

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

NRIS Reference Number: 02001222

Date Listed: October 24, 2002

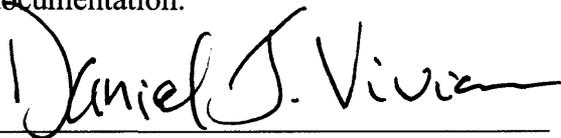
Property Name: McKinley Elementary School

County: Scott

State: Iowa

Public Schools for Iowa: Growth and Change, 1848-1966  
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
for Signature of the Keeper

October 24, 2002  
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 8: Statement of Significance

"1953" is hereby deleted as a significant date because it is not within the period of significance for the property.

The Iowa State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

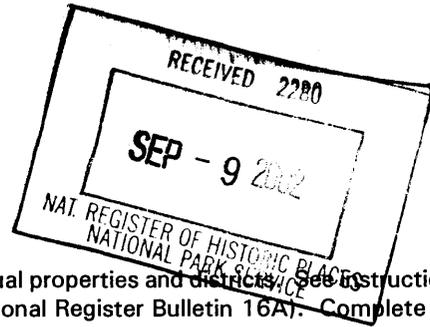
**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file**
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

AUG 27 2002

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**



1222

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 McKinley Elementary School

other names/site number

**2. Location**

street & number 1716 Kenwood

not for publication N/A

city or town Davenport

vicinity N/A

state Iowa code IA county Scott

code 163 zip code 52803

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.)

Howell G. Locke  
Signature of certifying official

August 28, 2002  
Date

**STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA**

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.

(  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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#### 4. National Park Service Certification

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I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_  
    \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.  
 determined eligible for the National Register \_\_\_\_\_  
    \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.  
 determined not eligible for the National Register \_\_\_\_\_  
  
 removed from the National Register \_\_\_\_\_  
 other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

*for Daniel J. Vivian*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

*10/24/02*

Date of Action

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#### 5. Classification

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##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private  
 public-local  
 public-State  
 public-Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- building(s)  
 district  
 site  
 structure  
 object

##### Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>  1  </u>	<u>  0  </u>	buildings
<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	sites
<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	structures
<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	objects
<u>  1  </u>	<u>  0  </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:   0  

Name of related multiple property listing (enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing):

Public Schools for Iowa: Growth and Change, 1848-1966

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Cat: EDUCATION Sub: School

\_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Cat: EDUCATION Sub: School

\_\_\_\_\_

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions):

Cat: LATE 19<sup>th</sup> AND 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS Sub: Collegiate Gothic

Materials (enter categories from instructions):

foundation Concrete

roof Asphalt

walls Brick

Stone

other

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

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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**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.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B removed from its original location
- C a birthplace or a grave
- D a cemetery
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F a commemorative property
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

**Areas of Significance** (enter categories from instructions):

Architecture  
 Social History

**Period of Significance**

1940-1952

**Significant Dates**

1940  
1953

**Significant Person** (complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Kruse & Parrish  
Tunnicliff Construction Co

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

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

Primary Location of Additional Data

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

Name of repository

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**10. Geographical Data**

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Acreage of Property: 4.13 Acres

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>15</u>	<u>705527.603</u>	<u>4601085.491</u>	3	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
2	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	4	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

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.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title Peggy Beedle, Architectural Historian

organization The Louis Berger Group, Inc.

date 7/24/02

street & number 950 50<sup>th</sup> Street

telephone 319-373-3043

city or town Marion

state Iowa

zip code 52302

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**Additional Documentation**

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(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)

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**Property Owner**

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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Davenport Community School District

street & number 1606 Brady Street #10100

telephone 563 336 5000

city or town Davenport

state Iowa

zip code 52803

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

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

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

name of property: McKinley Elementary School  
county, state: Scott County, Iowa

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### DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The McKinley Elementary School was constructed in 1939, and designed by the Chicago architectural firm of Smith & Childs, and the Davenport architectural firm of Kruse & Parrish in a Collegiate Gothic style. The Tunnick Construction Company was the general contractor. The McKinley Elementary School is located on the corner of Kenwood Avenue and Middle Road in a middle-class residential area in Davenport, Iowa. The front facade faces Kenwood, with the grounds in the back. The immediate neighborhood contains many 1940s bungalows, and some older houses. While Locust Street, a major east-west artery is but two blocks north, the area has remained primarily residential.

