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 subentegories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property Historic name: Gifford Rosenwald School Other names/site number: Gifford Colored School Name of related multiple property listing: The Rosenwald School Building Program in South Carolina 1917-1932 (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)	AUG 2 4 2017 Natl. Reg. of Historic Plan National Park Service
2. Location Street & number: 6146 Columbia Highway City or town: Gifford State: SC County: Hampton Not For Publication: Vicinity:	
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Ac	t, as amended,
I hereby certify that this <u>X</u> nomination <u>request</u> for determination the documentation standards for registering properties in the National R Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth	egister of Historic
In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the Nationare commend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:	
nationalstatewide X_local Applicable National Register Criteria:	
XA B XC D	
Elizabeth M. John	8/17/2017
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
Elizabeth M. Johnson, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

ord Colored School of Property	Hampton, So County and State
In my opinion, the property meets does criteria.	not meet the National Register
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:)	
for Edson V. Beall	10.4.17
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
5. Classification	
Ownership of Property	
(Check as many boxes as apply.) Private:	
Public – Local X	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	
Category of Property	
(Check only one box.)	
Building(s)	
District	
Site	

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me of Property		County and State
Structure		
Structure		
Object		
		
Number of Resources with	thin Property	
	listed resources in the count)	
Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
0	0	sites
_		
0	1	structures
0	1	objects
	1	objects
1	2	Total
		1000
Number of contributing re	sources previously listed in the National	Register N/A
\mathcal{S}	1 3	<i></i>
6. Function or Use		
Historic Functions		
(Enter categories from inst	ructions.)	
EDUCATION/school		
RECREATION AND CUI	LTURE/auditorium	
Current Functions		
(Enter categories from inst	ructions.)	
VACANT/not in use		

Gifford Colored S	chool	Hampton, SC
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7. Descriptio	1	
Architectural	Classification	
(Enter categori	es from instructions.)	
LATE 19 TH Al	ID EARLY 20 TH CENTURY AMERICA	N MOVEMENTS/Craftsman
		_
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Materials: (en	ter categories from instructions.)	
`	or materials of the property: Wood, Tin, I	Prick
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School Buildin	σ	
Foundation:	Brick, Concrete	
Walls:	Wood: Weatherboard	
vv alis.	wood. w camerodalu	

Narrative Description

Brick

Roof: Chimneys:

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Gifford Rosenwald School is located in the town of Gifford, in Hampton County, South Carolina. The school occupies the northern portion of a 0.728-acre parcel of land owned by the Town of Gifford, bordered to the north by Faith Temple Ministries, and running adjacent to the highway. A portion of the land surrounding the school is densely wooded with overgrown vegetation. Originally constructed in 1920, it faces west, fronting onto Columbia Highway (S.C. 321). The original design did not conform to the stock building plans for two-teacher schools that were available through the Rosenwald Foundation, but the floorplan is quick similar to the two-teacher "Model No. 4" school detailed in the U.S. Bureau of Education's 1914 publication entitled *Rural Schoolhouses and Grounds*. There are two large banks of windows on both the east and west elevations. Many of these windows are now boarded over, but a few remain open and some retain their original muntins. An addition containing two additional classrooms was made to the northern side of the school at some point during its use as a schoolhouse and therefore during the period of significance. The

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original flooring remains in good condition, as does the wood slats that cover much of the interior walls and ceiling. The integrity of the building remains high in terms of its location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Narrative Description

The Gifford School is a rectangular, singlestory frame building with an east-west orientation. The original school building constructed in 1920 does not strictly follow any of the published plans for community schools by the Julius Rosenwald Fund. Of the published Rosenwald plans, it most closely resembles "Community School Plan No. 20" for a two-teacher school. While it is not immediately identifiable as one of the stock Rosenwald plans, the floorplan is nearly identical to "Model No. 4" in the 1914 U.S. Department of Education publication, Rural Schoolhouses and Grounds. Because the Gifford Rosenwald School was built in 1920. it makes sense that it would not follow one of the prescribed Rosenwald plans. The Rosenwald Foundation was incorporated on October 30, 1917, so the Gifford School was built fairly early in the program's history. By 1920 Rosenwald had established a southern office in Nashville, Tennessee head by S.L. Smith, who had previously served in the Tennessee Department of Education. Smith created an in-house architectural department and published school designs in four-page pamphlets. These were collected and re-issued in 1924 as "Community School Plans, Bulletin No. 3," published by the Rosenwald Fund.² Having been built towards the inception of this in-house design program, it is

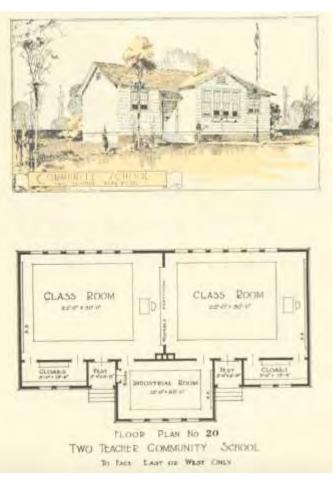


Figure 1: Two Teacher Plan No. 20, Julius Rosenwald Fund, Fletcher B. Dresslar, and Samuel L. Smith, "Community School Plans No. 3" (Nashville, TN), 5, accessed February 23, 2017,

http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/ref/collection/p16062coll13/id/4 554

¹ Julius Rosenwald Fund, Fletcher B. Dresslar, and Samuel L. Smith, "Community School Plans No. 3" (Nashville, TN), 5, accessed February 23, 2017,

http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/ref/collection/p16062coll13/id/4554.

An addition was built onto the school in later years to accommodate more students (the precise date is unknown).

² Lisa B. Randle, "Mt. Zion Rosenwald School, Florence, Florence Co., S.C.," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, October 12, 2001, 8-12.

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understandable that the community in Gifford would have drawn from the existing U.S. Department of Education plans rather than those provided by the Rosenwald Fund. Later, the school was expanded when a two-classroom addition was built at the northern end of the building.

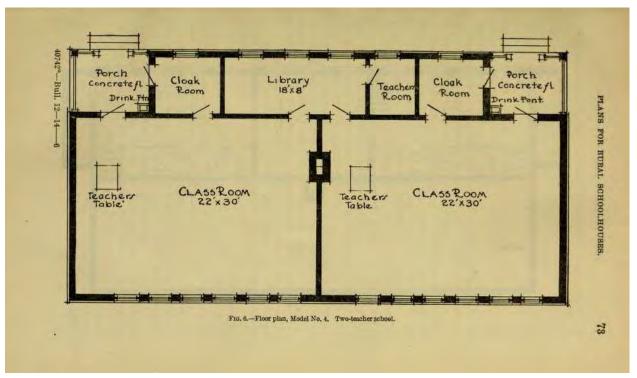


Figure 2: "Model No. 4" in the 1914 U.S. Department of Education publication, *Rural Schoolhouses and Grounds*

School Building Exterior

Gifford Rosenwald School sits atop a foundation of mostly brick piers, with a few that have been replaced by concrete cinderblocks. The school's exterior is constructed of wood weatherboard siding, painted white, as dictated by the Community School Plan bulletin color scheme.³ The school is topped by a low-pitched side-gabled roof sheathed in corrugated tin panels. The roof meets the school building with boxed, wide-eave overhangs.

