

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



562726

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 Duette School

other names/site number MA804

2. Location

street & number 40755 State Road 62 not for publication

city or town Parrish vicinity

state Florida code FL county Manatee code _____ zip code 34219

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Glesse Stane, DSHPO 6/8/18
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Bureau of Historic Preservation, Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department of State
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 certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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 See continuation sheet.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

[Signature]

7-30-2018

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)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include any previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	3	buildings
1	0	sites
1	1	structures
0	0	objects
5	4	total

Name of related multiple property listings

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

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)

No Style

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Wood

Asbestos

roof Asphalt

other _____

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

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

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 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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education

Period of Significance

1930-1968

Significant Dates

1930

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Dresslar, Fletcher Bascom, architect

see continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of Repository

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 15

UTM References

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1	7	3	8	8	9	3	7	3	0	5	2	3	0	2
	Zone		Easting					Northing							
2	1	7	3	8	9	1	4	5	3	0	5	2	3	1	1

3	1	7	3	8	9	1	7	2	3	0	5	2	0	3	4
	Zone		Easting					Northing							
4	1	7	3	8	8	9	3	5	3	0	5	2	0	3	6

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 Cathy Slusser; Betty Glassburn, President; James Leonard, Associate; Andrew Waber, Historic Preservationist

organization Duette Community Association date January 2018

street & number 6655 Keentown Road telephone (941) 741-4070

city or town Duette state FL zip code 34219

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 School Board of Manatee County

street & number Post Office Box 9069 telephone (941) 708-8770

city or town Bradenton state FL zip code 34206

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.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Section number 7 Page 1 Duette School
Duette, Manatee County, Florida

Summary

The Duette School consists of a contributing schoolhouse, historic restroom building, pump house and well, picnic area, and playground; and a non-contributing portable building, equipment building, and tennis/basketball court. The primary resource is the schoolhouse itself, which is a circa 1930 one-story H-shaped wood building with a cross-gabled roof, brick pier foundations, shingle siding, and remnants of brick chimneys. One of the character defining features of the building is its fenestration, which consists primarily of 9/9 and 6/6 wood sash windows ranging from single to six ribbon windows. The main (north) entrance to the building is via a prominent 50-foot-long by 12-foot-wide wood front porch, which accesses the building through wood paneled double doors. The interior of the building still largely retains its original layout, with two rooms on the east and west flanking an auditorium. The interior fabrics are mostly wood flooring, wood paneling, and wood ceiling. Perhaps the most important interior element is the auditorium itself, which still retains its historic stage and seating and retains a high degree of integrity. The building has undergone some changes in its history. The southwest room was divided in 1940 for the purposes of turning it into a lunchroom, with a kitchen and seating areas added. Asbestos shingle siding was added in the 1950s. These changes are considered historic, however, and do not significantly impact the integrity of the building. The building originally had four chimneys, but three of them were removed past the roofline. The wall separating the two rooms on the east side of the building was also partially removed, converting the area into one larger room. Despite these changes, the building retains sufficient integrity to qualify for listing in the National Register.

The second most important resource is the circa 1940 bathroom constructed by the Works Progress Administration (WPA). This is a simple one-story wood frame building located on the south side of the school house and connected to the school via a covered walkway. Like the school, much of the bathroom building was covered over in asbestos shingle in the 1950s. The interior features two bathrooms flanking a central janitor's closet, with a shed roof storage area on the back. The interior flooring material is vinyl composition tile, which was added sometime after the period of significance. Despite the changes that have taken place, the building still retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the nomination. There is a single small contributing pump house, which covers over the original well use to provide water for the school. There is also a contributing playground and picnic area that both date to the school's period of significance and retain a high degree of integrity. The most notable non-contributing resource on the site is the non-contributing portable building, which postdates the period of significance. There is also a non-contributing tennis/basketball court, a playhouse, and an equipment building that all postdate the period of significance.

Setting

The Duette School is located within the unincorporated community of Duette, which is in northeast Manatee County, Florida. The county is found in southwest Florida. Although much of Manatee County is heavily developed, especially in the west around Bradenton, the eastern portion of the county remains largely

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undeveloped. The immediate surroundings of the Duette School are agricultural in nature, with farms dominating the landscape. The building itself is located at the intersection of Wauchula and Keenton roads and is adjacent to Dry Prairie Baptist Church.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Contributing Resources

School Building Exterior

The Duette School is a one-story wood frame H-shaped building with brick pier foundations and a cross-gabled roof (Photo 1). The exterior of the building has been covered over in asbestos shingle siding, a circa 1950s era alteration. Fenestration consists primarily of 9/9 and 6/6 wood sash windows that range from single windows to six windows. All four original brick chimneys are still visible, but three of the four have been removed past the roofline.

The main (north) façade of the building features a prominent 50-foot-long by 12-foot-wide wood front porch which is inset within the main roof. There are three entrances on this elevation: a wood paneled double door with fixed light transom that opens into the auditorium and two wood paneled single doors with four-light fixed transoms that access the east and west wings of the building (Photos 2-4). Access to the main façade is through an unpaved driveway leading from Wauchula Road.

The side elevations are largely the same, with two sets of six 9/9 wood sash windows on the east side and one set of six 9/9 wood sash windows on the west side (Photos 5-6). Both sides also have two brick chimneys. The south chimney on the east elevation of the building is the only chimney that still extends past the roofline. The rear (south) elevation of the building features a single door providing rear access to auditorium and two entrances on the east and west wings (Photos 7-8). There is a wheelchair ramp built onto this side of the building for ADA accessibility purposes. A covered walkway extends from the central rear door to the historic bathroom building.

School Building Interior

The interior layout of the building is balanced, with a central auditorium flanked by what was originally two large classrooms on the east and west side. The interior of the building is primarily wood flooring, wood walls, and wood ceilings. The interior doors are almost all historic, and are primarily single wood paneled doors with transom lights above. The interior has seen some modifications linked to modernization, including the installation of central heating and air conditioning, but otherwise retains a high degree of integrity.

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The main room in the interior is the central auditorium, which retains a high degree of integrity (Photos 9-10). The stage and auditorium seating are all very much present. The stage is found on the west side of this space and still has a functioning curtain and original stage exits on the north and south. The door on the south wall of the auditorium was built in 1950 to improve access to the restrooms. Flanking the auditorium space are two classrooms on the east and a classroom, kitchen, and workroom on the west (Photos 11-12). Each room has access doors to both the auditorium and to the outside. In circa 1940, the southwest room was repurposed into a lunch room and kitchen (Photos 13-14). At some later point, linoleum was added into the kitchen space, covering the original wood flooring. The remaining three rooms have storage rooms in them, with the southeast room also having a small bathroom (Photo 15). On the east side, part of the wall separating the two classrooms has been partially removed, and the two rooms are essentially one space (Photo 16). The original spaces are still visibly present, however, and the rest of the spaces remain largely unaffected.

