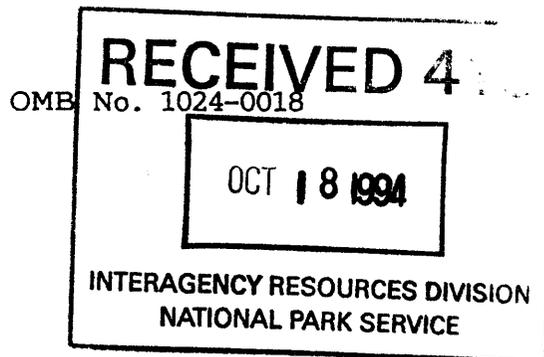


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NPS Form 10-900  
(Rev. 10-90)



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 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 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Community Building  
other names/site number Dunlap Community Building (preferred)

**2. Location**

street & number S.E. corner of Cherry & Rankin St. not for publication N/A  
city or town Dunlap vicinity N/A  
state Tennessee code TN county Sequatchie code 153 zip code 37327

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination      request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property x meets      does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant      nationally      statewide x locally. (      See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Herbert L. Hays 10/12/94  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission  
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 commenting or other official/Title Date  
      
State or Federal agency and bureau

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form  
Dunlap Community Building  
Sequatchie County, Tennessee

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

Edson H. Beall

11-21-94

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): \_\_\_\_\_

NOV 21 1994

Edson H. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

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	
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

N/A

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Social Sub: Meeting Hall  
Government Government Office  
Health Care Medical Office

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Education Sub: Library  
Education Education-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Vernacular

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete  
roof asphalt  
walls stone: limestone  
other concrete: metal

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

See continuation sheets

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.) N/A

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a 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)

Education \_\_\_\_\_  
Government \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance      1938-1942



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10. Geographical Data

Daus 104SW

Acreeage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

1 16 646200 3915240 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 Holly Anne Rine

organization Middle Tennessee State University Center for Historic Preservation

date May 17, 1994

street & number PO Box 80 MTSU

telephone (615)898-2947

city or town Murfreesboro state TN zip code 37132

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)

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Property Owner

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

name Sequatchie County (Susan Greer, Contact Person)

street & number Sequatchie County Courthouse, PO Box 595

telephone (615) 949-5307

city or town Dunlap state TN zip code 37327

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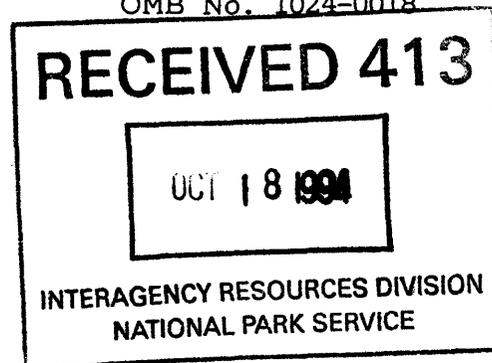
**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to 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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Dunlap Community Building  
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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Located on the southeast corner of Cherry and Rankin Streets in Dunlap, Sequatchie County, Tennessee, the Dunlap Community Building is a two story, cut limestone building covered by a flat, asphalt roof. The building is a symmetrical block with a small, projecting cross section in the back. It is an example of vernacular architecture constructed by the National Youth Administration (NYA) between the dates 1938 and 1942. The building was functional and put into use in 1940, but all work was not completed until 1942. The building remained as it was originally constructed until a renovation of the interior of the building took place in 1991 by the architect Dale Rardin of Chattanooga. The renovations took place to accommodate the growing public library, which moved into the building in 1959. The Sequatchie County government stressed their desire for the county library to remain in the Community Building. They also emphasized that they wanted to comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for rehabilitation to maintain the historic integrity of the building. The exterior of the building remains virtually unchanged, except for the addition of a wheelchair access ramp and a second floor fire exit to comply with safety regulations.

