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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 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 Deerfield School
other names/site number Deerfield Beach Elementary School, 8BD01432

2. Location

street & number 651 N.E. 1st Street N/A not for publication
city, town Deerfield Beach N/A vicinity
state Florida code FL county Broward code FL011 zip code 33441

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>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<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. See continuation sheet.

George W. Percy 1/17/90
Signature of certifying official Date
George W. Percy, 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.
 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:)

Amy P. Federman 4/16/90

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/SCHOOL
RECREATION AND CULTURE/AUDITORIUM
SOCIAL/MEETING HALL

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/GRAMMAR SCHOOL
RECREATION AND CULTURE/AUDITORIUM
SOCIAL/MEETING HALL

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Mediterranean Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete
walls stucco
ceramic tile
roof ceramic tile
other cast stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

See continuation sheet

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

1926-1939

Significant Dates

1926-1927

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

McLaughlin, Thomas D,

Alfred W. Kimmel Construction Co.

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

See continuation sheet

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

Acreage of property 1.25 acra

UTM References

A

1	7
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5	9	0	2	5	0
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2	9	1	1	20	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is shown as a heavy dotted line on the accompanying map entitled "Deerfield School, Deerfield Beach."

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the original building with 1955 and 1959 additions and the grounds initially developed and historically associated with the building. The remainder of the original three acre tract, now occupied by recent construction, is excluded.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Margaret S. Bigger / R. Douglas Walton, Historic Sites Specialist

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date January 10, 1990

street & number 500 South Bronough Street telephone (904) 487-2333

city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-

0250

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1

Deerfield School

Summary:

The Deerfield School is a complex two-story, L-shaped masonry Mediterranean Revival structure with a one and a half story wing and small three-story tower pavilion. It has distinctive, regular fenestration; barrel tile, intersecting gable roofs, and arcaded walkways at the rear. Designed in 1926 by Thomas McLaughlin and completed in 1927, the structure has remained essentially unchanged, except for the extension of the rear wing, and is an admirable example of the Mediterranean Revival style. The building is significant for its part in the development of public education in Broward County, and as a representative of an architectural style indelibly associated with Florida.

Setting:

The Deerfield School is located at 651 N.E. First Street in the City of Deerfield Beach, Broward County, Florida. Sited on the five and a half acre campus of the present Deerfield Beach Elementary School, the building is about a mile south of the Broward/Palm Beach County line, and a half-mile east of historic downtown Deerfield Beach. The nomination includes the area of approximately 1.25 acres originally developed. The landscape features include a low foundation hedge which wraps around most of the building, numerous cabbage palms, and a few pines immediately in front. The original open playground at the rear of the building is now utilized as a parking lot. A wooded recreation area remains, but a portion of this space now contains a fenced utility area. Expansion of the school by new construction since World War II has created a campus to the north and west of the original building. Since 1926, the surrounding area has been a neighborhood of detached single-family homes, and the building retains its basic integrity of setting.

EXTERIOR

The Deerfield School building consists of an asymmetrical L-shaped building with a one and a half story auditorium wing. The foundation is a concrete slab resting on reinforced concrete footings. The walls are constructed of load bearing tile with a painted shell-dash stucco finish. All wood trim is cypress. The roof is a wood truss system surfaced with S-shape Spanish terra cotta tile, and wood ogee brackets support the eaves. The fenestration is regular and symmetrically placed. It is composed primarily of single and grouped 6/6 double-hung wood sash windows with a pivoting upper sash. On the south, west, and east elevations the windows extend almost the full height of each floor level.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2

Deerfield School

The main elevation (south, facing NE 1st Street) of the central block is dominated by a central main entrance and belltower. The entrance is reached by five concrete steps leading to a doorway which opens into a central hallway and loggia at the rear of the building. The doorway has a quioned cast stone surround and decorative dripstone, and the inscription "Deerfield School" is centered above the dripstone. Adjacent to the right (east) side of the doorway is a two and a half story projecting central belltower/stairtower, which dominates the facade. The first two stories contain stairhalls, and the half story belltower is for aesthetic purposes only, having always been empty space. The half story is emphasized by cast stone detailing, such as a projecting molded stringcourse between it and the second story, quioned corners, a double arcade formed by a twisted column having a Corinthian capital, and on the west wall near roof height, a round medallion containing a representation of the "Lamp of Learning". The fenestration of the belltower/stairtower consists of a mixture of single and paired windows, both rectangular and arched. (See Photos 1-2)

