

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Mark R. Edwards

Signature of certifying official

10/07/96

Date

Mark R. Edwards
State Historic Preservation Officer,
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

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

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

Entered in the National Register

Edson H. Beall

11.7.96

Entered in the
National Register

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

Signature, Keeper of the National Register Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

EDUCATION/school

Current Functions:

VACANT/storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

NO STYLE

Materials:

foundation	stone
walls	wood/clapboard
roof	metal
other	

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Baty School is a one-story, wood-framed school building constructed c. 1884. The rectangular building stands on stone piers. The side-gabled roof is covered with standing seam metal, and the exterior is covered with weatherboarding. The building has a number of window and door openings. Several exterior doors remain intact, but the window sashes are missing. On the interior, the building is one large room. The walls and floors are wide, tongue-and-groove boards, and simple moldings surround the door and window openings. Two painted areas used as blackboards are still visible on the walls. There is no ceiling, and the ceiling joists and rafters are exposed. The school building stands on a small parcel of land that is delineated by a wooden fence and surrounded by agricultural fields.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

ARCHITECTURE
EDUCATION

Period of Significance:

c. 1884-1930s

Significant Dates:

c. 1884

Significant Person(s):

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

John Wilson Baty (organized community effort to build school)

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significance of property, justification of criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

Architecture

The Baty School is significant in the area of architecture as a rare surviving example of a late-19th century rural schoolhouse. The building exhibits construction techniques typical of rural vernacular structures along the Old Federal Road. Most such buildings were utilitarian and almost completely devoid of ornamentation or stylistic expression. Local materials were utilized in these buildings and generally they were built by local people, as was the case with the Baty School. This school served a relatively small geographic area (approximately two miles in radius), and therefore small numbers of children attended classes here. This was typically the case along the Old Federal Road; school houses were built to serve limited areas and thus could be quite small.

Education

The Baty School is significant in the area of education for the role it played in the education of children within approximately a two mile radius of the school, from the early 1880s until the early 1930s. The school was originally constructed by John Wilson Baty (1833-1923), a local farmer, and his neighbors to provide a place to educate their children. The school was part of a system of lower grade schools known as "Old Field Schools" that were usually an effort by several families in a rural area to provide for their children's education. The school was brought into the Franklin County public school system and its name changed to Cross Plains school in 1923.

National Register Criteria

The Baty School meets National Register Criteria A and C. The school is associated with the educational activities of the area along the Old Federal Road in Banks and Franklin Counties, Georgia. The school house also embodies distinctive characteristics of rural schoolhouse construction during the 1880s in the piedmont region of Georgia.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

N/A

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Period of significance (justification, if applicable)

The period of significance for the Baty School begins with the construction of the school c. 1884 and ends in the early 1930s, the period which the building ceased to be used as a school.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

The contributing resource consists of the Baty school constructed within the period of significance.

Developmental history/historic context (if applicable)

John Wilson Baty (1833-1923) and his wife, Mary Elizabeth Holbrook (1840-1919), had eight children. The Batys were concerned about their children's education and asked their neighbors to help build a school for the area. Mr. Baty planned the school and furnished the materials. The school was built in 1883 or 1884. The first teacher at the school was Elvis L. James (1858-1902) from Murphy, North Carolina, who had come into the area selling books to raise money for his own education. James boarded with his students' families, as was the custom along the Old Federal Road and in much of rural north Georgia. Within a year he married Victoria Baty, the oldest of the Baty children.

Pupils at the school included members of the Dalrample, Hoyt, Rampley, Andrews, McDuffie, McIntire, Martin, and Payne families. There were generally fewer than twelve children attending the Baty school at any one time. Children were taught through grade eleven.

The Baty School was brought into the Franklin County public school system, and its name was changed to Cross Plains School after John Baty's death in 1923. It ceased to be used as a school in the early 1930s.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Aerial photos, from University of Georgia collections:
Franklin County 1938, 1951, 1956, 1967, 1980

Photos: Taken April-May, 1985 by Sybil A. Bowers

Historic maps, from University of Georgia collections:

- 1818 Georgia map, includes roads
- 1829 Georgia map, includes roads
- 1836 A New Map of Georgia with its Roads and Distances
- 1846 A New Map of Georgia with its Roads and Distances
- 1860 County Map of Georgia and Alabama
- 1883 Georgia State Gazetteer map
- 1894 Post Route map
- 1909 USDA Soils Map of Franklin County
- 1910 Map of Franklin County
- 1916 Department of Agriculture map of the State of Georgia

Historic photos: contact prints, Vanishing Georgia Collection,
property of Franklin County Historical Society