The county also constructed a rescue squad building that abuts, but is not attached to, part of the east side of the Community Building. The two buildings share the lot since the county owns both structures and the lot. The rescue squad building, since it shares a lot with the Community Building and is in such close proximity to the Community Building, is a non-contributing element.

The building is largely unadorned, with no ornate architectural details. The linear pattern of the cut limestone, however, gives it an appropriate formal look. The roof line is flat with the exception of a parapet over the middle five bays. All the windows have cast concrete sills and lintels. The exterior wooden window frames have also been replaced by metal ones (c. 1991) but follow the original size and location of the original windows. Also, above six of the bays are ventilation grates, which are original to the building.

The front (or north) facade faces towards the railroad tracks where the Dunlap train depot once stood. The front facade of the Community Building is a symmetrical eleven bay elevation with slightly projecting end sections, each containing one bay. The windows, while being new, follow

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the original configuration of two over two double hung windows. The centrally located entrance is slightly recessed and is surrounded by a stone arch and cast concrete lintels, upon which the phrase, "Built By N.Y.A. 1938-40" is inscribed. Large metal letters spelling out "Sequatchie County Library" have been added to the stone archway. The doors into the building are also new, but the words, "Community Building" which are inscribed on the archway are original to the building.

The west elevation (facing Rankin Street) consists of three asymmetrical bays with an off-centered entrance. The windows are also replacement windows, which follow the two over two double hung sash configurations, which were original to the building. The window openings on the south end of this elevation are smaller than the middle and north openings. This entrance is identical to the main entrance with the stone archway bearing the words, "Sequatchie County Library" and the concrete lintel with the inscription, "Built by N.Y.A. 1938-40." Like the front, it is also a double door entrance with new glass doors.

The east side of the one and one half story cross section is also visible from this side. It contains two large fourteen pane windows with concrete sill and lintels. This projecting cross section contains the library. The east side of the cross section is identical to the west side of this section.

The south (or rear) elevation of the Community Building is now backed up closely to other commercial buildings. According to former NYA worker, Willie Higdon, at the time of its construction there were only fields behind the building. The projecting, one and one half story library section is centered on the south elevation. It is a three bay section with stone pilasters placed between each fourteen pane window. There are also ventilation grates above each of the windows. It is on the rear elevation that the wheel chair access ramp (on the east side) and the second story fire escape (on the west side) are located. These additions allowed the building to comply with safety and handicapped access regulations without greatly detracting from the integrity of the building, and its appearance from the street.

The wheel chair ramp is located on the eastern end of the rear elevation. A new door was added to accommodate the ramp; the original wood

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door frame remains. Next to the door is a two over two double hung window identical to the ones located on the front and side of the building. The fire escape is located on the west side of the rear facade. New openings were created to accommodate the upstairs and downstairs fire exits. The lower fire exit is located right next to the projecting cross section; this is symmetrical with the wheelchair entrance. The second floor exit is metal staircase covered with an aluminum awning and is located where there was once a window. The east side flanking the cross section has maintained the number and size of the original openings; on the west side the second floor window was converted into a door for the fire escape, and a new opening was made to accommodate the first floor fire escape, while a first floor window was closed.

The west elevation is not visible due to the adjacent rescue squad building. Part of the second floor is visible, as well as the roof line which is flat except for the centered parapet. This is identical to the east facade roof line and similar to the roof line on the front. Ventilation grates are also visible on this side.

The interior of the Community Building was renovated in 1991-1992 by architect Dale Rardin of Chattanooga. The county government stressed their desire to comply with the Secretary of the Interiors standards for rehabilitation. The interior renovations to the Community Building still maintain the historic elements of the building, which are still in place and visible, such as original wood flooring, and interior wood door and window frames. Many of the original walls have been replaced by dry wall and carpeting has been placed over some of the original wood flooring. The majority of the woodwork is original. The original entrance of the building contained stairs going both up to the first floor and down to the basement. The renovations took out the stairs to the basement and widened the few stairs leading to the first floor. There were originally ten separate rooms, not including bathrooms, in the Community Building. Five walls were removed in order to make more space for library facilities and public meeting rooms. Some movable dividers were placed in rooms to serve as walls.

