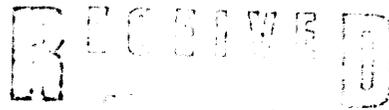


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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Lincoln School  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 911 B Avenue West  not for publication  
city, town Oskaloosa  vicinity  
state Iowa code IA county Mahaska code 123 zip code 52577

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
Architectural & Historical Resources of Oskaloosa, IA Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official State Historical Society of Iowa Date 12/13/91  
State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Beth Boland 12/13/91  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

---

**6. Function or Use**

---

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

---

EDUCATION/School

---

---

---

EDUCATION/School

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---

---

**7. Description**

---

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

---

Late 19th & 20th Century Revival

---

---

foundation Concrete  
walls Brick

---

roof Asphalt  
other Terra Cotta

---

---

---

**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

---

The Lincoln (Elementary) School is a single story rectangular building with brick walls that vary in color from tan, to medium, to dark brown. It is the only building on the square block bounded by B and C Avenues West, and H and I Streets North, and is located on the south half, with the long side of the rectangle facing south. Short wings on each end project slightly. Entrances are located on the front of these side wings. The roof of the side wings is flat, while that of the central part is gabled, with a projecting center gable in the front. The roof originally was of red tile, but is now asphalt. The facade of the building features lavish terra cotta decoration. Though much of this is cream colored (such as the quoins), the detailing around the doors, and in the medallions utilizes wonderful colors. The medallion in the center of the south elevation is of Abraham Lincoln, while the medallions on the wings feature a young boy on the west wing, and a young girl on the east. The entrances have identical designs surrounding them: An elaborate terra cotta pediment includes a date panel (A.D. 1921), foliated rinceau, rosettes, tassels, and even two very wise looking owls. The long narrow panels down the side of each door contain circles with the letters of the alphabet: A through M down the left side; N through Z down the right. Between the letters near the top of each side, are found the numerals 1 through 0. Additional terra cotta panels are found on the facade, many of these are tall slender panels extending down from the roofline, while others are keystones and cornerstones above the round arched windows in the center portion of the building. The highly decorative quality of these terra cotta details is both elegant, and whimsical. At the southeast corner of the building, the very bottom terra cotta quoin is inscribed

Frank E. Wetherell, A.I.A.  
Architect

The only apparent alteration to this building is the installation of new, energy efficient windows, and doors. While this is distracting, the overall quality of the building is such, that the windows are not intrusive.

**8. Statement of Significance**

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

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1921  
\_\_\_\_\_

1921  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation  
N.A.  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person  
N.A.  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder  
Wetherell, Frank E. (Arch)  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

The Lincoln School building is significant under Criterion C because it is representative of the late work of Wetherell (as noted in the "Works of Frank E. Wetherell: 1892-1931" context), and because of the richness of the architectural detailing. It also represents a new type of school building. William Wagner (member of the Wetherell firm from 1960 until his retirement in the late 1980s) says that this building was the first modern single story school built in the state. The floor plan is an open one which allows a maximum of light and air into each classroom. The gymnasium, manual training, and domestic science areas, were all fairly new concepts at the elementary level in 1921.

The lavish use of terra cotta on the facade is a characteristic of Wetherell that is seen on other buildings from the teens and twenties. A notable example is the 1917 Masonic Temple in Grinnell (part of the Grinnell Historic Commercial District, NRHP). The terra cotta details on the Grinnell building display a wide range of colors, similar to those on the school, but the details pertain to the Masonic organization, and do not have the charming quality of those on the elementary building. Terra cotta provided the architect with the vehicle to add richness to a functional structure.

Lincoln School was one of the last commissions for Wetherell in Oskaloosa. A few years later his firm was involved with the high school stadium project, but much of that has been altered. The Lincoln building retains an unusually high level of integrity for a school building and meets the integrity requirements set out in the Multiple Property Document for Wetherell related works.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Oskaloosa Daily Herald, 3 April 1922, p.1, c.2.  
20 April 1922, p.1, c.3.  
8 July 1922, p.6, c.3.

Tracings in the files of Wetherell & Ericsson, Des Moines, IA.

