NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM



OMB(No. 1024-0018

AUG 2 8 2001

NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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. Na	me of Property				
histo	ric name SOPCHOPPY SCHOOL				
other	names/site number Sopchoppy Hig	h School FMSF#	WA667		
2. Lo	cation				
stree	t & number 164 Yellow Jacket Avenu	ıe		N/A	not for publication
city o	r town Sopchoppy			N	/A U vicinity
state	FLORIDA code	FLcounty	Wakulla	code129	_ zip code <u>32358</u>
3. St	ate/Federal Agency Certification				
	the designated authority under the National request for determination of eligibility meets storic Places and meets the procedural and meets does not meet the National Regis nationally statewide locally. (See or specific state of dertifying official/Title state or Federal agency and bureau my opinion, the property meets does national.)	the documentation storofessional requirementer criteria. I recomme continuation sheet for Date er, Division of His	tandards for registering ents set forth in 36 Clend that this property additional comments	ng properties in the Nation FR Part 60. In my opinion be considered significant.)	onal Register of n, the property t
Sig	nature of certifying official/Title	Date			
Sta	ate or Federal agency and bureau				-
	tional Park Service Certification				
•	certify that the property is: entered in the National Register	Sigi	nature of the Keeper		Date of Action
-	See continuation sheet	Ente	ered in the		(O/(Z/O)
	determined eligible for the National Register		onal Register		
	☐ See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register ☐ See continuation sheet.				
	removed from the National Register.				
	other, (explain)				

Sopchoppy School Name of Property		Wakulla Co., FL County and State			
5. Classification					
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resor (Do not include any pr	urces within Prope	rty in the count)	
☐ private ☑ public-local	buildings district o	Contributing	Noncontribut	ting	
☐ public-State ☐ public-Federal	site structure	3	2	buildings	
	☐ object	0	0	sites	
		0	0	structures	
		0	0	objects	
		3	2	total	
Name of related multiple pro (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of		Number of contri listed in the Nat	buting resources p ional Register	previously	
"N	/A"	()		
6. Function or Use					
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Functions (Enter categories from inst	ructions)		
EDUCATION:school		EDUCATION: school			
7. Description					
Architectural Classification		Materials			
(Enter categories from instructions)		(Enter categories from	n instructions)		
OTHER: Masonry Vernacular		foundation STONE			
		walls STONE			
		roof ASPHALT			
		other			

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

Sopchoppy School Name of Property	Wakulla Co., FL County and State		
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.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)		
	EDUCATION ARCHITECTURE		
☐ 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.	Period of Significance 1924-1951		
□ Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.			
Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	Significant Dates 1924 1933		
Property is:	1938		
☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	Significant Person N/A		
☐ B removed from its original location.			
C a birthplace or grave.	Cultural Affiliation N/A		
D a cemetery.			
☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.			
☐ F a commemorative property.	Architect/Builder Winthrop, Guy, Builder		
☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance	Culpepper, Ed, Builder		
within the past 50 years			
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 Previous documentation on file (NPS):	more continuation sheets.) Primary location of additional data:		
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 36) 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 #	State Historic Preservation Office Other State Agency Federal agency Local government University Other Name of Repository #		

10. Geographical Data
Acreage of Property 2.72
UTM References (Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)
1 1 6 7 4 1 5 0 0 3 3 2 7 6 6 0 Zone Easting Northing 2 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 Callie Quigg/Robert O. Jones, Historic Sites Specialist
organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date August 2001
street & number R.A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough Street telephone (850) 245-6333
city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-0250
Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:
Continuation Sheets
Maps
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.
Photographs
Representative black and white photographs of the property.
Additional items (check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)
Property Owner
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)
name Wakulla School Board
street & number 126 High Drive, P.O. Box 100 telephone 850-926-7131
city or town Crawfordville state FL zip code 32326

Wakulla Co., FL County and State

Sopchoppy School Name of Property

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 amend listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number	7	Page	1	SOPCHOPPY SCHOOL, SOPCHOPPY,
		•		WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

SUMMARY

The Sopchoppy High School is at 164 Yellow Jacket Avenue, in the City of Sopchoppy, Wakulla County, Florida. The one story building has an irregular footprint, rubble limestone and stucco exterior, and a complex hip roof. Windows are double-hung wooden sashes with 9/9, and 6/6 muntin configurations. The main school building was constructed in three stages from 1924-1938. Adjacent school buildings were built in 1948 and 1951. Two non-contributing buildings were constructed in the 1960s.