There are now five main rooms on the first floor. The library is located directly opposite the main entrance. One wall has been removed to accommodate the growing library. Two doors were also converted into windows. Turning right from the main entrance there is the elevator, an

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equipment room, and a genealogy room which open onto the hall from the right. Two walls were eliminated from the genealogy room to increase space for research. Two doors which led into the original rooms were replaced by windows to maintain the original opening configurations. At the end of the hall to the left is a small room which leads to the library on the left, a fire exit straight ahead and a workroom on the right. The workroom has maintained its original dimensions and openings. Off of the workroom is an office, which has also maintained its original dimensions; in the workroom a door which led to the genealogy room has been filled in for privacy. The northeast corner of the first floor houses a large community room. Two walls were removed to enlarge the meeting space. All doors were left in place. A kitchen area was also added to the community room and vinyl tile was placed on the floor in front of it. The restroom is located on the southeast end of the building in its original location and dimensions. The stairs, which retain their original woodwork, are located on the east end of the building by the side entrance and the wheelchair access ramp.

The second floor originally consisted of nine rooms, not including the restroom. Two walls were removed to create a large multi-purpose room. This large room is the first room on the right at the top of the stairs and is located directly above the first floor community room. The restroom is located directly above the first floor restroom and is in its original location. Above the main entrance of the building is an office which serves Adult Education Services. Next to the office is the elevator and storage room. A research room is located over the genealogy room and a computer room is at the end of the hall over the first floor office. Above the first floor workroom is a reading room, which also contains the second floor fire escape. The conversion of a window into a door is the only alteration of original openings made to this section of the Community Building. All other walls, doors and windows are in the exact same location as they were in 1942. The space above the library still maintains its function as an attic.

The basement is unfinished and is used for storage. There is limited access to the basement.

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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Dunlap Community Building, on the southwest corner of Cherry and Rankin Streets, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A. It is eligible under criterion A for its association with the National Youth Administration (NYA) of the New Deal era. The building was constructed as a project of the NYA to employ youths in Sequatchie County and to teach them job skills for future employment.

The National Youth Administration was created in 1935, "to initiate and administer a program of approved projects which shall provide relief, work relief, and employment for persons between 16-25 who are no longer in regular attendance at a school requiring full-time attendance, and who are not regularly engaged in remunerative employment." The NYA was often mistakenly referred to as the Junior WPA (Works Progress Administration) because of its involvement in work relief construction projects.

Although the NYA did not become a reality until 1935, President Roosevelt began dealing with the question of how American students would be affected by the New Deal programs in 1933. For two years there were arguments among members of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) like Harry Hopkins, director of FERA, and Aubrey Williams, executive director of the NYA, concerning how a youth organization would serve young Americans. The concept of youth programs were sweeping the world. People saw a need for youths (mainly boys) to have structured recreation activities supervised by adults. This idea was reflected in the establishment of the Boy Scouts in Great Britain in 1908 and the Wandervogel movement in Germany in 1901. At the time that New Deal agencies were established, Germany, Italy, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, France, Czechoslovakia, Belgium and Switzerland all had work camps set up for unemployed youths. These camps also served political purposes of indoctrinating the youths to the predominant political philosophy of the country. The Communist Union of Youth in the Soviet Union not only trained young men to fill positions in industry and agriculture, but also trained them militarily securing a strong hold on the political thought of the young men. The infamous Hitler Youth, which also had a female enrollment, increased from 55,000 in January 1933 to 3,577,565 by the end of 1934, and by the end of 1936 the organization claimed 5,437,601 participants. In 1939, membership to the Hitler Youth became mandatory. While many members of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, who were organizing an American youth organization, saw an advantage in using such an organization

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to instill democratic ideals into youths, they had to be careful to limit their similarities to such organizations as the Hitler Youth and the Communist Union of Youth. The suggestion to call the new youth organization "the Roosevelt Youth" was quickly dismissed.

