

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

NRIS Reference Number: 99000492

Property Name: Le Mars Central High School

County: Plymouth State: Iowa

\_\_\_\_\_  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*David McAllister* May 14, 1999  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

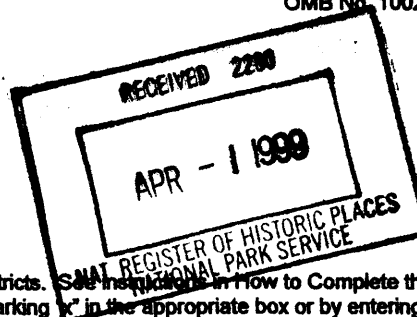
Section 8 Statement of Significance: "1952" is, hereby, dropped from the list of significant dates.

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Beth Foster of the Iowa State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

**DISTRIBUTION:**  
National Register property file  
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



492

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, work processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Le Mars Central High School

other names/site number Plymouth County Historical Museum

2. Location

street & number 335 - 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SW N/A  not for publication

city or town Le Mars N/A  vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Plymouth code 149 zip code 51031

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  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

*Sam Morain*

3/24/99

Signature of certifying official/Title  
**STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA**

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the property is :
  - entered in the National Register.
    - See continuation sheet.
  - determined eligible for the National Register
    - See continuation sheet.
  - determined not eligible for the National Register.
  - removed from the National Register.
  - other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

*Lynda McClelland*

Date of Action

5/14/99

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Le Mars Central High School  
Name of Property

Plymouth, IA  
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		1	buildings
0		0	sites
0		1	structures
0		0	objects
1		2	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

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

N/A

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

none

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education - School

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture:

Museum

Sports facility

Vacant/Not in Use

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19<sup>th</sup> and EARLY 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY Revivals  
Colonial Revival

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Brick

roof asphalt

other Limestone

Tin

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark an '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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

**Architecture**

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**Period of Significance**

1905 - 1924

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**Significant Dates**

1905

1924

1952

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Atchison & Edbrooke

Huxtable, John A

See section 8, page 4

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographic References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of repository:

Plymouth County Historical Museum

Le Mars Central High School  
Name of Property

Plymouth, Iowa  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property less than one

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 14 731620 4741020

3 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Sharon Starling

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date 3/8/99

street & number 3921 Orleans Avenue telephone 712-255-4321 ext. 39 (day)

city or town Sioux City state IA zip code 51106

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**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.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Plymouth County Historical Museum ALSO SEE CONTINUATION SHEET, PAGE 10

street & number 335 - 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SW telephone 712-546-7002

city or town Le Mars state IA zip code 51031

**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. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Le Mars Central High School  
Le Mars, Plymouth County, IA

Narrative Description

The Le Mars Central High School is located on Lots One, Two, Three, Four and the North Three Feet of Lot Five in Block Forty-Three in the City of Le Mars. This block of land was used continuously for educational purposes since 1876 when it was purchased from the railroad, until 1981 when new school buildings were constructed at different locations. The first school in the Le Mars district was actually established in Melbourne, approximately ten miles south of Le Mars in the mid 1860's. However, when railroad service to the area bypassed Melbourne and was constructed into Le Mars, the school was moved and the first high school building in Le Mars was constructed in 1876 on this block. The three story building, complete with a bell cupola, was heated by coal stoves. When first built, it was not considered safe for children to walk to the school alone because of "rattlesnakes in the tall grass" (The Mill, 1922). It served the area until 1905 when the "new" school was built on the same block and the original 1876 building was torn down.

The 1905 building stands as a hub to additions built in 1924 and 1952. This building was designed in a Colonial Revival influenced school design by the Atchison and Edbrooke architectural firm of Chicago and was constructed by John A. Huxtable of Le Mars. The building is described in great detail in a 1904 High School Annual which includes the following information:

"The structure consists of two stories and a basement. The material is to be Des Moines vitrified paving brick, of a very dark or reddish black color with basement door and window trimmings of white Bedford Stone. As contracted for, the roofing is to be of the best slate, but a change to tiling is permitted and is probable.

In size the building is to be 126 feet front and 77 feet deep, facing the east and 50 feet from the street line. The central portion, which is 70 x 75 feet, projects, except for the entrance, 6 feet in front of the wings, which are 28 x 77 feet, extending further back a corresponding distance. The basement which is 10 feet 6 inches in height, except in the engine room where it is nearly 12 feet, will stand about 6 feet 8 inches above the grade line."

The article goes on to detail all three floors of the building, which contained seven elementary classrooms and the superintendent's office on the first floor; a "commodious" assembly room, three small recitation rooms, three larger recitation rooms, a business training room, a boys' and girls' wardrobe and a biological laboratory and physical laboratory on the second floor; and an engine room, heating and ventilating plant, well equipped toilet rooms and two large spaces intended for a gymnasium and manual training room in the basement. Estimated cost for the building was \$40,000.

Two additions were made to the original building, one in 1924 and the second in 1952. The 1924 addition was designed by Beuttler and Arnold of Sioux City and is similar in look and construction to the 1905 building. The

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Le Mars Central High School  
Le Mars, Plymouth County, IA

general contractor for the 1924 section was Devereux and Olsen of Minneapolis, MN at a cost of \$111,633. According to an article in the Le Mars Sentinel on 7/31/23, three local subcontractors were to be utilized on the project: Mathey Plumbing Company, Consumers Electric Company and Johnson Service Company (heating & ventilation).

