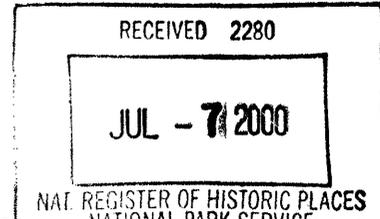


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



JCS

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in Form 10-900a 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 an 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 Irvine Grade School

other names/site number KY Historic Resource Inventory ESI-9

2. Location

street & number 228 Broadway N/A not for publication
N/A

city or town Irvine N/A vicinity

state Kentucky code KY county Estill code 065 zip code 40336

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.)

David L. Morgan
David L. Morgan, SHPO and
Executive Director, KHC 6-5-2000
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State Historic Preservation Office/Kentucky Heritage Council
State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting 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.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
Beth Boland 8/18/00

Irvine Grade School
Name of Property

Estill Co., KY
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(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**

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Education/School building

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Work-in-progress
Domestic/Multiple Dwellings

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Mission Style/Spanish Colonial Revival
Other: Commercial Craftsman

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick; addition: poured concrete
walls brick; addition: brick veneer
roof rolled tar
other decorative brickwork, decorative stone
and poured concrete inlays and tracery

Narrative Description

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

See attached continuation sheets for Section 7

Irvine Grade School
Name of Property

Estill Co., KY
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.)

- 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Industry

Period of Significance

1920 to 1939

Significant Dates

1920 and 1939

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Irvine Grade School
Name of Property

Estill Co., KY
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 1 and 1/4 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

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 Rachel Kennedy/consultant

organization N/A date 10 April, 2000

street & number 436 North M.L. King Blvd., #1 telephone 606.226.0728

city or town Lexington state KY zip code 40508

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 AU Associates

street & number 535 West Second St., Suite 104 telephone 606.233.2009

city or town Lexington state KY zip code 40508

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including 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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Narrative Description

Summary

The Irvine Elementary School, noted on the Kentucky Historic Resource Inventory as ESI-9, is a two-story Mission Style brick school building. Constructed in two early twentieth century building campaigns, the school retains most of its original architectural features and is a good example of public institutional architecture in Kentucky. Located in the town of Irvine Kentucky, the building is the sole surviving historic structure on the site. Thus, it is the only contributing historic resource. The Irvine Elementary School was abandoned by the Estill County School Board in 1998 for a newly constructed school building on the city's limits. The historic Irvine Grade School building is currently being rehabilitated for use as senior citizen apartments and a community center by AU Associates of Lexington, Kentucky.

Setting

Irvine Elementary School is located at 228 Broadway in the heart of Irvine Kentucky, population 3400 persons. Irvine is the county seat of Estill County, which is located in the easternmost portion of the Outer Bluegrass cultural region. Situated two blocks from the central courthouse and two blocks from the Kentucky River, the school building is surrounded by residential structures from the early-to-mid 1900s, including bungalows and small colonial style dwellings. The Irvine Grade School maintains a predominant position on the landscape; it is placed at the top of a gentle slope overlooking the Broadway residential neighborhood. The lot on which the School sits is approximately one and three quarters of an acre. A cafeteria/gymnasium addition for the Elementary School was constructed circa 1961 and has been purchased by the Estill County Masonic Lodge for their headquarters. This tract of land, which is not included in the nomination, measures roughly a quarter of an acre. A one-story frame classroom building was located near the northwest corner of the lot in the late 1920s and throughout the 1930s, as noted on Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. This L-shaped building was dismantled in 1939, when the Grade School received two brick wings on either side of the original building to accommodate a growing school-age population. The Irvine Grade School building is the sole remaining structure on the site and is the only contributing historic resource being nominated to the National Register.

Description

The Irvine Elementary School presents characteristics typical for public school architecture constructed in the early twentieth century. This two-story brick building is sheltered by a flat roof topped with rolled tar and is distinguished by two projecting bays on the front facade, which serve as recessed entrances to the structure. The building's weight is carried by a brick masonry foundation on the original portion of the structure and a molded concrete block foundation on the 1939 classroom additions. As noted

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Irvine Elementary School
Estill County, KY

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Narrative Description

previously, there were two building campaigns that presently define the structure's appearance. The main section of the school contains four classrooms on each floor and an auditorium. It was constructed in 1920, according to a datestone on the building's front facade. In 1939, the school was altered through the addition of two classrooms per floor and cloakrooms on either side (the north and south facades) of the original structure. Thus, a total of four classrooms were appended to the original building in 1939. The main section of the building is built of solid brick masonry, while the 1939 additions are constructed of brick veneer. The skeleton of both portions of the school are sheathed with brushed machine-made bricks; the 1920s brick color is lighter and the mortar is a soft, lime based mixture. The 1939 classroom additions, however, make use of a darker colored brick with a hard Portland Cement mortar. The older section of the building utilizes common bond course-work, while the 1939 additions appear to employ a traditional Flemish bond technique of coursing.

The primary facade of the Irvine Grade School, which faces west, is presently characterized by two projecting entry towers. These square-shaped towers are crowned by Mission style parapets with stone decorative inlays and stone coping along the parapets' edge. The towers are also distinguished by decorative craftsman style brick work. A corbelled brick belt course defines the second floor of the structure on the twin towers; the belt course is capped with stone. Between the matching towers, there is a rectangular stone plaque that reads: Irvine High School. This feature suggests that the building served as a high school at some point in the distant past, however, the building has always functioned as a grade school. No one appears to know the rationale for incorporating this element, nor are there any records that shed light on this matter. Above both main entryways to the school are two wood sash windows with geometrically patterned glazing, separated by a single wooden mullion. The towers also have two one-over-one aluminum replacement windows on both second stories. On either side of the towers there are six one-over-one aluminum replacement windows on the first and second stories that provide light for classroom spaces. All of these windows are capped by stone lintels. The sills are made of stone as well. Additionally, there is one one-over-one aluminum replacement window on each floor of both 1939 classroom appendages. These windows, which are capped with poured concrete sills and lintels, are placed on the side of the brick wings facing the main body of the building. There are no street-facing windows on the sections built in 1939. Finally, on the southernmost tower there is a stone plaque, which provides the building's construction date. The building is fenced by a low poured concrete wall. The shape of this fencing mimics the Mission style parapets on the school building.

The east facade of the building, which is one of the portions constructed in 1939, is distinguished by a central projecting entry bay. This square-shaped bay provides access to a side passage. Above the double entrance doors is a set of geometrically patterned wood sash windows. On the second story of the protruding bay, there are two double-hung aluminum replacement windows divided by a wooden mullion. There

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Irvine Elementary School
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Narrative Description

are decorative stone inlays on this facade as well. As was the case on the front facade, six

one-over-one aluminum replacement windows are mirrored on either side of the entrance bay. The same pattern is noted on both stories. All windows have poured concrete lintels and sills. What appears to be poured concrete coping stencils the crown of the wall on the east facade. A low poured concrete wall forms a visual barrier along this side of the structure. The wall rises to produce a handrail for a set of six stairs that land directly in front of the entryway. This section of the wall appears to echo the decorative parapets on the building's main facade.