The front, or west elevation, of the school has three wooden exterior doors. Two of these are part of the original construction and located within engaged porches. The northernmost of these doors is accessed via wooden stairs with a concrete bottom step. The door on the southwestern corner has stairs that are composed of CMU blocks. The third exterior door, on the northern addition, does not have a set of stairs attached. The door leading into the

³ Julius Rosenwald Fund, *Community School Plans*, 29.

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addition sits closest to the building's northwest corner and is flanked by two small windows, currently boarded with plywood. Between the two 1920 school doors are ten symmetrical windows—a bank of eight nine-over-nine windows in the center of the building, flanked by two windows on either side. Six of the eight nine-over-nine windows have been boarded over by clapboards, the innermost and outermost windows are covered by plywood. All windows on this elevation and the rest of the building have wooden sills and are double-hung, allowing them to be used for proper ventilation. There are two chimneys. An interior chimney is located in the original 1920 school and an exterior chimney is located on the northern elevation of the north addition.

The north elevation contains one exterior door that, similar to the door on the west elevation, does not have a set of stairs leading to it. Along with the later addition to the school building was an outdoor dining area for students that would have connected to this door, but this structure is no longer extant. This door, along with the other three exterior doors on the building, is wood-paneled with a wooden doorframe. While the door still remains on the school building, the dining area has been removed, which likely consisted of a raised wooden deck off the side of the school. The school's exterior gable wall chimney is found on the north elevation. This chimney is made of brick and extends from the ground past the roof at a uniform width at the center of the elevation, thus dividing the interior rooms. The roofline on this elevation has gable returns that mirror the gable returns found on the south elevation, and that were a feature of the original construction.

The east elevation consists of two banks of large windows. On this elevation, there are two sets of six nine-over-nine windows arranged as two pairs of three windows. To the northeast corner can be found four more windows that are smaller, like the two on the west elevation described above, and part of the later addition. Of the sixteen windows, nine are boarded from the outside, six are boarded from the inside, and two retain panels of intact glass. One of the two east elevation windows with intact glass has panes painted with light blue and red paint, with one center pane that has a cross cut out of the paint, indicating that it is likely this window was painted when the neighboring church, Faith Temple Ministries, owned the building after the school's closure.

The south elevation maintains the same exterior wood siding as the rest of the school building and has no windows or doors. It is also the original south elevation of the 1920 school and has not been altered since. Like the north elevation, the south elevation originally featured gable returns, though that element is missing from the southeast corner. Historic photos show that there was originally a simple cross pattern found at the apex of the gable. This feature is no longer extant.

School Building Interior

The school can be entered through either of the two 1920 school exterior doors with engaged entry porches and stairs located on the west-facing elevation. Each of the two doors opens into a small square vestibule before entering the rest of the school. For the purposes of this

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description, the interior rooms will be described as if entering through the southwest corner door. From the southwest vestibule, there is a doorway to the north that leads to a small rectangular room with one of the smaller six-over-six windows described above. This small rectangular room served as the Principal's Office in the school. Another doorway to the north currently leads to a room with a non-functioning sink. This sink was added during the church's ownership, prior to that this small square room was part of the office.

Continuing east from the vestibule, a doorway opens to a large room that extends the length of the 1920 school. In the northeast corner of this room stands the original stage used for performances by schoolchildren and community members. The west interior wall in this room extends out to cover the interior chimney mentioned above. This chimney sits at the center of the wall and serves as a dividing marker in the room. On the ceiling of this room, spanning from the west interior wall to the east exterior wall is the shadow of a movable dividing wall that was used to either open the room up (as during community performances) or divide it into two rooms (as during school days). This movable dividing wall would have split the room exactly in half.

Doorways flank the chimney on the west interior wall leading to another classroom with windows from the exterior west elevation. In the Rosenwald Fund Community School Plans, this room was labeled as an "Industrial Room," which was in keeping with Booker T. Washington's belief in the importance of industrial education, but for most of the Gifford School's history it was used as a standard classroom. This room would have been particularly bright as it has eight exterior, west-facing windows.

Two additional classrooms from the north addition have doorways opening from the north wall of the two large classrooms described above. The east-facing classroom has an exterior door on the northern exterior wall and four small windows on the eastern exterior wall. As noted above, the exterior door once opened to an outdoor dining area where students ate daily.

The corresponding west-facing classroom has the two small windows and one exterior door listed as part of the exterior west elevation description. The eastern interior wall of this classroom that is shared with the classroom described above falls in the middle of the exterior chimney included when the building addition was constructed.

A south-facing doorway from the vestibule described below leads to a small rectangular room—the cloakroom—that mirrors the Principal's Office on the south side of the building. This cloakroom can be accessed from its respective vestibule. The two sides of the original 1920 school are symmetrical.

The paint on interior walls, ceilings, and floors loosely follows the color scheme presented in the Community School Plan bulletin.⁴ The southwest vestibule, the Principal's Office, and

⁴ Julius Rosenwald Fund, Community School Plans, 29.

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the Cloakroom have white wood-paneled walls. Three classrooms also match in paint style—white wood-paneled walls with four-foot high walnut wainscoting, and gray painted wooden floors and ceilings. The classrooms in the northern addition have white painted wood-paneled walls with white ceilings, but gray painted wooden floors.

The school is currently vacant, but there are efforts to preserve and rehabilitate the building. The anticipated rehabilitation would convert the school into a technology center, a place for educational institutions to provide vocational services, and the location of a museum/exhibition hall that discusses the importance and history of the Gifford Rosenwald School.

In addition to the school, there are one non-contributing structure and one-noncontributing object:

Non-contributing resources

Outdoor Privy (non-contributing structure)

Located further east from the exterior east elevation, in the east yard, is the extant concrete foundation from one of two outdoor privies that once sat on the school's property. Surrounding this concrete foundation are remnants from the original wood-framed structure that once housed the privy, which has collapsed. The surviving concrete privy foundation is believed to be from the boys' privy. The girls' privy was located further south, according to alumni recollections, and is no longer extant.⁵ The concrete foundation has a larger rectangular base, with a smaller rectangular portion extending upward in its center that opens to the pit below.