The NYA evolved out of FERA, which was created in 1933 as a result of the Federal Emergency Relief Act of the same year. In operation from 1933 to 1935, it was established in order to provide immediate short term relief for the unemployed. Roosevelt appointed Harry Hopkins, a New York social worker, as director of FERA. During its existence, FERA granted about three billion dollars to the states for direct unemployment payments or for wages in work relief projects. Roosevelt established the Civil Works Administration in 1933 as a branch of the FERA. It was designed to create temporary jobs during the winter of 1933-34. In 1935 FERA was dismantled and its projects were replaced by other agencies like the Works Progress Administration and the National Youth Administration.

As the NYA developed its initial programs, administration officials found themselves divided over the agency's ultimate purpose: should it be concerned solely with keeping young people in school or should it create jobs for young Americans. Officials like Hopkins wanted youths to be assisted only in efforts to stay in school, therefore, keeping them out of the still depressed adult job market. However, other administrators, including Aubrey Williams, saw the Hopkins approach as too expedient with no long term benefits for youth. These officials advocated job training as a form of education, which would also give these young people a better chance at securing a stable job as they got older and entered the adult job market. There was also a concern that if NYA assistance was restricted to college and high school students, it would only serve those of the middle class who were normally capable of finishing high school and joining the college ranks without federal aid. In addition, with so many schools closed in the Cumberland Plateau region, only a few young adults could benefit from NYA student-aid programs. Leaders like Aubrey Williams saw that such a program would fail to serve the needs of a lower income youth whose principal concern was job training. Many of these lower income youth would not have finished school, even if there were no depression to deal with. These young people were often responsible for gaining employment to help support their families with a meaningful economic contribution.

In the latter half of 1934, Williams and Hopkins agreed that the new

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youth program would need to achieve three goals: job training, decentralization of administration and training in democratic values. The emphasis on job training would allow students of all income levels to take advantage of the relief being offered. The students would also be learning valuable skills instead of just participating in activities that occupy young people's free time. The decentralization of administration would allow for a national youth program without the chance of it developing into a democratic Hitler Youth or Union of Communist Youth while, at the same time, it was able to instill democratic ideals into the members. Local control of NYA projects and aid made the projects readily distinguishable from other federally controlled projects like Works Progress Administration, Public Works Administration (PWA), and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC).

The Tennessee branch of the National Youth Administration was divided into three regions: east, middle and west. Bruce Overton was the NYA state director who oversaw the regional projects which were directed by local educators. The NYA contact for Sequatchie County was W.W. Harmon, the principal of the county high school.

The main activity of the National Youth Administration in Sequatchie County was the construction of the community center in the county seat of Dunlap. This project met one of FDR's primary goals for the NYA. In 1935, Roosevelt announced:

"Particular stress should be laid upon the building and the use of recreational and community centers which, depending upon local conditions and the energy, ability and enthusiasm of local youth groups, can be anything from an old-fashioned swimming hole to a complete center including all types of athletic facilities, community houses, library, classrooms, etc.... Substantially all of the direct labor in the creation of these centers shall be performed by youths themselves under the direction of skilled mechanics<sup>12</sup>."

The National Youth Administration began operations in Sequatchie County in 1935. More so than the rest of the nation, Sequatchie County was experiencing extreme hardship during the Great Depression. In the beginning of the twentieth century Sequatchie County was prospering as coal mines were established. The Chattanooga Iron and Coal Corporation owned and operated 16,000 acres of coal land near Dunlap. They also operated two

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sawmills, which supplied the railroads with ties and the coal mines with shoring. In 1920 they owned over 16,000 acres and employed 350 men in the mines.

