

56-2038

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

1. Name of Property

Historic name Pruitt School
Other names/site number Captain Wendell O. Pruitt School, KIPP Inspire Academy
Name of related Multiple Property Listing n/a

2. Location

Street & number 1212 N. 22nd Street n/a not for publication
City or town St. Louis n/a vicinity
State Missouri Code MO County St. Louis Independent City Code 510 Zip code 63106

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

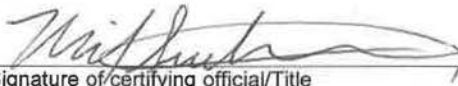
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

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

 Deputy SHPO

DEC 07 2017

Date JP 12/01/17

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
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 _____

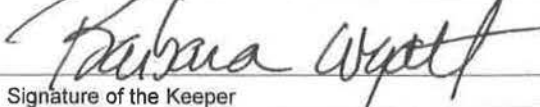
Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

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:) _____



1-29-18

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

Pruitt School
Name of Property

St. Louis Independent City, MO
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 type="checkbox"/>	private
<input checked="" 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
2	0	structures
0	0	objects
3	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Education: School

Education: School

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Modern Movement: International Style

foundation: concrete
walls: concrete
brick
roof: asphalt, metal
other: glass
marble

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION ON CONTINUATION PAGES

Pruitt School
Name of Property

St. Louis Independent City, MO
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.)

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.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE ON CONTINUATION PAGES

Areas of Significance

Ethnic Heritage / Black
Architecture

Period of Significance

1954 – 1974

Significant Dates

1954

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Leimkuehler, F. Ray / architect

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

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: City of St. Louis
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

Pruitt School
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10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than one acre

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1 38.640621 -90.207943 3 _____
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

2 _____ 4 _____
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

_____ NAD 1927 or _____ NAD 1983

1 _____ 3 _____
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

2 _____ 4 _____
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (On continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (On continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ruth Keenoy / Historic Preservation Consultant

organization _____ date November 22, 2017

street & number 5229 Oleatha Avenue telephone 314-637-6441

city or town St. Louis state MO zip code 63139

e-mail rdkeenoy@gmail.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**
- **Photographs**
- **Owner Name and Contact Information**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

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.

Pruitt School
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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: Pruitt School

City or Vicinity: St. Louis

County: St. Louis Independent City State: MO

Photographer: Ruth Keenoy

Date
Photographed: January 18, 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 36. Primary elevation detail, E.
- 2 of 36. Primary (classroom) and south (gym/auditorium/cafeteria) wings, NE
- 3 of 36. North elevation, SE
- 4 of 36. Entry to south wing, E
- 5 of 36. South wing, auditorium side, SE
- 6 of 36. South elevation, NE
- 7 of 36. Rear south wing (cafeteria), NW
- 8 of 36. South elevation of primary and east wings, NW
- 9 of 36. East wing, NW
- 10 of 36. Ground floor hall looking east, W
- 11 of 36. Band room staging area (ground floor), NE
- 12 of 36. Entry area near main office, first floor, NW
- 13 of 36. First floor hall looking east, W
- 14 of 36. Industrial Arts classroom, first floor, NW
- 15 of 36. Home Economics classroom, first floor, SW
- 16 of 36. Restroom, first floor, N
- 17 of 36. Water fountain, first floor near office, N
- 18 of 36. Second floor hall looking east, W
- 19 of 36. Library, west end of second floor, SW
- 20 of 36. Second floor classroom 8, E
- 21 of 36. Second floor classroom 10, SE
- 22 of 36. Classroom door, second floor, SW
- 23 of 36. West stairwell between second and third floors, N
- 24 of 36. Third floor hall looking west, E
- 25 of 36. Cloak room, classroom 16, E
- 26 of 36. Science lab, second floor, SW
- 27 of 36. Third floor restroom, east end, SW
- 28 of 36. Hall from first floor to south wing, N
- 29 of 36. South one-story wing, south wall leading to cafeteria, gym and auditorium, SE
- 30 of 36. South one-story wing, north wall and hall, N
- 31 of 36. Ceiling detail, south one-story wing
- 32 of 36. Cafeteria, E
- 33 of 36. Gym, S
- 34 of 36. Auditorium, SW
- 35 of 36. Planter in lobby, north wall, NW
- 36 of 36. North elevation, SW.

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Figure Log:

Include figures on continuation pages at the end of the nomination.

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Summary

Pruitt School is a three-story (with one-story south wing) public elementary school located in the City of St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri at 1212 N. 22nd Street (**Figure 1**). The school was constructed in 1954-1955, designed by F. Ray Leimkuehler, Supervising Architect for St. Louis Public Schools in 1945-1955. Pruitt School consists of primary north three-story wing that holds classrooms and administrative offices. An original one-story attached wing at the south end of the building holds the school cafeteria, gymnasium and auditorium. The building has no additions. The school has a flat roof, exterior brick walls and a continuous concrete foundation. The building is surrounded by a parking lot (north end), DeSoto Park (east and south) and the paved drive leading to the school (west). Pruitt School is locally significant under Criterion A (Ethnic Heritage) and Criterion C (Architecture). Pruitt School includes all of the resources within the property's legally defined parcel, which consist of the school building, a paved playground/recreational space and the parking lot. All three resources (school, playground and parking lot) are contributing features. There are no non-contributing resources within the property's associated National Register boundaries (**Figure 2**).

Pruitt School was repurposed as a public charter school in 2015. Despite the building's alterations at that time, the school retains its architectural integrity. This is demonstrated by the retention of original exterior finishes, original windows and intact interior layout. Modifications are modest and were completed to bring the building up to code. Ceiling panels and original lighting were replaced and finishes that contained hazardous materials were removed. Original colorful ceramic tiles remain intact as do tile floors. Hallways and classroom spaces have not been modified from their original sizes. Some classrooms retain original doors and furnishings. Chalkboards have been replaced by white boards. Electrical and mechanical equipment have been updated and the building holds an elevator, which is not original.

Pruitt School was constructed to support students living in Pruitt Homes, a high-rise public housing facility constructed in 1954 and demolished in the mid-1970s. Since 1974, when Pruitt School closed temporarily, the building has been used intermittently as an educational facility. The building currently serves as a public charter school, KIPP Inspire Academy. Discussion of the building's period of significance (1965 – 1974) and Criterion Consideration G merits is provided in Section 8.

Setting

Pruitt School is located north of downtown St. Louis, immediately southeast of the parcel associated with two former public housing projects collectively known as Pruitt-Igoe (Pruitt Homes, Igoe Apartments). Today the Pruitt-Igoe site lot is vacant and overgrown, bounding a parking lot (contributing) immediately north of Pruitt School. The parking lot bounds the school on the north. The parking area originally connected to a former alignment of Dickson Street,

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which provided access to/from Pruitt-Igoe. East and south of Pruitt School is DeSoto Park. West of the school is open green space that separates Pruitt School from Gateway Middle School (west). Access to Pruitt School is via N. 22nd Street, which extends north/south from Carr Street (east/west), approximately 250 south of Pruitt School (**Figure 3**). Chain link fencing surrounds much of the school lot, separating the property from the Pruitt-Igoe site (north) and DeSoto Park (east and south). The property's National Register boundaries follow the fence line, parking lot to the north and sidewalks that flank the building on the west and north ends of the property, as previously noted in Figure 2. A flag pole fronts the main entry (west elevation). The flag pole is within a square landscaped area surrounded by concrete sidewalks (**Photo 1**). The rear (east) school yard/playground (contributing) is paved with asphalt, as illustrated in **Photos 7, 8 and 9**. The playground supports two basketball hoops near the northeast corner of the parcel. Asphalt surrounding the basketball hoops is painted yellow to delineate sports-related use of these areas.

Exterior Architectural Description

Pruitt School is an L-plan building with a three-story primary (north) wing and a one-story perpendicular (south) wing. The three story wing extends east/west and the one-story wing extends north/south (**Photos 1 and 2**). Exterior walls are brick. The building has a flat roof. Aluminum coping extends beyond the roofline on all elevations of both wings. The school has a continuous concrete foundation. The building's primary (three-story) wing holds classrooms. A cafeteria, auditorium and gymnasium are situated in the one-story south wing. The building faces west, toward N. 22nd Street. **Figure 4** provides directional information for exterior photographs. An in-depth description of the building, organized by wing, is provided below.

North (Three-Story) Classroom/Administrative Wing

West (Primary) Elevation (Photos 1 and 2)

The building's west elevation of the three-story classroom/administrative wing serves as the façade. This is the wing that serves to admit visitors, staff and students on a daily basis (while the south wing supports non-academic activities). The primary elevation has three bays, consisting of a central entry bay, a north blind bay and a south window bay (**Photo 1**). The central portion of the façade is clad with dark brown marble, which creates a slightly recessed area holding four solid metal doors on the first-story level. Second and third-story levels of the marbled area each hold 20-light aluminum sash awning windows. Flanking the marbled entry/windows are three-story limestone panels that rest on a granite foundation. Flanking outer edges of the limestone panels are three-story scalloped limestone fins that support the roof overhang. At the base of the fins are attached granite benches. The solid metal doors noted earlier are framed by aluminum and fill the entry bay. Each door is capped by two windows framed with aluminum. A flat ribbed aluminum hood extends above the entry bay. Noted between the building's second- and third-stories are aluminum letters that provide the name of the building: "Pruitt School." Offsetting the

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limestone and marble bay to the south is a window bay (first-story level). The bay consists of glass blocks (upper) and a lower ribbon of four two-light, aluminum framed awning windows. One of the awning window openings is filled with an air conditioner. A rectangular metal vent is situated just below the window bay (**Photo 2**).

North Elevation (**Photos 3 and 36**)

The 14-bay north elevation largely consists of windows (**Photo 3**). The windows are arranged on each floor as a ribbon. Each window bay consists of upper glass blocks and lower two-light aluminum framed awning windows (four in each bay). Each window bay has a concrete sill below the awning windows. Some of the awning window openings are filled with vents and portable air conditioners (this is true for windows on all elevations of the school). Each window ribbon is separated by a band of brick below the windows. Three-story concrete fins separate the window bays vertically, supporting the flat roof overhang. At the west end of the elevation, there are no fins (**Photo 36**). The section of the elevation without fins holds windows of glass block and awning design as described earlier. These windows are separated by flat concrete bands. Enclosed stairwells at the east and west ends of the elevation are noted by solid glass block windows on the first-, second- and third-story levels (**Photos 3 and 36**). At the east end of the elevation is an attached one-story wing. The north façade of the wing has three window bays filled with multi-light aluminum framed windows.

South Elevation (**Photos 8 and 9**)

The primary wing's south elevation is similar in appearance to the north elevation. The 14-bay elevation is filled with ribbons of windows comprised of glass blocks (upper) and two-light awning, aluminum sash windows (four awning windows in each bay). This characteristic is visible on the first, second and third stories. The ground floor level holds windows of single-light design, set in bands of four. Windows all have concrete sills. The bays are divided by concrete fins that extend along the elevation. At the west end, four window bays are separated by concrete bands instead of fins on the upper two stories. The concrete bands surround the window bays (**Photo 8**). Stairwells are noted at the east and west ends of the elevation (**Photo 9**). The exterior walls in these areas of the elevation hold glass block windows on the second- and third-story levels. The main floor of the stairwell section, east end, has three solid metal doors. Two-light windows are above each metal door. At the east end of the wing is an attached one-story wing with five sets of multi-light awning windows (south elevation) (**Photo 9**). An aluminum handrail near the wing's northwest corner caps below-grade steps leading to a ground floor entry (**Photo 8**).

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East Elevation (Photo 9)

The east three-bay elevation of the three-story wing has no fenestration (**Photo 9**). A projecting central bay is solid brick. The projecting bay holds an interior elevator added to the building in 1992. At the first-story level is an attached one-story flat-roofed wing. The east elevation of the wing has paired solid metal doors centered on the elevation. There is no other fenestration. Three exterior metal lights are noted above the doors.

South (One-Story Non-Academic) Wing

West Elevation (Photos 2, 4 and 5)

At the south end of the three-story wing is an attached one-story wing that leads to the area supporting the cafeteria, auditorium and gymnasium (**Photo 2**). The two-bay west elevation of the connector (hall) wing is recessed (i.e., set back from the north and south wings). The connector wing has two windows on the west elevation. The windows consist of upper glass block lights and lower awning windows (four in each bay) of two-light aluminum sash design. The windows have concrete sills. Three of the four awning windows (north end of the wing) are enclosed with solid wood panels. The west elevation of the wing – immediately south of the connector wing – has five bays. At the north end of the south wing is an entry bay with three solid metal doors with slender vertical lights (**Photo 4**). The doors are surrounded by a 10-light glass and aluminum transom and horizontal sash sidelights. A flat aluminum roof projects above the doors, supported by brown marble columns. The columns rest atop raised planting beds surrounded by low limestone walls capped with concrete. Recessed walls within the entry bay are clad with aqua ceramic tile. The south wing's roofline is raised at the south end (**Photo 5**). The south end of the west elevation is clad with brick, divided by four tapered concrete fins supporting the roof overhang. Within this portion of the elevation are paired solid metal doors leading to the gymnasium. Above the doors and within each bay of the gym's exterior wall are glass block windows. Windows have aluminum framing and shared concrete sills. Above the outer window bays and paired doors are exterior metal lights.

