

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED 2280

OCT - 2 2015

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

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. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Lincoln School
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 373 Canisteo St

N/A	not for publication
N/A	vicinity

city or town Hornell
state New York code NY county Steuben code 101 zip code 14843

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 statewide X local

Ruth A. Peypart DSHPO 9/24/15
Signature of certifying official/title Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

X 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:)

Alex D. [Signature] 11/17/15
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION/school

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

vacant

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Early twentieth century Neoclassical revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: cement

walls: brick

roof: membrane

other: _____

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Lincoln School is a three-story school building of dark colored brick with a flat roof, brick and terra cotta trim at the main façade and banks of large classroom windows interspersed with blank wall sections. It is located in the southwestern quadrant of the city of Hornell, on a 1.3 acre lot extending from Canisteo Street to South Division Street, just south of Crosby Creek, in a residential neighborhood. The east elevation is the main façade, fronting on Canisteo Street. It is symmetrical, punctuated by pairs of projecting one-story arched entries and projecting end sections with blank brick walls. The main three-story block is oriented on a north-south axis, with seven or eight classrooms per floor. A two-story wing of largely utilitarian design extends to the west from the south end of the main block, containing a combined gymnasium and auditorium. The school was opened in 1924 and served as a neighborhood elementary school until 1979 and as an office building until 2012. The building retains integrity in terms of form/design, location, workmanship, feeling and association. The building exterior retains its original masonry opening/fenestration pattern (despite window replacement) along with original trim elements; in addition most of the interior layout, features and finishes retain their historic integrity. The building's surviving original interior features include the stairs and corridors, the gymnasium/auditorium space and stage, the wood interior doors and trim, and classroom features such as transom windows, coat closets and supply cabinets. Plans are being made to redevelop the property as housing and to replicate the original windows, restoring its historic appearance.

Narrative Description

Built in 1923-24 on the site of an earlier school destroyed by fire, the Lincoln School lies within a low-rise residential neighborhood of modest late nineteenth and early twentieth century homes. Its sloped parcel has frontage on Canisteo Street on the east and on South Division Street on the west, with a concrete flood control structure containing Crosby Creek adjacent to the site on the north and two residential parcels adjacent on the south. The symmetrical Canisteo Street elevation is the façade. A lawn with mature trees slopes downward from the building to Canisteo Street. The open space to the rear (west) of the building and in the northeast corner of the site is paved with asphalt parking areas and driveways.

Exterior

The main block is laid out on a rectangular plan along a north-south double loaded corridor on each of the three floors, originally with seven large classrooms per floor, plus ancillary spaces. Matching entries and stairs

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

divide the center section, with window banks facing east and west, from the slightly projecting north and south sections, where the fenestration is on the end walls. The symmetrical east facade has single story entry vestibules at either end of the center section, each with a round arched brick doorway, trimmed by terra cotta spiral roping following the arch, a terra cotta band at the spring line, and a round arched glass transom with an applied rectangular grille surrounded by decorative brick bands. The east façade has the two large banks of windows in the center section, flanked by two single bays. In addition to the two main entries, there are two entries directly into the two center classrooms (originally kindergarten rooms) facing east.

The projecting blank end walls of the north and south sections have a subtle diamond pattern in the brick masonry. Other decorative masonry features limited to the east façade include a brick cornice above the third floor windows and a brick band above the first floor windows. A parged concrete foundation is exposed around three sides of the building and at the auditorium wing. The parapet is raised above the center of the east façade to accommodate a terra cotta sign naming the building, "Lincoln School". The original classroom windows, replaced in the 1980s by smaller casement windows and infill, were banks of five six-over-six wood windows with the "austral" style of operation, which allowed the upper sash to project outward as an awning and the lower sash to simultaneously project inward as a hopper. Symmetrically placed between window banks are ventilation structures consisting of six decorative perforated concrete blocks; these are not original features, but were added within the first six years of operation.

The secondary facades are largely devoid of decorative features, although the brick cornice extends to the north and south elevations of the main block (not the west elevation). The symmetrical north façade has a pair of window banks at each level. The south façade has one large bank of classroom windows at each floor for a classroom in the southeast corner, flanked by bays of single windows and a blank brick section, reflecting an irregular layout in the southwest corner of the main block, adjacent to the auditorium. The asymmetrical west elevation also has two masonry openings, originally for banks of five windows, at each level, with additional smaller window openings to either side, and with the auditorium/gymnasium wing projecting from its south end at the first and second floor levels. All entry doors are non-historic.

The auditorium gymnasium wing, though built at the same time, has a more utilitarian character than the main block. It has expressed brick pilasters between the large windows on the north and south facades and has two single exit doors facing west. The gymnasium windows are double height multi-paned industrial steel windows with ventilators at the tops. All roofs are built-up, with non-historic aluminum copings.

Interior

The interior layout of the main block has classrooms arranged along a double loaded corridor at each level. There is a stair adjacent to each east-facing entry, with smaller spaces such as the principal's office, nurse's

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

office and boys and girls rest rooms next to each stair; these spaces retain their original doors and woodwork. The north entry bay extends through to the west side, where a secondary entrance is located, consisting of modern aluminum and glass doors with transoms. Classrooms are typically equipped with a wood and glass supply cabinet and a cloakroom with two wood and glass doors and with transom lights between the two doors. Surviving original stairwell features include cast metal balustrades and newels, wood handrails, and curved plaster corners at the landings. Corridors and original classroom walls and ceilings have plaster finishes, concealed by suspended acoustic tile ceilings in many areas. Floors are non-historic vinyl. Baseboard molding is the original ceramic material in the corridors and wood in the classrooms.

