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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Nat. Register of Historic Places
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 Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School

other names/site number Washington Middle School

2. Location

street & number 751 2nd Avenue South not for publication N/A
city or town Clinton vicinity N/A
state Iowa code IA county Clinton code 045 zip code 52732

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.)

Steve King 13 AUG 2015
Signature of certifying official Date
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 commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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):

Signature of Keeper Patrick Andrews Date of Action 10/21/2015

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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

Contributing Noncontributing

- | | |
|--------------|------------------------|
| <u> 1 </u> | <u> 1 </u> buildings |
| <u> </u> | <u> </u> sites |
| <u> </u> | <u> </u> structures |
| <u> </u> | <u> </u> objects |
| <u> 1 </u> | <u> 1 </u> Total |

Name of related multiple property listing

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

 N/A

 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

MODERN MOVEMENT/Art Deco
OTHER/PWA Moderne

MODERN MOVEMENT/International Style

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
roof SYNTHETICS / Vinyl

walls BRICK
 STONE

other _____

Narrative Description

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

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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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1934-1965

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 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.

Significant Dates

1934
1953

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Keffer & Jones
Morrell, Albert H.
Childs & Smith

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical 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: _____

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 5.18 acres

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

Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
1 15 732073 4636254	3 15 732248 4636221
2 15 732072 4636182	4 15 732247 4636261

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 Jan Olive Full, Historian jofofic@gmail.com
organization Tallgrass Historians LC date February 2015

street & number 2460 S. Riverside Drive telephone 319.354.6722

city or town Iowa City state IA zip code 52246

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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name Clinton Community School District (c/o Deb Olson, Superintendent)

street & number 1401 12th Ave. No. telephone 563-243-9600

city or town Clinton state IA zip code 52732

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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7. Description

Summary Paragraph

Constructed and put into service in 1934, with a significant addition built in 1953, the Washington Junior High and Jefferson Grade School (a combination school from its inception) is located in east central Clinton, Iowa, on the flat floodplain at the foot of the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River. This city in Clinton County, with about 26,500 residents, lies along the west bank of the river, the easternmost city in Iowa due to its location within the state's distinctive bulbous eastern border. The river here is braided with multiple channels that create large and small islands and sloughs, but just upriver a lock and dam at the north end of the city backs up a large impoundment. The school was built in a residential district several blocks west of the city's downtown. The neighborhood primarily is composed of modest single family homes of one to and one-and-a-half stories built in the first half of the twentieth century, with a few midcentury infills. The school's property occupies a full city block,¹ but blocks here are longer than usual. They run east to west, and have narrow alleys down their center. Houses are squeezed into narrow lots and with garages located on the alleys.

The north-facing school building is exceptionally long as well, its facade stretching some 573 feet along 2nd Avenue South. It has a narrow green strip of lawn between its façade and the sidewalk and street and a larger green square of lawn off its east end at South 7th Street. Paved parking lots are located adjacent to the school's west end and there is a larger one behind it to the southeast. Paved playground areas exist between the building and the larger parking lot with parking island separations. A modern elementary school sits farther south, beyond the large parking lot on a different city block. Neither it nor the larger parking lot are within the parcel being nominated. A portion of 3rd Street South, which separates the two schools has been vacated at the west end of the older school's property but is maintained on the east side. A small, modular 1970s classroom building (noncontributing), is located behind the Washington and Jefferson school building, between its rear south wall and the larger parking lot, and is only lightly attached to the school by a long enclosed walkway. Perimeter sidewalks around the school are public and not a part of the school's parcel.

The school's lot is flat and level to slightly sloping down to the east. Its footprint is complex but basically consists of the main two-story mass built in 1934 with its separate gymnasium and auditorium to the rear; the long two-story addition constructed in 1953 off the east wall of the 1934 building; and smaller modern additions to the rear of both. The 1934 building (Fig. 1) follows a familiar Depression-era program of styling for schools and courthouses frequently termed PWA Moderne, while the 1953 addition was heavily influenced by the International Style. Used as a middle school until December, 2014, the school's exterior is largely unaltered except for its windows and its interior is intact as it was last used. Surfaces generally are original, with plastered tile block (1934) and "cinder block" walls (1953 and later), and wood and asphalt tile flooring, and wood trim.

¹ The school's block is bordered by 2nd Avenue South on the north, 3rd Avenue South on the south (partially vacated), South 8th Street on the west (partially vacated), and South 7th Street on the east.

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Figure 1 Historic photograph of the Washington Junior High and Jefferson Grade School taken shortly after its completion in 1934. The grade school occupied the east wing, to the left of the central entrance pavilion in this photograph.

Courtesy of the Clinton County Historical Society

Exterior

1934 Building - Primary North Façade

With walls clad in a mottled brown brick and gray stone trim, the two-story primary façade is symmetrical and balanced on either side of a prominent central entrance pavilion, which entrance is reached from the public sidewalk via wide stretches of concrete pavement. Each wing on either side of the entrance has nine window openings, most of which now hold two large window sashes. Two single-window openings exist also, one on each side of the entrance pavilion, a second one close to each wings' distant end. The wings terminate at the far corners with a minor block treatment meant to complement the entrance pavilion. These corner areas are slightly projected out from the wall plane and have a raised parapet of decorative stonework.

Window openings throughout have flat headers and stone sills. Paired windows with fixed upper panels have replaced the original wood sashes of six-over-six lights. Interstitial space between the first- and second-story window openings is veneered with header bricks, while the rest of the bricks are laid in rows of stretchers only except at the roofline, where there is a soldier row. Stone trim on the façade wings is limited to a running belt course just above the second floor windows, a stone coping at the roofline, and a decorative panel of "folded" stone (see description below) over the windows at both levels of the end blocks. The belt course has the same folded stone paneling intermittently appearing as well.

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The stonework on the entrance pavilion is what defines the building as Moderne or PWA Moderne (or Art Deco) (Fig. 2). The whole entrance mass projects forward a few feet from the plane of the side wings. Its roofline also projects a bit higher than the wings. Three double doors are recessed in brickwork at the ground level under three windows overhead on the second story. To each side is another vertical bank of single windows. Except for the interstitial space between upper and lower floor windows and a thin framework of brick lining the window banks, the entrance pavilion is entirely clad in gray stone of the Bedford type. Stone, carved and grooved to look like folds,² frames the top of the central portion of the pavilion and drapes down on either side of the upper windows. An inverted ziggurat form continues the stone decoration in between windows from the folds down to ground level. Beyond these central three windows and their stone decoration, the outside single-window openings are cased in flat stone and topped with a flat *bas relief* sculpture panel of an eagle (Fig. 3). Dentil-like stone details form headers above each upper story window. Electric lights held in clear glass and white metal casings are located over each front door way.



Figure 2 Doors of the central entrance pavilion are framed in white metal, as is the name “Washington” overhead.
Tallgrass Historians L.C., 2014

² This fold motif may be a reference to the linen fold detail of earlier architectural styles, but streamlined in keeping with the 1930s aesthetics.

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**Figure 3 Two eagle panels flank the front entrance of the school. Symbol of freedom, the eagle motif was common in Depression-era art and architecture. Here, as the eagle spreads its wings the clouds overhead inevitable part, giving way to rays of sunshine.
Tallgrass Historians L.C., 2014**

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1934 Building – West Side Elevation

This elevation shares most of the characteristics of the façade with a few exceptions. First and foremost, it lacks a prominent entrance. Fenestration consists of single-window openings, rather than multiples, but holds replacement windows like the front. A single larger window opening on the second floor is located above the sole entrance on this elevation, near the front (north) corner. A large decorative brick panel fills the space between this side entrance and the front wall of the school building. Stonework on this west side includes a stone folded panel above the entrance bay, a continuation of the high belt course seen on the front wall, and stone window sills. Five groupings of single windows share common stone sills, while several single windows have their own stone sills. A stone coping also terminates the wall at the roofline.

Behind the west elevation just described, to its south, the roofline drops down to a single story structure in which the building's boilers are housed. An entrance is located at the north end of this enclosure, while a more modern addition faced with red brick is situated at the south end of the boiler enclosure. This modern addition has smaller double doors and likely was used as storage space. A high chain link fence spans entrance and storage structures creating an open secured enclosure. Rising behind the low boiler room is the higher wall of the gymnasium's west wall, with its stepped parapet concealing an arched roof. An even taller chimney stack serving the boilers rises along this gymnasium wall.

A narrow parking area, wide enough for a single row of vehicles, spans the entire west elevation of the 1934 school building.

1934 Building - South Rear Elevation

The large two-story mass of the gymnasium, placed at 90 degrees to the west elevation, dominates the southwest corner of the 1934 building. Its wall treatment is similar to the rest of the building, with brick veneering and stone trim. The windows (replacements) are singles, each on a single stone sill. The high belt course and stone coping seen in other walls are continued on this side of the gymnasium as well. The roof, however, is arched and terminated on the east and west ends with higher stepped-parapet end walls. Decorative brick work between the two stories is similar to other sides. Two doors along the long south side wall of the gymnasium appear to be the original tall paneled wooden doors with vertical lights at the top.

The east wall of the gymnasium was designed to serve as the gym's "front" (Fig. 4). Its treatment is closer to the stone detailing found on the north façade's central entrance than other elevations and its parapet end wall is raised high above the side walls. The lower level of the gym's front wall has been obscured by a modern entrance addition that appears to date to the 1970s or 80s. The addition holds a major entrance with four doors accessed by both a wide set of concrete stairs and a wheelchair ramp. This addition's roofline is flat and much below that of the gymnasium's. A wide signboard with the words "Washington Middle School" appears over the doorway. Behind this entrance addition rises the slightly higher wall of another addition that dates to the same modern construction age. This wall terminates at its east end in a service entrance and storage space, both of which are surrounded by security fencing. Bricks on both additions are similar but not identical in color to the original building and were laid in a modified common bond pattern.

A third and final modern addition to the south elevation of the 1934 building is located just east of the above two additions. It is recessed well back and to the north of them however, and is clad in a slightly brighter palette of brownish bricks. The rear wall and windows of the 1934 auditorium's south wall can be seen above the low roofline of this addition. Together, these three additions added space for both a music room and a science room, in addition to the new entrance. A wide area of concrete playground is located in front of the entrance and additions.

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Figure 4 Viewed from left to right is the 1934 gymnasium with its stone decorated “front” wall, two of the lower modern additions that included a new entrance to the school, and rising above those additions is the rear wall of the 1934 auditorium. The part of the theater visible here, inside, is the elevated stage-house containing the stage and vertical space for any back drops, rigging, catwalks, and curtains. The third modern addition is partially visible at the far right. Tallgrass Historians L.C., 2014

The 1934 school building’s auditorium was sited perpendicular to the main body of the building, extending out to the south. Placed immediately opposite the central entrance pavilion, the auditorium was directly accessible by the public coming in through the school’s front doors. By positioning the auditorium at a 90-degree angle to the back wall of the main 1934 building, and putting the gymnasium at 90 degrees to the west side wall of the main mass, an interior open-air “light court” was created. This bit of outdoor space, encircled all round by two-story construction, provided natural light for the class rooms on both floors of the central mass and the west wing. (The east wing, which originally housed the youngest children had no accessory buildings attached to it that would obstruct class room light.)

1934 Building - East Side Elevation

This side of the 1934 building was completely obscured by the later 1953 east side addition except for the high belt course of stone and what was above it.