Interview with William Wagner, 25 June 1990.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property 2.44 acres

UTM References

A 

1	5	5	2	8	9	0	0	4	5	7	1	6	3	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

  
Zone Easting Northing

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

West Oskaloosa Out Lot 3: Loughridge & Cassidy's Add., Blk 10.  
The school occupies the square block bounded by B and C Avenues West,  
and H and I Streets North.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

This is the area traditionally associated with this resource.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

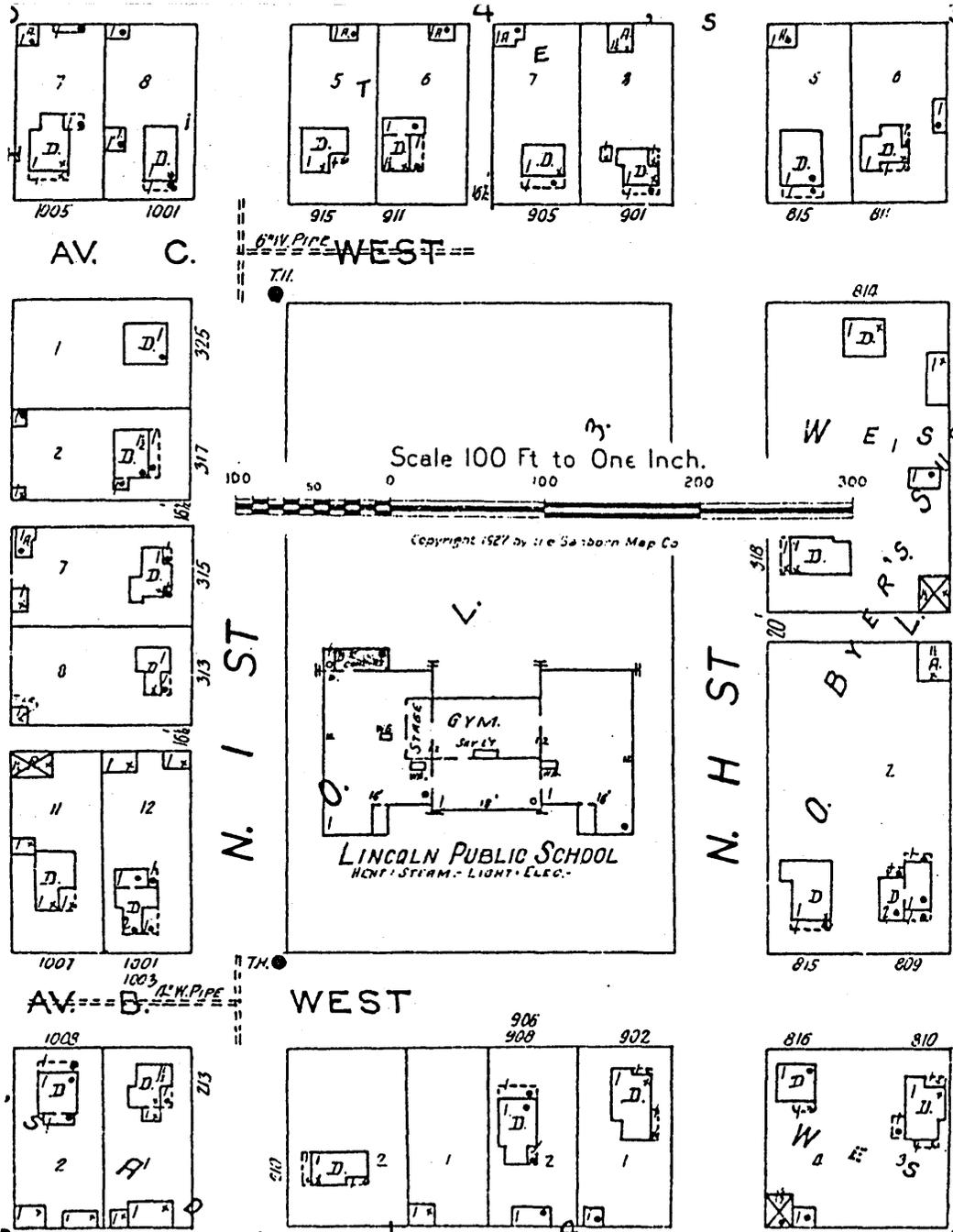
name/title Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant (515) 682-2743  
organization Oskaloosa Historic Preservation Comm. date June 1991  
street & number City Hall, P.O. Box 1010 telephone (515) 673-8361  
city or town Oskaloosa state Iowa zip code 52577