The rear facade of the Irvine Grade School, which faces east, is defined by a smoother, less-expensive variety of brick than is found on the main section. The rear of the two 1939 wings are fairly plain with two one-over-one aluminum replacement windows on each story. The original building contains eighteen one-over-one aluminum replacement windows on the first floor. There are two entrances on the rear facade; both doors are on line with entryways on the front facade. On the second story, there are sixteen full size one-over-one aluminum replacement windows and six smaller one-over-one aluminum replacement sash. Windows and doorways on the older section of the school are topped with gently sloping double course brick arches. The window sills are made of stone. Windows located on the 1939 addition are capped with poured concrete lintels. The sills are poured concrete as well. A brick furnace flue, which was erected during the 1939 remodeling, assumes a central location on this less-public facade. There is an entrance to the basement immediately to the left of the furnace flue. It is possible that the basement was dug out during the 1930s renovations. This would explain the molded concrete block foundation that is scattered throughout the basement space. A parking lot is extended to the property line at Armour Street.

Lastly, the north facade of the Irvine Grade School is a mirror image of the building's south facade. Like its twin on the other side, this facade contains a central projecting square shaped bay with six one-over-one aluminum replacement windows symmetrically placed on either side. This pattern is repeated on the second story. The bay provides access to a side passage through a set of steel replacement double doors. Above the entryway, there are two geometrically patterned wooden sash windows. On the second story of the bay, there are two one-over-one aluminum replacement windows. All windows have poured concrete lintels and sills. Stone or poured concrete tracery is observable near the crest of the wall, as are decorative stone inlays. Unlike the building's south facade, there is a modern open breezeway addition. This appendage furnished all-weather access to the circa 1961 gymnasium and cafeteria.

The interior of the building follows a strict symmetrical floor plan. The front entrances lead to a set of double hallways from which a central auditorium space is accessed. Directly to the rear of both main corridors are a set of stairs and exit doors to the rear parking area. Entry from the south and north facades leads to another hallway through

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Continuation Sheet**

Irvine Elementary School
Estill County, KY

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Narrative Description

which eight classrooms can be approached. There is one set of stairs upon entry from the north and south facades. Thus, the floor plan resembles a "T-shape" on either side of the centrally located auditorium. This floor plan is repeated on the second level. A

balcony occupies the central position on the second story. All classrooms are lit with at least six windows and each room has available cloakroom space. The basement provided cafeteria space from the late 1930s to the early 1960s, when the cafeteria/gymnasium addition was built.

The interior of the Irvine School building retains most of its historic architectural fabric. All of the classrooms have their original woodwork, radiators, and solid oak flooring. Only five of the sixteen classrooms have dropped-height ceilings with acoustic tiles; the majority still possess their original plaster-on-lath finish. Additionally, the original plaster finish remains on each wall in the building. The auditorium is in a remarkable state of preservation. Iron and plywood attached theatre seating, oak flooring, and woodwork remain in this space. The theatre's ceiling has been dropped about a foot and covered with acoustic tiles. The original plaster ceiling is still intact under this 1960s alteration. During the 1960s, the building also gained carpeting and suspended ceilings in the central hallways and steel fire doors on all of the classrooms. The school's staircases were carpeted during this time as well. The staircases retain their historic balustrades and newel posts. There is currently no electricity in the building, so no inspection of the basement was made.

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Irvine Elementary School
Estill County, KY

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Statement of Significance

The Irvine Elementary School is eligible for listing in National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. According to the terms of Criterion A, the Irvine School is an excellent example of a property that reflects the growth and development of public institutions in the city of Irvine that are associated with a significant event: the extraction of oil in Estill County in the early twentieth century. From a brief windshield survey of the city, it is apparent that much of Irvine's historic architectural fabric was developed during this time. This institutional growth was due to an economic boom spurred on by the discovery of immense oil reserves in the county and the subsequent development of railway transportation to urban areas in the Bluegrass and northern Kentucky regions. The property, then, is significant within the historic context: "Oil Exploration in Estill County, 1909 to 1930." The text of this historic context appears below and has been derived nearly verbatim from the nomination form for the Riverview Hotel, listed in the National Register on 3 April, 1992.

Oil Exploration in Estill County, 1900 to 1930

Oil exploration and production in the United States grew dramatically during the first decades of the twentieth century. The 1920 census provides the following figures related to the number of oil and gas wells in the country: 1889: 37,410; 1902: 123,200; 1909: 166,320; 1919: 257,673 (Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920, 22).

In Kentucky, the number of productive wells in the 32 oil-producing counties of the eastern, south, and west central portions of the state increased from 1,109 in 1909 to 5,214 in 1919. This growth effectively made Kentucky the tenth largest oil producer in the United States. The number of wage earners associated with oil and gas production in the state grew 138%, from 18,297 persons in 1909 to 43,593 in 1919. During the period of significance, Kentucky's production of oil was surpassed only by Louisiana (464%), Oklahoma (190.9%), and Texas (184%) (Fourteenth Census of the United States, Volume XI, Mines and Quarries, 42 and 124). No national figures are available for the period from 1919 to 1929, as the oil and gas industries were not canvassed.

Oil was discovered in Estill County circa 1860 as the result of borings for coal in the vicinity of the Estill Furnace, but the reserves were thought to be limited in extent. In 1915, further explorations in the Tick Fork area five miles northeast of Irvine revealed that the oil pools were, in fact, quite large and had great economic potential. By the end of that year, there were 50 oil wells in production. Additionally, the Cumberland pipeline was laid to connect with the railroad in Irvine; the first oil was sent through the pipe in December 1915 (Eugene Shaw, *The Irvine Oil Field, Estill County, Kentucky*, 1918, 141-142). Development of the Estill County oil fields grew more rapidly with the completion of the pipeline to Campton in 1916. The area was estimated to have a potential capacity of 5,000 barrels per day (Shaw 1918, 143).

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Irvine Elementary School
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Statement of Significance

The roads from Irvine to the oil fields were described as being in poor condition. Many oil operators complained about the transportation situation and some offered to pay half the costs for macadamizing the routes (Shaw 1918, 147-149).

Jillson's Production of Eastern Kentucky Crude Oils (1921) charted oil manufactures from the Cow Creek-Fitchburg pool, the Ross Creek pool, and Wagersville-Station Camp Creek pool in Estill County on a yearly basis from 1909 to 1920. This history demonstrates that 1915 was the watershed year for production. From October 1909 to the end of 1910, 1,068 barrels were produced. No production was noted from 1911 through December 1915. In December 1915, 838 barrels were produced; Estill County's production was the lowest among the counties listed.

