

SG-848



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 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 Garfield Elementary School

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Multiple Property Listing \_\_\_\_\_

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

### 2. Location

street & number 1518 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue  not for publication

city or town Moline  vicinity

state Illinois county Rock Island zip code 61265

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:  national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:  A  B  C  D

[Signature] 2/8/17  
Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
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) \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature] 4.10.17  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Garfield Elementary School  
Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois  
County and State

**5. Classification**

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

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

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

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		site
		structure
		object
1		<b>Total</b>

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

**6. Function or Use**

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

EDUCATION/schools  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**7. Description**

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

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> & 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY  
REVIVALS/Classical Revival  
MODERN MOVEMENT/Midcentury Modern  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

foundation: LIMESTONE/CONCRETE  
walls: BRICK/LIMESTONE/GLASS  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof: ASPHALT  
other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Garfield Elementary School

Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois

County and State

---

### **Narrative Description**

(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**

The Garfield Elementary School stands at its original location on a site bordered by 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the north, 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the south, 15<sup>th</sup> Street to the west, and a public alley to the west abutting adjacent commercial and residential structures. Paved play lots are located at the northeast and northwest corners of the site, with a playground at the southeast corner and a paved parking lot at the southwest corner. Single-family houses unaffiliated with the Garfield Elementary School are located just south and west of the school and share a remnant of a public alley that once ran just south of the school's original 1902 block.

With primary entrances both at 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> Avenues, the school is roughly L-shaped in plan, reflecting its construction in two phases. The 1902 block, designed by architect Olof Z. Cervin, is a two story-plus-raised basement structure clad in red brick and limestone with a flat roof, and is located at the north end of the site. The 1955 block, designed by architect William F. Bernbrock, is a one-story tall structure clad in brick and glass with a flat roof. It is located at the south end of the site, and is connected to the 1902 block's raised basement level by a brick clad connector.

---

### **Narrative Description**

#### **1902 Classroom Block**

The Garfield Elementary School's 1902 block is two stories tall, clad in red and yellow brick, with a raised basement clad in rusticated ashlar limestone. Built in a Classical Revival architectural style, the buildings facades are symmetrical and are regularly fenestrated with large window openings ornamented with limestone sills and low arched brick voussoirs with stone keystones. The building retains its two original entrances: the primary entrance facing 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the north with an original pedimented limestone door surround, and the secondary east entrance with a yellow brick door surround. An original limestone slab above the north entrance still reads "Garfield Elementary School. The building also retains its original dentiled limestone roof cornice. The building's original hipped roof was removed in the early 1970s.

Inside the 1902 block retains its original spatial layout with three floors of classrooms located around center corridors at each floor. The three floors are connected by stairwells located at each end of the original corridors. Inside there are eleven large classrooms that retain their original adjacent cloakrooms. The 1902 block's interior retains original transomed door openings and many original wood and glass doors.

#### **1955 Gymnasium and Classroom Block**

The Garfield Elementary School's 1955 block is one story tall, clad in brick and glass with a flat roof with a metal clad roof fascia, all typical characteristics of Midcentury Modern style architecture. A low bar building to the south connects the 1955 block to the 1902 block's raised basement level. A taller windowless gymnasium block and a tall chimney are located at the north end of the 1955 block.

A main 1955 block entrance is located at the southeast end of the building facing 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue provides access to an entry vestibule flanked by a reception desk, principal's office, and teachers' lounge. A center

Garfield Elementary School  
Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois  
County and State

double loaded corridor connects six classrooms, including an original kindergarten classroom in the northwest corner of the low bar building. Restrooms and a gymnasium are located north of the primary entrance. Interior finishes in the 1955 block are mostly original with linoleum flooring, glazed and painted concrete block walls, and acoustical ceiling tiles.

### **Integrity and Comparable Sites**

Despite changes made over the life of the building—most notably the removal of the original hipped roof in the early 1970s to meet new Illinois life safety and fire codes—the Garfield Elementary School retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance within the context of pre-Depression era schools in Moline.

The Garfield Elementary School's 1902 block retains its original massing, fenestration pattern, and decorative features, including its limestone clad water table, red brick cladding, and Classical Revival style decorative elements. Changes to the 1902 block's exterior include the removal of its hipped roof, part of what was a citywide school life safety renovation program during the late 1960s and early 1970s.

The 1902 block's windows have been replaced with three-part aluminum windows. Its primary north entrance was closed up with concrete paneling by previous owners, though its highly decorative limestone surround remains intact. A stucco canopy was added to the building's secondary east entrance, but its original brick surround remains intact.

Inside, the 1902 block retains its historic spatial layout, including its original corridors, classrooms, and cloakrooms. Some original paneled wood and glass doors have been replaced with non-historic wood doors, but the original wood surrounds with large single-paned transoms remain intact throughout the building. Window casings with plaster returns and wood sills remain on the interior. Tin ceilings are intact above dropped ceiling in most of the classrooms, and may also remain above the dropped ceilings in the corridors. The building's two stairs were replaced by previous owners, but are in the same location as the historic stairs. Carpeting and tile floors most likely cover the historic flooring.

The Garfield Elementary School's 1955 block is a historically significant addition located south of the original 1902 block. The exterior of the 1955 block remains intact with its original massing, fenestration pattern, and decorative features, including its brick cladding, low slung metal clad roof fascia, and north chimney. Exterior changes are primarily limited to window replacement.

Inside, the 1955 block retains its historic spatial layout, including its original corridors, classrooms and gymnasium. Decorative features and finishes including linoleum flooring, glazed and painted concrete block walls, acoustical ceiling tiles, blond wood doors with multiple glazed panels, and blackboard frames and built-in cabinets are also intact. The large gymnasium/auditorium space retains its volume, stage, and finishes.

The removal of the hipped roof, the most notable change to the building, does not impact its historic integrity. While the Garfield School's hipped roof was a prominent visual exterior feature of the building, it was not the building's most significant character-defining feature and did not distinguish the building as a school. The building's remaining historic features – the 1902 building's original floor plan and original details and finishes, the 1955 addition's intact floor plan including gymnasium/auditorium – all reflect the changing nature of school design during the twentieth century in Moline. The exterior fenestration pattern,

Garfield Elementary School

Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois

County and State

entrance surrounds, and masonry detailing below the roof line are also intact. These historic features all contribute to the integrity of the Garfield Elementary School as an early twentieth century school building.