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

CFN-259-1116



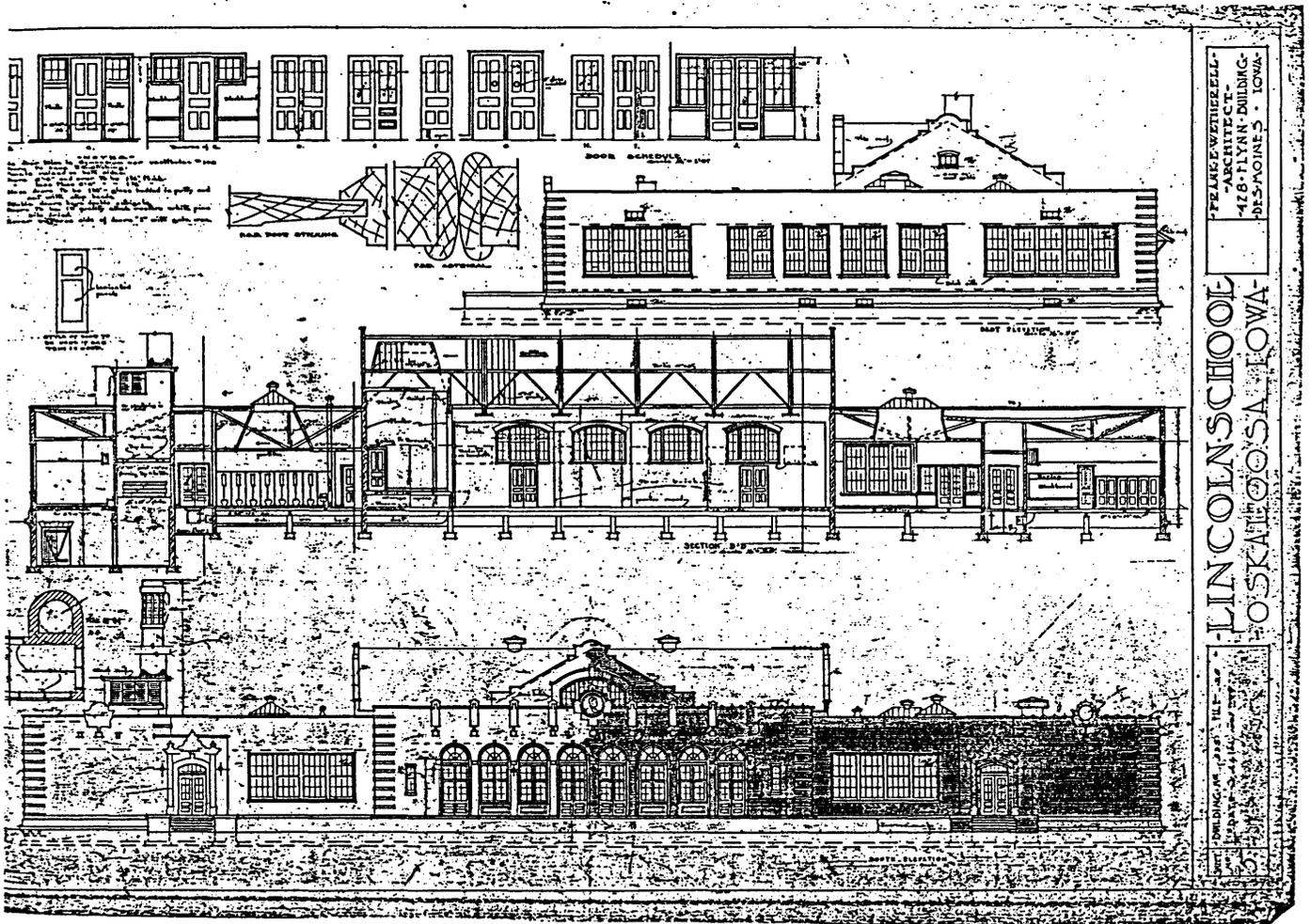
1927 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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CFN-259-1116