1953 Addition - Primary North Façade

This major two-story addition was planned in 1952 and built a year later adjacent to the slightly taller east wall of

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the 1934 building. It extends for 247 feet along 2nd Avenue South, making the combined street-side façade of considerable length. While compatible with the older school's architecture, in that it utilizes a mottled brown brick and light gray stone trim, the styling is clearly advanced beyond the pre-World War Two Moderne to reference the clean and simple lines of the postwar International style. This building addition is devoid of all ornamentation except some minor brickwork variations along the second story and the masonry it uses as trim. Fenestration glazing in long horizontal bands dominates the addition's façade. The front entrance area is located about midway on the north wall (Fig. 5), and is recessed or inset and sheltered by a flat canopy roof. A secondary entrance is located on the narrow east end wall and likewise covered by a flat porch roof.

Features shared on each elevation of the 1953 addition include the mottled brick courses laid in a common bond pattern and the gray stone, which is used as the visible foundation at grade, as long common window sills on both stories, and as an even longer belt course or continuous header across the top of the second-story windows. The addition's long north and south sides are dominated by bands of ribbon windows separated by narrow brick columns. These windows appear to be the original metal-sash windows described in contemporary newspaper accounts and consist of eight columns of five rectangular glass panes a piece. Hardware placement suggests that at least two of the window panels opened in each vertical bank of glass.



Figure 5 The main entrance to the addition is partially visible behind the bushes on the left. Windows to its right reflect three interior classrooms. Two more such classroom expanses are located to the left of the front entrance and not seen in this view. Tallgrass Historians L.C., 2014

1953 Addition – East End Wall

The main part of this end wall is two stories high with a secondary entrance centered on the wall (Fig. 6). Above the

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entrance is a single large window opening on the second floor. To the south, the building is stepped down to a single story. This south extension has large, more irregularly placed windows openings filled with the same vertical banks of glass panes. The south end of this extension (formerly housing the kindergarten room) has a large window opening that has been permanently infilled with brick. A tall exterior brick chimney stack also is located on this elevation.



Figure 6 Based on the original floor plans, this east side of the 1953 addition reflects the grade school classroom wing (right) and the kindergarten room (far left), with a planned “activity room” in between.

1953 Addition – South Rear Elevation

The south elevation of the addition has classroom windows in large banks like the façade, but upper portions of the windows are filled with a solid material, perhaps original as this was the southern exposure. This infill material is seen in a number of window openings and from the exterior mimics the appearance of glass block. The wide central expanse of wall along the southern elevation has large fenestration openings also infilled with solid material on the bottom, but glass block above it. Plans for this central wall area indicate that inside was the “multi-purpose room,” which was a large volume of space with basketball lines painted on the wood floor, an elevated platform at one end to serve as a stage, and the grade school lunch room.

Outside, opposite the multi-purpose room, is the modern modular classroom (Fig. 7), which sits a few feet from the south wall of the 1953 building. At the west end of this 1953 rear elevation, where it attaches to the east wing of the 1934 building, is another secondary entrance covered by a flat porch roof. Over this entrance is a large window opening still filled with its original glazing.

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Figure 7 The 1934 building is at the left side in this view; the modular classroom at right. In between are classroom windows of the 1953 addition. Tallgrass Historians L.C., 2014

Interior

1934 Building

The entrance vestibule and lobby walls are finished in marble panels of a buff color. Ceilings there have decorative plasterwork that resembles the stone folds on the exterior. Floors are terrazzo and doors are dark-stained or fumed wood with large areas of divided lights.

The ground level of the building has about 17 rooms built and used as classrooms, plus specialized rooms such as the wood-working shop, the principal's office, and administration and faculty rooms. Many surface treatments throughout have been modernized, but much of the historic finishing remains. Public corridors have terrazzo floors with inset metal student lockers. Corridor walls are glazed tile block with plaster above to the ceiling. Floors in classrooms are typically narrow wood (maple?); some rooms have more modern asphalt tiles. Woodwork throughout is the dark fir or pine with a glossy finish. Classroom walls are plastered and ceilings have modern acoustic tiles and panel lighting. Classrooms have both the original wood-framed black chalk boards, and more modern white eraser boards. The fixed desks initially installed have been replaced by modern movable ones.

Special design features present in the 1934 building include arched-top wooden class room doors with divided lights in the upper half. Other doors have the lights but lack the arched top (more modern wooden doors are present also in some places). Doorways into class rooms are recessed to avoid opening the entire door out into the public corridor. This is made possible by the inset lockers banks (Fig. 8). The space over the class room doorways is recessed also and stepped back to suggest an upright ziggurat, or stepped pyramid, form.

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Figure 8 This interior ground floor view reflects a number of common features found in the 1934 building, including glazed tile lower walls trimmed by wood at the upper edge, terrazzo floors, arched-window wooden doors with divided lights, inset hallway lockers, and the ziggurat form over the inset door. Also visible here is a vault room with a security gate and, on the wall, a display case framed with white metal. Tallgrass Historians L.C., 2014

The 1934 auditorium (Figs. 9-10) is reached directly from the front doors and by passing through the vestibule and climbing a short flight of stairs to the lobby. The auditorium floor is smooth concrete and overhead is a balcony, with decorative plasterwork on the ceiling. The decorative plasterwork continues on the side walls, which display pilaster-type vertical shapes interspersed with rectangular brick shapes. Rows of theater seats (that appear original) fill the ground floor, which is sloped down to the orchestra pit and stage, and there are two central aisles plus the side aisles. The proscenium has a stepped outline across the top, and the sides repeat the rounded fold form of the exterior. The balcony with the same theater seating, hangs under a coffered plaster ceiling with a projection booth at the center of the back wall. The projection booth is flanked by the two balcony entrances/exits that are reached by concrete ramps that slope up from the second floor corridor.

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Figure 9 The 1934 auditorium has a large stage with an ornately shaped proscenium and trim work that telescopes outward from it toward the ceiling and side walls. The orchestra pit railing is visible between the stage and the theater seating. Tallgrass Historians L.C., 2014

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**Figure 10 Viewed from the stage, the balcony's rail decoration mimics the overall school's front elevation.
Tallgrass Historians L.C., 2014**

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The 1934 gymnasium (Fig. 11) is one large volume of open space. The ceiling is arched and supported by metal trusses. Walls are plaster over exposed brick, and the floor is a shiny hardwood with lines painted for basketball. Fold out bleachers are tucked under coverings on either long side wall and there is permanently fixed bleacher seating above them.



**Figure 11 The school's gymnasium has an arched ceiling, high windows, and bleacher seating on both sides.
Tallgrass Historians L.C., 2014**

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1953 Building

This construction effort added eight new grade school class rooms on the first floor plus a large kindergarten room at a southeast corner wing. Special use rooms included an activity room, a work room, a kitchen that was connected to the large two-story multi-purpose room, plus restrooms and administrative offices. Another nine class rooms were added on the second floor, plus space for a teachers' room, a special education room, and restrooms.

Unlike the extensive use of plaster, terrazzo, and large glazed tile blocks seen in the 1934 building, the 1953 addition was constructed of "cinder blocks" or concrete blocks painted white on the interior, with asphalt tile flooring throughout (some offices have carpet), acoustic ceiling tiles and panel lighting, and light-stained wood (birch or ash?) trim. Exposed brick was used in the main entrance as a decorative wall treatment. Secondary entrances have walls veneered in yellow brick laid in a common bond pattern. Glazed tile was reserved primarily for the kitchen, restrooms, and smaller trim areas. The tiles' color palette was strictly limited to pastels, including yellow, blue, gray, and green. Where it was used, this glazed tile was uniformly laid in a stacked subway bond where oversize stretchers were stacked vertically and mortar joints are aligned rather than staggered. Doors and doorways in the addition are squared and undecorated, with little glazing except an occasional narrow vertical light. Corridors have banks of metal student lockers.

Class rooms have the painted concrete block walls and chalk boards are black and green or the more modern white eraser boards. Low built-in book cases line the exterior walls under the long ribbon windows that illuminate all the class rooms. Some class rooms have additional built in cabinets, all of light colored wood. An elevator has been added to the 1953 addition at the juncture of the two buildings.

Modern Additions from the 1970s and 1980s

The primary modern additions provided large spaces for science and music rooms. Finishes are similar to the 1953 addition. Walls are concrete block painted white. Ceilings are acoustic tiles and panel lights. Flooring is a variety of asphalt tiles. Woodwork is also stained in a light color. The science room has long bands of black chalk boards over long expanses of wooden cabinets with black counter tops. Corridors lack the metal lockers seen in both the 1934 and 1953 hallways. The music room is a large open room with curved flooring that steps down in several levels for line-of-sight purposes between the seated musicians and the conductor. It also has smaller storage rooms and a small office.

Integrity

The building has good historic integrity. The most significant alterations are the small rear additions, and the window replacements. Window replacement is a very common mid- to late-twentieth century change for older Iowa schools as heating and lighting systems were upgraded. Despite these newer windows, the building's substantial size, scale, and detailing, within its residential neighborhood context, mean the "overall sense of past time and place is evident" (*National Register Bulletin: How to Complete the National Register Form 4*).

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Comments on specific integrity aspects are as follows:

- (1) location: the building is in its original location;
- (2) design: the exterior is largely unchanged except for the window replacements noted above and the 1970s-80s rear additions. The interior maintains its original floor plan with minor room partitions and most of its historic finishes. The floor plan design reflects the school functions;
- (3) setting: the surrounding residential neighborhood is largely the way it was when the school was put into service in 1934, with the exception of the large modern elementary school building constructed in recent decades across 3rd Avenue South to the southeast;
- (4) materials: the exterior materials are original to both the main building, the substantial 1953 addition, and the later rear additions; interior finishes, including glazed tile and plaster walls, marbled surfaces, terrazzo flooring, and wood trim, doors, and cabinets, are largely original;
- (5) workmanship: the workmanship employed in the building is best reflected in the skills needed to lay the brick and the decorative masonry, especially the masonry folds and the stone eagle panels;
- (6) feeling: the overall plan, vertical mass, and aesthetics of the 1934 PWA Moderne school building suggests the Depression-era federal construction programs of which it was a part, while the clean low lines of the newer grade-school wing suggests the school district's response to the demands of the postwar baby boom. The combination of the two reflects two significant eras of Iowa and Clinton history;
- (7) association: the school's long service as a combined elementary and junior high, as well as its adaptation over time to a growing school population, directly relate to its historic significance.

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8. Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary Paragraph

The Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School building, in Clinton, Iowa, is locally significant under Criterion A as one of the city's oldest remaining central-neighborhood schools,¹ and as the town's first junior high building constructed specifically for that purpose. Built in 1934 as a combined elementary school and junior high, the building reflects the evolving pattern in the early twentieth century of physically separating growing populations of Clinton's school children into graded buildings (elementary, junior, and high schools), and recognizing these schools as discrete organizations. Additional historical significance stems from the building's expansion with a large 1953 addition, an addition necessitated by the onslaught of "baby boom" children entering school in the post-World War Two era of the early 1950s. The "Jefferson" elementary addition enabled a further separation of children by ages with the 1934 building thereafter dedicated solely as a junior high. The school exhibits both Criteria A and C significance as a good local example of Depression-era, federal Public Works Administration (PWA) construction, the first PWA application and project to be initiated in Clinton. Designed by the Des Moines, Iowa firm of Keffer and Jones and supervised by local architect, A. H. Morrell, the 1934 building reflects the desire to put unemployed workers on the job as well as the popularity of Art Deco design for federally funded projects in the Midwest. This aesthetic connection between the Depression-era public works program and schools, courthouses, and other public buildings constructed in Iowa at the time is so strong that architectural historians commonly refer to it as "PWA Moderne." The period of significance, 1934-1965, runs from the completion of the building until the National Register's sliding 50-year cutoff.