SETTING

The school is located on a 2.72 acre site, three blocks south of the main intersection of this small rural city. The property is flat, and surrounded by scattered tall pine and mature oak trees. The school property is bounded by Orange Avenue on the west, Summer Street on the north, Shelton Street on the south, and First Street on the east. Yellow Jacket Avenue runs north/south through the property and along the east side of the building. A main thoroughfare, U.S. Highway 319, skirts the east side of the city, two blocks east of the building and Yellow Jacket Avenue. The old railroad grade is adjacent to First Street. Directly east of the main building, and fronting onto Yellow Jacket Avenue is a concrete block building with a gable roof constructed in 1948. Directly northeast of the main building is a "Spanish Mission" styled gymnasium (NR 1990) built in 1940 with a distinctive rubble limestone exterior. Historically a part of the school complex, the gym was transferred to the City of Sopchoppy's ownership in 1977. On the west side of the original school are two concrete block buildings. The one to the north, built in 1951, is used for administrative offices and classrooms. The other building is a cafeteria/kitchen built in 1960-1962. South of the main building is a large, two-story high, concrete block gymnasium, constructed in 1960-1962.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The entire building is constructed on a continuous concrete foundation. The 1924 portion of the building has concrete masonry walls at least 12 inches thick, and a complex gable roof. The 1933 and 1938 additions have stone masonry walls 18 to 20 inches thick, and gable-on-hip roofs with vents within the gable rises. Window openings are defined by brick surrounds in the 1933 and 1938 additions. The rubble limestone on the 1938 addition has been smoothed with what appears to be the chisel end of a mason's hammer.

The main, north façade has a central gable portico, supported by two battered rubble stone columns (Photos #1&2). Flanking the portico are paired sash windows. Two gable end extensions project north from the corners of the wall of the main block. These north ends contain paired sash windows with a louvered vent centered above them. Short rubble stone walls extend from the corners of these extensions, and are terminated by short columns capped with concrete, creating a planter. This section has a stucco exterior, and was the original 1924 portion of the school. To the west is the school auditorium with a hip roof, rubble limestone exterior, and three pairs of 6/6, double-hung wooden windows with three-light transoms (Photo #3). A single,

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number	7	Page	2	SOPCHOPPY SCHOOL, SOPCHOPPY,
				WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

6/6, window is towards the west corner. There are two entrances to the auditorium with shed roofs supported by timber braces. The windows have brick along the sides and a keystone in the above window lintel.

The <u>east elevation</u> fronts onto Yellow Jacket Avenue. Approximately the northern half of the elevation has a concrete stucco exterior with banks of windows with 6/6, windows (Photo #4). The south half of the elevation has a rubble limestone exterior, and banks of windows (Photo #5). Near the south corner is a pair of smaller window sashes high in the wall.

The <u>south elevation</u> contains the end of the east elevation, another wing of classrooms, with an inset grassy space in between. The end of the east elevation contains a pair of doors at the west corner, accessed by four concrete steps with rubble limestone cheeks (Photo #6). Two windows set high in the wall have 6/6, double-hung wooden sashes. The grassed inset has two doors, concrete steps with cheeks, accessing two interior hallways. The wing to the west contains three banks of windows, a small window at the east corner, and a recessed entry toward the west corner (Photo #7).

The <u>west elevation</u> contains the broadside of a classroom extension, which is seperated from the end of the auditorium extension, visible on the north side. The extension block to the south contains a bank of five windows, and two groupings of three windows (Photo #8). A single window is on the south corner. The auditorium end contains a pair of windows in the center and single windows on the corners (Photo #9). There is a large grassed area between the auditorium wing and this classroom wing.