### **Comparable Sites**

The Garfield Elementary School is one of only five pre-Depression public schools that survive in the city. The other structures include:

- The Grant School is located at 2430 6th Avenue in the city's Park Hill community. The original red-brick 1887 structure appears intact, though a large 1903-1904 annex appears to have been demolished. Today the Grant School is the home of the Quad Cities Autism Center.
- The Willard School is located at 1616 16th Street in the city's Wharton community. Completed in 1900, the Willard School was designed by Olof Z. Cervin, architect of the Garfield Elementary School, and displays a similar two-story red-brick Classical Revival design. Also like the Garfield Elementary School, the Willard School's high hipped roof was removed around 1972. The Willard School's upper cornice area has been covered in a large non-historic metal cover. The Willard School remains in operation as a public elementary school.
- The McKinley School is located at 5th Avenue and 41st Street in Moline's Edgewater community. The Tudor Revival style McKinley School was completed in 1913, and is currently vacant.
- The former Moline High School is located at 1001 16th Street in Moline's Overlook community. The Tudor Revival style former Moline High School was completed in 1915. The building operated as a school until 1958 and now houses residential apartments.

Within the context of the city of Moline, the Garfield Elementary School is a well-preserved early twentieth century school building. Of the five pre-Depression public schools that survive in the city, only the former Moline High School (1001 16<sup>th</sup> Street, completed 1915) has no major alterations to the roofline. The prominent hipped roof with bell tower at the Grant School (2430 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, constructed 1887) has been removed. The McKinley School at 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 41<sup>st</sup> Street, a Tudor Revival school completed in 1913, features a non-historic simplified parapet that replaced the original crenelated cornice. The Willard School (1616 16<sup>th</sup> Street, completed 1900), also designed by Olof Z. Cervin and most similar in design to the Garfield Elementary School, also had its high hipped roof removed around 1972. In addition, the upper cornice at the Willard School has been covered with a large non-historic metal screen.

Garfield Elementary School  
Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois  
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.

Garfield Elementary School  
Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois  
County and State

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION

**Period of Significance**

1902-1966

**Significant Dates**

1902, 1955

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation** (if applicable)

**Architect/Builder**

Olof Z. Cervin

William F. Bernbrock

Garfield Elementary School

Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois

County and State

---

**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 Garfield Elementary School at 1518 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Moline, Illinois is locally significant under National Register Criteria A in the area of Education within the context of Moline. First designed by local architect Olof Z. Cervin and completed in 1902, the Garfield Elementary School originally served as one of two public elementary schools for the city of Moline, and as the primary public elementary school for the Moline community of Stewartville. The building remains the Stewartville community's only surviving public school building. The current Garfield Elementary School was constructed on the site of an earlier Garfield Elementary School, which was first built in the 1870s and destroyed by fire in 1901. The new grade school building incorporated a variety of specialized spaces designed to serve the needs of a wide range of pupils, reflecting the expansion of public school education in Moline and the changing ideals surrounding primary and secondary education. The 1955 addition to the original school was designed by William F. Bernbrock in the Mid-Century Modern style. The addition contributes to the school's significance as a good example of Mid-Century Modern school architecture reflecting stylistic changes in school designs of the period.

The period of significance for Criterion A extends from 1902, the date of initial completion, to 1966, the National Register's fifty-year cut off, reflecting the school's role in the history of Moline public education. Overall the building is in good condition, with the 1902 main block and 1955 addition remaining intact with good integrity.

The Garfield Elementary School was surveyed as a part of the 1971-1975 Illinois Historic Structures Survey.

---

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

### **History of the Garfield Elementary School**

The site of the current Garfield Elementary School has housed a public school building since at least the 1870s. The southeast corner of 15th Street and 25th Avenue was the site of the Stewartville community's first school, a one-story four-room 1870s schoolhouse that was expanded to a two-story eight-room school in the early 1890s. When Stewartville was incorporated into the City of Moline in 1896, the Stewartville School, as this early building was called, was renamed the Garfield Elementary School after slain U.S. President James Garfield. An accidental furnace fire started by a janitor destroyed this wood-frame school building on the cold morning of March 5, 1901. The Stewartville community was not yet connected to Moline's city water system, weakening efforts to save the burning building; the first Garfield Elementary School fire is believed to have prompted the expansion of local water infrastructure to the new outlying community.

Displaced students were taught in adjacent churches and in the nearby Lincoln School. Meanwhile planning quickly began for a new school structure on the site of the destroyed one. In an April 18, 1901 article, just over a month after the fire, the Moline Daily Dispatch noted the selection of the design of "a very handsome school building" by local architect Olof Z. Cervin, architect of the nearby Willard School completed the year before. Despite their similarities in appearance, the Daily Dispatch noted that "the arrangement of rooms will vary from the Willard School." The Garfield Elementary School's design was indeed an improvement on its neighbor's, with the Daily Dispatch citing that "the fan system will be



Garfield Elementary School

Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois

County and State

abandoned, as it is quite expensive to maintain, and a gravity system of heating will be installed." A sketch of the Cervin's nearly-completed Garfield Elementary School was published in the American School Board Journal in December 1901, just before the building's completion.

The second and current Garfield Elementary School was completed in January 1902 by builder A.P. Lundquist at a cost of \$35,418. The building's architect Olof Cervin based his design on that of the nearby Willard School completed two years before. The new Garfield Elementary School was two-and-a-half stories tall in a noble Classical Revival style. With the March 1901 fire probably in mind, Cervin's Garfield Elementary School was built with thick walls of fireproof masonry construction. The building had two entrances – a main entrance to the north, and a secondary east entrance. Inside, the Garfield Elementary School had two staircases, and three 16 foot-wide double loaded corridors connecting eleven classrooms – called "recreation rooms" – each with their own dedicated "wardrobes," or cloakrooms for coats and storage. A small principal's office was located off the main first floor entry vestibule. The basement housed a large "physical culture room," a separate girls playroom, and girls and boys toilets. The building utilized steam heating systems fed by basement boilers through purpose-built wall chases and vents, and was fitted with modern electric lighting. The original building also had a large hipped roof system with an attic used for storage; the hipped roof and attic were removed in the 1970s. With these safe and modern accommodations, the Moline Evening Mail declared the new Garfield Elementary School "a splendid structure."

