

MP-1757



# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name Salisbury School  
Other names/site number N/A  
Name of related Multiple Property Listing One-Teacher Public Schools of Missouri, c. 1774 to c. 1973 State of Missouri

## 2. Location

Street & number State Highway K N/A not for publication  
City or town Kirksville X vicinity  
State Missouri Code MO County Adair Code 001 Zip code 63501

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide x local

Applicable National Register Criteria: x A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D

Toni M. Prawl

SEP 06 2017

Signature of certifying official/Title Toni M. Prawl, Ph.D., Deputy SHPO

Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_ removed from the National Register

\_\_\_ other (explain):

For Edson H. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

10-23-17  
Date of Action

Salisbury School  
Name of Property

Adair County, Missouri  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>	
2	0	buildings
		sites
1	0	structures
		objects
3	0	<b>Total</b>

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MASS-VERNACULAR ONE-TEACHER SCHOOL  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
walls: WOOD-WEATHERBOARD  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof: ASPHALT  
\_\_\_\_\_  
other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION ON CONTINUATION PAGES

Salisbury School  
Name of Property

Adair County, Missouri  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE ON CONTINUATION PAGES

**Areas of Significance**

EDUCATION

**Period of Significance**

1930-1953

**Significant Dates**

N/A

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

UNKNOWN

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Pickler Library Truman State University

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

Salisbury School  
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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Under one acre

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1 40.146549 -92.697284 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

2 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

\_\_\_\_\_ NAD 1927 or \_\_\_\_\_ NAD 1983

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

2 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (On continuation sheet)

**Boundary Justification** (On continuation sheet)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Cynthia Ammerman, Principal, Historian & Preservation Strategist

organization Polis: Cultural Planning, LLC. date April 28, 2017

street & number 4331 Paseo Boulevard telephone 816.529.2681

city or town Kansas City state MO zip code 64110

e-mail cynthia.ammerman@gmail.com

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

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

**Salisbury School**  
Name of Property

**Adair County, Missouri**  
County and State

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

## 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: **Salisbury School**

City or Vicinity: **Liberty Township, Kirksville**

County: **Adair** State: **Missouri**

Photographer: **Cynthia Ammerman**

Date  
Photographed: **February 2017**

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

**Photograph 1 of 12: South elevation, looking north**

**Photograph 2 of 12: West and south elevations, looking northeast**

**Photograph 3 of 12: North and east elevations, looking southeast**

**Photograph 4 of 12: North and west elevations, looking southwest**

**Photograph 5 of 12: Interior view, cloak room, looking west**

**Photograph 6 of 12: Interior view, classroom, looking north**

**Photograph 7 of 12: Interior view, looking west**

**Photograph 8 of 12: Interior view, looking east**

**Photograph 9 of 12: Interior view, looking southeast**

**Photograph 10 of 12: Original ceiling tin**

**Photograph 11 of 12: Interior view, looking south**

**Photograph 12 of 12: Schoolyard view, looking north**

Salisbury School

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Name of Property

Adair County, Missouri

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County and State

**Figure Log:**

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

**Figure 1: Contextual Map**

**Figure 2: Site Map and Boundary**

**Figure 3: Floor Plan**

**Figure 4: Salisbury School, ca. 1950s**

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

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Salisbury School
Name of Property
Adair County, Missouri
County and State
One-Teacher Public Schools of Missouri, c. 1774 to c. 1973
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

## **Elaboration**

### **Summary**

Salisbury School is located in Liberty Township on State Highway K Kirksville, Missouri. The building was constructed in 1930 with the cloakroom addition completed in 1938. The simple-plan, gable front, wood clad building is being nominated under the One-Teacher Public Schools of Missouri, c. 1774 to c. 1973 Multiple Property Documentation Form (2011) as an example of a "Mass-Vernacular One-Teacher School" property type. As a single-classroom rural school building, the property retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association and remains on the original parcel where the building was constructed. Fenestration consists of historic wood-framed windows, and as is typical of school buildings constructed during the period, the west elevation has several windows that allow for the majority of natural light into the classroom. The interior of the school invokes the original classroom feeling through the original details remaining such as the chalkboard, wood floors and washbasin located along the east wall. In 2016 the chimney, located along the east wall, was dismantled in order to prevent further deterioration from intruding natural elements. The site of the Salisbury School is further enhanced by the remaining coal shed and well. These contributing structures were utilized for fuel storage and to provide refreshment for students and educators during the period of significance.

