

MP2518

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: Allen Grove School

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing:

Rosenwald Schools in North Carolina

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

2. Location

Street & number: 13763 NC Highway 903

City or town: Halifax State: NC County: Halifax

Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A

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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

<u><i>Kevin Cherry</i></u> SHPO	<u>3/26/2018</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
_____ Signature of commenting official:	_____ Date
_____ Title :	_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

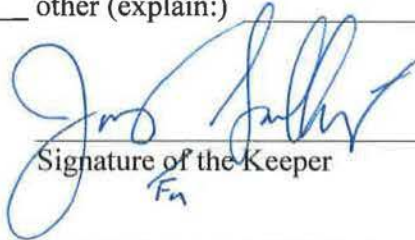
Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

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:)


Signature of the Keeper
Fu

5.31.2018
Date of Action

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.)

- Building(s)
District
Site
Structure
Object

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</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.)

SOCIAL - clubhouse

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER – two-teacher Rosenwald school, plan no. 20

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

FOUNDATION - brick

WALLS – wood – weatherboard

ROOF – metal - tin

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.)

Narrative Description

Allen Grove School is located in a rural area in the northeast part of Halifax County, approximately two miles northwest of the Town of Halifax and five-and-a-half miles south of the Town of Weldon. The school was moved to the site in 1996 from a rural location approximately three miles south of the current location and approximately two miles southwest of the Town of Halifax. Abandoned, the school was used for storage before being donated to Halifax County so that the land could be redeveloped. It was lifted from its foundation, moved via truck as a complete building, and lowered to a new brick foundation on the county-owned property.

The school was originally located on the north side of NC 561, just west of the intersection of Purdue Drive and approximately three-quarters of a mile east of Grapevine Road and the Allen Grove community. Oriented to face east, the school was set back from the road about forty feet. The site was relatively flat with mature trees immediately surrounding the school on approximately three-quarters of an acre of land. Farm fields extended to the south and west, and

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

there was a wooded area to the north and east. After the move, between 1998 and 2010 much of the site was cleared and a new house now stands in the location of the school.

The school currently stands on the north side of NC 903 on a partially wooded lot just west of the Halifax County Home (NR 1985) on the site of the former Tubercular Hospital within the approximately 350 acre National Register boundary. Since the Halifax County Home is on such a large parcel, the approximately two acre plot of land on which Allen Grove School stands does not negatively impact the Halifax County Home's integrity of setting. The site is similar to the original location, and the orientation of the school was retained after the move, with the entrances facing east and classroom windows facing west. While the school is set back about 100 feet from the road, farther than it initially stood, it is comparable to the siting of other two- and three-room Rosenwald schools, including the Concord School (Franklin County, NC) which is set back ninety feet and the Canetuck School (Pender County, NC) which is set back 160 feet. The school is located on a slight rise and is surrounded by mature trees on the north, west, and south with an open grassy lawn to the east, facing the County Home. A gravel drive encircles the approximately 2-acre tract of land, a portion of the larger county-owned 317-acre parcel and forms the boundary for the nominated tract. Gravel parking northeast of the boundary, recreational fields to the northwest, agricultural buildings to the northeast, and agricultural fields south of the school, across NC 401 were all associated with the County Home and are now part of the County 4-H facilities.

Exterior Description

Allen Grove School is a one-story, two-room, frame Rosenwald School, built in 1922 following the 200-R floor plan, which was adapted by Wilmington architect Henry Bontiz from Floor Plan No. 20 for a "Two Teacher Community School to Face East or West Only" from the Rosenwald Fund's *Community Schools Plans, Bulletin No.3*. It features two classrooms, each measuring twenty-two feet by thirty feet, aligned along the west elevation, and a projecting, front-gabled twelve-foot by twenty-foot industrial room on the east elevation that is flanked by shed-roofed entrance bays and adjacent shed-roofed cloakrooms. Bonitz customized the 200-R plan by adding a hipped roof, rather than side-gabled, and making the cloak closets smaller than the standard plan called for.¹