To the left (west) of the tower is the facade of the one and a half story auditorium wing, which carries four distinctive windows which have a prominent wide casing separating each individual window. At the extreme west end, the auditorium stage is covered by an intersecting gable roof and its only details are two narrow buttresses flanking a central window, and a circular ventilator centered under the gable peak. (See Photo 3) The west elevation of the auditorium wing is the exterior of the auditorium, and its distinguishing feature is a triple and several single windows with wide casing. (See Photo 4) The two-story east wing to the right of the tower has as its only distinguishing feature a combination of single and triple windows with wide casing. Three of the triple windows are filled in. (See Photo 5 and the Alterations and Restoration Status)

The north elevation of the auditorium features a one-story loggia which opens onto a courtyard formed by the intersection with the two-story north block. The loggia is roofed with the same tile as the main roof. The west elevation features a two-story loggia, which has an exterior ventilation shaft extending a half-story above the roof at its axis with the east-west wing. The shaft is gabled, with a tile roof of the same style as the main building. The loggia features an arcade on the ground level, and large open windows on the upper level. (See Photo 6)

The north wing was extended by a three bay addition in 1955 to provide additional classrooms and a two-story enclosed stairwell, with ventilators in the north walls of both stories. A narrow three-story exterior chimney is attached to the left (east) outside corner of the stairwell. (See Alterations and Restoration Status) A one-story maintenance building constructed in 1959

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 3

Deerfield School

abuts the north end of the building. (See Photos 7-8, and the Alterations and Restoration Status)

The east elevation of the north wing reflects the main facade of the east wing, with the exception of aluminum awning windows in the 1955 addition. The north elevation of the east wing repeats the arcaded loggia found on the west elevation of the north wing. However, these elevations are screened from public view by trees and large shrubs. (See Photo 9)

INTERIOR

The plan of the Deerfield School features a central stairtower at the intersection of the main axis, with a first floor central hall. Running from front to back (south to north), the hall opens into the loggia on the west elevation of the north wing. On the first floor of the east wing the hall provides access to an infirmary, offices, classrooms, and restrooms, and in the west, or auditorium wing, to the stage area. A stairwell in the tower ascends to the second floor, which contains classrooms and restrooms. The north wing contains classrooms on the first floor, and classrooms and restrooms on the second floor. Access to the rooms is provided by the loggias, and the second floor loggia is reached via the stairwell in the central stairtower. All flooring is original and well maintained, from the terrazzo in the hallways to the wood in the classrooms and auditorium.

One of the most notable interior features is the 277 seat auditorium, which was designed for use in school activities and as the community theater for the City of Deerfield. Decoration includes pilasters and brackets supporting pecky cypress box beams, wood ceiling medallions, a projection booth, foot lights recessed into the stage, and brass and enamel chandeliers. (See Photos 10-11)

Alterations and Restoration Status:

The Deerfield School building has had one addition and a few minor changes during its 62 year history. The addition consists of a two-story classroom extension and stairwell (1955) on the north end of the north wing. The two-story addition was expertly integrated into and is very compatible with the 1926 building, since its construction utilized the same materials and style as the original school.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 4

Deerfield School

A one-story extension (1959) that abuts the north end of the two-story addition is a reversible alteration and could be removed without affecting the original structure. (See Photo 8)

Other than the 1955 addition, there have been only minor changes to the building. In 1958, structural sagging of the front (south) wall of the east wing was corrected by filling in one window in the first story, and covering over two windows in the second story. Sagging of the east elevation of the north wing was corrected by filling in one window on the first story and covering over one window on the second story. Since 1986, the original 1926 school building and its loggias have been almost totally rehabilitated. The major change was the 1987 installation of a new S-shape clay Spanish tile roof. The original clay barrel tile roof had been destroyed in the 1948 hurricane and had been replaced with composition roll roofing. (See Photos 5-7)

Neither the unobtrusive 1955 and 1959 additions nor the minor alterations significantly impair the essential integrity of design, materials, workmanship, or setting of the school, or its historic significance in the history of Deerfield Beach.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 1

Deerfield School

Summary:

The Deerfield School is significant under Criterion A: Education, for its association with the development of public education in Broward County, and for being the oldest operative school in Deerfield Beach and the second oldest in the county. The school is also important for its memorable and nostalgic role in the educational, civic, and social life of both Deerfield Beach and individual citizens for the past 62 years.

