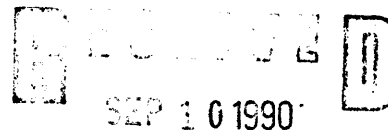


1338

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

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 Old Tarpon Springs High School
other names/site number Tarpon Springs City Hall/8PI01694

2. Location

street & number 324 East Pine Street N/A not for publication
city, town Tarpon Springs N/A vicinity
state Florida code FL county Pinellas code 103 zip code 34688

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private, public-local (checked), public-State, public-Federal
Category of Property: building(s) (checked), district, site, structure, object
Number of Resources within Property: Contributing (1), Noncontributing (0) buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total (1)

Name of related multiple property listing:
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. See continuation sheet.
Signature of certifying official: George W. Percy, State Historic Preservation Officer
Date: 9/4/90

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. (checked)
determined eligible for the National Register.
determined not eligible for the National Register.
removed from the National Register.
other, (explain:)
Entered in the National Register 10/11/90
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)

Government/City Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

no style

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete and brick
walls brick

roof asphalt

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

See Continuation Sheet.

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)

education
architecture

Period of Significance

1925-

Significant Dates

1925

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Hull, Emmitt

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

See Continuation Sheet.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Frantzis, George T., Strangers at Ithaca, St. Petersburg, 1962.

Sanborn Map Company, Fire Insurance Map of Tarpon Springs, Florida, New York, 1919, 1926.

Stoughton, Gertrude, Tarpon Springs, Florida: The Early Years, New Port Richie, 1975.

Tarpon Springs Daily News, July-December, 1925.

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property Less than one acre.

UTM References

A

17	32	8	00	0
Zone	Easting		Northing	

31	14	9	4	0
Zone	Easting		Northing	

C

Zone	Easting		Northing	

Zone	Easting		Northing	

B

Zone	Easting		Northing	

Zone	Easting		Northing	

D

Zone	Easting		Northing	

Zone	Easting		Northing	

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

North half of Block, DeGoliers Subdivision, Lots 13-24, as shown on site plan.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the building and immediately adjacent grounds historically associated with the Tarpon Springs High School, excluding that part of the original site now occupied by new construction.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Weaver/W.N. Thurston, Historic Preservation Supervisor
 organization Division of Historical Resources date 8-30-90
 street & number R.H. Gray Bldg., 500 S. Bronough telephone (904)487-2333
 city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32309

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1 Old Tarpon Springs High School

DESCRIPTION

SUMMARY

The Old Tarpon Springs High School is a two story, red brick, masonry vernacular building. Distinguished by a Beaux-Arts style central entrance bay and paired, 6/6/6, awning windows, it rests on a continuous, poured concrete foundation. Its recent rehabilitation for use as the Tarpon Springs City Hall was accomplished with no significant structural or exterior alteration, and with minimal intrusion on the interior plan and fabric. The building retains its historic integrity of design, materials, workmanship, location, and setting, and reflects the historical association of its construction as a school facility to a high degree.

SETTING

The Old Tarpon Springs High School is located at 324 Pine Street, within three blocks of the business center of the community. The surrounding neighborhood, originally mixed use residential and commercial, has become predominantly commercial, but retains the ambiance of tree-shaded brick streets and buildings of modest scale. The most significant change in the immediate setting has been the construction of new police and customer service facilities on what was originally the recreational grounds and later the site of a cafeteria building and parking area in the rear of the school building. This change does not impair the historic appearance and character of the building as seen from the usual vantage points (see photos 1, 2, 4, and 7).

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The Old Tarpon Springs High School building is a T shaped structure, symmetrical in plan, with short wings flanking the trunk of the T. (See site plan.) Constructed of red brick resting on a continuous, poured concrete foundation, the building has a flat, built up roof surrounded by a low, unadorned parapet. Fenestration is regular, consisting, with some variation, of paired triple hung, six light, wood framed awning windows. The original wood exterior doors have been replaced with modern, aluminum framed glass. The principal architectural adornment is found in the central pavilion of the main (north) facade (see photo 3). Here, the main entrance is approached by a ballustrated concrete stair and flanked by Ionic columns, and a second floor balconet, accent stonework, a scroll cartouche, and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2 Old Tarpon Springs High School

a crested parapet reflect the influence of the Beaux-Arts style. Otherwise, exterior adornment is confined to simple window sills, cornice, and parapet cap of cast concrete. A wheelchair ramp has been installed at the north end of the west elevation (see photo 7).