The Garfield Elementary School was opened to the public in a grand dedication ceremony on January 4th, 1902. The ceremony included music performances, tours of the new building, and speeches by notable locals. One of many speakers that day, Augustana College president Gustav Andreen, celebrated the late U.S. President James Garfield and the naming of the new school building "to commemorate the life of a great man, a rich inheritance to the children of the land":

"May the life he lived and the memory of his character fall as a mantle upon the children to be educated here. May the minds to be taught here be as persistent, strenuous and conscientious as was that of him who has been honored. May that truth, unselfishness, honesty, courage, and lofty ambition fire each youthful heart."

The 270-student enrollment at the new Garfield Elementary School initially could not fill the building's 27,000 square feet, and first occupied only eight of the eleven original classrooms. All classrooms were eventually filled and by the first years of the Great Depression, the Garfield Elementary School's enrollment had almost doubled, making it the school with the most students in the city of Moline. Through the pre-World War II period, the school was "still considered an important unit in Moline's growing educational system."

Moline's growing postwar prosperity and population prompted the expansion of the city's public school system, resulting in new schools and renovations and additions to existing ones, including the Garfield Elementary School. A 14,314 square foot one-story high gymnasium and classroom wing was added to the south (rear) of the Garfield Elementary School in 1955. This low-slung Mid-century Modern style north wing was designed by architect William F. Bernbrock of Moline, and constructed by contractors Langman & Son at a cost of \$188,490. The new addition had a slab-on-grade foundation with a red brick cladding and a steel frame structural system allowing for large window openings. Primary student and visitor access into the Garfield Elementary School by students and visitors was relocated to a new south entrance, which was adjoined by a new reception area, principal's office, teachers' lounge, and medical exam rooms. The 1955 block's large new windows allowed light and air into six new classrooms –

Garfield Elementary School

Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois

County and State

including a new kindergarten room with its own separate bathroom and an outdoor sandbox – connected by a single wide double loaded corridor. The 1955 gymnasium housed a stage and an adjacent kitchen. A new boiler facility was also constructed at the north end of the 1955 block. The new classroom and gymnasium block was linked to the basement of the original 1902 classroom block by a brick- and glass-clad corridor.

Like other school buildings in Moline, including the Willard School, the Garfield Elementary School's hipped roof was removed in the early 1970s as part of a citywide school life safety and fire code renovation program. The program was in response to new Illinois fire regulations codified in 1958 and expanded during the 1960s.

The issue of safety and fire prevention has been a driving force behind school design and renovation across Illinois and the country. The Illinois State Board of Education notes that as early as 1825 with the passage of the Free School Act the voting public was charged to "...make such regulations for building and repairing school houses as they may think necessary..." Over a century later, despite revisions to building codes following the Chicago fire of 1871, a new fire disaster claimed the lives of dozens of school children. The tragic fire at Our Lady of Angles School in Chicago in 1958 led to the revision of building codes and to the establishment of a Code drafting committee. In 1963, the State Superintendent issued new school-specific code in a document entitled "Building Specifications for Health and Safety in Public Schools." Until the Angles school fire, codes for safety and fire prevention had focused on stopping the spread of fire through the use of non-combustible materials. The Garfield School is an example of this early "fireproof" construction. Afterward, new code outlined specific requirements for the detection and suppression fire, along with new requirements for emergency egress.

Between 1963 and the late 1970s, hundreds of schools across Illinois were required to be retrofitted and given life safety upgrades to meet the new code. Changes included: the installation of fire alarms; temperature sensors; smoke detectors, first made publically available in 1969; sprinkler systems, previously limited to new construction and factories; the replacement of fire escapes with auxiliary stairs and the enclosure of existing stairwells; and the use of inflammable finishes. In 1969, the National Fire Code (originally known as the Basic Fire Code) was developed and widely adopted in the Midwest and Northeast. This code complemented existing state fire code.

The Moline-based architectural firm of Lundeen & Toline led several school life safety renovations including those at the Garfield elementary and Willard Schools. The firm was headed by John A. Toline and Thomas C. Lundeen and lasted from 1957 to Toline death in 1984. In 1972, the firm was hired to lead the remodeling of the Garfield and Willard schools, which included improvements to building systems, the installation of inflammable finishes and stair partitions, and most importantly the removal of the cavernous wood-frame attic and hip roof. Other schools remodeled by the firm include four schools in Erie, Illinois between 1970 and 1973.

The 1903 plan for the school reveals that the attic was intended for storage; a stairwell led from one end of the second floor corridor to a door, which led up to the attic space. The plans for the unfinished attic suggest that it had no partitions and no finished wall surfaces. Exposed rafters and ties held together with galvanized straps created an open space at the top of the building. Through the view of newly passed life safety codes, the attic was a clear fire danger. New codes required that all openings be fire-blocked and that the open attic space be sealed into partitioned smaller spaces. This way, if rising hot gases made their way into the attic they would be largely contained instead of filling the space and potentially igniting the

Garfield Elementary School

Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois

County and State

entire roof, which in the worst case could lead to a collapse. The cost of completely fireproofing the attics of both the Garfield and Willard Schools likely led to the decision to flatten the roofs.

A second round of life safety and general school renovations were completed by Moline architects Beckstrom & Associates in 1973 on both the Garfield and Willard Schools. By the time of their involvement, the hip roofs on both schools had been removed. Despite these changes, the Garfield Elementary School remains one of the best examples of early public school architecture in Moline.

The Garfield Elementary School continued to safely serve Moline's Stewartville community until it closed in 2015. The building is currently vacant.