Additionally, it is significant under Criterion C: Architecture, as an excellent representative of a Mediterranean Revival style structure, an architectural style indelibly associated with Florida, and one which has been preserved with few alterations.

Historic Context:

Deerfield Beach has seen two name changes in its history. The area was historically known as Hillsboro from the period of British occupation (1763-1783), but no significant settlement occurred until the 1890's, when it was renamed "Deerfield". On August 22, 1939, the name of the town was changed to "Deerfield Beach". It was at this time that the "Deerfield School" was renamed the "Deerfield Beach Elementary School". In addition, the community has also belonged to three different counties. Until 1909 Deerfield was in Dade County, from 1909 until 1915 it was in Palm Beach County, and from 1915 until the present it has been in Broward County.

About 1890, a small frontier farming settlement had sprung up at the site of present day Deerfield Beach. Because of its relative isolation, this was among the last areas of extreme southeast Florida to be extensively settled, the geography of the section retarding settlement except by the hardiest pioneers. The hamlet had no solid economic basis until 1896, when Henry M. Flagler's Florida East Coast Railroad was laid through Deerfield on its way south along the coastline. With the railroad available to ship its pineapples, peppers, beans, corn, eggplant, and tomatoes, the hamlet was on a relatively solid footing, and by June 1898, the population had grown to about twenty families.

Deerfield grew slowly, reaching a population of about 1000 by 1920. In 1925 the village achieved several major milestones, among these were the incorporation of the village as the "Town of Deerfield", the election of the first city government, and the growth of the city population to approximately 1300. With this growth came increasing demands for a modern school facility.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 2

Deerfield School

The Deerfield School and the Broward County public school system are an outgrowth of the Dade County public education system which began in the 1890s. By 1901, there were 20 white and 6 black schools, with a total enrollment of 997, including white schools that had been established in Ft. Lauderdale and Pompano in 1896. In 1903, a white school was built in Hallandale, and a school for Afro-Americans in Deerfield. In 1907, the first school for whites in Deerfield was authorized by the school board. It was a one room, wood frame building, and like the original black school, no longer exists. It is not known where white students went to school prior to the construction of the 1907 school. On July 1, 1909, when Palm Beach County was created from Dade County, the Deerfield schools became part of the Palm Beach County school system. And in 1915, the Deerfield schools became part of the Broward County school system when that county was created. A census of school age children in Deerfield was taken in December, 1915, and it revealed that there were 55 white and 50 Afro-American pupils.

Additions to the first white school in 1918 and the construction of a new two room, brick school in 1920 were insufficient to meet population growth. By 1925, the Deerfield schools had been a part of the Broward County school system for ten years, and the stabilization of the school system increased prospects for the expenditure of funds to improve the quality of education offered Deerfield students.

Historic Significance, Criterion A:

On December 1, 1925, the Broward County Board of Public Instruction received a proposal that three acres of land be purchased as a site for a new school, at a cost of \$21,000. The architectural firm of Thomas D. McLaughlin and Associates was selected to draw up the design proposal. Advertisements for bids were published, and on July 26, 1926, a construction contract of \$53,000 was awarded to Alfred W. Kimmel Company of Pompano, Florida. On January 21, 1927, the Board of Public Instruction inspected the building and recommended minor changes. At the regular board meeting on February 1st, the school was accepted at a final cost of \$55,000.