From the inception of the Rosenwald building program, the inclusion of sanitary vault privies was part of the planning process. The original pamphlet of school plans, published in 1915, included plans for a sanitary vault privy. Additionally, state health departments had begun distributing plans for sanitary privies during World War I and into the 1920s. The inclusion of these privies in school construction was an important public health initiative and were tied to epidemiological advances in the early twentieth century that definitively demonstrated the link between sanitary disposal of human waste the reduction of numerous infectious diseases. Unfortunately, the privy structure has collapsed, leaving the remnants of the concrete vault as the only remaining portion of this structure. It lacks sufficient integrity to be considered a contributing structure.

⁵ Mary Lillie Thompson et al., Gifford Rosenwald School Alumnae Interview, interview by Olivia Brown, March 21, 2017.

⁶ "WPA Privy (1935-1943)," 1/27/2012, History Colorado, available at www.historycolorado.org/content/wpa-privy-1935-1943 <accessed June 22, 2017>

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State Historical Marker (non-contributing object)

Near the sidewalk at the front of the property is a cast-aluminum South Carolina State Historical Marker that contains historical information about Gifford Rosenwald School. The post of this marker is set in a large concrete footing. This marker was installed in November 2014.

While the Gifford Rosenwald School has fallen into a state of disrepair since its closure in 1958, its historic integrity remains intact. The extant building represents not only the 1920 school built to meet proposed guidelines and building plans from the Julius Rosenwald Fund, but also the addition of two classrooms during the school's history to accommodate more students. The students' dining area and the girls' outdoor privy are no longer extant, but remains of the boys' privy does offer further context regarding the daily experience of teachers and students at Gifford Rosenwald School.

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8. State	ment of Significance
Applicabl	le National Register Criteria
(Mark "x"	in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register
listing.)	
X 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.
X 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.)
A	. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
B.	. Removed from its original location
C.	. A birthplace or grave
D 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

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Areas of Significance ARCHITECTURE EDUCATION ETHNIC HERITAGE: AFRIC	CAN AMERICAN	
Period of Significance		
1920-1958		
Significant Dates 1920		
Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B	is marked above.)	
Cultural Affiliation N/A		
Architect/Builder Dresslar, Fletcher B. Smith, Samuel L.		

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Gifford Rosenwald School located in Gifford in Hampton County, South Carolina, is significant under Criterion A for its association with the history of African American education in Hampton County, South Carolina from 1920 to 1958. It stands both as a reminder to the history of racial segregation in South Carolina's public schools as well as the creative adaptation and resistance to this segregated public school system by African American citizens. Black South Carolinians worked to secure educational facilities for their children using the resources available to them. Facilities like the Gifford Rosenwald School offer tangible representation of these efforts to resist a separate and unequal school system, where African American children received less funding and were given fewer resources. Private philanthropy by organizations like the Julius Rosenwald Foundation, as well as the financial contributions and sweat equity of Hampton County's black citizens, are what ultimately made the construction of this school possible. Gifford Rosenwald School is also eligible under Criterion C as an example of the architecture of rural schoolhouses that were built with the assistance of the Julius Rosenwald Fund. The Gifford Rosenwald School is being listed under the National Register multiple documentation form, "The Rosenwald School Building Program in South Carolina, 1917-1932."

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion A: African American Education in Hampton County, South Carolina

Dating back to the time of slavery, African Americans in the South have fought for their right to accessible, quality education—or, frankly, any education at all. For a brief moment, there was an attempt in the American South, and in South Carolina in particular, to provide education to African American children. While the Freedmen's Bureau, established by the U.S. Congress in 1865, did not operate schools directly, it did provide aid to organizations, often church-based, that provided early attempts to educate formerly enslaved people after the Civil War. The Bureau also designated one officer in each state where it operated to serve as "General Superintendent of Schools" and to provide general oversight and guidance to those organizations that were carrying out the mission of educating Freedpeople. This program was short-lived, however, and by the end of the 1860s the Freedmen's Bureau was underfunded and woefully understaffed. In 1872 Congress abandoned the program altogether and what remained of the Freedmen's Bureau in the South was disbanded. In South Carolina, the 1868 Constitution also briefly offered hope that the state might take an active role in educating its African American population. That document provided for the creation of the state's first public school system, while making no statement as to whether schools would be segregated by race. In practice, white

⁷ For more information on the history of African American education in the South, refer to: *African-American Primary and Secondary Public School Buildings in South Carolina, ca. 1895-1954.* Multiple Property Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. March 1996.

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and black children did not attend integrated schools in the 1870s, with the notable exception of the University of South Carolina, which admitted African American students between the years 1873-1877. In 1877, however, the state legislature, which had recently returned to Democratic Party control, closed the university and barred black students when it reopened in 1880. African American students would not return to the University campus until 1963.

The political ascendance of the Democratic Party in the 1870s also foreclosed any hope that public primary or secondary education would follow a path of racial equity, much less racial equality. In the absence of state action, private philanthropists and African Americans themselves stepped forward to attempt and fill the void. By the end of the nineteenth century and into the early twentieth century there were a number of philanthropic funds created to help African American communities, particularly in the South, build schools in their towns, pay and train teachers for these schools, and purchase books and other supplies for students attending them. The General Education Board, the Slater Fund, and the Jeanes Fund all funded schools, church education, or other charities that were setting out to educate black community members. It was the Julius Rosenwald Fund—officially established 1917 by Sears & Roebuck CEO Julius Rosenwald in conjunction with Booker T. Washington and the Tuskegee Institute—that provided funds for over 5,000 schools for black children in the South, including the Gifford Colored School.⁸ Receiving Rosenwald funds required a number of stipulations from the local communities. They were asked to raise a certain amount of money on their own (between the black and white communities, or both) and to follow specific architectural plans for the schools themselves. Despite these requirements, by 1928, one in five rural schools for black students in the South was a Rosenwald School.⁹

In largely rural Hampton County there was very little opportunity for any citizens, white or black, to receive any form of public education before the late nineteenth century. As was the case elsewhere in the state, region, and, indeed, nation, African American educational facilities lagged behind those available for white children. The Rosenwald Fund allocated money to build four schools in Hampton County between 1920 and 1929 in Gifford, Brunson, Estill, and Yemassee. The Gifford Rosenwald School was the first of the four built and the only one that still stands. This further underscores the importance of preserving both its history and the building itself. It stands as a physical reminder of African American education in the South, and the private philanthropic efforts that galvanized local communities to provide centers of learning for their children, grandchildren, and neighbors.