Production skyrocketed with the completion of the Cumberland pipeline. In 1916, 810,772 barrels were produced and Estill County was second only to Wayne County. By 1917, Estill County was credited with 2,171,501 barrels and led the state in production. Estill County remained in a leadership position in 1918 with 1,862,149. Estill produced 1,208,145 barrels in 1919, but was surpassed by Lee County which produced 3,229,589 barrels. Through September 1920, Estill produced only 77,011 barrels and was second again to Lee County.

Jillson estimated that Estill County's production would continue to decline as had the Cow Creek-Fitchburg pool. The Cow Creek pool's peak production in 1917 was 222,267 barrels. Jillson predicted future production to be: 68,000 in 1921; 60,500 in 1922; and 53,000 in 1923 (Jillson 1921, 21). In another monograph, Jillson summarizes Kentucky's dramatic increase in oil manufacturing as relying on the increased use of kerosene and its byproducts. Initial exploration and production led to a supply-side crisis in which a flooded market was revived solely due to the demands of World War I (Jillson 1919, 7). The end of the War brought about a decline in the demand for oil products.

The effects of oil exploration in Irvine and Estill County can be ascertained through a comparison of population growth garnered from United States Census records from 1880 to 1930. "Irvine" represents the Irvine magistral district and includes some of the surrounding countryside. Population figures for persons within the corporation limits of "Irvine town" were only enumerated separately in 1900 for a sum of 260 persons and for a total of 272 persons in 1910. As indicated by the asterisk, the 1920 census did not break the county down into minor civil divisions or magistral districts.

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Irvine Elementary School
Estill County, KY

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Statement of Significance

Population figures: United States Census Schedules for Estill County

Years	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930
Irvine District	1676	2916	2156	3615	*	6323
Estill County	9860	10836	11669	12273	15569	17079

The Irvine district grew 73% between 1880 and 1890 during the construction of a railline connecting it to the urban Bluegrass region of Kentucky. Without the 1920 figures, it is difficult to pinpoint the exact decade of the 74% increase in population. Estill County, however, did show a 27% population increase between 1910 and 1920. This date range coincides with the expansion of oil production in Estill County. By contrast, the population of Kentucky as a whole grew only 5.5% (Sixteenth Census of the United States, "State Populations," 173).

Incorporated in December 1811 with 37 lots arranged around a public square, Irvine had a mid-nineteenth century population of 234 people (Estill County Deed Book A, 72). The regional economy was based on the production of pig iron, which was shipped down the Kentucky River to industrial centers on the Ohio border. The iron industry began to decline in the 1870s, due to the scarcity of ore. The consumption of most of the county's timber, the financial panic of 1873, and the exorbitant taxes imposed on riverboat transportation combined to make extraction and marketing of the ore unprofitable (Mary Verhoeff, Kentucky River Navigation, 160).

Irvine's development was also initiated with the completion of the Richmond, Nicholasville, Irvine, and Beattyville Railroad in 1890. No population figures are available for Irvine alone, but the Irvine district inflated from 1,676 persons in 1880 to 2,916 persons in 1890. The developers of the railway intended to extend the line to Middlesboro, but construction was halted and the line was placed in receivership in 1891. Renamed the Louisville and Atlantic Railroad, it emerged from receivership in August 1899 under the guidance of entrepreneurs from Philadelphia, who also gained control of the Beattyville to Beattyville Junction line in 1900. The Louisville and Atlantic was then extended to Beattyville in 1902 to complete the 101 mile railway and connect it with the Lexington and Eastern Railroad. The Lexington and Eastern Railroad operated between Lexington and Beattyville via Winchester, Clay City, Slade, and Natural Bridge (Herr 1959, 118; Klein 1972, 402).

The Louisville and Nashville railroad purchased the Lexington and Atlantic line in 1909 and the Lexington and Eastern in 1910 as routes to connect the coal fields of southeastern Kentucky to the industrialized Covington-Cincinnati area. Twenty-six miles of track were included in the railway improvements undertaken by the new owners, in order to expedite the movement of coal and oil reserves. In October 1915, the division headquarters was established to service the eastern coal fields in Ravenna, a town and railyard built by the L&N adjacent to Irvine (Herr 1959, 119; Klein 1972, 404).

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Statement of Significance

Irvine Grade School

The Irvine Elementary School was established against the background of this extraordinary growth. Fueled by the development of railroad transportation and the extraction of oil reserves, Irvine was settled by throngs of workers looking for social and economic opportunity. This new working class settled in the city of Irvine and began to

raise families. Demands soon arose for adequate public educational facilities (Hallie Tipton Johnstone, History of Estill County, 1974, 57). The first public grade school in the city of Irvine, deemed the Irvine Public School, was founded in 1897. This structure was a one-story frame building with two classroom spaces (Johnstone 1974, 57). Entrance to the school was accessed through a lobby on which was superimposed a one-and-a-half story frame cupola. As noted previously, the population of Irvine continued to grow and in 1910 the Irvine Public School received a second story addition to accommodate an increasing school-age population (Johnstone 1974, 57).

In February 1920, the Irvine Public School burned. According to local historian Hallie Johnstone, there were already plans for more ample facilities when the school building was destroyed (Johnstone 1974, 57). In order to more adequately serve the citizenry of the burgeoning town, the Irvine Grade School was constructed of brick in the popular Mission style. Funds for the new structure were raised through the efforts of a group of prominent local citizens headed by attorney Robert Friend. Friend formed an advisory board, which acquired donations and selected the first governing school board. Regrettably, there are no extant school board records from this time, nor are there any extant newspapers available. Thus, we have no knowledge as to who chose the form and style of the school's architecture or how much was spent on construction of the building.

Whatever the case, it is clear from examination of the Irvine Grade School that the building was conceived of as a permanent member of the community. Very few school buildings in Estill County were built of brick or stone before the mid-twentieth century. The majority were built of frame with a distinct minority constructed of log (Estill County Court School Records, "Annual Report and Settlement of the County School Superintendent, 1920). In fact, in 1920, according to the Annual Report of the Estill County Superintendent, of the 72 educational facilities, there were no school buildings constructed of brick or stone in the county. Furthermore, most of these schools were diminutive in size, with only one teacher conducting lessons ("Annual Report and Settlement of the County School Superintendent," 1920). The Irvine Grade School, by contrast, employed at least four teachers and a principal to assist children with learning processes (Johnstone 1974, 57). In the 1930s, this situation had scarcely changed. A county-wide planning survey, undertaken by the federal government New Deal agency the Works Projects Administration, indicates that there were only two school buildings constructed of more permanent materials, like brick or stone (Paul Logsdon,

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Continuation Sheet**

Irvine Elementary School
Estill County, KY

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Statement of Significance

"Preliminary Survey of County Planning Problems in Estill County, Kentucky," 1936, WPA Project No. 265-6905). The nature of public instruction was not mentioned in this report. A 1939 survey of school consolidation across the Commonwealth of Kentucky demonstrates that there were merely two brick school buildings with four or more teachers in charge out of 64 total county schools (Commonwealth of Kentucky Department of Education, Educational Bulletin, Volume 7, No. 6, August 1939). The Irvine Grade School, then, symbolizes the necessity and desire for a durable, stylish school building to accommodate the growing population of the city of Irvine.