Designed to provide up to date facilities such as administrative offices, separate classrooms for each elementary grade, and a library and teacher's lounge, the Deerfield School was also planned as a facility which would satisfy both the educational and social needs of the community. An example of this dual function is seen in the design of the school auditorium (which contained a ticket office and projection booths) and hosted commercial movies and productions as well as student plays and activities. Since its construction, the school has been used continuously for various community, civic, and church activities, in addition to its educational function.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3

Deerfield School

Political debates, a polling place in elections, community picnics, and local theater and drama events have all been held in the auditorium or on the property. The school served as an official emergency shelter for local residents during the hurricane of 1926, and during other storms over the years. The grounds have long been utilized for both child and adult recreation programs and after school programs sponsored by the School Board and by the Deerfield Beach recreation division. In 1939, when the name of the town was changed to "Deerfield Beach", the school was officially designated as the "Deerfield Beach Elementary School". Post World War II expansion of facilities had little physical impact on the original building, which continues to serve the community in its original role as an elementary school.

Historic Significance, Criterion C:

The Deerfield School is significant as an excellent example of the Mediterranean Revival style, and as the work of one of Florida's "Boom-Time Architects", Thomas D. McLaughlin. The Mediterranean Revival style was common in the southwest United States and Florida during the period 1915-1940, and was based on Spanish architecture and its borrowing of a wide range of inspiration from neighboring Mediterranean architectural styles such as Moorish, Byzantine, Gothic, and Italian Renaissance. The style is noted for its use of low pitched and gabled red tile roofs, eaves with little or no overhang, arched windows and doors, towers, roofed porches, stucco walls and decorative tile on walls and floors.

The style began in California in the 1890s and slowly spread eastward. It became very popular in Florida during the 1920s boom period and continued in popularity until the late 1930s. The Deerfield School also employs the style for its compatibility with the semi-tropical environment of South Florida. Because this style enabled the structure to take advantage of the cross breezes, it became a popular style for schools during this period.

Architect Thomas D. McLaughlin had come to Broward County in 1925 from Lima, Ohio, and is one of a group of architects that came to be known by later residents as "The Boom-Time Architects." They appeared in the area in the mid-twenties, and disappeared in the late-twenties, following the collapse of the Florida economy and building boom after the hurricanes of 1926 and 1928, and the stock market crash of 1929. In addition to designing the Deerfield School, McLaughlin designed the Oakland Park Elementary School (NR 1988), and an addition to the Westside Elementary School in Fort Lauderdale. After the south Florida economy collapsed in 1927, McLaughlin returned to his former architectural practice in Ohio. He continued to design schools for the Lancaster School System until his death in 1966.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1 Deerfield School

Bibliography

Published

Fletcher, Banister. A History of Architecture on the Comparative Method. New York: Scribner, 1967.

Fort Lauderdale News. June 27, 1926; July 26, 1926; February 3, 1927.

Unpublished

Broward County School Minutes. December 1, 1925-January 21, 1927; pgs. 897-898, 1054-1055, 1058, 1137.

"The History of the Old School House, Deerfield Beach, Florida." Pamphlet, Deerfield Beach Historical Society.

Welcher, Vicki L. "Oakland Park Elementary School." National Register nomination, 1988.

Oral Interviews

Craig S. Cohen, Interview by Margaret S. Briggs. Transcript. Margaret S. Briggs, 541 S.E. 18th Ave., Deerfield Beach, Florida.

Cooper Kirk, Interview by Margaret S. Briggs. Transcript. Margaret S. Briggs, 541 S.E. 18th Ave., Deerfield Beach, Florida.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photos Page 1

Deerfield School

- 1) Deerfield School
- 2) Deerfield Beach, Broward County, Florida
- 3) Margaret S. Briggs
- 4) November 1988
- 5) Margaret S. Briggs
- 6) Central block, south elevation, main entrance, camera facing north
- 7) 1 of 11

Items 1-5 are the same for the remaining photographs

- 6) Central block, south elevation, detail of main entrance, camera facing north
- 7) 2 of 11
- 6) Central block, auditorium wing, south elevation, camera facing north
- 7) 3 of 11
- 6) Central block, auditorium wing, west elevation, camera facing northeast
- 7) 4 of 11
- 6) Central block, east wing, south elevation, camera facing north
- 7) 5 of 11
- 6) Courtyard, intersection of central block and north wing, north and west elevations, camera facing southeast
- 7) 6 of 11
- 6) North wing, west elevation, camera facing east
- 7) 7 of 11
- 6) Non-contributing north wing addition, west elevation, camera facing east
- 7) 8 of 11
- 6) Central block, east wing, north elevation, second story loggia, camera facing east
- 7) 9 of 11