According to the Fisk University Rosenwald School Database, the school in Gifford, built in the budget year 1920-1921, received \$800 from the Julius Rosenwald Fund, that was then matched by \$1,795 from the African American community, \$55 from the white community, and \$600 from the public (local government), putting the total cost to construct and furnish the school at

⁸ For more information on the history of the Julius Rosenwald Building Fund in South Carolina, refer to: *The Rosenwald School Building Program in South Carolina, 1917-1932.* Multiple Property Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. December 2008.

⁹ Rosenwald Schools in South Carolina, 11.

¹⁰ Rosenwald Schools in South Carolina, 20.

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\$3,250.¹¹ The Rosenwald Fund purposely did not supply all of the money to build the school as the goal was to bring the town's community together to invest in the education of African American children. What is most notable about the breakdown of funds for the Gifford School is how little came from the white community. This was not uncommon and was further exacerbated by the fact that Gifford was located in the heavily African American Hampton County. In 1920 Hampton County had a total population of 19,550, of whom 11,847 (60.6%) were categorized as "Black" by the U.S. Census. The fact that Gifford had a majority African American population only increased the necessity for a black school in the town. When asked in an interview how children were educated before the Gifford School opened, a group of alumnae looked at each other with confusion before concluding that they probably weren't educated at all, at least not formally.¹²

The Gifford Rosenwald School opened in 1920 as a three-room, two-teacher facility. Erbanna English and Helen Singelton Laston were the two original teachers of the school and instrumental in the efforts to construct and open the school. It was not until the 1930s that an additional two rooms and outdoor dining area were added to the school to accommodate more students. Starting in 1938, Reverend C.E. Walker (nicknamed "Prof") became the school's principal, a position that he would fill until the school's closure twenty years later. When Walker ran the Gifford School, there were five teachers, teaching first through eighth grades, for nine months of the year. The program for a 2015 reunion of living Gifford alumni shows photos of each of the school's teachers, including the grades they taught. Robertha Kearse Walker taught 1st and 2nd grades; Helen Singleton Laston taught 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades; Vera Kearse Singleton taught 4th and 5th grades; Becky Harvey taught 5th and 6th grades; Addy May Riley also taught 5th and 6th grades, as well as music classes; Viola Fennell Rivers taught 7th and 8th grades; and C.E. Walker taught 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade math.

While there were some students who did not enter school until after the fall harvest on their family farms, Myrtle Walker Sumpter, C.E. Walker's daughter, recalls that school was in session for nine months of the year, much like schools are now; students had the summers off, but attended school the remainder of the year. While attending the Gifford School, students would learn basic reading and writing skills, South Carolina history, music, and math. Many alumni remember that math was a strength of the Gifford School as all the older children were taught by Walker, and when they began to go to other schools, teachers would know the Gifford students because of how they would excel in math. Students also had the opportunity to be involved in extra-curricular activities through the school, including chorus, theatre, 4-H competitions, and

¹¹ Fisk University Rosenwald Database, "Gifford School," accessed March 25, 2017, http://rosenwald.fisk.edu/?

module=search.details&set_v=aWQ9MzUzOQ==&school_historic_name=gifford&button=Search&o=0.

12 Thompson et al., Alumnae Interview.

¹³ "Gifford Elementary School: Reunion 2015 Program," June 5, 2015.

¹⁴ "Gifford Elementary School: Reunion 2015 Program."

¹⁵ Thompson et al., Alumnae Interview.

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sports teams. The schoolyard included a basketball court where the teams practiced and played; it has since been torn down.

Starting in 1951, smaller community schools, like the Rosenwald Schools, were beginning to close with the passage of South Carolina's first general sales tax to pay for school construction. This tax was passed by the South Carolina legislature with the goal of funding the construction of new schools that would attempt to "equalize" the educational facilities available to white and black students. It was a rear-guard action meant to protect racial segregation of public schools by putting the "equal" into the "separate by equal" doctrine that the U.S. Supreme Court had outline in *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896). This expenditure of funds was viewed as necessary because the lawyers with the NAACP Legal Defense Fund had begun to challenge the constitutionality of the "separate but equal" doctrine in the a series of Supreme Court cases that would eventually be decided in the case Brown v. Board of Education (1954). One of those cases, Briggs v. Elliott, had originated in Clarendon County, South Carolina, illustrating the imperative for the state to take some action if they hoped to retain a segregated school system. Later dubbed as the "equalization program," it funded a massive building campaign, leading to the construction of both white and black schools, that was unprecedented in the state's history. ¹⁶ The Gifford Rosenwald School officially closed in 1958 when the consolidated Gifford-Luray equalization school opened.¹⁷ In 1958, the Hampton County South School District #2 sold the 1920 school building and surrounding land to its two original teachers, Erbanna English and Helen Laston (also known as Lassiter), and Wallie Johnson for \$575. The school has changed ownership a number of times since: in 1971, the school was sold to the Carolina Conference of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church; the building was then sold back to Helen Laston the same year, who sold it to Faith Temple Holiness Church of God in 1972; the Faith Temple Holiness Church of God owned the school for nearly twenty years before donating the building to the Church of God and Christ of Deliverance in 1991. Finally, it was this church that gave the school building to the Town of Gifford in 2014, leading to the Gifford Rosenwald School Restoration Project to rehabilitate the school for future use. 18

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¹⁶ Rebekah Dobrasko, "Equalization Schools in South Carolina, 1951-1958," (Report prepared for the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, February 2008).

¹⁷ "Known Schools," *South Carolina's Equalization Schools 1951-1960*, accessed February 15, 2017, http://www.scequalizationschools.org/known-schools.html.

¹⁸ Deed of Sale from J.F. Wyman, L.H. Hanna, J.K Maner, M.P. Tuten, and C.P. Barnes as Trustees for the South School District #2 to Erbanna English, Wallie Johnson, and Helen Lassiter, December 1958 (filed January 17, 1959), Hampton County, South Carolina, Deed Book 51-D, page 74. County Clerk of Court's Office, Hampton, South Carolina; Deed of Sale from Helen Laston, W.G. Garvin, and Lucia T. Jones to the Carolina Conference of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, July 20, 1971 (filed August 11, 1971), Hampton County, South Carolina, Deed Book D-60, page 635. County Clerk of Court's Office, Hampton, South Carolina; Deed of Sale from the Carolina Conference of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church to Helen Laston, October 28, 1971 (January 20, 1972), Hampton County, South Carolina, Deed Book D-61, pages 85-86. County Clerk of Court's Office, Hampton, South Carolina; Deed of Sale from Helen Laston to James Brabham, Freddie Morell Jr., Earl Morell Sr., and John Wilson Preacher as Trustees for Faith Temple Holiness Church of God, April 3, 1972 (filed April 3, 1972), Hampton County, South Carolina, Deed Book D-62, page 476. County Clerk of Court's Office, Hampton, South Carolina; Deed of Sale from James Brabham, Freddie Morell Jr., Earl Morell Sr., and