Shortly after the construction of the Grade School in 1920, a detached frame L-shaped annex was built near the northeast corner of the lot (Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Irvine, Kentucky, 1930). The classroom annex was not noted on the Sanborn Map documenting the city in 1923, but appeared on the 1930 map. Ruth Wilson, local resident and Irvine Grade School teacher, notes that the annex structure became necessary to house a rapidly increasing school-age population. The annex functioned as classroom space for the first through the third grades (Ruth Wilson, interview by the author, 2 April, 2000; Wanda Wilson, interview by author, 3 April, 2000). The annex building was destroyed in 1939 with the addition of two symmetrical wings to the north and south sides of the building (Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Irvine, Kentucky, 1943). Wanda Wilson, who taught at the Irvine Grade School for forty years, believes that the additions to the School were a venture of the local Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.). No records are available which might shed light on this matter. Inspection of historic interior fabric suggests that the school cafeteria was placed in the basement at the same time as the 1939 additions. This conclusion was reached because the foundation blocks visible in the basement stairwell on the older part of the building is the same as the foundation on the 1939 wings. Before the cafeteria, Ruth Wilson noted that children either brought their lunches with them in a "lunch bucket" or they returned home for lunch. Construction of the cafeteria allowed for a more orderly lunch hour and for a defined space through which to accomplish this end.

Establishment of the Irvine Grade School coincides with the development of a public institutional framework necessary to serve a burgeoning population, which resulted from the Estill County oil boom. Therefore, the Irvine Grade School meets the terms of Criterion A under the historic context, "Oil Exploration in Estill County, Kentucky, 1909 to 1930." Because the 1939 additions were built to accommodate needs for more classroom space begun in the mid-1920s, these additions are significant within this historic context, as well.

Integrity Considerations

As noted in the Narrative Description, the Irvine Grade School maintains the majority of its historic architectural fabric from the period of significance, 1920 to 1939. Thus, the school is an excellent physical representation of an historic resource associated with the oil boom in Estill County Kentucky. A brief assessment of the building's integrity will

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Continuation Sheet**

Irvine Elementary School
Estill County, KY

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address these issues.

Statement of Significance

Integrity of **location** has been preserved. The School building has never been moved; it remains in its exact place of construction. The building's **setting** has been changed to some degree. A frame house of indeterminate nature was situated directly to the west of the school. This house was removed circa 1962, when a gymnasium/cafeteria building was constructed. The cafeteria/gym building was recently purchased, along with a quarter acre of land, by the Estill County Masonic Association. The subtraction of

the gym building does not, however, detract from the school's integrity. The structure, which was detached from the main building, is not of the vintage or extraordinary significance to be considered historic. Nor was the land on which it sits associated with the school for an extended period of time. Additionally, the frame annex was destroyed which functioned as classroom space from the 1920s to 1939. But, the structure was never visible from the street and according to local residents was never intended to be permanent. The neighborhood surrounding the school building appears to be intact. The school overlooks bungalows and small frame cottages from the early-to-mid twentieth century. The school's integrity of **setting** has not been altered to render it unrecognizable on the landscape. Thus, sufficient elements of the historic setting remain with the building, so that the school is readable as a resource of the early twentieth century.

The School's integrity of **design** has been preserved. The 1962 gym addition did not disrupt the earlier floor plan as it was detached from the main building. The floor plan of the building remains as it did in 1939 with the exception of alterations in an upstairs hallway. This hall was boxed-in circa 1970 for a teacher's lounge and offices. The form, massing, and style of the building are readable and, thus, reflect the time/place of the early twentieth century. There have been no additions to the structure that have engulfed it, nor have there been any character-defining subtractions from its mass. The only subtraction of any circumstance was the destruction of the annex building, which was replaced by the 1939 additions to the structure. The Mission style is evident to the observer. The shaped parapets, decorative brick and stone ornamentation, and the rough wire-brushed brick all give credence to the building's early twentieth century construction date.

Integrity of **workmanship and materials** is apparent to the observer as well. The School retains historic woodwork, plaster ceilings, oak flooring, theatre seating, and its original brick masonry. The main disruption of the building's integrity of materials is the removal of the historic wood sash windows. These windows were replaced in the 1990s by aluminum one-over-one sash of similar appearance. The window openings are of the same size and shape as they were when constructed. Additionally, some of the interior historic fabric has been covered over or replaced. As noted in Section 7, several of the classroom spaces have suspended acoustic tile ceilings. However, the historic plaster ceilings are intact under the dropped ceilings and could easily be

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Irvine Elementary School
Estill County, KY

Section Number: 8 Page Number: **1**

Statement of Significance

restored. Also previously mentioned, the main hallways have been carpeted. Inspection of the floor indicated that the original oak floors are extant under the carpeting. Most of the changes to the building, with the exception of the removal of the wood sash windows, are reversible.

Finally, integrity of **feeling and association** remain with the building. The structure is known by residents of Irvine as the "old grade school." Most of the inhabitants spoken with recognize the association of the school building with improved public educational

facilities in the city. Integrity of feeling is evident as well. The school's massing and form, the style, the materials, the setting, and the association combine to evoke the feeling of expansive institutional growth in the city of Irvine in the early twentieth century.

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number: 9 Page: 1

Irvine Elementary School

Estill County, KY

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section Number: 9 Page: 1

Irvine Elementary School

Estill County, KY

Sources Consulted

Wilson, Ruth. Interview by author, 2 April, 2000. Irvine, KY.

Wilson, Wanda. Interview by author, 3 April, 2000. Irvine, KY.