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South Elevation (Photo 6)

The south elevation of the single-story wing has three bays. The roofline of the central bay is higher than the remaining bays – designating interior space designed as a gymnasium. The south elevation holds two fenestrations, consisting of paired solid metal doors leading to the auditorium (central) and a single metal door (east) leading to the cafeteria (**Photo 6**). There are no windows on the elevation. At the west end of the elevation is the building’s current signage for the school – slightly raised metal lettering: “KIPP: St. Louis Public Schools.” The paired doors centered on the elevation have an ashlar limestone surround with a flared hood. The recessed area flanking the paired doors is clad with aqua ceramic tile. The bay has a concrete stoop with three steps. Above the central door, the elevation holds a decorative aluminum clock that is original. Horizontal bands of raised brick flank the clock. The single door near the east end of the elevation (leading to the cafeteria) has a small concrete loading dock with stairs and metal handrails. Exterior metal lighting is above the doors and near the sign.

East (Rear) Elevation (Photos 7 and 8)

The east six-bay elevation of the south wing has two entrances. The entry near the south end of the elevation leads to the cafeteria. The entry bay is flanked by paired bays – the two bays north of the entry each hold glass block/awning windows. Immediately flanking the entry bay is one window bay of similar composition (south of the entry) and one blind bay (at the south end of the elevation). The entry near the north end of the elevation leads to a hallway providing access to the cafeteria, gymnasium and auditorium (**Photo 7**). The south entry bay is filled with paired solid metal doors below an exterior light. Above the exterior light is a glass block transom with a concrete sill. A digital contemporary clock is just above the transom. Flanking the transom and doors are panels of glass blocks. Just below the glass block sidelights are slender awning windows of two-light glass and aluminum design. Concrete steps lead to the door, flanked by solid brick balustrades capped with concrete. The entry bay is flanked by tapered fins, as are glass block and awning window bays on either side of the entry. The upper portion of each window bay is filled with glass blocks. Lower window areas hold two-light aluminum sash awning windows, as noted previously. Windows have concrete sills. Metal vents are situated below the windows. The north entrance is slightly recessed and holds three metal doors with vertical light, single sash windows. In similar style to the entry opposing this bay (situated on the west elevation of the wing), the doors are flanked by horizontal sash sidelights and 10 window panels with aluminum framing that serve as transom lighting. The entry is offset by aqua tile on the north and south recessed areas. The connecting wing at the north end is slightly recessed (**Photo 8**). The elevation has two sets of glass block/awning windows.

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Interior Description

Pruitt School is an L-plan school with two wings. The primary wing is at the north end of the building. This wing is three stories in height and holds classrooms and administrative offices (**Photo 2**). A single-story north/south connector at the south end of the three-story wing provides access to the building's one-story wing (south end of the building) (**Photo 4**). The south wing holds the school's cafeteria, gymnasium and auditorium. Recent modifications to the school's interior include new lockers, the addition of a ramp to steps at the northeast corner (ground floor, three-story wing), new elevator equipment (three-story wing), updated cafeteria/kitchen equipment (one-story wing), a new water heater (ground level), replacement of outdated mechanical and electrical equipment, removal of hazardous materials (such as asbestos tiles and lead paint), addition of new metal lockers in halls and replacement of classroom doors that fail to comply with security measures.

Recent upgrades are noted in **Figures 4-7**, which provide floor plans and photo designations. Of note, interior photography was restricted to areas that did not compromise student privacy, as the building is currently in-use as a public charter school. Of note is the ground floor (basement, **Figure 5**) which is only within the three-story primary wing. The south non-academic wing does not have a ground level or upper stories, **Figure 6**).

Three-Story North (Primary – Classroom/Administrative) Wing

Ground Floor (Photos 10-11, Figure 5)

The ground (basement) floor of the school's north wing has a central east/west hallway lined with metal lockers. Off the central hall are classrooms (both sides of the hall) (**Photo 10**). Mechanical equipment is situated at the west end of the ground floor. The east end of the ground floor holds music-related activity rooms. Walls are concrete block throughout halls and rooms, partially covered with ceramic tile. Floors are terrazzo tile throughout. Floors in the music rooms are covered with carpet (**Photo 11**). The music rooms have ramps from the hall. The ramps have metal handrails. Doors are wood replacement with narrow single lights. The ceiling is dropped with acoustic tiles and fluorescent lighting. Windows are original glass block/awning design.

First Floor (Photos 12-17, Figure 6)

The first floor of the school's north wing has a central hallway extending the length of the wing in an east/west pattern. The hall is lined with metal lockers (**Photo 13**). The primary entry into the building (from N. 22nd Street) is situated at the west end of the hall. Adjacent to the entry on the north side of the hall are administrative offices (**Photo 12**). On the north wall of the corridor, immediately east of the administrative area, is an original lighted bulletin board. Doors leading to administrative offices have aqua colored ceramic tile surrounding the entries. Concrete block walls are partially clad with pale yellow tiles. Brownish red ceramic tiles line the base of the hallway floors. These tile colors are repeated throughout the school. Recessed spaces with water

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fountains have ceramic tile, as do bathroom walls (**Photos 16 and 17**). Ceilings are dropped with acoustic tile and fluorescent lighting. The south side of the hall leads to four classrooms. The north side of the hall leads to industrial arts and home economics rooms. The home economics room retains original cabinets and kitchen equipment (**Photo 15**). Windows are original glass block/awning design (**Photo 14**).

Second Floor (**Photos 18-23, 26, Figure 7**)

The school's second floor has an east/west hallway that extends from the library (west end) to restrooms and stairs (east end) (**Photo 18**). Classrooms are identical in plan – four on each side of the hall. Some rooms retain original wood doors with horizontal windows and lower vents – this is also true for classrooms on the third floor (**Photo 22**). The library spans the width of the wing and retains original windows of glass block and awning design. An original office is situated in the southeast corner of the library. The library floor is carpeted and the ceiling is dropped with fluorescent lighting and acoustic tile (**Photo 19**). Classrooms have terrazzo tile floors and original cloak rooms (**Photos 20-21, 25**). Stairwells at the east and west ends of each floor have original terrazzo floors, ceramic tiled walls, aluminum handrails and glass block windows (**Photo 23**). At the southeast corner of the floor is the science lab, which retains original lab tables (**Photo 26**).

Third Floor (**Photos 24, 25, 27, Figure 7**)

The school's third floor is identical in plan to the building's second floor. Traditional classrooms (north/south) are accessible via a central hall lined with lockers. Floors are tile. Walls are concrete block, partially clad with ceramic tile. Ceilings are dropped with acoustic tiles and fluorescent lighting (**Photo 24**). The third floor holds a teacher's lounge (west end) and student restroom. The restroom has original terrazzo tile floors and ceramic tiled walls (**Photo 27**).

One-Story South (Non-Academic) Wing

South Wing, Interior (**Photos 28-31, Figure 6**)

As noted previously, the building's south wing holds space for activities other than traditional classroom learning. A short connector hall leads south from the three-story wing to this area. The hall is has concrete block walls partially clad with ceramic tile. Metal lockers line both sides of the hall. The floor is tiled and the ceiling is dropped with acoustic tiles and fluorescent lighting (**Photo 28**).

The south wing is notably different than the primary wing. Floors and walls are tiled but colors are less muted than the three-story wing. The ceiling is raised and walls curve upward toward the ceiling. Glass block windows set within swooping walls provide natural lighting to the shared hallway linking the three large rooms in the wing (**Photo 29**). Exit doors are situated at the east

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and west ends of the south wing hall. Original ceiling surfaces are largely uncovered, revealing original canister lighting and circular vents placed in whimsical locations on the ceiling (**Photos 30-31**). The wing's three areas of use (cafeteria, gymnasium and auditorium) are accessible via the south side of the hall. Paired solid doors with slender windows lead into each room.

Cafeteria, Gymnasium and Auditorium (**Photos 32-34, Figure 6**)

The cafeteria is at the east end of the wing; the gymnasium is centrally located and the auditorium is at the west end of the wing. The cafeteria has a tiled floor, ceramic clad concrete block walls and windows of glass block/awning design. Ceiling beams are exposed, arched concrete. The ceiling has acoustic tile and fluorescent lighting (**Photo 32**). The gymnasium has concrete block walls that are partially tiled and exposed arched concrete ceiling beams. Glass block lights are noted on the upper portions of the room's east wall. Dropped aluminum lighting is replacement. The gym floor is seamless (replacement materials) with markings for sports-related use. Basketball goals (replacement) are attached to walls. Locker rooms are located at the south end of the gym (**Photo 33**). The auditorium has colorful tile flooring (original), partially tiled ceramic walls and an arched, exposed concrete beam ceiling. Dropped lighting (replacement) is identical to that in the gym. The west wall has upper glass block windows. The south end of the room holds a raised stage. Suspended basketball hoops on brackets (not original) are visible. The basketball hoops can be raised when the space is not in use for sports-related activities (**Photo 34**).

Main Lobby (**Photo 35, Figure 6**)

The west end of the south wing, as noted, provides doors that lead to the exterior of the building. The doors are separated from the main hallway by a small lobby. The lobby has aqua ceramic tiled walls, aluminum sash lights on either side of the exterior doors and brown patterned terrazzo tile. Below the paired aluminum sidelights are original sandstone planters capped by pink granite (**Photo 35**). The lobby retains an original ceiling fan and canister lighting. Doors leading to the exterior and hallways are paired, single-light design.

Parking Lot

North of the school is a contributing, asphalt paved parking lot (**Photos 3 and 36**). The parking area spans the entire north elevation of the school and is approximately 40 feet wide. Parking spaces are marked with white paint, located perpendicular to the north elevation. The parking lot accommodates approximately 20 vehicles.

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Playground

East of the school is a contributing, asphalt paved playground that measures approximately 203 x 148 feet. The playground supports two basketball hoops near the northeast corner of the parcel (**Photos 7 and 8**). Asphalt surrounding the basketball hoops is painted yellow to delineate sports-related use within this area. At the west end of the playground, near the rear entry of the non-academic wing, the paved playground area has rectangular spaces marked by white paint (**Photo 9**).

Integrity

As has been noted, Pruitt School has been altered since it was constructed in 1954. Changes made to the building were required to comply with current health and safety regulations. Modifications include the addition of an elevator to the building, replacement of outdated mechanical and electrical equipment, removal of hazardous materials (such as asbestos tiles and lead paint), new metal lockers in halls and the replacement of classroom doors that fail to comply with security measures. Despite these modifications, Pruitt School retains its character defining features that contribute to the building's architectural significance. For example, the school's floor plan has not been altered. Classrooms, offices and public areas are located in their traditional spaces and have not been enlarged or reduced in size. The school retains its linear central hall floor plan in the north wing. The south wing is likewise intact with few modifications. The south wing has original ceiling heights, colorfully tiled walls and floors, and original features such as the lobby planters. Original windows are intact throughout the entire building. Pruitt School is a remarkably intact example of a mid-1950s school. The building retains integrity of its scale, floor plan, interior and exterior embellishments, materials, methods of construction and use. There have been no additions to the building since its construction in the mid-1950s.

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Statement of Significance - Introduction

Pruitt School was constructed as a public elementary school in 1954-55 to support students living in the Captain Wendell Oliver Pruitt Homes – a high-rise public housing project constructed in 1954-55. Pruitt School is located at 1212 N. 22nd Street, St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri. The school was located immediately southeast of Pruitt Homes on a parcel bounded by Dickson Street (north), Jefferson Avenue/Street (west), Biddle Street (south) and N. 21st Street (east). A similarly designed housing project, William L. Igoe Apartments was constructed immediately north of Pruitt Homes in 1955-56, bounded on the north by Cass Avenue (**Figure 8**). Due to the close proximity of location and dates of construction for the two housing projects, they are commonly referred to as a single property, Pruitt-Igoe. During the years 1955 – 1974, Pruitt School served students who resided in Pruitt Homes. Blewett School at 1927 Cass Avenue supported students living in Igoe Apartments. Both schools were planned in the mid-1950s and designed by F. Ray Leimkuehler, Supervising Architect for St. Louis Public Schools during the years 1945-1955. Pruitt School closed temporarily in 1974, at which time Pruitt Homes were demolished. Although the school opened in September 1955, when St. Louis Public Schools began integration, the building never served a racially mixed student body while supporting students living in Pruitt Homes (1955-1974). The school – as did Pruitt Homes – served only African Americans. These racial statistics were likewise true for the school’s faculty and staff.¹

Pruitt School meets National Register Criterion A for its associations with Ethnic Heritage/Black. The school was designated as a segregated building when planned, intended to serve students living in Pruitt Homes (also planned for African Americans only). By the time the school opened in 1955, St. Louis City was beginning its first year of desegregation under the 1954 Supreme Court decision of *Brown v. Board of Education*. Because Pruitt School was constructed to serve only students living in Pruitt Homes, which housed only African-American families, the school’s racial population remained unchanged through 1974 when the building closed temporarily for the planned demolition of Pruitt Homes.

Pruitt School additionally meets National Register Criterion C as an outstanding example of an International Style educational building in the City of St. Louis. The building’s design and spatial layout reflect how schools changed after World War II. The International Style was popular in mid-twentieth century schools because many of its design elements embraced the ideas that school designers and architects perpetuated after World War II – such as walls appearing to be entirely composed of windows, which brought natural lighting into all of the building’s classrooms. Additionally, the style utilized new building technologies developed during the war –

¹ Lawrence Gwen, Former teacher at Pruitt School, Grades 6-8 (1964-1974) and Robert Green, Former student at Pruitt School, 1964-1970, Interviews with Ruth Keenoy, 29 and 17 March 2017. Of note, Mr. Green recalls that the school had one Chinese student for a single semester – this was the school’s only student that he recalls was not African-American.