The PWA and School Construction in Clinton

In early June of 1933, even before the PWA formally existed and well into the Great Depression, Clinton's local daily newspaper excitedly began reporting on the possibility of "obtaining a new combined Junior high and Jefferson [grade] school building as its share in the huge public works bill now nearing passage in congress."² The junior high then in use – a former grammar school built in 1892³ – was called a fire trap and "conceded to be unfit for school purposes" according to the officials and Chamber of Commerce representatives who met to discuss a possible application for PWA funds.⁴ The old Jefferson grade school serving this close-in neighborhood (four blocks closer to the Mississippi River than the present building) was even older, having been constructed in 1870.⁵ Community leaders agreed these two schools needed to be replaced and saw a chance for assistance in the effort,

¹ The city's current high school was built in 1918 or 1921. All other operating schools are of later construction than the nominated building. Gregg Cornilsen, Director of Plant Services, Clinton Community School District, emails to author, 1/18, 2/18/2015. An earlier high school is extant but no longer used by the school district for either school or administrative purposes. Its adaptive reuse is currently being planned. See Michael J. Kearney, "Clinton High school and Public Library," National Register nomination (listed 2012).

² "New Junior High School is Proposed as Initial Public Works Enterprise in City," *Clinton Herald*, 6/8/1933.

³ Corinne Forsee, "The Ter-Centennial Celebration of Secondary Education in America" (no publ., 1935), n.p. but within section titled "School Buildings." Forsee was a local historian and long-time teacher in Clinton. (Collection of the Clinton Community School District)

⁴ "New Junior High School is Proposed..." 6/8/1933.

⁵ Forsee, "The Ter-Centennial Celebration..." , n.p. Some sources report this construction year as 1871.

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as well as an opportunity to create jobs for the town's unemployed.⁶ The high school was crowded already and by building a larger junior high, the ninth grade could be shifted out of the high school, thereby relieving some of the congestion at the latter.⁷

The Public Works Administration was a Roosevelt "alphabet" agency established on June 16, 1933 under the authority of Title II, "Public Works and Construction Projects," of the National Industrial Recovery Act (NIRA), passed on the same day.⁸ Construction of PWA projects began soon after with the establishment of federal regions (Fig. 12) and state offices that passed on each application. Iowa was within Region 4, which covered a broad expanse of the upper Midwest and northern Great Plains, and had its main office in Omaha.⁹ Iowa's share of the new public works appropriation was expected to be \$90 million and local projects like Clinton's new school could receive 30% of its cost from the federal fund, with the local jurisdiction picking up the other 70%.¹⁰

Even with the rapid roll-out of the PWA agency, Clinton's civic leaders predicted it would take at least five weeks before a special election could be held for voters to authorize the sale of bonds for Clinton's 70% share. With breathless urgency, the *Clinton Herald* reported almost daily on progress toward the application for federal money. On June 10th, it revealed that an "experienced school architect regarded as one of the best in the state" had already been informally consulted by the head of the school board who happened to be in Des Moines on other matters.¹¹ That architect suggested that considerable savings could be secured "if action is taken quickly" and "thousands of dollars can be saved by rushing the contract through as soon as possible." Further, weeks of drafting time could be saved by incorporating some standard features already developed for other school buildings. Two days later, on June 12th, the paper reported that approval of the project and the application for funds was expected to easily pass at the school board's evening meeting. The district even already owned a likely piece of land on which to construct the new school, the "Hemingway property, between Second and Third avenues, South, near Ninth Street." At least 300 local workers might be expected to gain employment from the construction project.¹²

On June 15th, the local newspaper reported that "the formal application to the state relief commission for a thirty per cent gift from the government was approved and is being filed in Des Moines today. The public works bill, under which the money will be advanced, was passed by congress Tuesday and awaits the president's signature."¹³

⁶ Another grade school, Washington, and possibly more were also thought to need replacing so the earliest estimated capacity for the new building was set at 1,000 to 1,200 students. "New Junior High School is Proposed..." 6/8/1933.

⁷ "School Board Approves New Building Plan," *Clinton Herald*, 6/13/1933.

⁸ The PWAs initial name was the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works (1933-1939). Records of the Public Works Administration, accessed on 1/14/2015 at <http://www.archives.gov/research/guide-fed-records/groups/135.html#135.1>. See also Rolf T. Anderson, "Federal Relief Construction in Minnesota, 1933-1941," National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form" (1990), 1.

⁹ Marlys A. Svendsen, "PWA-Era County Courthouses of Iowa, 1934-1941" National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form" (2003), 7.

¹⁰ "New Junior High School is Proposed..." 6/8/1933.

¹¹ This architect is presumed to be from Keffer and Jones, the successful firm eventually awarded the project.

¹² "School Board Approves New Building Plan," 6/13/1933.

¹³ "School Board Speeds Plans for Building," *Clinton Herald*, 6/15/1933.

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Figure 12 "Regions of the P.W.A." Region 4 included such diverse cultural and environmental areas as Missouri and Montana. Taken from *Public Buildings: A Survey of Architecture* (1939)

The school board had invited half a dozen architects to Clinton to talk about the project,¹⁴ but the field of architects was narrowed quickly to firms from Des Moines and Rock Island.¹⁵ After traveling to a nearby community to examine a junior high school by architects Keffer and Jones, that Des Moines firm was selected, with the Clinton architect A.H. Morrell named as the local supervising architect.¹⁶ Within about 30 days then, Clinton had gotten its ducks in a row – the new school's architects were selected; the state application for funding was filed; the special election for bond financing was set. The city clearly had positioned itself through alert civic leadership to be the vanguard of local Iowa jurisdictions taking advantage of President Roosevelt's economic stimulus program. Now if only the federal structure would catch up.

¹⁴ Architects invited were from Des Moines and Davenport, Iowa; and from Rock Island, Moline, Chicago, and Evanston, Illinois. "School Board Sets July 25 for Election", *Clinton Herald*, 6/24/1933.

¹⁵"School Board Cuts 1933-34 Budget \$8,000," *Clinton Herald*, 7/6/1933.

¹⁶"Contract for School Plans is Awarded," *Clinton Herald*, 7/11/1933. The 1932 school was in Mount Pleasant. See Table 1.

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Iowa's lieutenant governor, Nelson G. Kraschel had been appointed "director of public works for Iowa," and was keeping Clinton officials informed of progress on the federal administrative front. In Kraschel's opinion, "Clinton's request for aid under the federal public works bill stands an excellent chance for immediate fulfillment," but would need to wait until the federal administrator for Region 4 was appointed as well as a committee of three in each state which would "pass upon requests." Kraschel assured Clinton officials that he was in close communication with federal officials and would press the case for the Clinton school. By August 2nd, the paper predicted an early "launch" of the public works program in Iowa. Applications already had been received for \$20 million of the \$90 million available to the state. Kraschel said Clinton's application was among the first received and would be among the first acted upon.¹⁷

Ultimately, Clinton's application to the PWA would have to wait until November, 1933 to be approved, a delay that surely kept local leaders on edge. Project planning, however, continued in earnest during the long weeks of waiting. On July 22, an elevation drawing of the school was published in the local paper (Fig. 13). Tentative plans called for a two-story building 330 feet long and an average depth of 150 feet. Exterior walls were to be of brick and stone, while interior walls would be plastered tile. The junior high students would occupy the main front and



Figure 13 Keffer & Jones architects' sketch of the front elevation as published in the *Clinton Herald* on July 22, 1933.

west wing, and be provided with 22 rooms plus facilities for art, music, cooking, sewing, and manual arts. The smaller children would occupy the grade school in the east wing, with 13 classrooms and a separate entrance. The architects' plans also provided for an auditorium, gymnasium, library, offices, and a combined study hall and lunch room.¹⁸

When it was determined that part of the school board's land – the "old Hemingway Furniture Company" acquired in 1930 – was undermined by an old river channel the board sought to vacate part of Third Avenue South (Figs. 14-16). This would have allowed placement on the tract in a location that completely avoided the soft soil of the

¹⁷ "No Objectors Appear Before School Board," *Clinton Herald*, 7/18/1933.

¹⁸ "This School Can Be Built Without Increasing Taxes," *Clinton Herald*, 7/22/1933.

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old channel, thereby also avoiding the increased cost of driving pilings through to bed rock.¹⁹ But the street closure brought about significant neighborhood protests and the city council refused to close the street.²⁰ The school site was then relocated to its present area. When construction finally started in early 1934, the costly pile driving was commenced because “the rock strata underlying part of the site shelves off abruptly in certain sections...The sub-soil, being old river bottom, is soft and will not support the weight.” The newspaper continued, “the piling will be of reinforced concrete, it being the first time that this type has been specified for a building in this vicinity.”²¹

With the final approval of Clinton’s funding application on November 8, 1933 (in an amount slightly reduced from the application request because the architects’ fees were disallowed), the school board was able to move ahead.

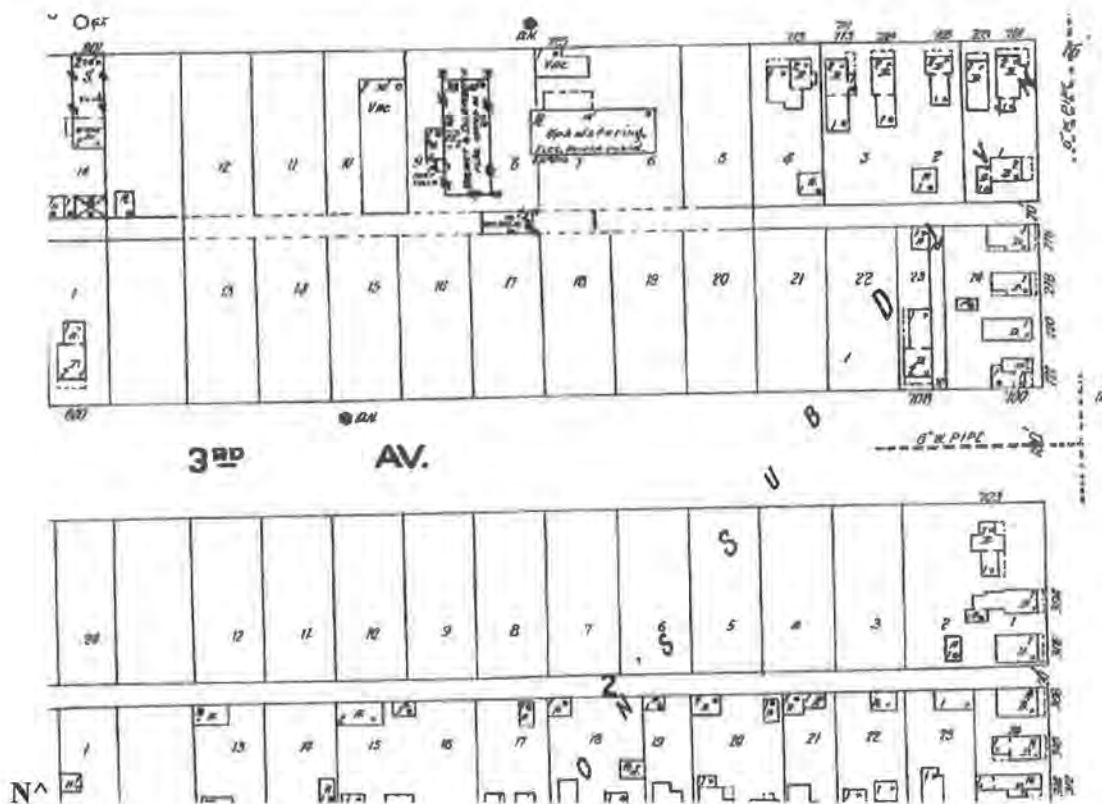


Figure 14 The abundance of undeveloped lots surrounded the “old Hemingway property” is seen here at the top center of this image in 1925 just before the land was acquired by the Clinton school district. The alley behind the property was impassible because of the “dry kiln” located there. See Figure 15 for a detail view of the Hemingway lots. Sanborn Map Co., fire insurance map of Clinton, Iowa, 1925.

