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OCT 31 1977

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MAR 31 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Fifth Ward School

AND/OR COMMON Monserrat School

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 743 South Fifth Street

CITY, TOWN Louisville VICINITY OF _____ CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 03 and 04

STATE Kentucky CODE 021 COUNTY Jefferson CODE III

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: library storage

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME City of Louisville, Board of Directors, Louisville Free Public Library

STREET & NUMBER 301 West York Street

CITY, TOWN Louisville VICINITY OF _____ STATE Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Jefferson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER 531 West Jefferson Street

CITY, TOWN Louisville STATE Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

 DATE 1971 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN 104 Bridge Street, Frankfort, Kentucky STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Fifth Ward (Montserrat) School is at the northeast corner of Fifth and York Streets. It is a three-story brick structure with recessed, round-arched fenestration on all three floors. The foundation is also brick. A horizontal string course at the spring of the arch unites the rhythm of the arched forms on each floor. A string course underscored by dentils separates the first and second stories. Another string course separates the second and third stories. The third story is topped by an extended cornice underscored by dentils. A slightly projected portion of the main facade, containing the fenestration, is surmounted by a pediment. The window sills on the second and third stories appear to be of cast iron. On the north and south facades are bays with the round-arched fenestration on each floor.

The basic style of the building is a modified Renaissance Revival mode which was very popular in Louisville in the mid-nineteenth century. The exterior remains unchanged from contemporary engravings with the exception of the fact that the windows have been filled in with wood panels except on the first floor of the front. In addition, the front section of the first floor has been painted white.

The site has a cast-iron fence on a limestone curb on the Fifth Street side. A stone retaining wall is along the York Street side of the property.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
___PREHISTORIC	___ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	___COMMUNITY PLANNING	___LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	___RELIGION
___1400-1499	___ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	___CONSERVATION	___LAW	___SCIENCE
___1500-1599	___AGRICULTURE	___ECONOMICS	___LITERATURE	___SCULPTURE
___1600-1699	X___ARCHITECTURE	X___EDUCATION	___MILITARY	X___SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
___1700-1799	___ART	___ENGINEERING	___MUSIC	___THEATER
X___1800-1899	___COMMERCE	___EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	___PHILOSOPHY	___TRANSPORTATION
___1900-	___COMMUNICATIONS	___INDUSTRY	___POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	___OTHER (SPECIFY)
		___INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1855-1857

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Isaiah Rogers & Henry Whitestone

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Monserrat School is representative of the educational facilities in the City of Louisville in the mid-nineteenth century. It was designed by the well-known architectural partners, Isaiah Rogers (1800-1869) and Henry Whitestone (1819-1893), in a modified Renaissance Revival mode.

The school structure is located in an area which now has a very mixed land use; however, originally it served a wealthy residential section in the nineteenth century. Located just south of Broadway, this was an area filled with substantial limestone and brick residences and churches (View I). The architect, Whitestone, designed numerous structures in the vicinity.

Whitestone had come to Kentucky from Ireland to work with Isaiah Rogers on the Capitol Hotel in Frankfort, Kentucky in 1852. In 1853, they came to Louisville to work on the remodeling of the major hotels in town including the Galt House and the Louisville Hotel. In addition, they received commissions for numerous public, commercial, and residential structures.

The Fifth Ward School had been opened in September of 1854. It had been completed at a cost of \$18,000 and was a three-story, brick structure. According to a notice in the Louisville Daily Journal of March 26, 1853, sealed proposals would be received in the office of E. E. Williams for three school buildings including one in the Fifth Ward. This was by order of the Building Commissioners. This was one of the first school buildings known to be constructed south of Broadway.

On June 17, 1855, a fire destroyed the school building. The fire had begun in the chair factory of B. Olyer, a frame building at Fifth and York on the south side of the "great southern ditch." According to newspaper accounts, the structures were seventy-five feet apart, but there was a lack of water as there was not a public cistern within a quarter-mile of the school. The wooden cornice under the metal roof caught fire, and the school building was severely damaged.

The school comprised six compartments--three for boys and three for girls on separate sides of the school. There were three male teachers and four female teachers with a total student enrollment of three hundred. No one was injured from the fire, and the children's books and the library of Neodelphic Society were saved.