**United States Department of the Interior
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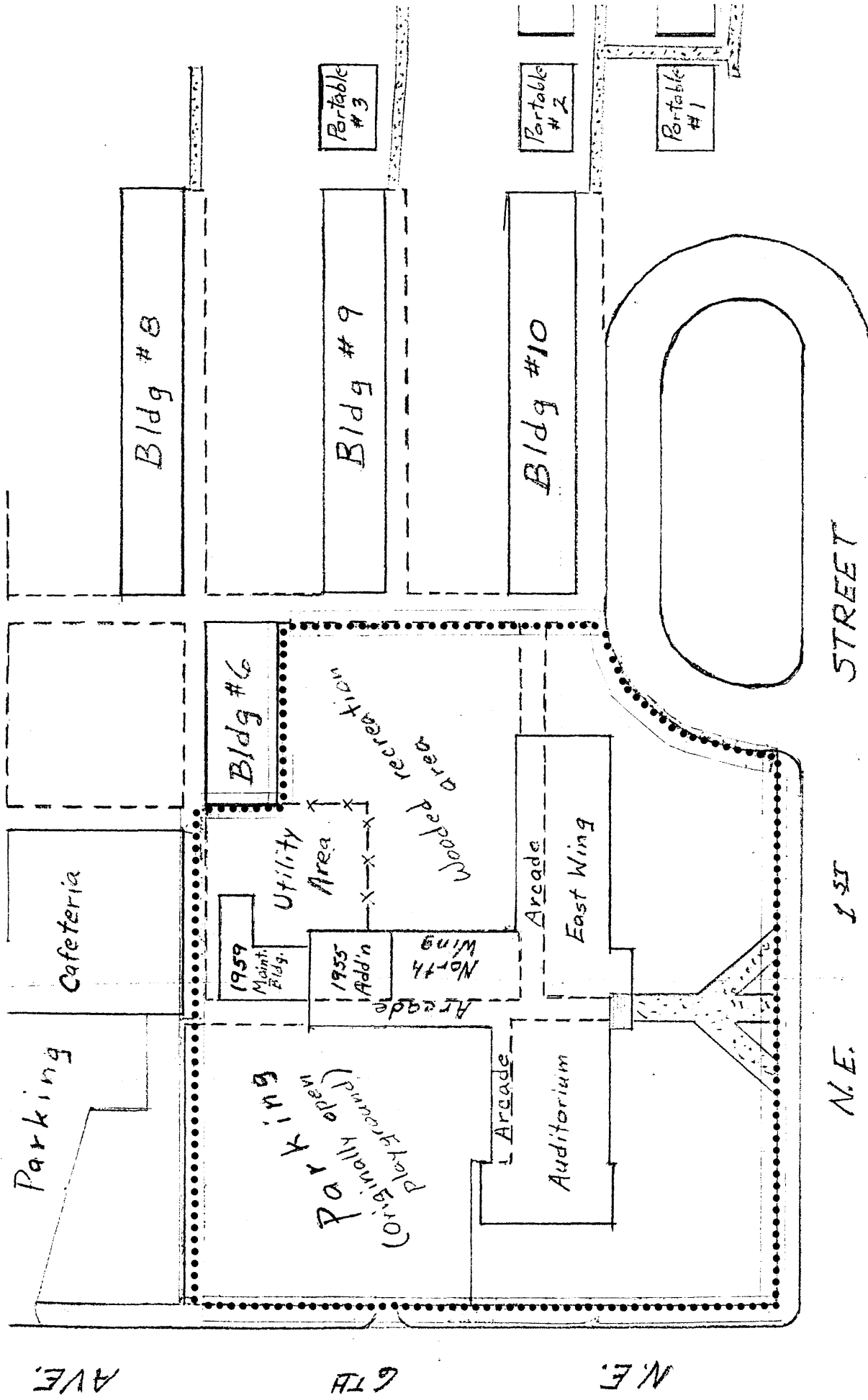
**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photos Page 2

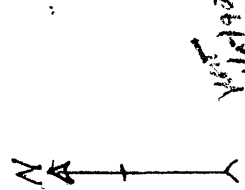
Deerfield School

- 6) Central block, auditorium wing, interior of auditorium,
camera facing west
- 7) 10 of 11