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technologies that allowed schools be constructed for less money and in less time.² Pruitt School's striking architectural details include a polished marble entry surround, exterior working clock, and expansive window ribbons of glass blocks and awning type windows typical of the International Style. Many hallmarks of the International Style were incorporated into Pruitt School, illustrating the modern methods, materials and design ideas that emerged after World War II.

Pruitt School is locally significant. The building's period of significance, 1954 – 1974, relates to the building's era of construction and years that Pruitt School served a population comprised solely of African-American students. The period of significance is integral to the property's nomination under Criterion A, making the property slightly less than 50 years of age when nominated in 2017. For this reason, the property additionally meets Criterion Consideration G.

Historical Overview

Located at 1212 N. 22nd Street, Pruitt School was planned as a segregated public elementary school for African-American children living in a federally funded public housing project – the Captain Wendell Oliver Pruitt Homes, constructed in 1954-55 (**Figure 9**). In the 1950s, St. Louis was actively engaged in constructing public housing projects for low-income residents. During the years 1953 – 1957, five such projects were planned (all were constructed, none are extant): John J. Cochran Garden Apartments (1953), Captain Wendell Oliver Pruitt Homes (1954), William L. Igoe Apartments (1956), George L. Vaughn Apartments (1957) and Joseph M. Darst / Anthony M. Webbe Apartments* (1957) (**Figure 10**). Pruitt Homes was the City's only post World War II housing project planned for African-Americans.³ This is due to the fact that the complex opened in 1955, the same year that the United States District Court for the Eastern Division of Missouri ruled against segregated public housing.⁴ As noted in the introduction, Pruitt Homes were named for Tuskegee Airman, Captain Wendell Oliver Pruitt, as was Pruitt School.⁵ Because Pruitt Homes was constructed at about the same time as the William L. Igoe Apartments (named for U.S. Congressman, William Leo Igoe), the two complexes (adjacent to one another) soon became known as a single entity, Pruitt-Igoe.⁶

² Lindsay Baker, *A History of School Design and its Indoor Environmental Standards, 1900 to Today* (Washington, D.C.: National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities, 2012), 11.

³ St. Louis Housing Authority, "(Public Housing) Project Fact Sheets 1966-67," Unpublished (City of St. Louis, Housing Authority), 1967 (pages not numbered).

*Webbe Apartments was planned in 1957 and completed in 1961. The juxtaposition of Darst and Webbe Apartments was similar to Pruitt-Igoe and (also like Pruitt-Igoe), these projects are commonly referred to as one entity: Darst-Webbe.

⁴ Frankie Freeman, Interview with Blanche Touhill, "State Historical Society of Missouri-St. Louis: International Women's Forum Oral History Project (4 June 2013), Transcript available at:

<http://shsmo.org/manuscripts/collections/transcripts/s1148/freemanf.pdf> (Access date: 28 March 2017), 4-5.

⁵ "Four School Name Changes Approved," *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* (8 June 1955), 10A.

⁶ Biographical Directory of the United States Congress, "Igoe, William Leo (1879-1953), Available at: <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=I000005> (Access date: 24 March 2017).

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Pruitt Homes was planned for African Americans living in “one of the worst slum areas in the city.”⁷ Prior to the construction of Pruitt Homes, St. Louis had only one complex for low-income African-Americans, Carr Square Village (extant), constructed in 1938 under an earlier public housing act passed in 1937, Wagner-Steagall.⁸ Pruitt Homes was the first public housing project in St. Louis to be funded by President Harry S. Truman’s Housing Act of 1949. The 1949 act is significant because not only did the act expand the power of the Federal Housing Administration, it provided money for public housing *and* urban renewal.⁹ Pruitt Homes was not, however, the City’s first high-rise complex. Cochran Gardens (not extant), funded under Wagner-Steagall and constructed in 1953, was the first. Nevertheless, Pruitt Homes was the city’s largest with 20 11-story buildings. Igoe Apartments consisted of an additional 13 11-story buildings. The two projects provided housing for nearly 11,500 residents – more than the City’s other housing projects combined.¹⁰

Pruitt-Igoe was constructed in a section of the city that had been home to African Americans since the 1920s, when the Great Migration brought many to the city’s “north side.”¹¹ North St. Louis was a melting pot – Irish, Polish, Italian, German and African-American families lived in the area eventually cleared for Pruitt-Igoe. Although census data fails to breakdown data for specific neighborhoods prior to 1950, the pattern of how the city’s population was beginning to change in relation to race was evident by 1940. St. Louis lost nearly 6,000 residents during the decade that followed 1930; most were white. In contrast, the city’s African-American population increased by more than 10,000 residents during the decade 1930 - 1940.¹² It was a pattern that gained momentum after World War II (**Table 1. Of note, population numbers for 1930 and 1940 in Table 1 reflect the city’s entire population. Not until 1950 did census data become available for individual neighborhoods**). The numbers provided in Table 1 clearly demonstrate the pattern of “white flight” in north St. Louis that emerged in the 1940s and rapidly picked up pace after 1950. In short, the neighborhood’s black residents were double that of white residents by 1970.

⁷ “Mayor Against City Giving Ground for Housing Area Near School,” *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* (17 February 1951), Copy in flat files for Pruitt Homes/Housing Projects, St. Louis Public Library.

⁸ Joseph Heathcott, “In the Nature of a Clinic: The Design of Early Public Housing in St. Louis,” *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* (March 2011), Volume 70, No. 1: 83-84, 89.

⁹ “Harry S. Truman . . . 157 – Statement by the President Upon Signing the Housing Act of 1949,” Available at: <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/?pid=13246> (Access date: 23 March 2017).

¹⁰ Hugh O. Nourse, “The Effect of Public Housing on Property Values in St. Louis,” Unpublished Thesis Presentation [Washington University, 1960], Copy available at St. Louis Public Library, Central Branch; St. Louis Housing Authority, “(Public Housing) Project Fact Sheets 1966-67,” Unpublished (City of St. Louis, Housing Authority), 1967 (pages not numbered).

¹¹ Heathcott, 87.

¹² United States Census, 1940 – Population (St. Louis, Missouri).

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Table 1. Census data by race, 1930-1970 (Source: United States Census – Population – St. Louis, Missouri)

Census Year	# of white residents	# of non-white residents
1930	727,699	93,580
1940	706,794	108,765
1950	12,922	278
1960	11,114	10,031
1970*	2,447	5,043

*Tract changes in 1970 decreased the area reported by tract census data, which explains the sharp drop in numbers. The larger neighborhood formerly known as Yeatman was split by Jefferson Avenue. The area east of Jefferson Avenue became St. Louis Place. The area west of Jefferson Avenue became Jeff-Vander-Lou. Pruitt-Igoe was in the St. Louis Place neighborhood.

The disparity in public housing opportunities for African Americans in St. Louis spurred a lawsuit filed by the NAACP in 1952, *Davis v. St. Louis Housing Authority*. In 1955, the United States District Court for the Eastern Division of Missouri finally ruled against segregation in public housing.¹³ The decision came on the heels of Pruitt Homes’ completion in 1955 and prior to the construction of Igoe Apartments, which opened in 1956. Despite the strides taken to restrict segregation in public housing, the facts were that nobody wanted to live in – or enforce – a racially mixed public housing complex. Pruitt Homes always served a blacks-only tenancy. Igoe Apartments opened as a racially mixed complex but by 1960, all of the project’s white residents were gone.¹⁴

Pruitt School’s failed attempts to desegregate followed a similar pattern. The school opened just as the city began its desegregation program, prompted by the Supreme Court decision of *Brown v. Board of Education* in 1954. St. Louis focused on integrating its elementary schools in the fall of 1955 through “redistricting.” This did very little to change the status quo. Although school district boundaries were altered in 1955, students could remain where they had been previously enrolled, even if the school was no longer in their newly designated district.¹⁵ Because district boundaries for Pruitt School extended only to Pruitt Homes (which housed an all-black population), only African-American students attended the elementary school.¹⁶ Additionally, only African Americans were hired as teachers, staff and administrators.¹⁷

The lack of desegregation that occurred at Pruitt was not unique – at least initially. Immediately following the *Brown* decision, St. Louis Public Schools’ Superintendent

¹³ Freeman, 4-5; and John A. Wright, Sr. *St. Louis: Disappearing Black Communities* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2004), pages not numbered.

¹⁴ Lee Rainwater, *Behind Ghetto Walls: Black Families in a Federal Slum* (Chicago: Aldine Publishing Company, 1970), 8.

¹⁵ “Public Schools Open, Rolls Rise” *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* (8 September 1955), 3A.; “City is Ready for School Integration,” *The St. Louis American* (20 May 1954), 13.

¹⁶ Board of Education of the City of St. Louis, *Directory of the St. Louis Public Schools 1959 – 1960* (St. Louis: Self-Published, [1959]), 134.

¹⁷ Gwen, interview.

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Philip J. Hickey announced that there would be no changes in “building plans,” school closings or “teaching staffs.”¹⁸ A study conducted by the American Jewish Committee in 1961 confirmed that five years after St. Louis “integrated” its public schools, “little progress” had occurred. Approximately 3,200 elementary-aged children were bused to schools outside of their neighborhood districts during 1958-1960 but the action had nothing to do with desegregation. Rather, schools (particularly those in black neighborhoods) were overcrowded, requiring that some students attend schools not near their homes.¹⁹ When Pruitt School opened in 1955, 350 elementary school students living in Pruitt Homes were bused to Wheatley School because there was not sufficient room for them at Pruitt. Wheatley had always been an African-American school, opened during the late nineteenth century at 4239 Papin Street (not extant). The addition of students from Pruitt Homes did nothing to alter the school’s racial statistics.²⁰

Typically, St. Louis counted on existing schools to serve students living in public housing projects. If that need could not be met, City Hall and the St. Louis Public School Board battled to determine who would be tasked with providing land – and money – for a new school. Such was the case for Pruitt School.²¹ In an effort to remedy the dilemma of how to provide money for schools to support the City’s massive public housing agenda and update aging public educational buildings, a tax increase was proposed – and passed – in 1951. Pruitt and Blewett Elementary Schools (for Pruitt-Igoe) were funded in this way.²²

Pruitt School was a viable, fully enrolled school that served students from kindergarten through 8th grade from the year it opened (1955) until the school closed in 1974. During its nearly 20 years of use as a public elementary school, Pruitt School served an all-black student population despite the fact that St. Louis Public Schools began desegregating elementary schools in 1955.²³ This was due to the fact that Pruitt School only supported students living in Pruitt Homes – which likewise supported an all-black population from its inception. Because no white families ever lived in Pruitt Homes, no white students attended Pruitt School. Additionally, no white teachers or administrators (as noted previously) were hired to work at the school prior to its temporary closing in 1974.²⁴

¹⁸ “Students Will Go to Nearest Public School,” *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* (18 May 1954), 1.

¹⁹ Theodore Leskes, “Civil Rights,” *The American Jewish Year Book*, Volume 62 ([New York]: American Jewish Committee, 1961), 71.

²⁰ “Public Schools Open, Rolls Rise;” and John A. Wright, *Discovering African American St. Louis: A Guide to Historic Sites* (St. Louis: Missouri Historical Society Press, 2002), 218.

²¹ “Mayor Against City Giving Ground for Housing Area School.”

²² Betsy Bradley, “Thematic Survey of Modern Movement Non-Residential Architecture, 1945-1975, in St. Louis City, St. Louis: The Gateway Years, 1940 – 1975,” (Unpublished, 2013, Available at: https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/planning/cultural-resources/upload/Gateway-Years-Historic-Context_Dec2013a.pdf, Access date: 6 April 2017): 32, Appendix A.

²³ Gwen interview; “Public Schools Open, Rolls Rise.” 13.

²⁴ Gwen and Green, Interviews.

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Pruitt School provided state of the art classrooms – as well as a library, gymnasium, music rooms, theater and industrial arts programs. The school additionally provided a safe haven for its students, particularly as Pruitt-Igoe became increasingly associated with rising crime and violence.²⁵ After Pruitt School closed in 1974, students and faculty moved to other neighborhood schools such as Carr Lane Elementary School (extant, 1004, N. Jefferson Avenue, **Figure 11**), Ben Blewett Elementary School (extant, 1927 Cass Avenue, **Figure 12**) and Jackson Elementary School (extant, 1632 Hogan Street). After 1974, Pruitt School was used sporadically as an educational facility for “troubled kids” and a military academy during the 1980s - 2007.²⁶ In 2014, Pruitt School re-opened as a public charter school, KIPP: Inspire Academy Middle School.²⁷ The building, updated in 2015, is remarkably intact, as discussed in Section 7. Pruitt School is a notable example of the city’s public elementary schools designed by F. Ray Leimkuehler during the 1950s.

Criterion A: Ethnic (Black) Heritage Significance

Pruitt School meets National Register Criterion A for its associations with Ethnic Heritage/Black. As described previously, Pruitt School was planned as a segregated school but by the time the building opened to admit students in 1955, the City of St. Louis was beginning its desegregation program as mandated by the Supreme Court’s 1954 landmark case, *Brown v. Board of Education*.²⁸ Pruitt School was not a recipient of the federal subsidies that supported the construction of Pruitt Homes, yet its student population consisted entirely of students who lived in the complex. As a result, the school never supported an integrated population of students, despite the fact that the city’s public school board voted to desegregate elementary schools beginning in September 1955. This situation was one uniquely tied to Pruitt School – because Pruitt Homes never housed white residents; Pruitt School never supported white students. This pattern is undemonstrated by other public schools that supported populations living in public housing complexes during the 1950s-mid 1970s. Pruitt School continuously supported an all-black student population and faculty during the years 1955-1974, after which time the school was temporarily closed and Pruitt Homes were demolished.²⁹

As noted, Pruitt School’s all-black population during the period of significance is a unique example created by the school’s opening (which coincided with the city’s desegregation program) and district boundaries (restricted to Pruitt Homes). Initially, St. Louis’s terms for desegregation were largely rhetorical. Though new district lines were

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Ibid; “Public School Review: Pruitt Military Academy,” Available at: www.publicschoolreview.com/pruitt-military-academy-profile (Access date: 30 March 2017).