### **Setting**

Salisbury School is located in Adair County, Missouri on the east side of State Highway K, west of Kirksville; the schoolhouse site is approximately one-half mile west of the Chariton River. The entire parcel is 148 acres (Figure 1), however, the schoolyard is .40 acres (Figure 2). The schoolhouse sets approximately 80 feet from State Highway K, and the primary facade is oriented toward the southwest. With a gradually sloping yard the schoolhouse is elevated above the roadway, which when traversing from the south, veers toward the northwest away from the school site. The driveway is located approximately 118 feet south of the schoolhouse and extends east of the building leading to a field that belongs to another parcel. The site consists of native grass surrounded by densely wooded, mature trees located to the north and east of the schoolyard. Contributing structures located on the site are the original coal shed and well.

### **Exterior Description**

Salisbury School (1930/1938) is a Mass Vernacular One-Teacher School building that is 34 X 22 feet and sets on a concrete foundation (Photo 1). The rectangular footprint is typical of rural schoolhouses located throughout Missouri. The prominent gable front roof, with partial hipped 1938 addition, has three layers of asphalt shingles that are significantly deteriorated. Brackets are visible at all elevations. Historic photos show that the single-hung windows were at one point covered by wooden-framed screens. The use of the joinery method rather than nails to secure the windowsills reflects the window carpentry of rural building trends of the period. At the time of writing this nomination a plastic tarp was installed on the roof to prevent further damage caused by the natural elements (Photo 1). Cladding is wood-clapboard that has weathered over the years.

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*South Elevation (Primary Facade)*

The primary facade is oriented toward the southwest (Photo 1). This portion of the building has a partial hipped-roof and served as the cloakroom addition that was completed in 1938. Fenestration consists of a centrally located door and single-hung windows placed on either side of the door. The wooden-framed storm door that is divided into three segments for glass panes. A poured concrete stoop, with a metal, plumbing pipe handrail is placed in front of the ingress.

*West Elevation*

At the west elevation are five, large wooden-framed, single-hung windows that span most of the west elevation (Photo 2 and Photo 7). Three of the windows have six-over-one, with two one-over-one windows. As typical with rural school buildings constructed after 1910, the west elevation has the majority of windows to allow for natural light to come into the school room specifically from the west to prevent "eye strain, lessen glare, and be more conducive to study and writing."<sup>1</sup>

*North Elevation*

The north elevation (Photo 3) is free of fenestration and consists only of clapboard siding. Along the eaves of the roofline the wood planks are visible.

*East Elevation*

At the east elevation are two one-over-one, wood-framed windows (Photo 2 and Photo 7). The roof is currently in disrepair, but which has been temporarily mitigated by with sheet metal. The sheet metal also covers the original opening for the chimney that was dismantled for safety and structural precautions.

***Interior Description (Figure 3)***

The interior of Salisbury School is utilitarian and simple in plan. With the exception of the 1938 cloakroom addition, the entire schoolhouse is a single, open room. Both the cloakroom (Photo 5) and classroom (Photo 6) retain historic integrity of design, craftsmanship and materials.

When entering the cloakroom the design integrity is immediately evidenced by the remaining wainscoting, paint, wood floors, and 'shadows' of the former shelves/coat hooks that once hung on the walls (Photo 5). An original wood-panel door is located at the threshold leading into the classroom. A single door delineates the cloakroom (1938) and classroom (1930), the cloakroom was constructed to create a space for students to keep their boots and coats separate from the classroom, and to create a barrier from the cold during the winter months.<sup>2</sup>

The original hardwood floors are fully intact and slope slightly toward the west wall. Original trim exists along all four interior walls, which also has historic pink paint still that remains. Contributing to the design integrity of the building is the nearly intact original decorative ceiling

<sup>1</sup> Tiffany Patterson, "One-Teacher Public Schools of Missouri." National Register of Historic Places, MPDF, 12 December 2016. F:39.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. F:40.



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Salisbury School
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tin. Two electric ceiling lights have been placed at the center of the room. The fixtures appear to be circa 1930s, 1940s ceramic fixtures (Photo 10), which when correspond with the timeframe that the rural community in Adair County formed the electric cooperative.<sup>3</sup> Located along the north wall is the original chalkboard (Photo 6). Spanning the entire width of the classroom, the chalkboard is the most prominent element in the space because it orients the classroom and conveys the historic function and use of the building. Still intact is the chalk tray and trimmed section at the top of the chalkboard where presumably the alphabet was displayed, as was common in schoolhouses.<sup>4</sup> Located underneath the chalkboard are original ventilation returns.

Other distinguishing original features in the classroom are the cabinets, washbasin and chimney/woodstove opening centered along the east wall (Photo 8). Five wainscoting paneled cabinets are separated by the former chimney/woodstove opening, which as stated in the previous section, has been removed for structural reasons. Due to deconstruction of the chimney, the latham plaster is missing, leaving the wood slats and studs exposed. Additionally, some of the ceiling tin has been damaged. The deconstruction of the chimney does not diminish the overall integrity of the space and was necessary to protect the building from further deterioration caused by rainfall and the natural elements. This portion of the classroom has experienced the greatest amount of damage due to weatherization.