### **History of Moline, Illinois**

Moline, Illinois is one of five urban centers located at the confluence of the Mississippi and Rock Rivers – Davenport and Bettendorf, Iowa, and Rock Island, Moline, and East Moline, Illinois – which collectively became known by the 19th century as the Tri-Cities, and by the 1910s as the Quad Cities.

First permanently settled by white settlers in the late 18th century, urbanization of the future Quad Cities area grew after the defeat of the Sac-Fox Indians in 1832. The first group settlement in what became Moline was prompted by David B. Sears' construction of a wooden dam between Sylvan Slough and Arsenal Island in the Mississippi River. Sears' dam powered mills along the Mississippi which drew new residents to the new community named "Moline" by surveyor P. H. Ogilvie after the French term for mill ("moulin").

The town of Moline was incorporated in 1848 and expanded into a city of waterfront mills and factories, "the manufacturing center of the west" home to the Moline Wagon Company ("the largest wagon shop in the world"); the Moline Plow Company which reportedly "consume[d] more raw steel than any other plow shop in existence"; and, most famously, Deere & Company, the agricultural equipment manufacturer founded in Moline in 1848 which grew to become one of the largest in the world. The Mississippi River which powered Moline's mills and manufacturing also brought raw materials to Moline and saw completed products shipped east to Chicago (via the Illinois and Michigan Canal) and south to southern ports and around the world via New Orleans, and later through the Panama Canal. By the end of the nineteenth century, an extensive network of railroads connected manufacturers in Moline and its larger urban neighbors of Davenport and Rock Island to markets across the country, and its production capacity earned Moline the moniker "the Lowell of the West."

### **Moline's Stewartville Community**

As Moline's manufacturing successes attracted more investment and more settlement through the nineteenth century, many residents sought less urban settings south of the city closer to the Rock River and coal mines along its waterfront. This southward settlement drive led to the development of Stewartville, Moline's first residential suburb, established by Dr. Jacob Stewart who relocated from Ohio and purchased 89 1/4 acres of rural land a quarter mile south of Moline's southernmost city limit and over a mile and a half from Moline's Mississippi-facing downtown commercial district. Here, Stewart developed approximately fifteen city blocks that became known as Stewartville. Focusing his new development along north-south-running 16th Street and south of what is today 23rd Avenue, Stewart rented and sold homes primary to middle- and working class families, including working class African American families, many of whom worked in Moline's riverfront factories and daily walked to and from

Garfield Elementary School

Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois

County and State

their jobs in the city. Stewartville grew to have its own commercial establishments along 16th Street, a town hall, churches, fraternal lodges, a post office, and its own school – the first Garfield Elementary School located at the southern end of Stewartville at 15th Street and 25th Avenue, first constructed in the 1870s and destroyed in a 1901 fire.

The convenience of a horse-drawn streetcar between Moline and Stewartville, started in 1884, linked the smaller suburb to its larger neighbor, and to the other Tri-Cities by an expanding local streetcar system. The 1880s and 1890s brought more settlement into the rural space between the towns, and in 1896 the city of Moline annexed the community of Stewartville.

Despite its integration into the larger city of Moline, Stewartville remained throughout the twentieth century and remains today a distinct working class community with its busy 16th Street commercial corridor, and its only surviving school building, the Garfield Elementary School.

### **Education in Moline and the Development of the Modern Educational System**

The design and construction of the Garfield Elementary School exemplified a statewide trend in the expansion and specialization of educational facilities during the early twentieth century. In the late nineteenth century, most community schools – like the first Garfield School that burned in 1901 – combined primary and secondary grades into a single building. Moline’s first school house, a brick structure alternately used by local church congregations for worship, was constructed in 1843, two years after the first Sears settlement and six years before the town's incorporation, at the northwest corner of 16<sup>th</sup> Street and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue in what is today downtown Moline. The 1843 school remained Moline's primary public school until 1874, one year after a new city charter created a new city school board.

By the last decades of the nineteenth century, however, there was a growing recognition that younger children and older children had distinctly different educational and developmental needs that could be best served through separate, specialized facilities. Illinois communities had begun separating educational facilities for younger and older children as early as 1851 when the first free public high school opened in Jacksonville, Illinois, just west of Springfield. However, it wasn't until the ratification of a new state constitution in 1870 that many communities, including Moline, were enabled to open separate high schools under the direction of new school boards. Moline’s first age-separated schools opened in 1874 when two schools were constructed, one a separate high school constructed on land purchased from John Deere. Compulsory school attendance laws passed by the Illinois state legislature in 1883 and strengthened in 1889 required children as young as age seven to attend school, increasing the need in Moline for schools for the young.

The twentieth century education reform movement ushered in the era of the modern school building. Beginning in the late nineteenth century, the State of Illinois began to actively encourage communities to replace their older public schools with modern public schools. In marked contrast to the single-room schoolhouse, these modern public schools were large, solidly-built buildings, typically architect-designed of fireproof construction with modern amenities such a central heating, electricity, and indoor plumbing. Spacious classrooms were well lighted and ventilated with large windows. Their interiors reflected the programming needs of the students they were built to serve, generally featuring more specialized spaces to accommodate a diverse curriculum. Primary schools typically featured a kindergarten space and some sort of open assembly space that could serve multiple functions. Separating male and female use of the building through separate entrances, separate staircases, and often even separate types of classrooms was another early twentieth century method of specializing public school education.

Garfield Elementary School

Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois

County and State

The last decades of the nineteenth century brought a surge in modern public school construction in Moline. The Ericsson School and Grant School were both constructed in 1887, the Lincoln School in 1892, and Central in 1895. Of Moline's late nineteenth century public schools, only the Grant School is intact and today serves as the Quad Cities Autism Center

With settlement growing south of older Moline's riverfront neighborhoods, the Moline school board constructed two public elementary schools at the turn-of-the-century, both designed by local architect Olof Z. Cervin. The first, the Willard School, was completed in 1900 in what would become Moline's Wharton neighborhood. The second, the Garfield Elementary School, was completed in 1902 in the recently-annexed Stewartville community, occupying a site which had been home to Stewartville's local schools since the 1870s. The growth of Moline, and Stewartville's working class community, after World War II prompted the expansion of the Garfield Elementary School with a one-story gymnasium and classroom addition in 1955.