The hip-roofed building features a later brick foundation, dating to the 1996 move, and German-profile weatherboards, though several boards adjacent to both porches have been replaced due to water damage. Several boards along the front of the building, near the foundation, have also been replaced due to damage from honeybees. The 5V metal roof has exposed rafter tails, exposed purlins in the front gable, and an interior brick chimney. Windows are nine-over-nine wood-sash windows with flat-board wood surrounds and a continuous shallow dripcap. The windows were refurbished after the building was moved and contain numerous new panes of glass within the original wood-frame sashes. Each classroom has two groups of three windows on the west elevation, and the industrial room has a group of four windows on its east elevation and a louvered square vent in its gable. Entrances retain original five-panel doors and are sheltered by

¹ Marvin Brown, *Research Report: Tools for Assessing the Significance and Integrity of North Carolina's Rosenwald Schools*, "Allen Grove School (HX-293)," 73-74, File HX1566, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC.

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

inset bays on each side of the industrial room, which itself has five-paneled exterior doors on its north and south elevations. Entrance bays have the same German-profile weatherboards as the rest of the building exterior, portions of replacement decking where water damage has occurred, and beaded board ceilings. Later wood steps and railings access the entrances. Cloakrooms on the east elevation were constructed to be about half the size prescribed on the plan and each has a single four-over-four wood-sash window on its east elevation. Several plaques have been affixed to the building near the entrances denoting Leanna Bell Pittman, the first principal and teacher; Cary Pittman, the builder; and Ellen Twisdale Stefura, who donated the building to Halifax County and prompted its relocation. An original painted wood sign on the south elevation reads "Allen's Grove Rosenwald School," though it is unclear where the name "Allen's Grove" came from, as both county records and Rosenwald records referred to both the community and the school as "Allen Grove." The north and south elevations are without fenestration.

Interior Description

The interior of the building features two classrooms arranged end-to-end on the west side of the building, though the wall and moveable partition between the rooms has been removed to create a single open space. A vocational room is centered on the east side of the building, flanked by entrance porches with entrances to each classroom and the vocational room. Small, shed-roofed, cloakrooms near the north and south ends of the east elevation are accessed via the north and south classrooms respectively.

The building retains original wood floors, plaster walls, and beaded board ceilings throughout. Original five-panel wood doors remain throughout the interior, and doors and windows all retain flat-board surrounds. Baseboards are simple flat boards with quarter-round shoe molding, and there is a narrow sawn molding at the ceiling. A moveable partition originally located between the classrooms has been removed, though partial walls and a soffit dividing the two rooms remains. Chalkboards on the north end of the classrooms and smaller chalkboards between the entrances and cloakrooms on the east elevation are also extant. A stuccoed chimney is located between the classrooms near the east elevation and served to vent a coal stove that warmed both rooms. A later coal stove remains in the building. A raised stage was constructed on the north end of the building, though appears to have been constructed either as part of the original construction or soon after as the chalkboards are hung in relation to the stage height and not the floor height. Heating and air conditioning were installed after the building was moved with metal vents located in the floor.

Integrity Statement

Registration requirements in the Multiple Property Documentation Form "Rosenwald Schools in North Carolina," page 57 state that moved schools "will meet Criterion C and Criteria Consideration B if their new location is similar in character to that of the original and if they are otherwise largely intact." Despite the relocation of the Allen Grove School, the property has an orientation, setting, and general environment compatible with those of the historic location and compatible with the property's historic use and architectural significance. The approximate two-acre tract retains a sufficiently rural context and setting comparable to other Rosenwald Schools. It is in line with the two-acre minimum site requirements for Rosenwald funding and contains small groves of trees and open grassy spaces.

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

The school building retains integrity of design, materials, and workmanship with the original floor plan as well as intact siding and roofing, windows and doors, flooring, walls, and ceilings. Alterations to the building were associated with its relocation and restoration and are limited to the new foundation, new exterior stairs and railings, and the selective in-kind replacement of siding and window panes. Interior changes include the removal of the moveable partition between classrooms sometime between 1986 and 1996 and the construction of a raised platform on the north end of the building, apparently while it was still in use as a school. The integrity of design, materials, and workmanship together with the careful siting of the relocated building are sufficient to convey the property's historic feeling and association.

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

Period of Significance

1922

Significant Dates

1922

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

African American

Architect/Builder

Pittman, Cary
Bonitz, Henry

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.)