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The school is three stories in height, set on a basement and of steel-reinforced concrete and load-bearing brick construction. Above ground, it is finished with red brick and accented with limestone, including the front and side entrances, bay windows, belt-courses and copings. The school is in an I-shape, with the gymnasium/auditorium ell centered on the north side. . It has a flat roof. There was a contributing classroom wing constructed in 1953. There are no outbuildings.

The symmetrical, east-facing front facade is composed of the main entrance, and classrooms on either side. The end classrooms project beyond the plane of the front wall, and are finished with bay windows on the south, and separate entrances. The main entrance consists of a tripartite door, with Gothic-arched transoms, and a heavy stone block surround. A carving of a book and beehive is centered above the door. The windows of the library above are also surrounded by stone, and the roof features brick crenellations with a stone coping. The balanced fenestration of double windows is composed of four-over-four light, double-hung windows. Stone belt-courses are used as lintels and sills.

The north and south elevations are composed of secondary entrances, consisting of double doors, with sidelights and Gothic-arched transoms, and large stone block surrounds. The west facade is composed of the addition and the auditorium/gymnasium block. The McKinley Elementary School has retained most of its original exterior finishes.

The interior arrangement features a central octagonal hall, with the community room entrance in the center, flanked by the auditorium and gymnasium doors. The octagonal hall features stone wainscoting and Gothic-arched entrances to the stairs and side halls. Oak leaves, grapes and lions decorate the frieze. Carved bowls of flowers are set above the auditorium, gymnasium, office and classroom doors. The kindergarten room is on the far south end. The second floor contains the library, set over the main entrance, and upper level classrooms. The third floor contains the music, science and art rooms.

The community room is paneled, and has a tripartite window on the north. The auditorium has a semi-octagonal front, with a Gothic-arched stage opening, with a curved rear wall and balcony. The walls are plastered with a chair rail: the original seating is extant. The gymnasium is composed of ceramic tile and brick, with a balcony over the west end, which has been blocked in.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section   7   Page   2  

name of property: McKinley Elementary School  
county, state: Scott County, Iowa

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The kindergarten room contains a corner fireplace with a large rounded chimney breast. The fish pond is near the south bay window, which features a stone window seat. The interior wall of the bay window is also of stone. The balcony playroom is on the east side of the room, with child-sized cloakroom and kitchen beneath.

The typical classroom has tile floors, with the heating elements and storage under the windows. A built-in storage container is on the interior wall. The science room has a lab table in the front, with tables for the students instead of desks, and a copper-lined dry sink and storage under the windows.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 3

name of property: McKinley Elementary School  
county, state: Scott County, Iowa

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**Architect/Builder** Smith & Childs

### SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

McKinley Elementary School is locally significant under Criterion A, as an example of a PWA school, and Criterion C as an excellent example of a Collegiate Gothic school. Evaluation of the McKinley Elementary School for National Register eligibility is based upon criteria outlined in the Multiple Property Documentation Form *Public Schools for Iowa: Growth and Change, 1848-1966* (Beedle and Deiber 2002), under the property type "Elementary School." The school is typical of the modern elementary school with large kindergarten rooms and facilities for community use. Funding from the PWA helped many communities to construct public buildings during the depression. The school has retained its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

### RESOURCE HISTORY AND HISTORIC CONTEXT

In the 1920s the Davenport Board of Education surveyed the eighteen elementary schools regarding modern facilities, projected city growth, and the direction of this growth. They projected that the number of elementary school students would rise by almost three thousand between 1930 and 1950, however no building plan was developed based on these statistics. By 1936, the elementary population had risen to the 1950 figure, and new buildings were needed. Twelve of the old elementary schools were to be abandoned, and six new ones constructed: Monroe Elementary, Lincoln School, Madison Elementary, Washington Elementary, Jefferson Elementary, and McKinley Elementary. This was a PWA project; the federal government contributed 45% of the 2.5 million dollars needed to fund the project.