It was reported in the Louisville Daily Courier of July 16, 1855, that the city authorities closed their contracts on the Fifth Ward School, and Mr. J. [sic] Rogers, the architect, had the superintendence of the plans and construction. The newspaper commented that it "will be the best constructed and most admirable school house in the city."

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Falls of the Ohio Metropolitan Council of Governments, Metropolitan Preservation Plan. Text by Walter E. Langsam. Washington, D.C., United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Falls of the Ohio Metropolitan Council of Governments, 1973.

James Grady vs. Rogers and Whitestone, Suit 45498, Common Law Division, Jefferson Circuit Court, 1855.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .5 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 6	6, 0, 8	5, 1, 0	4, 2, 3, 3	4, 8, 0	B					
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		
C						D					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point on the northeast corner of Fifth and York, the line extends north 90' thence east for 200' thence south for 90' thence west for 200' to the beginning point.

The lot is in block 29B of the City of Louisville, lot 35.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Elizabeth F. Jones, Research Director

ORGANIZATION

Landmarks Commission

DATE

September 20, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

617 West Jefferson

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Louisville

STATE

Kentucky

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Edred W. Meeter

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 10/20/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *Walter Jones Cole*

DATE 3/3/78

DATE 3.15.78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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The school house has also served the community for purposes other than education. It was used as a hospital during the Civil War. From 1937 until June of 1975, the building was used for the Natural History Museum of the Louisville Free Public Library. It is now being used by the Library for storage of books and other library materials.

The Monserrat School is significant in that it is one of very few remaining educational structures from this early period of expansion of educational facilities in the City of Louisville. In addition, it represents the movement of the city southward in the mid-nineteenth century. Architecturally, the structure is an excellent example of the work of the well-known firm of Rogers and Whitestone and is one of a rapidly dwindling few buildings from the decade of the 1850s in the City of Louisville.

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Minutes, City of Louisville Board of Aldermen, V. 53, 1853-54, January 20, 1854.

McDowell, Robert E. City of Conflict. Louisville: Civil War Round Table, 1962.

Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the Male High School, Female High School and Public Schools of Louisville of the General Council of the City of Louisville for the Scholastic Year 1859-60. Louisville: Bradley and Gilbert, 1860.

Jones, Elizabeth F. "Henry Whitestone: Nineteenth Century Louisville Architect."
Master's thesis, University of Louisville, 1974.

