

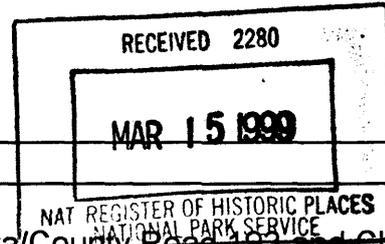
## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Woodville Baptist Church and School

other names/site number n/a



### 2. Location

street & number at intersection of East Peachtree Ave./Augusta County Road 193 and Chestnut (School) St.

city, town Woodville

vicinity of n/a

county Greene

code GA 133

state Georgia code GA zip code 30642 (Greensboro)

(n/a) not for publication

### 3. Classification

#### Ownership of Property:

#### Category of Property:

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-federal

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

#### Number of Resources within Property:

#### Contributing

#### Noncontributing

buildings	3	0
sites	1	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	4	0

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: n/a

Name of previous listing: n/a

Name of related multiple property listing: n/a

**4. State/Federal Agency Certification**

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

Richard Cox  
Signature of certifying official

3-9-99  
Date

W. Ray Luce, Interim Director, Historic Preservation Division  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency or bureau

**5. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

Elson H. Beall 4-15-99

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

for

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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## 6. Function or Use

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### Historic Functions:

RELIGION: Religious facility

EDUCATION: School

### Current Functions:

RELIGION: Religious facility

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## 7. Description

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### Architectural Classification:

LATE 19TH and 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Colonial Revival ---(school)

/Late Gothic Revival--- (church)

### Materials:

<b>foundation</b>	stone
<b>walls</b>	brick
<b>roof</b>	asphalt
<b>other</b>	n/a

### Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Woodville Baptist Church and School consists of an adjacent, related church and school, a cemetery, and a pastorium in the small community of Woodville, Georgia. The property is located along a major road east of the intersection of two roads and the railroad that are the focal point of the town of Woodville.

Constructed in 1913, the Woodville Baptist Church is a historic structure with Gothic Revival decorative elements. It is constructed of red brick with wood trim and supported by a stone foundation. The gabled roof is clad in red patterned shingles. Gothic arch-shaped, stained-glass windows are located on three sides of the building. These pointed arched windows all have decorative brickwork around the upper half of the window openings. The windows at the back of the building are two-over-two, double-hung sash windows. The wooden double doors are five paneled, and painted white to match the trimwork. Two entrance towers of equal heights are also located on the front of the church building.

The interior of the church is comprised primarily of a rectangular sanctuary space, with several small rooms lined up along the front and rear of the building. The front rooms are accessed by two rolling doors (overhead doors) similar to the Akron Plan in other church buildings. Interior details of the church include white plaster walls with beaded wainscoting and the ceiling with exposed wooden

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 7--Description

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beams and beaded board. Rows of original, wooden pews fill the sanctuary. On the right side of the altar is a baptismal pool with a new stained glass window that opens and leads into a dressing room from which the baptismal candidate approaches the pool. Nine original lights hang from the ceiling of the sanctuary.

Originally constructed as the Woodville Baptist Church in 1886, the Woodville School (in educational use since 1913) was of frame construction, later encased with red brick ca. 1935, in a running bond pattern, supported by a continuous brick foundation. In 1913, a two-story addition was added to the front of the original building, containing four classrooms, a principal's office, and entrance hall. These rooms were also bricked over ca. 1935. The columns, pediment, and window trim are wooden, with the columns resting on a concrete or stucco base. The roof and the cupola are covered with standing seam metal. The Colonial Revival-style building is embellished by a two-story wooden portico with four wooden Tuscan columns. The infill of the pediment is decorated with a simulated lunette window. The front entrance has a semi-elliptical fanlight (now covered) over double doors, each with eight lights in the door itself. The windows are six-over-six, double-hung sash windows. At the center of the front part of the building is a wooden cupola that serves as a bell tower.

The school has a rectangular center (which was originally a church) serving as the auditorium, with a stage and a balcony. The auditorium is surrounded by a ring of classrooms. The classrooms were added to the east and west side of the building, along with a wide hallway to the rear, in 1933 and 1935 providing more classroom space to the school. These additions exhibit a more modern design with large windows and modest detailing. The wings were added in brick. At the same time, the entire front of the original building was bricked in.

