-round. The original 1870 island schoolhouse bell is a historic element in the front lawn (photo 1).

The setting of the building is centrally located (location map 4) on North Bass Island which is also known by its 1874 United States Postal Code designation as Isle St. George (Code of Federal Regulations, 1982). The island is the northern most of the archipelago of the Lake Erie Bass Islands (location map 1, 2). The 677-acre island is two miles from the Canadian border

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and is the northern-most land mass in Ohio. (North Bass Island State Park, 2019). The building is offset approximately 80' from the center of Kenny Road. The building grounds are completely surrounded by North Bass Island State Park property and vineyard. The western portion of the school grounds include part of the operating vineyard (location maps 3 and 4).

### **Historic Integrity Assessment**

The North Bass School retains integrity through its location, design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling, and association. The building's location and setting on a remote Lake Erie Bass Island archipelago on the grounds of a vineyard dating to the 1850s remain an important part of its history and original function as a purpose-built one room school house with a teacher's residence.

The building's exterior remains intact, including original plan and brick building materials that clearly express its distinct style as a school and residence. Modifications have been cosmetic and are sympathetic to the original purpose of the updates such as modernizing doors and windows with replacements of the same size and operating in the same function for lighting, ventilation, and egress.

On the interior, the building retains its historic floorplan with classroom, galley kitchen, restrooms, and the teacher's apartment. Original glazed wall tile remains visible throughout the school and where original vinyl tile flooring was worn in the classroom, it was replaced with another vinyl tile product of neutral color. The large classroom with its wall of windows providing light and ventilation to the classroom, along with its original chalk and bulletin boards and exposed ceramic tile wall covering provide as originally designed and purposed.

The materials on both the interior and exterior illustrate the integrity of the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century workmanship that the building exhibits especially considering that the materials and labor were all brought to the island by barge as no ferry boats operate to the island or were able to dock and unload during the period of construction.

The North Bass School retains its feeling and association with the island residents as a one-room school with a residence for the teacher, and the building exemplifies an operable picture of a school designed for a small, remote, island as its specific purpose.

The 1952 building is a distinguishable structure that retains its historic setting and character-defining features as a one-room school with a teacher's residence that remains operable and well-maintained. As Ohio's last operating one room schoolhouse, it maintains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

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## 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.)

- 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years



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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION

ARCHITECTURE

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1952-1970

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1952

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Shively, C. H.

The Ohio State Construction Company

\_\_\_\_\_

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The North Bass School is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A at the local and state level for its association with the educational and socio-cultural history of education in Isle St. George, North Bass Island, Ottawa County, Ohio, particularly for demonstrating the role of a one-room schoolhouse and education on the Lake Erie islands. Further, North Bass School is eligible under Criterion C for its architectural significance as a mid-century, minimal traditional, purpose-built one-room school with a residence for the teacher.

The period of significance for the North Bass School spans from the time the structure was built in 1952 to the fifty-year cut-off of 1970. The school was in continuous operation for North Bass Island during that time and until 2005 when the last students on the island moved to high school at Put-in-Bay, Ohio. North Bass Local School District was the last school district to operate a one-room school in Ohio.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The nominated property has a history since 1952 as Ohio's only purpose built one-room school with a teacher residence. The significance that education provides to a community is paramount to the history of a city, town, and particularly to a remote island inaccessible via car or ferry boat. Particularly considering the nominated property was the only building with a generator or any source of electricity on the island until 1957.<sup>1</sup>

### History of North Bass Island

North Bass Island's prominence and the significance as a historical property is evidenced in the 1814 Treaty of Ghent where it was chosen as the northern-most land in Ohio ratified as part of the United States to end the War of 1812 where the epic Battle of Lake Erie was fought on the waters west of the Bass Islands. Visible from the school's front porch is Pelee Island, Canada, the southern-most part of Canada as designated in the 1814 treaty. From the school's other (rear) entry is an operating vineyard originally planted in the 1850s.<sup>2</sup>

Distinctive of the significance of the school grounds is its location on a Lake Erie island two miles from the Canadian border and 18 miles to the mainland of either the United States or Canada. The island was bisected by the international boundary of the United States and Canada

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<sup>1</sup> Burris, W. D., Stonerook, P. R. (2019, July 22). Interviewed by B.G. Anderson [Digital recording]. Oral History of North Bass School. North Bass Board of Education Archives. Isle St. George, OH.

<sup>2</sup> Burris & Stonerook, 2019

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until the Treaty of Ghent shifted the boundary north of island.<sup>3</sup> The school grounds sat in the Canadian portion prior to the Treaty's ratification.

North Bass Island was first settled in 1849 and vineyards were planted in just two years after the Ohio Constitution of 1851 included a provision mandating the legislature to provide a "thorough and efficient system of common schools throughout the state."<sup>4</sup> The island established a school district in 1855, holding school in at least two locations until building a frame schoolhouse in 1870 which was replaced by the current 1952 structure.<sup>5</sup> The isolated nature of teaching on the island presented challenges for attracting and retaining teachers. During the history of the island's school district, from 1855 until 1955, the island had 40 teachers with the average stay being about two years.<sup>6</sup>

A post office was established on the island and the island has also been known as Isle St. George since 1874.<sup>7</sup> The island has had as many as 50 residents including 22 students when the school was constructed in 1952. All of the residents were associated with the vineyard operations. The island has no stores or commerce outside of the vineyard operation.<sup>8</sup>

Adding to the distinctive history of the island and its school is the designation of the entire North Bass Island and therefore the school building and grounds as an American Viticultural Area for the purpose of labeling wine to a specific grape-growing region.<sup>9</sup>

### Educational History of North Bass Island and Lake Erie Islands

The number of one-room schoolhouses in existence in the United States in 1914 was 212, 000 with Ohio having nearly 10,000.<sup>10</sup> By 1986, Ohio's only operational, public one-room school was the property in nomination.<sup>11</sup> The Lake Erie Island schools provide for Ohio's smallest enrollment school districts and no other school district is so isolated as to have no road or ferry access. The island first had a paved airstrip in 1996.

The island's primary foundation as a vineyard changed dramatically in 2004 when the State of Ohio purchased 593 of the islands 677 acres and opened North Bass Island State Park in 2005.<sup>12</sup> North Bass Island State Park completely surrounds the school. Previously the land was owned

<sup>3</sup> North Bass Island State Park. n.d. Retrieved (2019, July 29) from <http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/northbassisland>

<sup>4</sup> Establishment of Isle St. George Viticultural Area. 47 Fed. Reg. 36419 (1982, August 20) (to be codified at 24 C.F.R. pt. 3282), Article VI, section 2.

<sup>5</sup> Boyer, D. (1956, April 3). Island School Also Home for Teacher of 10 Pupils. *Cleveland Plain Dealer*; Island Schools Recall Our One-Room Past. (1970, December 20). *Dayton Daily News*.

<sup>6</sup> Boyer, 1956.

<sup>7</sup> Gallagher, J.S. & Patera, A.H. (1979). *The Post Offices of Ohio*. Burtonsville, Maryland: The Depot. p. 192.

<sup>8</sup> Burris & Stonerook, 2019

<sup>9</sup> Code of Federal Regulations, 24 C.F.R. pt. 3282, 1982

<sup>10</sup> McCormick, Virginia E. (2001). *Educational architecture in Ohio: From one-room schools and Carnegie libraries to community education villages*. Kent State University Press.

<sup>11</sup> Dayton Daily News, 1970; McCormick, p. 46; Ohio Department of Education.