School Building Alterations

The school building has gone through a number of changes. The building was electrified circa 1939. In circa 1940, the southwest classroom was repurposed into a lunch room and kitchen. In 1950, a door was added to the south wall of the auditorium. Also around that time, the exterior of the building was resurfaced with asbestos shingle siding. These are all considered historic alterations, however, and do not detract from the integrity of the building. In the 1950s, the word "Duette" was painted on the roof of the building to aid in aerial identification (Photo 17). This was later removed. In the 1970s, the tops of three of the four original chimneys were removed past the roofline. In the 1980s, the wall separating the two rooms on the east side of the building were dismantled to create one large room, wooden steps were replaced with concrete steps, a concrete walkway was constructed in front of the building, air conditioning and central heat were added to the building. The roof has also been replaced on the building. Despite these changes, the building retains sufficient integrity to qualify for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Bathroom Building

The contributing circa 1940 bathroom building is a simple wood frame building located to the south of the school (Photo 18). It has a gabled roof, concrete slab foundations, and a shed roof addition. Like the school, much of the exterior of the bathroom building has been covered in asbestos shingle siding, which is considered a historic alteration. The building originally featured restrooms for the boys and girls flanking a central storage space. A 400-gallon water tank was installed to provide water for the facility. Fenestration consists of one-light hopper and fixed-light ribbon windows. The girl's bathroom consists of two toilets and a sink and the boys bathroom consists of one toilet, one urinal, and a sink (Photos 19-21).

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Pump House and Well

On the south end of the property is a contributing pump house and well (Photo 22). The well originally was the primary source of water for the school, but later was used for irrigation of the grounds after the water system improved. The pump house is a simple wood frame building built to protect the well.

Playground

The playground to the southwest was constructed in the 1940s (Photos 23-24). The property still comprises a number of original metal playground equipment, including teeter totters, swing sets, and handwalkers, all in their original locations. The slide is all that has been removed. Some additional playground equipment was added in the 1990s, but the historic character of the site as a whole has been retained. The playground is considered a contributing site to the nomination.

Picnic Area

Sometime prior to 1966, five cast concrete picnic tables and benches were constructed along Keentown Road (Photo 25). The tables and benches all retain a high degree of integrity with little to no change since their initial construction. The picnic area is considered a contributing structure to the nomination.

Non-Contributing Resources

There are three non-contributing buildings: the portable building, the equipment shed, and the playhouse. There is also one non-contributing structure, which is the tennis/basketball court. The portable is a typical temporary education building (Photo 26). Originally built to serve as a clinic, the building was later used for the principal's office and teacher's lounge. It is considered non-contributing due to its age (2002). There is a small playhouse built within the playground in the 1990s that is considered non-contributing due to age (Photo 24). The equipment shed is a simple wood frame building constructed near the tennis/basketball court built in the 1980s to hold playground equipment and is considered non-contributing due to age. The tennis/basketball court, built in the 1980s, is a typical outdoor court with concrete slab surfacing, basketball hoops, and tennis nets. It is surrounded by a metal chain link fence (Photo 27). The court is considered non-contributing due to age.

INTEGRITY

The Duette School is still in its original location and is still located within a largely rural section of Manatee County. Hence, it retains sufficient integrity of location, setting, and association. Despite the relatively recent changes that have taken place to the school building, it still retains a number of character-defining features, including its H shape, the original fenestration, its wood frame construction and interiors, the general roof shape

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and foundations, and its auditorium. The asbestos shingle siding is considered a historic alteration. Although three of the four chimneys have been removed past the roofline, they are still visible from the exterior elevations. On the interior, although the removal of a portion of the interior wall separating the east side classrooms impacts the integrity, much of the wall still remains and the original interior spaces are still distinguishable. The covered walkway connecting the bathroom building to the school can be easily removed without impacting either resource. Although it affects the view of nearly all elevations, the shed addition to the bathroom building is easily distinguishable and was built onto the back of the building without impacting the historic fabric. The original layout of two restrooms bisected by a central storage room is still visible. Many of the ancillary resources dating from the school's period of significance, including the pump house and well, the playground, and the picnic area, are all still in their original locations and maintain a high degree of integrity. As a result, the school retains sufficient integrity of design, workmanship, materials, and feeling.

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Duette, Manatee County, Florida

ARCHITECT/BUILDER

Smith, Samuel L., architect
Albritton, James, builder

SUMMARY

The Duette School is being proposed for listing in the National Register at the local level under Criterion A in the area of Education. The period of significance extends from its date of construction in 1930 until 1968. Throughout its history, the school served a vital function as the sole primary public school for the small rural communities of Duette, Albritton, and Bunker Hill. From 1930 until 1966, the school was a two-teacher elementary and middle school, teaching first through eighth grades. The construction of the school proved pivotal to the survival of local public education in the area, as the consolidation of the schools enabled them to keep a school in the area even as the turpentine industry declined and the Great Depression set in. The school also served an important community purpose as the host of a number of social events and gatherings, including the Mr. and Mrs. Duette contests, May Day programs, school musicals and dinners, Christmas plays, and graduations. Starting in 1967, the school served as a one-teacher school for grades 1-4. When it officially closed in 2016, it was the last such public school in the state of Florida.

The school is an excellent surviving example of a Julius Rosenwald Fund community school plan adapted for white schools. The school is an example of a Rosenwald Floor Plan Number 4-A Four Teacher Community School, with its central auditorium, main entry porch, and two wings with classrooms opening into both the outside and into the auditorium. Due to placement of asbestos shingle siding, however, it does not retain sufficient integrity to qualify under Criterion C.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

History of Duette

The origins of the name Duette are unknown. The presence of the community itself dates back to at least 1888, when the United States Postal Service established a rural post office there. The first postmaster was Laban A. Rawls. It is also at this time that Duette begins to show up on maps of Manatee County. By 1895, there was a population of around 200 people mostly engaged in fruit and vegetable growing. By this time, the settlement had one person engaged in general merchandising, and there was a church and a school. Although it was located near the Manatee River, the settlement was bypassed by the railroads, essentially ensuring that its growth was

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limited for much of the early 20th century.¹ By the 1920s, the surrounding area saw some interest from the turpentine industry.

History of Education in Duette

Although there is a reference to a school in the area as early as 1895, the earliest concrete information on the first Duette School dates back to 1915. It was at about this time a wooden schoolhouse was built near the location of the current school. This earlier school was small, with an enrollment that varied from between 13 to 23 students. The school was one of three small schools in the area, the other two being Albritton and Bunker Hill. As attendance in these schools were small, the decision was made to consolidate into a single larger school.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

New Duette School

It was decided that the ideal spot would be a centrally located area close to where the original Duette School existed. Duette School consistently had the largest number of students and the original Duette School, constructed about 1915, needed to be replaced.² The Roux Crate Company was harvesting timber in the area and had already cleared out the timber from a location at the corner of Highway 62 and Rawls Road (now called Keentown Road). Roux Crate Company donated 19.2 acres of land for the school to the Board of Public Instruction.³ The owner of the company also donated the lumber used in the school building. James Albritton oversaw the construction of the building with assistance of volunteers.⁴

The new Duette School was instituted on August 11, 1930, bringing consolidation of the three schools (Photos 28-29). With no indoor plumbing, students in the school used outhouses located under some oak trees south of the building. As there was no electricity, a hand pump was used for water. Students took turns pumping water while others washed their hands. Wood stoves were placed in each room for heat. During the first year, there

¹ Laban A. Rawls Appointment as Postmaster of Duette, Florida, in *Record of Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-1971*. NARA Microfilm Publication, M841, 145 rolls. Records of the Post Office Department, Record Group Number 28. Washington, D.C.: National Archives; Charles Ledyard Norton, *A Handbook of Florida* (New York, NY: Longmans, Green, & Co., 1890), p. 59; Cotton States Publishing and Advertising Company, *Florida Railroad Gazetteer and State Business Directory* (Atlanta, GA: Franklin Printing and Publishing Co., 1895), p. 92.

² Pauline Keen Chancey "A History of Duette and Area Schools," [unpublished manuscript] p. 8.

³ Manatee County Deed Book 112, page 479.

⁴ Chancey, p. 50.