Section Number: 10 Page: 1

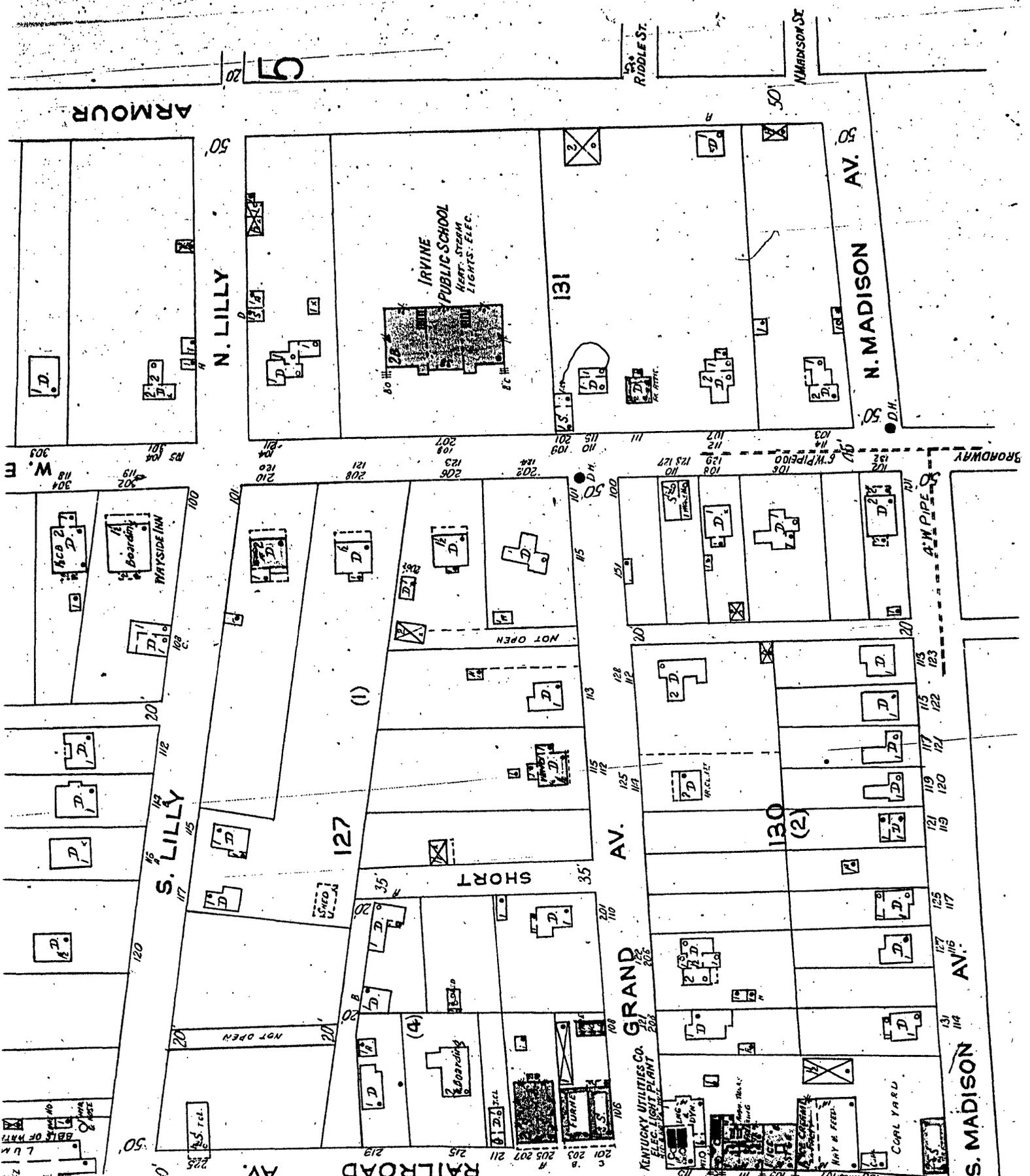
Verbal Boundary Description

The proposed National Register boundary for the Irvine Elementary School is the following described tract of land in Estill County, Kentucky on the east side of Broadway Street: Beginning at the Northwest corner of the School House fence at the pike (as it stood 7 February, 1903); thence with the fence to Armour Street thirty-seven and one-half feet to the Hundley line (now belonging to the Masonic Lodge); thence with Hundley's line to the pike (now Broadway Street in Irvine, Kentucky); thence fifty feet to the beginning, the lot being in block seven in the Fairview Addition to Irvine, Kentucky, sometimes called the Armour and Greenleaf Addition.