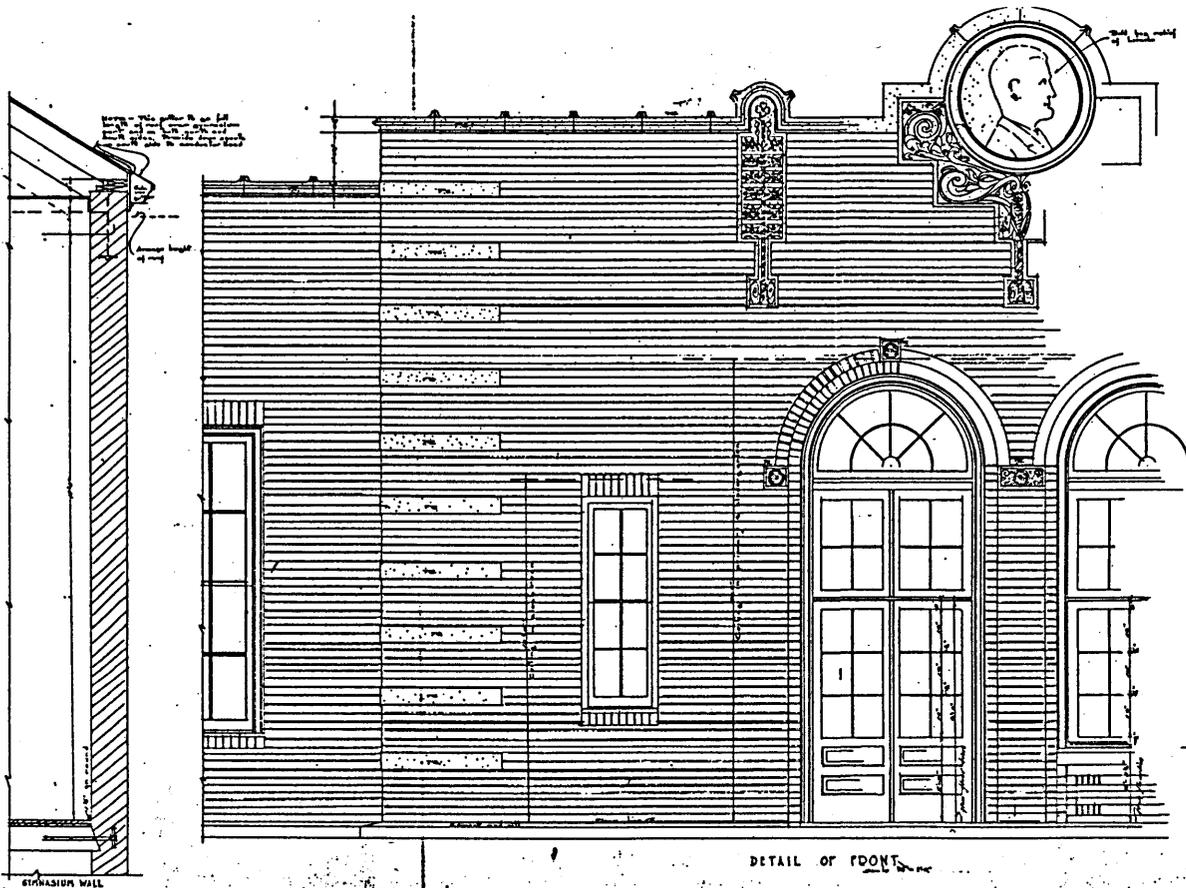


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

CFN-259-1116



FRANK WETTERELL  
ARCHITECT  
425 FLYNN BUILDING  
DES-MOINES - IOWA

LINCOLN SCHOOL  
OSKALOOSA - IOWA

DWG NO. 222 THE NO. 222  
DATE - 1911  
SCALE - 1/4" = 1'-0"