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were three teachers and 69 students. A resident of each community was hired by the school board to drive the students to school. The drivers furnished their own “buses,” which were actually remodeled cars.⁵

After the 1930 term, the school schedule was changed to form a “strawberry school,” which meant that school was in session from April until December. The rest of the year, students stayed at home to pick strawberries and other crops. This “strawberry school” continued until 1952, when Duette joined the schedule of the rest of Manatee County. The first 8th grade graduation was held on March 27, 1931, with five students graduating.⁶

By 1940, a lunchroom was established with woodstoves and picnic style tables made from rough cut lumber (Photo 30). A lunchroom supervisor was hired to prepare meals on site. Meals were 24 cents per week. Lunch menus were prepared and the lunch lady would visit the classroom to see if any families could donate supplies. If a family donated items, their children ate lunch for free. Water to cook and wash dishes was provided by a teacher cranking a gas powered pump to fill a cistern water tank that worked by gravity flow.⁷

In 1940, the Board of Public Instruction sold a portion of the land on the east border of the property to Doyle Chauncey who had graduated from Duette. This land was separated from the school building by a county maintained road to the east. Chancey built a convenience store, but the deed stated there could be no alcohol or dancehall activities on the property.⁸

Electricity was connected to the school in late 1939. The first electric bill was received on January 1, 1940.⁹ After electrical service was installed a new well was dug with an electric water pump being installed which provided running water for the school building. In the 1940s and 1950s, vitamin fortified orange juice was served each morning before recess. It was provided by the county health department in an effort to combat rickets.¹⁰

Many community programs were presented at Duette School during the early years, including school musicals, Mr. and Miss Duette contests, school concerts, dinners, Christmas plays, May Day programs, and graduations (Photo 31). Since most of the children would not have presents on Christmas Day, bags of hard candy were given to the students.¹¹

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Marie Carlton Camp, interview with Betty Glassburn, May 13, 2016.

⁷ Chancey, p. 50.

⁸ Manatee County Deed Book 170, page 255.

⁹ Jeff Cornelius, letter to Betty Glassburn, March 16, 2016.

¹⁰ Betty Glassburn, interview with Cathy Slusser, June 2016.

¹¹ Ibid.

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In the 1950s, the military came to Duette School and painted the word “Duette” on top of the roof so that jet planes coming from Eglin Air Force Base would realize how close they were to Cuba. This stayed on the roof until the shingles were replaced due to wear.¹²

The 1966 school year was the last year that Duette School had eight grades and two teachers. In 1967, Duette School became a one teacher school. Ada Bilbrey, who had been a teacher at Duette since 1958, taught kindergarten through fourth grade with just an aide to assist her. The principal at nearby Blackburn Elementary also served as principal of Duette. In 1968, Bilbrey was the only teacher as well as the principal and continued in that position until 1991, when she retired.

HISTORIC CONTEXT – After 1968

In 1991, a preschool was created in the library room. Because there was a special needs child enrolled that year, a ramp was built to enter the building by way of the cafeteria and a restroom was put inside the building for the first time.¹³ Donna King was hired to teach kindergarten through fourth grade. In 2007, due to a lack of funding the Duette School became a charter school with a foundation to raise money for school support. Funding became less and less every year. In 2016, with no funding available for the school, it closed and Mrs. King retired.¹⁴

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Julius Rosenwald Fund and Building Program

In the early 20th century, prominent educator Booker T. Washington of the Tuskegee Institute in Tuskegee, Alabama, recognized a significant need within the African-American communities throughout the south as there was a shortage of school buildings for the children. Owing to a variety of factors, including lack of funding, racial discrimination, and a lack of qualified professionals, black children often attended school in dangerous or inadequate conditions. To fund this program, Washington approached Julius Rosenwald, a wealthy businessman who was the head of Sears, Roebuck, and Company. The building program evolved into the Julius Rosenwald Fund, which was founded in 1917. The priority of the fund upon its founding was to provide support for African American schools, generally through either direct financial support or use of floorplans for the construction of buildings. The first generation of Rosenwald school designs, known as Tuskegee Plans, were drawn up by faculty members of the Tuskegee Institute.¹⁵

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Chancey, p. 53.

¹⁴ Glassburn interview.

¹⁵ Mary S. Hoffschwelle, *Preserving Rosenwald Schools* (Washington, DC: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 2003), p. 1-4.

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In 1919, the Rosenwald Fund sought to overhaul its Building Program, reorganizing it and taking direct control over its operation, which prior to this time was run by the Tuskegee Institute. The director of the building program was Samuel L. Smith. The Rosenwald Fund also brought in Fletcher B. Dresslar, a professor from the George Peabody Institute for Teachers of Nashville, Tennessee. The director Smith was a protégé of Dresslar. By now, the program expanded its mission to provide rural school plans that not only could be used by African-American schools but also white schools. This led to the publishing of *Community School Plans* bulletins, which were published between 1920 and 1931. Dresslar and Smith designed the plans featured in the bulletins.¹⁶

Although the schools had differences depending on size and materials, the design philosophy of the school plans were essentially the same. Concerned about the impact of sunlight on the eyesight of the children, the schools faced either north or south with windows generally confined to one side of the classrooms. This ensured proper lighting without sunlight being in the faces of children. The philosophy on lighting is perhaps best summarized in the pamphlet itself: “The commandment in the Bible – ‘Let there be light’ – should be religiously kept by every teacher and school official.”¹⁷ To allow for proper ventilation, the schools often incorporated breeze windows. An important aspect of the larger school designs was the usage of auditoriums. It was important to Smith and Dresslar that the schools serve a year-round purpose for the whole community. This is best reflected in the incorporation of auditoriums, which the recommended be large enough to seat the whole community. The also recommended at least one room for industries be set aside.¹⁸

The Four Teacher Community School, Plan Number 4-A features an H-shaped floorplan with a central auditorium flanked by two wings (Figures 1-2). There is also a prominent front porch that accesses the auditorium. The wings contain three classrooms of equal size plus a smaller library/office room and industries room. Each of the three classrooms have one exterior door and one door that accesses the auditorium. In keeping with the philosophy of windows on only one wall in the classrooms, the gable end windows are blocked off by cloak rooms. There is a small hallway that accesses the office/library, the industries room, and one of the classrooms.¹⁹

Duette School

The Duette School is a surviving example of a Four Teacher Plan Number 4-A Community School laid out by the Julius Rosenwald Fund and used for a white rural school. Although there is no direct historical evidence that the builders used the plan, as the building incorporates the design almost identically, with the exception of four

¹⁶ Hoffschwelle, p. 4-5.

¹⁷ Julius Rosenwald Fund, *Community School Plans: Bulletin No. 3* (Nashville, TN: Julius Rosenwald Fund, 1924), p. 32.

¹⁸ Hoffschwelle, 5-6; Julius Rosenwald Fund, p. 1-2, 32.

¹⁹ Julius Rosenwald Fund, p. 12.

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National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 6 Duette School
Duette, Manatee County, Florida

brick chimneys along the walls of the east and west wings as opposed to a single brick chimney protruding from the ridge and adjacent to the auditorium. The building has a number of character-defining features of this plan, including its H-shape, central auditorium, front entry porch, north-south configuration, and the general shape of the rooms, including their cloak room spaces. The fenestration of the building is also nearly identical, with three windows on each side of the main entrance, paired windows on the gable ends of the wings, and rows of six windows along the east and west elevations. There would have originally been two sets of four windows on the south elevation of the auditorium. As the building was resurfaced with asbestos shingle siding in the 1950s, however, it lost a major character-defining feature of its original exterior. As a result, while it retains sufficient integrity to qualify under Criterion A, it lacks sufficient integrity to qualify under Criterion C.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Section number 9 Page 1 Duette School
Duette, Manatee County, Florida

Bibliographic References

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Glassburn, Betty. Interview with Cathy Slusser, June 2016.