The company also began producing coke for the iron and steel industry; the Dunlap coke ovens have been placed on the National Register (NR 7/5/85). The mines around Dunlap are part of the southern Appalachian mountain range that once provided the nation with 80-90% of its coke supply. In 1919 the Chattanooga Iron and Coal Company sold the mining and coke operations to the Southern States Iron and Coal Company. In 1922 the Southern States Company closed the mines due to poor economic conditions caused by the overproduction of coal. After six years of abandonment, the mining lands were bought by E.P. Rosamond, of Birmingham, and E.K. Rosamond, of Chattanooga. The mining operations were never resumed due to the onset of the Great Depression in 1929. Sequatchie County, however, experienced the beginning of the depression when the coal production stopped in 1922. The end of the coal industry took away the main income producing industry in the region.

After the closing of the mines and the coke ovens, many former employees left the area. With the closing of the mines, other associated industries also halted. Sawmills were no longer needed, since they produced supports for the mines and ties for railroads. Rail traffic declined because it operated mainly for shipping coal and coke out of the Sequatchie County mines and ovens. Those who remained reverted to subsistence farming and some tried their hand at "moonshining". There was no great industry in the area; a furniture maker and canning factory attempted to open factories in the county but failed after a relatively short period of time. There was little hope of a prosperous future for those who remained in Sequatchie County.

When President Franklin D. Roosevelt began his New Deal relief programs, few people in Sequatchie County were affected. Some of the young men were shipped off to Civilian Conservation Corps camps, but it was not until the establishment of the Tennessee Valley Authority and the National Youth Administration that relief came to the citizens of Sequatchie County. Over the four years that the NYA was working on the Community Building, the organization employed ninety-six young men, who were neither in school nor working full time, to work on the project. These young men participated in all aspects of construction on the Community Building and learned

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craftsmanship skills which were to be useful to them when they later entered the adult job market.

The project was supervised by a local builder, Horace Reynolds. Three other local men worked in the capacity of supervisors on the Community building; these were Jack Lockhart, Hershel Brock, and Grover Elliott. These men were responsible, not only for the construction of the building, but also for teaching the ninety-six young men who worked on the project the construction skills necessary for completing the task. The men did not specialize in any one task. They were rotated around in order to be introduced to as many different aspects of construction as possible.

Anywhere from ten to twenty young men would work on the building at a time. One group would work for two weeks then take two weeks off, while the other group worked. All the workers were paid as if they had worked an entire month, however.

Work on the Community Building was halted on several occasions, often due to lack of funding or materials. In 1939 the same group of workers constructed the Liberty School after the first one burned down. This school is located off of Old Highway 28. This building was constructed with the same mountain stone used to build the Community Building. However, the school building stone was not cut, like the Community Building, but placed as it was brought out of the mountain. This building has the words National Youth Administration and the date of the schools construction molded into the concrete supports. The Liberty School maintains a high degree of integrity, and is currently used for storage.

Three other schools were constructed by the NYA during this time. Two of these schools are still standing, but the Old Union school burned. The school built in nearby Cagle, located in Sequatchie County, is now used as a private residence, but the fact that it was once a school is readily visible. This school was also constructed from stone taken out of the nearby mountain sides. The NYA assisted on the construction of the Center Point school in Dunlap, which is also used as a private residence.

With the NYA also working on school buildings in the area, it reflects FERA's full purpose in establishing the youth organization. The NYA was for job training, work relief and continuing education. The young men

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working on the construction projects received work relief and job training, while the younger members of the Sequatchie County community benefited from the additional new schools throughout the area. This was also the case in twelve other Tennessee counties where the NYA constructed recreational buildings and gymnasiums and in twenty three Tennessee counties where the NYA constructed shops and department buildings for vocational education. In Trenton in Gibson County, the NYA constructed a public library and in Murfreesboro in Rutherford County, the NYA constructed a Boy Scout and Community Hall. All of these construction projects throughout the state reflect the NYA's commitment to continuing education for youth, both academically and vocationally, and community improvement. Architectural styles for these different projects varied greatly, however. There was no one particular style associated with the NYA as there was with other New Deal agencies which worked on construction projects like the WPA and PWA.

