

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Statenville Consolidated School  
other names/site number Echols County High School

### 2. Location

street & number Georgia Highway 94 N/A not for publication  
city, town Statenville N/A vicinity  
state Georgia code GA county Echols code GA101 zip code 31648

### 3. Classification

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

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Signature of certifying official Elizabeth A. Lyon Date 4/14/88  
Elizabeth A. Lyon  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

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

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Patrick Andrews 6/1/88  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
EDUCATION/school

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
EDUCATION/school

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/  
LATE GOTHIC REVIVAL /  
COLLEGIATE GOTHIC

foundation Concrete  
walls Brick  
roof Asphalt  
other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Statenville Consolidated School is a one-story, brick structure which contains classrooms, office space, and an auditorium, as well as several additions to the original school for classrooms, library, and cafeteria. There are also newer non-historic buildings on the school grounds. The original school was constructed of textured red brick with subsequent additions (marked on the enclosed sketch map) out of smooth red brick. The building has a multi-hipped roof and recessed arched entryways with gabled parapets. Although original window openings remain, all the windows and doors have been changed due to new state school building and fire code standards. The building's exterior has little ornamentation. One significant feature is a cartouche over the front entrance bearing the initials "SCS", representing the school's original designation. The auditorium, built in 1931, retains its original seating, floors, ceiling (although now covered), and walls. The classroom building itself has had many changes to its interior walls, room arrangements, and usage. Interior materials were removed and some were covered over. The nominated parcel is surrounded on two sides by buildings on the campus that are not permanently attached to the original classroom building. These surrounding buildings are: a classroom building (1952) attached by an open breezeway; garage (1964); cafetorium, gymnasium and elementary classroom buildings, all separate structures (1974), and media center/library (1984). The campus is on flat to gently rolling land on the eastern edge of the small, unincorporated town of Statenville. Landscaping is minimal, but does include a historic cedar tree. The campus is surrounded by residential development and is only a block from the Echols County Courthouse.

**8. Statement of Significance**

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

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

architecture  
 education  
 social history

Period of Significance

1931-1939  
 1931-1939  
 1931-1939

Significant Dates

1931  
 1931  
 1931

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Lloyd Greer (1885-1952)

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

Statement of Significance

The Statenville Consolidated School is significant in architecture as an example of the type of building that a small, rural school system could afford to build in 1931, in the midst of the Depression, and before the onset of the Federally funded building programs with the New Deal in 1933. It was the one major building built in the county during the 1930s. Although simple, it was designed by noted south Georgia architect Lloyd Greer (1885 - 1952) of nearby Valdosta. He designed many schools in south Georgia, of varying degrees of detail. Like many school architects, he could tailor his buildings to the financial needs of school systems. This school reflects the barest minimum of ornamentation and details, yet reflects up-to-date planning and room arrangement. This school shows the transition in design from the prevalent 1920s concept of two-story, brick school design to this one-level design, foreshadowing the 1950s or modern era.

The school is significant in education because it reflects locally the consolidated school program which began in Georgia at the end of World War I and was late in reaching Echols County, the state's least populated county in 1930, and one of the poorest. It is also important for reflecting different types of funding used. The burning of the former wooden school in 1929 precipitated the need for a new school building, to be built on a site used for educational purposes since 1911. The new building was built in 1931. Additions were made to the building as the county's schools consolidated during the 1930s, bringing more pupils into this facility. The Federal building programs during the New Deal era helped this poor county to enlarge the school in 1938-1939 and thus expedite consolidation. The Public Works Administration, one the many building programs created during the New Deal, was the source of matching funds for the school's third addition, all part of its efforts to keep up with the growing school population brought about by the county consolidation of schools. The classroom capacity attained after this addition brought the school to a new plateau, for in 1940, shortly after it was completed, the school was renamed the "Echols County High School", reflecting its new role. Later the school added an elementary classroom building (not on the nominated property) that made it the center for the education of all the county's white children until integration in 1970 brought all the county's public school children under one roof.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Price, Dorothy H. and Nancy Tinker, "Statenville School..."Historic Property Information Form, September 22, 1986. It and the related supplemental information are on file at the Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

N/A See continuation sheet

- Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A
- 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

- Primary location of additional data:
- State historic preservation office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property 4.4 acres

UTM References

A 

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

C 

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

B 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

D 

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

N/A See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary is marked on the enclosed 1952 property plat.

N/A See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

The nominated property is the portion of the school property that was owned by the Board of Education in 1952 and bounded on three sides by streets. It is the portion of the school property that contains the historic school and its additions.