The auditorium/gymnasium space extends into the main block in the southwest corner at the first floor level. Its walls are finished with glazed brick up to 6-feet above the gymnasium floor and with plaster above—all original finishes. The stage occupies the west end of the space and has a beveled plaster proscenium arch and a wood apron; it also retains its original configuration and finishes. On the second floor the former balcony area has been altered to wall it off from the gym/auditorium, but the original wood finish of the front edge of the balcony remains visible.

There is a basement only below the northernmost classroom block and stairway. At the bottom of the stairway is a hall that opens to the former vacuum cleaner room and broom closet and the larger boiler room to the north. The boiler room contains the mechanical equipment for the building, including boilers for heating and ventilation, as well as hot water tanks. A room to the east of the boiler room was used for coal storage. The access door to the former coal chute is visible from the exterior of the building.

An original design plan for the main floor shows the siting of the 1924 building immediately east of the footprint of the original earlier Lincoln School building, which was destroyed by fire in 1923. The plan confirms that the existing entries and circulation spaces are original features. A kitchen ("Cooking Room"), and cafeteria ("Lunch Room") were located in the north wing of the building. Two classrooms for kindergarten students and the nurse's office ("Medical Inspection Room") lined the east corridor in the center of the building. Each kindergarten classroom had a toilet and sink off the coatroom, along with separate exterior entrances into the building. The layout of the auditorium and gymnasium space has remained unaltered with the exception of the balcony alteration. Some subdivisions and alterations have been made within individual classrooms, but most interior spaces retain their original configurations.

A program from the school's dedication on October 3, 1924 states that the building contained 19 classrooms, an auditorium/gymnasium that could seat 650, boys and girls locker rooms, two rooms for domestic sciences,

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

a medical inspection room, a library, principal's office, and a teacher's rest room.¹ The Lincoln School is a remarkably intact example of a neighborhood grammar school of the 1920s that survived with very little alteration through its period of school use (1924 to 1979). Its parcel, site and relationship to the surrounding streets and homes remain unchanged from the time of construction. Its massing and exterior masonry are also unaltered, despite the loss of original windows. The gymnasium/auditorium wing with its original stage and surviving industrial steel windows also reflect the original condition. The interior entries, corridors and stairs reflect the original layout, with partition changes limited to a few classrooms. Original interior finishes and features such as stair balustrades and handrails, cloak rooms, wood and glass doors, transoms and trim, and classroom supply cupboards, remain intact and in good condition. While many interior spaces have suspended ceilings, the original plaster ceilings remain intact at the original height. Plans are underway to convert the building into affordable apartments, which includes restoration of appropriate, full-size windows replicating the original appearance, as well as restoration of original ceiling heights and site improvements.

¹ Hornell School District. "Dedication Exercises Program, New Lincoln Grammar School," October 3, 1924, p. 4.

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1923-1924

Significant Dates

1923, 1924

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Tooker & Marsh

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- 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.

Period of Significance (justification)

The period begins with the construction of the current building in 1923 and ends with its dedication in 1924.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary) N/A

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Hornell's Lincoln School is significant in the area of architecture (Criterion C) as an intact and well-preserved example of a 1920s neighborhood elementary school in a small Western New York community, exhibiting design features that were typical of grammar school architecture of the period. The school occupied a parcel of land in the city of Hornell that was used for education extending back to the mid-nineteenth century.² The first school building at this location was a one-room schoolhouse built in 1848 that was continually expanded with the final additions made in 1915. In 1923, the Lincoln School was destroyed by fire. The school board hired Tooker and Marsh, a New York City architecture firm that specialized in school design and was already under contract to design the 1923 Hornell High School.³ The new Lincoln School was completed and opened in September 1924 at a cost of \$240,000. It was the largest of the city's four elementary schools with 19 classrooms and an auditorium that seated 650. The school reflected state mandated public school guidelines, especially those concerning lighting, ventilation, fire safety, durability, and efficiency. The building also illustrated the principles set forth by Tooker and Marsh in a 1920 periodical article entitled "General Principles of School Planning and Construction" that outlined the firm's own standards and goals for civic buildings.⁴ By retaining its original massing, much of its historic fabric, layout and interior features, the building became an example of best practices for early twentieth century school construction with a building that would provide a safe learning environment with a design that was inspiring for the students. It remained a school until 1979 when it became offices for the local hospital. Plans are to develop the building as senior housing, which includes restoration of appropriate full size windows replicating the original appearance, as well as restoration of original ceiling heights and site improvements.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Founded in the late eighteenth century, Hornell became the second largest incorporated city in Steuben County, after Corning, and the economic center of the northwestern part of the county early in its history. Located in the Canisteo River valley, Hornell was first settled in 1790 as a lumber, farming and fur-trading town, following the general settlement pattern for the Southern Tier section of the state after the American Revolution. George Hornell (1768-1813), for whom the city was named, came from York, Pennsylvania, and arrived in the area in 1792. He constructed one of the area's first gristmills and sawmills, and opened the first

²Robert F. Oakes, "Historically Speaking: A history of schools in Hornell," *The Hornell Evening Tribune*, c.1979.

³The 1923 high school remains in use as the rear portion of Hornell Intermediate School at 71 Buffalo Street near downtown Hornell.

⁴Tooker and Marsh, "General Principles of School Planning and Construction," *Architecture: The Professional Architectural Monthly*, November 1920.

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

tavern in his home. George Hornell also served as judge, postmaster, and represented Western New York in the State Assembly in 1808. The settlement was named in his honor after his death in 1813.