While not permanent fixtures, it is important to note that the classroom piano (Photo 11) is still located within the building, in addition to a wooden table (Photo 9) and metal cabinet (Photo 5) from the period. These pieces of furniture, according to oral interviews, were utilized during the period of significance and convey the overall spirit of a one-room schoolhouse.

### *Additional Resources*

#### *Contributing Building-Coal Shed (circa 1930)*

The coal shed is a simple, vernacular gable-roof shed that is clad in wooden planks (Photo 3). There is only one access threshold. Located north of the schoolhouse the coal shed is a contributing building to the site for its association with the schoolhouse, and for the utility it served.

#### *Contributing Structure-Well (circa 1930)*

A well is located at the northeast corner of the schoolhouse, and approximately fifteen feet south of the coal shed (Photo 4). Additionally, the coal shed and well retain the original design, setting and materials, contributing to the overall period of the schoolyard.<sup>5</sup>

### ***Integrity***

As an example of a Mass Vernacular One-Teacher School building, the exterior and interior of the nominated Salisbury School retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association as evident from historic photos (Figure 4). The nominated

<sup>3</sup> Larry C. Evans and Vivian Vice Wright. "Rural Schools in the Heartland Adair County, Missouri." 2015, 35.

<sup>4</sup> MPDF, F: 40. See also: Evans and Wright, 36.

<sup>5</sup> MPDF, F:38.

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building retains the spirit of the original function and use as a one-room schoolhouse and the existing original materials evidence this claim. The primary features include: the wood floors, chalkboard, cabinetry, ceiling tin and fenestration. The pink paint that remains in the classroom is from the period of significance, and further conveys the overall historic integrity of the space (Photo 12). The chimney was removed for preventive structural reasons and can easily be reconstructed. The schoolyard, coal shed and well are contributing elements that retain integrity of setting of the defined period of significance.

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## Summary

Located on K Highway, approximately seven miles north of Novinger, Adair County, Missouri, Salisbury School is a good example of a Mass Vernacular One-Teacher School building. The school is eligible for National Register of Historic Places listing because of its local significance to Liberty Township and Novinger rural communities of Adair County. Under CRITERION A: EDUCATION, Salisbury School is associated with three existing historic context statements of the "One-Teacher Public Schools of Missouri, c. 1774 to c. 1973 Multiple Property Documentation Form".<sup>6</sup> The associated historic contexts are the following: "Rural Schools and the Rural Renaissance, c. 1900 to c. 1929, Rural Education during the Depression and World War II c. 1929 to c. 1948 and End of an Era: Post WWII School Consolidation and the Closing of One-Teacher Schools, c. 1948 to c. 1973."<sup>7</sup>

The Salisbury School District was one of eleven school districts in Adair County that was established prior to the Civil War. The nominated building was constructed in 1930. The simple-plan, gable front, wood clad building with gable front roof, with partial hipped 1938 addition faces the south and retains the much of the original setting from the period of significance 1930 to 1953 (Figure 4). The buildings interior retains the original open-plan layout including the cloak room addition (1938), design, materials and fixtures. The period of significance begins with the date of construction 1930 and ends in 1953 when Salisbury School District 53 was consolidated with Novinger R-1 District.

## Narrative

### **Association with the Multiple Property Documentation Form *One-Teacher Public Schools of Missouri, c. 1774 to c. 1973*:**

This nomination has been prepared using the MPDF provides the historical context statements that describe the establishment of rural education in the state of Missouri, the system of governance, how districts were divided, linking the progression of education in Missouri to national trends. The MPDF provides the framework for analyzing the architecture of one-room schoolhouses and how the buildings relate to the availability of materials and functionality of the building beyond education purposes.

<sup>6</sup> Patterson, 2011.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., E:11-E:21.

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The decision to construct Salisbury School was voted on April 22, 1930<sup>8</sup>, which overlaps with two of the three established historic contexts that the building is associated: **Rural Schools and the Rural Renaissance, c. 1900 to c. 1929, Rural Education during the Depression and World War II c. 1929 to c. 1948**. The established contexts provide some leniency in establishing a period of significance for nominated property and correlate with the date of construction and the primary years in which the building functioned for education purposes. The third established historic context associated with Salisbury School, **End of an Era: Post WWII School Consolidation and the Closing of One-Teacher Schools, c. 1948 to c. 1973**. The Salisbury School was ceased operation at the end of the 1953 school year due to consolidation with the Novinger School District. The 1953 date correlates with the broader state patterns of rural school closures as described in the MPDF.<sup>9</sup>

The period of significance begins with the date of construction 1930 and ends in 1953 when Salisbury School District 53 was consolidated with Novinger R-1 District.