¹⁹ “Proposed Site Plan,” *Clinton Herald* 8/23/1933; “School Board Explains Stand In Asking For Closing of Third Ave.,” *Clinton Herald*, 9/12/1933.

²⁰ “School Board Loses Plea to Close Street,” *Clinton Herald*, 9/27/1933.

²¹ “Excavation At School Site Is Nearly Finished,” *Clinton Herald*, 1/6/1934.

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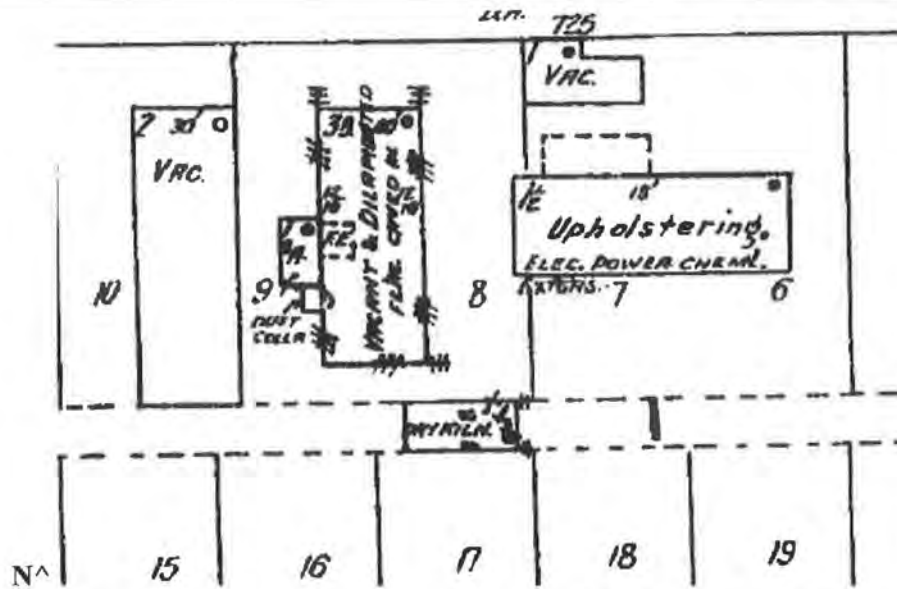


Figure 15 The Hemingway property in 1925 was for the most part vacant and dilapidated. Sanborn Map Co., fire insurance map of Clinton, Iowa, 1925.

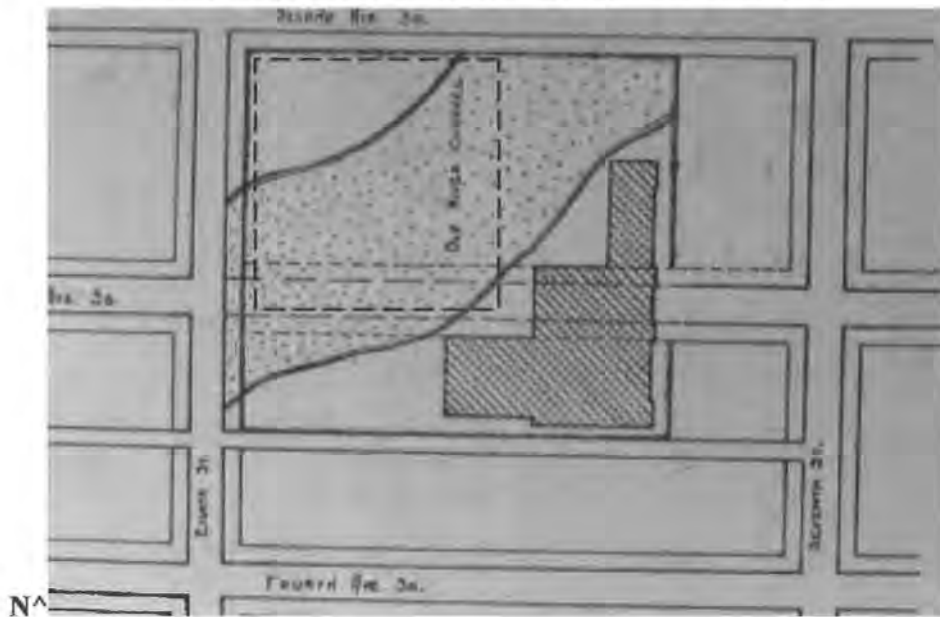


Figure 16 This site plan drawing for the proposed new school published in the *Clinton Herald* on August 23, 1933 shows the initial intended location of the school at the southeast corner of the tract. As built, however, the school was located in the northwest quarter (dashed lines added). The proposed footprint shown here suggests the long front of the school building might have faced east and the auditorium and gymnasium been aligned differently than they are today. The sketch also suggests that pilings were eventually needed for all but the far northwest corner of the building as built.

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Ten days later they chose the name "Washington Junior High"²² and over the following week they opened construction bids and awarded the project to the low bidder, John P. Cullen & Son from Janesville, Wisconsin. During this time, the school board also sold the bonds that voters had approved. Responding to protests from the Central P.T.A. and parents of the "Jefferson district in which the new building is to be located" the board rethought the new school's name and changed it to "Washington junior high and Jefferson grade school."²³

Site work began in early December, 1933 when the contractor relocated his equipment to Clinton from Omaha where he had just built the 13-story federal post office building.²⁴ Two months later the concrete foundation work was underway.²⁵ It was finished by late April except for a section on the building's south side where pilings were still being driven.²⁶ By May 10th, the brickwork was approaching a full story in height and the stone at the front entrance was in place. Concrete slabs for the second floor were about to be poured and the steel in the auditorium's balcony was in place.²⁷ A month later, the brickwork was at two stories in places.²⁸ Another summer month of work saw the stone eagle panels installed at the front entrance and all the brickwork done except for on the gymnasium.²⁹ Hopes for finishing the building at the normal start of the 1934-1935 school year in early September were dashed because maple flooring and corridor lockers were still being installed. The grade school's opening was delayed until late September, but the junior high students got an "extra month's vacation" with their space in the school not ready until October 1st.³⁰

Dedication of the new school was delayed until January, 1935 when an elaborate program of speakers and tours was planned, with each celebratory event recorded in detail and published in a large special edition of the *Clinton Herald* that included a number of photographs (Fig. 17).³¹ Speakers included the state superintendent of public instruction, Agnes Samuelson, and the president of the University of Iowa, E.A. Gilmore. A student pageant was presented and the new building's doors then were flung open for tours. The newspaper's reporter marveled at the new gymnasium, which was able to seat over 1,000 on permanent and roll-out bleachers, while the auditorium seated only slightly less.³²

Records of employment showed that over a 120 men were still on the job as the school neared completion, while 32 teachers and two principals would be working in the operating school. Three older schools were replaced by the new combined school, Washington (1863), and Jefferson (1870) grade schools and the junior high that was housed in the old grammar school (1892). By the time the new school opened, these buildings had been razed or were

²² "No Objections to New Junior High; Name is Chosen," *Clinton Herald*, 11/18/1933.

²³ "School Board Opens Bids on New Building," *Clinton Herald*, 11/24/1933.

²⁴ "School Contract Signed; Work to Be Started Soon," *Clinton Herald*, 12/9/1933.

²⁵ "More than 500 CWA Men Now At Work In County," *Clinton Herald*, 12/6/1934.

²⁶ "Work Progresses on New School; Boilers Arrive," *Clinton Herald*, 4/26/1934.

²⁷ "New Junior High School Rapidly Taking Shape as Crew of 104 Pushes Ahead," *Clinton Herald*, 5/10/1934.

²⁸ "Work Forges Ahead on New Junior High and Grade School," *Clinton Herald*, 6/15/1934.

²⁹ "Workers Push Ahead Rapidly on New School," *Clinton Herald*, 7/18/1934.

³⁰ "New School to Open Sept. 18," *Clinton Herald*, 9/14/1934; "Oct. 8 Set as Date of Junior High Opening," *Clinton Herald*, 9/28/1934.

³¹ *Clinton Herald*, 1/22/1935.

³² After removal of two rows for handicap accessibility purposes, the seating capacity currently is 921, with 243 in the balcony and 678 on the floor. Gregg Cornilsen, Director of Plant Services, Clinton Community School District, email to author, 1/16/2015.

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going to be shortly.³³ Curiously, none of the dedication articles included any information about the ninth grade students the school administrators had thought would be moved out of the high school. Apparently those plans had changed.



Figure 17 The *Clinton Herald* showcased the new school with a number of photographs in its special dedication edition on January 22, 1935. The gymnasium is shown in the top left; a class room at the top right. The school's newly finished façade along 2nd Avenue South is in the center. The auditorium's corridor and double doors and a view from the stage are shown at the bottom.

³³ "Erection of New Junior High School Spells Doom of Three Old Buildings," *Clinton Herald*, 1/22/1934; Forsee, "The Ter-Centennial Celebration..." n.p.

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Following construction and opening of the Washington Junior High and Jefferson Grade schools in the one building, there does not seem to have been much school building activity in Clinton. Certainly Clinton felt the impact of World War Two on construction just as most towns did. Following the war, however, returning GIs all across the nation resumed normal civilian life, which included beginning long-postponed families. The 1949 addition added to Clinton's Longfellow Elementary School, built in 1927 (both nonextant) heralded the local arrival of this baby boom.³⁴

Planning for the Wave of Baby Boom Students

Clinton school officials once again exhibited foresight and leadership when they anticipated the arrival of the postwar baby boom in the early 1950s. Not content to simply initiate a large-scale building program that might accommodate the rising student population, Clinton leaders sought to re-evaluate their entire school system. A well-known expert from Chicago, W.C. Reavis, was hired to study the school district's grade distribution system and its buildings.³⁵ Based on the Reavis study, the *Clinton Herald* reported: "Figures on prospective school enrollments indicate that elementary schools will be bursting at the seams before 1955, junior high schools will be setting new enrollment records by 1960, and senior high schools will reach peak enrollments by the middle 1960s." Further, the "tremendous increase in births in the post-war years will not begin to make its full weight felt until the 1952-53 school year." The elementary school population then was expected to rise by several hundred children each school year until 1958, the peak year when an estimated 1,100 additional students over 1951 figures were anticipated. "These figures," the newspaper wrote, "give urgency to the building of additional elementary school classrooms in Clinton just as rapidly as conditions permit. They also indicate that available building funds must be spent upon elementary school construction first, with junior and senior high classrooms to be provided later." The *Herald* then warned that residents must be prepared to face "a period of several years when school costs will be constantly increasing, barring a depression that would lower price levels."³⁶

Dr. Reavis advocated a "one high school" system for Clinton. The town, he felt, could not afford to continue operating two high schools and students attending the second one, Lyons High School, were "not enjoying the facilities that they should."³⁷ If the school district agreed, then it was his recommendation that what would become the new addition to the Washington Junior High and Jefferson Grade School should be constructed first. Reavis "would have a new 17-room building built adjacent to the Washington-Jefferson school. The present structure would house three junior high school grades and Clinton high school would be for sophomores, juniors and seniors [the proposal first suggested in the early 1930s]." Following vigorous debate among school board members, mostly about the need to educate the public on the advantages of consolidating high schools, the board ultimately adopted the "K6-3-3 school plan," through which grades were separated into kindergarten through 6th grade, 7th,

³⁴ Gregg Cornilsen, email to author, 2/19/2015.