²⁷ KIPP School Website, Inspire Academy, Available at: http://www.KIPPstl.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=276478&type=d (Access date: 30 March 2017).

²⁸ “City is Ready for School Integration.” 1.

²⁹ Gwen interview; Katharine G. Bristol, “The Pruitt-Igoe Myth,” *Journal of Architectural Education* (Volume 44, No. 3, May 1991), 166.

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drawn, students returning to school were allowed to attend neighborhood schools until they graduated, regardless of racial percentages. Only those students who were new to the city's public school system were required to comply with new district regulations that conceivably fostered a mixed racial make-up.³⁰ This was not unusual – many cities introduced similar ideas. New York City's Commission on Integration, created following the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, “determined that elementary schools were most effective” when allowed to function as “neighborhood schools.”³¹ Not until desegregation busing was enforced following the 1971 Supreme Court ruling in *Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education* did many cities make efforts to change the status quo.³²

The Supreme Court announcement in 1954 came as no surprise and when it did, St. Louis was considered the community most ready to embrace desegregation in Missouri. The city's Catholic schools and universities began desegregation in 1949. City leaders anticipated that public schools would soon follow – with or without the court's ruling.³³ In 1955, St. Louis incorporated initial redistricting efforts in neighborhoods primarily inhabited by African-Americans – this effort was not equally enforced in white neighborhoods.³⁴ The reason for focusing on African-American schools was due to the fact that they were the city's most crowded. Redistricting and a 1951 tax increase to fund new schools were deemed adequately ways to address the situation (**Figure 13**).³⁵ At the end of the 1954 school year, St. Louis had 37 schools for black students, 33 of which were elementary schools supporting an estimated 22,000 students. In contrast, 86 white elementary schools supported an estimated 51,000 students.³⁶

While Pruitt Homes and Pruitt School only supported black residents and students, Igoe Apartments and Blewett School (constructed in 1955) were originally planned for white residents and students. Igoe Apartments supported a smaller population than Pruitt Homes, consisting of 13 (vs. 20) 11-story towers.³⁷ Completed in 1956, Igoe Apartments were situated at the northern end of the Pruitt-Igoe site – bounded by Cass Avenue on the north.³⁸ Blewett School (extant) was northeast of Igoe Apartments on the north side of

³⁰ “Students Will Go to Nearest Public School,” 1.

³¹ Prashant Banerjee, Rachel Levy, Erica Mollon, et al, “Mid-Century Modern Schools: Preserving Post-War Schools in New York,” Unpublished Student Project (New York: Columbia University, 2013), 9 .

³² North Carolina History Project, “Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education,” Self-Published Online Resource (2016), Available at: <http://northcarolinahistory.org/> (Access date: 1 September 2017).

³³ “City is Ready for School Integration.” 1.

³⁴ “Teacher-Pupil Ratio to Drop in City's Schools Next Term,” 3C.

³⁵ (St. Louis) City Plan Commission, “The Housing Situation in St. Louis,” Unpublished, (1950), pages not numbered.

³⁶ “Students Will Go to Nearest Public School,” 1;

³⁷ Nourse, 6.

³⁸ Carey K. Jenkins-Charles E. Fleming, Inc., “Pruitt-Igoe: A New Architectural and Environmental Concept in an Urban Community,” (Unpublished, 1971), pages not numbered.

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Cass Avenue. Unlike Pruitt Homes, Igoe Apartments opened as an integrated housing complex. Although the population eventually shifted to African-American residents only (because whites refused to live in Pruitt-Igoe), the associated school was likewise racially integrated – at least initially.³⁹ This was not the case for Pruitt School.

As discussed previously, St. Louis planned and constructed five high-rise housing projects in the 1950s – John J. Cochran Garden Apartments (1953), Captain Wendell Oliver Pruitt Homes (1954), William L. Igoe Apartments (1956), George L. Vaughn Apartments (1957), Joseph M. Darst Apartments (1957) and Anthony M. Webbe Apartments (planned in 1957; completed in 1961). With exception of Cochran Apartments, all of these new high rises required the construction of schools to support the number of students living in the projects.⁴⁰ This contrasted earlier public housing, which supported far fewer residents adequately supported by existing public schools. Pruitt School was the city’s first school constructed to support only public housing students – it was also the most controversial.

In February 1951, as St. Louis made plans to construct the city’s first post-World War II housing complex for African-Americans, the St. Louis Board of Education requested public money and land to support a new school for children living in the planned apartment complex. St. Louis’ Mayor, Joseph M. Darst, denied the request and disputed complaints from school board members who noted that they had not been informed of the city’s plans to construct a “1522-apartment project [with] . . . no space provided for schools or school playgrounds.”⁴¹ The DeSoto-Carr neighborhood, which was the site for the new housing project (Pruitt Homes), was already stretched to capacity in terms of overcrowded schools – particularly those serving African-American students. As noted by the previous statistics for 1954, St. Louis’ white elementary schools housed an average of 580 students per school whereas black elementary schools housed an average of 667 students per school.⁴² Pruitt School received no funding or land until after Mayor Darst’s term ended in 1953. In March 1954, the St. Louis Board of Education, which had secured a site southeast of Pruitt Homes, began accepting bids to construct Pruitt School.⁴³

St. Louis constructed three elementary schools (all extant) supporting residents living in public housing complexes during the 1950s: Pruitt, Blewett and Peabody (**Table 2**). These schools supported students living in Pruitt Homes, Igoe Apartments, Vaughn Apartments, Darst Apartments and Webbe Apartments. Students living in Cochran Garden Apartments (erected east of Pruitt-Igoe in 1953) attended Patrick Henry School

³⁹ “Integrated Igoe Homes Pose Question On Future Policy in Public Housing,” *St. Louis American* (24 March 1955), 1.

⁴⁰ St. Louis Housing Authority, “(Public Housing) Project Fact Sheets 1966-67.”

⁴¹ “Mayor Against City Giving Ground for Housing Area School.”

⁴² “Students Will Go to Nearest Public School.”

⁴³ “Low Bids for Pruitt Project School Received,” *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* (1 March 1954), 3A.

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(extant), constructed in 1905 at 1220 N. 10th Street, just south of the complex.⁴⁴ Although none of the city’s 1950s high-rise public housing units stand today, all of the aforementioned sites have been redeveloped for public housing with exception of Pruitt Homes and Igoe Apartments.⁴⁵ All three schools constructed for public housing students were designed by F. Ray Leimkuehler (see **Figures 12 and 14** - Blewett and Peabody Schools).

Table 2. St. Louis City Public Schools Constructed to Support Public Housing Students.

Name of School	Location	Construction Date of School	Associated Housing Project
Pruitt	1212 N. 22 nd Street	1954	Pruitt Homes (1954)
Blewett	1927 Cass Avenue	1955	Igoe Apartments (1955)
Blewett	1927 Cass Avenue	1955	Vaughn Apartments (1957)
Peabody	1223 S. 14 th Street	1957	Darst Apartments (1956)
Peabody	1223 S. 14 th Street	1957	Webbe Apartments (1961)

In 1972, the first phase of demolition began at Pruitt-Igoe when three towers were imploded near the center of the complex. It took two years (1974) to completely vacate the apartments and two additional years (1976) to finish clearing the site.⁴⁶ When the City moved forward in 1972 with plans to demolish Pruitt-Igoe, these plans did not extend to any of the “institutional” use buildings (schools, churches, community centers, medical facilities, etc.) surrounding Pruitt-Igoe. This is noteworthy because at that time, the City acknowledged that these properties were underutilized due to the declining population of Pruitt-Igoe.⁴⁷ Most public buildings that bordered Pruitt-Igoe remain standing today – though many have been put to alternative uses. Both Pruitt and Blewett Schools currently support public charter schools. Peabody School, constructed south of downtown in 1957 for Darst-Webbe, remains in use as a public elementary school.

⁴⁴ Google Maps (30 August 2017); City of St. Louis, “Geo St. Louis” (online mapping and parcel information), available at: <http://dynamic.stlouis-mo.gov/citydata/newdesign/index.cfm> (Access date: 30 August 2017).

⁴⁵ St. Louis Housing Authority, “(Public Housing) Project Fact Sheets 1966-67), pages not numbered.

⁴⁶ Ibid, Roger Montgomery, “Pruitt-Igoe: Policy Failure or Societal Symptom,” *The Metropolitan Midwest: Policy Problems and Prospect for Change* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1985), 239.

⁴⁷ “Summary and Conclusions of Pruitt-Igoe Action Plan, Phase I & II,” (3 April 1972). Unpublished/author unidentified. Available at St. Louis Public Library (Central Branch), 14.

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Criterion C: Architectural Significance

While St. Louis may have fallen short in terms of its public housing and integration successes, schools constructed in the 1950s are a testament to the City's enduring vision for its public school buildings. One of the best examples is Pruitt School, designed by F. Ray Leimkuehler in 1954. Pruitt School meets National Register Criterion C as an outstanding example of a mid-twentieth-century International style school. The International Style appealed to the nation's post World War II movement to transform schools through "spatial, material, and aesthetic qualities."⁴⁸ The International Style is visually defined by its box-like form, flat roof, multiple windows and extensive use of glass and steel – a structured, well ordered and well-lit model that fit this vision perfectly.⁴⁹ The mid-1950s mark an active period of school construction in St. Louis and Pruitt School is one of the city's best examples of an International Style educational building. The property incorporates detailing through its rectangular wings, flat roof, exterior concrete fins and ribbons of glass block/awning windows. Interior space is striking with irregular patterned hall lighting, swooping high ceilings and richly colored tiles. These arresting combinations highlight Pruitt School as a significant contribution to the city's collection of mid-twentieth century schools.⁵⁰

The modern school was decidedly different than the pre-war school, and the buildings constructed after 1946 visually demonstrate such differences. After World War II, school architecture was transformed by the availability of modern construction methods and materials, as well as changing ideas about how schools should be constructed.⁵¹ Traditional building materials, such as brick remained popular in schools but structurally, concrete and steel were preferable materials. Architects designing schools after the war began to incorporate a variety of exterior materials and textures such as stone, marble, brick and concrete. In an effort to bring more natural light into classrooms, curtain wall construction, multi-paned awning windows and glass block walls all became common.⁵² By restructuring the building itself, school designers attempted to change how students learned. Such philosophies were perpetuated through professional architectural journals, which "printed special school issues as the end of the war approached, with additional

⁴⁸ Amy Ogata, "Building for Learning in Postwar American Elementary Schools," *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* (December 2008, Volume 67, No. 4), 562.

⁴⁹ Kristen Minor, "Thematic Survey of Modern Movement Non-Residential Architecture, 1945 – 1975, in St. Louis City" (Architectural Context), Unpublished, (2013), (Available at: <https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/planning/cultural-resources/upload/ArchitecturalPMAcontext.pdf>) Access date: 31 August 2017, 7.

⁵⁰ Peter Meijer, Kristen Minor and Betsy Bradley, "Thematic Survey of Modern Movement Non-Residential Architecture, 1945 – 1975, in St. Louis City Mid Century," (Full Report) Unpublished, 2013 (Available at: <https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/planning/cultural-resources/upload/131024-STL-Modern-Report.pdf>) Access date: 31 August 2017, 24.

⁵¹ Baker, 11.

⁵² Kenneth Reid, ed. *School Planning: The Architectural Record of a Decade* (New York: F.W. Dodge Corporation, 1951), 197-202.

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special issues in the following years.”⁵³ Ideas were likewise promoted through traveling exhibits such as those sponsored by the Henry Ford Museum and Modern Museum of Art.⁵⁴ Ultimately, however, it was up to the individuals who designed schools to apply changing practices in school design. One who contributed much to the changing architectural field of postwar schools in St. Louis was Francis Ray Leimkuehler (1895 – 1962).

Leimkuehler became Supervising Architect for St. Louis Public Schools in 1945. Beyond his work in designing public schools, Leimkuehler had a number of professional accomplishments. Born in St. Louis, he received both his architectural degree (1917) and master’s in architecture (1920) from Washington University. After graduation, Leimkuehler spent four months at L’Ecole des Beaux Arts (Paris).⁵⁵ He worked as a draftsman for the St. Louis City Plan Commission (1917), Dennison & Hiron of New York (1919), architect Roy Price at Frisco Railroad Company (1920) and a well-known school designer in St. Louis, William B. Ittner (1921). Leimkuehler also worked for Boyer & Baum (1921), Albert Groves (1921), Link & Trueblood (1922), Mauran, Russell & Crowell (1926-27), O’Meara & Hills (1926-1928) and Klipstein & Rathmann (1934-35). In the 1940s, Leimkuehler assisted George Bergstrom in designing the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. (1941-43) and was lead architect for the Historic American Building Survey’s Central Unit in 1940 and 1947.⁵⁶

During the 1950s, Leimkuehler designed six public elementary schools in the City of St. Louis (**Table 3**), all of which are extant. Even though St. Louis’ population peaked in 1950 and fell afterward, the number of students attending public schools did not decline. In fact, these numbers rose steadily after 1950. The baby boom had arrived. When Pruitt School opened in September 1955, roughly 1,300 more students were enrolled in the city’s elementary schools than had been the previous year. St. Louis’ lack of adequate school buildings to house students in the 1950s (due to slowdowns in construction during World War II) was further complicated by redistricting, integration, and the school board’s goal to reduce student-to-teacher ratios.⁵⁷ In 1951, citizens passed a tax referendum that supported the construction of new schools. This was further assisted by a massive bond issue passed in 1955.⁵⁸

⁵³ Banerjee, et al, 15.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ F. Ray Leimkuehler, AIA St. Louis, MO, 911 Washington Avenue, 63101.