N/A See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title <u>Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian</u>	date <u>April 11, 1988</u>
organization <u>Historic Preservation Section</u>	street & number <u>Georgia Department of Natural Resources</u>
street & number <u>205 Butler Street Suite 1462</u>	telephone <u>404/656-2840</u>
city or town <u>Atlanta</u>	state <u>Georgia</u> zip code <u>30334</u>

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

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The school is also significant in social history because, in deciding to launch a bond issue to build the new school, the county also included an auditorium in the plans. When the auditorium opened, along with the school, in the fall of 1931, it was, and still is, the largest meeting space in the county, and has thus been the center for entertainment and public meetings of all kinds.

### Period of Significance

1931-1939 is given as the period of significance because during this time the school building was built and had three additions, the last one during the historic period having begun in 1938 and completed in 1939. It was this third addition that brought the school to a capacity or size in which it was able to be the county's consolidated high school and thus allowed its renaming in 1940 as the "Echols County High School".

### National Register Criteria

These areas of significance support the property's eligibility under National Register Criteria A and C. Under Criteria A, the school is "associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history" in that it is a school and since it was built it has been the center of the county's educational program. It symbolizes not only the county's effort to join the state's school consolidation program to provide better education through one central school, but also the efforts of a poor county to raise money by a variety of means during the Depression, not an easy task, and one in which many other counties failed. As a part of the county's search for funds, a matching grant was obtained from the Public Works Administration, a New Deal agency, that helped local governments with their building programs which also provided much-needed jobs during the Depression. The school meets Criteria C--"embody the distinctive characteristics of a type..."--because it was designed by a trained architect, Lloyd Greer, who created a school on a modern, one-level central-hall plan which reflected new early 20th century educational facility design theory, met new fire codes, and was a forerunner of the later 1950s schools. Thus this 1931 building represents a watershed in school design, as one of the earliest of the one-level, fire-proof, no-frills public schools that reached their peak in Georgia in the 1950s and 1960s.

### Criteria Consideration G

The historic portion of this school is considered the original (1931) portion and the first three additions: 1935, 1936, and 1938-1939. This last addition, begun during the historic period, was not completed until 1939. This third addition was a most important one for the history of the school, for it reflects not only the county's use of New Deal construction money through the Public Works Administration grant, but also the completion of the first phase of the county's consolidation program. At the end of that phase, this school, having achieved a size in which it could hold the county's high school students, was renamed in 1940, "Echols County High School".

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 3

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Historical Narrative/Context Statement

The Statenville Consolidated School is situated in extreme south Georgia, only a few miles from Florida. It lies in a county created in 1858, but which has, for most of its existence, had the smallest population of any of Georgia's 161 counties (159 after 1932). The county seat, Statenville, where the school is located, has never been incorporated.

Given its isolated location, paucity of settlers, and lack of a large tax base, Echols County never had many large schools, or any with any high-style architecture. The county's first major school building was built on this property after 1911 when the land was bought just for the new school. Although by 1926 this building was considered inadequate for the county's educational needs, neither the town nor the county had any money for a larger school, and a bond issue was proposed. The school, like its successor, the nominated property, was also the center for county activities: box suppers, political rallies, community social events such as sings, etc. While efforts were underway to raise money for a larger school through a bond issue, the original school burned on January 30, 1929.

From 1929 to 1931 there was no public school building in Statenville and school as held in a private home and later a parsonage. In 1931, the town of Statenville passed a local school tax and a bond issue for building a new school. In May, 1931, the Statenville Board of Trustees met with the architect, Lloyd Greer, and the contractor, and the school building began. The Statenville Consolidated School was completed and open by September 28, 1931. The auditorium was completed about two weeks later, and held its first play in November.

Once the school was completed, the school building program did not remain dormant. The building did not remain in its 1931 size very long. Two additional classrooms were added in 1935, using money diverted from highway funds. The addition was of brick, but even in the short four years since the original building was finished, the brick could not be matched. Two more rooms were added in 1936.

Running water was added to the school in September, 1937. In late 1938 a loan was made to the school's Board of Trustees to allow the Board to qualify for a Public Works Administration grant to enlarge the school again. The Public Works Administration was one of the most important New Deal Agencies created shortly after Franklin D. Roosevelt became president in 1933. Its goal was to assist local governments in their building programs and also to provide jobs to bring the nation out of the Depression. The grant made to Echols County for this school addition accomplished both purposes. This classroom addition appears to be the county's only New Deal era project and certainly the only one which survives. As part of this grant, more classrooms were added, as well as a wooden gymnasium (now gone). In 1939, a projection room was added to the auditorium.