- 6) Central block, auditorium wing, interior of auditorium,
camera facing east
- 7) 11 of 11



DEERFIELD SCHOOL, DEERFIELD BEACH



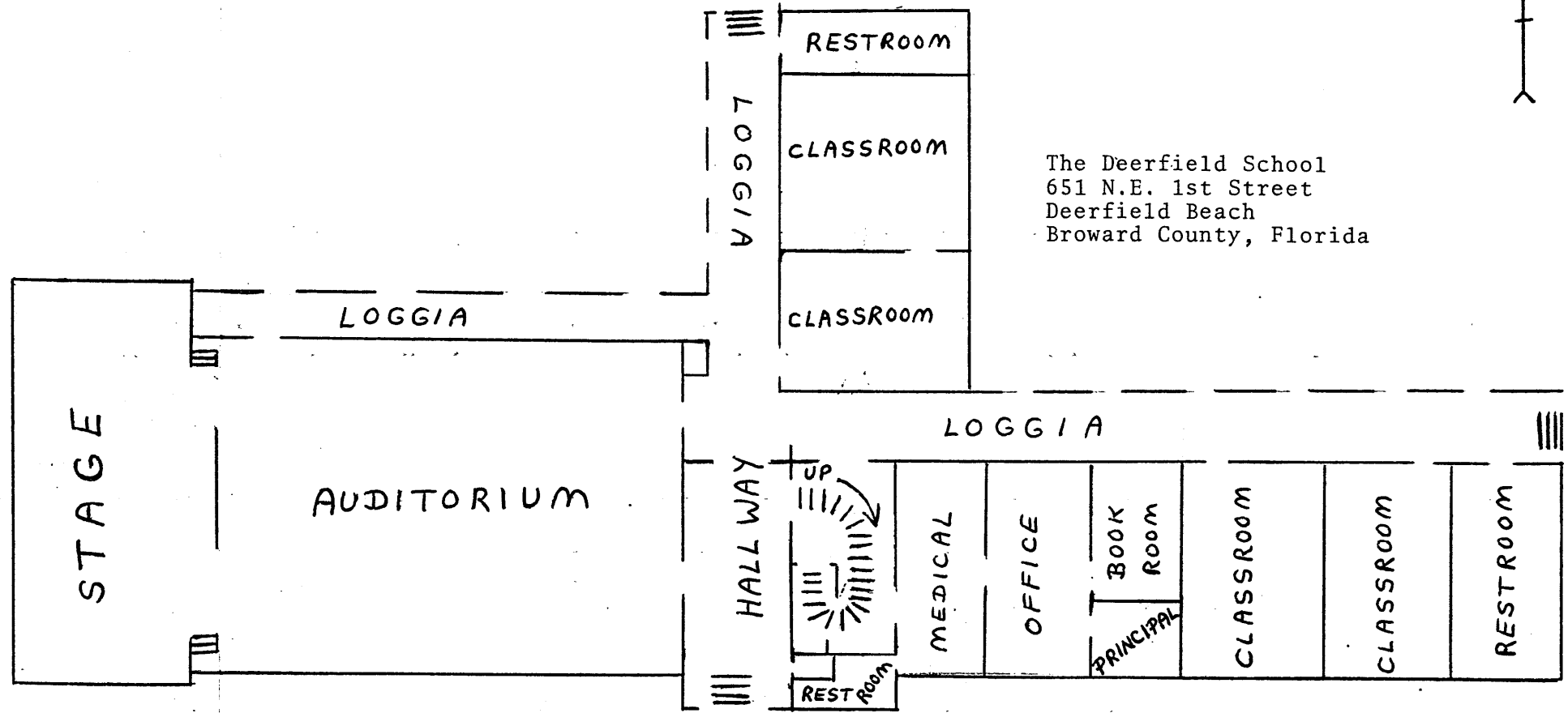
- ==== Covered Walkway
- Open Walkway
- NR Site Boundary

Scale 1" = 50' approx.