The interior walls of the school are plaster with beaded wainscoting. The floors and ceilings are wood. Several classrooms on the second floor of the front part of the school retain evidence of pot-bellied stoves being used. Several rooms on the main level retain their original desks, blackboards, built-in bookcases, and wainscoting. The stage wall of the auditorium is wood paneled with a movable stage set/backdrop. Original auditorium seats and a 1931 hand-painted stage curtain remain. The original stage lights are in the floor of the stage. Lining the hallways of the school building are rows of original wooden lockers. They are of the open type for coats, with a small boxed area on top with a screened opening for keeping lunches. An unusual feature are the interior windows between the halls and the auditorium; these are the original exterior windows of the former church building before it was converted to a school and later flanked by the added classrooms.

Changes to the school have been minimal. There is modern playground equipment in the front yard of the school. The former principal's office has had two bathrooms added. In 1988, the front two rooms on the first floor, in the front part of the school, were redecorated for use as a community

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 7--Description

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center. Since the photographs were taken in September, 1997, the columns were restored in 1998, the porch repoured, and the entrance interior stairs were opened back up, recreating a grand double-stair access to the balcony and the school rooms on the second level.

The pastorium, a one-story, frame house, was originally built as a vocational arts building in 1938. The building has been covered with synthetic siding and altered on the interior as it went through successive uses as a lunchroom and a residence. It is now used as the pastorium.

There are several modern concrete picnic tables on the church property between the pastorium and the cemetery.

A cemetery is located approximately 400 yards to the rear of the church. It is laid out in a rectilinear form with a gridiron of dirt and grass "streets" defining the burial plots. Many of the burial plots are outlined with granite curbing. Monuments range from simple headstones to modestly decorated slabs and obelisks. The cemetery is open with minimal landscaping. It is still used as the town's cemetery.

The entire site is located in rural Greene County, but within the circular city limits of Woodville, a railroad and crossroads community.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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

nationally       statewide       locally

**Applicable National Register Criteria:**

A       B       C       D

**Criteria Considerations (Exceptions):**  N/A

A    B    C    D    E    F    G

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

ARCHITECTURE  
EDUCATION  
POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

**Period of Significance:**

1913-1949

**Significant Dates:**

1913-(construction of the church, conversion of former church to school)  
1933, 1935-(addition of classrooms to school)

**Significant Person(s):**

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation:**

N/A

**Architect(s)/Builder(s):**

N/A

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

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#### **Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)**

In the small crossroads community of Woodville, the Woodville Baptist Church and School are historic community landmark buildings, historically related, representing two of the most important local institutions, religion and education.

Located in the rural community of Woodville, the Woodville Baptist Church and School are significant in terms of architecture as good and intact examples of religious and educational buildings constructed in rural Georgia in the late 19th century and early 20th century. The Woodville Baptist Church is a good example of a red-brick church building with Gothic Revival decorative elements. Among the noteworthy details of the church are the arched-stained glass windows, the two entrance towers, and decorative brickwork. Interior details of the church include the original wooden pews and exposed wooden beams and beaded board ceiling. The auxiliary rooms off the sanctuary on the front facade are accessed through original overhead/roll-up doors, in a modified version of the Akron Plan. The Woodville School possesses Colonial Revival decorative detailing including a two-story portico with pediment and four Tuscan columns and a cupola. Interior details include plaster walls with wainscoting, a large auditorium with original seats and stage, and rows of original lockers. The side additions of the school are also significant for their contrasting architectural style reflecting more modern school design characteristics such as one-story height, large windows, and modest detailing. The bricking in of the older part of the school to match the new wings gave the entire school a unified appearance. The remaining auditorium curtain with commemorative panels representing local businesses, hung in 1931, is a rare surviving decorative detail as is the surviving original stage set/backdrop which has an outdoor setting.

The Woodville School is significant in education for its continuous educational use from 1913 to 1957. Originally constructed as the Woodville Baptist Church, the Woodville School was converted to educational use for white students upon the completion of a new church building in 1913. Grades one through ten were originally taught at the school, with the eleventh grade added in 1932. In 1933 and 1935, classrooms were added to the sides and a hallway to the rear of the original building to accommodate the increasing number of students. In the 1940s, enrollment decreased, with the last high school class graduating in 1943. Elementary grades continued to be taught through 1957 when the Woodville School was consolidated with a school in Union Point, another Greene County town. The school served an important region of the county for over forty years.

Built as a vocational building associated with the Woodville School and financed through the Farm Security Administration in 1938, and built with WPA labor, the current pastorium is significant in education and politics and government because it represents the federal government's efforts to provide employment and assist communities during the Great Depression of the 1930s as a part of

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

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President Franklin D. Roosevelt's economic stimulus programs. It is the only local depression-era public works project in this community. It also represents a significant expansion of the local educational curriculum to include "new" vocational arts programs. The building later served as the school lunchroom in the 1940s, as a place for adult classes from 1941-1957, and since 1961 as a pastorium.