The addition is described in great detail in the October 12, 1923 edition of the Le Mars Sentinel, and included the following information: the 1924 addition runs south, then west from the original building. The section running south consists of two stories and a basement, while the section running west is two stories high, but has no basement. Overall measurements of the 1924 addition are 97 feet 8 inches to the south; 215 feet 10 inches to the west; and 107 feet 7 inches to the north. The structure is in the form of an open "E" thus affording unilateral lighting in all rooms from either the south, east or north. The auditorium and gymnasium are the only portions of the addition receiving light exclusively from the west. This addition contained 13 classrooms, a science laboratory, home economics rooms, library, auditorium/gymnasium, offices and a boiler room.

The third addition, built in 1952, was also designed by William Beuttler of Sioux City, with the general contractor being Nemmers Brothers of Le Mars. Total cost for this addition was \$135,000. While this addition is currently a non-contributing factor at this time, it is of note because it is in a totally different architectural style than the 1905 and 1924 sections and is a classic example of 1950's architecture in the "Industrial" style. Building dimensions are 82 x 60 feet, with a total three floor area of 14,760 square feet. The type of construction is fire-proof, re-enforced concrete steel and brick, with features including window openings of non-glare directional glass block with a "vision strip" underneath and terrazzo floors in the corridors and stairways. This addition contained five classrooms, vocal music room, art/audio visual room, general activity room and offices. This addition was a part of a bond issue which also included the construction of a new vocational building. The vote which approved this bond issue took place during a blizzard in March of 1951 and passed by a margin of only 43 votes. The annex was dedicated in a public ceremony on October 10, 1952.

The Le Mars Central High School was closed by the School Board at the close of the 1980 academic year. At the time of its closing, only the 1952 section was in use for grade school activities: the senior high had moved into a new building in 1965 and the junior high was moved into a new building in 1972. Building reuse began in 1981 when Mr. Roger Sitzmann converted the auditorium and gymnasium in the 1924 addition into a racquetball club and exercise area. The Plymouth County Historical Museum purchased the remainder of the building in 1983.

Currently only the 1924 section of the building is occupied: the Plymouth County Historical Museum owns and occupies the section running south and the classrooms of the section running west. The auditorium and gymnasium portion of the 1924 addition are owned by Mr. Roger Sitzmann and have been converted into a racquetball club and exercise area. The 1905 section has been unoccupied since the school closed in 1981 and the 1952 section has been

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Le Mars Central High School  
Le Mars, Plymouth County, IA

occupied by various business enterprises since that date; however both are currently uninhabitable due to leakage problems from the roof and drainage system. However, the prognosis is extremely good for the restoration and occupancy of these two sections. A structural engineer has evaluated all sections and found them to be structurally sound. The building's tuckpointing has also been evaluated, with 90% judged in excellent condition. A Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Program grant awarded in 1997 by the State Historical Society of Iowa replaced roofs on both the 1905 and 1952 sections. The following unique features are extant and can be restored to their original appearance:

- Unique curved woodwork which exists around the entire upper portion of the study hall in the 1905 section
- Tongue in groove hardwood floors which have been evaluated by a local woodworker to be of extremely high quality and dating back to the early 1900's
- Oak banisters on wide staircases
- Paladian windows with "fan" sections of glass which exist over two entrance doors
- A half round window with straight paned glass which opens to permit the raising and lowering of the flag
- Oak woodwork around doors, including transoms
- Two skylights in the study hall of the 1905 section are boarded over, but intact.

In addition, while many windows have been boarded over, the majority of sashes and framing are still existent and need only to be refinished and reinstalled. All exterior doors are original to the building. Very few alterations have occurred throughout the building, the most noticeable being the enlargement of classrooms in the second floor of the 1905 section via the removal of interior, non-support walls.

Two non-contributing elements located on the grounds of the Le Mars Central High School include a log cabin and a windmill. The log cabin was originally built in 1859 in Hancock Township in southern Plymouth County and is currently the oldest standing building in Plymouth County. It was constructed on land purchased on a civil war deed with native materials including oak and elm logs. The cabin and property was purchased by the Weber family in 1907 and occupied by family members until 1952. It was moved to the previous site of the Plymouth County Historical Museum in 1967 and to its current site at the Le Mars Central High School in 1984.

The windmill was originally located on the farm of Norman Weber in Fredonia Township in the northeast corner of Plymouth County. It was donated to the Museum by Frank Weber (son of Norman) and moved to its current location in 1991. It is not known if these Weber's are related to the owners of the log cabin.



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**Le Mars Central High School  
Le Mars, Plymouth County, IA**

### Architect/Builder Continued

Beuttler, William  
Arnold, Ralph  
Devereux & Olsen  
Nemmer Brothers

### Statement of Significance

The Le Mars Central High School is significant under Criterion C as a good local example of a Colonial Revival influence public building. This influence is readily apparent in the 1905 and 1924 sections of the building. The 1952 section was designed in what might best be described as something of an industrial style.

The site on which the school is located has been used for educational purposes for almost 125 years. Prior to the construction of the high school on this site in 1876, students attended one of five township schools which were a part of the Plymouth County school system established in 1858, with the primary attendance center for the Le Mars area being in Melbourne, a town ten miles south of Le Mars. The Le Mars Independent School District was established via a community vote in 1874 and classes were held in a two story frame school house built by G. M. Baker and S. M. Herman which served the community until the new high school was constructed in Le Mars in 1876. The current building was built on the same block, #43, in 1905 replacing the 1876 building which was torn down. The 1905 building originally housed grades Kindergarten through Twelve. In 1938 it was converted to a Junior and Senior High School Building and in its final years of use beginning in 1972 it reverted to an elementary school until its closure in 1981.