Interior

The interior of the school consists of classrooms and offices accessed off of hallways arranged around an exterior courtyard (Photos #10). Floors are wooden and carpeted, and walls are plaster with vertical wainscoting. Ceilings are wooden paneling, and are partially covered with drop acoustic tiles. Within the main door are classrooms to the east and a classroom to the south. Offices and bathrooms are within the north wall. A broad entry area to the west contains a large trophy case, and leads to four wooden doors into the auditorium (Photo #11). The doors within the hall and within the auditorium are surrounded with molding that includes Colonial Style dentil molding. Two halls run north/south on either side of the courtyard. The walls along the courtyard are vertical wooden paneling with transom sashes to illuminate the halls (Photo #12). At the end of the east hall is a bathroom. A hall running across the end of the courtyard extends to the west with classrooms and a bathroom accessed from it. This hall terminates with a "T" hallway that accesses two classrooms at the western extremity of the building. Class rooms are all illuminated by banks of windows across the exterior walls (Photo #13). Blackboards, windows, doors, and baseboards are original (Photo #14). Much of the historic desks and furniture is present. Minor and reversible partitioning of several rooms has taken place (Photo #15). The auditorium, with flooring slanted from the rear, contains folding seats grouped in three sections with two aisles (Photo #16). To the west end of the auditorium is an elevated stage with curtains (Photo #17).

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number	7	Page	3	SOPCHOPPY SCHOOL, SOPCHOPPY,
				WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

HISTORIC ALTERATIONS

The Sopchoppy School had two major additions, in 1933 and 1938 (see Floor Plan Map). The 1924 Sopchoppy High School had no window screens, indoor toilets, running water, or electricity. With the addition in 1933, indoor bathrooms for boys and girls were placed at the end of the halls flanking the courtyard. Electric lights were installed, and steam radiators replaced the wood-burning stoves in each room. The boiler that was used to supply heat to the radiators was located under the auditorium. The rubble stone columns and gable portico were added to the main entrance. A shed roof extension across the entrance wall accommodated offices. Two small, freestanding columns and low wall were enhanced with rubble stone and turned into flower planters. The second addition was begun in 1938 and completed in 1939. Like the 1933 addition, it very closely followed the materials and forms already established.

ADDITIONAL HISTORIC RESOURCES

Directly east of the main building and fronting west onto Yellow Jacket is a concrete block building with a gable roof constructed in 1948 (Photo #18). The building has an irregular "T" footprint, and projecting gable extension on the main, west façade. Windows are filled with metal casement sashes. It has the original asbestos shingle roof. The building had two classrooms (Photo #19) and an office. It currently houses the School Board's Second Chance alternative education program.

Northwest of the main school building is a one-story concrete block building, constructed in 1951 (Photos #20&21). The building has a "T" footprint with a north/south wing, and east/west wing. The walls are filled with banks of windows with metal awning sashes. It is used for administrative offices and classrooms (Photo #22). There are three classrooms, a teacher's lounge and an administrative office, formerly a classroom. Two smaller rooms are used for storage and mechanical equipment.

NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

To the west of the main building is a one-story concrete block cafeteria/kitchen built in 1960-62 (Photo #23). South of the original school is a gymnasium constructed in 1960-62 of concrete block with pre-stressed, concrete beam flat "built-up" asphalt roof (Photo #24).

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number	8	Page	1	SOPCHOPPY SCHOOL, SOPCHOPPY,
				WALULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

SUMMARY

The Sopochoppy School is nominated to the National Register for local significance under Criteria A and C in the areas of Education and Architecture. The Sopchoppy School was the first high school to be built in Wakulla County, and has been used continuously as a public school from 1924 to March of 1996. Originally built in 1924, the school was expanded twice, in 1933 and 1938, under WPA programs. The school has excellent architectural character and quality, being built of locally quarried limestone, and built by local labor.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Wakulla County was established March 11, 1843, from lands which had previously been incorporated in Leon County, two years before Florida became a state. Wakulla County has several communities, but only two-St. Marks and Sopchoppy--are incorporated. The Town of Sopchoppy was established in 1853. The name "Sopchoppy" is a Creek Indian word meaning dark or black water, which describes the river that borders the City of Sopchoppy on the west and the north. An Indian village was located along the Sopchoppy River during this era.

The early settlement was west of the Sopchoppy River until 1893 when the Carrabelle-Tallahassee-Georgia Railroad (later named the Georgia-Florida-Alabama Railroad Company) built a spur line east of the river. The line ran from Bainbridge, Georgia, through Tallahassee, Florida, to Carrabelle, Florida, on the Gulf Coast. The railroad company built a depot, platted the land east of the river, and sold lots. The people moved across the river to be closer to the commerce generated by the railroad depot. It is thought that the first house in the newly relocated Sopchoppy was constructed by an Indian.