Allen Grove School was one of forty-six schools in the county financed and constructed with the assistance of the Rosenwald fund, the most of any county in North Carolina. It served African American elementary students in the Allen Grove community, within walking distance of the school. Allen Grove School meets National Register Criterion C for Architecture. It is locally significant as an intact example of Floor Plan No. 20 from Samuel L. Smith's *Community School Plans, Bulletin No. 3*. The distinctive characteristics of the two-teacher school plan, building form, and architectural details have remained largely unaltered since the school was constructed

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

in 1922, and the school retains a high degree of material integrity. Of the extant Rosenwald schools in Halifax County, Allen Grove School retains the highest degree of integrity with the fewest alterations and the best overall condition. The period of significance dates to 1922, when the school was constructed. The school was moved to its present location, approximately three miles north of its original location, in 1996. Allen Grove School meets requirements for Criteria Consideration B for Moved Properties, as it derives its primary significance from its architectural value. It retains integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, as well as an orientation, setting, and general environment that are comparable to those of the historic location.

The historic and architectural context for the Allen Grove School is provided in the related Multiple Property Documentation Form "Rosenwald Schools in North Carolina," context pages E3-51, "The Rosenwald School Building Program in North Carolina, 1915-1932." The school building falls under property type Rosenwald School Subtype II, pages F52-55, and meets the registration requirements for the school subtype, pages F56-57. Specifically, the school was built between 1915 and 1932 utilizing funds provided by the Julius Rosenwald Fund; retains good architectural integrity including an intact design, floor plan, workmanship, and materials; and its new location is similar in character to that of the original and the school is otherwise largely intact.

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

History of Allen Grove School

While North Carolina boasted the most Rosenwald Schools in the South, Halifax County had the distinction of constructing the most of any county in the state, with a total of forty-six. This is perhaps in part because the rural population of Halifax County was 75% African American, and the county established three separate school districts to ensure the separation of the races.² Halifax County is located on the fall line between the Piedmont and Coastal Plain regions of North Carolina, near the Virginia state line, and was formed from Edgecombe County in 1758. The Allen Grove School is now located just outside Halifax, the county seat, which was established in 1757. The school was originally constructed in the Allen Grove community, just three miles south of its current location. The county's early economy was based on plantation agriculture, slavery, and river transportation, which all but disappeared after emancipation ended plantation culture and the railroads surpassed rivers for moving people and goods. Tobacco, peanuts, cotton, corn, textiles, and paper are among the county's top agricultural and manufacturing products.³

² The UNC Center for Civil Rights, "“Unless Our Children Begin to Learn Together...”: The State of Education in Halifax County," 2011, page 4-5, North Carolina Collection, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC.

³ Robert Blair Vocci, "Halifax County," *Encyclopedia of North Carolina*, edited by William S. Powell, <http://www.ncpedia.org/geography/halifax> (accessed August 2017).

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

Of the forty-six Rosenwald-funded schools in Halifax County, only three were one-teacher schools, four were three-teacher schools, three were four-teacher schools, one was a six-teacher school, two were seven-teacher schools, and one was an eight-teacher school. The great majority, totaling thirty-two schools, were two-teacher schools, and of these, seven were built during the 1921-1922 school year, including the Allen Grove School. The others include Dilolia School, Drapers School, Little Zion School, Pleasant Grove School, Quanquay School, and Ward School.⁴ Although it is unknown exactly how many schools served African American students prior to the establishment of Rosenwald schools in the county, it is clear that there were very few. By 1930, there were forty-six Rosenwald schools but only ten non-Rosenwald schools.⁵