<sup>12</sup> North Bass Island State Park 2019

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by the Meier's Winery.<sup>13</sup> Reflecting the history of the property, a portion of the operating vineyard is located on the school grounds on the northwestern corner of the school property (location map 4, 5; photo 7). The western half of the school property was part of the vineyard until the state purchase of the property in 2002 (location map 4, 5; photo 7). The Ohio Department of Natural Resources removed the majority of the school ground's vineyard sans the section of approximately eight partial rows that remain active.<sup>14</sup>

The socio-cultural history of the island community is one deeply connected to its tradition as a grape-growing location. The island's residents all have connection to the vineyard operation.

Without a school to support the children of the vineyard's workers, the community could not have satisfied the educational responsibilities of a community or the lives of the workers and families who developed and maintained the vineyard industry.

The original North Bass Island School (circa 1870) had fallen onto disrepair and required a completely new facility as the original facility had been regarded as "condemned" and the Ohio Department of Education had undertaken a joint effort with the North Bass Island Board of Education to build a new, purpose-built facility for students in grades K-8.<sup>15</sup> A local levy to raise the funds for construction would be necessary but beyond the scope of the island residents. The Ohio Department of Education agreed to provide partial funding for the new school but encouraged the local district to ask voters for the largest amount possible, an 8% bond issue on the November 1949 ballot. The state education agency further suggested the local district plan to build a temporary type of metal building. On September 28, 1949 the North Bass School Board passed a resolution to place a bond issue on the ballot. In a special June 1950 election, the islanders approved a 7mill bond issue for \$9,800 to build a new fireproof school building with all necessary equipment. The school building addressed the need to make island life for a teacher more attractive by building a modern school facility with an adjoining apartment for the teacher.<sup>16</sup>

Construction of the school required all materials and labor arrive on the island by barges as there was no ferry service to the island at that time. Slow-moving, tug-powered barges moved the materials including stone, concrete, wood, electrical, boilers, toilets, sinks, bricks, chalkboards, flooring, kitchen cabinets and the furnishings, paint, books, playground equipment, and pencils necessary to build and supply the school. Workers were moved to the site for weeks at a time to build the school where they camped on the island.<sup>17</sup>

Transportation of workers was difficult and also noted is that students have never had transportation within the school district. There has never been a yellow school bus in the school

<sup>13</sup> Code of Federal Regulations, 24 C.F.R. pt. 3282, 1982

<sup>14</sup> Burris & Stonerook, 2019

<sup>15</sup> Sandusky Register, 1951; Burris & Stonerook, 2019

<sup>16</sup> Boyer, 1956

<sup>17</sup> Burris & Stonerook, 2019

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district and when leaving the school district for high school, students were flown by small aircraft or, when possible by weather, private boats or snowmobiles. The Tin Goose, a 1930s Ford Trimotor flying for Island Airlines was the only means of air transit from the North Bass Airport.<sup>18</sup>

The education available to students of a one-room school requires multi-age lessons and collaboration to effectively instruct students.<sup>19</sup> North Bass School students' education was guaranteed by the Ohio Constitution and repeatedly recognized throughout its history including a state-cooperative building agreement and exception to not operate a high school.<sup>20</sup> Isolation and lack of access to the other educational opportunities is evidenced by no ferry service and the island's publicly owned runway first being paved in 1996.<sup>21</sup> The school has always operated in a kindergarten to eighth grade configuration with a single teacher. Since the construction of the 1952 school all of the teachers have stayed regularly in the teacherage apartment. Prior to the island having a paved runway the teachers would fly to the island and stay Monday through Friday. Since the runway has been paved, teachers would stay overnight at the school less regularly.

North Bass School once enrolled 22 students with more than half being migrant students of the families of workers on the island.<sup>22</sup> In 2018, North Bass Island school graduated a high school senior who completed his education at EHOVE Career Center in Milan and Put-in-Bay School. Of the eight current residents on North Bass island, six completed their elementary education in the North Bass School building and the other two served the board of education.

### Teacherage School Building Type and the Architecture of North Bass School

North Bass School is architecturally significant as a mid-century, minimal traditional, purpose-built one-room school with a residence for the teacher. Known as a "teacherage", the design of the building as both a school and residence are distinctive and reflected by the building's residential appearance.<sup>23</sup> The property was Ohio's last operating one-room school house and the only schoolhouse in Ohio known to be built with a teacher's residence.

The first documented teacherage in the United States was built in Nebraska in 1894. The idea of providing a residence for the teacher, either incorporated into the design of the school building or as a stand-alone cottage was widely promoted as a progressive-era initiative during the first two decades of the twentieth century. Seen as a solution to addressing concerns over retaining quality teachers and maintaining high educational standards in rural or otherwise, remote school districts, the teacherage was endorsed in publications by the U. S. Bureau of Education, Bureau

<sup>18</sup> Burris & Stonerook, 2019

<sup>19</sup> Bial, R. (1999). *One-room school*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

<sup>20</sup> Sandusky Register 1951; Sandusky Register 1968

<sup>21</sup> Burris & Stonerook, 2019

<sup>22</sup> Burris & Stonerook, 2019

<sup>23</sup> McCormick 2009

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of Publications from the Teachers College at Columbia University, the *Ladies Home Journal*, and advocated by the Federation of Women's Clubs. The Bureau of Education documented 3,000 teacherages constructed in 36 states between 1915-1923, predominately southern, western, and far northwestern states.<sup>24</sup>

During the 1920s the Radford Architectural Company published three designs for teacherages in their plan books. These examples ranged from stand-alone cottages or double houses to school buildings designed with a suite of rooms for the teacher. One known Ohio example of a stand-alone residence for a teacher was in Greenfield, Ohio. The early twentieth century Georgian Revival style cottage was part of a larger school complex designed by nationally recognized school architect William B. Ittner of St. Louis Missouri. The residence has been demolished. The National Lumber Manufacturers' Association published for the Bureau of Education guidance for building rural teacherages addressing setting, size, materials, expense, and interior plans. Mid-twentieth century examples were published in *Planning Rural Community Schools*, Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University in 1949.<sup>25</sup> The models in the publication more closely resemble North Bass Island school as small school buildings with a living space and kitchen incorporated into the school plan. The publication explained the examples provided general concepts that could be adapted to the specific needs and circumstances of the rural school district.

The North Bass Island School reflects the postwar needs of educational facilities addressed in the *Planning Rural Community Schools* publication, especially the needs facing rural school districts. As was the case across Ohio and the country following World War II and the subsequent baby boom of the 1950s-1960s, the demand for providing adequate schools was high. The publication cited the United States Office of Education's estimate that nationwide 7 billion dollars were required to meet the need for new and remodeled school buildings within the decade of 1950-1960.<sup>26</sup> Additionally, the publication estimated that one-half of all school children lived in rural or smaller communities.

The 1949 publication's plans for one-room schools with living quarters for a teacher highlighted the importance of designing a practical and functional building that would not only provide modern educational classrooms, but also serve multi-purposes as a community gathering spot and residence. The North Bass Island School reflects these needs associated with rural schools through its versatile, functional plan and overall design. On the interior, the building retains its historic floorplan with classroom, galley kitchen, restrooms and the teacher's apartment. The separate living quarters for the teacher addresses one of the most important challenges facing a rural, and in this case, particularly remote location, providing a good place to live in order to keep a good teacher. Providing living space relived the uncertainty of finding adequate housing or difficult commute to and from the island. The kitchen plan was versatile to allow for

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<sup>24</sup> Herrick, M. B. "Teacherages," *The Public School Journal*, Vol. 40, 1920.

<sup>25</sup> Cyr, Frank W. and Henry H. Linn. *Planning Rural Community School Buildings*. National Council of Chief State School Officers, New York: Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, 1949.

<sup>26</sup> Cyr and Linn, 1949

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refreshments for the public use of the school building and the North Bass School was used as a meeting space, Sunday School, and church space at times over its history.<sup>27</sup> The large classroom with built-in shelving and large expanse of windows were similar to the practical designs illustrated in *Planning Rural Community Schools*. The classroom's purposeful 148 sq. ft. of awning windows provide an integrated modern design form of lighting and ventilation.