The relocated town in the early 1900s became a thriving settlement with an opera house, hotel, boarding house, drug store, barber shop, blacksmith shop, bakery, and churches. In the early 1900s, there were numerous one-room, one-teacher schools located around Wakulla County. Several were located in and around the City of Sopchoppy, as well as Ashmore, Oak Park, West Sopchoppy, Vause Branch, Sanborn, Curtis Mill, McIntyre, Otter Creek, Buckhorn, Medart, to name a few. No schools had a large enough enrollment to warrant a certified high school program. John C. Hodge was the postmaster. The Sopchoppy Argosy, a weekly newspaper, was owned and operated by Walter and Annie Harms who had moved from Illinois just after the turn of the century. Sopchoppy was incorporated in 1905, but due to Great Depression Era financial hardships, the city became unincorporated, and was re-incorporated on June 23, 1955. Sopchoppy was also a prominent producer of turpentine. Much of the land sold in and around Sopchoppy was subject to a turpentine lease for several years. The turpentine industry reached its peak during the early 'teens and 1920s, after the completion of the railroad spur line.

According to the 1990 census, the current population is 483. Sopchoppy's business community consists of a bank, grocery store, convenience stores, a bait and tackle store, a surveying office, a denture-making office, a restaurant, a feed and seed store, a card and gift shop, an ice cream and coffee shop, a beauty salon, a pottery shop, and a newly constructed post office. The Sopchoppy City Park lies on a 35-acre tract on a

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number	8	Page	2	SOPCHOPPY SCHOOL, SOPCHOPPY,
				WALULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

bend in the river, less than a mile south of the school. Currently, the area is principally noted for its timber, land sales, farming, beekeeping, and earthworm harvesting. Today, the development of alternative industries to the railroad and turpentine industries has not been significant enough to regain the loss of the two industries that began the town.

During the Great Depression, the Works Progress Administration (WPA) public works projects generated a significant economic impact in many Florida communities. In the state, by 1940, 245 new schools, and 278 school additions were created by WPA programs. Various assistance programs directed relief funds toward support of work that benefited the public. Federal funds usually paid the labor, and local matching funds furnished the needed materials. In Wakulla County, fifty-eight miles of roads were paved, oyster beds were seeded, health and education programs were operated, and three new schools, and two additions were constructed. The gymnasium for Sopchoppy School (NR 1990) was begun in 1939 with WPA assistance.

Because local matching services included materials in many cases, regional limestone quarries across Florida were employed for WPA era projects. Limestone schools, libraries, and Woman's Clubs across the state employed the material in their construction. The distinctive stone buildings are community landmarks today. Several similar stone buildings exist in the region around Sopchoppy and Wakulla County. Today, limestone is a rare primary building material. The most outstanding early examples in Wakulla County are the 1759 Spanish Fort St. Mark's (NR 1966), and the Civil War Confederate hospital built from the fort material (Olds, 1962:48).

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

Wakulla County School Board Minutes dated July 28, 1921, reflect that John C. Hodge, A. Lewis, and Thomas Roberts presented to the Board a "Petition for Bond Election in Special Tax School District Number 4." The petition was signed by 62 duly qualified electors (representing more than 25% of the populace). It was requested for "the issuance of bonds in the amount of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars, by said Special Tax School District for the purpose of erecting a new public school building in the town of Sopchoppy." An election was held on September 6, 1921, with a special School Board meeting on September 10, 1921, for the purpose of canvassing the returns. A favorable vote was rendered, and 10 ten-year bonds of \$500 each, numbered 101 to 110, dated October 1, 1921, maturing October 1, 1931, were issued. The School Board directed that notice of this bond issuance be published once each week for three successive weeks in the Gulf Coast Breeze, a newspaper published in Wakulla County. The School Board received sealed bids for the purchase of these bonds on or before June 5, 1922. An appropriation by the Wakulla County School Board in the amount of "\$4,500.00 for the construction of a new school building at Sopchoppy" was passed on July 2, 1923. Originally, the building was to be two stories built of brick with dimensions of 76 feet by 48 feet and 30 feet high. However, School Board Minutes dated March 3, 1924, stated it would be a six-room building built out of stucco. The Board would furnish all the material. The minutes also stated that the Board accepted Mr. Guy Winthrop's proposition to build the school house at Sopchoppy for about \$9,500. The Board traded the old school house at Sopchoppy for new lots on which to build the new schoolhouse. The citizens and patrons of

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number	8	Page	3	SOPCHOPPY SCHOOL, SOPCHOPPY,
				WALULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Sopchoppy bonded themselves for \$5,000 of the total cost, with the Wakulla County School Board contributing the remaining \$4,500.