*Adair County*

Adair County was organized on January 29, 1841. From the earliest accounts settlers were primarily farmers, but early histories of Adair County emphasize that the "entire county is underlaid with coal of the very best quality. Sandstone and limestone for building purposes are in super abundance on all the creeks."<sup>10</sup> The abundance of natural resources led to the establishment of many coalmines in Adair County during the last twenty years of the 1800s. Operating in and around Novinger and Aurora (located in proximity to Salisbury School) three mines of record are the No. 1 Mine, Rombauer Coal, Davis Creek and the Billy Creek Mine (operated until 1966).<sup>11</sup> Many families made their living through farming or labor as indicated in the Census Records from the 1880s into the 1940s.<sup>12</sup> The cultural diversity of the area is reflected in the list of names on census records, as well as the employee lists from the mine companies, with surnames and birthplaces of German, Italian, Scots-Irish, Welsh, Irish and Eastern Europe origin.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>8</sup> Evans and Wright, 115.

<sup>9</sup> Patterson, E:21.

<sup>10</sup> John, A.H. 1876.

<sup>11</sup> Novinger Mines, by Novinger Planning Progress/Novinger Renewal 2013 accessed online at

<http://www.adairchs.org/NovingerRenewal/Novinger/coalmines.htm>. According to the [www.visitmo.com](http://www.visitmo.com) website which promotes the Novinger Coal Miners Museum nearly 50 coal mines operated in Adair County between 1850 and 1966.

<sup>12</sup> United States Census, Decennial Census 1880 to 1950. Accessed through the Adair County Historical Society <http://www.adairchs.org/> and <https://1940census.archives.gov>.

<sup>13</sup> Novinger Mines, by Novinger Planning Progress/Novinger Renewal 2013 accessed online at

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*Rural Schools in Adair County within the Broader State Context*

The first record of state funding for Adair County schools was in 1849 from the common school fund and supported the education of 668 students.<sup>14</sup> As indicated in the existing MPDF support for publically funded education led to the creation of rural school districts in the years just prior to the Civil War, and by 1859 Adair County had 47 school districts including the town district in Kirksville.<sup>15</sup> As was common in communities the majority of schoolhouses did not hold classes during the Civil War as many educators went to support the war efforts. At the close of war in 1865 the Missouri Constitution for the first time empowered local communities to create a funding structure to support the construction of school buildings through the establishment of tax levies for individual districts.<sup>16</sup> The new tax levy structure allowed for districts to improve their facilities by replacing log structures with new wood-framed, clapboard siding buildings that follow the patterns of Mass Vernacular One-Teacher Schools, similar in design to the nominated building.

As indicated in an 1876 account by Adair County resident A.H. John, M.D.:<sup>17</sup>

“By far the most important feature connected with the best interests of the County is its educational facilities, for the citizens pride themselves on a thorough scholastic acquaintance. There are eighty Public School houses where instruction is given, besides several private schools. The general attendance of pupils is about 5,000. The North Missouri State Normal School is located here. This institution grew out of a similar school originally established at Kirksville by Prof. Joseph Baldwin on his own account, and through his energy and perseverance, well-educated teachers are now sent forth to the world at the rate of five or six hundred annually. The school was first opened in 1867 and has grown to magnificent proportions and become a great importance. Too much praise cannot be said in favor of the liberal support of the State or the citizens of the County, as well as the deep interest

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<http://www.adairchs.org/NovingerRenewal/Novinger/coalmines.htm>. Payroll records from the Billy Company operated from 1924 to 1966.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid., 14.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid., 15. Evans and Wright

<sup>16</sup> Ibid., 15. Evans and Wright See also: E.M. Violette, History of Adair County, Kirksville, Missouri: Denslow History Company, 1911: 172.

<sup>17</sup> A.H. John, M.D. “Sketch of Adair County-1876.” Adair County Historical Society. 2010.

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manifested by all classes in the cause of education. No better institution exists.”<sup>18</sup>

The establishment of the Kirksville Normal School was important in the overall evolution of rural education in Adair County as it was intended to train teachers especially for one-room school educating.<sup>19</sup> The Normal School set the precedent for other Adair County schoolhouses in that it was the first technologically ‘modern’ school with indoor plumbing, a photography darkroom and mechanical systems storage in the basement.<sup>20</sup> The Normal School paralleled the progress of rural advancements in agricultural technologies and utilities, bringing Adair County educators and students into the Twentieth century.