The Allen Grove School was completed in the spring of 1922 on land sold to the Halifax County Board of Education by Mary and Edward Cheek.⁶ Of the total cost of \$2,800, the Rosenwald Fund provided \$800, the county school board \$1,500, and the local community \$500.⁷ The school is based on Floor Plan No. 20 from Smith's *Community School Plans, Bulletin No. 3*, but was altered by Wilmington architect Henry Bonitz to feature a hipped roof, rather than a side gabled roof, and to feature smaller cloak closets, known as the 200-R plan in North Carolina.⁸ Local African American builder Cary Pittman constructed the school, although Board of Education minutes indicate R.T. Daniel, a builder from Weldon, was originally awarded the contract. Pittman built many of the other Rosenwald Schools in Halifax County; at least ten are noted in the county Board of Education records, but oral tradition suggests he built as many as thirty.⁹ Rural black communities in North Carolina were typically dominated by tobacco and cotton tenant farmers and sharecroppers, so their economy was often based on trade rather than cash. Raising funds for Rosenwald schools was a challenge, so the community paid Pittman in eggs, chickens, apples, peaches, and sausages rather than cash.¹⁰

Allen Grove School is a two-room schoolhouse that served primary (kindergarten) through sixth grade in the Allen Grove community from 1922 until its closure in 1959. There were only four or five students in each class, so primary through third grade utilized one classroom, while fourth,

⁴ Hanchett, "The Rosenwald Schools," 434.

⁵ Marvin Brown, *Research Report*, 9.

⁶ "Allen Grove School," File HX1566, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC; Letter from W.F. Credle to G.H. Ferguson, March 18, 1922, Department of Public Instruction, Office of the Superintendent, General Correspondence, Julius Rosenwald Fund, 1921-1923, Box 86, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, NC (hereafter referred to as Superintendent's Correspondence); Letter from Stenographer to S.L. Smith, June 14, 1922, Superintendent's Correspondence.

⁷ Fisk University, "Rosenwald Fund Card File Database," www.rosenwald.fisk.edu (accessed August 2017); "North Carolina Report, The Julius Rosenwald Fund, 1921-1922 Budget," Superintendent's Correspondence.

⁸ Marvin Brown, *Research Report*, 73-74.

⁹ "Rosenwald School Facts," File HX1566, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC; "Relatives pleased old school to be restored," *Roanoke Rapids Daily Herald*, no date, File HX1566, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC; "Allen Grove School," File HX1566, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC; Henry V. Taves, "Allen Grove School, HX 293," File HX1566, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC; "The Allen Grove Rosenwald Reunion, Celebrating the Legacy of Leanna Bell Pittman," August 8, 1998, File HX1566, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC.

¹⁰ Hanchett, "The Rosenwald Schools," 415; "Rosenwald School Facts," North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, File HX1566, Raleigh, NC.

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

fifth, and sixth grades occupied the other. Each grade sat together in a single row in each classroom.¹¹ A moveable partition of folding doors separated the two classrooms, but was removed by the 1990s.¹² Beginning in 1922, primary through third grade were taught by Queen Nickelson, and fourth through sixth were taught by Leanna Bell Pittman, who was the first also principal. After Pittman retired in 1943, her daughter, Maxine Adams, taught the older grades and was the principal. Later, Stacy Harding became principal and taught the older grades.¹³ The teachers did not live in the community, but commuted to the school daily. The school only had outdoor privies, one for boys and one for girls, as well as an outdoor well, none of which remain extant on the original school site. It was heated with coal stoves, an early replacement of which remains in the school. Desks were acquired second hand from a white school in nearby Weldon, and also remain in the school, although pews were added in the 1990s. The industrial classroom was used as a library and supply room. After completing sixth grade, students attended Andrew Jackson Elementary School in Halifax for seventh and eighth grades, then Ralph J. Bunch High School in Weldon for grades nine through twelve.¹⁴

Alumni from Allen Grove School in the 1950s recall that the school day started at 8:00 and ended at 3:00. Students walked to school, but alumni remember getting rides from their parents on rainy days. The day started with songs and reciting bible verses, then students studied spelling, language, and arithmetic. The books were used, but in good condition. The school did not have a lunchroom, so students brought their lunches. Alumni remember bringing biscuits, sometimes with preserves, and that it was special for students to have loaf bread or bologna instead of biscuits. Students brought aluminum drinking cups to drink water from the water pump outside the school. Lunchtime was at noon and lasted thirty minutes, and it was also the time students could play outside or use the restrooms. In the afternoons, they had physical education, and alumni recall, "we would form a circle and everyone would do exercises." Discipline was strict and corporeal punishment was common practice. The community celebrated May Day and Harvest Festival, and played softball games.¹⁵

Although education was viewed as a route to a better life, few opportunities existed for African Americans in the south.¹⁶ In Halifax County, higher paying jobs in paper and cotton mills were typically held by whites, leaving lower paying farm and railroad labor for African Americans.¹⁷

¹¹ Personal Interview with Allen Grove School Alumni (Ethlene Battle and Mirian Solomon) by North Carolina State Historic Preservation office, August 13, 2016. (hereafter referred to as "Interview with Allen Grove School Alumni, 2016.")