By 1940, all other county high schools had consolidated with the Statenville Consolidated School, and this school was now large enough to hold the county's

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 4

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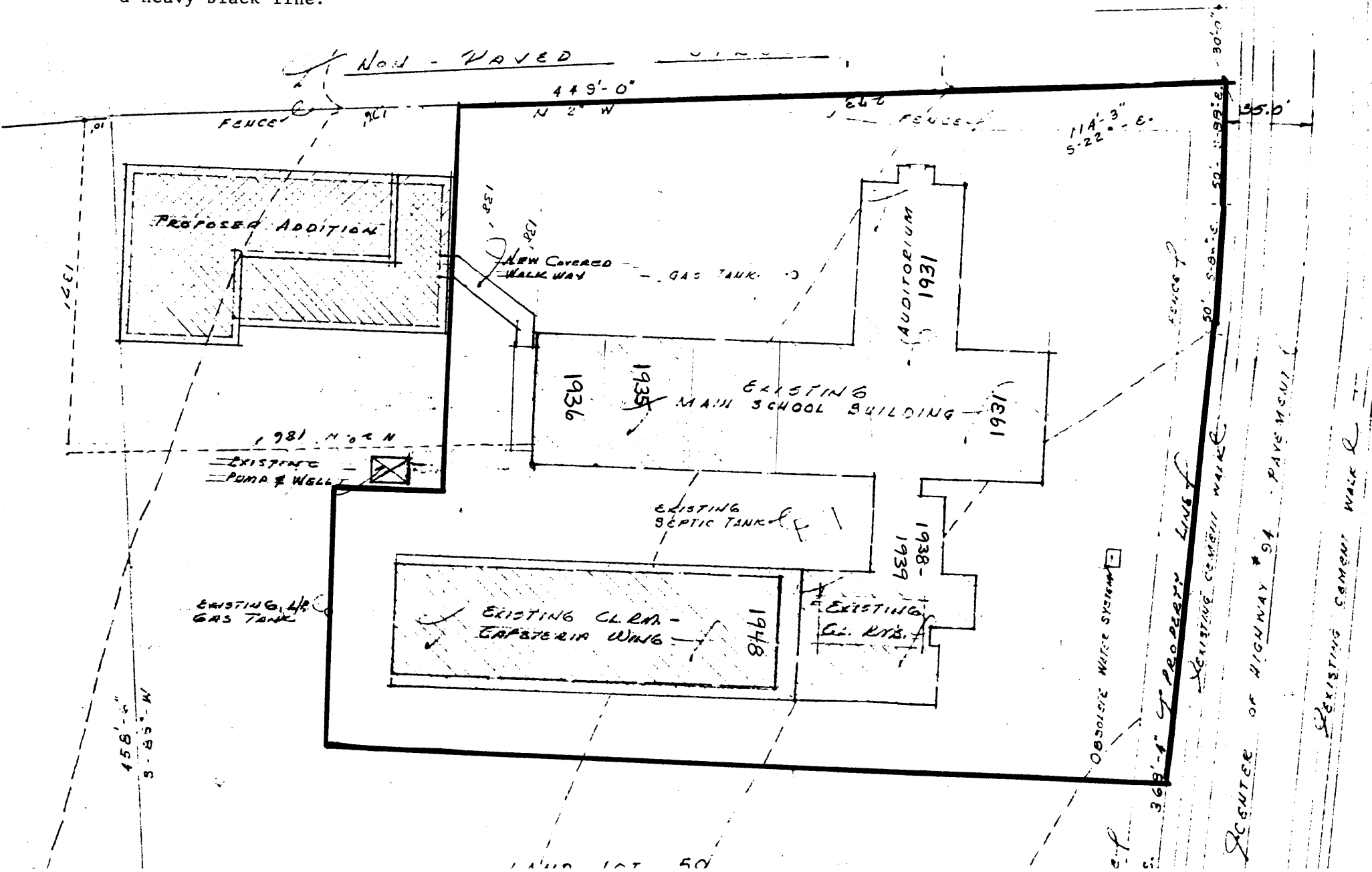
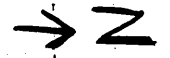
pupils. Thus it was renamed "Echols County High School," a name it has borne ever since. In 1948, a new wing was added to the original building, completing the structure that is being nominated. This new wing included then a new Home Economics Department, a science room, the lunchroom, and the principal's office. Fluorescent lighting was added to the classrooms in that year. By 1950, all the common schools in the county had consolidated with this school.

In later years, other additions and wings were added to the school compound, but are not within the nominated property and not a part of this nomination.

State-mandated facility upgrading has changed many details of the school, as with all historic schools still in use. The building remains open as the county high school, and the auditorium is still used for many activities.

