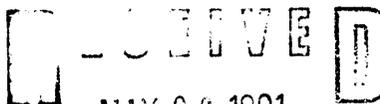


United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name C. E. Byrd High School other names/site number

2. Location

street & number 3201 Line Avenue city, town Shreveport state Louisiana code LA county Caddo code 017 zip code 71106

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private, public-local (checked), public-State, public-Federal. Category of Property: building(s) (checked), district, site, structure, object. Number of Resources within Property: Contributing (1), Noncontributing (3 buildings, sites, structures, objects), Total (3). Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0.

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. Signature of certifying official: Leslie Tassin, LA SHPO, Dept of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. Date: May 3, 1991.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. Signature of commenting or other official: Date: State or Federal agency and bureau:

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is: entered in the National Register (checked), determined eligible for the National Register, determined not eligible for the National Register, removed from the National Register, other (explain:). Entered in the National Register: Signature of the Keeper: Date of Action: 6/10/91

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Jacobean Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concretewalls brick

roof tarother terra cotta

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Byrd High School (1924) is a large four story building constructed of brownish red brick and ornamented with cream-colored terra cotta. Its elaborate detailing is derived principally from Elizabethan and Jacobean sources (chiefly the latter). The school has the presence of a great English country house despite its minimal setback from Line Avenue, a major four-lane thoroughfare. There have been various alterations over the years, as would be expected in a school in use since 1924. However, all in all, the various modernization/expansion programs at Byrd have had a minimal visual impact.

The school has a very conventional five-part articulation -- a projecting central pavilion with projecting end pavilions. Classrooms are organized around two light courts with an auditorium in between. Staircases, located near each corner of the building, are articulated on the side elevations as projecting pavilions. The school's main staircases are located in the central section on each side of the auditorium.

Byrd's architectural character is derived from detailing rather than massing. There was no attempt to create the fanciful silhouettes so favored by Jacobean builders. The most richly ornamented sections of the building are the central entrance pavilion and the pavilions on the side elevations, with the former, of course, being the most elaborate.

Details inspired by Elizabethan and Jacobean architecture include:

- (1) the use of quoins in a contrasting material to mark the various projections (in this case cream-colored terra cotta);
- (2) extensive use of strapwork (in panels punctuating the parapet, pierced panels on the entrance pavilion and side pavilions, and the spandrels of the entrance arcade);
- (3) the shaped gable crowning the entrance pavilion;
- (4) the spiky, obelisk-like finials highlighting the roofline;
- (5) the bulbous, turned balusters of the balustrade defining the elevated approach to the building;

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Continuation Sheet**

C. E. Byrd High School, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 1

- (6) roundels supported by volutes found atop windows on the entrance pavilion and side elevation pavilions;
- (7) lozenges found in various places, most notably the entrance arcade and balustrade newel posts; and
- (8) the very elaborate terra cotta three-part entrance arcade which is articulated in the manner of a screen found in the great hall of a Jacobean house. It is crowned by a large bas relief panel featuring the state seal (a pelican feeding her young) flanked by cherubs. (A Jacobean screen would have stags supporting a coat-of-arms.)

Byrd has numerous other exterior features worthy of note, including:

- (1) the linenfold panels separating the two bands of windows on the entrance pavilion;
- (2) four bas relief ram's heads in the entablature of the central pavilion;
- (3) an elaborate patera treatment in the arcade arches;
- (4) decorative brickwork in the front end pavilions and the parapet level of the central pavilion;
- (5) the ornamented round arch terra cotta doorways on the side elevations.

The interior of Byrd High is plain and functional except for the entrance vestibule and auditorium. The former has a simple arcade treatment. The auditorium, which seats approximately 1,500, has a richly detailed ceiling formed of large panels accented with bolection moldings. Classrooms feature doors with large transoms and similar transoms set in the upper walls for ventilation.

Alterations since construction include:

- (1) The original wooden windows were replaced with aluminum windows.
- (2) Dropped acoustical tile ceilings have been installed (with the exception of the main hall on the first floor).
- (3) A large brick gym was constructed on the southeast (rear) corner. It is attached to the main building via covered walkways.
- (4) Two small buildings were constructed directly to the rear, also attached via walkways.

CONTINUED

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C. E. Byrd High School, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, LA

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- (5) Walkways attached at the rear of the side elevations have obscured the round arch doorways.