The original portion of the school was constructed in 1924 by Tallahassee builder Guy Winthrop. It had carbide lights, there were outside privies for boys and girls, and water was available via pitcher pump. In the winter it was heated by "pot-bellied" stoves. Parents and citizens held numerous fund raising events such as spaghetti dinners and fish fries, to cover the construction bond. B.K. Roberts, who later served on the Supreme Court of Florida, was born and reared in Sopchoppy, and was employed as a cement mixer and hod carrier on the project. The community also worked to get the school accredited in 1928. One accreditation requirement was that the school have an agriculture teacher. In 1927, Mr. Herman Langford was hired for this position, and in 1928, Langford became the first principal of Sopchoppy High School. Another accreditation requirement was that the school library had to have a certain number of books. Again, spaghetti dinners and fish fries raised enough money to buy the library books. The library was operated by high school girls.

In 1933, the first limestone addition was constructed with assistance from the WPA. The addition included the auditorium on the west side of the building; continued two classroom wings to the south, creating a courtyard in the middle; and created a wing from the south end which extended to the west. The addition, although built of limestone, was in keeping with the existing materials. Indoor bathrooms for boys and girls were placed in the rear of the two wings. Electric lights were installed, and steam radiators replaced the wood-burning stoves in each room. George Strickland "fired" the boiler each morning before school began in cold weather. Work on this addition was performed by local labor using native limestone mined from a location 10 miles north of Sopchoppy. Roy Ashmore was foreman over the "rock" crew, and Ed Culpepper from Tallahassee was the building superintendent. Since the building project was part of the WPA work relief program, a portion of the workers' salary was held in escrow to ensure that families had money to live on.

The second addition was begun in 1938 and completed in 1939. It also was a WPA project using local labor. It was also constructed of locally mined limestone and consisted of three classrooms that adjoined the east/west wing on the south side of the building. This addition also used materials in keeping with the previous construction. Total cost of this addition was \$10,024.00. Justification for this project stated on the WPA Form was: "The present school building is too small to properly accommodate the children in the Sopchoppy District and as the County is unable to construct this needed addition without aid, the County Board of Public Instruction hereby requests assistance from the Works Progress Administration. This project is also necessary to furnish employment for the needy relief clients in this Area." This project was supported by U.S. Representative Millard Caldwell, who was later Florida's 29th Governor (1945 to 1949) and subsequently served on the Supreme Court of Florida (1962-1969).

The National Youth Administration was one of the federal programs associated with the WPA. The program paid some Sopchoppy School students to work at various school jobs. Other WPA relief programs that employed local labor included sewing rooms, many of which were in outbuildings at the school. The comforters that were created were given to the needy and charitable organizations throughout Wakulla County. WPA funds were also allocated to furnish matron service for the girls' restroom in the high school.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number	8	Page	4	SOPCHOPPY SCHOOL, SOPCHOPPY,
				WALULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

In those early years school was in session for only eight months, and a typical school day began at 8 a.m. and ended at 4 p.m. A few minutes before 8:00, a bell would ring and students would line up in front of the school with boys in one line and girls in another. Everyone stood at attention as the United States flag was raised by two students. The principal stood in front of the lines. As piano music was played, all the students marched in an orderly fashion into the auditorium for chapel. Lunch was from 12:00 to 1:00 with a 30-minute recess in mid-morning. Four subjects each year were offered to the high school students, which enabled them to have the 16 required credits upon graduation needed to get into a college. The 1935 graduating class was the first to graduate in the new auditorium and was the first class to wear caps and gowns.

The school and school board experienced financial difficulty from time to time, but citizens of Sopchoppy assisted as they could. The Sopchoppy Lions Club financed the cost of the first band uniforms. In 1924, the citizens gave \$700 to keep the school open for several months. During the Great Depression in 1933, the school closed two months early because funds ran out. The school term ended so abruptly that there was no graduation that year.