The Chicago architectural firm of Smith & Childs designed the floorplans, which were similar for all six schools. In an effort to increase employment, local architectural firms were hired to design the stylistic features. The elementary buildings, which contained specialized classrooms, were "designed to accomodate a new instructional plan. The buildings contained central libraries, special science, art and vocal music rooms as well as gymnasiums and auditoriums" (Davenport Democrat 30 June 1938 page 2).

In an article written by the Superintendent of Schools, Irwin H. Schmitt and Architect Frank A. Childs, the community aspect of the schools was emphasized. Each school had a community room, or a "social and recreational unit for the citizenry." Besides this room, the gymnasium, auditorium, music, science and art rooms, which were located in the center of the school: "These compactly grouped activity units may be completely separated from the classroom areas for use at night as a social center" (Schmitt and Childs 1941:22).

Ground was broken in 1939. McKinley was constructed on a new site chosen to provide "better distribution of buildings and larger play areas" (Schmitt and Childs 1941:20). The schools opened in the fall of 1940. Teachers were positive in their assessment of the schools. Kindergarten rooms, located at the ends of the buildings, had separate entrances and outdoor play areas. The three upper grades spent half of the day in the homeroom, and half in the special rooms, as an introduction to the junior/senior high school regimen. Students at lunch went home or ate in the balcony overlooking the gymnasium. As the student population grew, the gymnasium was used as a lunch room.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section   8   Page   4  

name of property: McKinley Elementary School  
county, state: Scott County, Iowa

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After the end of World War II, there was a population increase in Davenport. In 1953, besides second-story classrooms on the projecting ends of the school, a classroom addition, with a cafeteria in the lower level, was constructed on the northwest corner of McKinley Elementary. It was constructed of the same brick, with stone belt-courses similar to the original school. Another elementary school, Hoover, was constructed in 1955 to relieve some of the congestion. Enrollment continued to rise through the 1950s and 1960s. The 1970s began a decline that is still going today.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section   9   Page   5  

name of property: McKinley Elementary School  
county, state: Scott County, Iowa

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baker, Mary A.

1978 *A History of Davenport Schools*. Davenport Community School District, Davenport, Iowa.

Davenport Community School District

1980 *A History of Washington School*. Davenport Community School District, Davenport, Iowa.

Davenport Democrat

1938 "12 Elementary Schools Abandoned in Favor of Six New" *Davenport Democrat*. June 30, 1938, page 2.

Schmitt, Irvin H. and Frank A. Childs

1941 "Six Schools With Social Centers" *Nation's Schools* pp 20-22 Volume 27 February 1941.

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### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