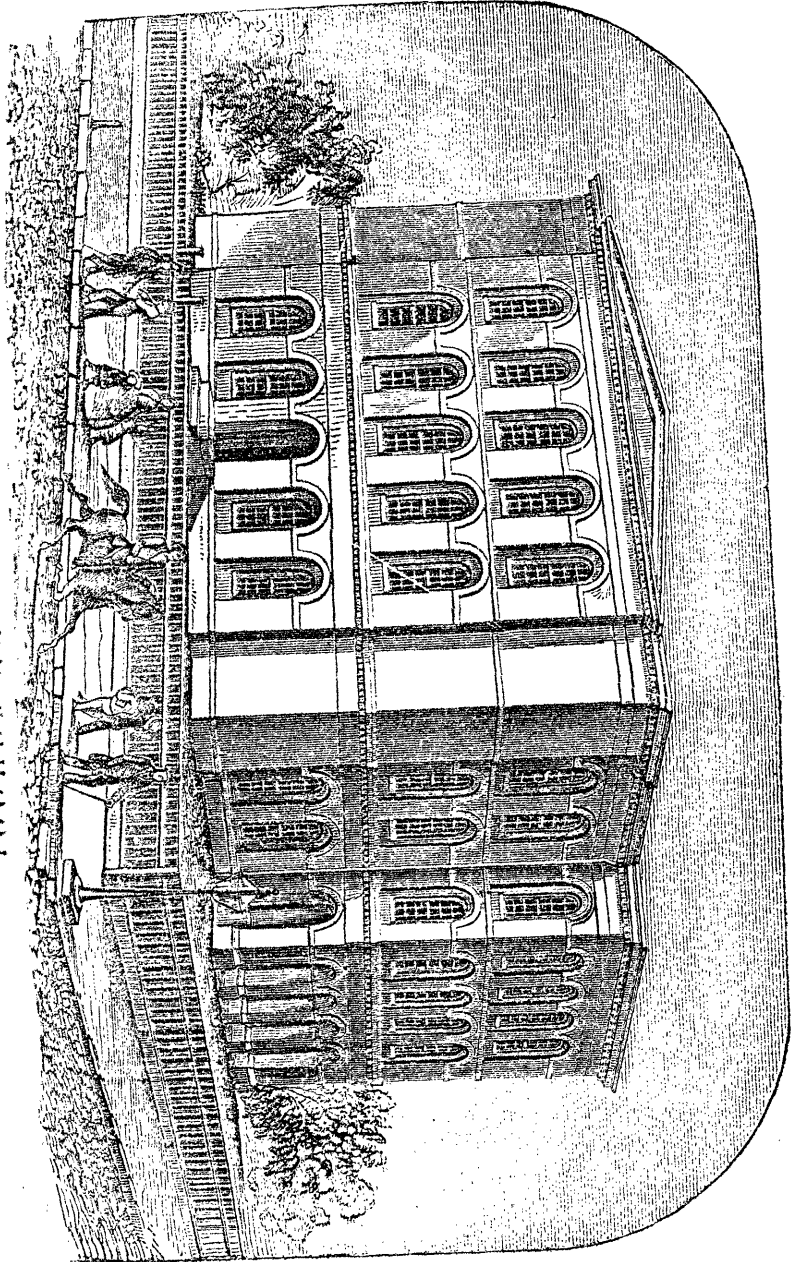
Louisville Daily Journal, 26 March 1853, p. 3, col. 8.

Louisville Daily Courier, 5 August 1854.

Louisville Daily Journal, 18 June 1855, p. 3, col. 1.

Louisville Daily Courier, 18 June 1855.

"Fifth Ward School House," Louisville Daily Courier, 16 July 1855, p. 4, col. 3.



ALEX. W. ABBOTT SCHOOL.