North Bass School's design in the minimal traditional style is evidenced in the intersecting gable roof, simple and purposeful built-in cabinetry, mixed wall cladding, brick veneer, small covered porch, and single-hung windows in the kitchen, bedroom, and bathrooms. Form followed function as the school required a teacher residence with materials needing to be "fireproof" and having to be transported by barge with consideration that operation, upkeep and utility would be considered for the remote location. The design of the school as a "fireproof" school is an important feature as the island has no fire department or equipment. The consideration of the architect (Shively) and the builder (Ohio State Construction Company) included the encompassing of a fuel oil heat source and generators as there was no electricity on the island until 1957 - five years after the school's construction.

The shared restroom for the teacher and students was subject to design debate by the architect (C. H. Shively) and the Ohio Department of Education where the access to the shower of the teacher's bedroom was added because "we do not feel it is practical for the bather to step into the living room to dry himself" (Figure 4). At the time of design, the teacher was a male and the design would allow for the boys' and girls' restrooms to be changed by reversing the "signs" on the doors.

A comparative analysis of other Ohio island schools demonstrates the distinct aspects of North Bass School. There are operating K-12 schools on Kelleys Island and South Bass Island (Put-in-Bay) which serve year-round populations of approximately 100 and 500 respectively and support active tourism. These schools were both constructed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Both of these schools have multiple teachers with Put-in-Bay School and Kelleys Island School serving approximately 70 and 10 students respectively. Middle Bass School is a late 19<sup>th</sup> century, one-room school that closed in 1986.<sup>28</sup> North Bass School is the only school which was built with a residence and the last operating, public one-room school in Ohio.

The Estes School on Kelleys Island is listed in National Register as a contributing resource in the Kelleys Island Historic District (NR Ref. No. 88002734). Two earlier mid-19<sup>th</sup> century school buildings (now converted to residences) are included in the Kelleys Island Historic District. The Put-in-Bay School is recorded in the Ohio Historic Inventory (OTT0045205). A wood frame Gothic Revival style c. 1870 one-room school building on Middle Bass Island is recorded in the Ohio Historic Inventory (OTT0038605). C. H. Shively whose experience in school designs is

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<sup>27</sup> Boyer, 1956

<sup>28</sup> The Middle Bass one-room school building and North Bass Island School were the last two remaining one-room schools operating as schools in Ohio. At the time of the closure of the Middle Bass School, North Bass School was then only remaining one-room school in operation.

North Bass School

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evidenced elsewhere in northwestern and north-central Ohio including Port Clinton and Sandusky.<sup>29</sup> One other school designed by Shively is listed in the National Register, the 1957 Marion Catholic High School (NR Ref. No. SG100001587).

The cooperation of the Ohio State Department of Education and the North Bass Island Local School board are reflected in the school's design and interaction by state-level officials in the construction of a school building and the needs of a remote, island school district. The original correspondence and approval by the Ohio Department of Education was for a "temporary type of metal building" (Figure 1). The eventually agreed-upon design included consideration for detail and elements as small as doors to the teacher's shower and the galley kitchen (Figure 4). When the contract was finally agreed upon and let, the school would be brick and include a teacher's apartment.<sup>30</sup> The mid-century, minimal traditional design reflects more than a one-room school; it is actually an operable one-room schoolhouse and meeting space where the school was also a home to the resident teacher. The aesthetic of a school and home are carefully integrated and evident in the style as a post-World War II traditional design style.

The success of the design and foresight of a teacherage in the property is the fact that since the school's construction teachers averaged seven years of service in the building while those who served the island during the period of the original building (1870-1951) averaged just two years of service and after the school's opening, it became known as "Ohio's most modern one room school."<sup>31</sup>

The North Bass School qualifies for the National Register of Historic Places as a significant representation of mid-20<sup>th</sup> century educational practices and needs associated with Ohio's distinctive remote, island school districts and reflects design and plan characteristics of a modern, one-room school and teacher residence. The school building and teacherage provides a broader understanding of mid-20<sup>th</sup> century school designs in Ohio.

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<sup>29</sup> Chester H. Shively. (1963, March 5). Fremont, Area Deaths. *Fremont News-Messenger*.

<sup>30</sup> Sandusky Register, 1951

<sup>31</sup> Boyer, 1956



North Bass School  
Name of Property

Ottawa, Ohio

County and State

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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North Bass School  
Name of Property

Ottawa, Ohio

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**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

---

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreege of Property** 1.906

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

North Bass School  
Name of Property

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- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 41.716391 | Longitude: -82.815702 |
| 2. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 3. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 4. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |

**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |             |                 |                   |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 17 | Easting: 348939 | Northing: 4619668 |
| 2. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 3. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 4. Zone:    | Easting :       | Northing:         |

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nominated parcel for the North Bass School is a rectangle measuring 200' x 415'. The parcel being of Great Lot #30 on North Bass Island (also known as the Isle St. George) and more definitely as beginning at a point in the center line of Kenny Road hic is 330.2 feet from a stone monument that marks the intersection of the center line of Kenny Road and the Center line of Wires Road. From this point, the boundary is 200' south, and turning west 415' along the center line of Wires Rd, turning north 200' and turning east 415' to the center line of Kenny Road.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated property is located on North Bass Island in the unincorporated hamlet of Isle St. George and represents the property historically associated with the North Bass School building and grounds.

North Bass School  
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### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: North Bass Island Local School District Board of Education, Dr. Bart Anderson, Former Superintendent, and Robin Burris-Porter, Alumnus and Island Historian  
organization: North Bass Local School District  
street & number: 515 Kenny Rd.  
city or town: Isle St. George state: Ohio zip code: 43436  
e-mail: banderson@northbass.k12.oh.us  
telephone: 614.554.4546  
date: August 5, 2019

---

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property: North Bass School

City or Vicinity: Isle St. George (North Bass Island)

County: Ottawa

State: Ohio

Photographer: Bart Anderson

Date Photographed: July 22, 2019

North Bass School

Ottawa, Ohio

Name of Property

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Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 16: Main façade and north (classroom) elevation, 1952 building, facing southwest
- 2 of 16: Main façade, 1952 building, facing west
- 3 of 16: Main façade and south elevation, 1952 building, facing northwest
- 4 of 16: South elevation, 1952 building, showing original swing set, facing north
- 5 of 16: West elevation, 1952 building, showing fuel oil storage room and entrance and rear (west classroom entrance), looking east
- 6 of 16: North Elevation, 1952 building, showing classroom windows (left) and fuel oil storage room (right), looking southeast
- 7 of 16: Partial view of main façade (east elevation), 1952 building, showing view of decorative brick arch with stone accents (left) and a view of the rear of the property with the circa 1860 vineyard (right) partially on property, looking west.
- 8 of 16: East interior classroom wall, chalk and bulletin board, 1952 building, facing east
- 9 of 16: West interior classroom wall, 1952 building, windows (right) with original book storage below windows, facing north
- 10 of 16: South interior classroom wall, 1952 building, chalk and bulletin boards, looking south
- 11 of 16: South classroom wall, 1952 building, with south facing view of entry hall to restrooms, boiler room, and teacher's apartment
- 12 of 16: Classroom storage viewed to the north from the galley kitchen, 1952 building, rear (west) school exit to the left, classroom to the right.
- 13 of 16: Galley kitchen, 1952 building, with view through kitchen to teacher's bedroom, facing south
- 14 of 16: Fireproof door to boiler room, 1952 building, facing north opposite restrooms, teacher's apartment (left), main (east) entry door (right)
- 15 of 16: North interior classroom wall, 1952 building, with original heater and book storage, view of classroom windows, facing northwest
- 16 of 16: North interior classroom wall, 1952 building, with original heater and book storage, view of classroom windows, facing northeast