By 1907, the Moline School board reported the operation of ten school buildings (including the Garfield Elementary School), the employment of 112 teachers, and an instruction and supervision budget of over \$68,000 independent of school maintenance costs. Moline's growth in the 1910s and 1920s prompted the construction of new high school buildings: the McKinley School in 1913 (extant); the expansive Moline High School in 1915 (extant); the William Carr School in 1918 (demolished); the Logan School in 1921 (demolished), and the Fairview School in 1922.

After the economic depression of the 1930s and 1940s, which saw cuts in teacher salaries and decreased school enrollment, the prosperity and population growth of postwar Moline spurred the construction of a number of new public schools, often on the sites of demolished older schools. 1940s and 1950s renovations and additions to Moline's older schools included a 1955 gymnasium and classroom addition to the Garfield Elementary School.

As part of a response to life safety and fire codes created in 1958 and expanded during the 1960s, the elaborate roofs of both the Garfield and Willard Schools were removed and replaced with flat roofs.

Today the Moline public school system owns one early childhood center, twelve elementary schools (Garfield is among them, though it recently closed), two middle schools, and two high schools.

The Grant School, Willard School, and Garfield Elementary School remain the three oldest surviving public school buildings in Moline. The Garfield Elementary School remains the only surviving public school building in Moline's Stewartville community.

### **Olof Z. Cervin, 1902 Block Architect**

Olof Cervin was born in 1868 in Paxton, Illinois, approximately thirty miles northeast of Champaign, to Swedish-born parents. Cervin's father, an ordained minister, was a professor at Augustana College in Paxton; when the college relocated to Rock Island, Illinois, in 1875, the Cervin family moved to Rock Island with it. Olof Cervin graduated from Augustana with a Bachelor of Science degree, then studied at Columbia University in New York City where he received a Master of Architecture degree while working in a local architect's office. After spending some time working for an architect in Chicago, Cervin returned to the Quad Cities in 1896 where he opened his own architectural practice, located first in Moline, then in Rock Island. Cervin worked as an independent architect for over twenty years until he partnered with

Garfield Elementary School

Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois

County and State

architect Ben Horn in 1918. In 1929, architect William Stuhr joined the firm which became Cervin, Horn & Stuhr. Fifteen years later in 1944, Horn left the firm which operated as Cervin & Stuhr until Olof Cervin's retirement at the age of eighty in 1949.

In over half a century as a working architect, Olof Z. Cervin worked individually or with partners on a number of the Quad Cities' most prominent structures. Working independently in his first two decades in Moline, Cervin was best known for his office structures including the Safety Building (extant) in Rock Island, the first major use of reinforced concrete construction in the Quad Cities; and the Reliance Building (extant) in Moline, completed in 1912.

### **William F. Bernbrock, 1955 Block Architect**

Architect William F. "Bill" Bernbrock was born in Quincy, Illinois and attended the University of Notre Dame. After working in Springfield and Aurora, Bernbrock returned to the Quad Cities., setting up at practice at the Fifth Avenue Building in downtown Moline.

Bill Bernbrock's firm Bernbrock Architects & Engineers was primarily an institutional architect of hospitals, colleges, schools, and churches. His best-known works included Franciscan (now Trinity) Hospital in Rock Island; Black Hawk College, Moline Public Hospital, First National Bank, Sacred Heart Grade School and Culleman Hall in Moline; Assumption High School in Davenport, Iowa; Loras College in Dubque, Iowa; and Songang University Library in Seoul, South Korea.

In addition to his 1955 addition at the Garfield Elementary School, Bernbrock was architect of a 1957 remodeling the 1909 Bettendorf/Washington School in Bettendorf, Iowa.

Bill Bernbrock was a member of the American Institute of Architects. He died in 2009 at the age of 96.

---

## **9. Major Bibliographical References**

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

"Advertisement for Bids," *The Sterling Daily Gazette*, April 17, 1970.

Allendale School District Archives.

*American School Board Journal*. December 1901.

"Business Buildings." *The Construction News (1897-1916)*, January 12, 1898. American Periodicals, 31.

Cervin, Olof Z. "Method of Drawing an Elliptical Arch." *The American Architect and Building News (1876-1908)*. January 31, 1903. American Periodicals, 40.

Cervin, Olof Z. "Sweden—III." *The American Architect and Building News (1897-1908)*. October 6, 1906. American Periodicals, 109.

"Directory of Illinois Licensed Architects: Chicago." *The Construction News (1897-1916)*. July 3, 1909. American Periodicals, 19.

"Erie Unit Board Accepts Bid for \$550,000 in Bonds," *The Daily Gazette*, June 8, 1973, 11.

Garfield Elementary School

Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois

County and State

*The Fire Chief's Handbook*, Eds. Robert C. Barr and John M. Eversole, Tulsa: PennWell Corporation, 2003.

“Garfield Has Largest Enrollment; First Building Destroyed by Fire.” *Daily Dispatch*. 1982.

“General Association of Illinois.” *The Advance*. June 1, 1871. American Periodicals, 1.

“Housing at Davenport.” *The National Builder (1896-1924)*. August 1, 1920.

Illinois State Board of Education, website: [www.isbe.state.il.us](http://www.isbe.state.il.us), accessed June 25, 2016.

Newspaper clippings from the Rock Island Historical Society.

“Off the Beaten Path.” *Moline Daily Dispatch*. May 7, 1949.

Parcel Record for 1518 – 25th Avenue, City of Moline, Illinois.

Pollard, Rebecca S. *Pollard's Synthetic Method of Reading and Spelling: A Complete Manual*. Chicago: Western Publishing House, 1894.

“The Reporter.” Moline Education Association. Vol. IX. No. V. March 1957.

Roseman, Curtis C. *Stewartville, Illinois: A 19<sup>th</sup> Century Suburb Created for People of Modest Means*.

*Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*, 1912 and 1957.

“Schools.” *The Construction News (1897-1916)*. December 15, 1906. American Periodicals, pg. 497.

“Series Aids Compliance with Codes,” *The Chicago Tribune*, April 9, 1970, W3.