⁵⁶ Ibid.

⁵⁷ “Teacher-Pupil Ratio to Drop in City’s Schools Next Term,” *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* (12 August 1955), 3C.

⁵⁸ Bradley, 32.

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Table 3. Public Elementary Schools constructed in St. Louis City during the 1950's.

Name of School	Location	Construction Date	Architect
L'Overture	3021 Hickory Street	1950	Wischmeyer & Lorenz
Nottingham	4915 Donovan Avenue	1952	Leimkuehler
Busch	5910 Clifton Avenue	1952	Leimkuehler
Pruitt	1212 N. 22 nd Street	1954	Leimkuehler
Washington Branch	1146 N. Euclid Avenue	1954	Leimkuehler
Blewett	1927 Cass Avenue	1955	Leimkuehler
Peabody*	1223 S. 14 th Street	1957	Leimkuehler
Carr Lane	1004 N. Jefferson Ave.	1958	Albert

*Peabody Elementary School was constructed after Leimkuehler's tenure as Supervising Architect. The building was likely designed c. 1955.

Pruitt Elementary School, constructed in 1954-1955, is an excellent example of an International Style school in the City of St. Louis. Architectural preferences for postwar schools were fully entrenched in the modern movement by the 1950s. One of the most popular in St. Louis was the International Style.⁵⁹ The movement became popular in the United States by the 1930s, though it originated in Western Europe during the 1920s.⁶⁰ In relation to the style's influence on St. Louis' mid-twentieth-century architecture, "important hallmarks" include "rectilinear forms" and "smooth, 'machined' finishes."⁶¹ Steel and glass were the primary components of most examples but often these elements incorporated concrete and (especially in St. Louis) brick. The International Style is most commonly defined by its use of curtain walls, composed of thin steel or aluminum framing that supports large sheets of glass, virtually "a membrane mediating between [the building's] desired interior conditions and variable exterior circumstances."⁶² Though not necessarily new to St. Louis after World War II, the International Style was favored in the city's postwar office buildings, factories and schools.⁶³

In the example of Pruitt School, the International Style's influence is illustrated in many ways. The building's prominent façade surround is composed of smooth marble and stone – indicating machine-like finishes reflective of the International Style. The building's multi-storied wing, composed largely of combination glass block and awning steel sash window ribbons, is another prevalent feature of the International Style. Details not ubiquitously replicated in other city public schools include the building's scalloped limestone projections that frame the entry bay (**Figure 15**) and tapered concrete fins (**Photo 5**). Pruitt is the only example of Leimkuehler's mid-twentieth-century schools that incorporates exterior stainless steel embellishments, including the

⁵⁹ Bradley, Meijer and Minor, 90.

⁶⁰ Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, "International Style 1930-1950," Available at: http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/modern_movements/2391/international_style/408691 (Access date: 9 April 2015).

⁶¹ Bradley, Meijer and Minor, 90.

⁶² R. Stephen Sennott, ed., *Encyclopedia of 20th Century Architecture* (New York: Fitzroy Dearborn, 2004), Volume I, 336.

⁶³ *Ibid.*

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name of the school (above the primary entry) and an exterior working clock on the south elevation (**Photo 1, Figure 16**). The building's interior embellishments are no less illustrative of its period of construction and modernistic style. Within the three-story classroom wing, Leimkuehler incorporated splashes of colorful tile in restrooms and hallway niches that hold water fountains and exhibit cases (**Photos 12 and 17**). Classrooms reflect the choice of International Style window ribbons, featuring entire walls composed of nothing but windows (**Photo 14**). The building's non-academic wing, which houses a cafeteria, auditorium and gymnasium, is freer in form. Glass blocks provide light to the common areas and a visitor's entrance at the west end of the wing provides stone planters, colorful tile and slatted steel and glass sidelights (**Photo 35**). Design details such as these demonstrate Pruitt School's significance as an exemplary example of the city's International Style school buildings.

In 2012, the City of St. Louis conducted a city-wide survey of non-residential Mid-Century Modern architecture. The survey documented more than 2,300 properties constructed during 1945-1975. The project adopted a tiered-identification approach, with the level of documentation dependent on possible local and National Register levels of significance. At the most narrow tier, a "Significant Properties List and Intensive Level Survey Documentation" was developed for 25 properties (**Figure 17**).⁶⁴ These 25 properties were selected based on the results of the survey and included feedback and recommendations from the consultants who worked on the survey, St. Louis City's Cultural Resources Office, Missouri State Historic Preservation Office and the public. The nominated property, Pruitt School, was included in the survey's significant 25 properties list, selected for its architectural merit and important historic context (**Figure 18**).⁶⁵

Criterion Consideration G

Though constructed more than 50 years ago, Pruitt School's period of significance extends through 1974. The period of significance marks the years that Pruitt School – which opened in 1955 when St. Louis began desegregation – served an African-American student population. Pruitt School was the city's first public school building constructed to support students living in a high-rise public housing complex. Pruitt School's district boundaries – under St. Louis' desegregation redistricting – extended solely to residents living in Pruitt Homes. Because no white residents ever resided in Pruitt Homes, no white students were enrolled at Pruitt School. This situation was unique to Pruitt School, supporting the property's exceptional (Criterion Consideration G) level of significance under Criterion A: Ethnic Heritage/Black.

Conclusion

Pruitt School meets Criterion A for its Ethnic (Black) Heritage associations. The school opened in 1955, the first year that St. Louis began to desegregate its public elementary schools. Although

⁶⁴ Meijer, Minor and Bradley, 1.

⁶⁵ Ibid, 24.

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the city did not fully enforce where students attended schools, new districts were created to foster and encourage such activities. Pruitt School, however, failed to ever acquire such goals. The building only served students living in a high-rise housing project, Pruitt Homes, which was always and only occupied by African-American residents. Pruitt School is an excellent example of a mid-twentieth International Style elementary school, meeting Criterion C: Architecture. The property is a superior example of the style in terms of the city's mid-century public schools, incorporating continuous ribbons of steel/glass and glass block windows, concrete fins, boxy rectangular wings and prominent façade detailing that incorporates limestone and granite finishes. Pruitt School is locally significant. Its period of significance extends from 1954 (when construction began on the building) through 1974 (when the school and Pruitt Homes were closed). Due to the property's exceptional significance related to the city's civil rights history, the building meets the requirements of Criterion Consideration G.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries for Pruitt School surround the legally defined parcel for the school per the City of Louis' Assessor's Office (1212 N. 22nd Street, Block 6484). The parcel is 230 feet x 381.04 feet. Boundaries follow the public walk that flanks N. 22nd Street on the west, a parking lot (excluded from the parcel) that bounds the building's north elevation, a fence line along the east end of the parcel and Biddle Street, which flanks the south end of the parcel.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the parcel historically associated with Pruitt School. The definitions of the parcel have not been altered since the building was constructed in 1954-1955.

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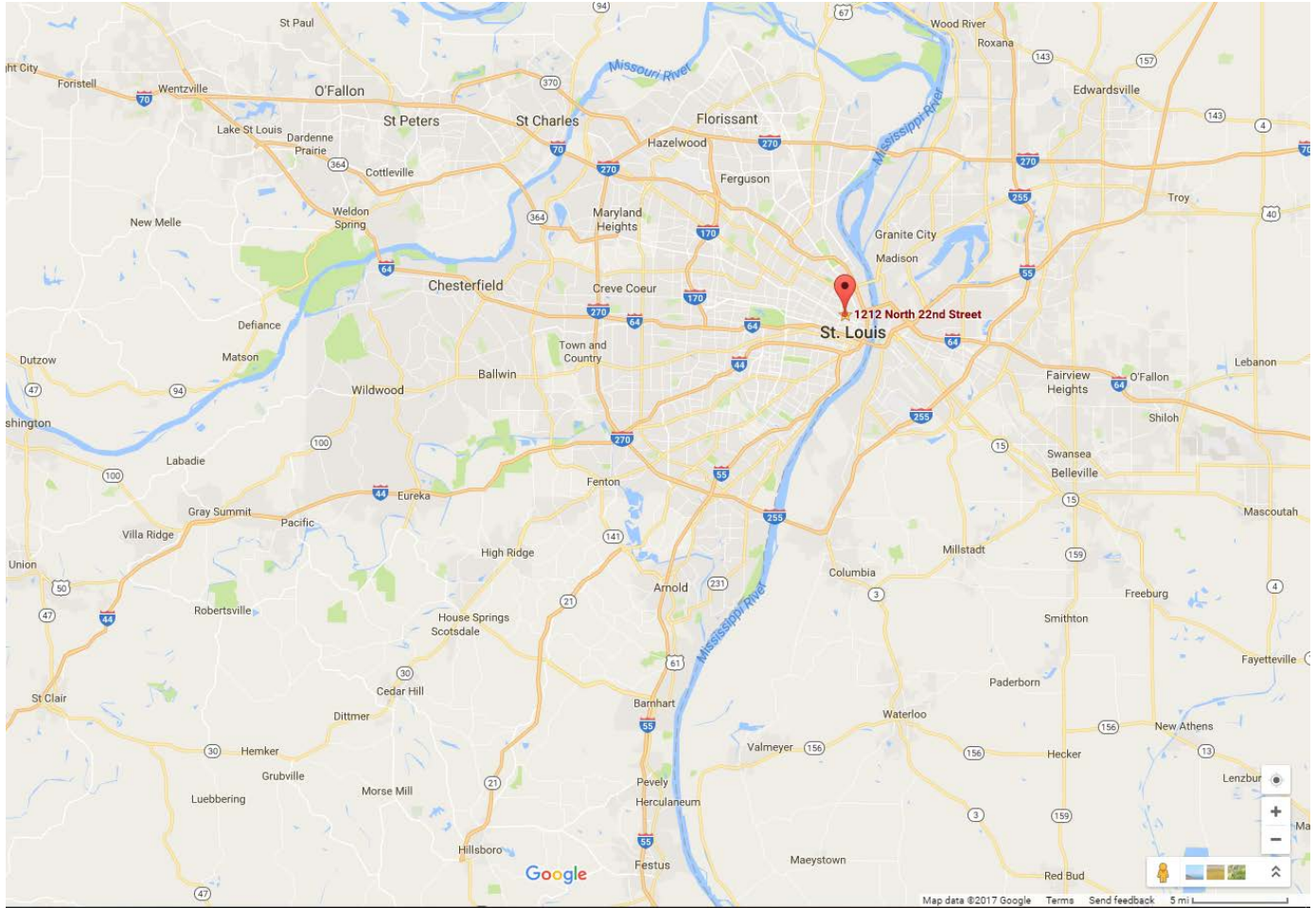


Figure 1. Location Map, Pruitt School, 1212 N. 22nd Street, St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri (Source: Google Maps).

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Figure 2. National Register boundary map, Pruitt School. Heavy lines surrounding the school at the center indicate the boundaries for the property. Boxes with “C” indicate locations for the parking lot (north) and playground (east), both of which are contributing resources. Source: City of St. Louis, “Geo St. Louis” (<http://dynamic.stlouis-mo.gov/citydata/newdesign/index.cfm>).

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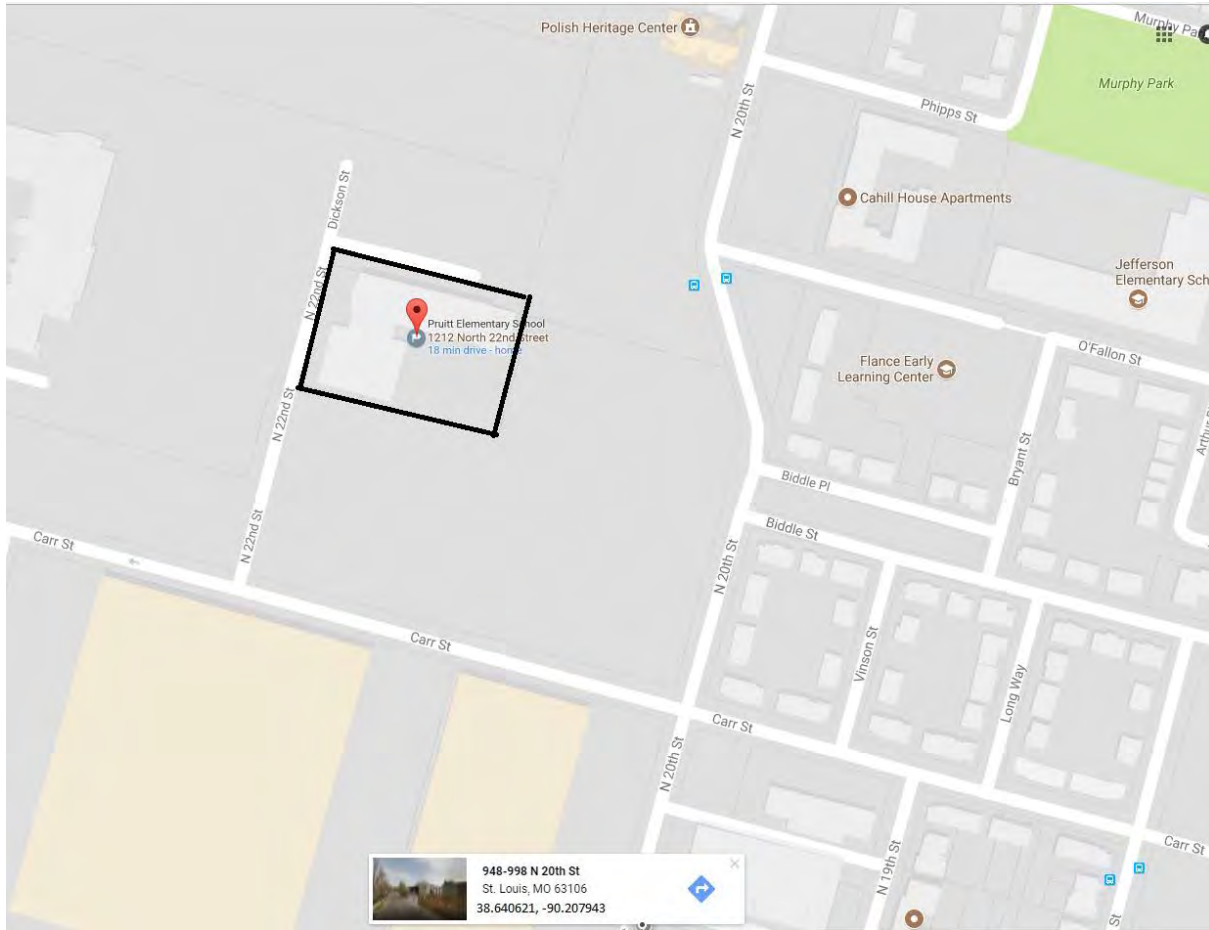


Figure 3. Site Map, Pruitt School (KIPP Inspire Academy), 1212 N. 22nd Street, St. Louis, MO. Scale: 1" = 200' (Source: Google Maps).