Hoffschwelle, Mary S. *Preserving Rosenwald Schools*. Washington, DC: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 2003.

Julius Rosenwald Fund. *Community School Plans: Bulletin No. 3*. Nashville, TN: Julius Rosenwald Fund, 1924.

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Manatee County Deed Book 170, page 255.

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National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 10 Page 1 Duette School
Duette, Manatee County, Florida

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary encompasses all of parcel number 17300005 of the Manatee County Property Appraiser Office records. See map for more information.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes land historically associated with the Duette School operations.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number _____ Photos _____ Page 1 Duette School
Duette, Manatee County, FL

Photographs

Name of Property: Duette School

City of Vicinity: Duette County: Manatee State: Florida

Photographer: Lu Rupert Date Photographed: December 2017

Description of Photographs(s) and number, including description of view indicating direction of camera

1. View of main (north) façade, facing south
2. Detail view of main entrance, facing south
3. View of front porch, facing east
4. View of front porch, facing west
5. View of east elevation, facing west
6. View of west elevation, facing southeast
7. View of rear (south) elevation, facing northeast
8. Detail view of rear (south) entrance, facing north
9. View of auditorium, facing southeast
10. View of auditorium, facing southwest
11. View of northeast room, facing north
12. View of northwest room, facing south
13. View of kitchen/dining room, facing north
14. View of kitchen/dining room, facing west
15. View of northwest room bathroom, facing northwest
16. View of wall between east wing rooms, facing south
18. View of bathroom building, facing west
19. Detail view of boys' bathroom door, facing east
20. Detail view of girls' bathroom door, facing west
21. Detail view of interior of girls' bathroom, facing south
22. View of pump house and shelter, facing south
23. View of playground, facing south
24. View of playground and playhouse, facing southwest
25. View of picnic area, facing northeast
26. View of non-contributing portable building, facing west
27. View of non-contributing tennis/basketball court and storage building, facing northwest

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Section number Photos Page 2 Duette School
Duette, Manatee County, FL

Historic Photographs

1. Duette School
2. Duette, Manatee County, Florida
3. Unknown Photographer
4. Circa 1950s
5. Duette Community Association
6. Historic view of Duette School with words "Duette" on roof, facing south
7. Photo 17 of 31

Numbers 1-3 and 5 are the same for the following photographs:

4. Circa 1930s
6. Historic view of school bus drivers in front of school, facing south
7. Photo 28 of 31

4. 1941
6. Historic view of two schoolchildren in front of school, facing southwest
7. Photo 29 of 31

4. Circa 1940s
6. Historic view of children in school lunchroom
7. Photo 30 of 31

4. 1944
6. Historic view of Duette School Band, facing north
7. Photo 31 of 31

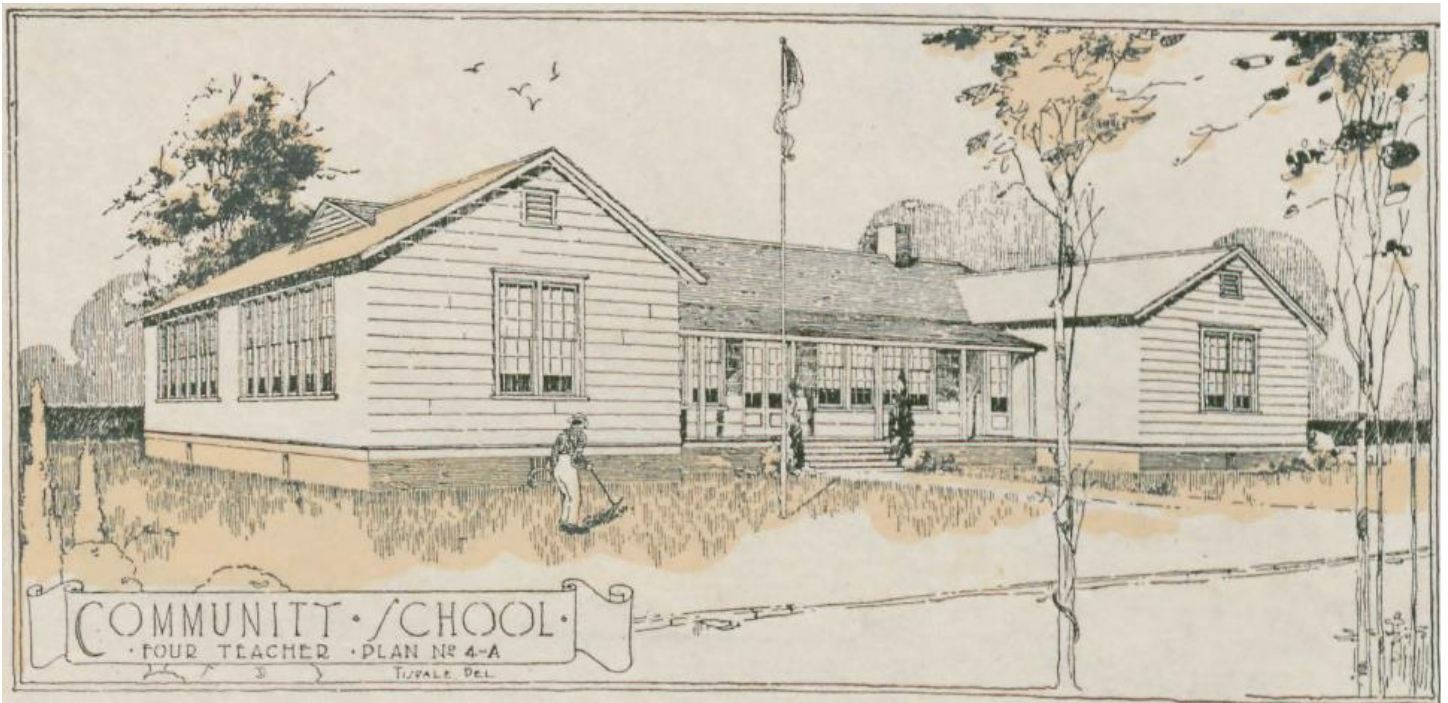
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number _____ Figures _____ Page 1

Duette School
Duette, Manatee County, FL

Figure 1



Sketch of Four-Teacher Community School, Plan 4-A
Source: Julius Rosenwald Fund, *Community School Plans: Bulletin No. 3*
(Nashville, TN: Julius Rosenwald Fund, 1924), p. 12