³⁵ William Claude Reavis (1881-1955) had been a rural school in Indiana, the principal of the high school affiliated with the University of Chicago, a profession of education at that university, and had authored numerous books on elementary school education and administration, "Prominent Reavis Men," accessed on 1/14/2014 at <http://www.angelfire.com/fl3/reavisrevis/ProminentReavisMen.html>.

³⁶ "Enrollment of 6,440 Expected by Year of 1960-61," *Clinton Herald*, 11/114/1951. The reference by the newspaper to a depression that might lower building costs suggests an interesting historical reference to the depression of the 1930s when the low building costs were touted as one reason to build the Washington Junior High and Jefferson Grade School building.

³⁷ "Dr. Reavis Explains School Site Survey at Joint Meeting of Planning Group and Board," *Clinton Herald*, 11/16/1951.

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8th, and 9th grades in junior high, and a senior high of 10th, 11th, and 12th graders, and approved construction of two new grade schools at Sino Park and Lincoln.³⁸

Following a well-publicized public meeting, which few people attended and no one expressed a negative comment (Fig. 18), the “Jefferson addition” was approved as the “keystone of the entire building and reorganization program” recommended by Dr. Reavis.³⁹



Figure 18 About 40 members of the public attended the special public presentation given by Dr. Reavis as requested by the Clinton school board before formally adopting the high school consolidation plan and construction of the grade school addition to the 1934 Washington-Jefferson school building. This meeting was held in the auditorium of the 1934 school. *Clinton Herald*, 12/5/1934.

With the reorganization plan moving forward, “enlargement of the present Jefferson-Washington junior high building was viewed by the board as a major step in meeting the onrushing emergency” as it would provide some relief for the “overcrowded elementary schools in the central part of the city where conditions are most acute.”

³⁸ “School Board Orders Plans Drawn for New Buildings in Sino Park and at Lincoln Site,” *Clinton Herald*, 11/21/1951.

³⁹ “Dr. Reavis’ School Construction, Reorganization Plan Wins General Approval Here,” *Clinton Herald*, 12/6/1951.

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With this, the board engaged the Chicago architectural firm of Childs & Smith to immediately prepare plans for the new Jefferson addition (the firm was already working on plans for the new Lincoln elementary school).⁴⁰ Two lots with existing homes at the east end of the 1934 school's property were determined to need condemnation in order to gain the needed land for the new addition, though that process would not be completed for six months.⁴¹

Childs & Smith⁴² was a nationally prominent firm that specialized in school architecture as early as 1929 when the following was written: "Childs and Smith are looked upon as the most progressive school architects in the central west. They have constructed a large number of schools in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Illinois and some of the most advanced features of schoolhouse designing have been developed under their direction."⁴³ The firm also managed to successfully navigate the changes that school architecture underwent during the first half of the twentieth century. By midcentury, the firm's approach was explained as: "School construction has changed in type in the past 20 years, and the general approach in planning is very different... We used to plan the exterior of a building first, then we suited the inside to the outside. Not anymore... [we learned] to simplify construction by using the techniques of building used for big industrial plants... We use a lot of color now in the interior decoration. With the modern treatment of windows and the big, light rooms, you get completely away from the old institutional effect."⁴⁴ This approach clearly appealed to Clinton school officials.

By early March, 1952 preliminary plans were ready and the architects' elevation drawing was published in the newspaper (Fig. 19). Following selection of a general contractor from Des Moines in late July and removal of the



Figure 19 Architect's elevation drawing for the Jefferson grade school. *Clinton Herald*, 3/4/1952

⁴⁰ "Clinton School Board Paves Way for Consolidation of Local High Schools," *Clinton Herald*, 12/18/1951.

⁴¹ "Board to Open Bids on Lincoln School April 2; Eye Land Purchase," *Clinton Herald*, 2/19/1952; "School Board to Accept Bids to Remove Houses at Building Site," *Clinton Herald*, 7/8/1952.

⁴² Childs & Smith was an architectural and engineering firm operating in Chicago, its suburbs, and the surrounding states from at least 1914 on. Principals were Frank A. Childs (d. 1965) and William Jones Smith (d. 1958). Information obtained at <http://public.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/Wiki%20Pages/ahd4000988.aspx> on 1/18/2015.

⁴³ "New Whittier Unit," *Oakparker* [Oak Park, Illinois], 5/3/1929.

⁴⁴ "School Architect Describes Type of Construction Recommended for Freeport Junior High School," *Freeport* [Illinois] *Journal Standard*, 4/26/1949.

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houses from the land east of the existing school building, construction was predicted to start by early August, 1952. Cost estimates for the new addition were set at \$520,000, up considerably from the \$300,000 spent eighteen years earlier on the 1934 building.⁴⁵ Construction did get started in late summer or early fall, 1952, and the concrete footings and foundation work were well underway by the end of October, perhaps slowed somewhat by a heated local construction season (50 large projects were in progress around the city).⁴⁶

Throughout the 1952-53 school year, as construction progressed, the local newspaper reported on the crowded conditions of the elementary school portion of the 1934 Washington-Jefferson building. The incoming kindergarten class had been unexpectedly large and, with only one kindergarten room in the existing building, 27 students were temporarily transferred to another grade school.⁴⁷ The paper even published a satirical cartoon about the overcrowded conditions in Clinton's schools (Fig. 20).



Figure 20 This cartoon suggests just how overcrowded Clinton's schools seemed to be in the fall of 1952. *Clinton Herald*, 9/17/1952.

⁴⁵ "Estimate Jefferson Addition to Cost \$520,000," *Clinton Herald*, 7/29/1952.

⁴⁶ "Jefferson School Foundation" photograph, *Clinton Herald*, 10/21/1952; "Projects Worth Millions Booming in City," *Clinton Herald*, 10/29/1952.

⁴⁷ "Public School Enrollment Soars...Above September of Last Year," *Clinton Herald*, 9/3/1952; "Board Approves Transfer of Kindergarten Pupils," *Clinton Herald*, 9/9/1952.

United States Department of the Interior
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name of property

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Clinton County, Iowa
county and state

Section 8 Page 28

When the local carpenter union started to talk about work slow downs or a work holiday to gain an increased hourly wage toward the end of that difficult school year, in May, 1953, local school officials must have groaned.⁴⁸ As the slow-down turned to work halts and striking, and the strike also spread from the carpenters' union to the other trade unions, disappointed school officials announced the new Jefferson addition would not be ready in time for the start of the 1953-1954 school year.⁴⁹

The delay caused by labor strife meant only the seven easternmost classrooms of the 18 planned in the Jefferson addition would be finished by the start of school, but still officials decided to start some of the students in the new facility anyway.⁵⁰ By mid-November the entire addition was finally completed and its formal dedication took place in early December, 1953 (Figs. 21-22).⁵¹ Kindergarten through 6th grades would now be taught in a modern and up-to-date facility that the principal described as "functional [and] without any excessive ornamentation...deriving a simple beauty from modern straight-line architecture...bright and pleasant, something like a home. [We are] trying to get away from the old type school building that seemed to the children a cold institution."⁵² It would take another full year before the 9th grade students from the high school would join the Washington junior high that now fully occupied the older 1934 building.⁵³



Figure 21 This view shows the front entrance to the completed Jefferson school addition. The older 1934 building is at the far right of this photo. The photographer is looking to the southwest. *Clinton Herald*, 12/9/1953.

⁴⁸ "Clinton Building Situation Appears Increasingly Tense," *Clinton Herald*, 5/22/1953.

⁴⁹ "Building Here Still Stymied," *Clinton Herald*, 7/3/1953; "Ironworkers Halt Picketing of Two School Construction Jobs," *Clinton Herald*, 7/6/1953.

⁵⁰ "Clinton Public School Registration Set, Wed., Sept. 2," *Clinton Herald*, 8/28/1953; "Public Schools to Open Doors Tomorrow for 1953-54 Terms," *Clinton Herald*, 9/7/1953.

⁵¹ "Plan Programs at New Schools," *Clinton Herald*, 11/10/1953; "Open House at New Jefferson School Thursday" [etal.], *Clinton Herald*, 12/9/1953.

⁵² "Clinton Schools Brighten Up..." *Clinton Herald*, 9/1/1953.

⁵³ "Clinton's New Schools to be Occupied Monday," *Clinton Herald*, 11/20/1953.

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name of property

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Figure 22 Photograph published in the *Clinton Herald* on 12/9/1953 of the south elevation of the new Jefferson school (looking northeast). The 1934 building is off the left side of this view but not visible. Today, a modern modular classroom sits in front of roughly the central portion of this photo.

Keffer and Jones - PWA Architects in Iowa

Karl K. Keffer (1883-1954). Keffer was born in Des Moines, Iowa and was educated in architecture and engineering at both Iowa State College in Ames, and Columbia University in New York City between 1905 and 1912. He opened his own practice in 1912, but relocated to Los Angeles the next year. Back in Des Moines by 1914, Keffer practiced with Oliver O. Smith until the latter's death in 1916. The partnership of Keffer and [Earl E.] Jones was formed immediately thereafter and the two practiced together until Jones' death in 1950. During 1934, when the Washington-Jefferson school was under construction, Keffer served as president of the Iowa Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.⁵⁴

Earl E. Jones (1885-1950). Jones was born in a rural area of Nebraska but raised in Indianola, Iowa, a small town south of Des Moines. Educated at Indianola's Simpson College and Washington University in Saint Louis from 1906 to 1907, Jones attended Columbia University in 1911 and 1912 where he probably met Karl Keffer. In 1916, the two formed what would become a decades-long partnership. Jones, who was also a licensed engineer, served as the president of the Iowa Chapter of the American Institute of Architects in 1928.⁵⁵

The firm specialized in school buildings and courthouses, many of which were PWA projects, but the practice was not limited to just those public buildings. Architectural historian Wesley Shank credits Keffer and Jones with a long list of buildings in Iowa, including major buildings at the Iowa State Fair Grounds in Des Moines, and the

⁵⁴ Wesley I. Shank, *Iowa's Historic Architects: A Biographical Dictionary* (Iowa City: University of Iowa, 1998), 93-95.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*, 88-89.

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main library at the University of Iowa in Iowa City.⁵⁶ Table 1 below illustrates their work in schools and courthouses.

TABLE 1. School and Courthouses in Iowa by Keffer & Jones <i>(not necessarily a complete list)</i>			
Historic Name of Property	Property Type	Location	Construction Years with PWA funding noted if appropriate
O'Brian County Courthouse	Courthouse	Primghar, O'Brien Co.	1915-1917
Ringgold County Courthouse	Courthouse	Mount Ayr, Ringgold Co.	1926-1927
Louisa County Courthouse*	Courthouse	Wapello, Louisa Co.	1928-1929
Mount Pleasant High School	Public school	Mount Pleasant, Henry Co.	1932
Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School	Public school	Clinton, Clinton Co.	1934 / PWA
Muscatine High School	Public school	Muscatine, Muscatine Co.	1936-1937 / PWA
Warren County Courthouse	Courthouse	Indianola, Warren Co.	1938-1939 / PWA
Audubon County Courthouse	Courthouse	Audubon, Audubon Co.	1939-1940 / PWA
Des Moines County Courthouse	Courthouse	Burlington, Des Moines Co.	1939-1940 / PWA
Horace Mann Elementary School	Public school	Ottumwa, Wapello Co.	1940s
*The firm added a third architect during 1928-29, Oren Thomas, and was known as Keffer, Jones & Thomas.			
SOURCES: Wesley I. Shank, <i>Iowa's Historic Architects: A Biographical Dictionary</i> (1998); Svendsen (2003); <i>Muscatine Journal & News Tribune</i> , 6/25/1936.			

⁵⁶ Ibid., 94-95.