All of the stone used for the Community Building and all of the schools was removed from nearby mountains completely by hand. It was also cut and shaped completely by hand tools. In Van Buren County, which borders Sequatchie County to the north, National Youth Administration workers also quarried local stone and shaped it by hand in the construction of its first county owned high school building. The skills acquired by these young men from their work on the Community Building was helpful to some of the workers to develop a career in building. One gentlemen, Mr. Willie Higdon, worked to become a stone mason after his experience with the NYA. Mr. Higdon remained in the community and his work as a stone mason is visible throughout Dunlap and Sequatchie County.

If one were to compare the appearance of the Community Center with the schools which were constructed by the NYA at this time, one notices a certain refinement in the architecture of the Community Center. Since the stone is cut for the Community Building, it gives the building a symmetrical look. It appears more formal than any of the school buildings which were constructed at this time.

At the time of the Community Building's construction, Dunlap had few significant buildings. It had the Sequatchie County Courthouse (NR 1/20/80) constructed in 1911, a hotel constructed in the early twentieth century and the train depot (today both the hotel and the depot have been removed). The Community Building was constructed on the main street of town (Cherry Street) and situated so to face the train depot; this way

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people travelling in or out of Dunlap by train first encountered the Community Building. The more formal appearance of the Community Building was thus able to create a more striking first impression of the town of Dunlap.

It was originally used to house local government offices, a dentist office, the American Legion meeting room and it also served the Home Demonstration Club. In 1959, the library moved into the building, where it is currently located. In 1991, the county government decided to improve the library facilities but also chose to maintain the Community Building as its home. Local support for the restoration and renovation of the building was and continues to be significant.

The Community Building today stands as a monument to the young men who participated in the National Youth Organization in Sequatchie County. Working on the building educated those young men, not in the traditional academic sense, but with badly needed job skills and vocational training. In that sense, the NYA was much more than another federal make work program. The workers learned their skills as they worked, and after completion of the building these young men were able to bring job skills into the job market that they would not have had without having had the opportunity to work with the NYA. Local control of NYA projects also allowed the community to place the federal funds into areas which would benefit it the most. In the case of Sequatchie County, the money went to vocational training and the construction of a community building that helped to bring some revitalization to a town that had been suffering from a depression for over two decades. With the continuing interest in the future of the building, especially in its educational role as the home of the public library and the adult basic education center, one is able to see that the community building continues to serve as a source of pride and educational commitment for the community of Dunlap.

Endnotes

1President F.D. Roosevelt. "Establishment of the National Youth Administration." Tennessee State Library and Archives. Commission of Education Files, Group 92, Folder 17, Box 258.

2Ibid.

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

The property is located on the southeast corner of Cherry and Rankin Streets in Dunlap, Tennessee. It is defined in the attached tax map 48-E-Group F, Lot 15.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundaries described are of the original lot and location of the Community Building. The rescue squad building was added later but is not attached to the Community Building. It does, however, share the same lot with the Community Building and is considered a non-contributing element.

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Photographs by: Carroll Van West  
MTSU Center for Historic Preservation  
Box 80, MTSU  
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Date                    October 1993

North facade, facing southeast  
#1 of 19

North facade, facing southwest  
#2 of 19

Northeast corner, facing southwest  
#3 of 19

East facade, facing west  
#4 of 19

Southeast facade, wheelchair ramp, facing northwest  
#5 of 19

South facade, fire exit, facing northeast  
#6 of 19

South facade, fire exit, facing north  
#7 of 19

Main entrance, facing south  
#8 of 19

First floor hallway, library entrance, facing south  
#9 of 19

First floor hallway, library windows, facing west  
#10 of 19

Library, facing north  
#11 of 19

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Library, facing east  
#12 of 19