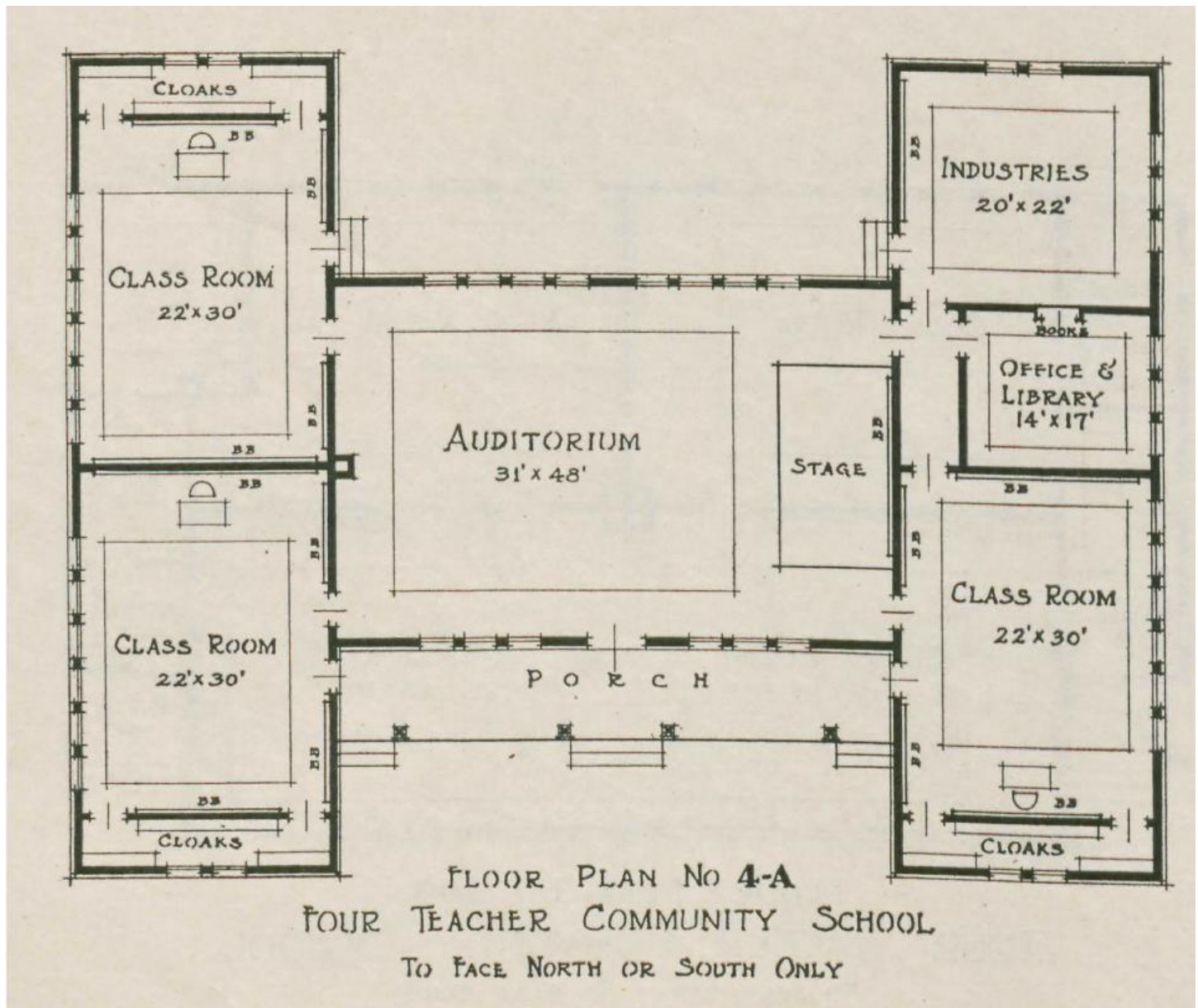
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Figures Page 2

Duette School
Duette, Manatee County, FL

Figure 2



Source: Julius Rosenwald Fund, *Community School Plans: Bulletin No. 3*
(Nashville, TN: Julius Rosenwald Fund, 1924), p. 12

Duette School

40755 State Road 62
Parrish Vicinity
Manatee County
Florida, 34219

UTM:

1. 17R 388937 3052302
2. 17R 389145 3052311
3. 17R 389172 3052034
4. 17R 388935 3052036

USGS Quad: Keentown

Datum: WGS84

Legend

 Duette_School

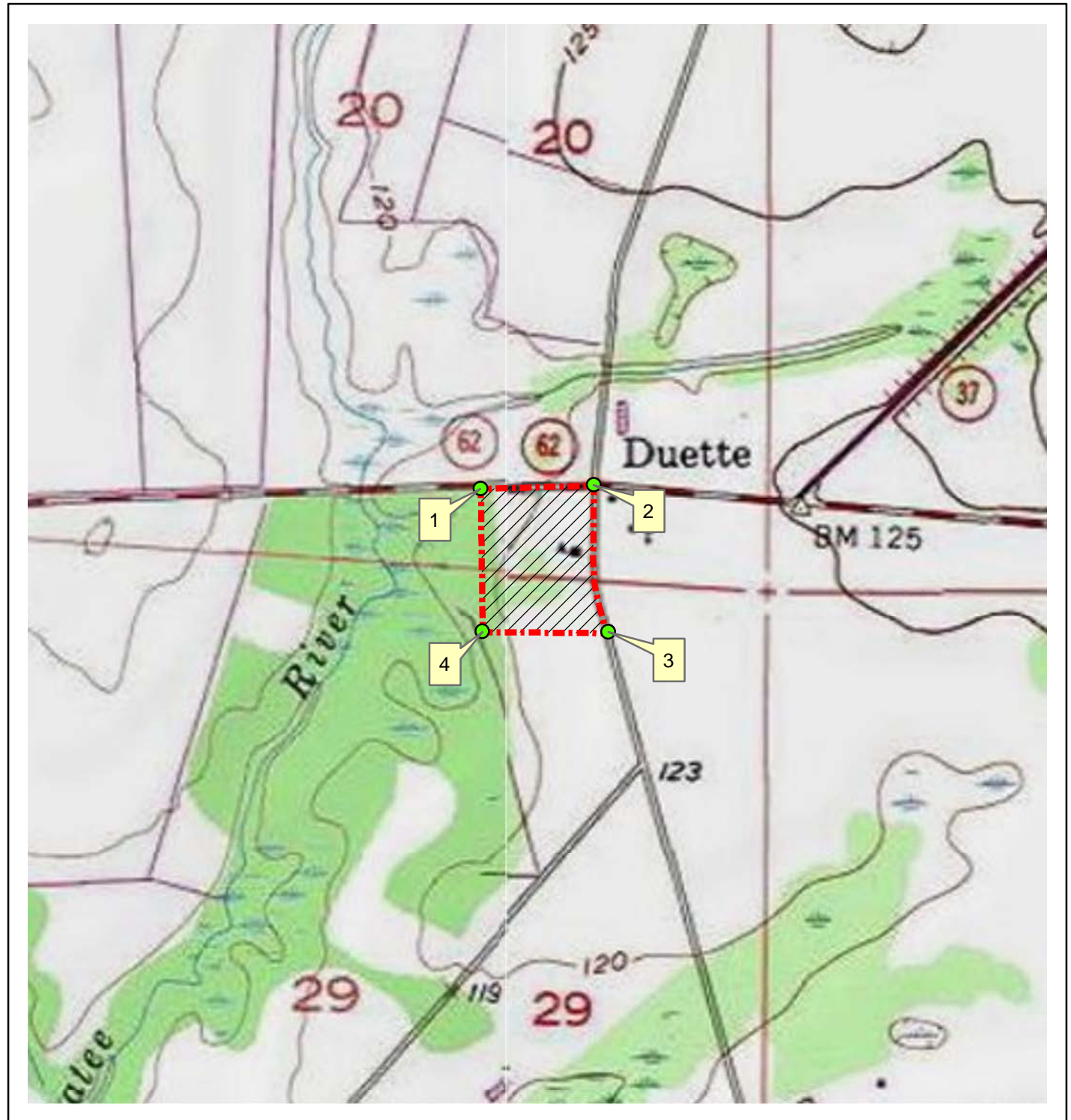
Date: 6/9/2018

1:12,000

0 500 1,000 2,000 Feet

0 125 250 500 Meters

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye,
Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus
DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping,
Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and
the GIS User Community