In recent years the community has raised money for playground equipment and computer supplies. Efforts to consolidate county schools resulted in the Sopchoppy School's closing in 1996. The next year the school was opened to new programs including Second Chance, Alternative, Adult GED, Vocational, and Pre-Kindergarten. The school auditorium now serves the Wakulla Community Theatre, monthly music programs, and most of the classrooms are used for storing surplus county school supplies and equipment.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The school is an excellent example of masonry construction for a public building, exhibiting locally generated forms, and employing local craftsmanship and materials. The Sopchoppy School is one of only a few prominent area limestone public buildings; others include the Crawfordville Elementary School, Woodville Elementary School, and the Sopchoppy Gymnasium. The Sopchoppy School was built of locally quarried limestone from a quarry located between Sopchoppy and Crawfordville. The stone was hand quarried locally and shaped with stone axes and chisels. The walls are solid load bearing, and vary in width from 16 to 20 inches. Solid stone construction is a technique no longer commonly used. The distinctive stone building has served as one of the community's primary architectural landmarks for more than 70 years.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number	9	Page	1	SOPCHOPPY SCHOOL, SOPCHOPPY,
-		_		WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bergstrom, Bill. "Sopchoppy to Lose its Historic School." Tallahassee Democrat 19 June 1994: 3B.

Caldwell, Millard. Letter to Honorable Robert J. Dill. 8 August 1938.

Carter, Michael. "City of Sopchoppy." <u>Welcome to Wakulla County, Florida</u>. Crawfordville: Wakulla County Chamber of Commerce, n.d.: 40.

Crowson, Beverly. "School's Future is Eyed at Reunion." The Wakulla News, 5 July 1990.

Florida. State Archives Photographic Collection.

Florida. Supreme Court Library.

Green, Betty. Letter to Mr. David Miller. 14 Mar. 2000.

Morris, Allen. The Florida Handbook, 1989-1990. Tallahassee: The Peninsular Publishing Company, 1989.

Olds, Dorris LaVanture, "History and Archaeology of Fort Saint Marks in Apalachee," Florida State University, Masters Thesis, 1962.

Roberts, B.K. Letter. The Wakulla News 19 Nov. 1992.

Smith, Elizabeth. "Sopchoppy in 1850." The Magnolia Monthly Feb. 1967: 11-12.

- ---. "Early Sopchoppy as Recalled by Florida Roberts." The Magnolia Monthly May 1966: 8-10.
- ---. "Capsules of Wakulla County History." The Magnolia Monthly April 1965: 17-19.
- ---. "Mrs. Annie Harms of Sopchoppy." The Magnolia Monthly Oct. 1963: 7-8.

Sopchoppy, City of. City Hall Public Records.

"Sopchoppy High School Reunion." Wakulla Area Digest Apr. 1998: 41-42.

Sopchoppy High School Yearbooks, 1947 - 1951.

Section number 9 Page 2 SOPCHOPPY SCHOOL, SOPCHOPPY, WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA
"State Shows Concern for Old School." The Wakulla News 30 June 1994: 1.
Tebeau, Charlton W. A History of Florida, Coral Gables: University of Miami Press, 1971.
Wakulla County. Clerk of Court. Deed Record Books B & A-B: 46, 337.
Deed Record Books E & E-F: 376, 168.
Deed Record Book 4: 239.
Deed Record Books 40-41.
Property Appraiser. Deed and Tax Records.
Board of Public Instruction. Abstract of Title, n.d.
School Board Minutes, 28 July 1921: 331-333.
School Board Minutes, 1 May 1922: 337-343.
School Board Minutes, 2 July 1923: 407.
School Board Minutes, 3 Mar. 1924: 427.
School Board Minutes, 25 Aug. 1927: 40.
School Board Minutes, 5 Sept. 1927: 41.
School Board Minutes, 3 Sept. 1928.
United States. Dept. of Agriculture. Aerial Photos LD FL 2 7 600-601, 29 Nov. 1937.
Works Progress Administration. WPA No. 165-56-7045, Dec.1936.
WPA No. 465-35-3-21, 14 Sept.1937.
WPA No. 65-30285, Serial No. 65-9-B-31, 23 Mar. 1938.

Whaley, Emmett Sr., 14 July 2000.