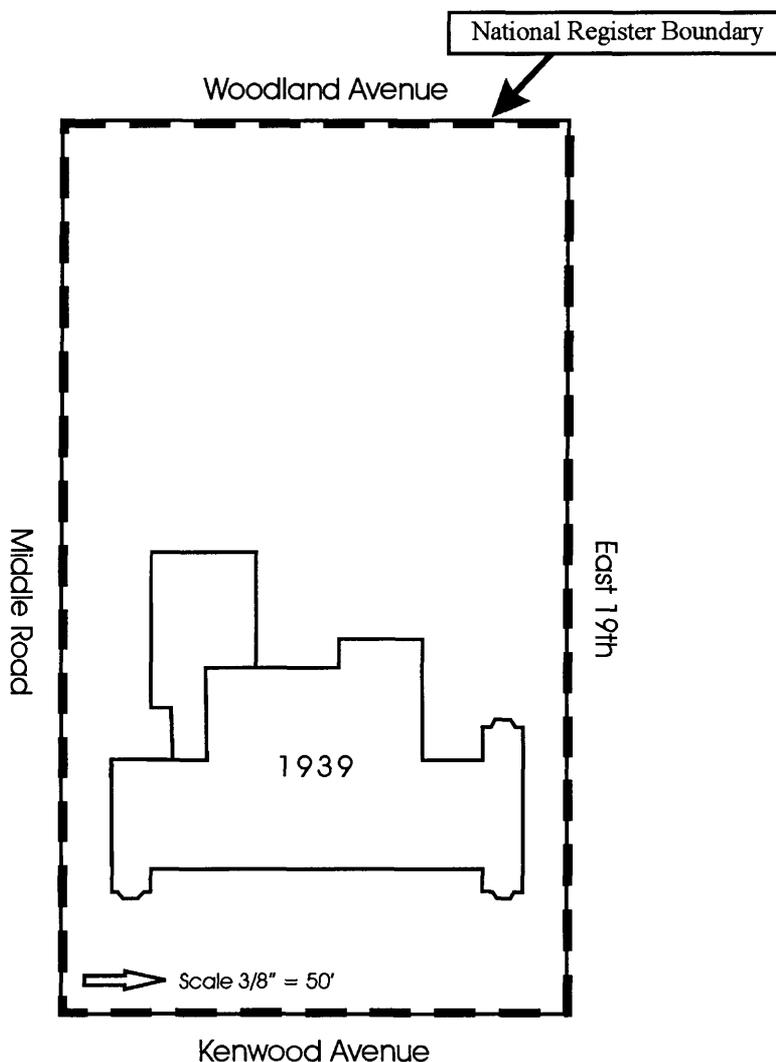
Section 10 Page 6

name of property: McKinley Elementary School  
county, state: Scott County, Iowa

#### GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

##### Verbal Boundary Description

The proposed boundary for the McKinley Elementary School includes the main block of the school and the open space around it. The boundary consists of Kenwood Avenue to the east, Middle Road to the south, 19<sup>th</sup> Street to the north, and the alley between Kenwood and Woodland Avenue on the west.



##### Boundary Justification

The proposed boundary includes the school and its associated open space which contribute to the setting of the architecturally significant resource. This includes all the historic features of the property by does not exceed the area of significance.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section Photos Page 7 name of property: McKinley Elementary School  
county, state: Scott County, Iowa

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The following items apply to all photographs:

Property Name: McKinley Elementary School

Location: Davenport, Scott County, Iowa

Photographer: Peggy Beedle

Date of Photographs: 2002

Location of Negatives: The State Historical Society of Iowa, Community Programs Bureau, 600 E. Locust, Des Moines, Iowa.

Individual Photograph Identifications:

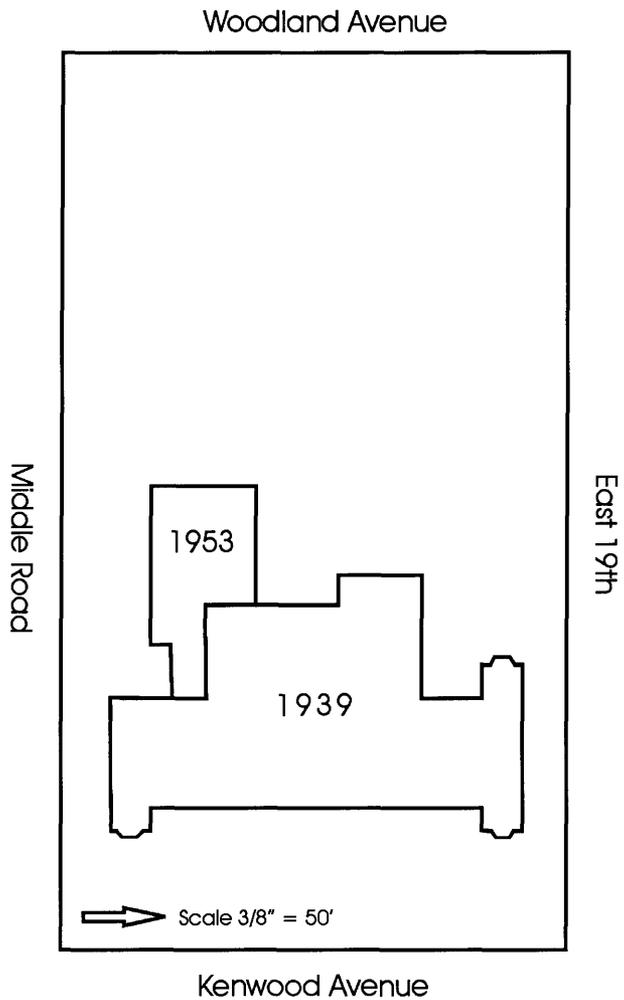
1. South and east elevations, facing northwest
2. East elevation, facing southwest
3. Addition, facing northeast
4. West elevation and grounds, facing east
5. East elevation, main entrance, facing west East elevation, facing west
6. Kindergarten bay window, facing west
7. Central hall, facing northwest
8. Auditorium, facing southwest
9. Kindergarten, fireplace, facing southwest
10. Kindergarten, facing northeast
11. Classroom, facing northwest
12. Science room, facing southeast
13. West elevation, facing east