#### **National Register Criteria**

This property meets National Register Criterion A because as a combined site for a church, school, and cemetery, the property was the center for several major activities in a small town, part of the broad patterns of history in that community: it was the only Baptist Church, one of the state's two major faiths since the 1850s, the only school for white students for over forty years, and the town's only cemetery, then and now.

The property meets National Register Criterion C because the church and school each reflect good construction techniques and use of original materials. The church retains original plan, form and massing, original beaded-board ceiling and stained-glass windows. The school retains the original auditorium with its rare stage curtain and backdrop, and balcony, as well as the original desks, blackboards, wainscoting, and bookcases for several school rooms. The school's growth and adaptation from an earlier church, to a high school, shows the adaptability of a local town in using its architectural resources, combined with limited finances, to take what it had and make the best of it, ending up with a fairly large and serviceable school that is truly a community landmark building in this small town.

#### **Criteria Considerations (if applicable)**

The property meets Criterion Consideration A because it is a religious property deriving primary significance from architectural importance. The church retains its Gothic Revival design, original workmanship, wood materials, seating, and an impressive collection of stained glass.

#### **Period of significance (justification)**

1913-1949 was chosen as the period of significance because that is the date of the building of the current church and the transformation of the original church into a school with the addition of the front rooms. The two buildings continued to serve in those capacities throughout the historic period.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

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#### **Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)**

There are three contributing buildings: the church, the school, and the parsonage (formerly the vocational arts building). There is one contributing site, the cemetery. The total is four contributing resources.

#### **Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)**

The Woodville Baptist Church was organized in 1886, with 69 charter members, an offshoot of the Bairdstown Baptist Church, located in Bairdstown, just north of Woodville, near the county line with Oglethorpe County. Currently the auditorium for the Woodville School, the first building was constructed also in 1886, with a balloon frame and clapboard exterior. The original pastor of the church was Rev. J.F. Edens, who remained as pastor until 1894. In 1896, a prominent church and community member, W.P. McWhorter, donated to the church for use as a cemetery a plot of land that was already the family cemetery for his ancestors. The cemetery was expanded in 1921 and again in 1990. It is still in use today as the town cemetery.

Woodville's church membership continued to grow, reaching a total of 156 members by 1907. Many of the church members were baptized at the nearby Reynolds pond. With such an increase in membership, the congregation began to outgrow its building, which was also in need of repair. A church committee was formed to coordinate the building of a new church, with construction beginning on June 16, 1912. By December 1912, the current building of the Woodville Baptist Church was erected on its present site, the southeast corner of Peachtree and Chesnut Streets. Much of the construction funds were provided by member W. P. McWhorter. In early 1913, the congregation held its first services in the new building. The church has remained active ever since, although the congregation has dwindled in recent years.

The original wood church building was renovated for use as the Woodville School. The Woodville School was in continuous educational use from 1913 to 1957. Grades one through ten were originally taught as the school, with the eleventh grade being added in 1932. In 1913, a two-story wooden addition was added to the front of the original building, containing four classrooms, library, principal's office, and entrance hall. The front columns and the cupola were also added at this time. In 1933 and 1935, classrooms were added to the sides and a wide hallway to the rear of the building to accommodate the growing number of students. However, the last high school class graduated in 1940. Afterwards, the high school-age students were bused to Union Point. Elementary grades continued to be taught through 1957 when the Woodville School was consolidated with the neighboring school in Union Point. Following the consolidation with Union Point, the Woodville School building became a community center for Woodville, a function which continues today.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

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During the early part of the 1900s, the church acquired a the first pastorium (now gone) for the use of the pastor and his family. The original pastorium was destroyed by fire in December 1928. In 1929, the congregation purchased a house from member Annie Wright to use as a new pastorium. It was sold in 1964 to a private citizen.

The second pastorium (still in use) began as a vocational arts building.

Greene County school officials wanted agriculture and home economics taught in the schools. The Farm Security Administration (FSA) was available to help, along with the WPA, to erect buildings for that purpose, at both white and black schools. During 1938-1939, the vocational arts building was constructed with the FSA making monetary contributions in lieu of taxes, and the WPA supplying the labor. The building was erected approximately 100 yards from the church. At first, as part of the Unified Farm Program, shop, agriculture, and home economics were taught there. Then, after the upper grades, 8-11, were transferred to Union Point, there was no need at this location for the vocational classes. The building became the school lunchroom in 1940. The school newspaper indicated in 1940 that "our lunch room is the only one in the county that has running hot and cold water." After its brief use as a lunchroom, the loss of the upper-level students allowed room in the main school building to be used for lunch. The building was used from 1941 to 1957 for adult classes and as a community center for church-related reunions and socials, Home Demonstration project classes for adults, and 4-H clubs for youth. In 1961, after the school closed down, the vocational arts building was converted to the pastorium for the Woodville Baptist Church. The minister of the church and his family continue to reside in the building.

