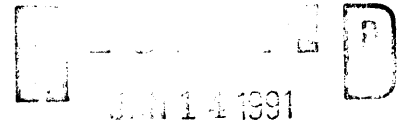


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



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 A. C. Steere Elementary School
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 4009 Youree Drive N/A not for publication
city, town Shreveport N/A vicinity
state Louisiana code LA county Caddo code 017 zip code 71105

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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.
Jonathan Fricker Signature of certifying official Jonathan Fricker, Deputy SHPO, Louisiana
Dept of Culture, Recreation and Tourism
State or Federal agency and bureau
Date January 10, 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. 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:) _____
Alvina Byers Signature of the Keeper 2/20/91 Date of Action
Entered in the National Register

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)

Spanish Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls stucco

roof tiles

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The A. C. Steere Elementary School is a one story plaster-over-tile block structure. It was built in 1929 and expanded in 1938 in keeping with its original Spanish Colonial Revival styling. The school stands at the corner of a small city park (see Historical Note) on a busily traveled street in southeastern Shreveport. Despite some remodeling, the building remains surprisingly intact.

The original (1929) building consists of a pair of classroom wings set at an angle and anchored by a central domed foyer. There is also an entrance loggia/arcade which curves to follow the foyer. The northeastern wing features an auditorium which is designed to resemble a basilican church complete with frontal campanile tower. The previously mentioned 1938 wing is set to the rear of the domed entrance. (Please refer to enclosed sketch.)

The school's other Spanish Colonial Revival features include:

- 1) the use of texture, as seen in the building's plaster veneer exterior walls, tiled floors, and replicated red tile roof,
- 2) the treatment of the previously mentioned campanile tower, which features large piers, arches, and cut corners which give it a Baroque feeling,
- 3) the presence of a second smaller tower with a mock campanile top which originally served as a massive chimney for the original cafeteria/kitchen,
- 4) extensive use of arches. In addition to the locations mentioned above, these are found in the paired windows of the auditorium, the bold door surrounds on the end of each wing, the ceilings of the interior hallways, and a blind arcade surmounting the base of the main campanile tower.
- 5) small grilled windows, and
- 6) ornate low relief cast concrete decorations. These include anthemions on the caps of the loggia's piers, and arabesque panels and complicated central columns ornamenting the pairs of windows on the auditorium.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

A. C. Steere Elementary School, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, LA

Section number 7 Page 1

Other features of interest include an open truss ceiling in the auditorium and oculus windows which light the dome.

Changes to the building since the 1938 expansion include the following:

- 1) the conversion of the original cafeteria to classroom space during the 1950s,
- 2) the removal of original cloakrooms (date unknown),
- 3) a 1972 renovation which added ceiling tiles and linoleum floors to each classroom, reorganized the spaces used as the school office and teacher's lounge, replaced wooden window frames with aluminum, removed two of the three doors behind the loggia, and replaced all other original exterior doors with metal doors. The lost loggia doors were enclosed with mosaic tile.
- 4) the replacement of the bell tower's original bell,
- 5) the replastering of the exterior and painting of the cast concrete decoration (1988), and
- 6) the replication of the original red tile roof (1987). (The original roof had been replaced with asphalt shingles.)

Despite these changes, the A. C. Steere Elementary School appears almost exactly as it did after its 1938 expansion. Except for the two enclosed doors and the replaced tile roof, all of the building's significant architectural design elements remain intact. The new roof covering replicates the old red colored tiles, and the building's lively roofline is unchanged. Because a previous paint job had visually obliterated the cast concrete decorations, the new color scheme recaptures the school's past appearance by making these elements visible once again. Although two of the three main entrance doors behind the loggia are now closed and covered, the use of mosaic tiles in these spaces is characteristic of Spanish architecture. Furthermore, the school's unusual floorplan is virtually unchanged. For all these reasons, the school stands as a landmark in its community and, as such, is a strong candidate for National Register listing.

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
1929, 1938

Significant Dates
1929, 1938

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Edward Fairfax Neild, Architect (1929)

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

The A. C. Steere Elementary School is locally significant in the area of architecture because it contributes to Shreveport's identity as a showplace of early twentieth century eclectic architecture. It is also important as the only known landmark example of the Spanish Colonial Revival style in the city.

Although Shreveport was founded in the 1830s, the architectural patrimony for which the city is primarily recognized dates to the oil boom of the early twentieth century. A major element of this heritage is the city's collection of eclectic revival style buildings. During this period of explosive growth, numerous major buildings 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. The school is one of these landmark eclectic revival style buildings.

In addition, the A. C. Steere Elementary School is the only known landmark example of the Spanish Colonial Revival style in the city. Although this style was very popular in America during the 1920s and 1930s, a book on Shreveport's architectural history and a partially completed Standing Structures Survey show no other major examples in this style. Furthermore, the Louisiana National Register staff is very familiar with the city and knows of no other Spanish Colonial Revival landmarks.

Historical Note

Originally named for the Broadmoor subdivision of which it was a part, the A. C. Steere Elementary School was founded in 1922. By 1926 the school had outgrown the small cottage where classes were first held. As a result, land developer A. C. Steere (the founder of the Broadmoor addition as well as a co-founder of the school) donated twelve acres to the city for use as a school. The city, in turn, donated an additional five acres. Steere stipulated that the donated land be open to the public during non-school hours, and to this day the school grounds and surrounding acreage become city parkland as soon as daily

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Site visit by National Register staff.