Interviews, Roger McConnell by Sybil A. Bowers

10 December 1984, 17 April 1985, 24 April 1985, 1 May 1985,
15 May 1985, 22 May 1985, 29 May 1985.

Interviews, Roger McConnell by Susan Casey

January 1990 and October, 1990,

National Register Nomination for Homer, Georgia, written
September, 1984

Road maps, Georgia Mountains Area Planning and Development Council
collections: 1967, Franklin County

Sherwood, Adiel. Gazetteer of the State of Georgia 1827, 1860

Georgia State Gazetteers, 1879-80, 1881-82, 1886

USGS topographic maps, 1967: Ashland quadrangle

Previous documentation on file (NPS): (X) N/A

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

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Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office**
- Other State Agency**
- Federal agency**
- Local government**
- University**
- Other, Specify Repository: Georgia Mountains RDC**

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

A) Zone 17 Easting 290180 Northing 3804370

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the property is indicated as a solid black line drawn to scale on the accompanying National Register Boundary map. This map is based on the current county tax maps which are drawn to a scale of 1"=660'. These maps are the largest scale maps available for this rural area.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the school structure and the tract of land set aside and traditionally used for this school.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Preservation Planner
organization Georgia Mountains Regional Development Center
street & number Post Office Box 1720
city or town Gainesville **state** Georgia **zip code** 30503
telephone 404-536-3431 **date** Completed - Fall, 1990

name/title John Kissane
organization Private Consultant
street & number 682 Ridgewood Avenue
city or town Gainesville **state** Georgia **zip code** 30501
telephone (770) 535-1430 **date** Completed - November 1990

Reviewed and Edited by:

name/title Amy Pallante/National Register Specialist
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303
telephone (404) 651-6033 **date** August 1996

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Photographs

Name of Property: Baty School
City or Vicinity: Carnesville
County: Franklin
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: March 9, 1994

Note: Photography was field checked in July, 1996; photographs still convey an accurate representation of the property.

Description of Photograph(s):

Photo 1 of 2 Gable-end facade; photographer facing west.

Photo 2 of 2 Interior; photographer facing east.

National Register Boundary

Baty School

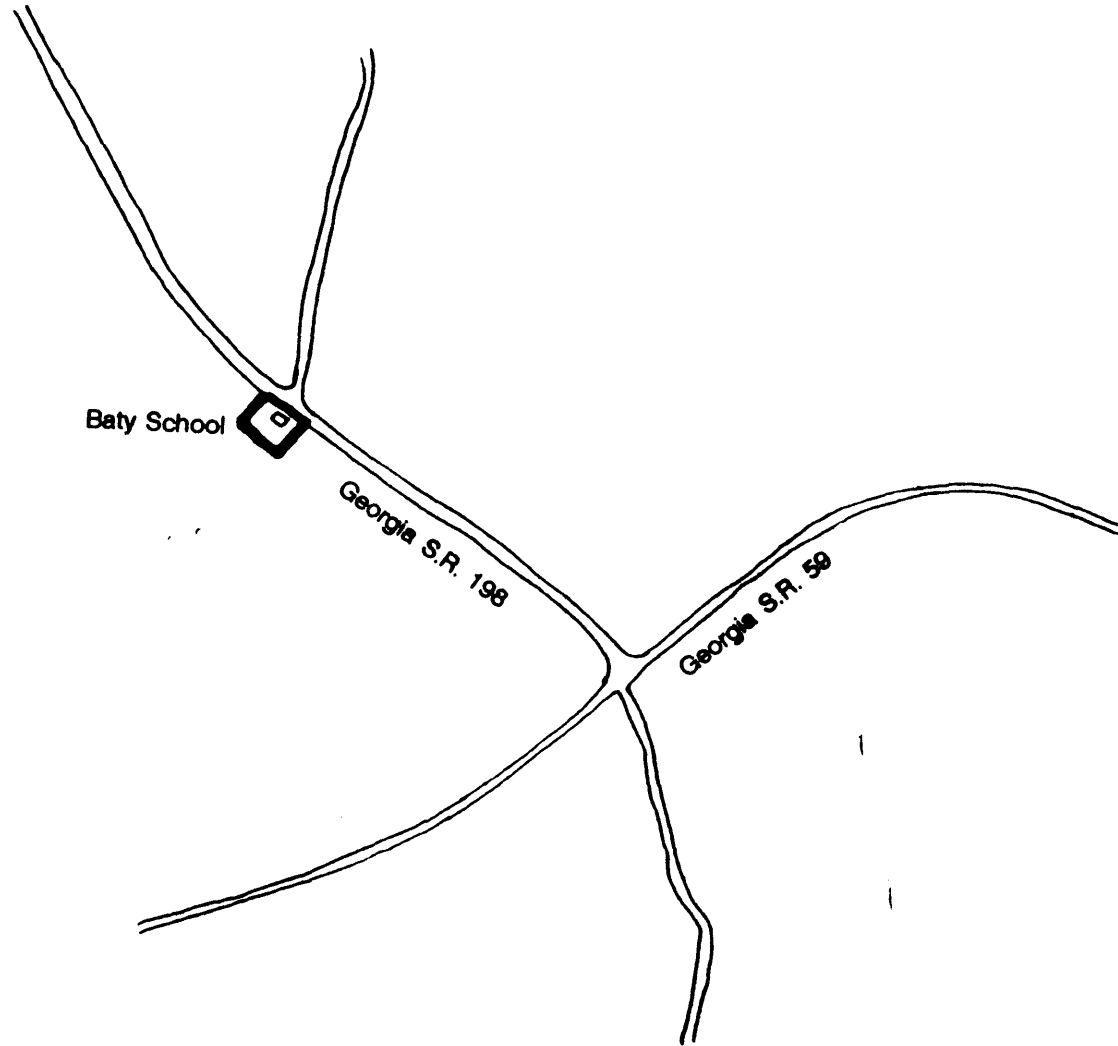
Near Carnesville, Franklin Co., GA.