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Albert H. Morrell – Associate Architect for the Washington-Jefferson School Building

Albert H. Morrell (1893-1955 or later). Born and trained in Chicago, Morrell moved to Clinton in 1904 and practiced with his father, John A. Morrell, until 1917 at which time he left the profession for ten years. In 1927 Morrell resumed his architectural work and brought in A.H. McCann as his partner in 1949. The firm worked as Morrell and McCann, until the former retired in 1953. During his hiatus from architecture in the 1920s, Morrell formed and designed equipment for a refrigeration company. Because of his early Chicago training, some of Morrell's Clinton buildings reflect the Prairie School style.⁵⁷

PWAs School Construction in Iowa and Beyond

Six years into to its 10 year lifespan, the PWA published a long and detailed report of its accomplishments through 1939.⁵⁸ Nine Iowa buildings were among the 620 PWA-funded buildings featured in the nearly-700 page publication, buildings described by the authors as “some of the best examples of the different types of buildings” supported by the federal program. Iowa buildings falling into this category included the: Cass County Courthouse, Atlantic; Fire Department Headquarters, Des Moines; Police Department, Cedar Rapids; Jefferson School, Creston; University Theater and Fine Arts Building, Iowa City; Swimming Pool and Bathhouse, Des Moines; Jefferson Hospital, Jefferson; and Fair Building, Des Moines. A large exquisite black-and-white photograph and line-drawing floor plan were included for each featured building.

Of special interest was the characterization of the architectural style of the new buildings being constructed in the several PWA regions (refer back to Fig. 12). Overall, “traditional” designs were favored for federal buildings and in some “non-federal” projects, “although some trend toward the ‘modern’ may be noted, particularly in the Middle West were the traditions of the architecture of western Europe are not so deeply rooted.”⁵⁹ Except for California and New York, most regions were judged to not have shown much innovation or “advancement” in architectural styles. Region 4, which had the briefest description of all seven regions, was described in part as follows: “Modern” design predominates and the largest quantity of the best work is in Missouri, where many of the public buildings are outstandingly successful. In general, the best work has been done in courthouses, penal buildings, recreational projects, and municipal auditoriums.”⁶⁰

Schools received special study and a separate report within the 1939 book, written by Alice Barrows of the “Federal Security Agency.” The PWA, she stated emphatically, “have been a lifesaver for the schools.” Little school construction took place between during or between the 1910s and 1939, due to World War One and the Great Depression. Children during these decades were relegated to “old insanitory [sic] school buildings and were on a part time and double sessions.” During the four years from 1934 to 1938, however, loans and grants for schools had totaled nearly half a billion dollars. Applications from 3,179 jurisdictions for over 5,000 public schools

⁵⁷ Ibid., 118.

⁵⁸ C.W. Short and R. Stanley-Brown, *Public Buildings: A Survey of Architecture...* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1939).

⁵⁹ Ibid., II-III.

⁶⁰ Ibid., XII.

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and school additions had been received. The study's sampling of such schools indicated they were being built all of the 48 states, and found in "all types of communities, with "two-thirds in school districts outside cities." Nearly half were in "communities under 25,000" in population." These new PWA-assisted buildings typically replaced multiple smaller, older buildings, and most eliminated what Barrows deemed "fire-hazard buildings." She continued, "P.W.A. aid for the construction of school buildings not only made possible the elimination of fire-hazard buildings and the reorganization of schools into larger administrative units, but it also made possible the erection of school buildings with the educational facilities now considered essential in a modern educational program." These modern facilities included "art and music rooms, science laboratories, auditoriums, and gymnasiums... In the past, there has been a tendency to build what is called a combined auditorium-gymnasium. This tendency is decreasing. It is generally recognized by educators that a combined auditorium-gymnasium is undesirable." This was a good thing, according to the study's author. Properly designed, a school's auditorium could serve as a proper theater and community center.⁶¹

Conclusion

Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School replaced three much older, less safe schools in central Clinton with an up-to-date facility that reflected the modern standards of the day, whether it was in 1934 or 1953. Its construction served a growing population of students in an increasingly sophisticated local educational system. Further, the "modern" styling of the 1934 school era very well reflects the PWA public aid program of the Great Depression – the first and only school built in town under that program. The sleek lines of the 1953 addition echo the postwar International style in a sympathetic addition that became desperately needed following World War Two. The school stands as a testament to Clinton residents' foresight and leadership, as well as their commitment to the city's students. It remains a landmark to the generations of children who passed through the combined school in central Clinton on their way to adulthood.

Future Plans

The school building has not been used for education purposes since late 2014 and is currently vacant. Plans for its adaptive reuse are still in progress.

⁶¹ Ibid., XVIII-XXII.

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name of property

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9. Major Bibliographic References

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- Forsee, Corinne, compl. "The Ter-Centennial Celebration of Secondary Education in America." Unpubl. t.s., 1935. Collection of the Clinton Community School District. (Local history articles, some anonymous, on Clinton County schools; growth and development of the city; railroads, sawmills, and other industries; and other subjects.)
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- Sanborn Map Company, Fire Maps of Clinton, IA, 1925, 1950 (updated 1925 map).
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- U.S. Public Works Administration, Division of Information. *America Builds: The Record of PWA*. Washington, D.C., U.S. Government Printing Office, 1939. Reprinted by ULAN Press, unk. date. Reprint used.
- Shank, Wesley I. *Iowa's Historic Architects: A Biographical Dictionary*. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1998.
- Short, C.W., and R. Stanley Brown, U.S. Public Works Administration. *Public Buildings: A Survey of Architecture of Projects Constructed by Federal and Other Governmental Bodies between the Years 1933 and 1939 with the Assistance of the Public Works Administration*. Washington, D.C., U.S. Government Printing Office, 1939. (Author's collection.)

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Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School
name of property

Clinton County, Iowa
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10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The nomination includes Lots 1 and 14 in Block 3 of Curtis & Leslie's Addition; Lots 1 – 17 and parts of Lots 18 – 22 of Block 1 of Lambertson's Addition, and that portion of vacated 3rd Avenue South directly opposite and south of Lots 13-17 of Block 1 of Lambertson's Addition in the town of Clinton, Iowa. The boundaries include the school building and modular class room, and the narrow parking lot on the west side of the building (except a small area reserved because of city-owned electric utilities, per the image below). Perimeter public sidewalks and the larger parking lot southeast of the building are not included.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the majority of the parcel historically associated with the Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School building during the period of significance, with the exception of the large modern parking lot to the southeast, which parking lot is used in connection with the modern school building to the south.



Source: Google.maps on 1/9/2015.

No Scale



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School
name of property

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

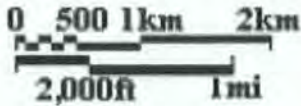
Clinton County, Iowa
county and state

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Clinton, Iowa, with approximate location of the nominated property circled.

(detail obtained 1/16/2015 from U.S.G.S. 7.5' topographic map:

<http://ortho.gis.iastate.edu/client.cgi?zoom=50&x0=732963&y0=4640489&layer=drg24&action=zoom20&pwidth=600&pheight=450&x=289&y=326>)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School
name of property

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Clinton County, Iowa
county and state

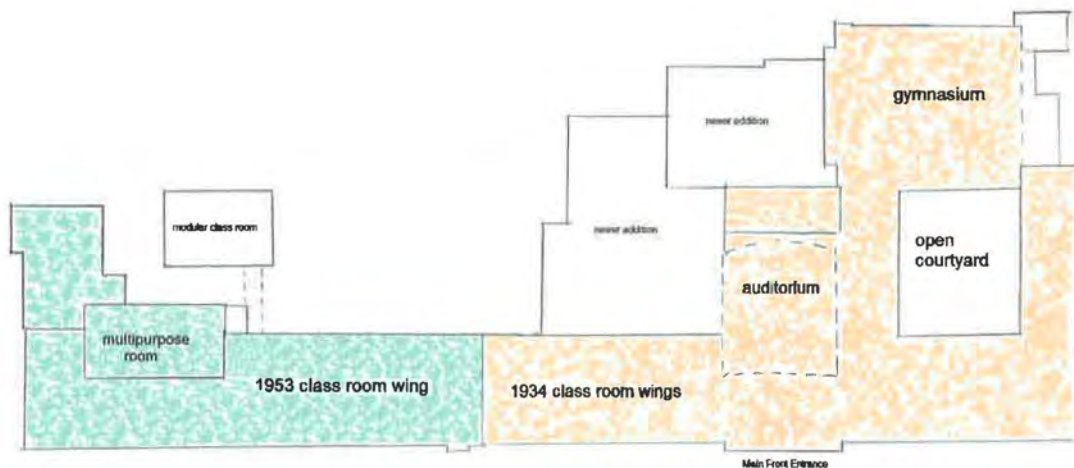
Section Additional Documentation Page 36

Site Plan showing Boundary of Nominated Property in Clinton, Iowa



Source: Google.maps on 1/9/2015

N ↓ No Scale



In addition to function and year labels, shades (colors) denote different construction periods. The darker shade (green) on the left denotes 1953 construction. The lighter shade (orange) on the right denotes the 1934 era.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School
name of property