*Establishment of Salisbury School District*

The original Salisbury School was one of eleven pre-Civil War schools in Adair County when the landowner, Joseph D. Holman, deeded a portion of his property for the construction of a log cabin schoolhouse—this is the current site where the nominated building is sited.<sup>21</sup> The school district was named for Christopher Columbus Salisbury who was a prominent landowner in the Liberty Township.<sup>22</sup> The original log cabin served the children of the township until the community constructed a second schoolhouse circa 1890/1900.<sup>23</sup> A fire destroyed the second Salisbury School on November 6, 1929. In April of 1930, the community held a special vote to approve the issuance of \$800 in bond funding to finance the construction of the nominated building.<sup>24</sup>

*Students & the One-Teacher, One-Classroom Experience*

Salisbury School (1930) over the course of its tenure as an educational building had a total of fourteen teachers on record.<sup>25</sup> Students who attended Salisbury School were the children of local miners or farmers and were taught by a single-teacher. According to the interview with Ms. Baiotto, teacher aides were not employed at Salisbury School. Student grade levels ranged from the first grade to eighth grade and were organized in the classroom by having a desk row for each grade, with the first graders in the front row, and an average class size of eighteen to twenty students.<sup>26</sup> Student activities including field trips were paid for by the community pie

<sup>18</sup> Ibid., 2010. Historical Society

<sup>19</sup> Patterson, E:13.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid.

<sup>21</sup> Evans and Wright, 15.

<sup>22</sup> Evans and Wright, 115-116.

<sup>23</sup> The original log cabin schoolhouse exists in ruins, just southeast of the nominated Salisbury School at the junction of K Highway and Salisbury Cemetery Trail.

<sup>24</sup> Evans and Wright, 116.

<sup>25</sup> Ibid., 156.

<sup>26</sup> Hilvinia Baiotto, December 2016; G.E. Hiatt.

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suppers organized by the teachers. The fundraising would cover the costs of transportation, which could be by train, bus, plane, or a caravan of automobiles.<sup>27</sup>

The students who attended Salisbury School were children who lived primarily in the Liberty Township. As Hilvina Baiotto stated in an interview, "All [students] were from the Adair County surrounding area farms or mines. All were farmers' or miners' children. I was one of the miner's children. I lived in Riverside Camp."<sup>28</sup>

Teachers of record at the Salisbury School include: Jessie Daniels, Naomi Silvey, Robert Purden, Velma Bragg, Velda Simler, Hilvina Baiotto, Maurine Hayes, Millicent Miller, Doris Biggs, Denny Ireland, Mildred Hammons, Dean McClanahan, and Del Robison.<sup>29</sup>

*Community Events at Salisbury School*

Salisbury School also functioned as a hub for community gatherings during the period of significance. Parent-Teacher Associations meetings and weddings, were held at Salisbury School. Ms. Baiotto's account of election day and activities that occurred at Salisbury School indicate the central role the building played to the community.<sup>30</sup>

"On Election Day, the school used to do elections. Children's programs, pie suppers, Halloween parties, Christmas programs held there. We loved Election Day because we had picnics when we went down the road north by the school toward the bent tree and the Riverside Mining Camp. It was called 'Bent down Tree' because Indians put it down and pointed to spring to get water. Trunk is bent and pointed east. We did get water from there to use at mining camp."<sup>31</sup>

*Consolidation of the Salisbury School*

Consolidation of Adair County rural schools began in 1911 after the Missouri legislature passed a law that would allow districts to merge. Overall declining rural populations attributed to low student numbers that produced excessive financial burden on rural communities. For example,

<sup>27</sup> Per Baiotto interview, In 1952/52 Mr. Delber Robinson took the students to the 7-Up plant in Des Moines, Iowa.

<sup>28</sup> Hilvinia Baiotto, December 2016; G.E. Hiatt.

<sup>29</sup> Evans and Wright, 156.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid. A full quote from the interview provides a vivid account of the proximity of the school to other landmarks in the country. "PTA meetings were there. On Election Day, the school was used to do elections. Children's programs, pie suppers, Halloween parties, Christmas programs held there. We loved Election Day because we had picnics when we went down the road north by the school toward the bent tree and the Riverside Mining Camp. It was called 'Bent down Tree' because Indians put it down and pointed to spring to get water. Trunk is bent and pointed east. We did get water from there to use at mining camp."

<sup>31</sup> Hilvinia Baiotto, December 2016; G.E. Hiatt.