**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 to amend existing 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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

North Bass School  
Name of Property

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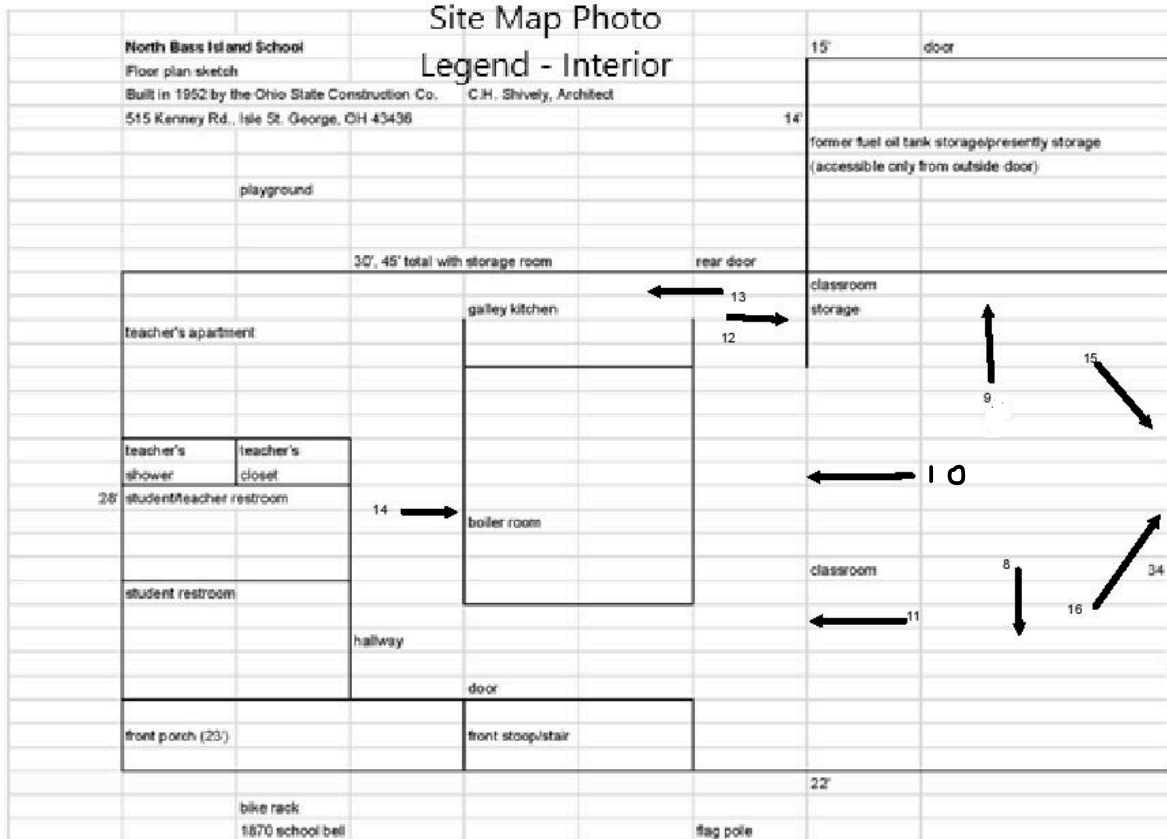
North Bass School  
515 Kenny Rd.  
Isle St. George, Ottawa County, Ohio  
Source: Ottawa County Auditor

PHOTO KEYS  
1-7

North Bass School  
 Name of Property

Ottawa, Ohio

County and State



North Bass School  
 515 Kenny Rd.  
 Isle St. George, Ottawa County, Ohio  
 Source: Ottawa County Auditor

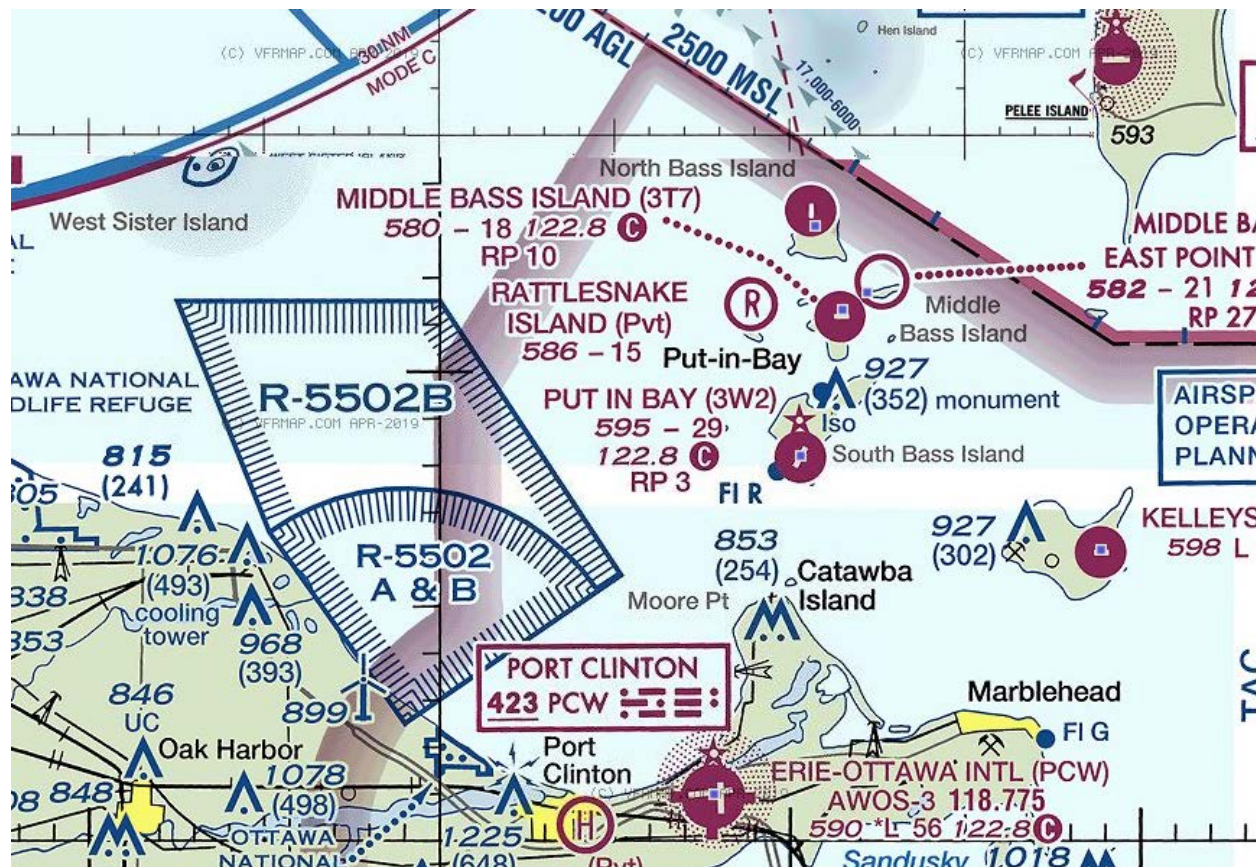
PHOTO KEYS  
 8-16

North Bass School  
Name of Property

Ottawa, Ohio

County and State

**ATTACHMENT A – Location Maps**  
**North Bass School**  
**515 Kenny Rd.**  
**Isle St. George, Ottawa County, Ohio**



North Bass School  
515 Kenny Rd.  
Isle St. George, Ottawa County, Ohio  
Source: Federal Aviation Administration