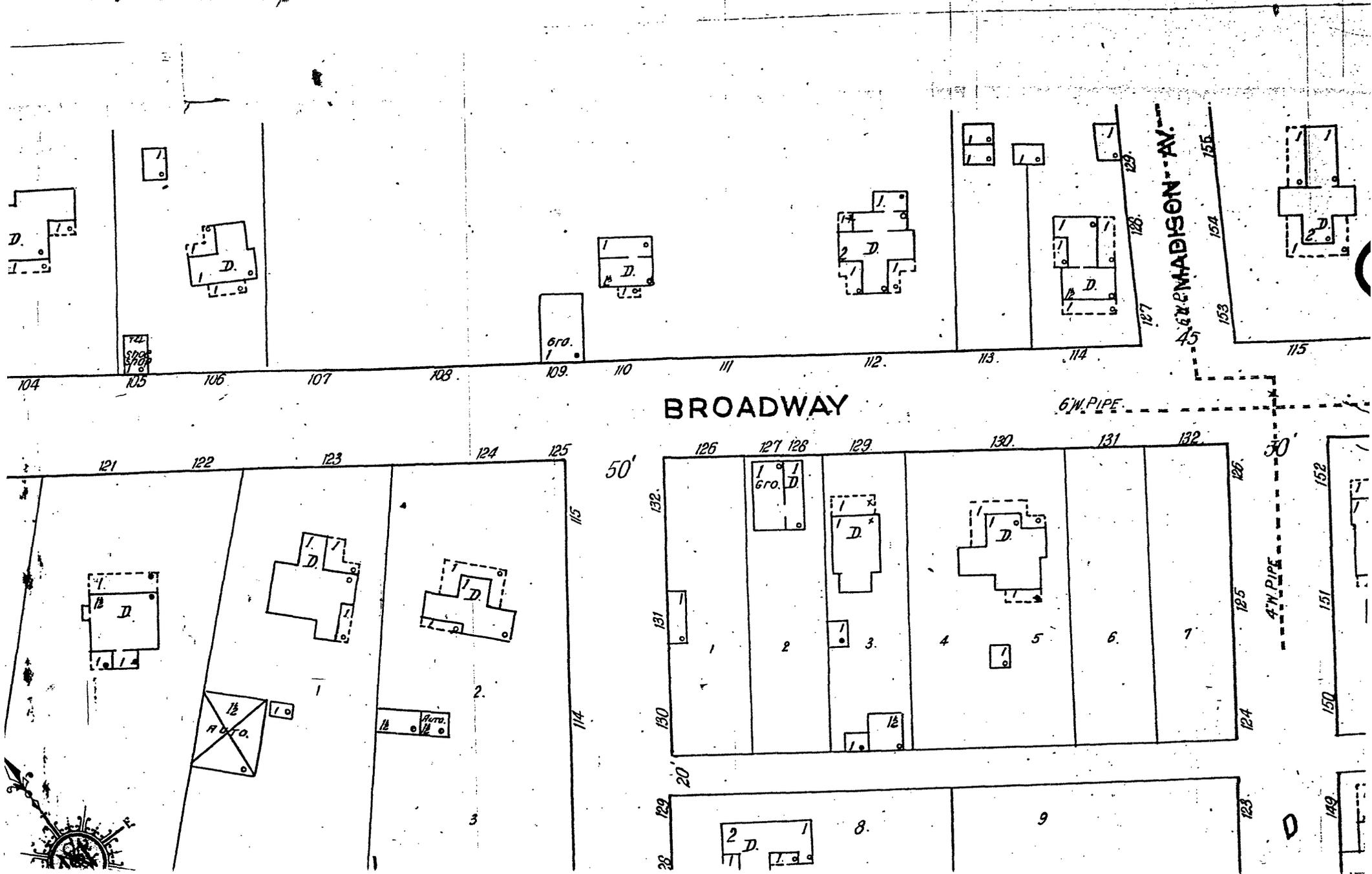
Boundary Justification

The boundary of the nominated property encompasses approximately one-and one-half acres of land historically associated with the Irvine Grade School. The site does not include the lot and circa 1962 cafeteria/gymnasium building recently purchased by the Estill County Masonic lodge, noted in the Estill County Clerk's office in Deed Book D, page 415. This land has only been associated with the Grade School for 38 years and there are no historic buildings or features that currently exist on this property. The one-and-a half acre site presently being nominated contains the parking lot, the school building, the front schoolyard, and the poured concrete walls that encircle the structure's main and south facades. All of these features were present during the period of significance and retain a high degree of historic integrity.

Irvine Grade School
Estill Co., KY
Additional Documentation
Item No 4
1923 Sanborn Map



Irvine Grade School
 Estill Co., KY
 Additional Documentation
 IKM No. 4
 1970 Sanborn Map



Irvine Graded School
Estill Co, KY
Additional Documentation
Item No. 4
1930 Sanborn Map

(4822)

18
ARMOUR

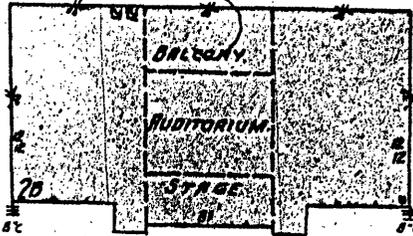
50 8

JUNE 1930
IRVINE
Ky.

CLASS ROOMS

1 ANNEX
HEAT: STEAM,
LIGHTS: ELEC.
CHEM. EXTGRS.

131



IRVINE GRADED SCHOOL
HEAT: STEAM, LIGHTS: ELEC, CHEM. EXTGRS

219
211

223
207

6" W. PIPE

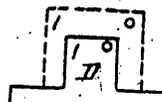
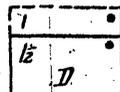
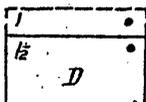
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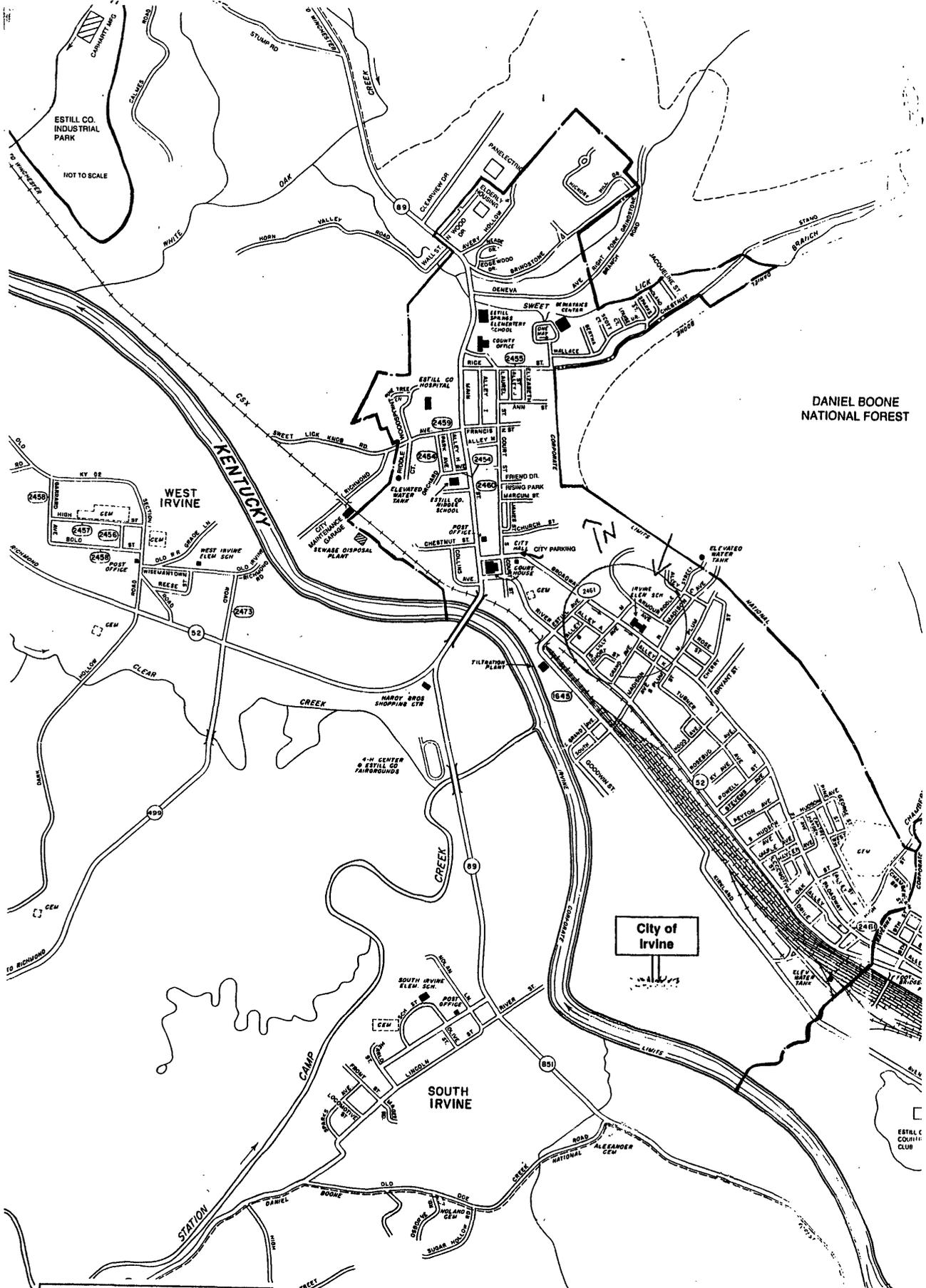
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224

202
226

D.H.