¹² Personal interview with Joe Long (4-H Rural Life Center Director) by Heather Slane and Cheri Szcodronski, August 9, 2017.(hereafter referred to as "Interview with Joe Long, 2017.")

¹³ Interview with Allen Grove School Alumni, 2016; "The Allen Grove Rosenwald Reunion, Celebrating the Legacy of Leanna Bell Pittman," August 8, 1998, File HX1566, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC; Maxine Adams, "Principal's Annual Elementary School Report," 1948-1949 and 1949-1950, Department of Public Instruction, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, NC.

¹⁴ Interview with Allen Grove School Alumni, 2016; Interview with Joe Long, 2017.

¹⁵ Interview with Allen Grove School Alumni, 2016.

¹⁶ Hanchett, "The Rosenwald Schools," 421.

¹⁷ The UNC Center for Civil Rights, "Unless Our Children Begin to Learn Together..." 4.

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

Parents often encouraged children to get an education so they could leave Halifax County to seek advanced degrees or industrial job opportunities in Michigan, Pennsylvania, and New York – and many high school graduates did so.¹⁸

In 1949, the Department of Public Instruction reported that nearly all African American schools were in disrepair and not fit to be occupied by students, and laid out plans for consolidation, renovation, and construction of new schools.¹⁹ The Allen Grove School closed in 1959 when it was consolidated with Andrew Jackson School, located at 325 Dobbs Street in Halifax, which had been completed the previous year.²⁰ The Allen Grove School building was sold to a private owner, James Twisdale, after it closed and was used for storage before his daughter, Ellen Twisdale Stefura, donated the school to the Halifax County 4-H Rural Life Center in 1995 to facilitate redevelopment of the original site.²¹ The school was moved from its original location to its current location, which is the site of the Halifax County Home and the former Tubercular Hospital on NC Highway 903 near Halifax. The building now serves as a county-owned community center, hosting 4-H and other children's camps, the Harvest Festival, and other community activities.²²

Architecture of Allen Grove School

Allen Grove School's design embodies the character-defining elements of the Rosenwald Fund's standardized plans. Samuel Leonard Smith, Director of Schoolhouse Planning for the Rosenwald Fund, developed a set of school plans that minimized construction costs, maximized classroom space, and capitalized on natural features of the school's site. Allen Grove School was constructed using Wilmington architect Henry Bonitz's 200-R plan, which he prepared for the North Carolina Board of Education based on Smith's Floor Plan No. 20 from *Community School Plans, Bulletin No. 3*. The plan included two classrooms and an industrial room, as well as a hipped roof, rather than side-gabled, and smaller cloak closets than the standard plan, both being customizations by Bonitz for the 200-R plan.²³

Of the forty-six schools funded by the Rosenwald program in Halifax County, only four are known to be extant in addition to Allen Grove School. Chestnut School (c.1925), located at 4336 NC Highway 561 near Tillery, is a two-teacher school that operated until 1958. After closing, it was purchased by two former students who renovated the building to serve as their home, but is

¹⁸ Interview with Canetuck School Alumni.

¹⁹ The UNC Center for Civil Rights, "Unless Our Children Begin to Learn Together...", 5-6.

²⁰ "Consolidation of Halifax County Schools," Division of Public Instruction, Division of Negro Education, Files of the State Supervisor of Elementary Education, Box 4, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, NC; Brien Boyce, "Students, faculty bid farewell to Andrew Jackson Elementary School," *Roanoke Rapids Daily Herald*, May 27, 2001, www.rrdailyherald.com (accessed August 2017). Andrew Jackson School remains extant.

²¹ Interview with Allen Grove School Alumni, 2016; Scott Schwabke, "Relatives pleased old school to be restored," *Roanoke Rapids Daily Herald*, no date, File HX1566, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC.