First floor community room, facing west  
#13 of 19

First floor community room, facing east  
#14 of 19

Staircase, facing east  
#15 of 19

Second floor hallway, facing west  
#16 of 19

Second floor community room entrance, facing south  
#17 of 19

Second floor reading room, facing north  
#18 of 19

West facade, facing east  
#19 of 19



2  
 Dunlap Community  
 Building  
 Sequatchie Co. TN

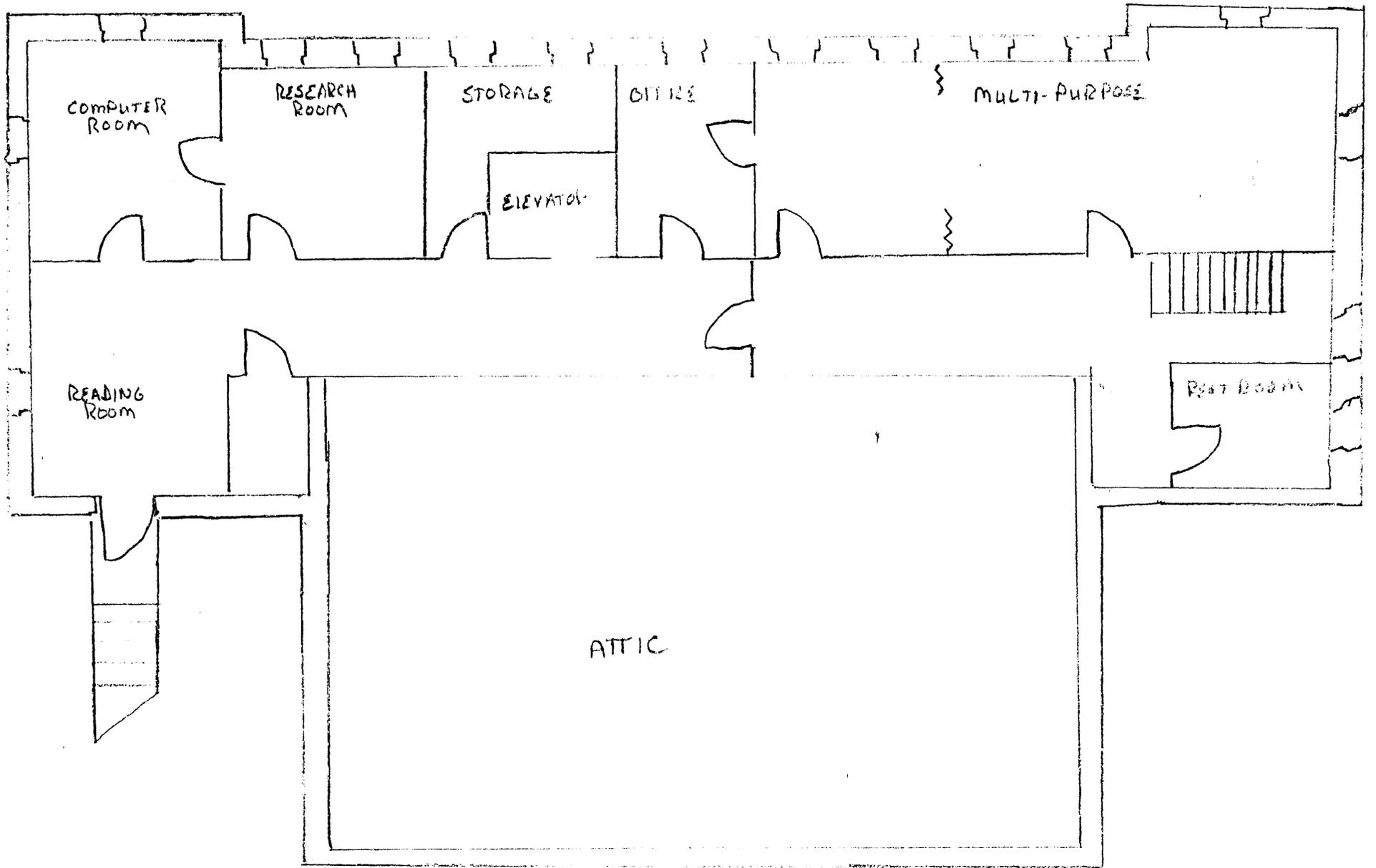
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Dunlap Community  
 Building