BRADLEY & GIBBERT

L

PUBLIC S

MALE HIGH SC

BOARD

FINANC

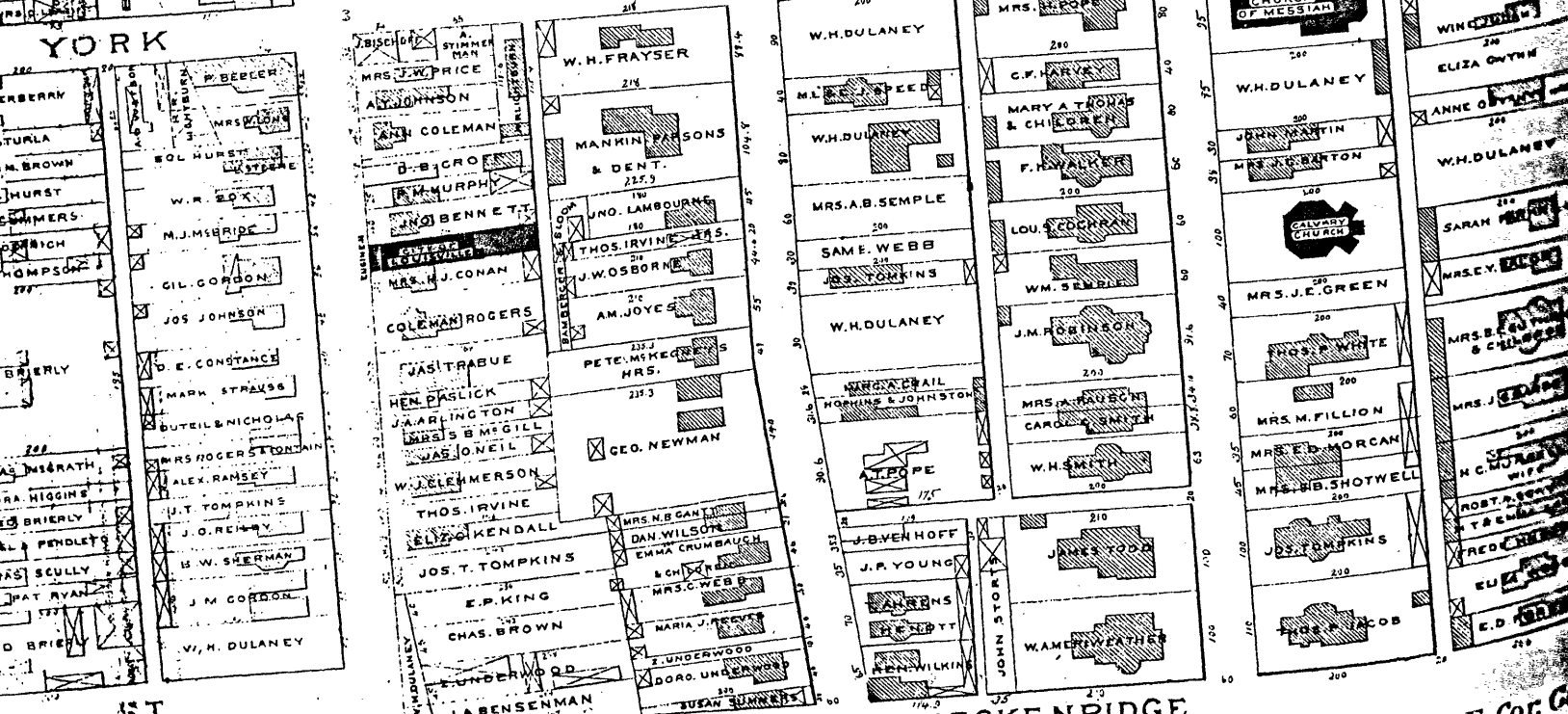
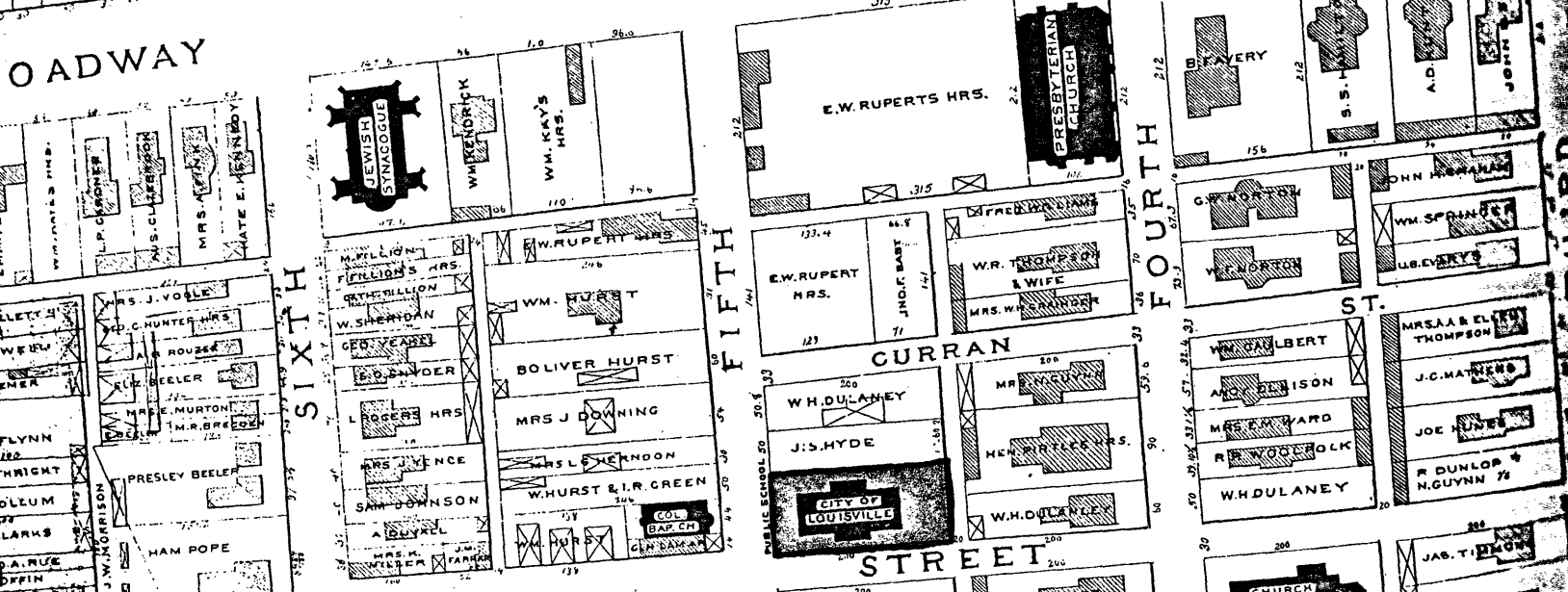
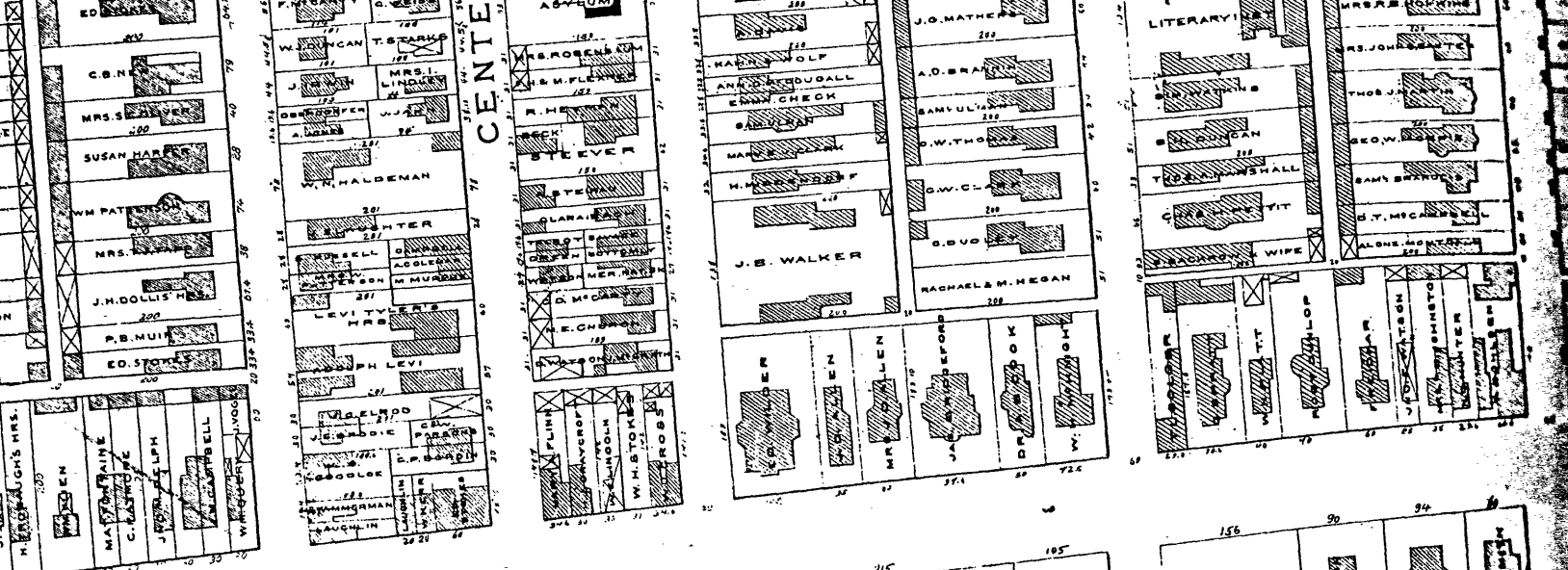
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Fifth Ward School
Louisville
Jefferson County
Kentucky

MAR 31 1978
OCT 31 1977

Annual Report of the Board of
Trustees... Louisville: Bradley
and Gilbert, 1860.

View 1. Front and south side
of school, looking northeast.



Fifth Ward School MAR 31 1978
Louisville

Jefferson County OCT 31 1977
Kentucky

Atlas of the City of Louisville,
Louisville: Louisville Abstract and
Loan Association, 1876.

Map 2. Fifth Ward School
outlined in blue.