Originally known as Hornellsville, the town gained prominence as a railroad center beginning in 1850 with the opening of the New York and Erie Railroad, the first train route across the Southern Tier and the nation's first long distance railroad.⁵ Silk manufacturing was also an important industry during the last decade of the nineteenth century and the early decades of the twentieth century. Because of this, Hornell was known as the "City of Silk," but it was the railroad and rail related industries that spurred Hornell's growth and development.⁶ The growth began around 1852, when a link to Buffalo was added with the Buffalo and New York City Railroad, branching off the New York and Erie line from Hornell to Buffalo. The opening of the railroad led to the community's status as a rail hub, transforming the hamlet into a village in 1852 and a city in 1888.⁷ Hornell thrived as a center for steam locomotive construction and repairs throughout the nineteenth century and well into the twentieth century. The Erie Railroad remained the primary economic anchor of Hornell, with railroad facilities expanding in 1901 and 1923. At its peak, the railroad had 5,000 employees in Hornell.⁸

When the Great Depression hit in the 1930s, the city's population (16,250) began to decline along with the fortunes of the railroad industry. When the Erie Railroad converted from steam to diesel in 1948, it led to a further cut in the workforce at the Hornell repair shops, marking the beginning of the railroad's demise. In 1960, the Erie merged with the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad, becoming the Erie Lackawanna. Flood damage at the Hornell railroad yards during Hurricane Agnes in 1972 led to the bankruptcy of the railroad.⁹ It was taken over by the federally subsidized Conrail, which closed the repair shops; however, rail car assembly and maintenance remained a key local industry.¹⁰ In 1997, ALSTOM Transportation, Incorporated, a subsidiary of a French company, began leasing the former Erie shops for railcar repair and refurbishing operations. ALSTOM is currently Hornell's largest private employer with approximately 400 employees in a city with a population of roughly 8,500.¹¹

Public education in Hornell

⁵ Bero Associates Architects, *Reconnaissance Level Survey of Historic Resources: City of Hornell, Steuben County, New York*, Hornell, NY, 2000, 12.

⁶ *Ibid.*, 20.

⁷ Hornell Survey, 12.

⁸ *Ibid.*, 20.

⁹ *Ibid.*, 23.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ "Major Employers," Hornell Industrial Development Agency website 2015. Online at <http://www.hornellny.com/content/major-employers>.

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

As the settlement that would become Hornell began to develop during the first half of the nineteenth century, state laws required that new communities provide schools to educate the youth of the community. The first school within the present city limits was established by George Hornell in 1810 and taught by Miss Sarah Thatcher. A log school was constructed in 1813 with students being taught by Hornell's son, George Hornell Jr. In 1833, the log school was replaced with a frame schoolhouse on Canisteo and Church Streets, and in 1844 a larger structure was built on the west side of the new village park.¹² By 1880, Hornell had an expanded public school system with four schools and a staff of 22. By the end of the nineteenth century, it had a secondary school and four separate elementary schools, each serving a separate quadrant of the city. The southwest section of the city, known as the Fifth Ward, had a one-room schoolhouse on Canisteo Street as early as 1848. Enlarged several times between 1872 and 1915, the schoolhouse was the oldest of the city's four grammar schools until it was destroyed by fire in 1923.

By the time the new Lincoln School opened in 1924, six other schools were also serving the children of Hornell with four other elementary schools (besides the Lincoln School) for students in kindergarten through grade 6: Irving School, adjacent to Maple City Park, constructed in 1878; Columbian School on Pearl Street, built in 1893; Bryant School, built in 1899, and Washington School on Main Street, constructed in 1909. For students in the secondary grades (grade 7 through 12), the new Hornell Junior/Senior High School, near the central business district, opened in 1923 with a capacity of 1,400 students. By 1924, Hornell had invested close to \$700,000 for new schools, including around \$490,000 for the Junior/Senior High School and \$240,000 for the new Lincoln School.¹³

During the 1950s, the Hornell City School District began replacing aging school facilities with low-rise modern-designed buildings. Hornell High School relocated to Maple City Park and the former high school building was expanded and converted into an intermediate school.¹⁴ The 1924 Lincoln School continued to serve the students of the Fifth Ward for another 55 years, closing in 1979. The only historic school buildings extant in Hornell are the Lincoln School (1924), the 1923 Hornell High School (now an intermediate school with a large modern addition) and the Bryant School (1899), which is now part of a larger expansion.

CRITERION C: ARCHITECTURE

¹² "Time Line History of Hornell, New York 2013," City of Hornell website, online at http://www.cityofhornell.com/documents/city-timelinehistoryofhornell2013_000.pdf.

¹³ "Opens \$240,000 School Sept. 2, Hornell's New Lincoln School Completed Despite Fact Contractor Goes Bankrupt," *Coming Evening Leader*, Sept. 3, 1924, 3.

¹⁴ Bero, *Survey of Historic Resources: City of Hornell*, 23

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

Prior to the construction of the Lincoln School, extensive changes in public school design practices developed over a thirty-year timespan, both in New York State and the nation. This coincided with changes in public school curricula, the division of elementary and secondary grades, and the need for specialized classrooms. Standards (state and national) were introduced to improve the quality of education in general and schools took on additional roles by adding libraries, auditoriums and community/meeting spaces that required changes of the buildings that reflected the additional social roles.¹⁵ The role of education took precedence and standards were issued for school buildings that focused on the classroom and how the physical space could aid both the teacher and the student. As cities, villages and towns were faced with increasing enrollment and the responsibility for the education of the students, officials, educators, builders and designers increasingly crossed paths.¹⁶ Between 1910 and 1920 architects, school planners, regulators and educators searched for solutions to requirements often mandated by state regulators that would result in a “modern” school building.