50'





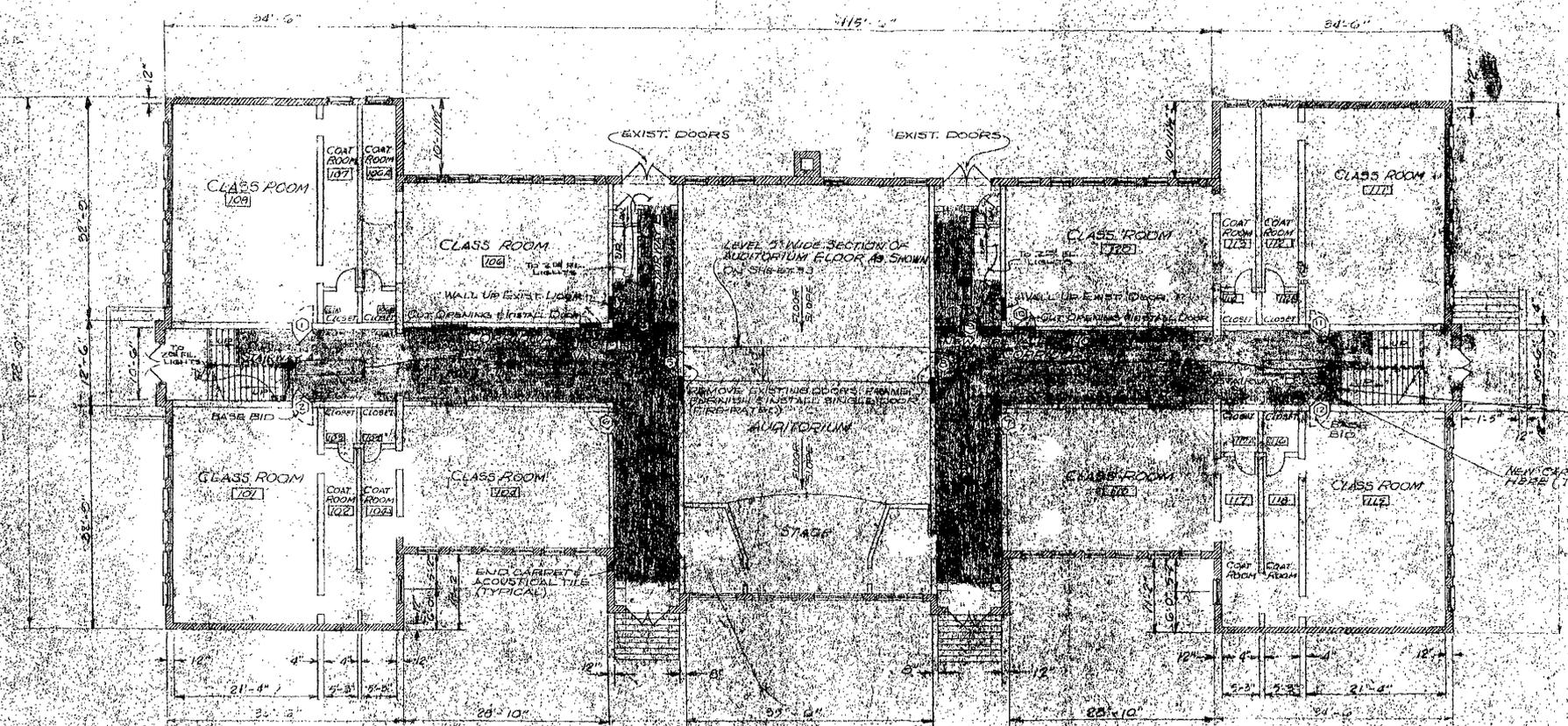
This map was updated
 by City Hall
 2/16/94
 (not to scale)
 (606) 723-2554
 FAX (606) 723-2558

Irvine Grade School
 Estill Co., KY
 Additional Documentation
 Item No 1

City of Irvine
 Population 3,330
 Class 5 Fire Rating
 Full Time
 Fire & Police Department

Estill County
 "Where the Bluegrass Kisses the Mountains"

**Home of the Mountain
 Mushroom Festival**

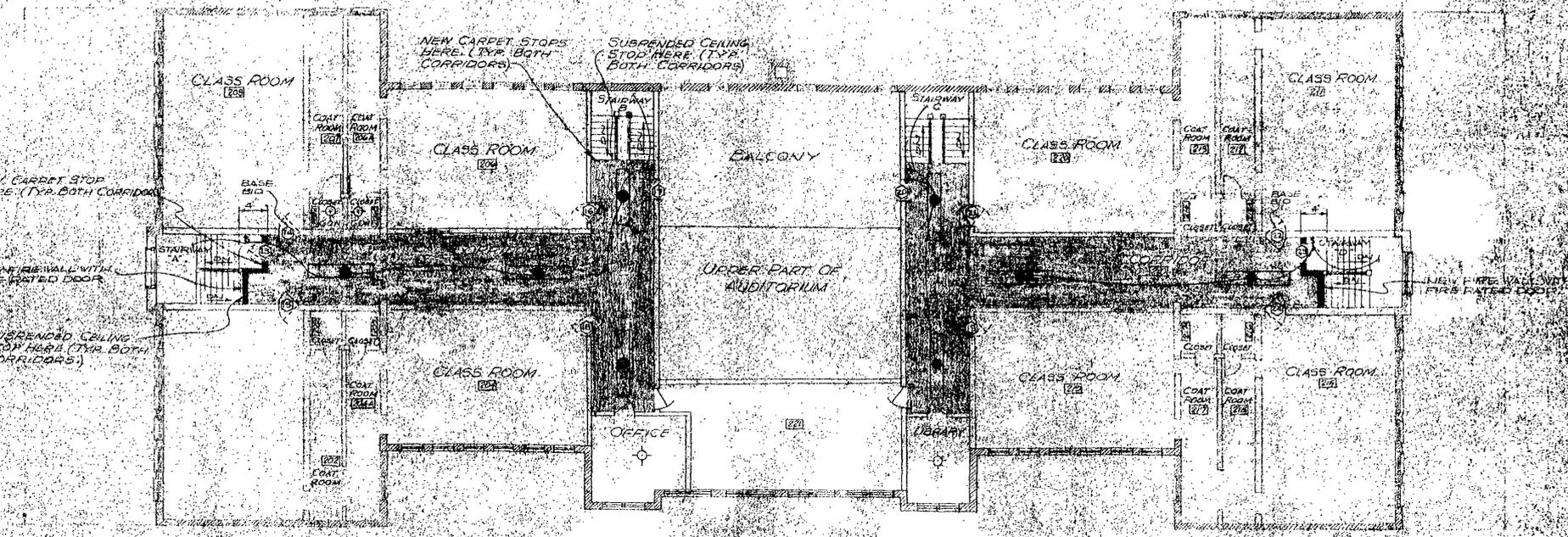


Irvine Grade School
 Estill Co., KY
 Additional Documentation
 Item No 5
 First Floor Plan