“Tom Lundeen,” Obituary. *Quad-City Times*, August 12, 2009.

*Williamson County Illinois Sesquicentennial History*, Ed. Stan J. Hale, Nashville: Turner Publishing Co., 1993.

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Garfield Elementary School  
Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property less than 1 acre**

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>41.486965</u>	<u>-90.514931</u>	3	_____	_____
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude
2	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Garfield Elementary School stands at its original location on a site bordered by 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the north, 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the south, 15<sup>th</sup> Street to the west, and a public alley to west abutting adjacent commercial and residential structures. The boundaries encompass the entire parcel of land associated with the Garfield Elementary School at 1518 25th Avenue in Moline, Illinois.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries encompass the entire parcel of land associated with the Garfield Elementary School Building in Moline, Illinois.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title John Cramer, Senior Associate date 4/21/2016  
organization MacRostie Historic Advisors, LLC telephone 312-973-3904  
street & number 53 West Jackson Blvd., Suite 1142 email jcramer@mac-ha.com  
city or town Chicago state IL zip code 60604

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **GIS Location Map (Google Earth or BING)**
- **Local Location Map**
- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).



Garfield Elementary School  
Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois  
County and State

**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, 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:** Garfield Elementary School

**City or Vicinity:** Moline

**County:** Rock Island County **State:** IL

**Photographer:** John Cramer

**Date Photographed:** August 2015

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

- Photo 1 of 15:** North elevation, looking south
- Photo 2 of 15:** North elevation, looking south
- Photo 3 of 15:** North and west elevations, looking southeast
- Photo 4 of 15:** North and west elevations, looking southeast
- Photo 5 of 15:** West elevation, looking east
- Photo 6 of 15:** West and south elevations, looking northeast
- Photo 7 of 15:** East elevation, looking west
- Photo 8 of 15:** East elevation, looking west
- Photo 9 of 15:** South elevation, looking northeast
- Photo 10 of 15:** Typical corridor (1902 building)
- Photo 11 of 15:** Typical stair (1902 building)
- Photo 12 of 15:** Typical classroom (1902 building)
- Photo 13 of 15:** Gymnasium (1902 building)
- Photo 14 of 15:** Typical corridor (1955 building)
- Photo 15 of 15:** Typical classroom (1955 building)

**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.).

**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, DC.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Garfield Elementary School

Name of Property

Rock Island County, Illinois

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 18

### List of Figures

(Resize, compact, and paste images of maps and historic documents in this section. Place captions, with figure numbers above each image. Orient maps so that north is at the top of the page, all document should be inserted with the top toward the top of the page.

**Figure 1:** Garfield School location map

**Figure 2:** *Sanborn Fire Insurance Map*, 1912

**Figure 3:** *Sanborn Fire Insurance Map*, 1957, showing 1955 gymnasium and classroom additions

**Figure 4:** Old Garfield School, c. 1899 (Rock Island County Historical Society)

**Figure 5:** Garfield School c. 1902 (Rock Island County Historical Society)

**Figure 6:** Minutes from Moline Education Association meeting, c. 1955 (Allendale School District Archives)

**Figure 7:** Gymnasium addition, c. 1955 (Allendale School District Archives)

**Figure 8:** 1902 building north elevation, c.1975 (Illinois Architectural Resources Geographic System, or HARGIS)

**Figure 9:** Historic image of the Grant School, c. 1899 (Rock Island Historical Society)

**Figure 10:** Current aerial view (2015) of the Grant School showing alterations to the original roof

**Figure 11:** McKinley School, c. 1915

**Figure 12:** Current photograph (2015) of the McKinley School showing alterations to the original crenelated parapet

**Figure 13:** Current photograph (2015) of the Willard School, looking southeast toward the west and north elevations showing the altered roof line and non-historic cornice

**Figure 14:** Current photograph (2015) of the Willard School, showing the altered roof line and non-historic cornice on the east elevation

Property name: Garfield Elementary School  
Illinois, County: Rock Island



**Figure 1:** Garfield Elementary School location map (1518 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Moline, Illinois)