The exterior alterations have not had as much visual impact as one might expect. The new construction is all set to the rear. While the covered walkways obscure two of the doorways on the side elevation, they have caused no permanent damage and could be removed easily. All things considered, the replacement aluminum windows have had a relatively minimal visual impact, partially because they follow the pattern of the originals but with fewer glazing bars. It should also be noted that virtually every old Shreveport school has received aluminum windows, and it is the least jarring at Byrd, perhaps because the viewers' attention is absorbed by the elaborate terra cotta ornamentation. In short, alterations notwithstanding, Byrd's Jacobean character survives intact, and hence its architectural significance.

Non-Contributing Elements:

The three modern buildings mentioned above (gym and two small buildings) are, of course, listed as non-contributing elements.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
architecture

Period of Significance
1924

Significant Dates
1924

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Architect: Edward F. Neild
Contractor: Stewart McGehee Construction Co.

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

C. E. Byrd High School is locally significant in the area of architecture because it contributes to Shreveport's identity as a major center of twentieth century eclectic architecture. Of the major landmarks, it is the only example of the Jacobean Revival style.

Louisiana's third largest city was founded in the 1830s, and although noteworthy buildings survive from the Victorian era, it is in the twentieth century styles that Shreveport truly excels. Due largely to a major oil boom, the city experienced explosive growth in the early twentieth century, particularly the late teens and 1920s. During these boom years, numerous major buildings (largely institutional) were erected in a variety of historic revival styles. Around thirty first-class examples survive, and these establish Shreveport as Louisiana's most important center of eclecticism, with the possible exception of New Orleans. Byrd High is one of these landmark eclectic revival style buildings and is the only one in the Jacobean Revival style.

Historical Note:

Byrd High School was named for Clifton Ellis Byrd (1859-1926), an educator who served as principal of Shreveport High School, city superintendent of schools, president of Louisiana Industrial Institute (now Louisiana Tech), and the first superintendent of public schools of Caddo Parish. He served in the latter capacity from 1907 until his death in 1926.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Building cornerstone.

Fricker, Donna. "Emulating the Past: Shreveport's Early Twentieth Century Architecture," Preservation in Print, September 1990.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

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

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property @ 8 acres

UTM References

A

1	5
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4	2	9	9	6	0
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3	5	9	3	7	2	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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 Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Please refer to sketch map.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Boundaries follow property lines to the south, west and north. The rear (east) boundary does not follow the property line because to have done so would have meant including various non-contributing athletic facilities. The non-contributing buildings included within the nominated acreage were too close to the school to easily exclude.

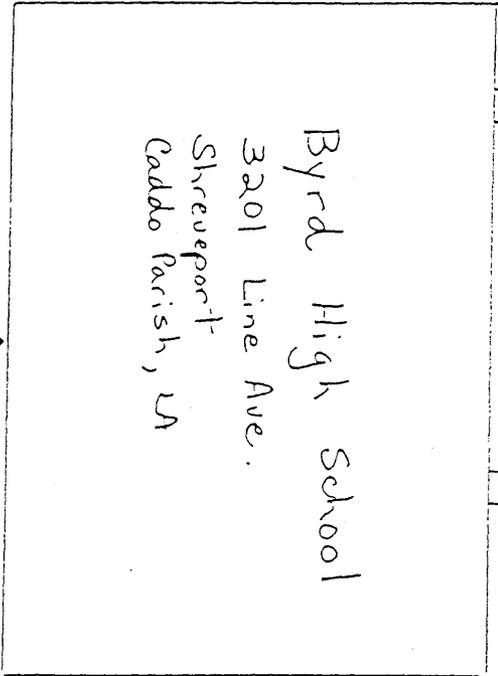
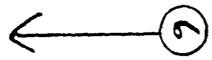
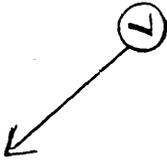
See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register Staff
 organization Division of Historic Preservation date March 1991
 street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone (504) 342-8160
 city or town Baton Rouge state Louisiana zip code 70804

Owner: Caddo Parish Schools
 P. O. Box 32000
 Shreveport, LA 71130-2000

KW65 HWY



Byrd High School
3201 Line Ave.
Shreveport
Caddo Parish, LA

non-contributing

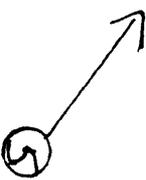
non-contributing

GYM
(non-contributing)



LINE AVE.

Gladstone



BOUNDARY

Scale, 1" = 100'