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## 9. Major Bibliographic References

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Williams, Carolyn White. History of Greene County, Georgia. Macon, Georgia: The J.W. Burke Company, 1961.

Draft National Register nomination prepared by graduate students at the University of Georgia's School of Environmental Design, 1996. With supplemental information prepared by Beverly McCommons, on behalf of the property owners.

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

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested**
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued**  
**date issued:**
- 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, Specify Repository:**

**Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):**

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**10. Geographical Data**

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**Acreage of Property** 12 acres

**UTM References**

- A) Zone 17 Easting 305160 Northing 3727540
- B) Z17 E305260 N3727550
- C) Z17 E305480 N3727460
- D) Z17 E305500 N3727300
- E) Z17 E305150 N3727290

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The property boundary is outlined on the attached tax map with a heavy black line.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary of the Woodville Baptist Church and School encompasses the historic acreage associated with the church and school, and follows the current legal boundaries. It includes the two principal historic buildings, the church and the school, along with the smaller former vocational arts building (now pastorium), and the cemetery which is a historically related part of the setting of these buildings.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**State Historic Preservation Office**

**name/title** Lee A. Webb, Survey and Register Specialist; Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian  
**organization** Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**street & number** 500 The Healey Building, 57 Forsyth Street  
**city or town** Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303  
**telephone** (404) 656-2840 **date** April 1998; January 20, 1999

**Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable)** ( ) not applicable

**name/title** Autumn L. Rierson, and Pamela A. Stoddard  
**organization** Graduate Students, School of Environmental Design, University of Georgia  
**street and number** 609 Caldwell Hall, Univ. of Georgia  
**city or town** Athens **state** GA **zip code** 30602  
**telephone** n/a- graduated

( ) **consultant**

( ) **regional development center preservation planner**

(X) **other:** graduate students in historic preservation program

(HPD form version 02-24-97)

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National Register of Historic Places  
**Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

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**Name of Property:** Woodville Baptist Church and School  
**City or Vicinity:** Woodville  
**County:** Greene  
**State:** Georgia  
**Photographer:** James R. Lockhart  
**Negative Filed:** Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**Date Photographed:** September 1997

**Description of Photograph(s):**

1 of 27: Woodville Baptist Church, east facade with school in right foreground; Photographer facing southwest.

2 of 27: Woodville Baptist Church, east facade, close up of entrance tower; photographer facing northwest.

3 of 27: Woodville Baptist Church, rear (south) facade and west facade; photographer facing northeast.

4 of 27: Woodville Baptist Church, west and front (north) facades; photographer facing southeast.

5 of 27: Woodville Baptist Church, north (entrance) facade, closeup of main entrance; photographer facing southeast.

6 of 27: Woodville Baptist Church, detail of cornerstone on north (entrance) facade to left of main entrance tower; photographer facing south.

7 of 27: Woodville Baptist Church, interior, sanctuary looking toward altar, baptismal area on right; photographer facing southeast.

8 of 27: Woodville Baptist Church, interior, sanctuary looking east, baptismal area in foreground, door on left is roll-up type leading to classrooms; photographer facing northeast.

9 of 27: Woodville Baptist Church, interior, sanctuary, detail of stained glass windows; photographer facing northeast.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Photographs

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10 of 27: Woodville Baptist Church on left, Woodville School on right; photographer facing southwest.

11 of 27: Rear of Woodville School on left and Woodville Baptist Church on right; photographer facing northwest.

12 of 27: Woodville School, front (north) facade; photographer facing southwest.

13 of 27: Woodville School, front (north) facade, detail of front entrance; photographer facing south.

14 of 27: Woodville School, entrance door to west wing; photographer facing southeast.

15 of 27: Woodville School, rear (south) facade; photographer facing northwest.

16 of 27: Woodville School, west wing; photographer facing northeast.

17 of 27: Woodville School, east wing, rear; photographer facing west.

18 of 27: Woodville School, first floor, interior, entrance vestibule with view of front porch and side room, stairs have been uncovered since photograph; photographer facing east.

19 of 27: Woodville School, first floor, interior, side room and east wing entrance; photographer facing northeast.