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Criterion C: Architecture

A defining trait of Rosenwald schools was their uniform architectural styles and attention to details like lighting and ventilation that would provide the best possible experience for their students. In 1919, the Rosenwald Fund hired Fletcher B. Dresslar to help with designing school plans. A professor of school hygiene and architecture at George Peabody College, Dresslar wrote a bulletin for the Rosenwald Fund called *Community School Plans*, in which he drew architectural plans for schools from one-teacher buildings up to seven-teacher buildings, teachers' homes (teacherages), and other related buildings. Using his study of hygiene as a basis for his school blueprints, Dresslar's plans took into account the way light came into the classroom and the way air flowed through. He was a firm believer that the best way for students to learn was in a building whose light entered via large, east-west facing windows. While buildings could be either north-south or east-west facing, their windows were primarily on the east and west elevations. Additionally, these windows were often double-hung so they could be opened either from the top or the bottom to allow better ventilation throughout the building.

Dresslar, along with Samuel L. Smith, the director of the Rosenwald Fund's Southern Office, developed the *Community School Plans* to help standardize the style of schools that were being built in the South. The Gifford Rosenwald School, however, was built towards the beginning of this process of design consolidation and does not fit perfectly into one of these plans. Instead, it was much closer to plans that Dresslar had presented slightly earlier in his career when he authored *Rural Schoolhouses and Grounds*, published by the U.S. Bureau of Education in 1914. Gifford School seems to most closely resemble his "Model No. 4" from that pamphlet, with the exterior doors pushed to the far corners of the east elevation and large windows on the east and west facades of the building.²⁰

While the Gifford School was built originally as a two-teacher facility, one of the more unique architectural features of the building was the addition of two classrooms, presumably in the 1930s when Prof Walker begins as principal and the school begins to grow. These two new rooms are not part of the Community School blueprints, but Dresslar wrote in his bulletin, "A plan that may be added to without affecting the sanitary conditions or marring the beauty of the building is much preferred over one offering no such opportunity for enlargement," indicating that the addition of the two new classrooms in no way compromises the integrity of the school as a Rosenwald School.²¹ Included in the addition of the two classrooms was an outdoor lunchroom

John Wilson Preacher as Trustees for Faith Temple Holiness Church of God to Church of God and Christ Deliverance, October 18, 1991 (filed October 18, 1991), Hampton County, South Carolina, Deed Book D-151, page 322. County Clerk of Court's Office, Hampton, South Carolina; Deed of Sale from Church of God to Church of God and Christ Deliverance to the Town of Gifford, October 7, 2014 (filed October 28, 2014), Hampton County, South Carolina, Deed Book D-151, page 322. County Clerk of Court's Office, Hampton, South Carolina.

¹⁹ Julius Rosenwald Fund, Community School Plans, 27.

²⁰ Fletcher B. Dresslar, *Rural Schoolhouses and Grounds* (Washington: G.P.O., 1914), pp. 72-77, http://archive.org/details/ruralschoolhouse00dres

²¹ Julius Rosenwald Fund, Community School Plans, 1.

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or dining area for the students. The dining area is no longer standing, but its location is indicated by the exterior door on the school's north elevation that previously led students outside.

As discussed above, Dresslar put a particular emphasis on the hygiene of rural schools, which included the use of outdoor privies. He devotes a small section of the *Community School Plans* to the guidelines for hygienic privies, but spends an entire chapter in *Rural Schoolhouse Grounds* delving into the construction of privies, their locations, and the benefits of having outdoor facilities for students.²² Still extant on the grounds of the Gifford Rosenwald School is the concrete foundation of the boys' outdoor privy. According to alumnae recollections, the girls' privy was further south in the schoolyard and is no longer standing. The foundation of the privy that exists at the Gifford School, however, is a standing example of changing trends in school hygiene, especially in rural schools without easy access to proper plumbing.

In the same ways that Dresslar was concerned with the hygiene of privies and restroom facilities for the students, he also made clear in his bulletins the importance of drawing clean water. Just west of the extant privy foundation on the school grounds can be seen the remnants of a well pipe where students went to draw fresh water for the school. Alumnae of the school remember the well being between the two privies and the school building, indicating the likelihood that the exposed pipe that is still evident in that vicinity once belonged to the well for the school. Additionally, Dresslar encouraged the use of farm wells in rural schools to draw fresh water, which aligns the practices of the Gifford School with the guidelines set by the Rosenwald Building Fund.²³

Overall, the architectural features of the Gifford Rosenwald School represent a unique type of rural schoolhouse that was designed specifically for the schools being built under the Rosenwald Fund. As a representation of Fletcher B. Dresslar's work, the Gifford School is an example of the ways in which an architectural style could bring modern ideas on hygiene, light and ventilation, and conditions for fruitful education to the rural schoolhouse.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Though the Gifford Rosenwald School's primary function was to provide education for the black children of the town, it also served a larger purpose for the Gifford community and the families whose children attended school there. Schools like the one in Gifford often doubled as a community center or a place for people in the town to gather for special events, performances, celebrations, etc. When asked what role the school served for the community, alumnae spoke about how the Gifford School was the center of everything going on in the town. The school brought families together as students walked to and from the building each morning and afternoon, and brought surrounding towns together for events like county-wide dances held in the school building that alternated among the schools in Hampton County.²⁴

²² Julius Rosenwald Fund, *Community School Plans*, 28; Fletcher B. Dresslar, *Rural Schoolhouses and Grounds* (Washington: G.P.O., 1914), chap. XI, http://archive.org/details/ruralschoolhouse00dres.

²³ Dresslar, Rural Schoolhouses and Grounds, 131.

²⁴ Thompson et al., Alumnae Interview.

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Some of the extra-curricular activities in which the students were involved came to include other members of the community as well. Basketball games would play other schools in the area, plays and musicals were performed on the auditorium stage inside the building, and 4-H competitions and training was held on the schoolyard grounds.²⁵ The Gifford Rosenwald School did much more for the town of Gifford than simply teaching its children on a daily basis—it was a bustling community center that brought families together around a common past and a common present.

²⁵ Thompson et al., Alumnae Interview.