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many of the Adair county schools during the 1930s averaged approximately twenty students. By the late 1940s and early 1950s, student enrollment for many schools was fewer than ten.<sup>32</sup> When the state legislature passed the District Reorganization Law in 1947 each Missouri county was responsible for producing a plan of reorganization to present to public vote.<sup>33</sup>

For students at the Salisbury School, consolidation occurred was voted on and established on July 19, 1949. The newly created Novinger R-I District.<sup>34</sup> The Novinger R-1 District building was not able to accommodate students from all of the rural buildings, so over a period of five years as student numbers declined fifteen rural school houses remained open, including Salisbury School. Students attended Salisbury School until the end of the 1953 school year, despite the Novinger R-1 consolidation being in effect since the 1949 vote.

The pattern of consolidation of Salisbury School follows the established historic context “**End of an Era: Post WWII School Consolidation and the Closing of One-Teacher schools, c. 1948 to c. 1973.**”<sup>35</sup>

*Comparable Schools*

At the time that this nomination was authored the Lincoln School, located at 907 South Wabash Street, Kirksville, Missouri (extant) was the only one-room school in Adair County included in the National Register of Historic Places.<sup>36</sup> The Lincoln School is a brick building that was nominated under the Areas of Significance for Ethnic Heritage (Black) and Education.<sup>37</sup>

Salisbury School remains an excellent example of a rural schoolhouse in Adair County due to the integrity of the exterior and interior of the building. Of the seventy-six rural schools that were extant in 1910, fifty-one are non-extant, eight converted to single-family homes and seventeen remain abandoned or dilapidated.<sup>38</sup>

*Integrity and Registration Requirements*

Salisbury School meets the registration for the “Mass Vernacular One-Teacher Schools” as a ‘fairly pristine’ example of the building type.<sup>39</sup> Salisbury School meets the requirements as a

<sup>32</sup> Evans and Wright, 210.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid., 210.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid., 212.

<sup>35</sup> Patterson, E:21.

<sup>36</sup> Cole Woodcox and Claudia Minor. “Lincoln School.” National Register of Historic Places. 9 December 2016. Woodcox and Minor, 2016.

<sup>37</sup> Cole Woodcox and Claudia Minor. “Lincoln School.” National Register of Historic Places. 9 December 2016.

<sup>38</sup> Evans and Wright, 215-219. See also: MPDF F:44

<sup>39</sup> As described in the MPDF to meet the registration requirements a rural school must fall under one of two categories of architectural types: vernacular or architect designed (Section F:33).



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mass-vernacular school building. The floor plan is most similar to the example floor plans as provided in the MPDF Salisbury School is similar in classroom arrangement and fenestration pattern.<sup>40</sup> The cloakroom addition (1938) (Photo 5) further enforces the registration requirements as having a separate space for the arrival of students and a place to keep coats and boots during the winter months. Salisbury School exists on the original site of construction, retains its original concrete foundation, open classroom and original interior design elements, finishes and accenting furnishings: including blackboard, ceiling tin and the classroom piano. Contributing to the overall integrity of the schoolyard is the existing coal shed and well, both original to the site.

## Conclusion

Salisbury School located on State Highway K, Kirksville, Adair County, Missouri, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and is locally significant under Criteria A for EDUCATION. Salisbury School is associated with the historic contexts and building types Registration Requirements as outlined in the “*One-Teacher Public Schools of Missouri, c. 1774 to c. 1973*” MPDF (Patterson, 2011). Constructed in 1930, Salisbury School was the third building for the Adair County School District #53 and was the educational center from 1930 to 1953. The student and teacher experience at Salisbury School follows the pattern of rural education patterns across the state of Missouri. While primarily a space for education, Salisbury School also served as a gathering place for the broader community as an election poll site and various social functions. As rural populations dwindled during the Post-World War II era, the rural school district consolidation measures enacted by the state of Missouri impacted Salisbury School with the creation of the Novinger R-1 School District in 1949 and eventually the closure of Salisbury School in 1953.

Salisbury School remains as an intact example of Mass-Vernacular One-Teacher Schools in Adair County including the original fenestration, wood-floors, chalkboard, ceiling tin and cabinetry. Salisbury School has not experienced any significant modifications and retains the seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Register Bulletin 16.

The current owners, GE and Shelly Hiatt have owned the property for approximately two years. Mr. Hiatt’s family has significant ties to Salisbury School as all twelve of his paternal aunts and uncles attended the school. The familial connection to the building remains important not only to the Hiatt’s, but also to the local community as the Salisbury School still serves as a meeting place for social functions during the summer months.

<sup>40</sup> Patterson, 2011 Figure 59 Footnote *School Buildings: Plan, Specifications, and Suggestions for School Buildings for Rural and Village Districts*. Jefferson City: Hugh Stephens Press, [c.1911]).

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundaries of the nominated are generally triangular in shape. The entire area consists of a cleared yard space and immediately adjacent to Highway K. The gravel road forms the western boundary and the northern boundary is defined by the tree line.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary includes the area that has been historically associated with the Salisbury School (Figure 2).