²² Interview with Allen Grove School Alumni, 2016; Interview with Joe Long, 2017.

²³ S.L. Smith, "Floor Plan No 20, Two Teacher Community School, to Face East or West Only," *Community School Plans, Bulletin No. 3* (Nashville: The Julius Rosenwald Fund, 1924), 5; Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools*, 56-57, 94-111; Hanchett, "The Rosenwald Schools," 400-405; Marvin Brown, *Research Report*, 73-74.

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

now vacant and partially collapsed.²⁴ Eden School (c.1922), located at 1973 Beaverdam Road north of Enfield, has been converted to apartments. This school has very low integrity, as the iconic windows have been replaced and the interior completely reconfigured.²⁵ Mary's Chapel School (c.1920), located on Mary Chapel Road north of Scotland Neck, is a two-teacher school that has been adapted for use as the Mary's Chapel Fellowship Hall. It too has low integrity, as it has lost the banks of windows and original bays, the industrial classroom has been removed, and vinyl cladding and other modern materials have been added.²⁶ Springfield School (c.1920), located on Wayman Church Road south of Aurelian Springs, is a two-teacher school that is in deteriorated condition.²⁷ Another seven schools are known to be no longer extant, including the Chaloner School, Dilolia School (also known as Dicilia School), Eastman School (also known as Medoc School), Edgewood School, Gold Mine School, Pea Hill School, and Ward School. It is believed that the remaining thirty-five schools are no longer extant, however this assumption has not been confirmed.

Allen Grove School was originally constructed on NC Highway 561 in the Allen Grove community and was moved in 1996 approximately three miles north to its current location just outside Halifax to ensure its preservation. The new location is within the approximately 350-acre National Register boundary of the Halifax County Home (NR 1985). Since the Halifax County Home is on such a large parcel, the approximately two acre plot of land on which Allen Grove School stands does not negatively impact the Halifax County Home's integrity of setting. The school had been used for storage, but was no longer needed by the owner and was thus donated to Halifax County so that the original site could be redeveloped. To recreate the historic setting as much as possible, the building was oriented with the banks of windows facing west, as the original plans intended. After the move, the building underwent rehabilitation, including building a new full foundation, adding heat and air conditioning, reglazing and repairing windows, replacing damaged portions of cladding, floors, walls, porches, and roof with in-kind materials, and repainting the original "Allen's Grove Rosenwald School" sign on the building's exterior.²⁸ Of the known surviving schools in Halifax County, Allen Grove School retains the highest degree of integrity with the fewest alterations and the best overall condition.

²⁴ "Chestnut School," File HX0496, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC.

²⁵ "Eden School," File HX0266, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC.

²⁶ "Mary's Chapel School," File HX1555, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC.

²⁷ "Springfield School," File HX0196, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC.

²⁸ Interview with Joe Long, 2017.

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

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- Justesen, Benjamin R., and Scott Matthews. "Public Education Part 3: The First Graded Schools, the State Constitution of 1868, and Legal Segregation." *Encyclopedia of North Carolina*. Edited by William S. Powell. <http://www.ncpedia.org/public-education-part-3-first> (accessed July 2017).
- Justesen, Benjamin R., and Scott Matthews. "Public Education Part 4: Expansion, Consolidation, and the School Machinery Act." *Encyclopedia of North Carolina*. Edited by William S. Powell. <http://www.ncpedia.org/public-education-part-4-expansion> (accessed July 2017).
- Johnson, K. Todd. "Rosenwald Fund." *Encyclopedia of North Carolina*. Edited by William S. Powell. <http://www.ncpedia.org/rosenwald-fund> (accessed July 2017).
- Personal Interview with Allen Grove School Alumni (Ethlene Battle and Mirian Solomon) by North Carolina State Historic Preservation office, August 13, 2016.
- Personal Interview with Joe Long (4-H Rural Life Center Director) by Heather Slane and Cheri Szcodronski, August 9, 2017.

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

Smith, S.L. "Floor Plan No 20, Two Teacher Community School, to Face East or West Only." *Community School Plans, Bulletin No. 3*. Nashville: The Julius Rosenwald Fund, 1924.