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section Floor Plans Page 8

name of property: **McKinley Elementary School**  
county, state: **Scott County, Iowa**



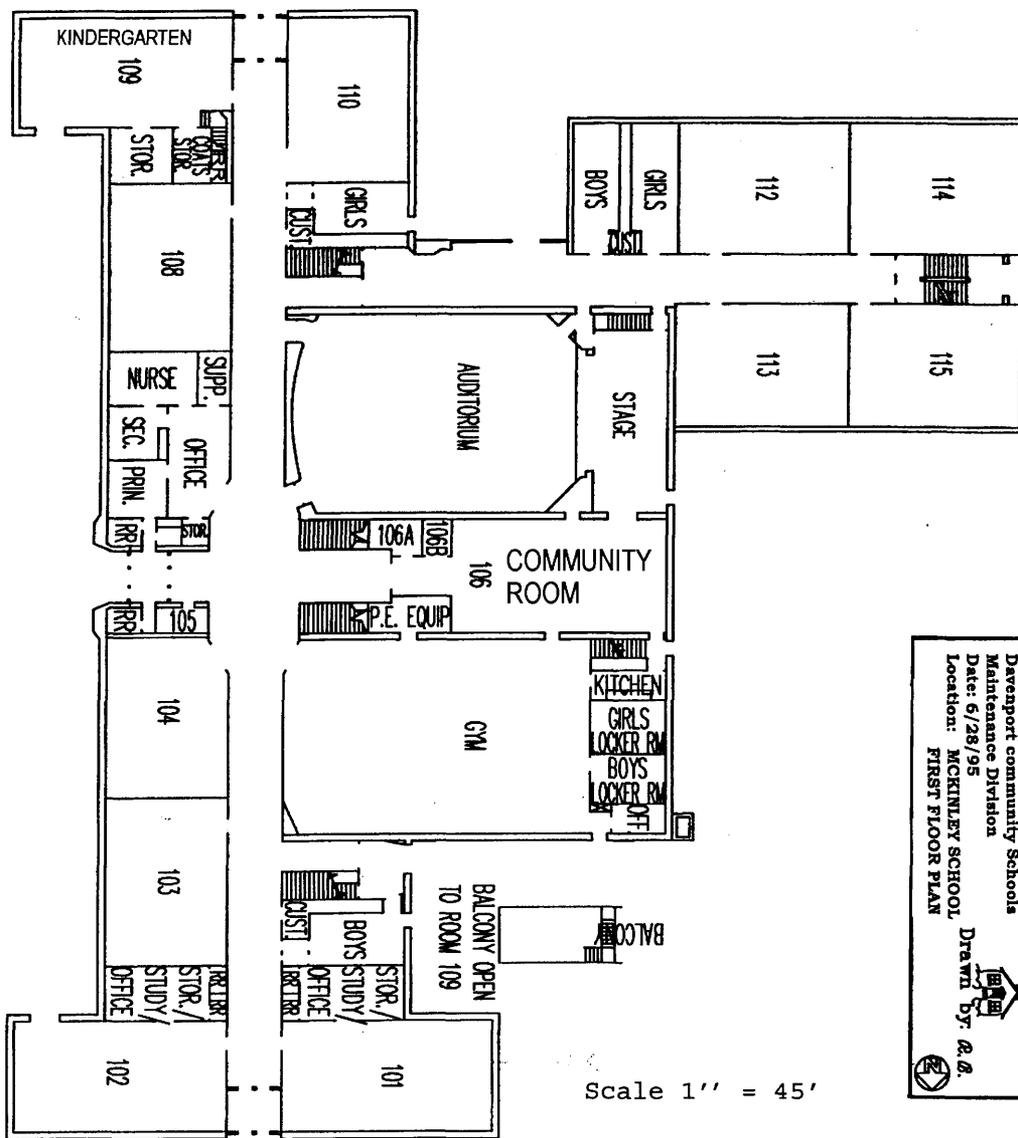
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Floor Plans Page 9

name of property:  
county, state:

McKinley Elementary School  
Scott County, Iowa



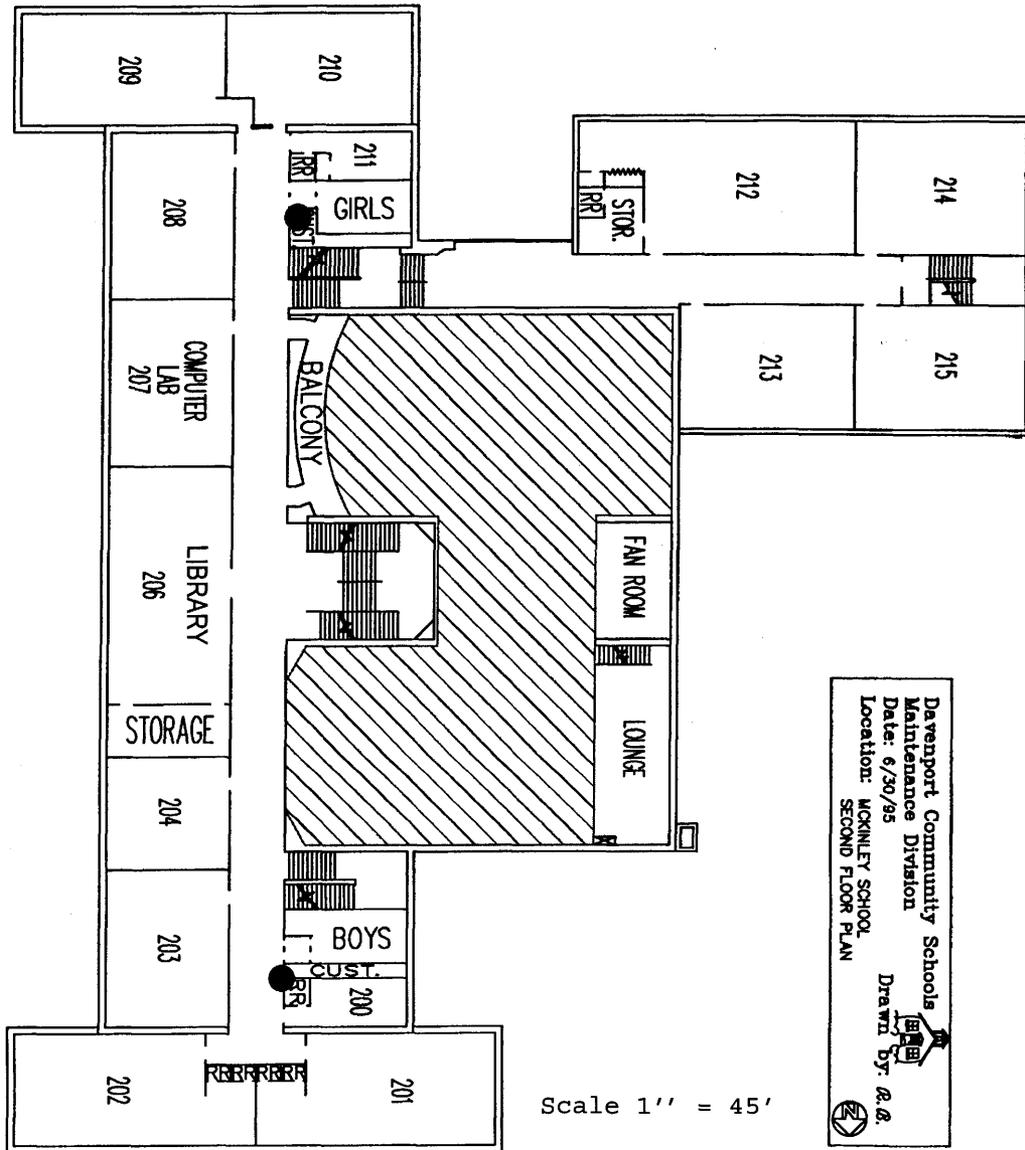
Davenport Community Schools  
Maintenance Division  
Date: 6/28/95  
Location: MCKINLEY SCHOOL  
FIRST FLOOR PLAN  
Drawn by: A. G.