Architects and Contractors for the three sections of the building are as follows:

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 1905 Section: | Atchison & Edbrooke, Chicago, IL - Architects<br>John Huxtable, Le Mars, IA - Contractor         |
| 1924 Section: | Beuttler & Arnold, Sioux City, IA - Architects<br>Devereux & Olsen, Minneapolis, MN - Contractor |
| 1952 Section: | William Beuttler, Sioux City, IA - Architect<br>Nemmer Brothers, Le Mars, IA - Contractor        |

The architectural style of the original 1905 building is a late 19th, early 20th century Colonial Revival influenced school design. Accentuated doors, placed symmetrically on either side of a center front gable have overhead

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Le Mars Central High School  
Le Mars, Plymouth County, IA

fanlights with no supporting pilasters. The design of the windows is a double hung sash with nine panes on the upper sash and a single large pane on the lower sash. Windows are placed symmetrically throughout the building.

No information was found on Atchison & Edbrooke of Chicago, Illinois, architects for the 1905 building.

John A. Huxtable

John A. Huxtable, contractor for the 1905 section of the building, was widely known in northwest Iowa for his building expertise and was also a citizen of high standing in the community of Le Mars. Born on January 27, 1858 in Mineral Point, Wisconsin, he was apprenticed at an early age in the carpenter trade. Mr. Huxtable came to Le Mars in 1880, during the boom days of northwest Iowa, and worked with the Close Brothers, founders of the English Colony near Le Mars. He also worked on buildings on the famous Moreton Ranch, northwest of Le Mars. He gradually rose to Master Builder status and established his own contracting company, engaging in construction work on a large scale. He married Miss Lavinia Thomas at Linden, WI in 1881 and they lived in Le Mars until 1886. They then moved to Slayton, MN for a period of five years, but returned to Le Mars in 1893 and remained there until Mr. Huxtable's death in 1935. The couple had six sons.

Mr. Huxtable built numerous buildings in the northwest Iowa area including the First Trust and Savings Bank of Le Mars; St. Michael's Church in Kingsley; the Kingsley Public School; the Opera House in Akron; and bank buildings in Cleghorn, Anthon, Lawton and Battle Creek.

Mr. Huxtable's wood working expertise is especially notable in the Le Mars Central High School as evidenced by the half-round Palladian windows at the front of the school building above the two entrance doors, which contain "fan" sections of glass. In addition, a unique window in the second story of the building is half round in shape with straight panes of glass which open to permit the flag to be raised and lowered. Woodwork throughout the building shows painstaking attention to detail and includes rare curved woodwork around the entire upper portion of the study hall/auditorium; detailed carving on oak staircase banisters; oak woodwork around doors and transoms; and high quality tongue in groove hardwood floors.

Devereux and Olsen, Minneapolis, MN

The general contractor for the 1924 addition to Le Mars Central High School was Devereux and Olsen of Minneapolis, Minnesota. A brief mention in the contract letting notice for the building in the July 31, 1923 issue of the Le Mars Sentinel says, "The successful bidder for the general contract is now building a new school house in Minneapolis and has recently completed a million dollar school building in Fargo, ND."

The Le Mars Central High School building also offers a fascinating opportunity to observe the growth and change in architectural styles by a single architectural firm, that of Beuttler and Arnold of Sioux City, Iowa. This firm

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Le Mars Central High School  
Le Mars, Plymouth County, IA

designed both the 1924 and 1952 additions to the original building, which are totally dissimilar, but true to the time in which they were implemented.

William Beuttler

William Beuttler was born in Hannibal, Missouri in 1883 and came to Sioux City in 1911. He was an architect for CB & Q R/R in Chicago, IL from 1906-1908 and then studied architecture at Washington University in St. Louis, MO from 1909 to 1911. He was employed by W. W. Beach, architect in Sioux City in 1911 and 1912. He formed a partnership with Ralph Arnold in 1912 and they opened the Beuttler and Arnold architectural firm which practiced until 1940 when Ralph Arnold left Sioux City for employment as an architect with the State Board of Control in Des Moines, Iowa. William Beuttler continued to practice architecture in Sioux City and established the firm of Beuttler & Son in 1958. He passed away on April 30, 1963.

Ralph Arnold

Ralph Arnold was born in Carbondale, Illinois in 1889. He received a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture from the University of Illinois in Urbana in 1911 and was also employed by W. W. Beach, Architect in 1911 and 1912. His partnership with William Beuttler, beginning in 1912, lasted almost 30 years and ended only when he accepted a position with the State Board of Control in Des Moines in 1940. He passed away in September of 1961.

This architectural firm enjoyed early and continuous success throughout its existence. A newspaper article published on April 22, 1915 in the Sioux City Daily Tribune describes them thus:

“Beuttler and Arnold, young men whose short career has been marked by a spectacular ascension to success.”