Property name: Garfield Elementary School  
Illinois, County: Rock Island

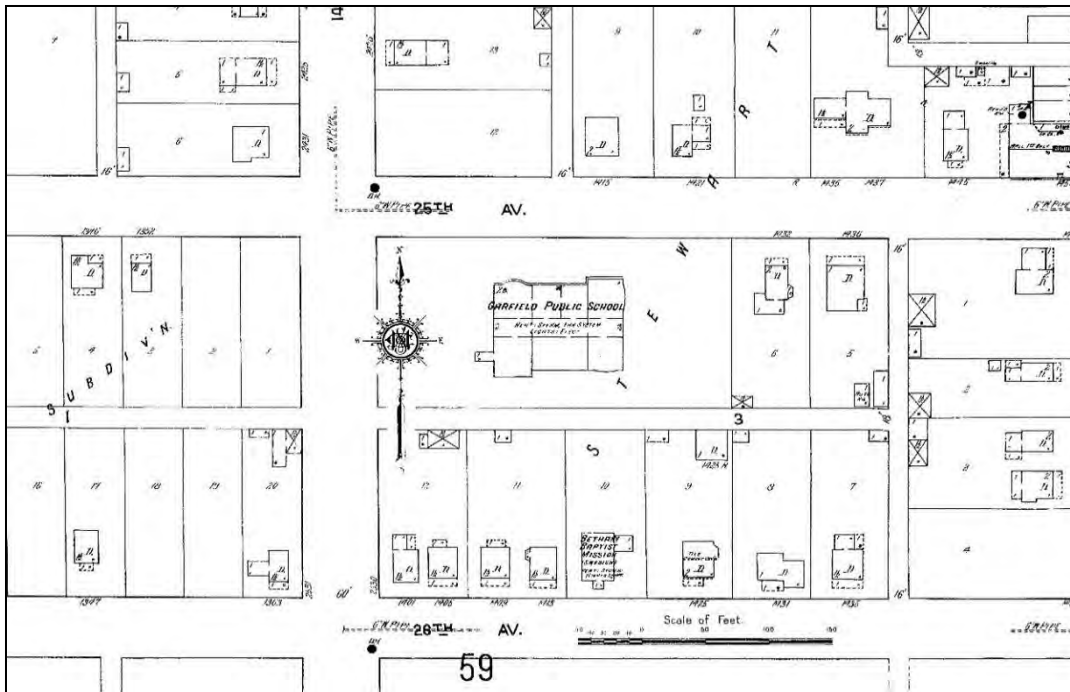


Figure 2: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1912

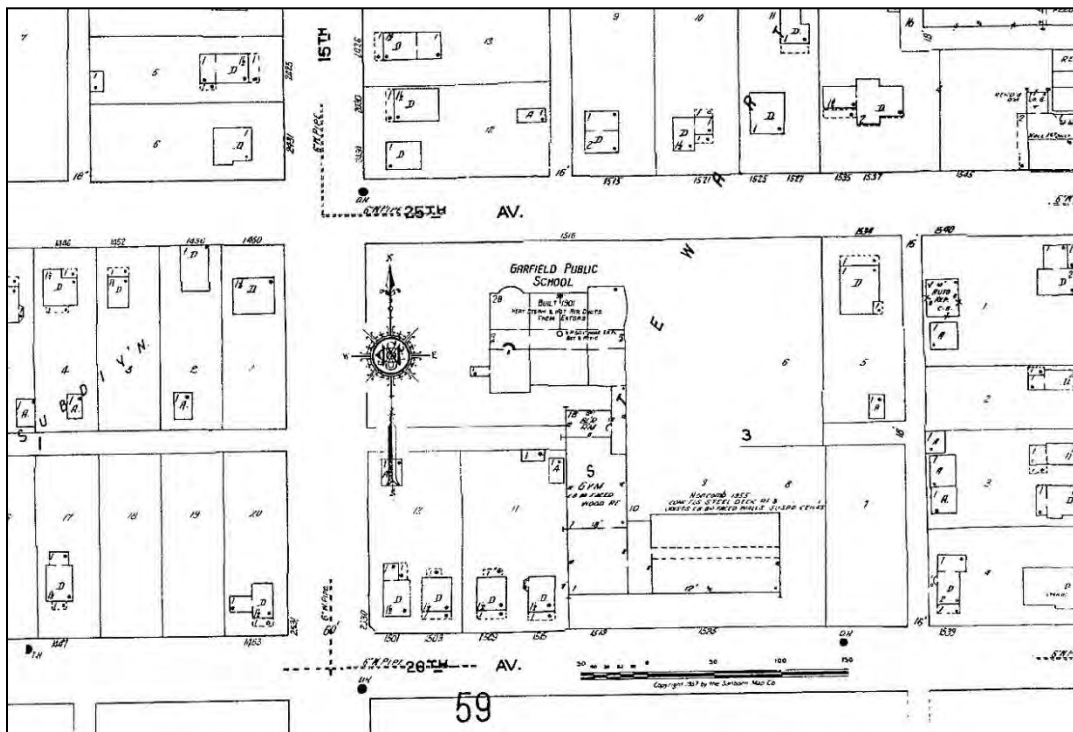
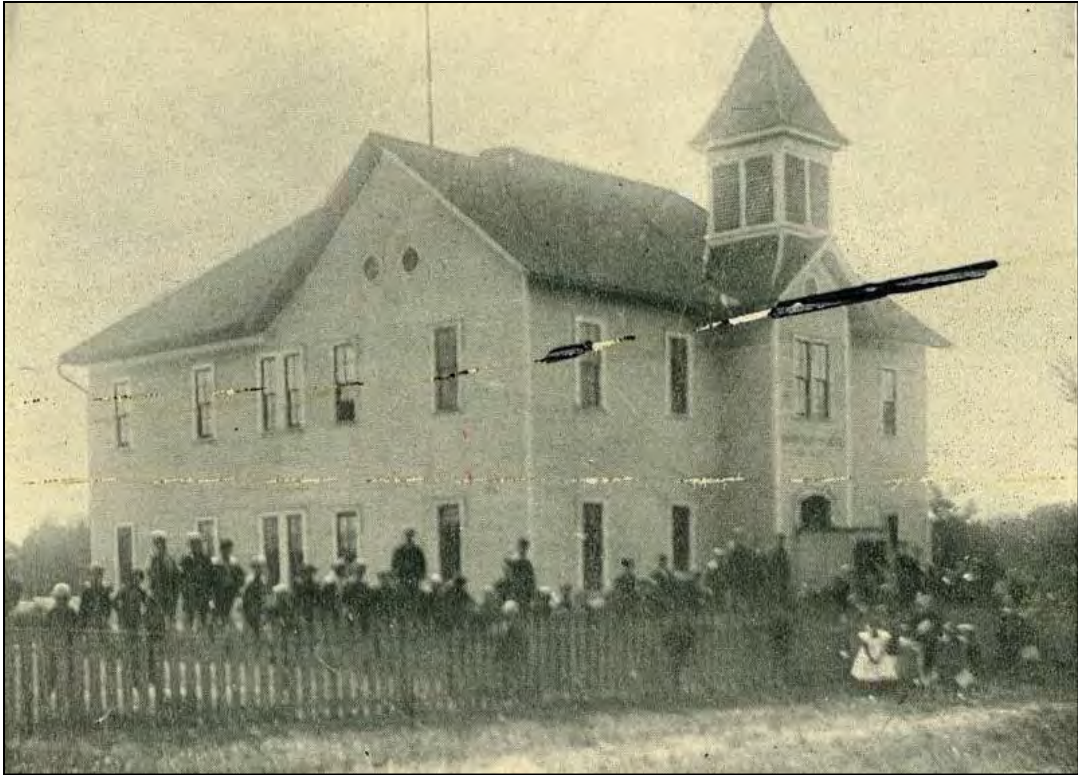


Figure 3: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1957, showing 1955 gymnasium and classroom additions