The UNC Center for Civil Rights. "'Unless Our Children Begin to Learn Together...': The State of Education in Halifax County." 2011. North Carolina Collection. Wilson Library. University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC.

Vocci, Robert Blair. "Halifax County." *Encyclopedia of North Carolina*. Edited by William S. Powell. <http://www.ncpedia.org/geography/halifax> (accessed August 2017).

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): HX1566

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property approximately 2 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 36.346618 | Longitude: -77.620800 |
| 2. Latitude: 36.346392 | Longitude: -77.620135 |
| 3. Latitude: 36.345753 | Longitude: -77.620446 |
| 4. Latitude: 36.246177 | Longitude: -77.621762 |
| 5. Latitude: 36.346409 | Longitude: -77.621618 |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |

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

The National Register boundary is shown by a black line on the accompanying map, drawn at a 1"=200' scale.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated boundary includes approximately two acres within an existing drive that separates the school from the remainder of the county complex. This area is adequate to maintain the school's rural context and general environment comparable to its historic location.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Heather Slane, Architectural Historian

name/title: Cheri Szcodronski, Architectural Historian

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

organization: hmwPreservation
street & number: P.O. Box 355
city or town: Durham state: NC zip code: 27701
e-mail: heather@hmwpreservation.com
telephone: 336-207-1502
date: August 2017

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: Allen Grove School
City or Vicinity: Halifax
County: Halifax State: NC
Photographer: Heather Slane
Date Photographed: August 2017

Photo #0001:
1 of 7
Oblique view, front (east) elevation, facing northwest

Photo #0002:
2 of 7
Oblique view, south and west elevations, facing northeast

Photo #0003:
3 of 7
Oblique view, east and north elevations, facing southwest

Allen Grove School
Name of Property

Halifax County, North Carolina
County and State

Photo #0004:
4 of 7
Interior, classrooms facing northwest

Photo #0005:
5 of 7
Interior, classrooms facing south

Photo #0006:
6 of 7
Interior, cloakroom facing east

Photo #0007:
7 of 7
Interior, industrial room facing south

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.



Image from NC-HPOweb

Allen Grove School
13763 Highway 903
Halifax, Halifax County, NC

Coordinates:
1. 36.346618, -77.620800
2. 36.346392, -77.620135
3. 36.345753, -77.620446
4. 36.246177, -77.621762
5. 36.346409, -77.621618