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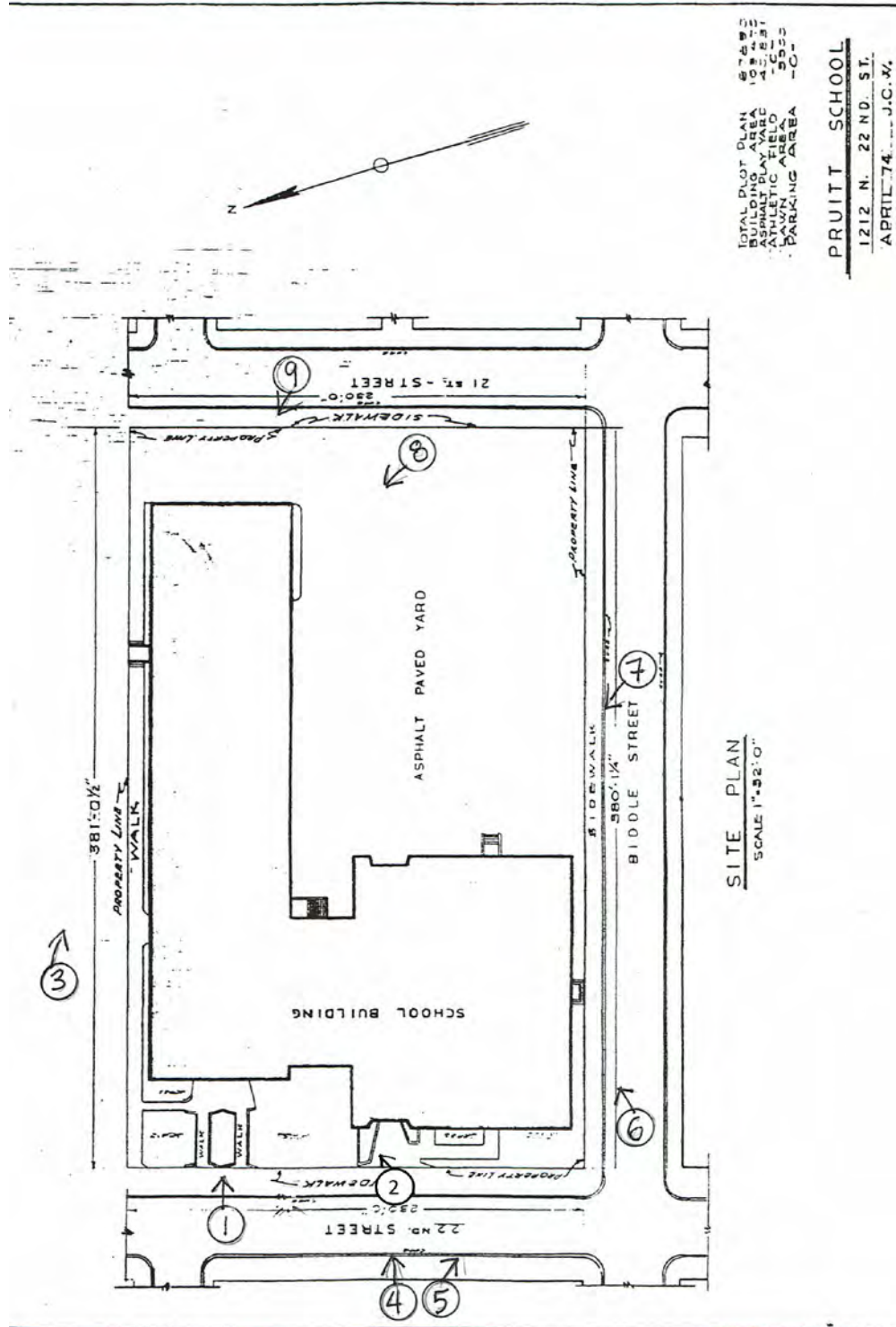
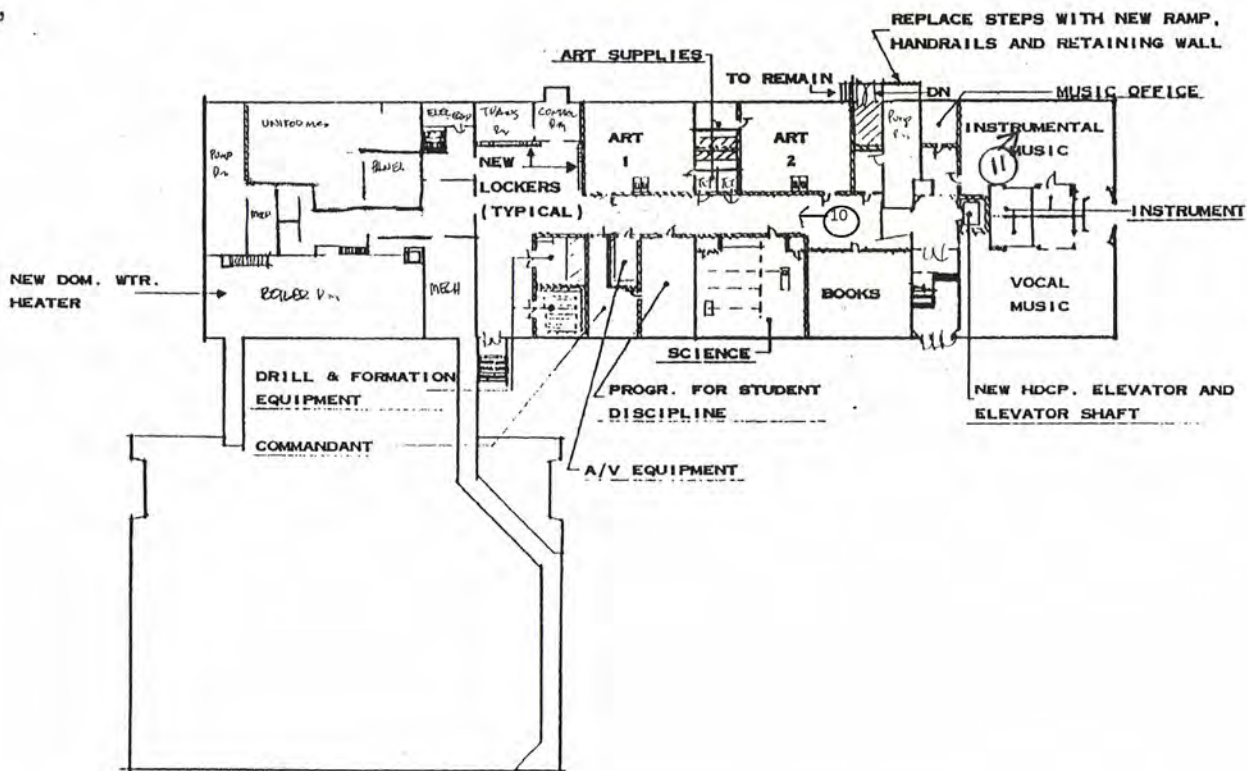


Figure 4 – Exterior plan and photo map (Plan courtesy of KIPP Inspire Academy).

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GROUND FLOOR PLAN

PRUITT SCHOOL

PROPOSED RECONFIGURATION

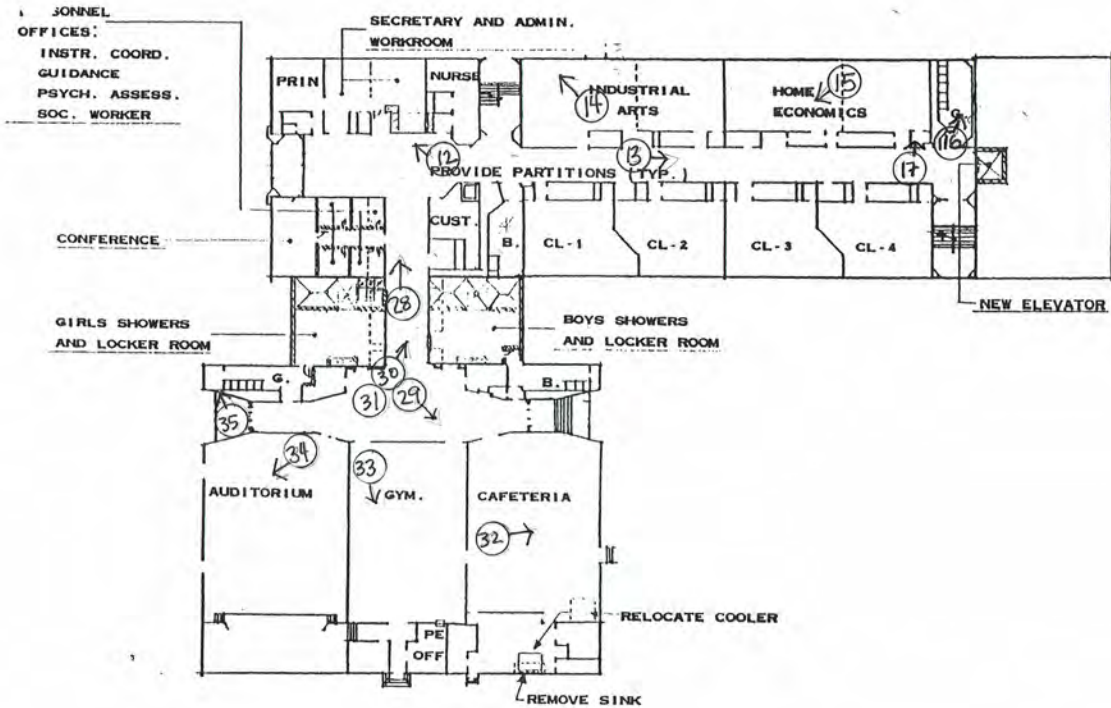


Figure 5. Ground floor plan and photo map (Plan courtesy of KIPP Inspire Academy).

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FIRST FLOOR PLAN

PRUITT SCHOOL

PROPOSED RECONFIGURATION

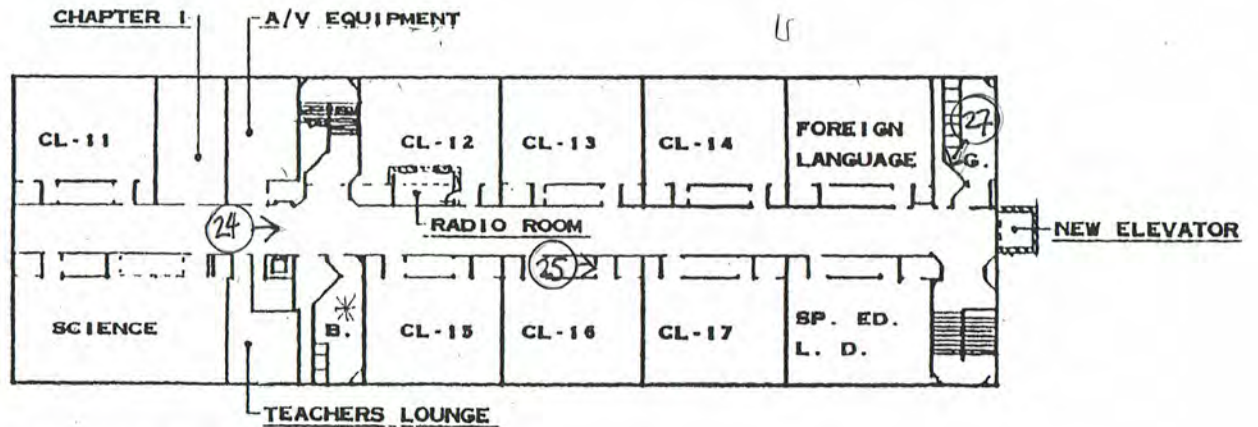


Figure 6. First floor plan and photo map (Plan courtesy of KIPP Inspire Academy).