The article goes on to list projects which were under construction in Sioux City which had been designed by the pair. They included the Elk's Hall, Floyd School, the Trimble Block (Security National Bank), an apartment house at 13th and Pearl and the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The firm of Beuttler and Arnold was a prolific designer of a wide variety of buildings in Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota. Buildings of note in the City of Sioux City alone include the Masonic Temple at 8th and Nebraska Streets; the Insurance Exchange Building at 7th and Pierce Streets; the First Methodist Episcopal Church at 19th and Nebraska Streets; Morningside Presbyterian Church at 4237 Morningside Avenue; the Maternity Hospital (Florence Crittenton Home) at 28th and Court Streets; the United States Federal Building at 6th and Douglas Streets; and Allee Gymnasium, Jones Science Hall, O'Donohue Observatory and Roadman Residence Hall at Morningside College. Examples of designs throughout the tri-state area include a Carnegie Library in Bloomfield, Nebraska; the First Congregational Church in Vermillion, South Dakota; the German Lutheran Church and parsonage in Hospers, Iowa; the Hartington National Bank in Hartington, Nebraska; and the Methodist Church in Merrill, Iowa. The firm also designed single and multi-family residences throughout the area.

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Le Mars Central High School  
Le Mars, Plymouth County, IA

An area in which the firm excelled was its design of schools. Four Sioux City Schools, including East Middle School (formerly East High School), West Middle School, North Middle School and Woodrow Wilson Middle School were designed by Beuttler and Arnold. They also designed an educational annex to the former Central High School in Sioux City, which currently houses the District's Individualized Learning Center. Area towns which were also home to schools designed by this firm include, Paullina, Spencer, Correctionville, Onawa and Sloan, Iowa, as well as Wausau, Nebraska.

### Other similar works:

A description of the consolidated school building designed by Beuttler and Arnold and built in Sloan in 1916 (Sioux City Daily Tribune, 2/5/16) shows remarkable similarities to the 1905 Le Mars School Building (1904 Le Mars Yearbook) and the 1924 Le Mars building addition, both designed by William Beuttler. Both contain an auditorium providing room for 600 persons, domestic science rooms, manual training rooms and "recitation" rooms for other departments. The Sloan School was described thus:

"When completed, the structure will be the most costly and thoroughly modern of its kind in Woodbury County."

Photos of the two buildings also show similar facade and design qualities. The price of the Le Mars School was estimated to be at \$40,000, while in the ten years since its construction, the price of the Sloan School had risen to an estimated \$65,000.

The 1952 addition to the school, also designed by William Beuttler, shows a dramatic change in both architectural and construction styles from the first two sections of the building. Built of reinforced concrete, steel and brick, the addition was designated as "fire-proof" and was also a Civil Defense Shelter, a "necessity" precipitated by World War II and the subsequent Cold War. Food and other supplies were found in the basement of the addition when the Museum moved in and some are preserved in the Museum collection. Since this addition is not yet 50 years old, it is deemed a non-contributing addition for the purposes of this application.

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Le Mars Central High School  
Le Mars, Plymouth County, IA

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Larson, Dr. Arthur Q. Le Mars Community School District, A Short History. Le Mars: 12/2/80

Larson, Dr. Arthur Q. Le Mars, Story of a Prairie Town. Le Mars: 1969

The Item. Le Mars Central High School Yearbook, 3/04

The Mill. Le Mars Central High School Newsletter, 1922

The Red and Black. Le Mars Community High School Yearbook, 1924

#### Le Mars Sentinel

February 26, 1904

March 25, 1904

June 8, 1923

July 31, 1923

October 12, 1923

March 1, 1951

March 10, 1951

March 16, 1951

July 3, 1951

October 7, 1952

October 9, 1952

#### Sioux City Daily Tribune

February 5, 1916

McAlester, Virginia & Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1997

Poppeliers, John C., Chambers, Allen, Jr., Schwartz, Nancy B. What Style Is It? New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Preservation Press, 1983

#### William Beuttler sources:

Birth information from undated newspaper article in the clippings file of the Sioux City Public Library.

Employment history from Architects in Iowa: Iowa AIA and State Historical Society.

#### Ralph Arnold sources:

Death information: Sioux City Journal, September 6, 1961.

Employment history from Architects in Iowa: Iowa AIA & State Historical Society.

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Le Mars Central High School  
Le Mars, Plymouth County, IA

### Verbal Boundary Description

Lots One (1), Two (2), Three (3), Four (4) and the North Three Feet (3') of Lot Five (5) in Block Forty-Three (43) in the City of Le Mars, State of Iowa.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary of the Le Mars Central High School includes that portion historically associated with the property excluding the northwest corner of Block 43. This area was occupied by a playground for the 1905 school building, a roller rink in 1980 and an office building from 1995 to present.

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Additional Information  
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Le Mars Central High School  
Le Mars, Plymouth County, IA

Property Owners (continued)