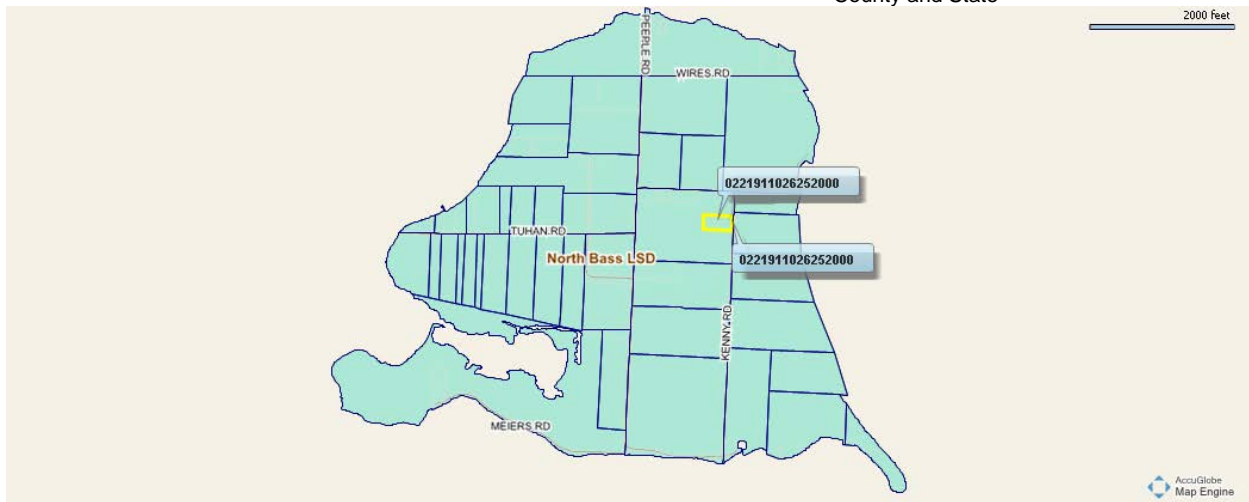
Location Map 2



North Bass School  
Name of Property

Ottawa, Ohio

County and State



North Bass School  
515 Kenny Rd.  
Isle St. George, Ottawa County, Ohio  
Source: Ottawa County Auditor

Location Map 3



North Bass School  
515 Kenny Rd.  
Isle St. George, Ottawa County, Ohio  
Source: Ottawa County Auditor

Location Map 4

North Bass School  
Name of Property

Ottawa, Ohio

County and State



North Bass School  
515 Kenny Rd.  
Isle St. George, Ottawa County, Ohio  
Source: Ottawa County Auditor

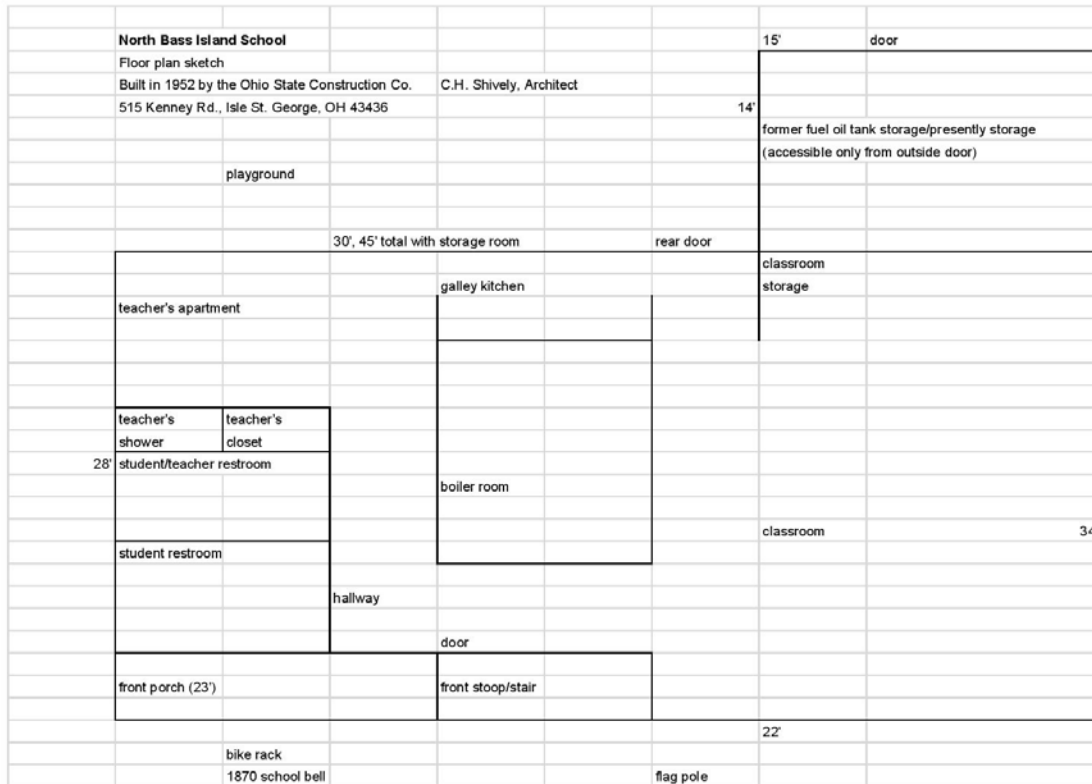
Location Map 5

North Bass School  
 Name of Property

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County and State

**ATTACHMENT B – Floor Plan Sketch**  
**North Bass School**  
**515 Kenny Rd.**  
**Isle St. George, Ottawa County, Ohio**



North Bass School  
 515 Kenny Rd.  
 Isle St. George, Ottawa County, Ohio  
 Source: Bart Anderson

Floor Plan Sketch 1

North Bass School  
Name of Property

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County and State

**ATTACHMENT C – Figures**  
**North Bass School, Ottawa County, Ohio**

Description of figure(s) and number.

- 1: Correspondence to clerk of North Bass Board of Education from Ohio Department of Education stating State of Ohio assistance and approval for North Bass School building pending levy approval by voters (1949).
- 2: Resolution of North Bass Local School District Board of Education approving tax levy for construction costs of local portion (\$9800) of school building (1949).
- 3: Public notice of 7-mill levy for construction of “fireproof” school (1950).
- 4: Architect (Shively) letter seeking approval of change to teacher bathroom floor plan and kitchen configuration (1950).
- 5: Scan of: Boyer, D. (1956, April 3). Island School Also Home for Teacher of 10 Pupils. *Cleveland Plain Dealer*.

North Bass School  
Name of Property

Ottawa, Ohio

County and State



CLYDE HISSONG  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

R. M. EYMAN  
ASSISTANT  
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF OHIO  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
COLUMBUS

September 26, 1949

DIVISION OF SCHOOL FINANCE  
ROBERT L. ROHE  
DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL FINANCE

Mrs. Juanita B. Wires, Clerk  
North Bass Board of Education  
Isle St. George, Ohio

My dear Mrs. Wires:

As a result of my visit to your school district on September 22, 1949, I desire to make the following comments in writing:

It was understood that your board of education would pass a resolution sometime between the 26th and 29th of this month approving a bond issue to be voted on this November in order to provide the district's share toward the construction of a new school building. You will remember that when there we discussed the problem of whether you should vote the maximum 6% or go to the 8%. Mr. Dehn felt that the 6% was high enough since the 8% would entail a rather large tax levy each year during the life of the bond issue. On returning to Columbus I talked the matter over with Mr. Rohe again and it was our opinion that the State Controlling Board would be much more favorably inclined to approve state assistance on a new building if the maximum percentage was voted. We, of course, here have no authority to tell you definitely what you shall vote but the problem of getting it through the Controlling Board should be kept definitely in mind since they have already ruled against new construction help in other districts outside of the island districts.

It was further agreed that the type of building which we would approve and be willing to take to the Controlling Board when costs are on hand is a temporary type of metal building which would provide for inside toilets and some type of automatic heat control if at all possible. It was understood that you would employ an architect to draw up plans and specifications and that these plans and specifications should be made available to this office in tentative form before finally being used to secure contract bids.