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Weathers, Lindsay C.M. "The Rosenwald School Building Program in South Carolina, 1917-1932." National Register for Historic Places Nomination Form, December 3, 2008. South Carolina Department of Archives and History.			
Previous documentation on file (NPS)):		
preliminary determination of indivi previously listed in the National Re previously determined eligible by the designated a National Historic Land recorded by Historic American Buil recorded by Historic American Eng recorded by Historic American Land Primary location of additional data: X	egister the National Register dmark Idings Survey # gineering Record # dscape Survey #		
Historic Resources Survey Number (i	f assigned):		
10. Geographical Data			
Acreage of Property 0.728 acres	_		
Use either the UTM system or latitude/l	ongitude coordinates		
Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decided Datum if other than WGS84:	imal degrees) —		
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places) 1. Latitude: 32.863941	Longitude: -81.237560		
2. Latitude:	Longitude:		

Gifford Colored School		Hampton, SC
Name of Property		County and State
3. Latitude:	Longitu	de:
4. Latitude:	Longitu	de:
Or UTM References Datum (indicated on USGS 1	map):	
NAD 1927 or	NAD 1983	
1. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
Verbal Boundary Descript	ion (Describe the bo	undaries of the property.)
"6146" on the accompanying	g portion of a Hampt	on County Tax Map, Parcel 063-00-01-074, rom Plat Book 24, page 281, drawn at a
Boundary Justification (Ex	plain why the bound	aries were selected.)
The nominated property is resetting, and excludes the adjacent		rd Rosenwald School and its immediate Christian Ministry.
11. Form Prepared By		
name/title: Olivia Brown		
organization: <u>University of S</u>	South Carolina Public	C History Program
street & number: 245 Gambr		, 0
city or town: Columbia		C zip code: <u>29208</u>
e-mail: ombrown@email.sc.		
telephone: (703) 489-4650		
date: May 9, 2017		

Gifford Colored School	Hampton, SC
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Additional Documentation	

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

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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: Gifford Rosenwald Colored School
City or Vicinity: Town of Gifford
County: Hampton County
Photographer: Olivia Brown
Date Photographed: March 21, 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 21	West Elevation, camera facing east
2 of 21	NW Oblique, camera facing southeast
3 of 21	North Elevation, camera facing south
4 of 21	NE Oblique, camera facing southwest
5 of 21	East Elevation, camera facing west
6 of 21	SE Oblique, camera facing west
7 of 21	South Elevation, camera facing north
8 of 21	SW Oblique, camera facing northeast
9 of 21	Central Exterior Door, camera facing east
10 of 21	SW Corner Exterior Door, camera facing east
11 of 21	Principal's Office
12 of 21	Classroom/Auditorium (6 th , 7 th , and 8 th grades)
13 of 21	Classroom (5 th grade)
14 of 21	Classroom (1 st and 2 nd grades)
15 of 21	Classroom (3 rd and 4 th grades)
16 of 21	Cloakroom
17 of 21	Outdoor Privy Foundation
18 of 21	Exposed Well Pipe
19 of 21	West elevation, showing historical marker and concrete slab,
	camera facing east
20 of 21	East elevation, camera facing west
21 of 21	Classroom

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Index of Figures:

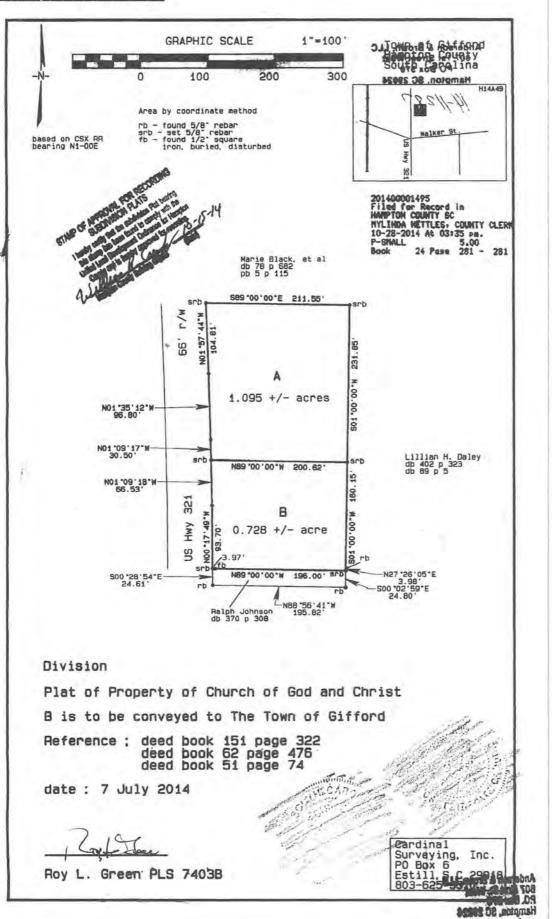
Figure 3: Two Teacher Plan No. 20, Julius Rosenwald Fund, Fletcher B. Dresslar, and Samuel L. Smith, "Community School Plans No. 3" (Nashville, TN), 5, accessed February 23, 2017, http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/ref/collection/p16062coll13/id/4554 [p. 5]

Figure 4: "Model No. 4" in the 1914 U.S. Department of Education publication, *Rural Schoolhouses and Grounds* [p. 6]

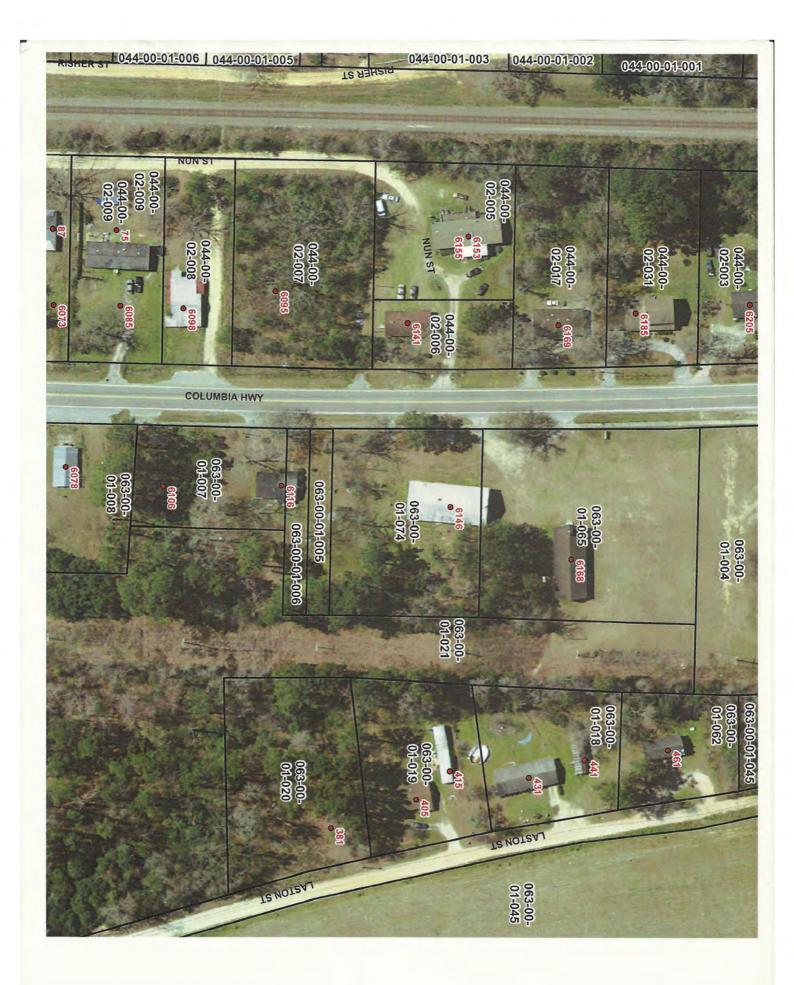
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seg.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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