Roger Sitzmann  
Le Mars Sports Club  
135 - 4th Street SW  
Le Mars, IA 51031

712-546-5111

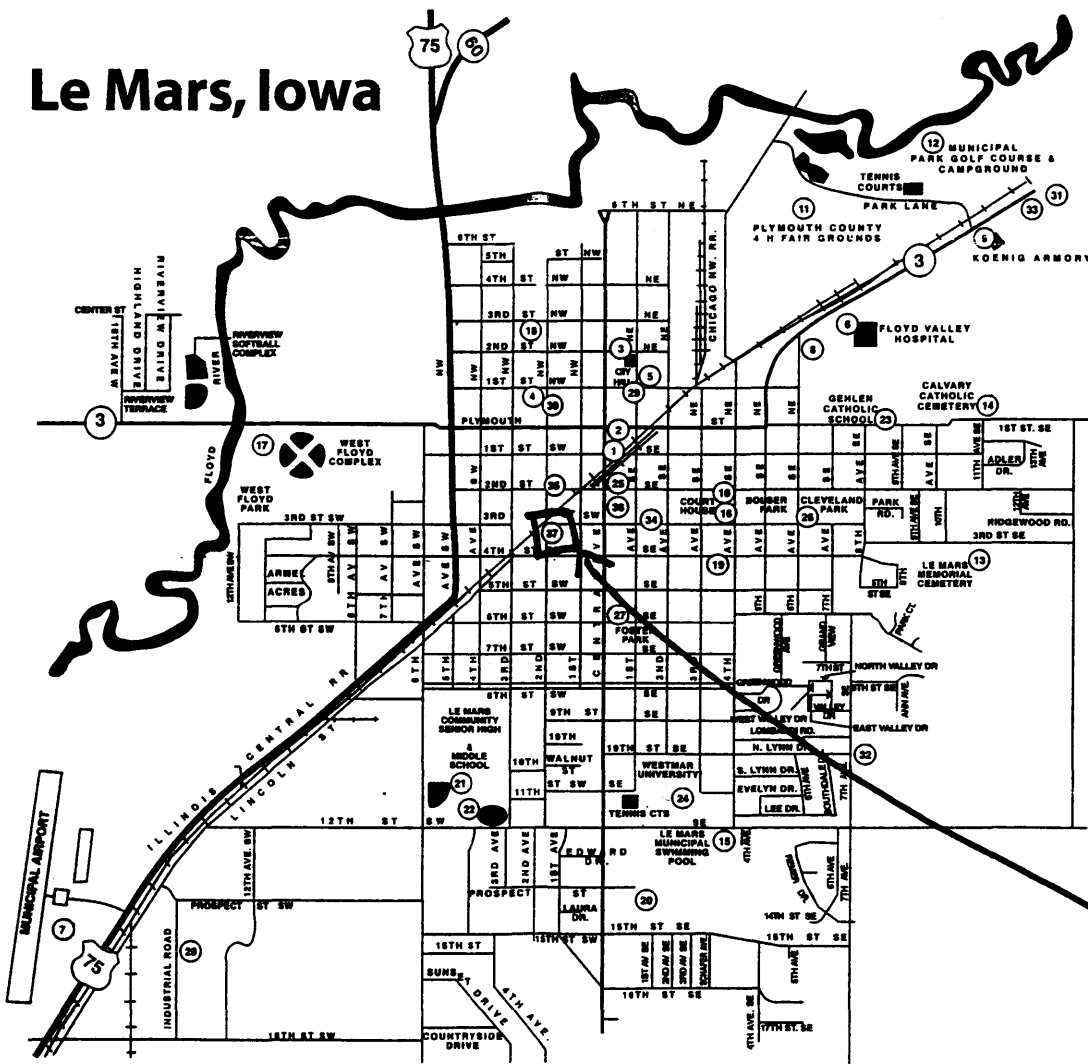
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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Additional Information  
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Le Mars Central High School  
Le Mars, Plymouth County, IA

## Le Mars, Iowa



### Where to find...

- (1) Chamber of Commerce
- (2) City Hall
- (3) Public Safety Building
- (4) Post Office
- (5) Postal Playhouse
- (6) Floyd Valley Hospital
- (7) Municipal Airport
- (8) Senior Citizen's Center
- (9) Iowa National Guard Armory
- (10) Plymouth County Courthouse
- (11) Plymouth County Fairgrounds
- (12) Municipal Park & Golf Course
- (13) Le Mars Memorial Cemetery
- (14) Calvary Catholic Cemetery
- (15) Municipal Swimming Pool
- (16) Plymouth County Sheriff's Department and Jail
- (17) West Floyd Park and ball diamonds
- (18) Clark Elementary School
- (19) Franklin Elementary School
- (20) Kluckhohn Elementary School
- (21) Le Mars Community Middle School and Senior High School
- (22) Le Mars Community Stadium
- (23) Gehlen Catholic Schools
- (24) Westmar University
- (25) Le Mars Beauty College
- (26) Bolser Park and Cleveland Park
- (27) Foster Park
- (28) Industrial Park
- (29) Le Mars Daily Sentinel
- (30) KLEM/KKMA Radio Stations
- (31) Plymouth Life, Inc.
- (32) Plymouth Manor Care Center
- (33) Brentwood Good Samaritan Center
- (34) The Abbey
- (35) Public Library
- (36) Civic Center
- (37) **Plymouth County Museum**