The utilization of the school for community activities impacted the design of elementary and high schools during this time with schools becoming neighborhood centers and with the introduction of single purpose rooms such as laboratories, manual arts and domestic science rooms, assembly halls and gymnasiums. By 1910, the assembly hall, or auditorium, became standard in the high schools and common in elementary schools with upper grades.¹⁷ Also, kindergartens were an accepted feature of elementary school buildings by 1910 and ways were sought to place the youngest children in the same building with a limited amount of interaction with older elementary students. Kindergarten rooms were often larger with windows on three sides and had separate entrances.¹⁸ Lunchrooms and kitchens were added to high schools and later to elementary schools, as more children stayed at school for lunch. The auditorium and kindergarten classrooms, both with entrances independent of the main school, were featured in the 1924 Lincoln School plan, as were the kitchen and cafeteria spaces.

Standardization was an issue of school planning and design that received a great deal of attention after 1915, especially in the area of health and safety.¹⁹ New legislation appeared that created appropriate standards for school buildings, based on innovations in construction technology. With New York and Massachusetts leading the way laws governing school design appeared in 1904 with amendments in 1910.²⁰ The laws promoted fireproof construction, minimum classroom sizes based on the number of students, adequate

¹⁵ Susanne Ralston Lichtenstein, *American School Buildings: 1890 to 1920*, (master's thesis, Cornell University, 1985), 4.

¹⁶ Lindsay Baker, *A History of School Design and its Indoor Environmental Standards, 1900 to Today* (Washington, DC: National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities, 2012), 4.

¹⁷ Lichtenstein, 163.

¹⁸ *Ibid*, 177.

¹⁹ *Ibid*, 209.

²⁰ *Ibid*, 153.

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

ventilation and lighting, and a safe means of egress.²¹ Improvements in areas of heating, ventilation, window/floor ratios, window locations and classroom dimensions were commonly accepted. New York design standards suggested the use of banks of windows and the arrangement of classrooms so that daylight would come only from one side (ideally over the student's left shoulder).²² As a result of these design standards every classroom would have an exterior wall with banks of large windows, and the use of blank walls at corners of main or side elevations become a common feature.²³ The 1924 Lincoln School's classrooms followed these guidelines with the rooms arranged on an axial plan and groupings of five windows in the exterior on each level that would allow more natural light into the classroom.

Construction of the 1924 Lincoln School exhibited many of the standard features that developed in the decades prior to 1920, which governed school design through the following decades. The most striking alteration in the appearance of the school building was the adoption of a flat roof. Schools began "to shed the allusion to domestic architecture and moved closer to forms used for other public buildings."²⁴ A subtle but equally important change came with terminology as the buildings were no longer being referred to as "schoolhouses" but as "school buildings." By 1920, elementary schools followed the basic common forms of the I, H, U, or E shape, first introduced in 1910. Similar architectural styles began to be defined as academic or defined as being appropriate for schools with heavy use of Tudor, Collegiate Gothic, or Classical references, although principles of economy dictated that ornamental features be limited to the major façade, as they are at Lincoln School and other grammar schools in similar communities.²⁵

Tooker and Marsh 1913-1946

Established around 1913, the firm of Tooker and Marsh had a varied practice that included schools, commercial and institutional buildings, and residences. Although located in New York City, the firm had a number of projects outside of the city in upstate New York, Long Island, Westchester County, and New Jersey. The firm developed a reputation for excellence in the design of school buildings that included numerous grade schools, high schools and several colleges. The firm worked in an eclectic mix of revival and contemporary architectural styles and was celebrated for the 1915 Bear Mountain Inn in Bear Mountain, New

²¹ U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. "National Register of Historic Places Registration Form: Hammondspport Union Free School, 41 Lake Street, Hammondspport, NY"(December 14, 2007), 5.

²² Ibid, 5.

²³ Lichtenstein, 166.

²⁴ Ibid, 196.

²⁵ Ibid, 263.

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

York. Another well-known building designed by Tooker and Marsh was the terra-cotta clad Studebaker Building in Brooklyn, designed for the automobile company in 1920.

Reginald E. Marsh was born on May 29, 1885 in Saratoga Springs, New York. He received his bachelor's degree (1906) and master's degree (1907) in architecture from Cornell University. He worked as a draftsman for Taylor and Levi (1907), McKim, Mead & White (1908), Charles W. Leavitt (1909-11), and Trowbridge & Ackerman (1912-13) before joining with E. Post Tooker to create the firm of Tooker and Marsh in 1913.²⁶ Marsh was a member of the American Institute of Architects and past president of the Building Arts Club of New York. He belonged to the Rotary Club of New York, the Cornell Club, the Building Congress, and the Architectural League. After his association with Tooker ended in 1946, he entered a series of subsequent partnerships, including R.E. Marsh & Starrett & VanVleck (1946-56), R.E. Marsh & Howard Snyder Associates (1956-65), and R.E. Marsh & Paul Wood (1965 until his retirement in January 1966). He lived at 1 White Plains Road, Bronxville, in a house he designed, for 46 years (since 1920).²⁷ He died in July 1966.

E. Post Tooker was born on November 7, 1886 in Port Jefferson, New York. He graduated from Lehigh University in 1907. He worked as a landscape engineer for the Dean Alvord Company at Belle Terre (1908-13) and for Charles W. Leavitt Jr. before joining with Marsh in 1913. Tooker was referred to as the "designer for Suffolk County, having won contracts to provide plans for a public cow barn and dairy building at the Suffolk Alms House farm at Yaphank, and to build a high school for his native village of Port Jefferson, as well as an addition to the County Clerk's office at Riverhead."²⁸ Little is known about his life or career after his association with Marsh ended in 1946.