GIFFORD ROSENWALD SCHOOL SKETCH MAP 1) SW vestibule (5) class room 9 classroom. 2) Principal's Office @ auditorium stage @ classroom 25 3 part of office Ointerior chimney 1 exterior chimney (converted to bathroom) W 4 classroom @ class room @ cloakroom 13 NW VESTIBULE 9 4 (3) (10) (13)12 (8)

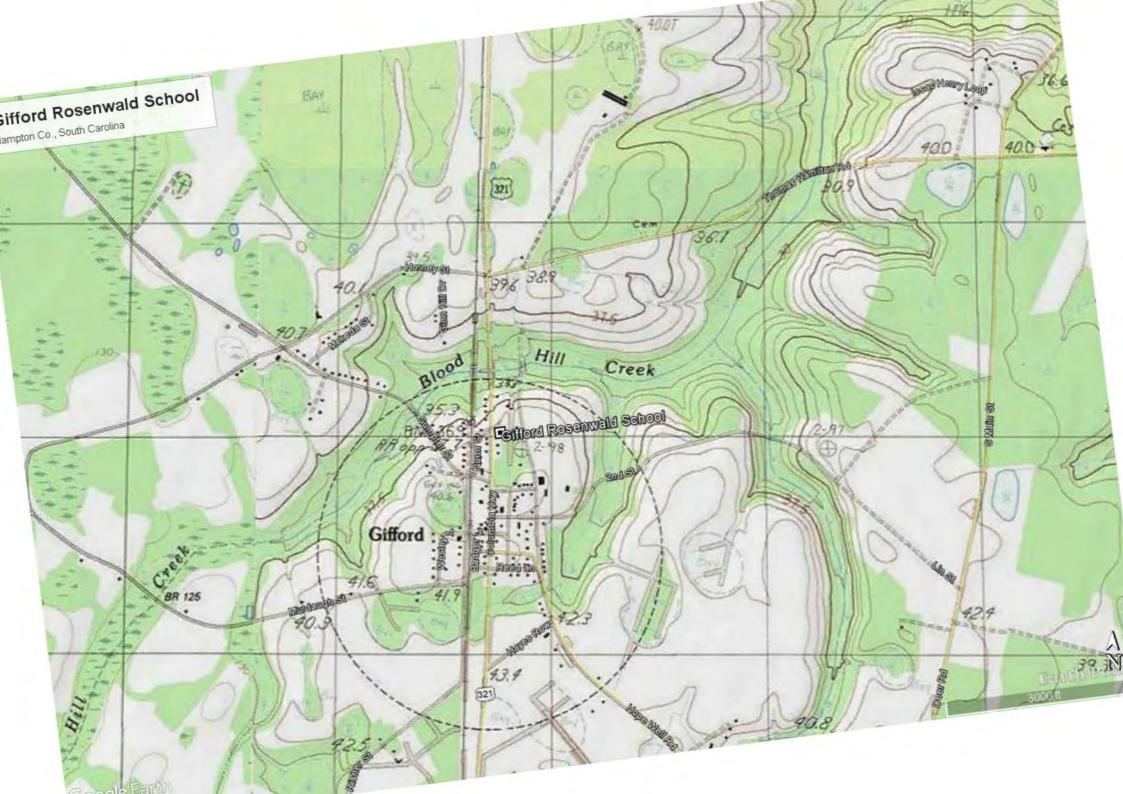


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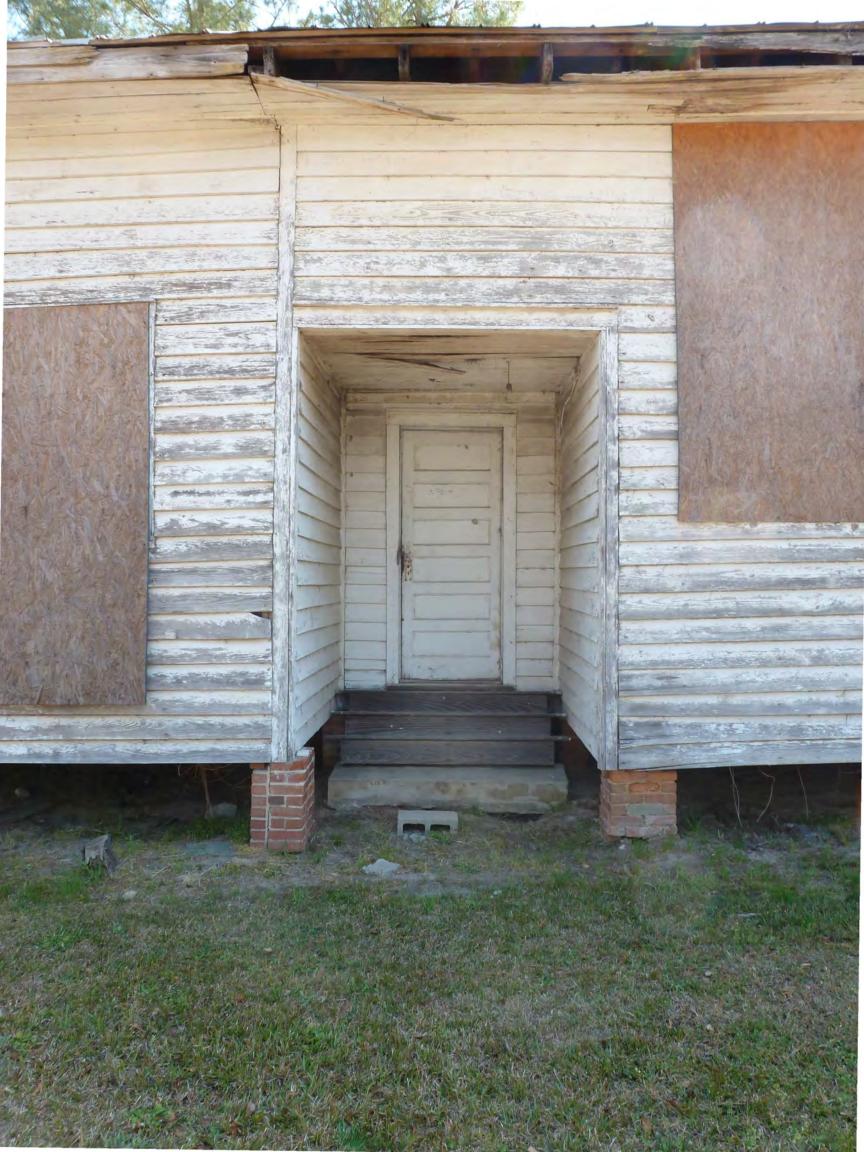




