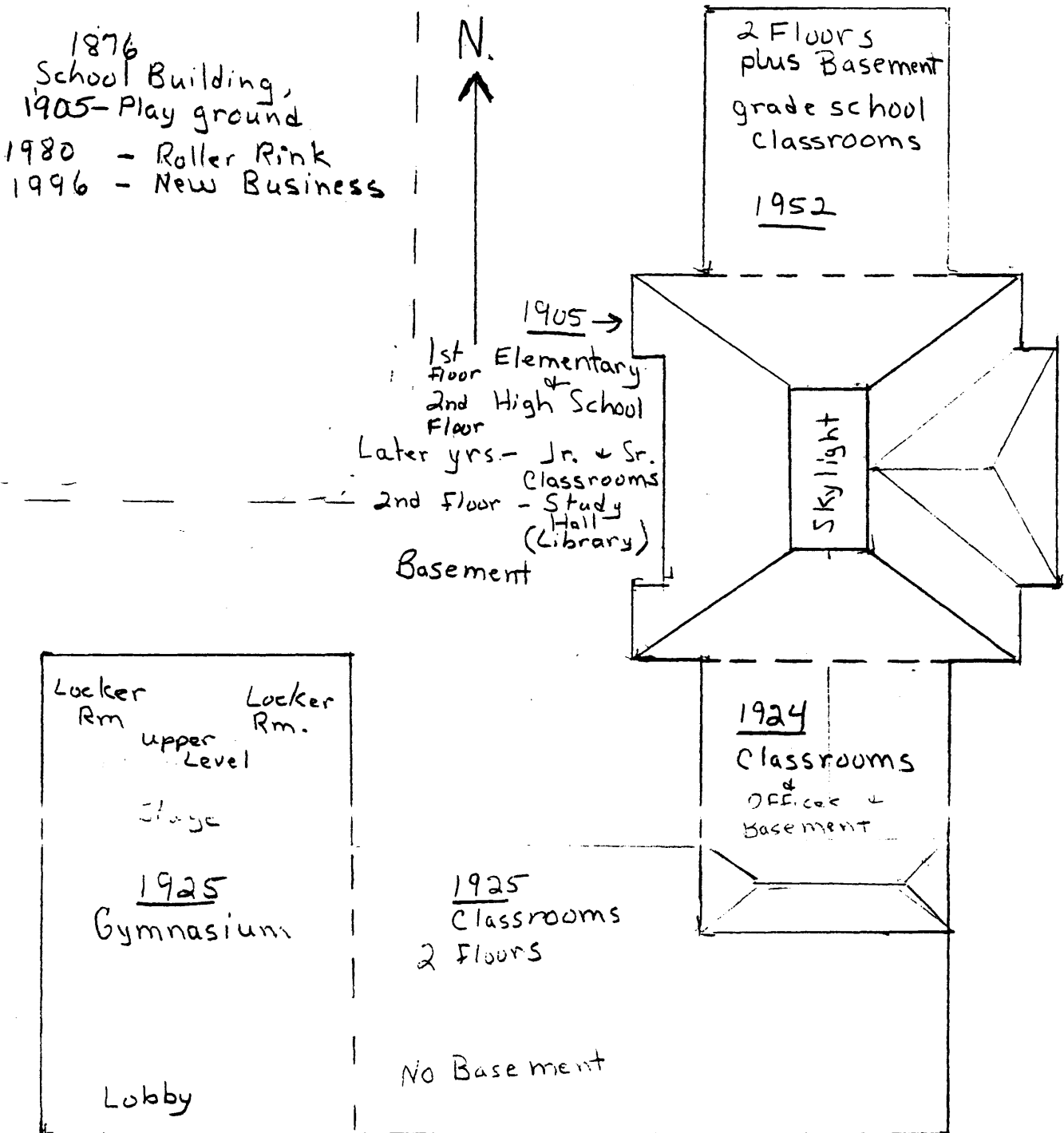


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Le Mars Central High School  
Le Mars, Plymouth County, IA



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National Park Service

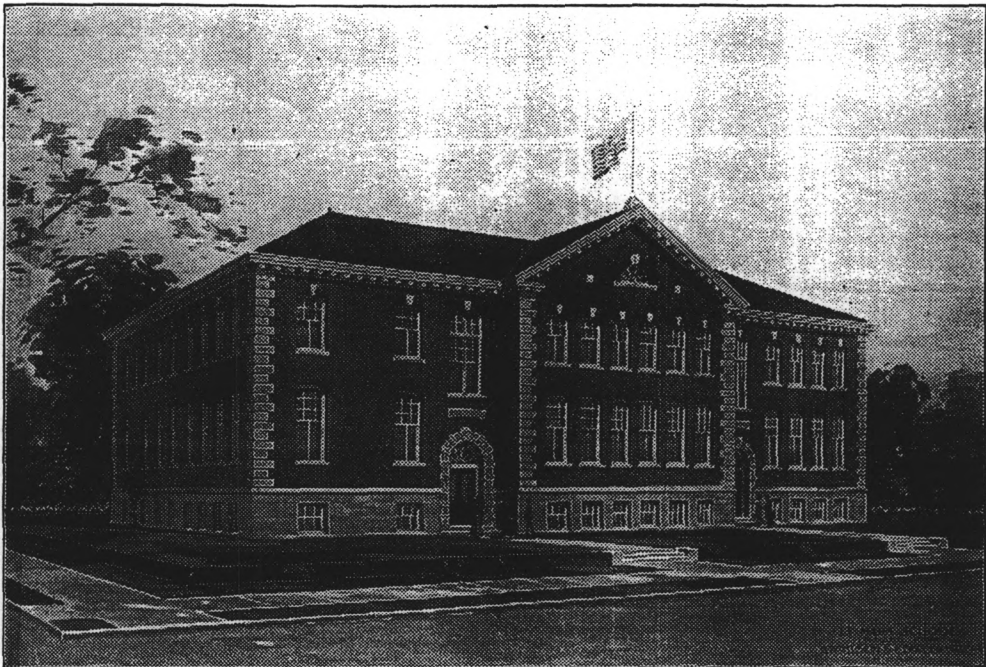
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Le Mars Central High School  
Le Mars, Plymouth County, IA

Le Mars Central High School – “The Item” – 1904

1 of 3



*The New High School Building*

**T**HE contract for the new High School building was let March 22, to Mr. John T. Huxtable of LeMars. The structure is to consist of two stories and a basement. The material is to be Des Moines vitrified paving brick, of a very dark or reddish black color, with basement, door, and window trimmings of white Bedford stone. As contracted for, the roofing is to be of the best slate, but a change to tiling is permitted and is probable.