Although most of the firm's work focused on school construction, Tooker and Marsh completed other commissions as well, including the 1915 design for the Bear Mountain Inn (NR listed 2002), now the headquarters for the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, Bear Mountain, New York. The firm also designed a building for the People's Trust Company in Tamaqua, Pennsylvania, the Treasurer's Office Building in Suffolk County, New York, and the terra cotta-clad Studebaker Building in Brooklyn (1920) that was designated a New York City Landmark in December 2000. In addition to these public/corporate commissions, the firm designed large private residences in Bronxville, Manhasset, and Hartsdale, New York.²⁹

²⁶ New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, "The Studebaker Building, 1469 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn," landmark designation nomination, December 19, 2000, 4. Accessed from: http://www.neighborhoodpreservationcenter.org/db/bb_files/SB001.pdf.

²⁷ Plans and illustration of his house can be found in *House and Garden* magazine, Vol. 41, Jan. 1922, 47.

²⁸ Eugene L. Armbruster., *Long Island: Its Early Days and Development*, "E. Post Tooker," (Brooklyn: The Brooklyn Daily Eagle, 1914), 60.

²⁹ NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission nomination, 4.

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

As previously stated, Tooker and Marsh were well-regarded specialists in school planning and construction. The 1932 edition of *Patterson's American Educational Directory* recommended that "school boards and trustees of educational institutions in planning for the construction of new buildings should seek the services of architects who are specialists in school planning."³⁰ Tooker and Marsh was one of eleven architects/firms listed as specializing in the design, structure, heating, ventilation and lighting of school buildings, which also included Pierce & Bickford of Elmira and G. H. Wells of New York City.³¹ The Lincoln School was one of Tooker and Marsh's early schools, being contemporary with the Pelham Memorial High School (1918), Palmyra Elementary School (1924), Baldwin Grade School (1921) on Long Island and Hornell High School (1923).

In November 1920, an article by Tooker and Marsh in *Architecture: The Professional Architectural Monthly*, outlined their underlying design concepts and requirements for school buildings. Titled "General Principles of School Planning and Construction," Tooker and Marsh encouraged foresight in designing a school building with an eye toward future expansion and recommended that architects look beyond the requirements provided to them by a municipality, investigating the location and growth of the school population over a five to ten year period. In addition, they suggested that the architect "create a building not only of architectural merit, but also one which is practical within itself and in relation to the system of which it is a part."³² At the time of the article Tooker and Marsh had completed four public school buildings and were working on school buildings for the city of Norwich, New York.³³

Standardization of school design was on the minds of many architects, school planners and educators in the early decades of the twentieth century. The article by Tooker and Marsh addressed many of the common topics under discussion at the time: floor area, heating, ventilation, lighting, safety, and special-use rooms/areas. Many of the ideas expressed in the article were incorporated into the design of the Lincoln School. The firm used a range of revival styles deemed appropriate for public school construction, as demonstrated in both of the Hornell High School and the Lincoln School. Both schools were examples of the Classical Revival style, with the Lincoln School featuring such ornamental details as arched entries, masonry

³⁰ Homer Patterson, ed., *Patterson's American Educational Directory*, "School Architects," Vol. 19, (Chicago: American Educational Company, 1932), 918.

³¹ Ibid.

³² E. Post Tooker, and Reginald E Marsh, "General Principles of School Planning and Construction," *Architecture: The Professional Architectural Monthly*, Vol. 42, No. 5, November 1920, 315. Accessed from Google Books, <http://books.google.com>.

³³ "Review of Building Activity in 1919." *The Architectural Forum*, Vol. 32, Jan.-June 1920, page 8. Accessed from Google Books, <http://books.google.com>.

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

trim bands and a projecting roofline at the center of the facade that was classically inspired but restrained, reflecting its junior role in the community when compared to the high school.

Between 1910 and 1930, schools began to be used for independent community functions after school hours. In their article, Tooker and Marsh recommended that auditoriums be planned with easily accessible entrances and exits, a stage to accommodate amateur performances, and dressing rooms. Lincoln School's auditorium, which also served as a gymnasium, was accessible by two outside entrances as well as through the school proper. Tooker and Marsh also recommended that exterior steps be eliminated to prevent snow and ice buildup, both a safety and maintenance issue and a particular concern for Western New York winters. The Lincoln School's main and secondary entrances did not have steps, except for the kindergarten entries. For schools with "homeseat" classrooms, like those of an elementary school, the article suggested that those rooms should have a cloakroom or "wardrobe" located at the rear of the room "to afford uninterrupted blackboard space at the front and facilitate supervision of the students while using the wardrobe."³⁴ All of Lincoln School's classrooms had cloakrooms. The firm also advised that toilet facilities be located on each floor, as was done in the Lincoln School. Individual toilets were also located in the kindergarten rooms, along with separate exterior entrances, minimizing interaction between the older and younger students.

In regard to lighting, Tooker and Marsh addressed unilateral lighting of classrooms and the various types of windows available, recommending that "groups of windows are advisable, thus avoiding shadows from piers."³⁵ In listing the various options for windows, they praised the benefits of counterbalanced windows in that they had "the advantage of allowing a partial opening without direct drafts on students."³⁶ The design of Lincoln School incorporated the grouping of windows and made use of austral windows, which pivoted open, reducing drafts. Other design and construction features, which were noted in the program for the school's dedication ceremony in 1924, included movable seats in the auditorium, allowing dual use for auditorium and gymnasium; electric clock and telephone systems in each classroom; unit ventilator systems for fresh air from the exterior directly to each classroom; wood trim at interior including door and window casings, base, and cabinet work in classrooms and offices; decorative terra cotta trim at building sign and at main entries; multi-shade tapestry brick, with rough finish and mottled color range; and fireproof construction. Clearly the Board of Education was proud of opening a school building that incorporated the latest technology and the best features of period school design.