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 @ 1.75 acres

UTM References

A

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

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Please refer to attached sketch map.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Boundary lines were drawn to encompass the significant resource. They do not follow property lines because to have done so would have meant including modern buildings in the school complex. The proximity of these buildings is why the boundaries are tight and irregular.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title National Register staff
organization Division of Historic Preservation date November 1990
street & number P. O. Box 44247 telephone (504) 342-8160
city or town Baton Rouge state LA zip code 70804

Owner: Caddo Parish School Board
1961 Midway
Shreveport, LA 71108

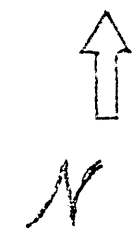
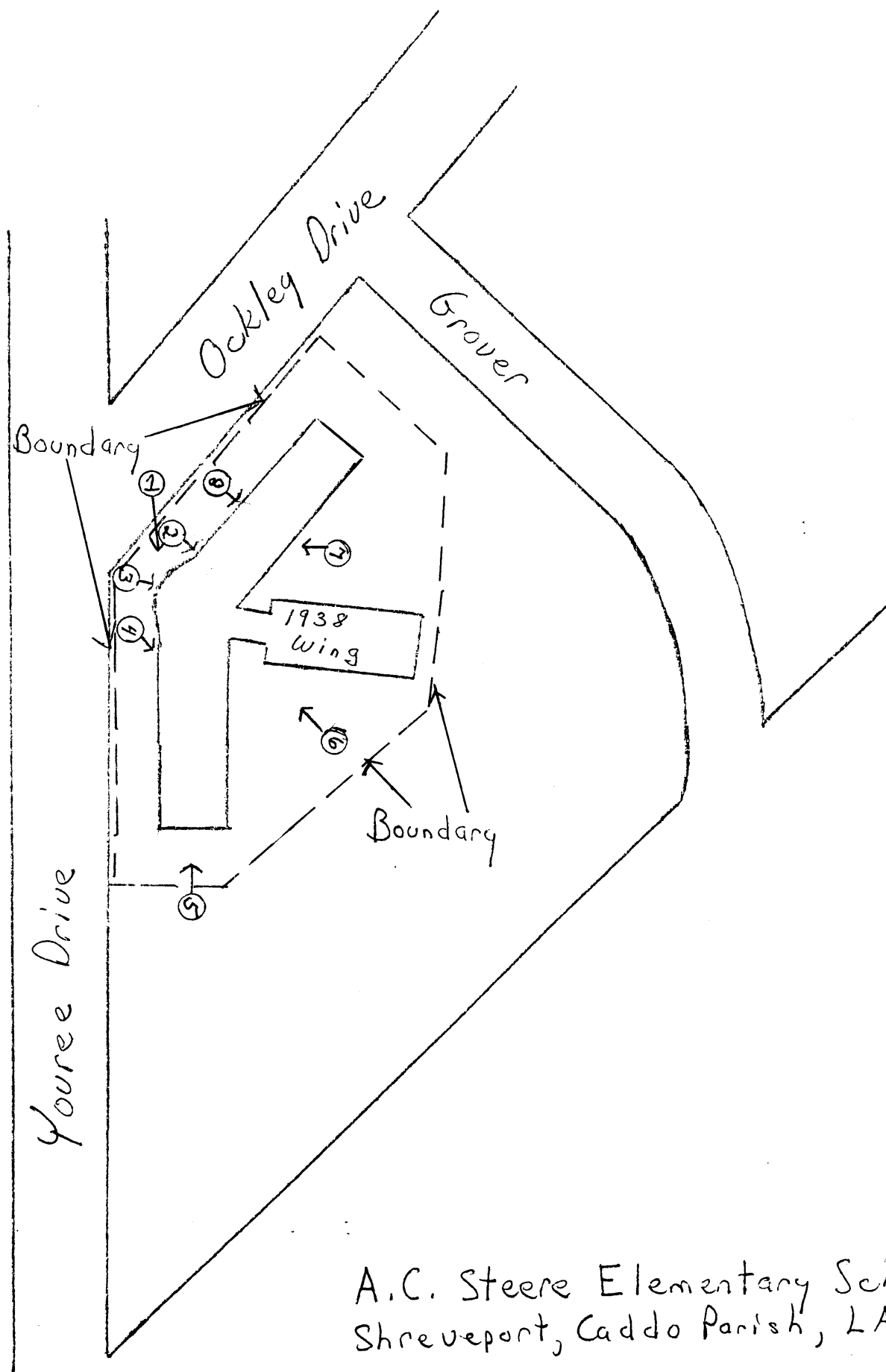
**United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

A. C. Steere Elementary School, Shreveport, Caddo Parish, LA

Section number 8 Page 1

classes end. The school cost \$106,391 to build, was erected by the H and B Construction Company, and opened in 1929. It was renamed in honor of Steere following his death in 1930. It still serves as an elementary school. In 1989 the U.S. Navy donated the bell from the U.S.S. Shreveport to replace the school's lost bell.



Scale:
1" = 100'

BOUNDARY

A.C. Steere Elementary School
Shreveport, Caddo Parish, LA