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

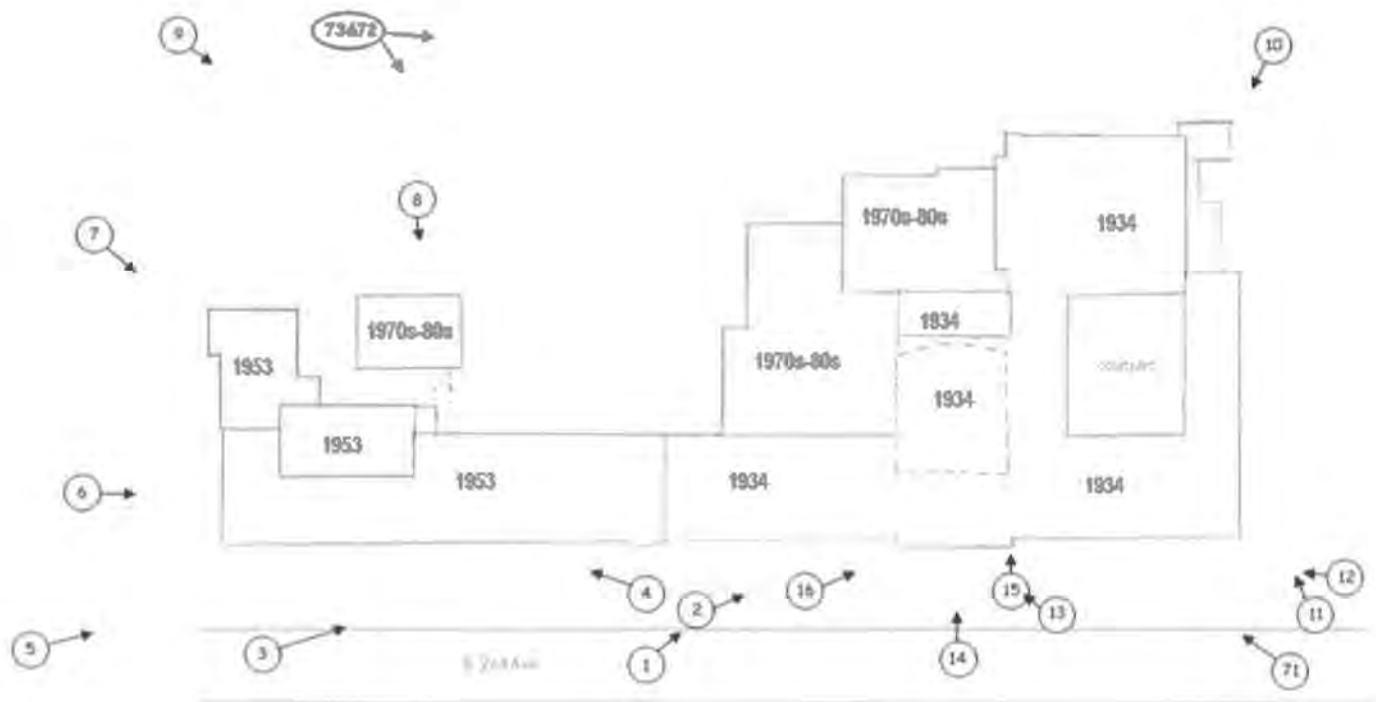
Clinton County, Iowa
county and state

Section Additional Documentation Page 37

Photo Key – Exterior Views

no scale

N ↓



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School
name of property

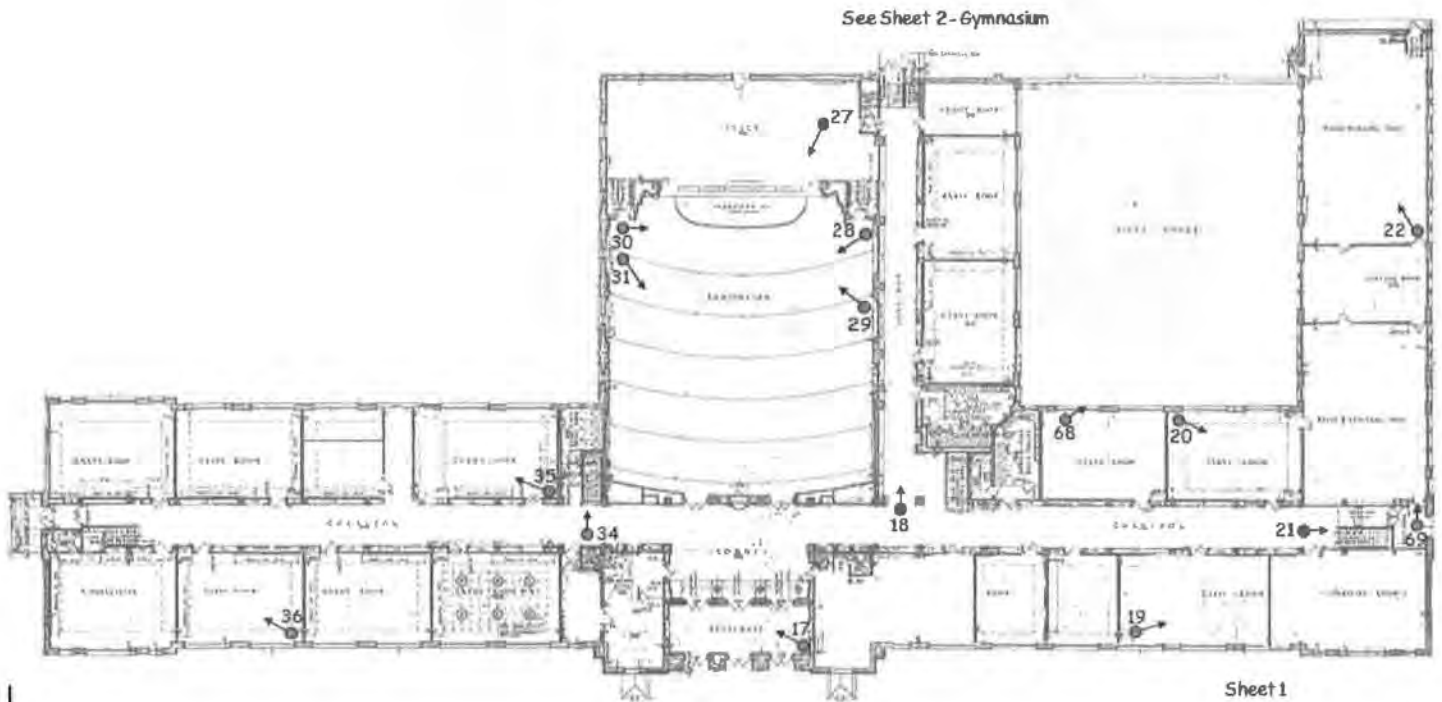
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Clinton County, Iowa
county and state

Section Additional Documentation Page 38

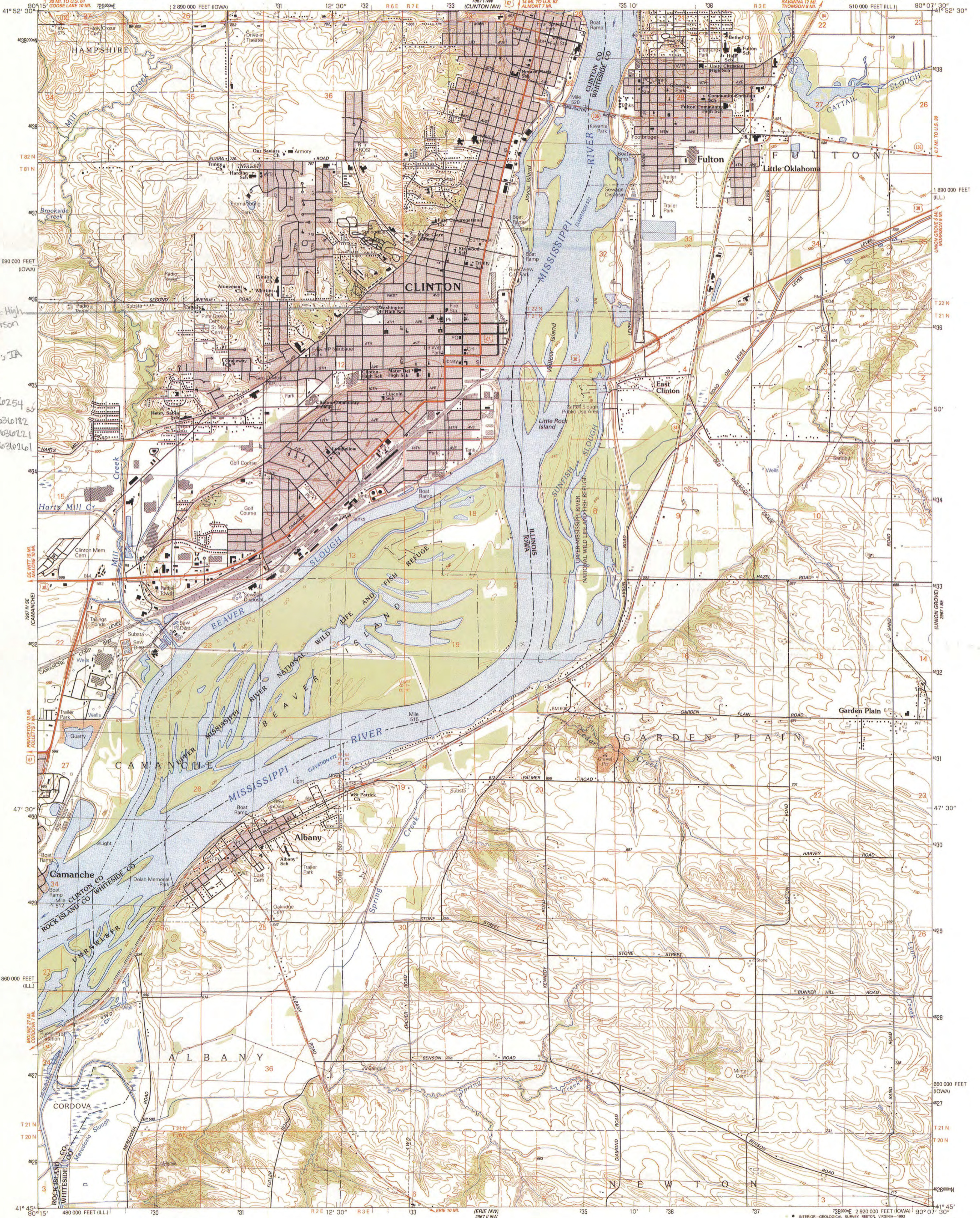
1934 Building - Floor Plans & Photo Keys – First Floor

no scale



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CLINTON QUADRANGLE
IOWA-ILLINOIS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



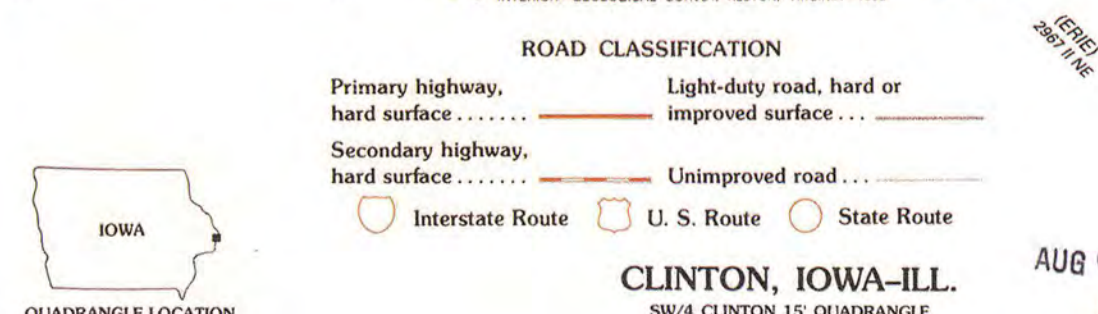
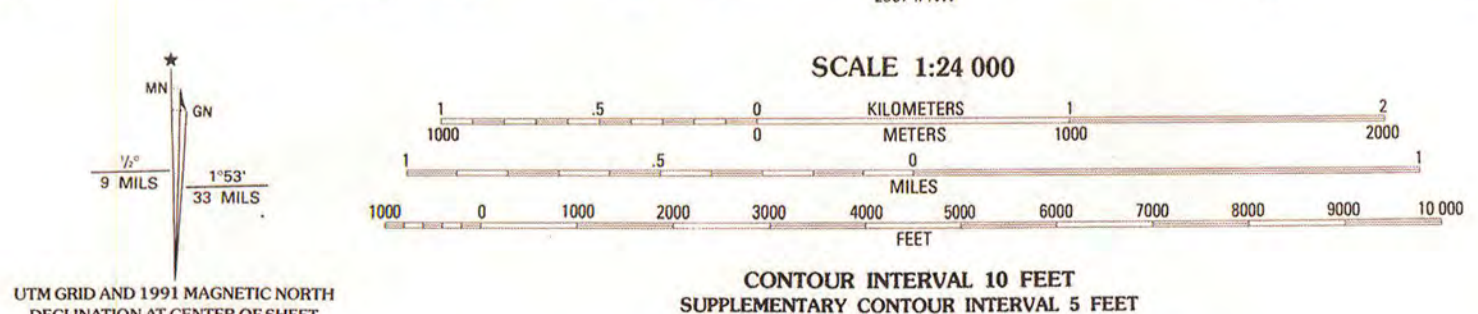
Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School
Clinton, Clinton Co., IA

UTM References:
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2= 15/732072/4630182
3= 15/732248/4630221
4= 15/732247/4630261

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Compiled from aerial photographs taken 1984 and 1986
Field checked 1988. Map edited 1991

Projection: Illinois coordinate system, west zone (transverse Mercator)
10,000-foot grid ticks: Illinois coordinate system, west zone and Iowa coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator datum, zone 15
1927 North American Datum
The difference between 1927 North American Datum and North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) for 7.5-minute intersections is given in USGS Bulletin 1875. The NAD 83 is shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map
Gray tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
SUPPLEMENTARY CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
IOWA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240
AND ILLINOIS GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS 61820
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

CLINTON, IOWA-ILL.
SW/4 CLINTON 15' QUADRANGLE
41090-G2-TF-024
1991
DMA 2967 1 SW-SERIES V876

AUG 1992



WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
CONFERENCES
WED OCT 8 3:00-6:30
THURS OCT 9 3:30-6:30



WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
CONFERENCES
WED OCT 8 3:00-6:30
THURS OCT 9 3:30-6:30













BUMBLEBEE

MEJTY

MEJTY

MEJTY

MEJTY









NO PARKING

DRUGS ZONE

CLINTON COLLEGE
NOV 9TH 11:30



WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
CLINTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
OPEN HOUSE
NOV 9TH 1-5



WASHINGTON

♿
ACCESSIBLE
ENTRANCE





WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
CONFERENCES
WED OCT 8 3:00-6:30
THURS OCT 9 3:30-6:30

NO PARKING
ANYTIME
EXCEPT
AS NOTED

NO
PARKING
EXCEPT
AS NOTED

♿

♿



WELCOME
ALL VISITORS MUST REPORT
TO MAIN OFFICE
WHEN ENTERING BUILDING

May Peace Prevail On Earth

KE
OU

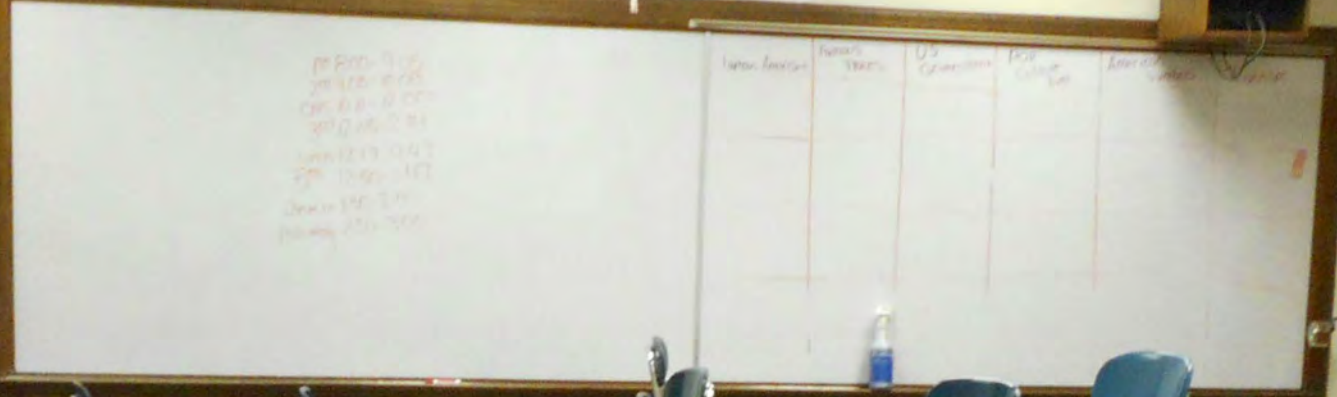


LOCKERS
165-194

CPR/AED Guidelines

- 1. CHECK FOR RESPONSE**
Tap the person on the shoulder and shout "Are you OK?"
- 2. CALL FOR HELP**
If no response, shout for help and call 911.
- 3. CHECK FOR BREATHING**
Look, listen, and feel for breathing for no more than 10 seconds.
- 4. PROVIDE CARE**
If not breathing, begin CPR. If an AED is available, use it as soon as possible.





EXIT

116









♿
Accessible Restroom
in Main Level
♿
Lift

EXIT

Excellence Equals...
NO DRUGS! • NO ALCOHOL!





WASHINGTON
COUGARS

FITNESS & FITNESS

LET'S GET FIT























KEEP RIGHT

It is only when
we are
in the
presence
of the
SACRED

God reveals
and the
mass
of the world











READ

IMAGINE

WELCOME!

READ

EXIT











KEEP RIGHT





















EMERGENCY EXIT KEEP AREA CLEAR























INDUSTRIAL
TECHNOLOGY

116A

MR. K. LEMKE



216







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY NAME: Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: IOWA, Clinton

DATE RECEIVED: 9/22/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY:
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/07/15

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000483

DETAILED EVALUATION:

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 10/21/2015 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

This nomination was originally mistakenly sent to us directly by the Certified Local Government without going through the required nomination process - see National Register Return Sheet dated 7/30/2015. The nomination has been resubmitted upon completion of the state nomination process. Building is historically and architecturally significant.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A&C

REVIEWER Patrick Andrus

DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 10/21/2015

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-207

**RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL BE PLACED
ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

WHEREAS, Washington Middle School, currently owned by the Clinton Community School District, has been nominated to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, the copy of said nomination is available in the office of the City Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission has reviewed the nomination and has found that it meets the criteria to be placed on the Register and is recommending the property be listed; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor, as chief local elected official, is required to approve or disapprove of the Historic Preservation Commission's findings;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLINTON, IOWA, that the recommendation of the Historic Preservation Commission is hereby approved for the nomination of Washington Middle School to the National Register of Historic Places and the Mayor is directed to sign the Evaluation Report Form.



Mark S. Vulich, Mayor

ATTEST:



Pat Van Loo, City Clerk

Adopted: May 26, 2015



Andrus, Patrick <patrick_andrus@nps.gov>

Unsigned nomination

1 message

Andrus, Patrick <patrick_andrus@nps.gov>
 To: Elizabeth Foster Hill <beth.foster@iowa.gov>

Wed, Jul 29, 2015 at 6:52 AM

Hi Beth: we have received a nomination for the Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School in Clinton, IA. The nomination is not signed by your office and there was no transmittal letter. It appears that the nomination was mailed to the Main Interior Building (rather than here at our building on I Street) because the nomination has been irradiated (which basically cooks the paper and fuses it together).

The nomination was prepared by Jan Olive Full with Tallgrass Historians LC in Iowa City and includes a signed resolution from the Mayor. There is no disk included.

Do you have any idea what this is and how it would have come to us and not gone through your office? Unfortunately our control unit did not keep the envelope in which the nomination was mailed so I can't figure out where it came from.

Thanks,

Patrick

—
 Patrick Andrus, Historian
 National Register of Historic Places
 National Park Service
 (202) 354-2218
 patrick_andrus@nps.gov

7/30/15
 I spoke w/ nomination preparer, Jan Olive Full.
 She thinks that this was a copy of the nomination sent
 to the CHG & the Mayor signed the resolution
 and the city sent it directly to us.

**Andrus, Patrick** <patrick_andrus@nps.gov>

Unsigned nomination

2 messages

Andrus, Patrick <patrick_andrus@nps.gov>
To: Elizabeth Foster Hill <beth.foster@iowa.gov>

Wed, Jul 29, 2015 at 6:52 AM

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Thanks,

Patrick

Patrick Andrus, Historian
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
(202) 354-2218
patrick_andrus@nps.gov

Foster, Beth [DCA] <Beth.Foster@iowa.gov>
To: "Andrus, Patrick" <patrick_andrus@nps.gov>

Wed, Jul 29, 2015 at 9:29 AM

Patrick,

I'll get in touch with Jan and see if she knows. She just sent me the package for final review and to send off to you if no changes are required.

Beth

Elizabeth Foster

National Register Coordinator, State Historic Preservation Office

Beth.Foster@iowa.gov |515.281.4137|www.iowahistory.org/historic-preservation

Iowa Arts Council | Produce Iowa | State Historical Society of Iowa

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs

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From: Andrus, Patrick [mailto:patrick_andrus@nps.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2015 5:53 AM
To: Foster, Beth [DCA]
Subject: Unsigned nomination

[Quoted text hidden]

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: IOWA, Clinton

DATE RECEIVED: 6/19/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/07/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/22/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/04/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000483

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: Y
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 7/30/15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

It appears that this nomination form was inadvertently sent directly to the National Register by the CLC (the Clinton Historic Preservation Commission) rather than being sent back to SHPO. Nomination will be sent to the State as a Return.

RECOM./CRITERIA Return
REVIEWER Patrick Ardus DISCIPLINE Historian
TELEPHONE _____ DATE 7/30/2015

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Andrus, Patrick <patrick_andrus@nps.gov>

"unsigned nomination" Clinton, Iowa's Washington/Jefferson school

1 message

Jan Olive Full <jofofic@gmail.com>

Tue, Aug 11, 2015 at 4:38 PM

To: Elizabeth Foster Hill <Beth.Foster@iowa.gov>, Patrick_Andrus@nps.gov

Patrick: Per our phone conversation, I promised to let you know what I found out. Unfortunately, I've never gotten a call-back from the planning dept. in Clinton about whether they sent in the nomination materials described below. But it must have been them on behalf of the Clinton Historic Preservation Commission.

Beth: You may want to let Paula Mohr, as CLG coordinator, know what happened so they won't repeat.

Thanks-

Jan

From: Andrus, Patrick [mailto:patrick_andrus@nps.gov]**Sent:** Wednesday, July 29, 2015 5:53 AM**To:** Foster, Beth [DCA]**Subject:** Unsigned nomination

Hi Beth: we have received a nomination for the Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School in Clinton, IA. The nomination is not signed by your office and there was no transmittal letter. It appears that the nomination was mailed to the Main Interior Building (rather than here at our building on I Street) because the nomination has been irradiated (which basically cooks the paper and fuses it together).

The nomination was prepared by Jan Olive Full with Tallgrass Historians LC in Iowa City and includes a signed resolution from the Mayor. There is no disk included.

Do you have any idea what this is and how it would have come to us and not gone through your office? Unfortunately our control unit did not keep the envelope in which the nomination was mailed so I can't figure out where it came from.

*Thanks,**Patrick*

Jan Olive Full, Ph.D.

Tallgrass Historians L.C.

P.O. Box 1975

Iowa City, IA 52244

voice & fax 319.354.6722

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

MARY COWNIE, DIRECTOR
STATE ARCHIVES, DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

483
710?
TERRY C. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

RECEIVED 2280

SEP 22 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

September 23, 2015

Jeff Joeckel
National Register and National Historic Landmarks
1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Fl.
Washington D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Joeckel:

Enclosed is the disk for the Washington Junior High with photographs 57-68.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Foster Hill

Elizabeth Foster Hill
National Register

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

BARRY SCHWAB, DIRECTOR
CHRIS WAMPTER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

RECEIVED 2280

AUG 28 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

August 25, 2015

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief
National Register and National Historic Landmarks
1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Fl.
Washington D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

The following National Register nomination(s) from Iowa are enclosed for your review and listing if acceptable.

- Fort Dodge Junior High School, 416 South 10th Street, Fort Dodge, Webster County
- Fort Dodge Senior High School, 1015 5th Avenue North, Fort Dodge, Webster County
- Miller, Alex and Ola (Viola) Babcock, House, 429 S. Marion Ave., Washington, Washington County
- Washington Junior High School and Jefferson Grade School, 751 2nd Avenue South, Clinton, Clinton County
- Grant Vocational High School, 346 2nd Avenue SW, Cedar Rapids, Linn County
- Bloomfield Public Library, 107 N. Columbia, Bloomfield, Davis County
- Gobble & Heer/Spurgeons Building, 51 East Broadway, Fairfield, Jefferson County
- St. Joseph Hospital Historic District, 312 E. Alta Vista Ave. & 317 Vanness Ave., Ottumwa, Wapello County
- St. John's Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church Historic District, 1207 Indigo Ave., Hampton, Franklin County
- Old Main Street Historic District Boundary Increase and Amendment, Main Street between West 1st and 4th Streets, Dubuque, Dubuque County
- Seminary Hill residential Historic District, Clarke Drive, North Main, Madison streets, and Madison Park, Dubuque, Dubuque County
- Upper Iowa Street Historic District, Iowa Street between West 11th and 12th streets, Dubuque, Dubuque County
- Washington Residential Historic District, 1100's - 1900's blocks, White, Jackson and Washington streets, Dubuque, Dubuque County

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Foster Hill

Elizabeth Foster Hill
National Register