³⁴ Tooker & Marsh, 318.

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ Ibid.

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

In 1960, Governor Nelson Rockefeller named Reginald Marsh as one of eight architects to draw up new standards for state schools.³⁷ The Lincoln School became an example of Marsh's philosophy of designing with an eye to the future. The school always retained its setting and design throughout its long use as a school, ending in 1979 when it was closed and sold to the local hospital for use as offices. Its parcel, site and relationship to the surrounding streets remain unchanged from the time of construction. During its use by the hospital, the building remained intact, except for the loss of most of the original windows. Its massing and exterior masonry are also unaltered, including the gymnasium/auditorium wing with the original stage and surviving industrial steel windows. The interior entries, corridors and stairs still reflect the original layout, with partitioned space limited to a few classrooms. Original interior finishes and features such as stair balustrades and handrails, cloak rooms, wood and glass doors, transoms and trim, and classroom supply cupboards, remain intact and in good condition. While many interior spaces have suspended ceilings, the original plaster ceilings survive at the original height. The building is currently vacant, and under contract to Home Leasing LLC, which plans a conversion to affordable senior housing. The proposed scope includes restoration of appropriate full size windows replicating the original appearance, as well as restoration of original ceiling heights and site improvements.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Armbruster, Eugene L. *Long Island: Its Early Days and Development*. Brooklyn, NY: Brooklyn Daily Eagle, 1914.

Baker, Lindsay. *A History of School Design and its Indoor Environmental Standards, 1900 to Today*. Washington, DC: National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities, 2012.

Bero Associates Architects, *Reconnaissance Level Survey of Historic Resources, City of Hornell, Steuben County*. Hornell, NY, 1999.

"Reginald E. Marsh, Architect Dies at 81," *Bronxville Review-Press and Reporter*, July 21, 1966.

City of Hornell. "Time Line of Hornell, New York 2013," online at http://cityofhornell.com/documents/city-timelinehistoryofhornell2013_000.pdf.

"Opens \$240,000 School Sept. 2, Hornell's New Lincoln School Completed Despite Fact Contractor Goes Bankrupt." *Corning Evening Leader*, September 3, 1924.

Hornell Industrial Development Agency. "Major Employers," online at <http://www.hornellny.com/content/major-employers>.

Hornell School District. "Dedication Exercise Program, New Lincoln Grammar School," October 3, 1924 – in files of Hornell City Historian.

_____. "Ten Years of Progress in the Public Schools of the City of Hornell, 1920-1930." Hornell, 1930 – in files of Hornell City Historian.

House, Kirk W. *Around Hornell*. Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2009.

³⁷ "Reginald E. Marsh, Architect Dies at 81." *Bronxville Review-Press and Reporter*, July 21, 1966. Accessed from <http://fultonhistory.com>.

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

Lichtenstein, Susanne Ralston. *American School Buildings: 1890 to 1920*. Master's thesis, Cornell University, 1985.

Near, Irvin W. *A History of Steuben County, New York and its People*. Chicago: Lewis Publishing, Co., 1911.

New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission. "The Studebaker Building, 1469 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn," landmark designation nomination, December 19, 2000. Online at http://www.neighborhoodpreservationcenter.org/db/bb_files/SB001.pdf.

Oakes, Robert F. "A History of Schools in Hornell," published in "Historically Speaking" column, *Hornell Evening Tribune*, c. 1979.

Patterson, Homer, ed. *Patterson's American Educational Directory*, "School Architects," Vol. 19. Chicago: American Educational Company, 1932.

Pelham Preservation & Garden Society. "About the Architecture Firm of Tooker & Marsh." Online at <http://www.pelhampreservationsociety.com/id52.html>.

"Review of Building Activity in 1919," *The Architectural Forum*, Vol. 32, January-June 1920. Online at Google Books, <http://books.google.com>.

"About Various Things." *Richfield Springs Mercury*, March 28, 1923.

Tooker, E. Post, and Reginald E. Marsh. "General Principals of School Planning and Construction," *Architecture: The Professional Architectural Monthly*, Vol. 42, No. 5, November, 1920. Online at <http://books.google.com>.

U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. "National Register of Historic Places Registration Form: Hammondsport Union Free School, 41 Lake Street, Hammondsport, NY," December 14, 2007.

_____. National Register of Historic Places Registration Form: Waverly Junior/Senior High School/Mary W. Muldoon High School, 443 Pennsylvania Avenue, Waverly, NY," September 30, 1997.

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: St. James Mercy Hospital

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>280651</u> Easting	<u>4688303</u> Northing	3	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing
2	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing	4	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing

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

The boundary is indicated by a heavy line on the enclosed map with scale.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary is the same as for the period of significance.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Saralinda Hooker/Gina DiBella
organization Preservation consultants date 17 September 2015
street & number 3414 West Lake Rd telephone 585-394-5052
city or town Canandaigua state NY zip code 14424
e-mail sh73sh73@yahoo.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

Photographs:

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Lincoln School

City or Vicinity: Hornell

County: Steuben State: New York

Photographer: Saralinda Hooker

Date Photographed: June 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 0001 of 0010: Lincoln School east façade and north elevation, view looking southeast.
- 0002 of 0010: West and north elevations looking south east toward gymnasium addition.
- 0003 of 0010: Detail view of north entry on east façade.
- 0004 of 0010: Detail view of school name in parapet on east façade.
- 0005 of 0010: Interior view of first floor corridor.
- 0006 of 0010: Interior view of gymnasium looking toward stage.
- 0007 of 0010: North stair at second floor landing.
- 0008 of 0010: Former principal's office showing door detail.
- 0009 of 0010: Detail of doors on second floor.
- 0010 of 0010: View of classroom showing coat closet and doors.