Duette School


40755 State Road 62
Parrish Vicinity
Manatee County
Florida, 34219

UTM:

1. 17R 388937 3052302
2. 17R 389145 3052311
3. 17R 389172 3052034
4. 17R 388935 3052036

Datum: WGS84

Legend

 Duette_School

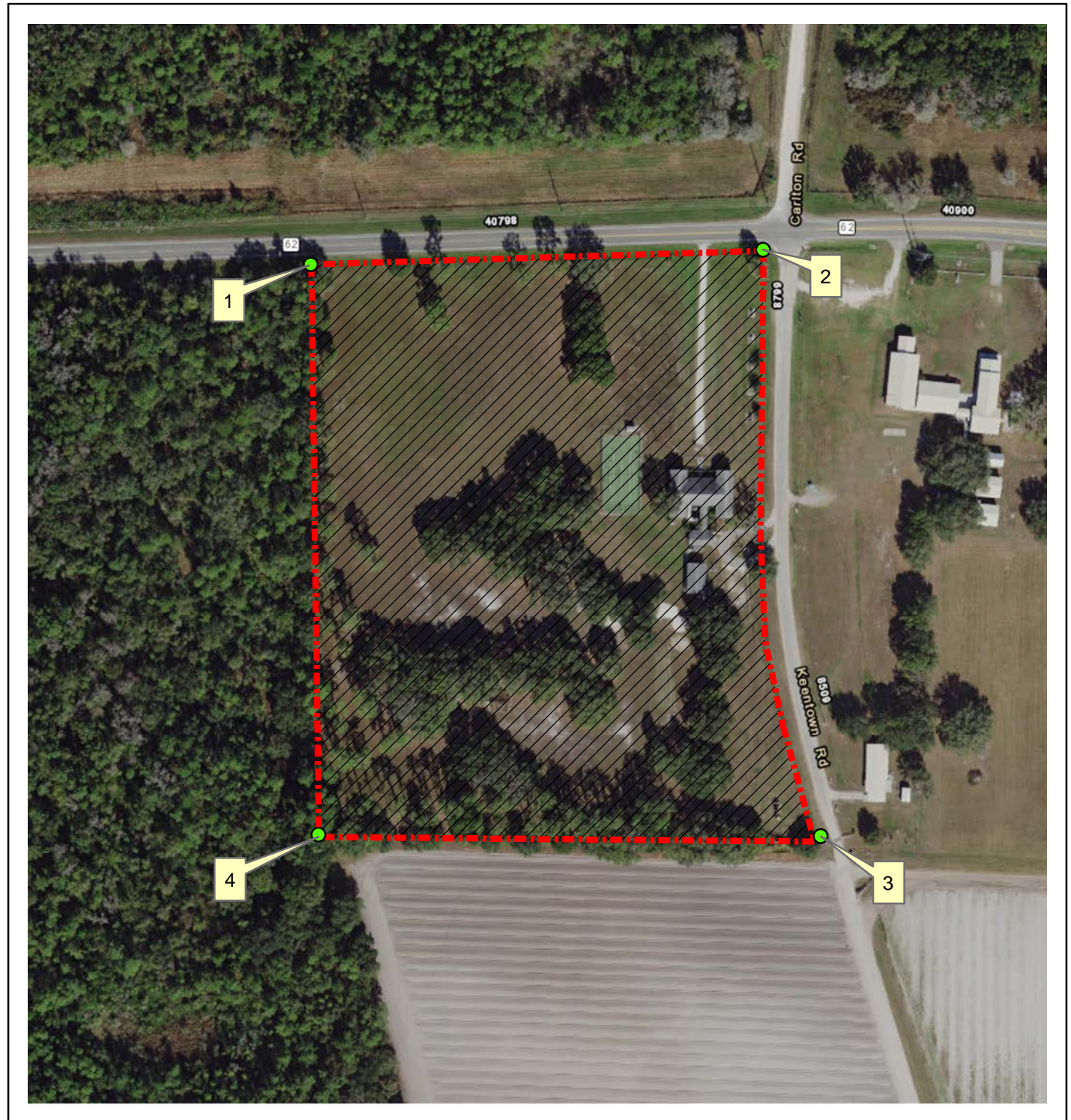
Date: 6/9/2018

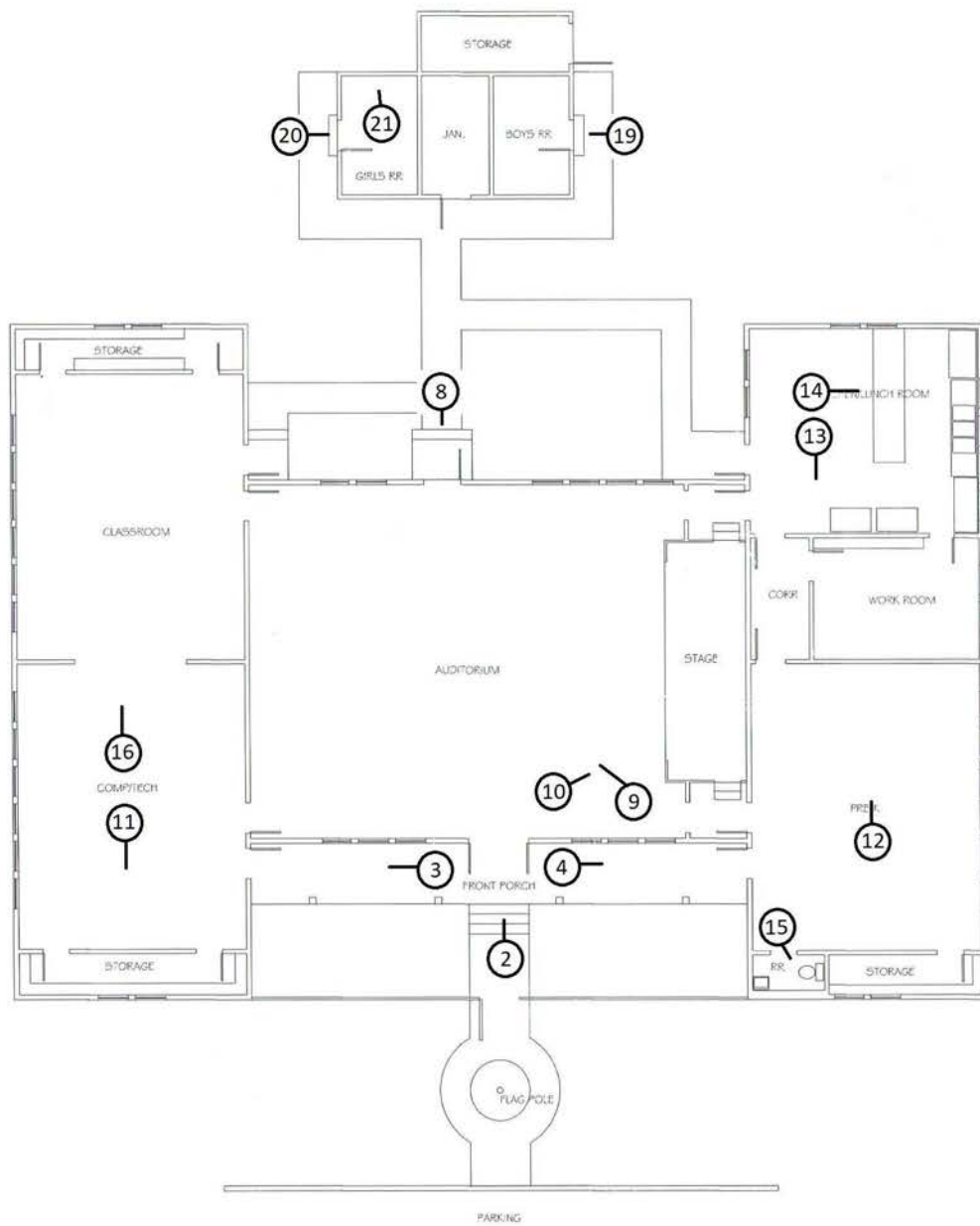
1:3,000

0 125 250 500 Feet

0 30 60 120 Meters

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community





GENERAL FLOOR PLAN
DUETTE SCHOOL
40755 SR 42, DUETTE, FL

Duette School

40755 State Road 62
Manatee County, FL

Date: 1/25/2018

1:1,200



0 50 100 200 Feet

0 12.5 25 50 Meters

Basemap Source: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community





407555













407C













10/10/10

DCA

Handwritten note on refrigerator door









101

BOYS

103

GIRLS











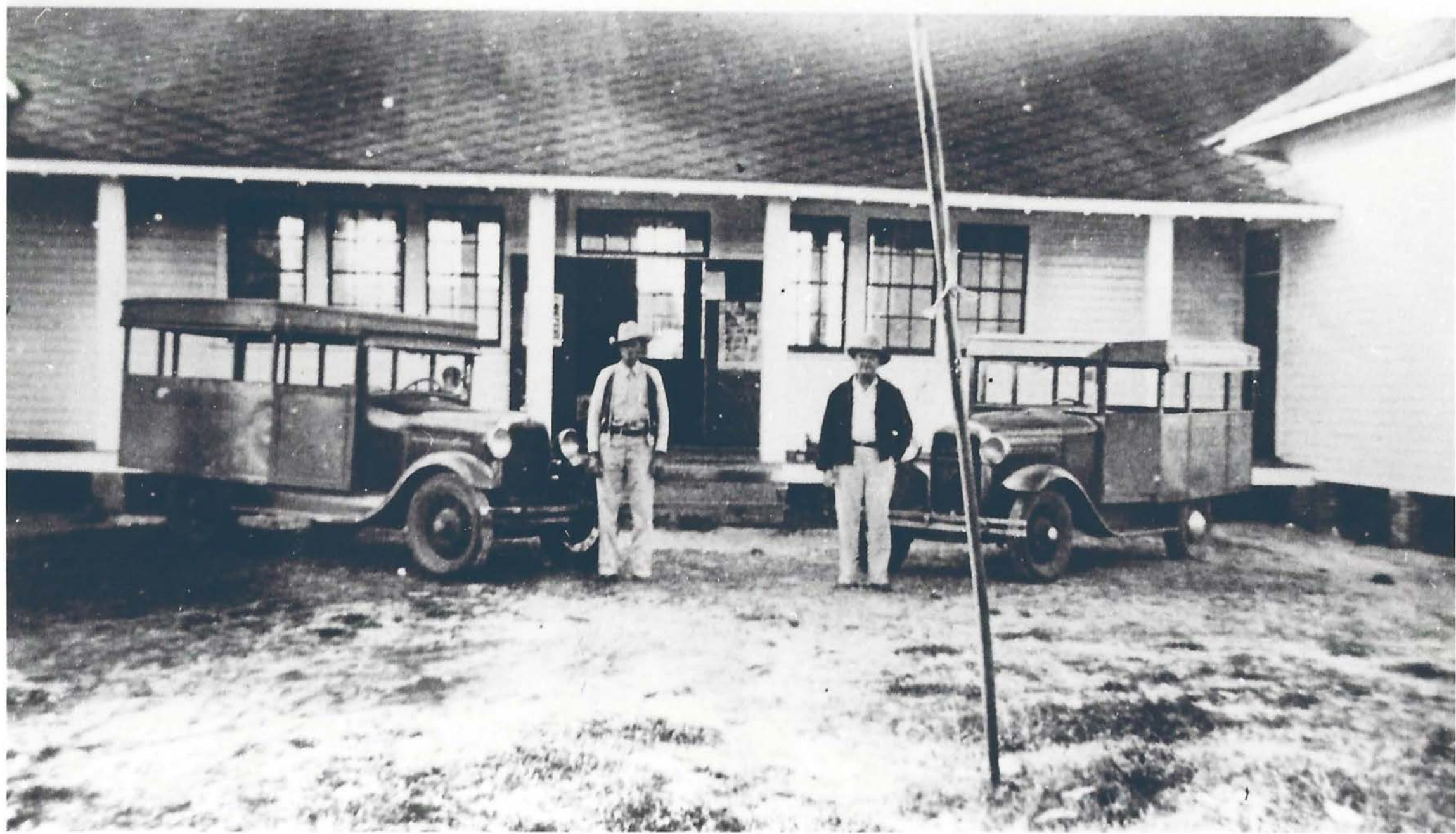


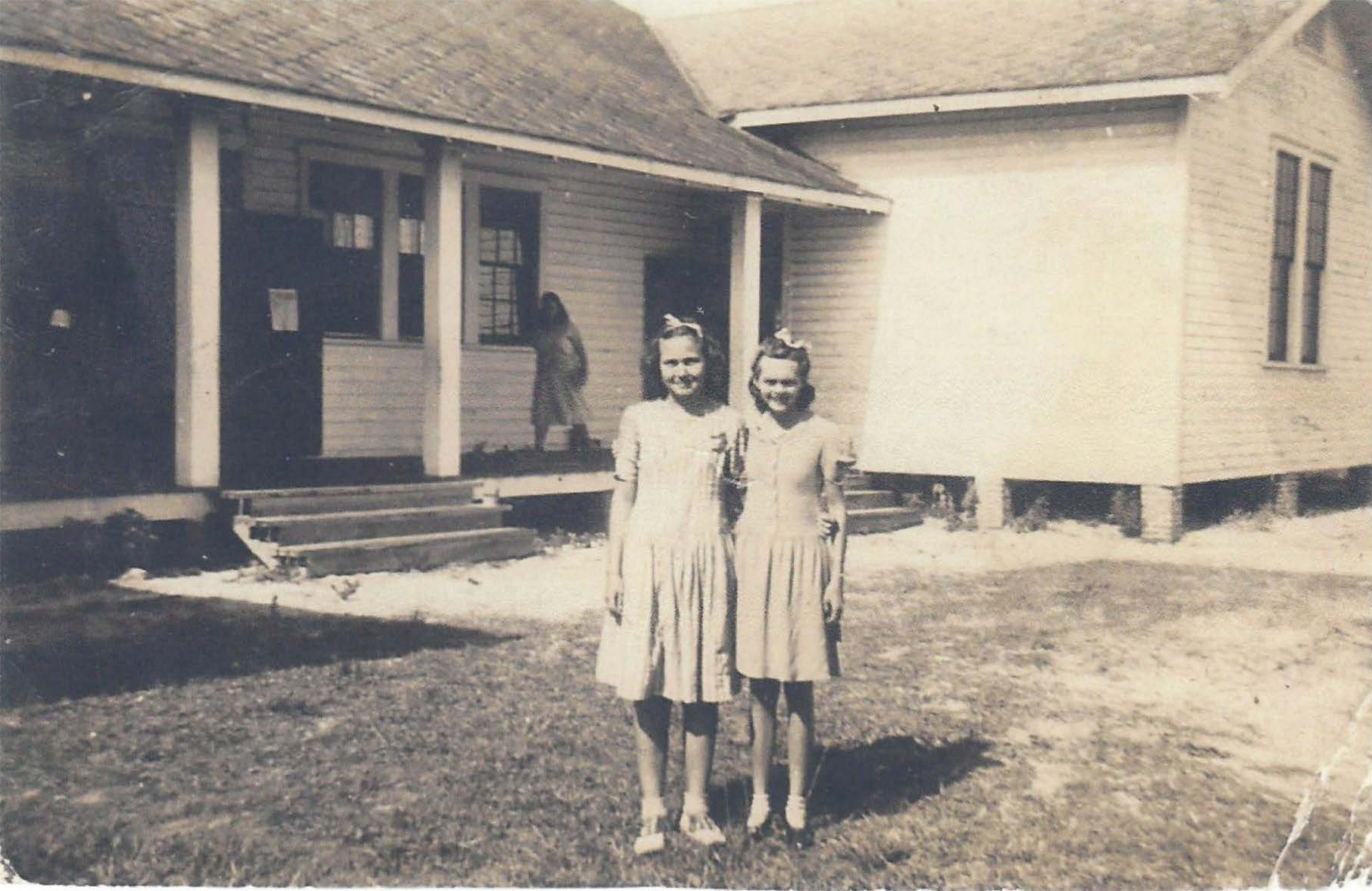


- Duette -
EDUCATION FOUNDATION













UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 6/22/2018 Date of Pending List: 7/9/2018 Date of 16th Day: 7/24/2018 Date of 45th Day: 8/6/2018 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject 7/30/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

Acosta, Ruben A.

From: Cathy Slusser <cathy.slusser@ManateeClerk.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2018 10:27 AM
To: Acosta, Ruben A.; Manatee Co--Barney Salmon
Cc: Waber, Andrew J.; Blkg; Phaedra Carter
Subject: RE: CLG Review Request for Duette School National Register Nomination

The Board of County Commission voted in favor of the application this morning. I expect Barney will be in touch with you soon about sending the approval to you so you can proceed with the May 10 meeting. Thanks for all your help. Cathy

From: Acosta, Ruben A. [mailto:Ruben.Acosta@dos.myflorida.com]
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 11:09 AM
To: Cathy Slusser; Manatee Co--Barney Salmon
Cc: Waber, Andrew J.
Subject: RE: CLG Review Request for Duette School National Register Nomination

Cathy,

We would accept a resolution from the Board of County Commissioners in lieu of the historic preservation board, unless you decide to call a special meeting of the historic preservation board in the two months between now and the May 10th National Register Review Board meeting.

The May 10th meeting is our quarterly National Register Review Board meeting. We will have nine new listings on the agenda, of which Duette will most likely be eighth on the list as I organize the agenda alphabetically by county. I make all presentations of nominations to the board in order to facilitate a shorter meeting, but we do allow the public to make statements in support or in opposition to nominations. Board members may also ask the public questions. You can attend either in person or via webinar/telephone. The length of the meeting varies—the average being 2.5 hours due to discussions, questions, and statements from the public.