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
 SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

- LEGEND
- NEW DOOR & SWING
 - EXIST. DOOR & SWING
 - NEW LIGHT TO BE INSTALLED (ALT. #3)
 - SHADING - NEW CARPET & SUSPENDED CEILING

NO.		DESCRIPTION OF REVISION	
R. W. BOOKER AND ASSOCIATES INC. CONSULTING ENGINEERS LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY			
IRVINE GRADE SCHOOL ESTILL COUNTY, KENTUCKY			
BUILDING IMPROVEMENT 1ST FLOOR			
DESIGN DATE	DRAWN DATE	CHECKED DATE	APPROVED BY
10/10/88	10/10/88		
SCALE	JOB NUMBER	DRAWING NO. OF DRAWING	
1/8" = 1'-0"	L-738	2 - 4	



Irvine Grade School
 Estill Co., KY
 Additional Documentation
 Item No 5
 Second Floor Plan

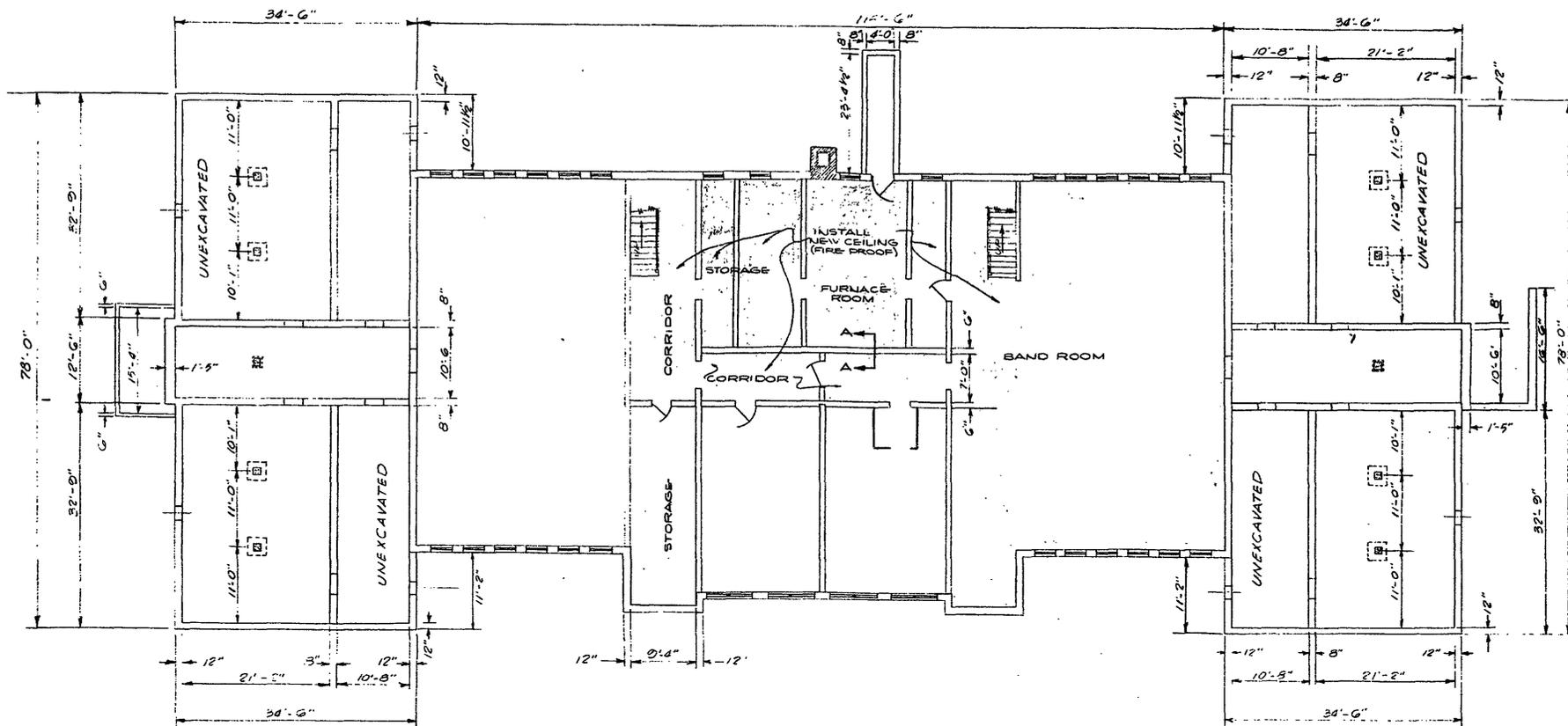
SECOND FLOOR PLAN
 SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0" CEILING HEIGHT = 12'

- LEGEND
- NEW DOOR & SWING (EXIST. DOOR & SWING)
 - NEW LIGHT TO BE INSTALLED (A.L.T. 3)
 - SHADING = NEW CARPET & SUSPENDED CEILING

R.W. BUCKER AND ASSOCIATES INC.
 CONSULTING ENGINEERS
 ARCHITECTS
 1000 W. MARKET ST. COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI
 ESTABLISHED 1947

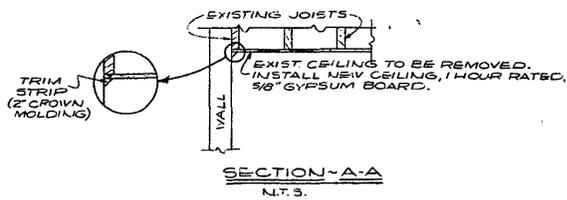
BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS
 2ND FLOOR

DATE: 11/15/78
 DRAWN BY: J. B. BUCKER
 CHECKED BY: R. W. BUCKER
 PROJECT NO. L-758



BASEMENT PLAN
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

CEILING HEIGHT 7'-10"
SHADING INDICATES NEW CEILING



Irvine Grade School
Estill Co., KY
Additional Documentation
Item No. 5
Basement Floor Plan

NO.		DESCRIPTION OF REVISION			BY
R. W. BOOKER AND ASSOCIATES INC. CONSULTING ENGINEERS LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY					
IRVINE GRADE SCHOOL ESTILL COUNTY, KENTUCKY					
BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS BASEMENT					
DESIGN	DATE	DRAWN	DATE	CHECKED	DATE
		<i>D. Miller</i>		<i>see</i>	7/2/66
SCALE	DATE	JOB NUMBER	DRAWING NO. OF DRAWINGS		
1/8" = 1'-0"	7/2/66	L-738	1	-	4