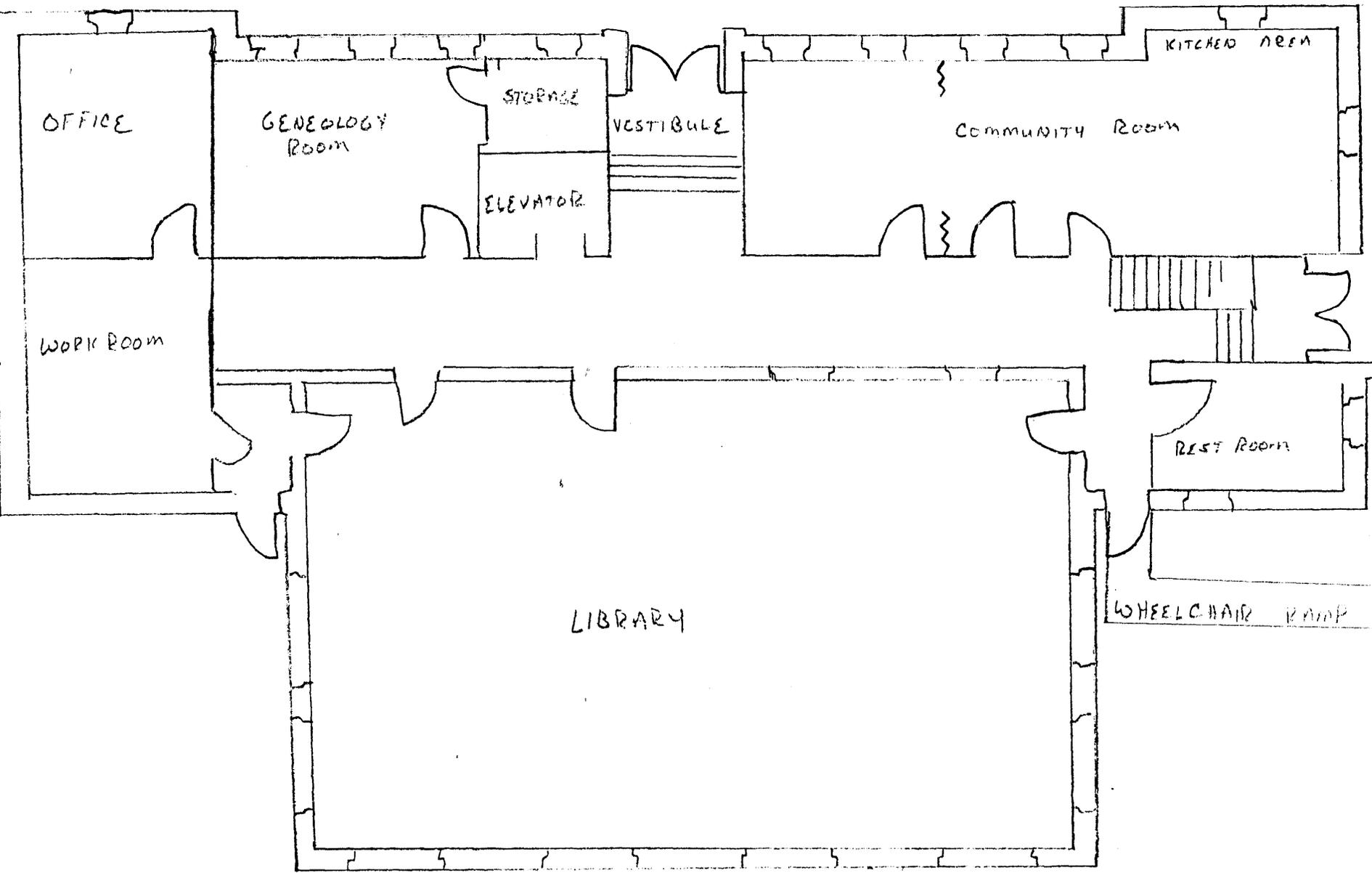
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UPPER FLOOR



LOWER FLOOR