In size, the building is to be 126 feet front and 77 feet deep, facing the east and 50 feet from the street line. The central portion, which is 70x75 feet, projects, except for the entrance, 6 feet in front of the wings, which are 28x77 feet, extending further back a corresponding distance.

The basement, which is 10 feet 6 inches in high, except in the engine room where it is nearly 12 feet, will stand about 6 feet, 8 inches above the grade line. Aside from ample space

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Le Mars Central High School  
Le Mars, Plymouth County, IA

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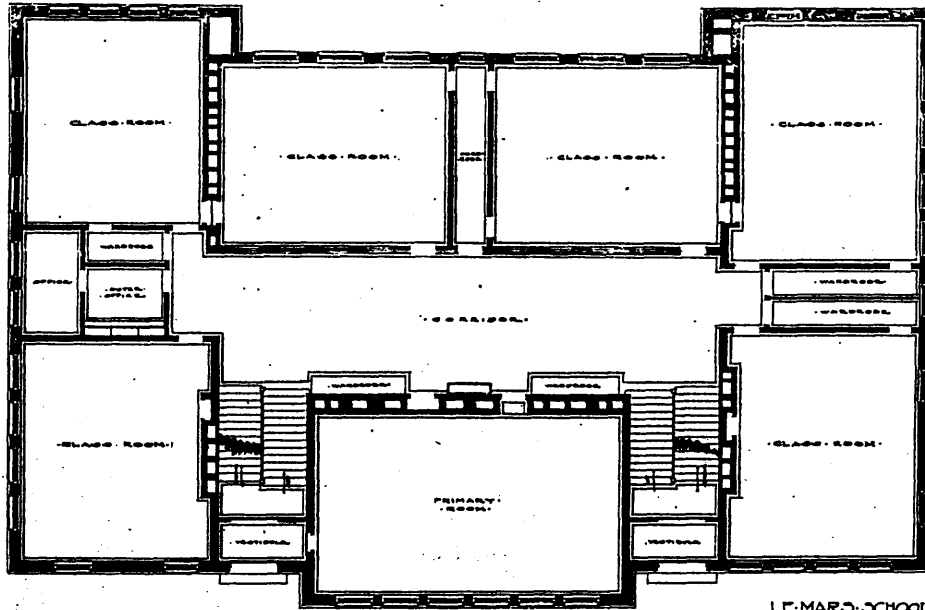
THE ITEM

2 of 3

for the heating and ventilating plants, and well equipped toilet rooms, there will be a large room, 26x73 feet under the south wing, intended for a gymnasium, and an equal space under the north wing, available for manual training

Superintendent. These consist of an outer office, or waiting room, 9x11 feet, along one side of which are wall supply cases, built to the ceiling, and a private office 8x14 1/4 feet.

The class rooms are 13 feet high, average about 26x30



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

LE MARS SCHOOL  
LE MARS, IOWA  
ATCHISON & EDGROCKE  
DESIGNED

rooms or other uses. The height of the gymnasium is not sufficient for some desirable apparatus or for some indoor games, but will answer many purposes and, in forming a home for organized athletics, will be a great boon. By means of a central corridor, which may be securely separated from other parts by the basement, the two wings are connected and ready access is given to both gymnasium and manual training rooms for either sex exclusively.

THE FIRST FLOOR.

The first floor is devoted to elementary school purposes, comprising seven grade, or class, rooms, and the superintendent's offices. Two east entrances are provided at either end of the central portion, the one to the south being designed for boys and that to the north for girls. The outside doors open on grade line into an 8x12 foot vestibule, from which are stairways 4 feet down to the basement and 6 feet up to the first floor. The latter lead to the main corridor which extends from wing to wing and is 19 feet in width. At its east center is located a large drinking fountain. At the south end of this corridor are located the offices of the

Superintendent. These consist of an outer office, or waiting room, 9x11 feet, along one side of which are wall supply cases, built to the ceiling, and a private office 8x14 1/4 feet. The class rooms are 13 feet high, average about 26x30

feet in size, and are provided with separate wardrobes with two doors into each to permit the continuous passing of the pupils in getting wraps for dismissal. There are four corner class rooms, two in the west side of the central portion and a large primary or kindergarten room on the east center. A teacher's wardrobe and closet is provided for each room. Especial attention has been given to the lighting. The corner rooms are lighted from two sides, having four large windows, 4 feet 9 inches wide, and extending to the ceiling, on the left of the pupils, and two to their rear. The two west central rooms are lighted from the left only, and have three double windows, each over 6 feet wide. The primary room is also lighted from the left, having six large windows.