Property name: Garfield Elementary School  
Illinois, County: Rock Island



**Figure 4:** Old Garfield School, c. 1899 (Rock Island County Historical Society)



**Figure 5:** Garfield School c. 1902 (Rock Island County Historical Society)

Property name: Garfield Elementary School  
Illinois, County: Rock Island

OPEN HOUSE - GARFIELD ADDITION  
November 13, 1955

1 Kindergarten room  
5 Classrooms  
1 Multi-purpose room

Heating plant for Garfield and Addition  
Boys' and Girls' rest rooms

14,314 square feet  
185,531 cubic feet

**Image 6:** Minutes from Moline Education Association meeting, c. 1955  
(Allendale School District Archives)



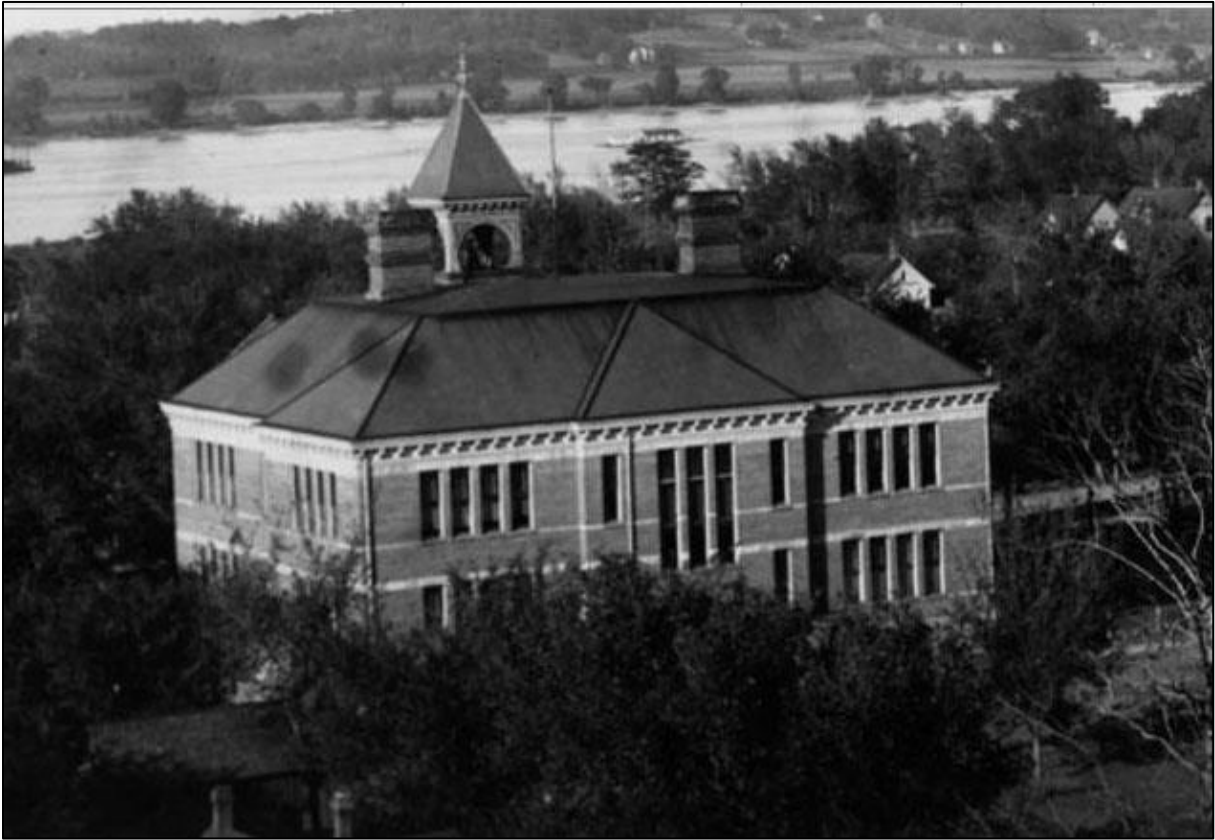
**Figure 7:** Gymnasium addition, c. 1955 (Allendale School District Archives)

Property name: Garfield Elementary School  
Illinois, County: Rock Island



**Figure 8:** 1902 building north elevation, c.1975 (Illinois Architectural Resources Geographic System, or HARGIS)

Property name: Garfield Elementary School  
Illinois, County: Rock Island



**Figure 9:** Historic image of the Grant School, c. 1899 (Rock Island Historical Society)



**Figure 10:** Current aerial view (2015) of the Grant School showing alterations to the original roof



Property name: Garfield Elementary School  
Illinois, County: Rock Island



**Figure 11:** McKinley School, c. 1915



**Figure 12:** Current photograph (2015) of the McKinley School showing alterations to the original crenelated parapet



**Figure 13:** Current photograph (2015) of the Willard School, looking southeast toward the west and north elevations showing the altered roof line and non-historic cornice



**Figure 14:** Current photograph (2015) of the Willard School, showing the altered roof line and non-historic cornice on the east elevation



GARFIELD SCHOOL

Lead to Succeed



GARFIELD

23

101

NO PARKING

# GARFIELD



All Visit  
and Guest  
Registers  
Scheidt &  
Phone for 100







EXIT

GIRLS













Date Center

L.A. Jan. to  
What is a Feb. two 2  
spookreader March too  
April  
Sept. 12 May What is  
Oct. 25 June add-on  
Nov. 25 July  
What is Dec. July  
space? Aug.

www.fishbase.org

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:  Date of Pending List:  Date of 16th Day:  Date of 45th Day:  Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept  Return  Reject  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.



February 15, 2017

Ms. Barbara Wyatt  
National Register of Historic Places Program  
National Park Service, Department of the Interior  
1201 Eye Street, NW (2280)  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Wyatt:

Enclosed are the disks that contain the true and correct copies of the National Register nominations recommended for nomination by the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council at its October 28, 2016 meeting and signed by the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer:

Garfield Elementary School, Moline – Rock Island County

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PACKAGE ALSO CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING:**

**Residential Hotels in Chicago, 1880 – 1930 Multiple Property Document Corrections (MC 10000543)**

**Middletown Historic District,--Alton, Madison County – CD with the photographs missing from the original submittal**

Please contact me at 217/785-4324 if you need any additional information. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Andrew Heckenkamp, Coordinator  
Survey and National Register program

enclosures