Scale: 1"=660'

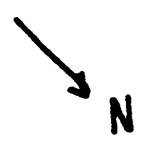
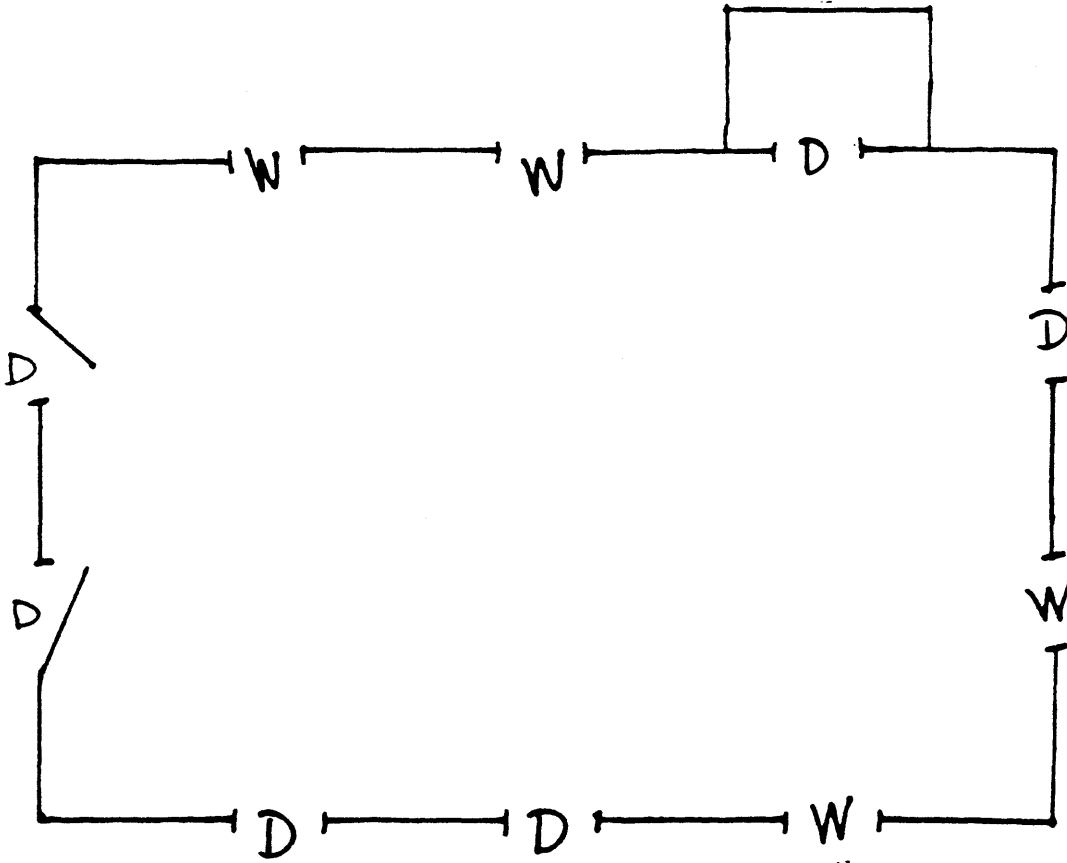
Source: Franklin Co. Tax Map 28

Date: 1989

Key: The nominated district is marked by a heavy black line.



Floor Plan
Baty School, Franklin County, Georgia
Not to Scale
Source: Sponsor
Date: 1996



Site Plan

Baty School, Franklin County, Georgia

Not to Scale

Source: Sponsor

Date: 1996

Dirt Road
to fields

Hardwoods

School

Field

N

Georgia Highway 198

Field