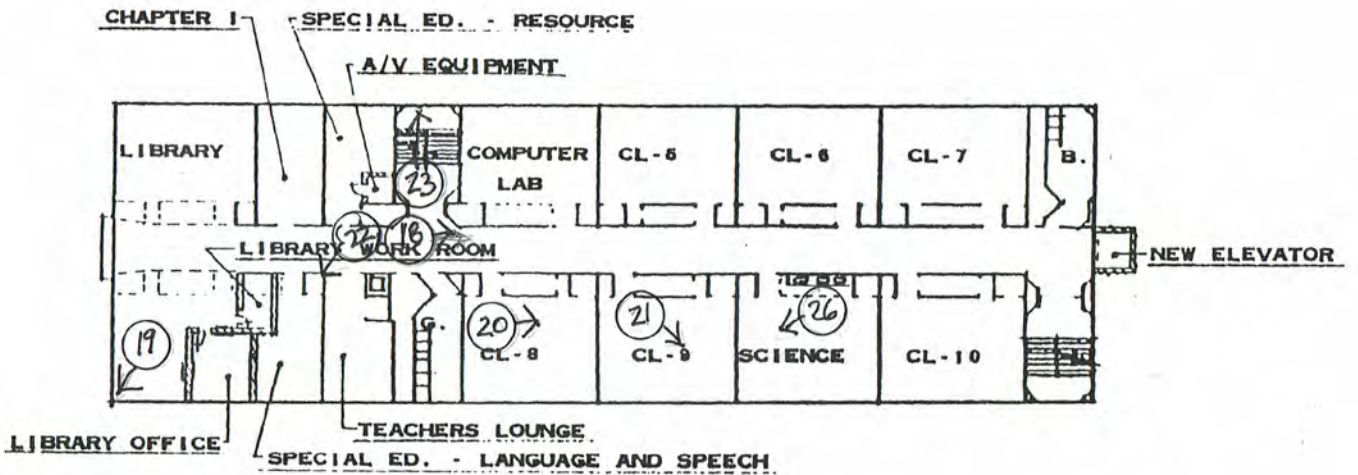
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THIRD FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

PRUITT SCHOOL

PROPOSED RECONFIGURATION



Figure 7. Second and third floor plans and photo map (Plan courtesy of KIPP Inspire Academy).

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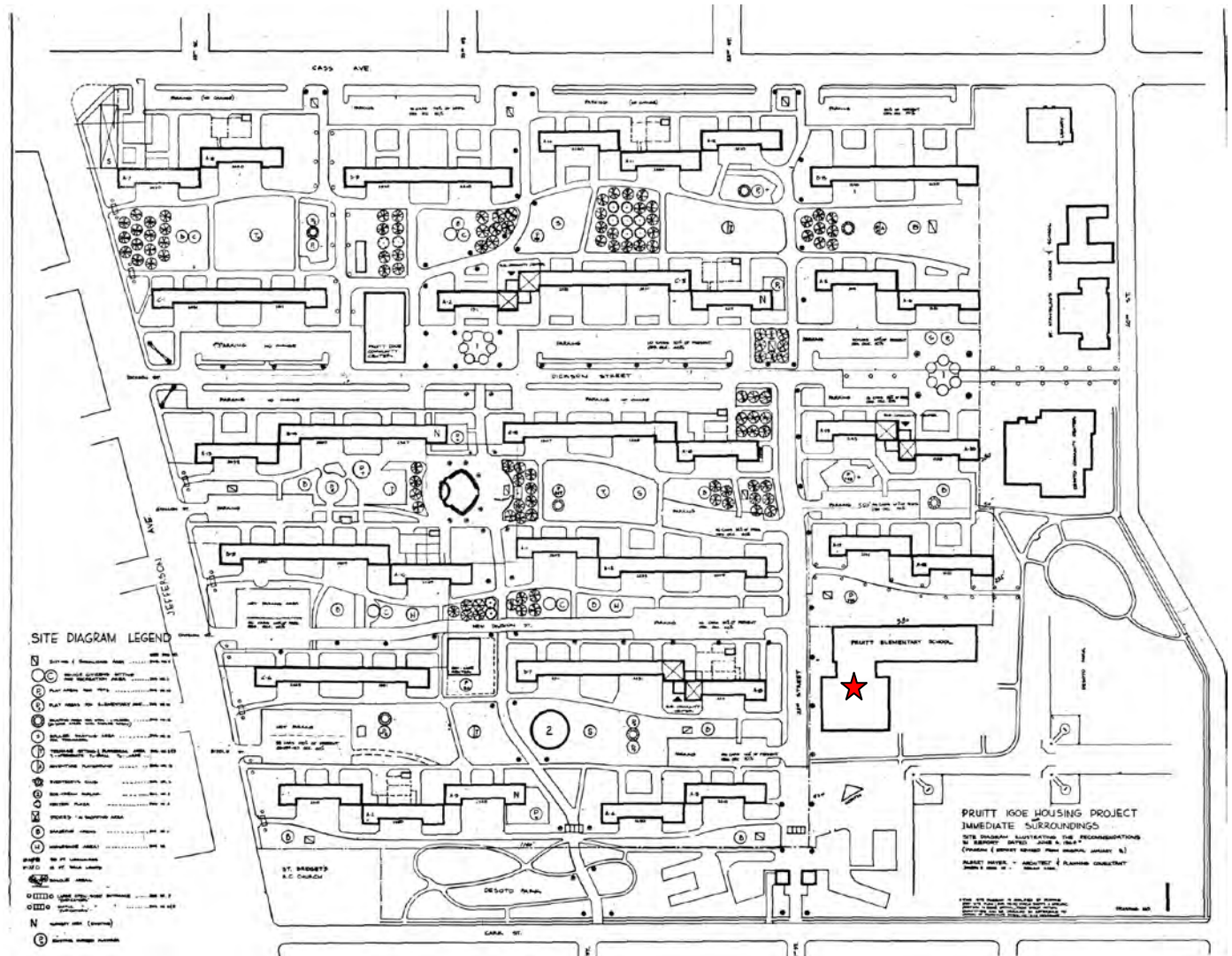


Figure 8. Pruitt-Igoe Map. Pruitt School is designated by star, near the southeast corner of the property (Source: Michael Allen, "Pruitt Igoe Then and Now," Site Map Available Online at: <http://www.pruittigoenow.org/before-and-after/>; Access date: 25 April 2017).

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Figure 9. Image of a baseball game in DeSoto Park c. 1956. Pruitt School is visible at the left side of the photograph. In the background are Pruitt Homes (Photo courtesy of Missouri History Museum, St. Louis).

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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

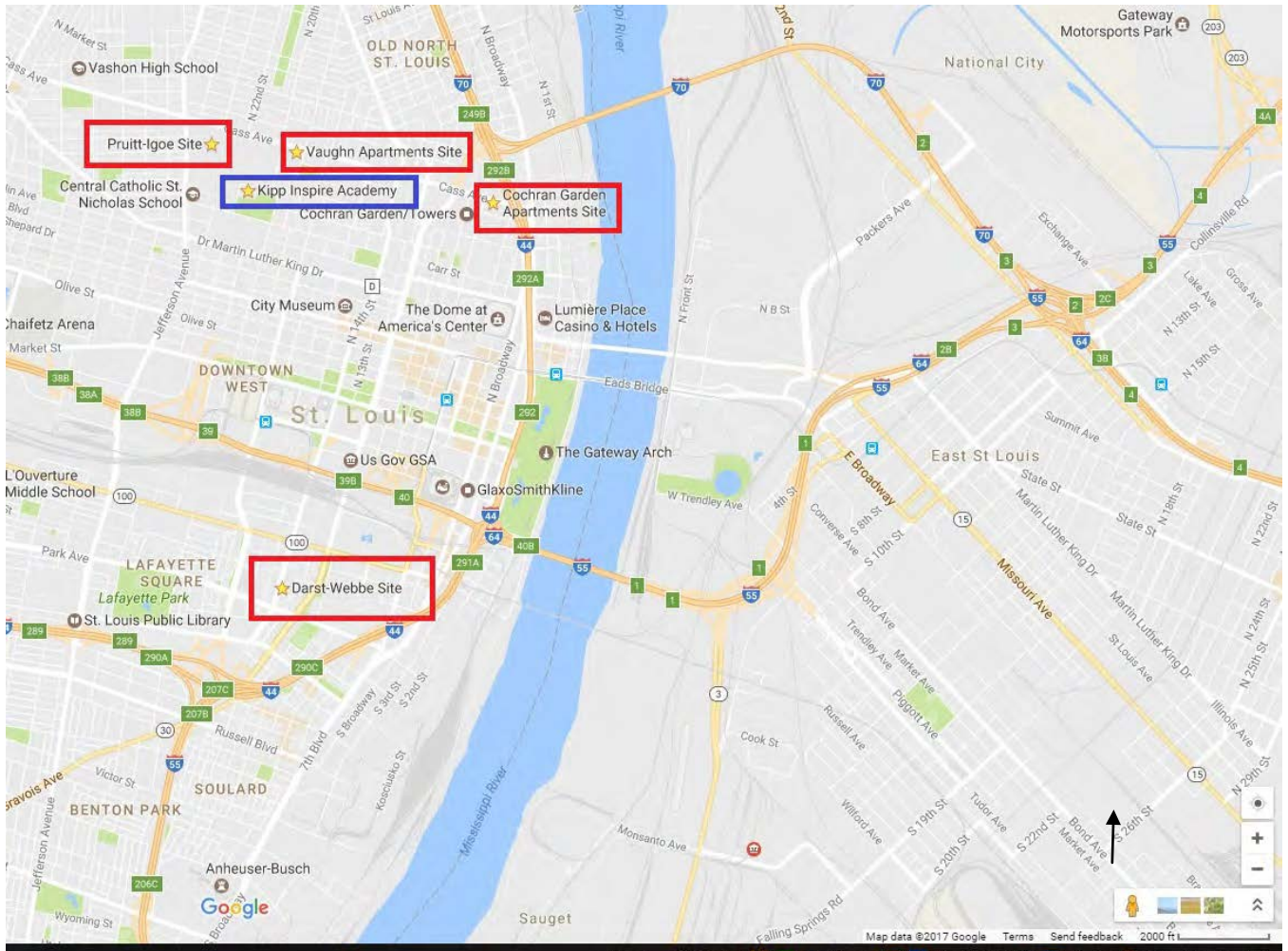


Figure 10. Locations of public housing complexes constructed in St. Louis during the mid-to-late 1950s. KIPP Inspire Academy is the former Pruitt School. (Source: Google Maps).

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 39

Pruitt School
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Figure 11. Carr Lane School, constructed in 1958, admitted many of the students who left Pruitt School in 1974 (Photo: Ruth Keenoy, 24 March 2017).

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 40

Pruitt School

Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), MO

County and State
n/a

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Figure 12. Blewett Elementary School, constructed in 1955 for students living in Igoe Apartments (Photo: Ruth Keenoy, 14 April 2017).

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 41

Pruitt School

Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), MO

County and State
n/a

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

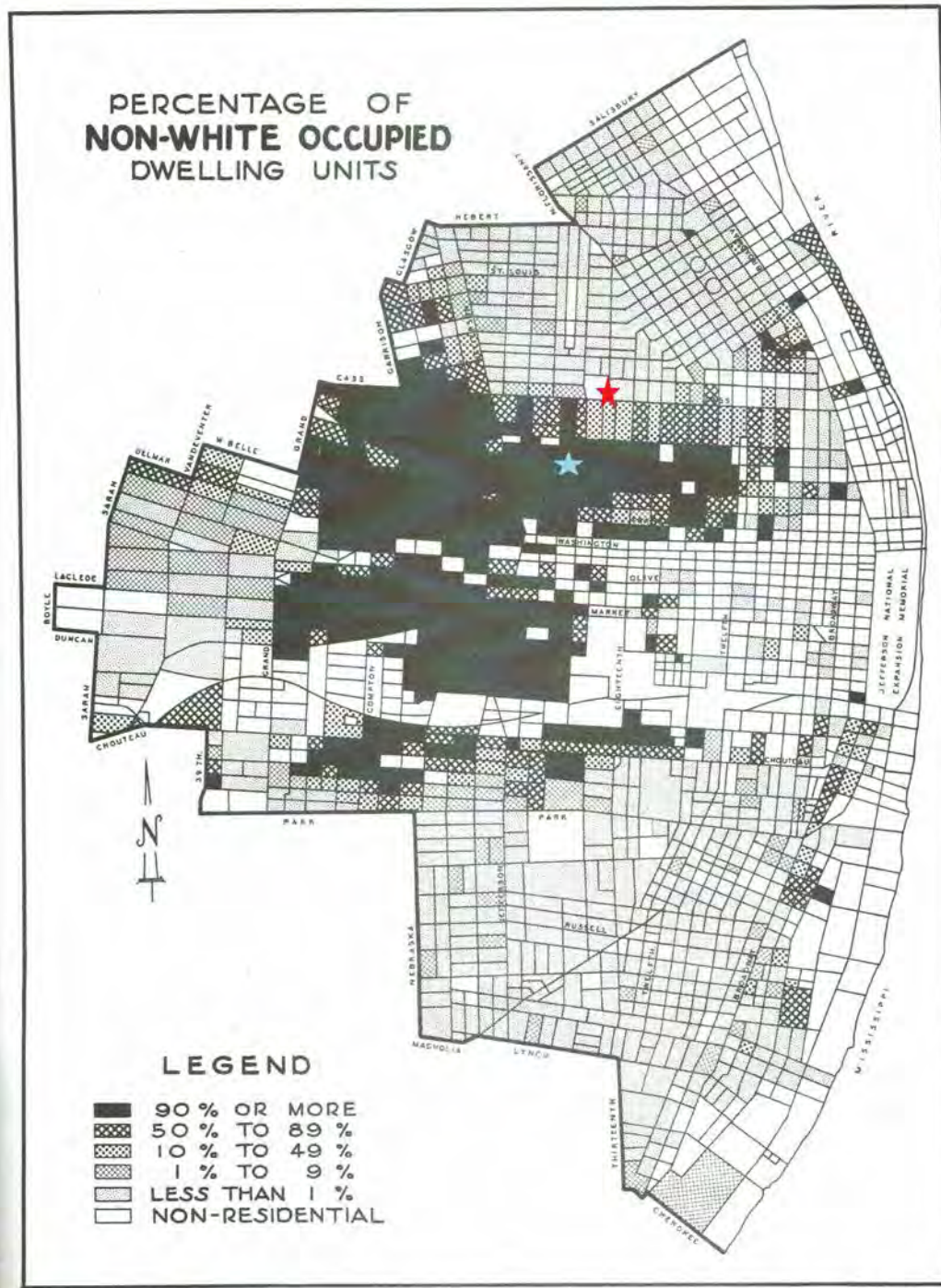


PLATE 13

Figure 13. 1950 Population Map, St. Louis City Plan Commission. Note location of Pruitt School (blue star) and Blewett School (red star). Source: City Plan Commission, "The Housing Situation in St. Louis," Unpublished, 1950.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 42

Pruitt School

Name of Property

St. Louis (Independent City), MO

County and State

n/a

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Figure 14. Peabody School, located at 1224 S. 14th Street, was constructed in 1957 for the Darst-Webbe public housing project. Photo: Ruth Keenoy, 24 March 2017).