Main Office, Davenport Community School District, Davenport, Iowa.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Floor Plans Page 10 name of property: **McKinley Elementary School**  
county, state: **Scott County, Iowa**



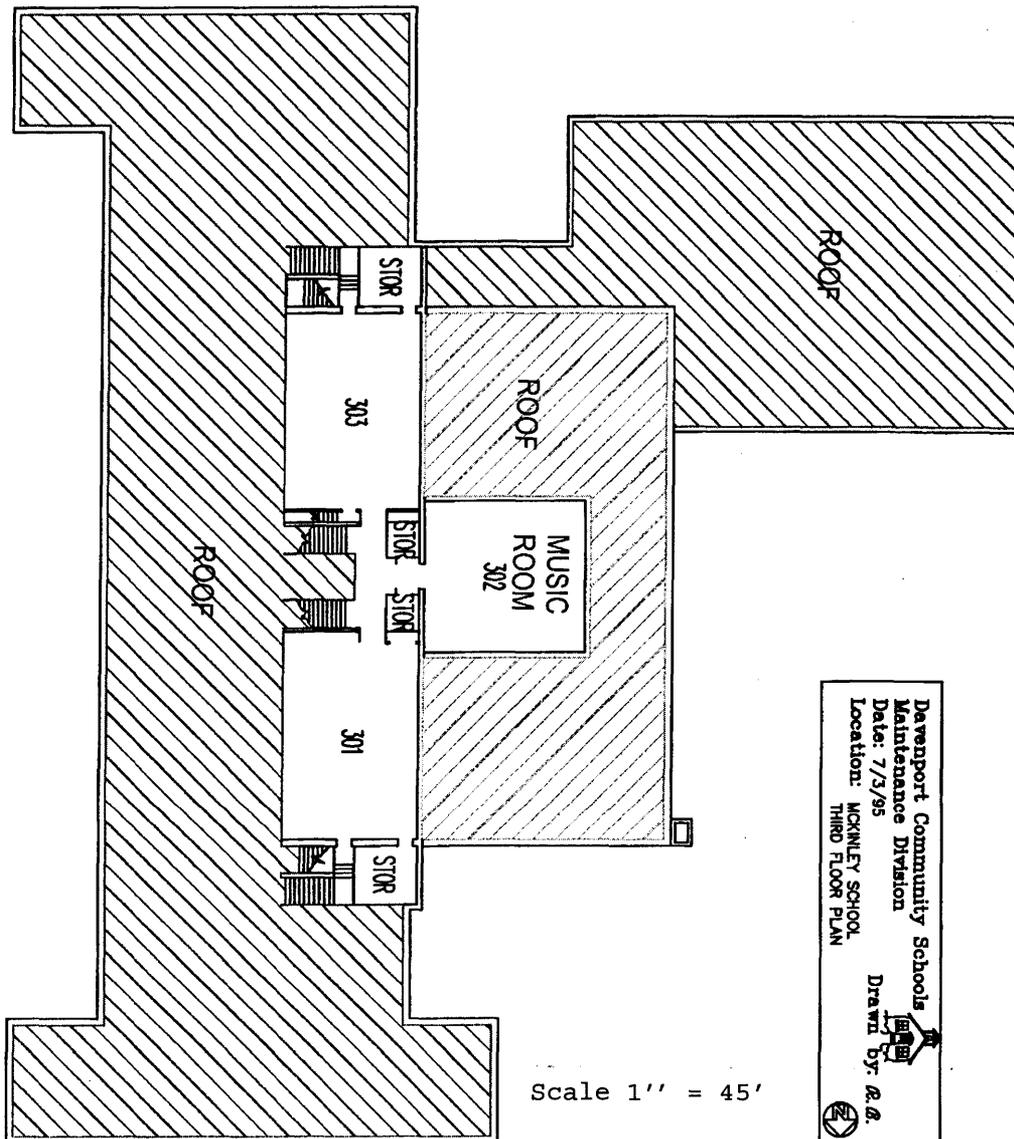
Davenport Community Schools  
 Maintenance Division  
 Date: 6/30/95  
 Location: MCKINLEY SCHOOL  
 SECOND FLOOR PLAN  
 Drawn by: A.G.  


Main Office, Davenport Community School District, Davenport, Iowa.

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### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Floor Plans Page 11 name of property: **McKinley Elementary School**  
county, state: **Scott County, Iowa**



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