HIGH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

The second floor is devoted to High School uses exclusively and consists of a commodious assembly room, three small recitation rooms, three larger recitation rooms, a

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THE ITEM

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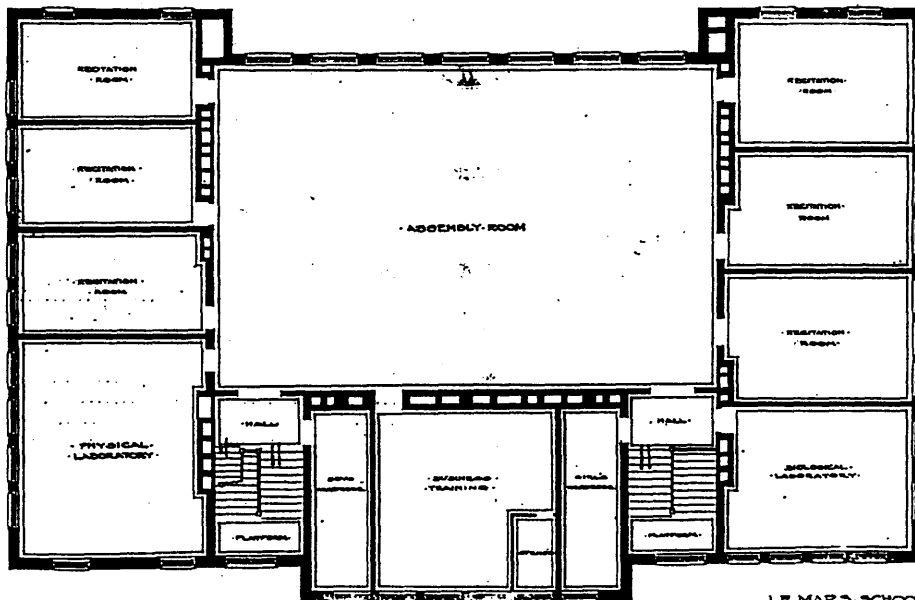
business training room, a boys' and a girls' wardrobe, a biological and a physical laboratory.

The assembly room is 45x68 feet in size, and is entered at the south front from the boys' stairway and at the north front from the girls' stairway. It is lighted from the west by seven double windows, 8 feet in width and provided with transoms, making their height over 12 feet, and by two large ceiling lights, each 13 feet square. The assembly room will be equipped as a library study room, accommodating over 250 for study and seating 400. Upon removal of the library tables, an auditorium is formed which it is estimated will seat over 600. Individual lockers for pupils' books will be provided in the hallways or near the doors. A drinking fountain is in one corner of the room. All the recitation rooms, the business training room, and the physical laboratory, are entered directly from the study room. The biological laboratory, only, requires passing through

and the physical desks with both gas and electric current. A lecture and demonstration table will also be provided, and furnished with water, gas and electricity. A gas hood, with a flue to the roof, is also arranged for. The biological laboratory, 20x26 feet has the northeast corner, with north light for microscopic work, and is to be provided with a large sink, microscopic and dissecting tables.

The business training room, 24x25 feet, occupies the east front, and is provided with glass partitioned typewriting room 6x8 feet in size. There is a mathematics room, 18x26 feet, well supplied with blackboards; an English room of the same size; a history room, 16x26 feet; a Latin and German room, 14x26 feet; and two other recitation rooms 14x24½ feet.

A commodious store room for laboratory supplies, and a dark room for chemical and photographic work, is provided for under the roof over the business room, with easy



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

LE MARS SCHOOL  
LE MARS, IOWA  
ATCHISON & EDDYBROOK  
ARCHITECTS

an intermediate hallway. This arrangement is considered especially convenient and economical.

The physical laboratory, 26x30 feet, has an east and south front for direct light, and will provide individual desk room sufficient for classes of thirty-six students, in both chemistry and physics. The chemical desks will be provided with gas and a water basin for each four students.

access through the boys' hall from the physical laboratory.

Heating and ventilating of the building is to be accomplished by basic direct steam radiation, with ventilation by forcing warm pure air into the rooms and drawing the impure out by both plenum and exhaust fans, and all under automatic control by the Johnson system.

The cost, exclusive of equipment, is estimated as close to \$40,000.

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Le Mars Central High School  
Le Mars, Plymouth County, IA

Photos

All photos: Le Mars Central High School, Plymouth County, Le Mars, Iowa.  
Photographer: Margaret Henrich  
Date of Photographs: 4/2/96  
Negatives stored at: Plymouth County Historical Museum  
335 - 1st Avenue SW  
Le Mars, IA 51031

1. South Side, 1924 Addition facing south. West end visible. Camera view from southwest corner.
2. Foreground, 1924 addition facing east. Camera view from southeast corner.
3. Original 1905 section facing east. Camera view from east to west.
4. Foreground, 1952 addition facing east, north end. Camera view from northeast corner.
5. Foreground, back of 1952 addition, shows north end. Camera view from northwest corner.
6. Back view, 1952 addition. Small view of 1905 section at right. Back view is west. Camera view from southwest to northeast.
7. Back side (west) of 1905 section. Camera view from northwest edge.
8. Back view of 1924 section. Camera view from north facing south. Structure in lower right corner is new building on block not connected to school building.
9. Front view, 1905 section. Window detail, cornice detail, limestone corners. Camera view from east to west.
10. 1905 section, limestone corner detail. Condition of brick - good. Camera view is ground level from east to west.
11. Front door of 1925 addition. Limestone detail and original light by sign. Mailbox not attached to building. Mesh over glass for protection. Camera view from east to west.
12. Front doors of 1905 section. Boards over glass. Limestone detail above ground basement level. Fan window is stored inside school to be replaced. Camera view from east to west.
13. Front doors 1952 addition. Original light fixture above door. Limestone detail. Camera view from northwest corner facing southeast.