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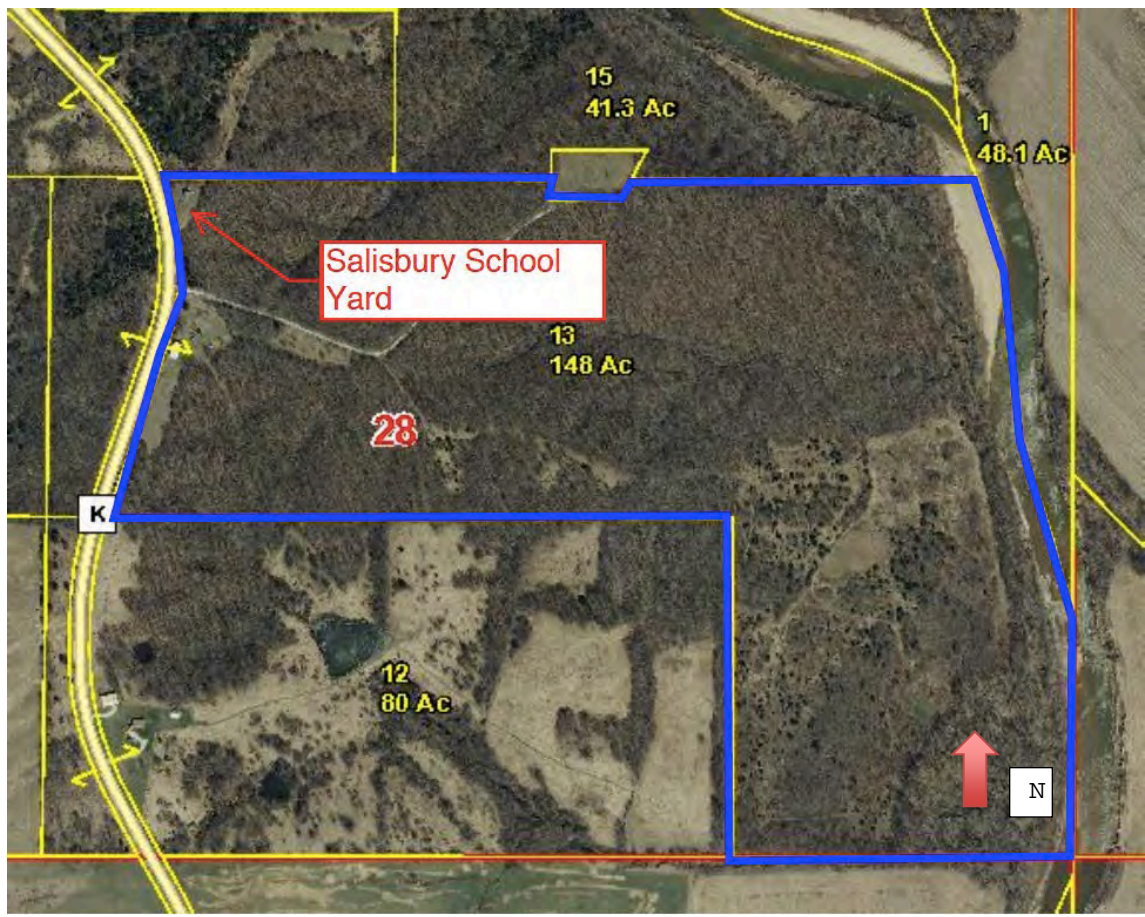


Figure 1: Contextual Map Lat: 40.146549 Long: -92.697284

View of legal parcel boundaries outlined in blue (identified as section 28) with Salisbury School yard in northwest corner.

Source: Adair County Parcel Viewer: Accessed 20 March 2017.  
<<https://adairgis.integritygis.com/H5/Index.html?viewer=adair>>. Modifications: Cynthia Ammerman.

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**Figure 2: Site Map Lat: 40.146549 Long: -92.697284**

Salisbury School site setting with boundary in yellow (shaded) and contributing structures.

Source: Google Maps, Google Imagery. Accessed 26 April 2017. Created by: Cynthia Ammerman.