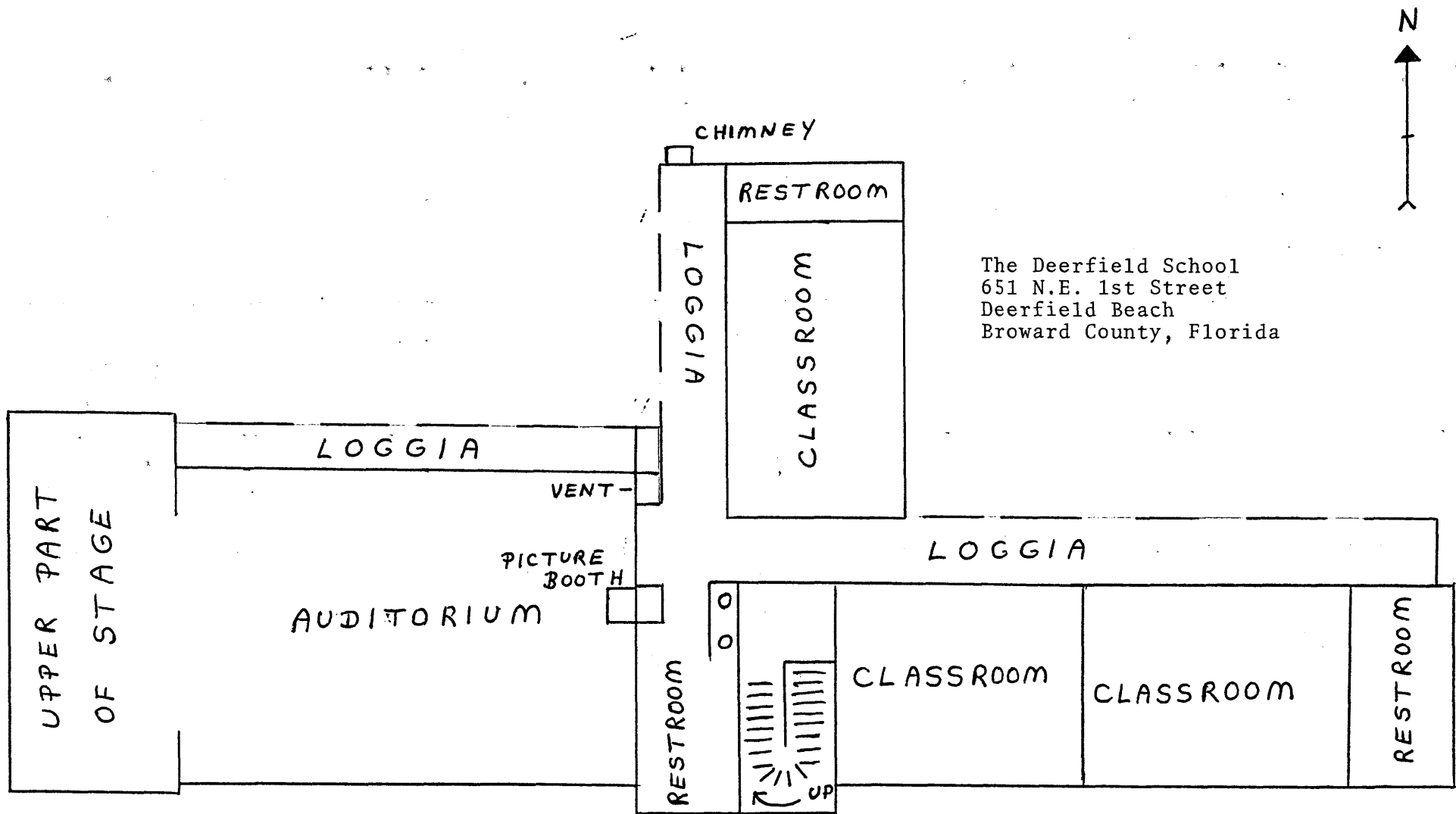
The Deerfield School
 651 N.E. 1st Street
 Deerfield Beach
 Broward County, Florida



The Deerfield School
651 N.E. 1st Street
Deerfield Beach
Broward County, Florida



FIRST FLOOR PLAN
(NOT TO SCALE)



The Deerfield School
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 Broward County, Florida

SECOND FLOOR PLAN
 (NOT TO SCALE)