Section number _	9	_ Page __	3	SOPCHOPPY SCHOOL, SOPCHOPPY, WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA			
WPA No. 4	165-35-3-1	17-26 Mai	r 1938				
WPA No. 465-35-3-117, 26 Mar. 1938. WPA No. 665-38-3-263, 25 Oct. 1938.							
WPA No. 665-35-2-124, 7 Sept. 1938. Project Proposal No. 665-56-2-259, 18 Nov. 1938.							
WPA No. 65-1-35-170, 8 Nov. 1939.							
<u>Letters</u>							
Barwick, Beulah Tucker, 19 July 2000.							
Butera, Mary Stansbury, 24 July 2000.							
Buckwalter, Aline "Puggie" Lawhon, 3 July 2000.							
Stalnaker, Lilla Mary, 13 July 2000.							
Strickland, George, 14 July 2000.							

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number	10	Page	1	SOPCHOPPY SCHOOL, SOPCHOPPY,
				WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 216, 217, 218, south one-half of Lots 215 and 221, Lots 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231 and 232, per unnumbered map of Sopchoppy West Side, recorded in Deed Book 40, Wakulla County, Florida Public Records, and being in Section 12, Township 5S, Range 03W, Parcel 040-00936-000.

Also Lots 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261 and 262, per unnumbered map of Sopchoppy West Side, recorded in Deed Book 40, Wakulla County, Florida Public Records, Parcel 040-00940-000, and Lot 219 per unnumbered map of Sopchoppy West Side, recorded in Deed Book 41, Wakulla County, Florida Public Records, Parcel 040-00940-000, all being in Section 12, Township 5S, Range 03W.

VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Sopchoppy School with the exception of the now separately owned 1939 gymnasium parcel.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number	Photo	Page	1	SOPCHOPPY SCHOOL, SOPCHOPPY,
		-		WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

PHOTOGRAPHIC LIST

- 1. Sopchoppy School, 164 Yellow Jacket Ave., Sopchoppy
- 2. Wakulla County, Florida
- 3. Cheryl Mallow
- 4. July 2000
- 5. Sopchoppy School
- 6. North, main façade, looking south
- 7. Photo #1 of 24

Items 1-5 are the same for the following photographs.

- 6. Main entrance, north elevation, looking south
- 7. Photo #2 of 24
- 6. North elevation with auditorium wall, looking southeast
- 7. Photo #3 of 24
- 6. East elevation, northern half, looking west
- 7. Photo #4 of 24
- 6. East elevation, southern half, looking northwest
- 7. Photo #5 of 24
- 6. South elevation, looking northwest
- 7. Photo #6 of 24
- 6. South elevation, looking northeast
- 7. Photo #7 of 24
- 6. West elevation, looking northeast
- 7. Photo #8 of 24
- 6. West elevation, looking southeast
- 7. Photo #9 of 24
- 6. Hallway west of courtyard, looking north
- 7. Photo #10 of 24

Section number	Photo	Page	2	SOPCHOPPY SCHOOL, SOPCHOPPY,
				WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

- 6. Trophy case and auditorium doors, looking west
- 7. Photo #11 of 24
- 6. Hallway within southerly wing, looking west
- 7. Photo #12 of 24
- 6. Classroom in east side, looking northeast
- 7. Photo #13 of 24
- 6. Classroom adjacent to courtyard, looking soiuth
- 7. Photo #14 of 24
- 6. Classroom in east side, looking east
- 7. Photo #15 of 24
- 6. Auditorium, looking east
- 7. Photo #16 of 24
- 6. Stage, looking west
- 7. Photo #17 of 24
- 6. 1948 Building, west and south elevations, looking northeast
- 7. Photo #18 of 24
- 6. Classroom in 1948 Building, looking northeast
- 7. Photo #19 of 24
- 6. 1951 Building, east elevation, looking west
- 7. Photo #20 of 24
- 6. 1951 Building, west elevation, looking east
- 7. Photo #21 of 24
- 6. Classroom in 1951 Building, looking northwest
- 7. Photo #22 of 24

Section number	Photo	Page	3	SOPCHOPPY SCHOOL, SOPCHOPPY,
			<u> </u>	WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

- 6. Non-contributing cafeteria, looking south
- 7. Photo #23 of 24
- 6. Non-contributing gymnasium, looking southwest
- 7. Photo #24 of 24