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Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 43

Pruitt School

Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), MO

County and State
n/a

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Figure 15. Detail, scalloped entry embellishment, view is south (Photo: Ruth Keenoy, 18 January 2017).

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 44

Pruitt School
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Figure 16. Exterior clock, south elevation of Pruitt School (Photo: Ruth Keenoy, 18 January 2017).

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 45

Pruitt School
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

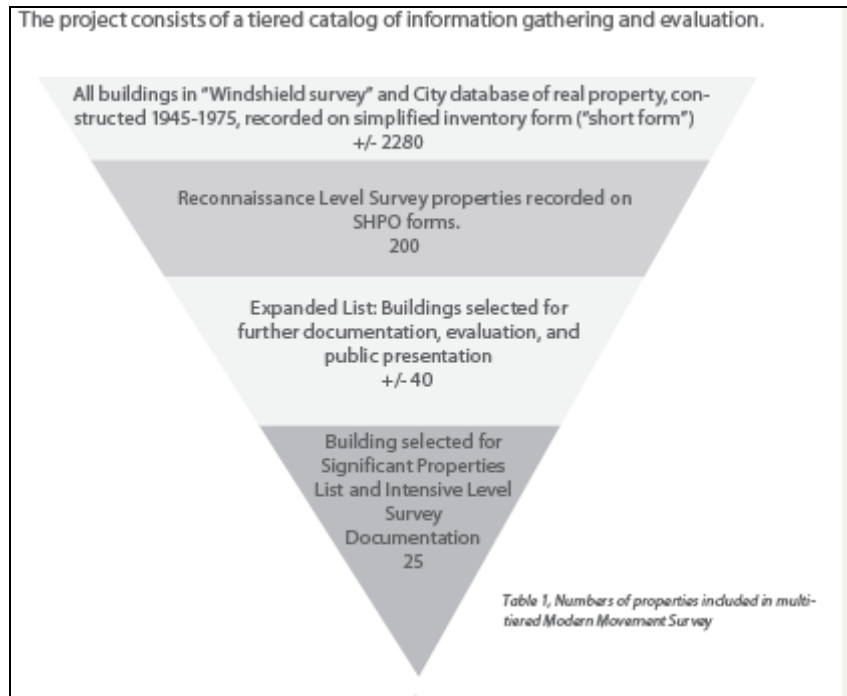


Figure 17. Table 1 from the City of St. Louis' Mid-Century Modern (non-residential) survey conducted in 2012, illustrating the survey's tiered level of evaluation (Source: Meijer, Minor and Bradley, p. 1).

National Register of Historic Places
 Continuation Sheet

Section number Figures Page 46

Pruitt School
Name of Property
St. Louis (Independent City), MO
County and State
n/a
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Historic Name	Current Name	Date of Construction	Historic Use	Design Firm/Architect	Architectural Style	Address	Significance
The Pavilion	Barnes Jewish Hospital South	1972-78	Hospital	Kenneth E. Wischmeyer & Partners	Brutalist	4949-69 BARNES HOSPITAL PLAZA	Architectural
South Side Bible Chapel	Oak Hill Chapel	1953	Church	Schmidt & Krueger	Neo-Expressionist	6100 LEONA ST	Architectural
Wendell Oliver Pruitt Public School	Pruitt Academy	1954	School	F. Ray Leimkuhler	Modernist	1212 N 22ND ST	Architectural; Planning & Development
Wendell Bank Building	2800 Washington Building	1956	Bank	Bank Building & Equipment Corporation/W.A. Sarmiento	Neo-Expressionist	2800 WASHINGTON AV	Architectural; African-Am. Heritage
Bishop DuBourg High School	Same	1954; addition 1955	School	Murphy & Mackey	International Style	5850 EICHELBERGER ST	Architectural
Lambert International St. Louis Airport	Same	1957; 1965	Airport	Helimuth, Yamasaki & Leinweber/ Minoru Yamasaki	Neo-Expressionist	10701 LAMBERT INTERNATIONAL BLVD	Architectural
National Council of State Garden Clubs	Same	1957	Club Building	Frederick Dunn & Nolas Stinson, Jr.	International Style	4401 MAGNOLIA AV	Architectural
New Age Savings & Loan	For His Glory Church Apostolic Faith	1958	Bank	W.E. Duncan	International Style	1401 N KINGSHIGHWAY BLVD	Architectural; African-Am. Heritage
St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church	Same	1960	Church	A.F. & Arthur Stauder Architects	Modernist/ Brutalist	5800 OLEATHA AV	Architectural
Fairground Park Swimming Facility	Same	1960	Park Structure	Kramer & Harris Architects	Neo-Expressionist	3715 NATURAL BRIDGE AV	Architectural
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Hall	Same	1959	Union Hall	Bank Building & Equipment Corporation	Neo-Expressionist	5850 ELIZABETH AV	Architectural
Wohl Recreation Center	Same	1959	Recreation Center	Russell, Mullgardt, Schwarz & Van Hoefen	International Style	1515 N KINGSHIGHWAY BLVD	Architectural
Buder Branch St. Louis Public Library	Record Exchange	1961	Library	Joseph H. Senne	Neo-Expressionist	5320 HAMPTON AV	Architectural
Optimist Building	Same	1962; addition 1978	Club Building	Schwarz & Van Hoefen	Neo-Expressionist	4490-94 LINDELL BLVD	Architectural
Archdiocese of St. Louis Chancery	Same	1957	Chancery	Bank Building & Equipment Corporation/ W.A. Sarmiento	Modernist/ Neo-Expressionist	4445-67 LINDELL BLVD	Architectural
James S. McDonnell Planetarium	St. Louis Science Center McDonnell Planetarium	1963	Planetarium	Helimuth, Obata & Kassabaum/Gyo Obata	Neo-Expressionist	1 FAULKNER DR	Architectural
Steinberg Art Gallery	Same	1960	Art Gallery & Classrooms	Russell, Mullgardt, Schwarz & Van Hoefen/ Fuminiko Maki	Neo-Expressionist	6201-53 FORYSTH BLVD	Architectural
Engineers Club of St. Louis	Same	1959	Club Building	Russell, Mullgardt, Schwarz & Van Hoefen	Neo-Expressionist	4359 LINDELL BLVD	Architectural;
Juvenile Division Circuit Court	Same	1965	Court	William B. Ittner Inc.	New Formalism	910-30 N VANDEVENTER AV	Architectural
Mansion House Center	Mansion House, Gentry's Landing, Radisson Hotel	1967-1974	Mixed Use	Schwarz & Van Hoefen	International Style	200 N 4TH ST	Architectural; Planning & Development
Jacob Mark Lashley Branch St. Louis Public Library	Society of the Sacred Heart U.S. Province Archives	1967	Library	William B. Ittner Inc.	New Formalism	4531-37 WEST PINE BLVD	Architectural
Laclede Gas Building	Same	1968	Office	Emery Roth & Sons Architects	Modernist	200-12 N 8TH ST	Architectural
McDonnell Medical Science Center	Same	1970	Medical Research	Murphy, Downey, Wofford, & Richman	Brutalist	4550-06 SCOTT AV	Architectural
St. Louis Neighborhood Health Center	MHDCHC, Inc	1974	Health Center	Jenkins-Fleming	Brutalist	5443-71 DR MARTIN LUTHER KING DR	Architectural; African-Am. Heritage
Auto Club of Missouri	AAA Building	1976	Commercial	W.A. Sarmiento	New Formalism	3917 LINDELL BLVD	Architectural

Figure 18. Most significant properties list from the City of St. Louis' Mid-Century Modern (non-residential) survey conducted in 2012. Note Pruitt School, bolded and outlined (Source: Meijer, Minor and Bradley, p. 1).



PRUITT
SCHOOL

WELCOME TO
KIPP Legacy Academy

WARNING
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SCHOOLS ZONE



PRUITT
SCHOOL

PRUITT
SCHOOL

WELCOME TO









Louis
SCHOOLS











FIRE

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Upcoming Basketball Games!

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International

BIOGRAPHY

POETRY

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Exit Ticket Markers

Exit Ticket Markers

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READING

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Classie	Kawon	Cheyenne
Micah	Antania	Aja
Mirah I.	Jace	Mariah M.
	Taja	Savannah

UCLA	CORNELL	LSU

WELCOME to the ZOU

April 25

April 24

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Dinos 2
Moose 3

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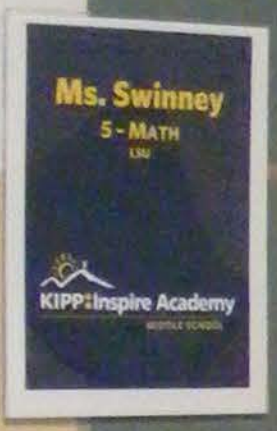
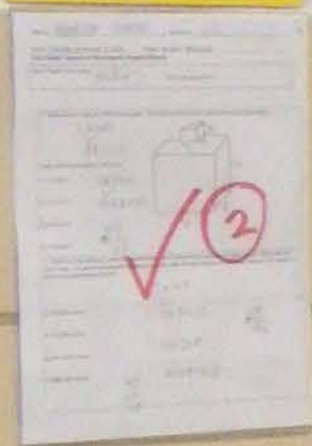
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SCHOLAR OF THE WEEK

NAME	GRADE

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② Press SOURCE on your remote to select connected source device.

Honor Roll - Term 1
GPA 3.0-4.0
Class of 2024

Griffin Wiley	Devinne Davis
Aracely Barrios	Jack Jackson
Brooks Bryant	Shawntel Tate
Ellen Jones	Taylor Brown
Frederick McCallough	Ushonna Dalton-Smith
Daria Woodward	Marah Henry

High Honor Roll - Term 1
GPA 3.5-4.0
Class of 2024

Griffin Wiley	Devinne Davis
Aracely Barrios	Jack Jackson
Brooks Bryant	Shawntel Tate
Ellen Jones	Taylor Brown
Frederick McCallough	Ushonna Dalton-Smith
Daria Woodward	Marah Henry

Honor Roll - Term 1
GPA 3.0-4.0
Class of 2023

Shayla Thomas	Ellis Bales
Terrance Williams	Melvinia Collier
Naikhen Houston	Shantel Greene
Kelvin Smith	Lunden Mukhtar
Tyler Jackson	

High Honor Roll - Term 1
GPA 3.5-4.0
Class of 2023

Shayla Thomas	Ellis Bales
Terrance Williams	Melvinia Collier
Naikhen Houston	Shantel Greene
Kelvin Smith	Lunden Mukhtar
Tyler Jackson	

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AT PANEL



8161





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: 12/14/2017 Date of Pending List: 1/29/2018 Date of 16th Day: 2/13/2018 Date of 45th Day: 1/29/2018 Date of Weekly List: 2/2/2018

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

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

Accept Return Reject 1/29/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary
Comments:

Recommendation/
Criteria

Reviewer Barbara Wyatt Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2252 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.



Missouri Department of dnr.mo.gov

NATURAL RESOURCES

Eric R. Greitens, Governor

Carol S. Comer, Director

Memorandum

Date: November 30, 2017

To: J. Paul Loether, National Register of Historic Places

From: Mike Sutherland, Deputy SHPO

Subject: Pruitt School, St. Louis [Independent City], MO, National Register Nomination

DEC 14 2017

Our state review board, the Missouri Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, approved the above nomination on **November 3, 2017**. All owners and appropriate elected public officials were notified and provided at least thirty (30) days to comment on the above proposed nomination in accordance with Section 36CFR60.6, interim regulations, using the exact notification format recommended by the National Register. **The enclosed disc contains the true and correct copy of the nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.**

Please find enclosed the following documentation:

- 1 CD with original National Register of Historic Places registration form
- Multiple Property Documentation Form
- Photographs
- 2 CD with electronic images
- Original USGS map(s)
- 2 Piece(s) of correspondence (cover letter and signature page)
- Other: _____

Comments:

- Please ensure that this nomination is reviewed
- The enclosed owner objection(s) do do not constitute a majority of property owners.
- Other: _____