Ruben

From: Cathy Slusser [mailto:cathy.slusser@ManateeClerk.com]
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 10:25 AM
To: Acosta, Ruben A. <Ruben.Acosta@dos.myflorida.com>; Manatee Co--Barney Salmon <Barney.Salmon@mymanatee.org>
Cc: Waber, Andrew J. <Andrew.Waber@DOS.MyFlorida.com>
Subject: RE: CLG Review Request for Duette School National Register Nomination

Thank you so much for all of this. I have been talking to Betty Glassburn in Duette about how they want to proceed. Because the Historic Preservation Board met last week and will not meet again until June, we are going to request that the Board of County Commission and ask them to approve it and make a resolution in support of the nomination. Please let us know if that will be acceptable.

We have the May 10 meeting on our calendars. Could you please give me more detail on that meeting? Will we make a presentation or just be there to answer questions? How long will the meeting last?

Again, thank you so much for your help. Cathy

*Cathy Slusser, Chief Historian
Historical Resources
for Angelina "Angel" Colonnese, Manatee County Clerk of Circuit Court and Comptroller*

*Manatee County Historical Records Library
1405 4th Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida 34205
(941) 741-4074*

"Pride in Service with a Vision to the Future"

From: Acosta, Ruben A. [mailto:Ruben.Acosta@dos.myflorida.com]
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2018 6:15 PM
To: Manatee Co--Barney Salmon
Cc: Waber, Andrew J.; Cathy Slusser
Subject: CLG Review Request for Duette School National Register Nomination

Barney,

Attached to this email is a formal request from our office for your review of a National Register nomination for the Duette School, located in unincorporated Manatee County. Since Manatee County is a CLG, we are required by the CLG guidelines and the CLG agreement with the county to share with you proposed National Register nominations for properties within your jurisdiction and we are required to give your historic preservation board an opportunity to provide comment and either support the nomination, suggest edits, or state that the property does not meet the National Register Criteria for Eligibility. We also count on you to share this nomination with the board of county commissioners and give them a chance to comment as well.

The attached files include our request letter and a copy of the nomination. I will send these by mail as well. Since you are somewhat new to the CLG position and this is the first Manatee county nomination we've done in a while, I'll give you a brief outline as to what this review entails: We are asking for the local preservation board's comments. Usually, the preservation staff in most of our CLGs treat this in a similar fashion to local designations—the staff reviews the nomination and places it on the agenda for the next available board meeting. At the meeting, the staff provides any staff comments they may have, and the board discusses the nomination. A motion is usually made stating one of three positions:

- that the proposed nomination meets the National Register Criteria and the board supports its listing on the National Register, or
- that the nomination appears to meet the criteria but some edits are recommended (and they state what these are), or
- that the nomination does not meet the National Register Criteria.

These procedures are often outlined in the county's preservation ordinance. If they are not, then the procedure found in the CLG guidelines is followed. The National Register criteria for evaluation are found online at https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/nrb15_2.htm. National Park Service has an entire bulletin that explains how to apply these criteria at: <https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/>.

Once the board has made its recommendation, a letter is sent to our office stating the board's decision, often with a copy of the meeting minutes. Sometimes, boards pass resolutions in favor of the nomination. In some county CLGs, the

preservation board makes its recommendation to the board of county commissioners and they pass the resolution in support of the nomination. All of these are acceptable responses.

If your preservation board is unable to meet to provide a recommendation to our office, the federal guidelines of the CLG and National Register program allow us to proceed with the nomination, as silence is implied consent to listing.

If you have any questions about this process or what is required, do not hesitate to email or call me. I'll be glad to answer any questions.

Ruben

Ruben A. Acosta

Survey and Registration Supervisor | Bureau of Historic Preservation | Division of Historical Resources | Florida Department of State | 500 South Bronough Street | Tallahassee, FL 32399 | 850.245.6364 |
Ruben.Acosta@dos.myflorida.com www.flheritage.com



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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

RICK SCOTT
Governor

KEN DETZNER
Secretary of State



June 18, 2018

Dr. Julie Ernstein, Deputy Keeper and Chief,
National Register of Historic Places
Mail Stop 7228
1849 C St, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Dr. Ernstein:

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the nomination for the **Duette School (FMSF#: 8MA804), in Manatee County**, to the National Register of Historic Places. The related materials (digital images, maps, and site plan) are included.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (850) 245-6364 if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Ruben A. Acosta
Supervisor, Survey & Registration
Bureau of Historic Preservation

RAA/raa

Enclosures