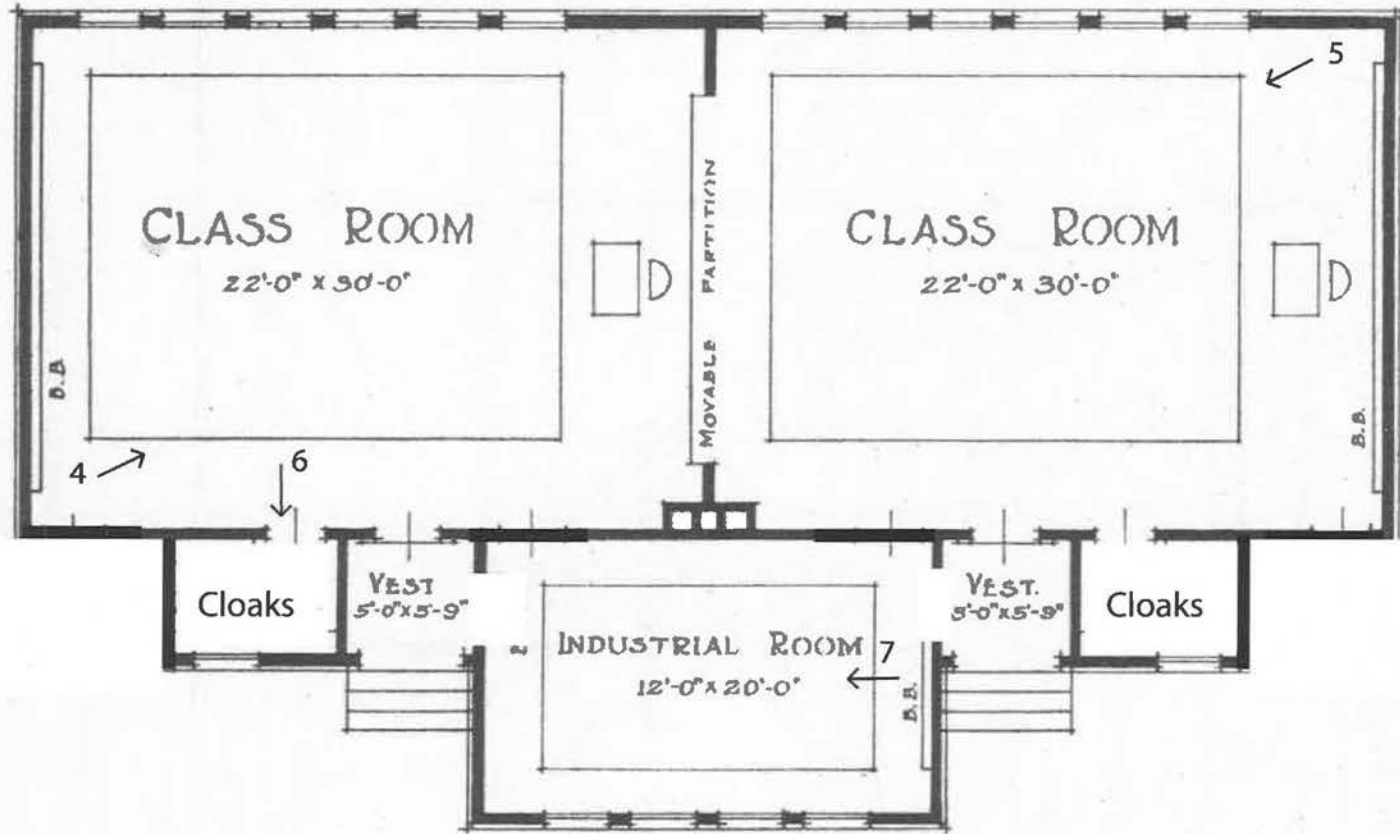
Site Map with National Register Boundary
— National Register Boundary
A. Allen Grove School



Scale: 1" = 200'



2 ↘



1 →

Allen Grove School
13763 NC Highway 903
Halifax, Halifax County, NC



↖ 3

Floor Plan and Photo Key



D. 2017. 11. 237

ALLEN GROVE SCHOOL

HALIFAX COUNTY, NC

Photo #1



WILLYS BROS. & CO. BLDG. CO.

D.2017.11. 238

ALLEN GROVE SCHOOL

HALIFAX COUNTY, NC

PHOTO # 2



2017.11.239

ALLEN GROVE SCHOOL

HALIFAX COUNTY, NC

Photo #3



D.2017.11.240

ALLEN GROVE SCHOOL

HALIFAX COUNTY, NC

Photo #4



D. 2017.11.241

ALLEN GROVE SCHOOL

HALIFAX COUNTY, NC

Photo #5



D. 2017.11.242

ALLEN GROVE SCHOOL

HALIFAX COUNTY, NC

PHOTO #60



D. 2017.11.243

ALLEN GROVE SCHOOL

HALIFAX COUNTY, NC

Photo #7

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: 4/20/2018 Date of Pending List: 5/31/2018 9:19:23 AM Date of 16th Day: 5/21/2018 Date of 45th Day: 6/4/2018 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject 5/31/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 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.



North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper
Secretary Susi H. Hamilton

Office of Archives and History
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

April 18, 2018

Paul Loether, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop 7228
Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: Allen Grove School – Halifax County
Canetuck School – Pender County
Concord School – Franklin County
Flynt House – Forsyth County
Mars Hill School – Madison County

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed are the nominations for the above-referenced properties to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Recently, we have been encouraged to move toward digital submissions. To begin the transition to this format for all nominations, we have enclosed the nomination for the Flynt House as our first digital submission. The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Flynt House to the National Register of Historic Places. Four additional hard copy nominations are enclosed.

We trust you will find the nominations to be in order. If you have any questions please call Jennifer Brosz, 919.807.6587.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dr. Kevin Cherry".

Dr. Kevin Cherry
State Historic Preservation Officer

KC/bw: enclosures