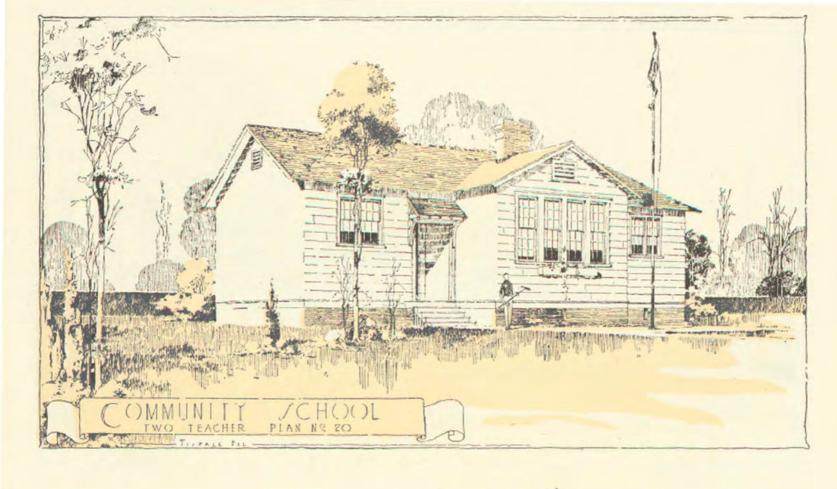


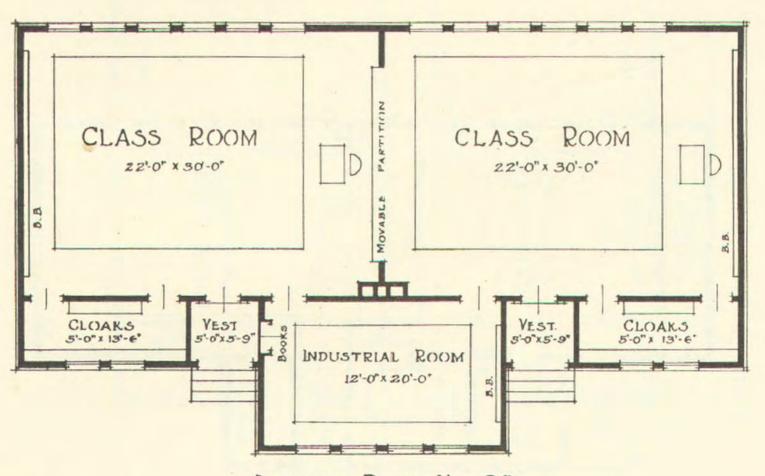












TWO TEACHER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
TO FACE EAST OF WEST ONLY

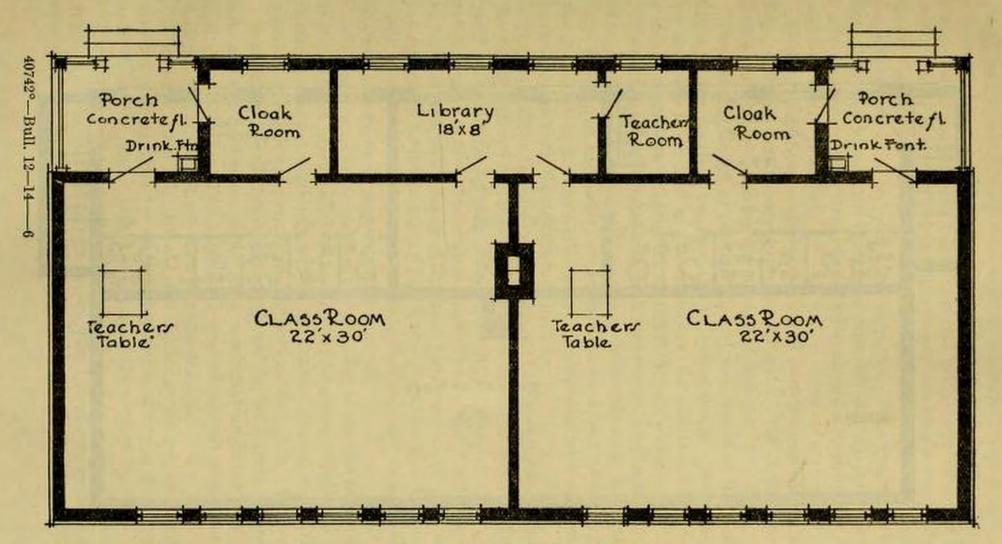


Fig. 6.-Floor plan, Model No. 4. Two-teacher school.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Nomination
Property Name:	Gifford Rosenwald School
Multiple Name:	Rosenwald School Building Program in South Carolina, 1917-1932
State & County:	SOUTH CAROLINA, Hampton
Date Rece 8/24/201	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Reference number:	MP100001720
Nominator:	State
Reason For Review	
X Accept	Return Reject 10/4/2017 Date
Abstract/Summary Comments:	All procedural requirements have been met; The nomination form is adequately documented. The nomination form is technically and professionally correct and sufficient.
Recommendation/ Criteria	
Reviewer Edson	Beall Discipline Historian
Telephone	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.



AUG 2 4 2017

Nati. Reg. of Historic Places
National Park Service

August 17, 2017

Edson Beall National Register of Historic Places 1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop 7228 Washington, DC 20240

Dear Mr. Beall:

Enclosed is the National Register nomination for the Gifford Rosenwald School in Gifford, Hampton County, South Carolina. The nomination was approved by the South Carolina State Board of Review as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C at the local level of significance. We are now submitting this nomination for formal review by the National Register staff. The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Gifford Rosenwald School to the National Register of Historic Places.

If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address below, call me at (803) 896-6182, fax me at (803) 896-6167, or e-mail me at efoley@scdah.sc.gov.

Sincerely,

Ehren Foley

Historian and National Register Coordinator

State Historic Preservation Office

8301 Parklane Rd.

Columbia, S.C. 29223