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name St. James Mercy Hospital
street & number 411 Canisteo St. telephone N/A
city or town Hornell state NY zip code 14843

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.).

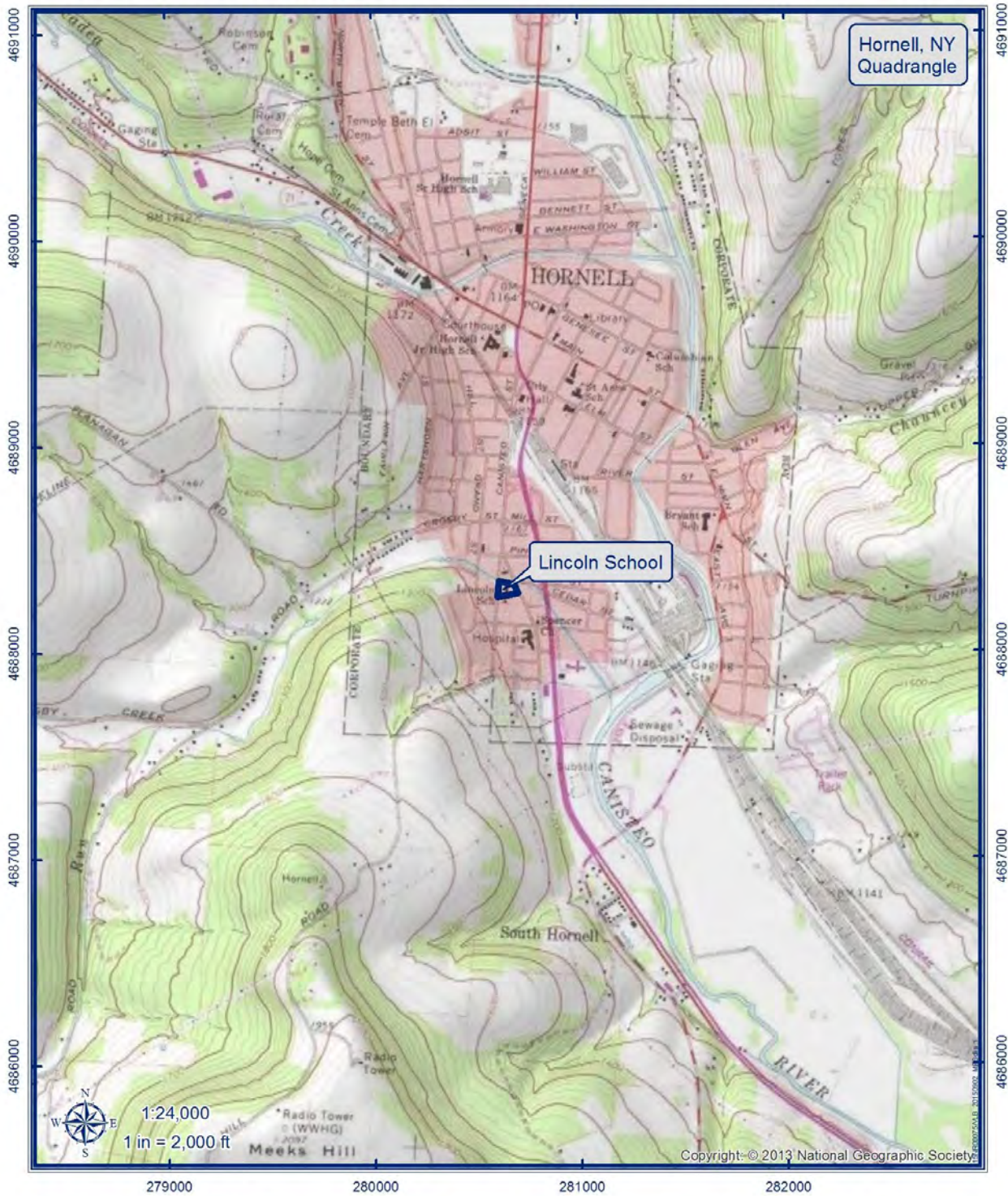
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

Lincoln School
Town of Hornell, Steuben Co., NY

373 Canisteo St.
Hornell, NY 14843



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: North American 1983
Units: Meter



Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State

Lincoln School
Town of Hornell, Steuben Co., NY

373 Canisteo St.
Hornell, NY 14843



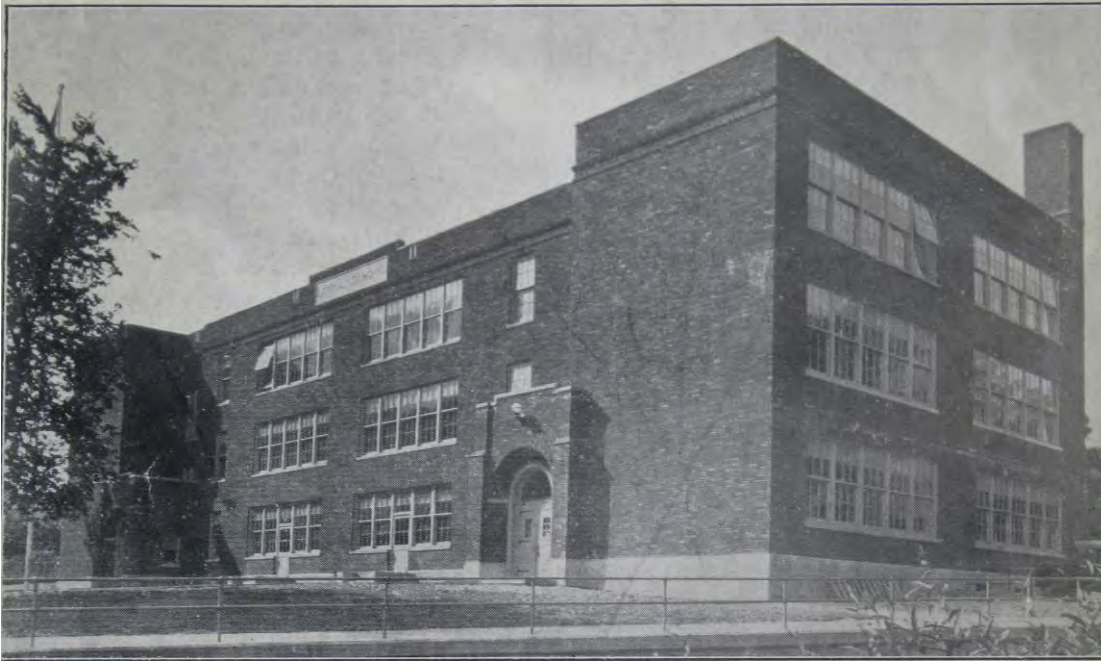
Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: North American 1983
Units: Meter



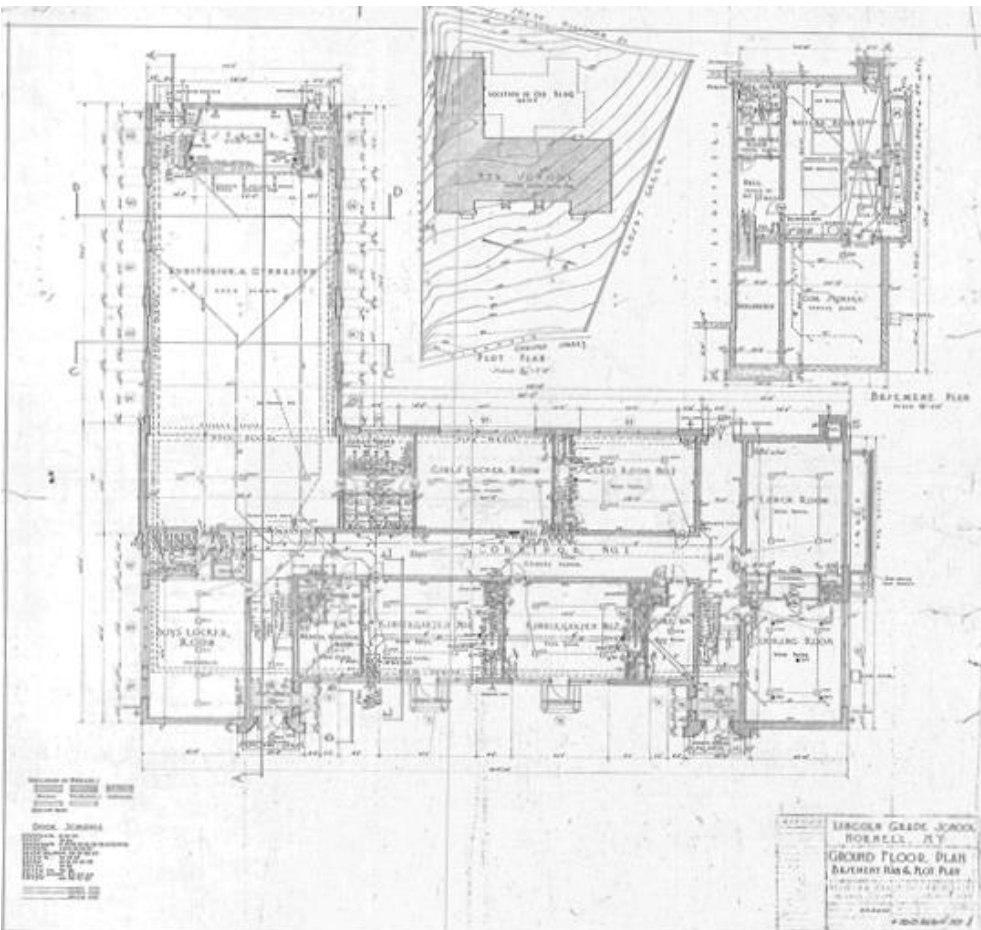
Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation

Lincoln School
Name of Property

Steuben County, NY
County and State



School in 1924



First floor, 1924



INCO

CINTAS



Fulton County
Health Center
Billing Services

PATIENTS
AND
EMPLOYEES
PARKING
LOT



LINCOLN SCHOOL





AQUINAS CENTER
OFFICE

Customer Relations
1-800-587-8441







207

NO SMOKING

Hand & Wrist
Washes
Thank You





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Lincoln School

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Steuben

DATE RECEIVED: 10/02/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/28/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/12/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/17/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000803

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: Y PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 11/17/15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA C
REVIEWER [Signature] DISCIPLINE _____
TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



**Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation**

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

ROSE HARVEY
Commissioner

RECEIVED 2280

OCT - 2 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

24 September 2015

Alexis Abernathy
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: National Register Nomination

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to submit the following three nominations, all on disc, to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register:

Rockville Cemetery and Mexico Monument, Nassau County
Lincoln School, Steuben County
Parkside Candy Shoppe and Factory, Erie County

Please feel free to call me at 518.268.2165 if you have any questions.

Sincerely:

Kathleen LaFrank
National Register Coordinator
New York State Historic Preservation Office