I trust that the above will clarify matters and make it possible for you to move in accordance with law and the above suggestions.

Very truly yours,

E. J. Arnold  
Supervisor of Rehabilitation

EJA/mks  
cc - Supt. Dehn

North Bass School  
515 Kenny Rd.  
Isle St. George, Ottawa County, Ohio  
Source: North Bass Local School District Board of Education

Figure 1

North Bass School  
Name of Property

Ottawa, Ohio

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6-48-1.5 THE COLUMBUS BLANK BOOK MFG. CO., COL., O. 13022

**RESOLUTION DECLARING IT NECESSARY TO LEVY A TAX IN EXCESS OF THE TEN MILL LIMITATION**  
Gen'l Code, Secs. 5625-15, -17, -17a, -18

The Board of Education of North Bass, Ottawa County, Ohio, met in adjourned session on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1949, at the office of Clerk with the following members present:

Simon Fox  
C. B. Ingles  
George Bower  
Paul Stonerick  
Frank Fox

Mr. Ingles moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, The amount of taxes which may be raised within the ten mill limitation will be insufficient to provide an adequate amount for the necessary requirements of said North Bass School District, Ottawa County, Ohio; therefore be it

RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the North Bass School District, Ottawa County, Ohio, two-thirds of all members elected thereto concurring, that it is necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten mill limitation for the benefit of North Bass School District for the purpose of creating a new Fireport School building and necessary equipment

at a rate not exceeding 6.5 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to Sixty-five cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for life of indebtedness

(If the levy is a renewal of an existing levy, or an increase or decrease, insert as part of the resolution "and which levy is a renewal of an existing levy of \_\_\_\_\_ mills" or "and which levy is a renewal of an existing levy of \_\_\_\_\_ mills and an increase of \_\_\_\_\_ mills")

North Bass School  
515 Kenny Rd.  
Isle St. George, Ottawa County, Ohio  
Source: North Bass Local School District Board of Education

Figure 2, p. 1

North Bass School  
Name of Property

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County and State

I, Janita B. Wires, Clerk of North Bass School District Board of Education  
do hereby certify that the foregoing is taken and copied from the Record of the Proceedings of said Board; that the same has been compared by me with the Resolution on said Record and that it is a true and correct copy thereof.

Witness my signature, this 28 day of September, 1949  
Janita B. Wires  
Clerk

No. North Bass School Dist.  
Ottawa County, Ohio

RESOLUTION  
DECLARING IT NECESSARY TO LEVY A  
TAX IN EXCESS OF THE TEN  
MILL LIMITATION

Filed                     , 19                       
By                      Deputy

THE COLUMBIAN BLANK BOOK MFG. CO., COLUM., O.

North Bass School  
515 Kenny Rd.  
Isle St. George, Ottawa County, Ohio  
Source: North Bass Local School District Board of Education

Figure 2, p. 2

North Bass School  
Name of Property

Ottawa, Ohio

County and State

**Notice of Election on Issue of Bonds**

Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a Resolution of the Board of Education of the North Bass Local School District, Ottawa County, Ohio, passed on the 5th day of May, 1950, there will be submitted to a vote of the people of said School District at the Special Election to be held in the Township of Put-In-Bay, North Bass Precinct, Ohio, at the regular places of voting therein, on Tuesday, the twentieth day of June, 1950, the question of issuing bonds of said School District in the amount of Nine Thousand and Eight Hundred Dollars (\$9,800.00) for the purpose of Constructing and Equipping a new fireproof School Building as provided by law. The maximum number of years during which such bonds are to run is 20 years.

The estimated average additional tax rate amounts to seventy cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation, which is 7 mills for each one dollar of valuation, outside of the limitation imposed by Article XII, Section 2 of the Constitution, as certified by the County Auditor.

The Polls for said Election will open at 6:30 o'clock A. M. and remain open until 6:30 o'clock P. M. (Eastern Standard Time) of said day.

By order of the Board of Elections of Ottawa County, Ohio:  
HERMAN C. STENMILLER  
Chairman  
EDWARD H. MINDERMAN  
Clerk  
Dated May 14, 1950 1954

STATE OF OHIO, OTTAWA CO., ss.

Richard J. Krupp, publisher of the Port Clinton Herald and Republican, a newspaper printed and published at Port Clinton, county and state aforesaid and of general circulation in said county, makes oath that the notice, of which the annexed is a true copy, was for 1 consecutive weeks published in said newspaper, beginning on the 19 day of May A. D. 1950.

Printer's Fee \$ 11.00  
Affidavit \$ .00 } \$ 11.00

*Richard J. Krupp*

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23 day of August A. D. 1950

*Jud Reed Cover*  
*My Commission expires Aug 2, 1952*

North Bass School  
515 Kenny Rd.  
Isle St. George, Ottawa County, Ohio  
Source: North Bass Local School District Board of Education

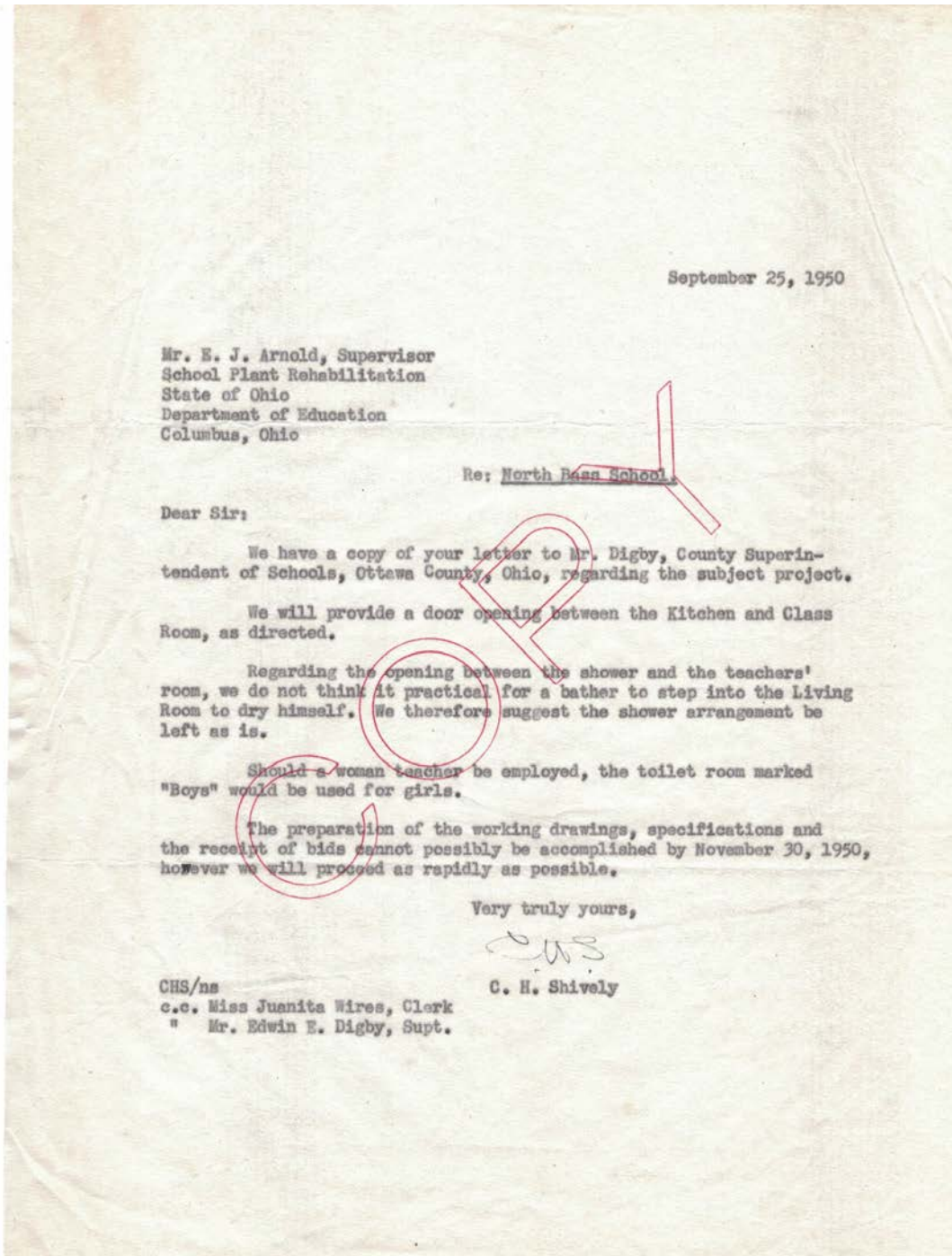
Figure 3



North Bass School  
Name of Property

Ottawa, Ohio

County and State



September 25, 1950

Mr. E. J. Arnold, Supervisor  
School Plant Rehabilitation  
State of Ohio  
Department of Education  
Columbus, Ohio