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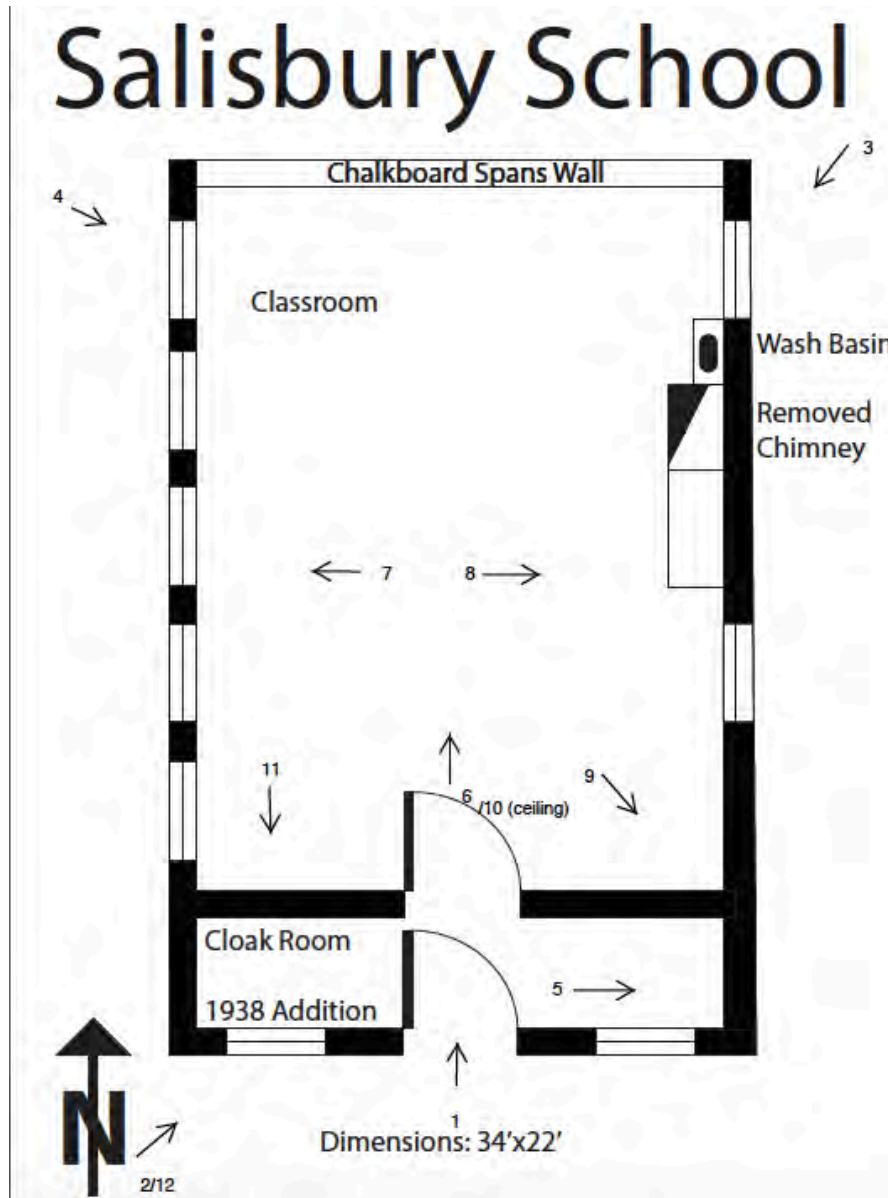


Figure 3: Floor plan and photo log

Source: Camila-Segura Rivera, 2017.

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**Figure 4: Salisbury School, ca. 1950s**

Photo Used with Permissions from Truman State University, May 2017.

Source: Originally published as: "Schools in Adair County: A Pictorial Representation of Educational Institutions in Adair County, Missouri" by Wallace M. Pearson, 1954. Mo. Coll. F472.A2 S35 1954 (Truman State University, Pickler Memorial Library, Special Collections).







**Salisbury School**  
District No. 53 - Built 1930









ABC  
123

Kayle 2/12/16  
♡  
○○○○  
○○○○

SIGN IN...  
Let us know  
you were here



PLEASE  
HELP  
PRESERVE  
THIS  
School

Franklin  
Thomas















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 9/8/2017      Date of Pending List: 10/4/2017      Date of 16th Day: 10/19/2017      Date of 45th Day: 10/23/2017      Date of Weekly List: 10/27/2017

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept       Return       Reject      10/23/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

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.



Missouri Department of dnr.mo.gov

# NATURAL RESOURCES

Eric R. Greitens, Governor

Carol S. Comer, Director



## Memorandum

**Date:** September 5, 2017

**To:** Paul Loether, Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

**From:** Toni M. Prawl, Ph.D., Deputy SHPO and Director, Missouri SHPO *TMP*

**Subject:** Salisbury School, Adair County, MO, National Register Nomination

Our state review board, the Missouri Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, approved the above nomination on **August 4, 2017**. All owners and appropriate elected public officials were notified and provided at least thirty (30) days to comment on the above proposed nomination in accordance with Section 36CFR60.6, interim regulations, using the exact notification format recommended by the National Register. **The enclosed disc contains the true and correct copy of the nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.**

Please find enclosed the following documentation:

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

**Comments:**

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