PROPERTY PLAT MAP  
 STATENVILLE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL  
 Statenville, Echols County, Georgia  
 Scale: ----- = 50'  
 Source: Plat drawn as base for Addition  
 to the School; drawn by G. E. King  
 Date: 1952  
 Key: The nominated property is marked by  
 a heavy black line.

The portions of the school included  
 within the nominated property and  
 the dates they were built are marked  
 directly on the map.

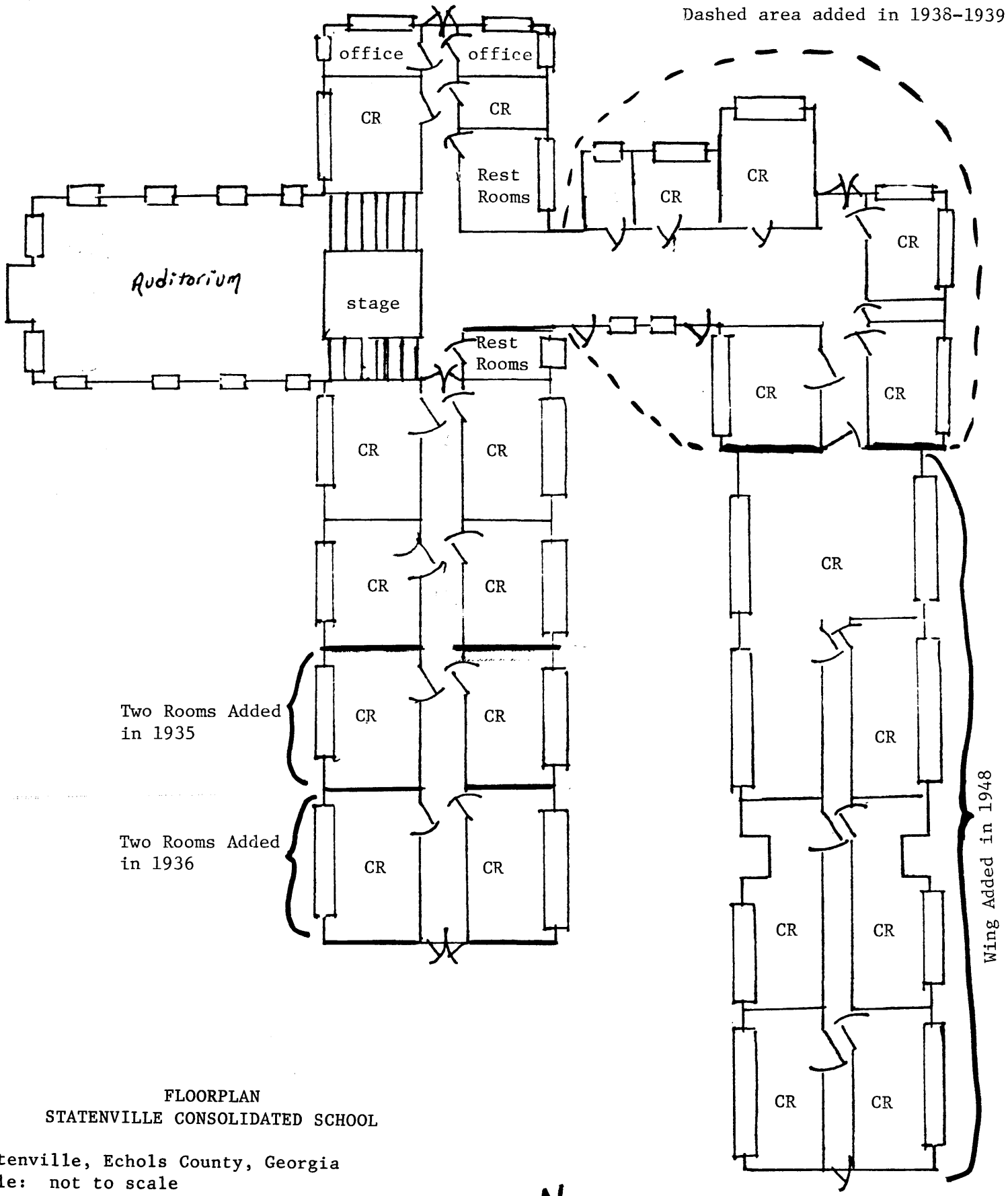




Statenville - Fazio Rd.

Delaney Street

Dashed area added in 1938-1939



Two Rooms Added in 1935

Two Rooms Added in 1936

Wing Added in 1948

FLOORPLAN  
STATENVILLE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL

Statenville, Echols County, Georgia  
 Scale: not to scale  
 Source: Prepared by South Georgia APDC  
 Date: 1986  
 Key: The room usages are marked directly on the plan. The development or growth of the structure is also marked directly.  
 CR = Classroom