Re: North Bass School

Dear Sir:

We have a copy of your letter to Mr. Digby, County Superintendent of Schools, Ottawa County, Ohio, regarding the subject project.

We will provide a door opening between the Kitchen and Class Room, as directed.

Regarding the opening between the shower and the teachers' room, we do not think it practical for a bather to step into the Living Room to dry himself. We therefore suggest the shower arrangement be left as is.

Should a woman teacher be employed, the toilet room marked "Boys" would be used for girls.

The preparation of the working drawings, specifications and the receipt of bids cannot possibly be accomplished by November 30, 1950, however we will proceed as rapidly as possible.

Very truly yours,

*C. H. Shively*  
C. H. Shively

CHS/ns  
c.c. Miss Juanita Wires, Clerk  
" Mr. Edwin E. Digby, Supt.

North Bass School  
515 Kenny Rd.  
Isle St. George, Ottawa County, Ohio  
Source: North Bass Local School District Board of Education

Figure 4

North Bass School  
Name of Property

Ottawa, Ohio

County and State

PALO

## Island School

*Modern One-Roomer Is Also Home  
for Teacher of 10 Pupils in 5 Grades*

By DWIGHT BOYER  
*Story and Pictures*



MANY FOLKS won't recognize the name, but Isle St. George, alias North Bass Island, is the northernmost of the three larger Lake Erie islands off the Marblehead Peninsula— islands that have become more commonly known as the Bass Islands, North, South and Middle.

Uncle Sam has a long memory, though, and in the postal service it's still Isle St. George, just as it was when Roswold Nichols became its first permanent settler in 1844.

Lonely and far removed from the mainland by transportation standards of the day, the island got its first school in 1857, 13 years after Nichols' arrival. Its 300 acres devoted mostly to the raising of the famed island grapes, North Bass has had 40 teachers and five different school buildings in the past 98 years, the latest of which the islanders justly proclaim to be "Ohio's most modern one-room school."

They're proud of it, these island folks, and proud, too, of their teacher, Mrs. Grace Miller, a white-haired, motherly person who has been teaching in Crawford, Huron and Ottawa counties for the past 30 years. She's probably the only teacher in the state who lives right in the schoolhouse!

Keeping a teacher has always been a problem for the local school board. The island has only 12 resident families. Boat service during the summer is irregular and in winter the planes from the mainland touch down but briefly twice a day to deliver mail and groceries. With no industry outside the vineyard operations and a commercial fishery, a total absence of theaters, stores, concert halls, eligible bachelors and sorority meetings, the lonely island life has little appeal to the young woman just starting a teaching career or for those who already have a husband, family and a large circle of close friends and relatives.

To make island life more attractive, the new school, completed in 1952, has an adjoining apartment for the teacher, eliminating the necessity of boarding with one of the island families. Mrs. Miller, a widow, stays in her schoolhouse quarters during the week, but in good weather flies to her mainland home on week ends. The single classroom, as modern as tomorrow, has individual movable desks, fluorescent light and all the conveniences and facilities of the larger mainland schools.



THE SECOND GRADE  
David Bower and Patty Zura



THIRD GRADE  
Wayne and Linda Burris, brother and sister



FOURTH GRADE  
from the collection of Michael Gora  
Janet Maynard

North Bass School  
515 Kenny Rd.

Isle St. George, Ottawa County, Ohio

Source: Cleveland Plain Dealer, Sunday, April 3, 1956

Figure 5, p. 1

North Bass School  
 Name of Property

Ottawa, Ohio

County and State



Mrs. Miller in her school-house-apartment kitchen.

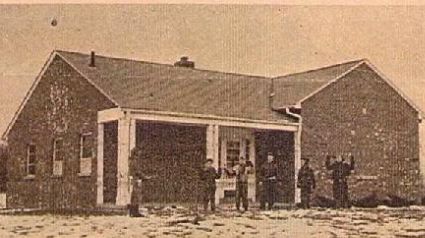
"Teaching in a one-room school has its advantages," says Mrs. Miller. "While at present I have only 10 students in five grades, they're all youngsters who want to learn and they have the benefit of individual instruction so often impossible in more crowded classrooms. When the children graduate from the eighth grade, they must go to the mainland for high school, staying with relatives or friends during the week and returning to the island on week ends."

In addition to serving as a school, the building, practically an island enterprise, is also a church, Sunday school and community meeting place. Once each month a minister flies in to conduct interdenominational services.

Mrs. Miller, who came to the island when the new school was opened, finds teaching in the modern structure "a wonderful and satisfying experience."

"I have every convenience needed," she reports. "I'm living here with the friendliest people on earth. There's a wonderful spirit of help-your-neighbor that doesn't exist anywhere but on the islands. I don't miss the bright lights and turmoil of the mainland towns and cities. In fact, I hope to finish my remaining years of teaching right here on North Bass!"

The entire student body of North Bass School, 10 children in five different grades, fit comfortably in the school's single classroom.



North Bass School, "Ohio's most modern one-roomer."