Interior changes have been minimal. The original floor plan remains essentially unaltered. The original auditorium/gymnasium, located in the rear wing, continues to serve as an auditorium with the refurbished stage and backstage facilities still in place. Classrooms have been converted for office space, with partial partitions installed in some areas. Carpeting in most areas has been laid over the original flooring, and some ceilings have been lowered to conceal utility runs. But nearly all original interior fabric remains intact, including most of the original wood doors and glass transoms.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1 Old Tarpon Springs High School

SIGNIFICANCE

SUMMARY

The Old Tarpon Springs High School is significant under Criterion A in the area of education for its association with the early 20th century growth and prosperity of the community. It is significant under Criterion C as an imposing local example of masonry vernacular architecture in a major public building, and for the limited but effective application of Beaux-Arts style architectural detail.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

Tarpon Springs, located at the mouth of the Anclote River, was initially developed by the Lake Butler Villa Company in the 1880's. Platted in 1883, the town was incorporated in February, 1887 with a population of approximately 300. Railroad connections were established later in 1887 with the arrival of the Orange Belt Railway from Sanford, on the St. Johns River, and its extension southward to St. Petersburg. Thus, the town was well positioned for growth and development based on the exploitation of the rich sponge beds in the nearby waters and the increasing attraction of Florida as a winter resort area.

By 1900, the population of the town had doubled, and in 1905 it doubled again with the arrival of some 500 Greek immigrants attracted by opportunities in the sponge industry. In a short time, Tarpon Springs became the leading sponge port in the United States. As the industry prospered, it stimulated the general commercial and economic development of the community, which in turn enhanced its attractiveness as a resort area and an explosive growth in population. Between 1910 and 1920, the population increased from 1,500 to 5,000.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

The burgeoning population growth was coincident with the increasing nationwide emphasis on high school education, and led directly to the demand for a modern structure adequate to the needs of the community. In addition, Tarpon Springs shared the optimism and enthusiasm of the early phases of the Florida Land Boom. By 1922, the decision had been made to augment the existing public school building, constructed in 1912, with a separate high school complete with gymnasium and auditorium facilities.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2 Old Tarpon Springs High School

The building was designed by Emmitt Hull, a St. Petersburg architect. In accordance with traditional standards for school buildings established by William A. Alcott in his 1832 treatise, his design was characterized by spacious classrooms, expansive windows, and ample office spaces. Auditorium and gymnasium facilities were provided in the massive central rear wing which forms the trunk of the basic T shaped structure. Distinction was lent to the simple masonry vernacular design by the use of the triple hung awning windows and the application of Beaux-Arts detailing at the main entrance.

Construction was completed and the building was opened in 1925. The success of Hull's design is evident from the fact that the building survived both a half century of use as a public school facility and its recent conversion to use as the Tarpon Springs City Hall without significant alteration or structural modification.

Thus, the Old Tarpon Springs High School reflects the importance placed by a prosperous, growing and optimistic community on the education of its youth at the time of its construction, as well as the expression of this concern through the architectural tastes in public building design that then prevailed. The building remains a prominent feature in the cultural landscape of Tarpon Springs.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photos Page 1 Old Tarpon Springs High School

1. Old Tarpon Springs High School
2. 324 East Pine Street, Tarpon Springs (Pinellas County), Florida
3. Paul Weaver
4. 1988
5. Historic Property Associates
6. View of front (north) facade, camera facing south
7. Photo no. 1 of 8

Items 1-5 remain the same for all photographs

6. View of front (north) facade, camera facing southwest
7. Photo no. 2 of 8

6. Detail view of front (north) entrance, camera facing south
7. Photo no. 3 of 8

6. View of east side, camera facing west
7. Photo no. 4 of 8

6. View of rear (south) elevation, camera facing northeast
7. Photo no. 5 of 8

6. View of rear (south) elevation, camera facing northwest
7. Photo no. 6 of 8

6. View of west side, camera facing southeast
7. Photo no. 7 of 8

6. View of west side, camera facing east
7. Photo no. 8 of 8

TARPON SPRINGS H.S. SITE PLAN