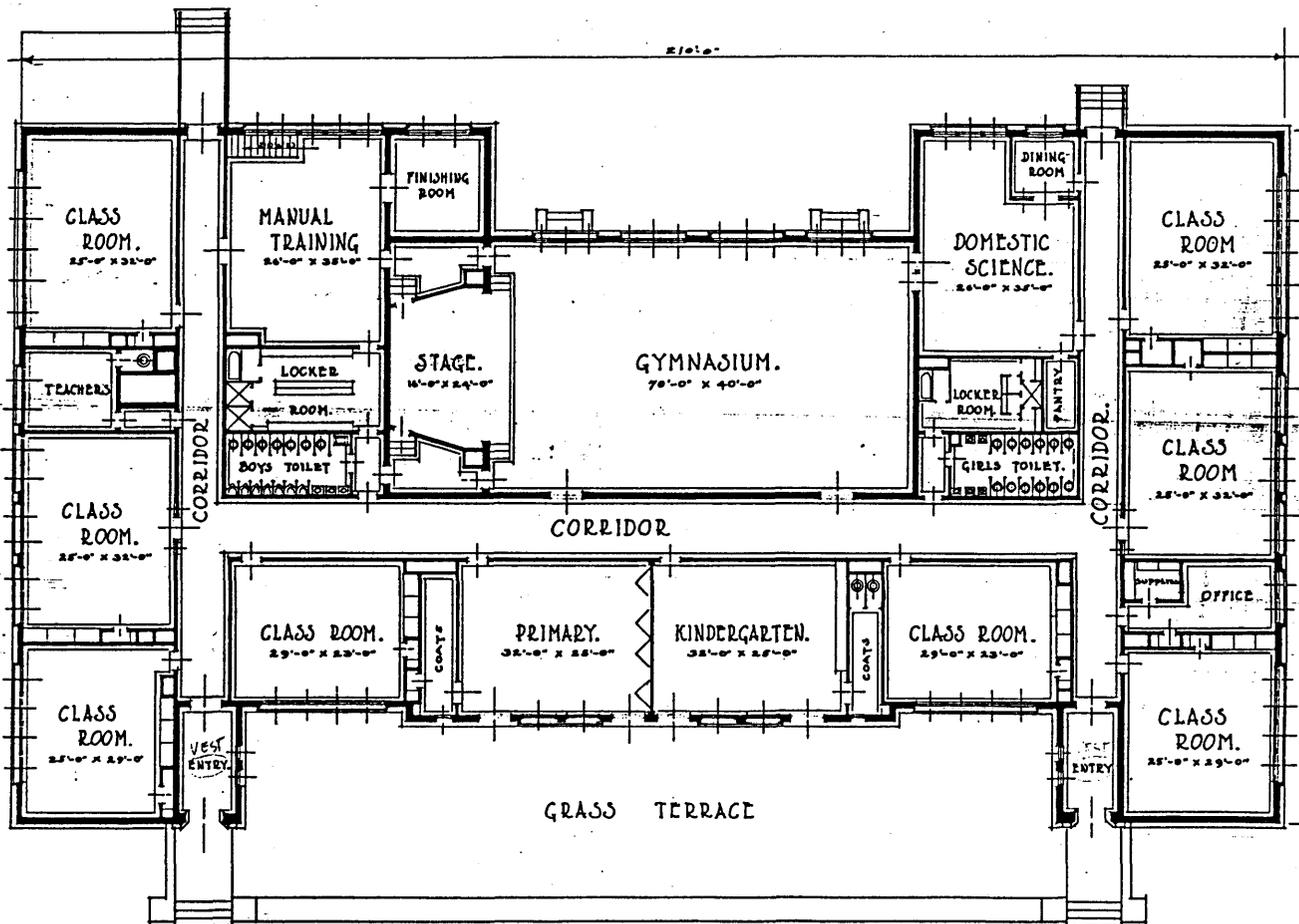
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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

CFN-259-1116



WETHERELL & HARRISON - ARCHITECTS  
DES MOINES - IOWA.

MAIN FLOOR PLAN.  
Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"

LINCOLN SCHOOL BUILDING  
OSKALOOSA IOWA