GRADE and Dale Burris

FIFTH GRADE Paul Stonerook is it

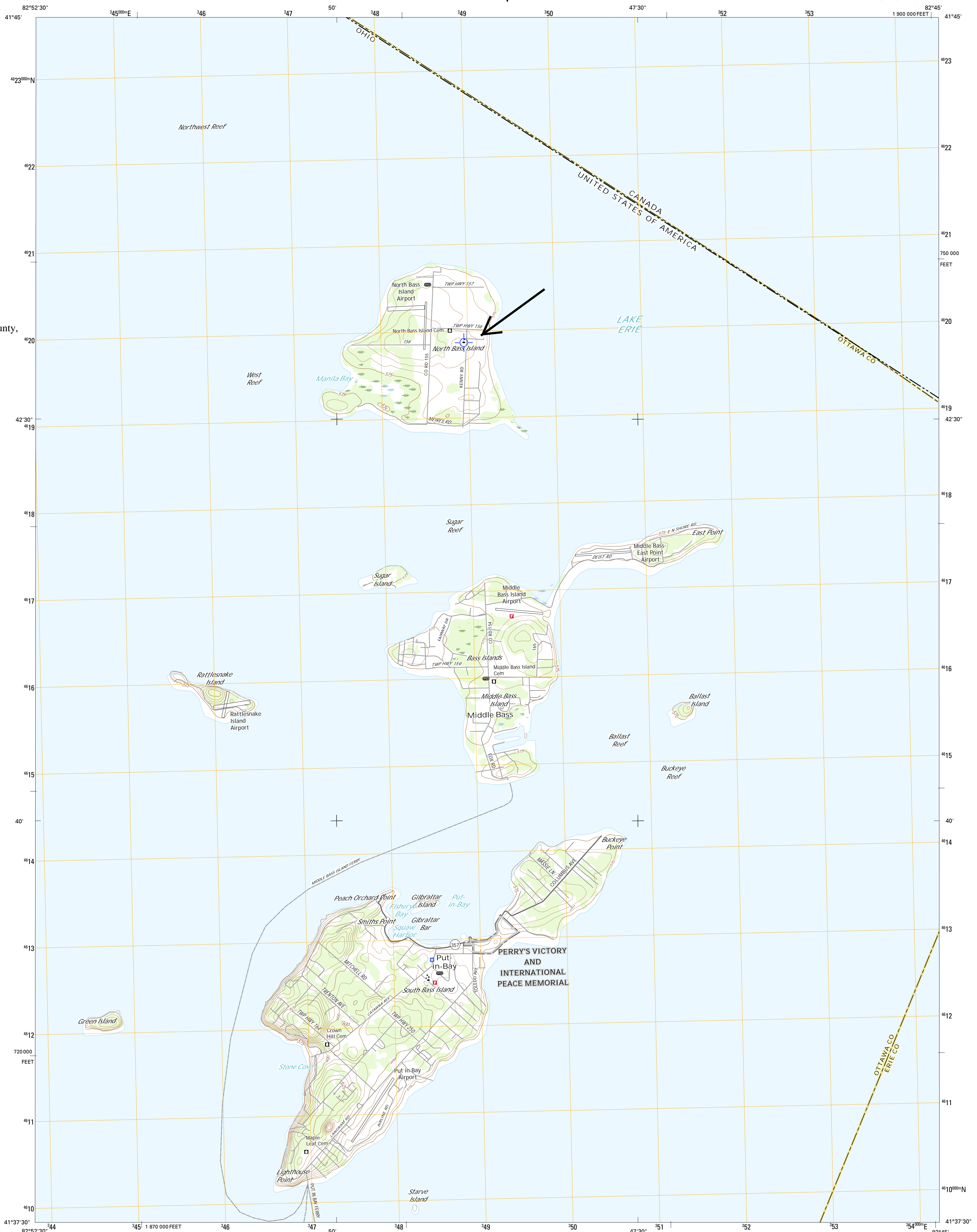
SIXTH GRADE Largest class in the school. Martha Burris and Freda Maynard (standing) and Ronald Maynard (sitting) from the collection of Michael Gora SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 1956 11

North Bass School  
 515 Kenny Rd.  
 Isle St. George, Ottawa County, Ohio  
 Source: Cleveland Plain Dealer, Sunday, April 3, 1956

Figure 5, p. 2

North Bass School,  
North Bass Island, Isle  
St George, Ottawa County,  
Ohio

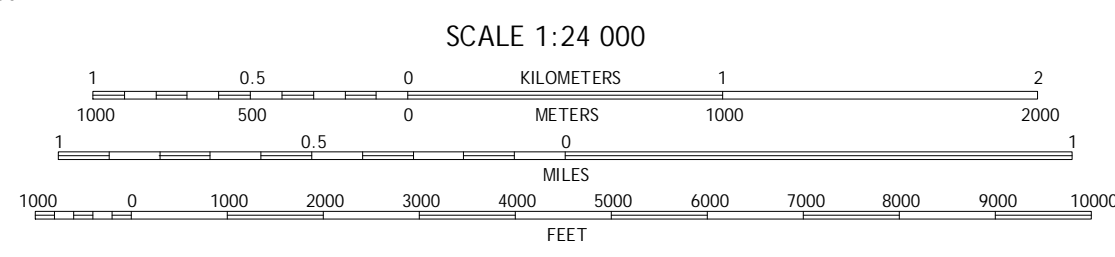
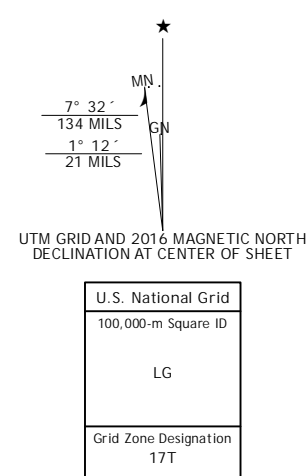
Lat 41.716391  
Long -82.815702



Produced by the United States Geological Survey  
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83)  
World Geodetic System of 1984 (WGS84) Projection and  
1,000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, Zone 17T  
10,000-foot ticks: Ohio Coordinate System of 1983 (north zone)

This map is not a legal document. Boundaries may be generalized for this map scale. Private lands within government reservations may not be shown. Obtain permission before entering private lands.

Imagery.....NAIP, October 2015  
Roads.....U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 - 2016  
Names.....GNIS, 2016  
Hydrography.....National Hydrography Dataset, 2015  
Contours.....National Elevation Dataset, 2010  
Boundaries.....Multiple sources; see metadata file 1912 - 2016  
Public Land Survey System.....BLM, 2015  
Wetlands.....FWS National Wetlands Inventory 1977 - 2014



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Expressway	Local Connector
Secondary Hwy	Local Road
Ramp	4WD
Interstate Route	US Route
	State Route

1	2	3	1
2	3	4	2
3	4	5	3
4	5	6	4
5	6	7	5
6	7	8	6
7	8		7
8			8

ADJOINING QUADRANGLES

CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET  
NORTH AMERICAN VERTICAL DATUM OF 1988

This map was produced to conform with the  
National Geospatial Program US Topo Product Standard, 2011.  
A metadata file associated with this product is draft version 0.6.19

PUT-IN-BAY, OH  
2016



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 5/8/2020      Date of Pending List: 5/26/2020      Date of 16th Day: 6/10/2020      Date of 45th Day: 6/22/2020      Date of Weekly List: 6/26/2020

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal           | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL            | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request     | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape       | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver           | <input type="checkbox"/> National        | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission     | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP             | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG             |   |

Accept       Return       Reject      6/22/2020 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria:

Reviewer Lisa Deline      Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2239      Date \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION:    see attached comments : No    see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



May 8, 2020

Julie Ernstein, Acting Chief, National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Ernstein:

Enclosed please find one new National Register nominations for Ohio. All appropriate notification procedures have been followed for the new nomination submissions.

TEST NOMINATION

**North Bass Island School**

COUNTY

**Ottawa**

**The enclosed PDFs contain the true and correct copy of the information to the National Register of Historic Places nomination for North Bass Island School.**

The submission includes: 1 PDF of nomination, 1 PDF of USGS map, 1 PDF of 6 representative current photographic images and 1 PDF correspondence including Transmittal letter and checklist.

There are not outstanding questions or concerns with this nomination. SHPO received no public comment either in support or objection for this nomination.

If you have questions or comments about these documents, please contact the National Register staff in the Ohio Historic Preservation Office at [bpowers@ohiohistory.org](mailto:bpowers@ohiohistory.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Powers".

for

Lox A. Logan, Jr.  
Executive Director and CEO  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Ohio History Connection

Enclosures

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
NPS TRANSMITTAL CHECK LIST

OHIO HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
800 E. 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43211  
(614)-298-2000

The following materials are submitted on May 8, 2020  
For nomination of the North Bass Island School, Ottawa County, OH to the National Register of Historic Places:

- Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form  
 Paper  PDF
- Multiple Property Nomination Cover Document  
 Paper  PDF
- Multiple Property Nomination form  
 Paper  PDF
- Photographs  
 Prints  TIFFs  PDF (10 representative current images)
- CD with electronic images
- Original USGS map(s)  
 Paper  Digital  PDF
- Sketch map(s)/Photograph view map(s)/Floor plan(s)  
 Paper  PDF
- Piece(s) of correspondence = National Register Transmittal Letter  
 Paper  PDF
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS:

- Please provide a substantive review of this nomination
- This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
- The enclosed owner objection(s) do \_\_\_\_\_ do not \_\_\_\_\_  
Constitute a majority of property owners
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_