20 of 27: Woodville School, first floor, interior, hallway on east side leading to backdoor, lockers on left, windows to auditorium, former church on right; photographer facing south.

21 of 27: Woodville School, first floor, interior, classroom; photographer facing northwest.

22 of 27: Woodville School, first floor, interior, auditorium facing stage with original seats and stage backdrop (curtain is not shown); photographer facing south.

23 of 27: Woodville School, second floor, interior, east classroom with remnants of pot bellied stove; photographer facing southeast.

24 of 27: Woodville School on left and pastorium on right; photographer facing northwest.

25 of 27: Woodville Baptist Church Pastorium; photographer facing north.

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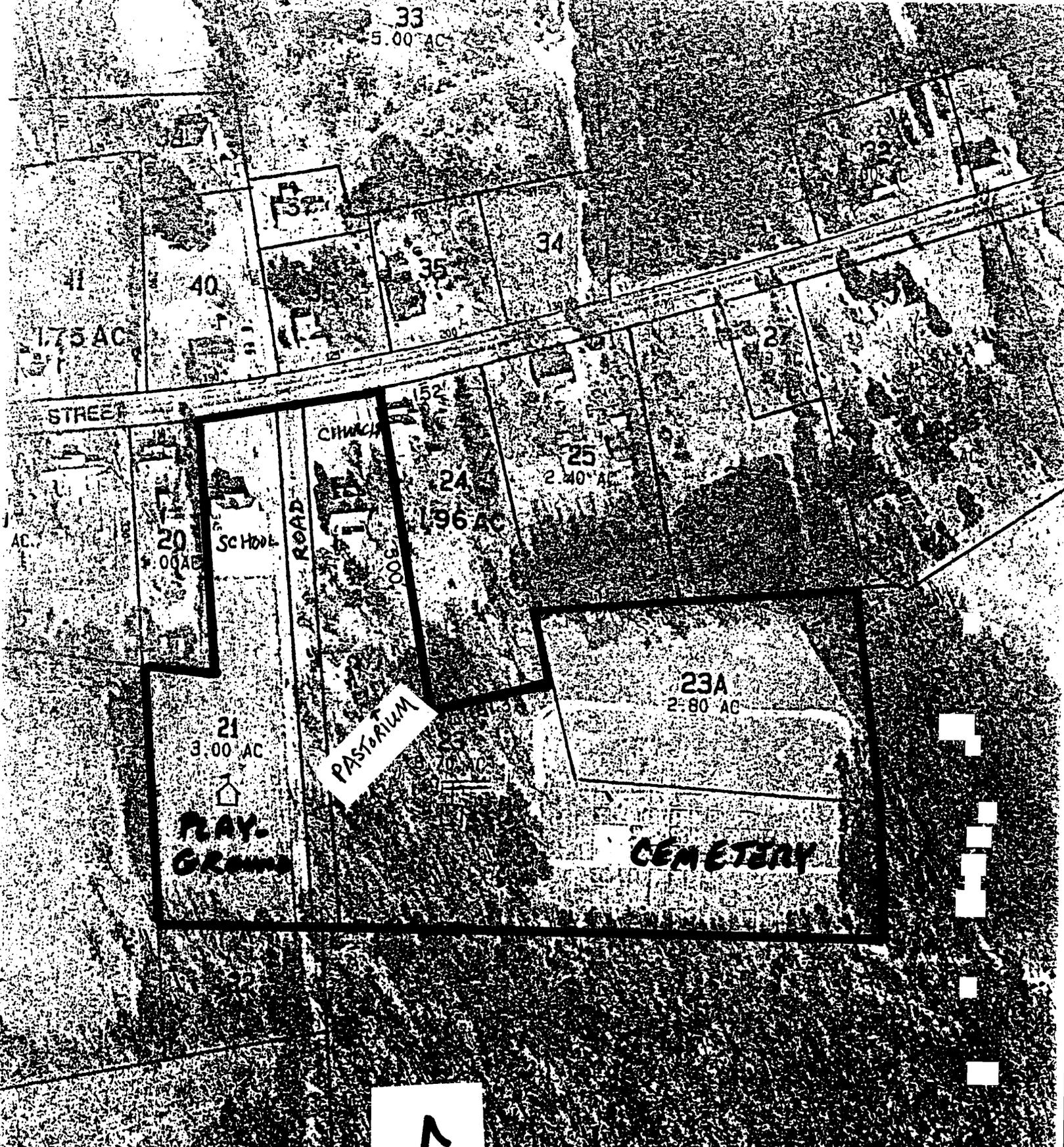
**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Photographs**

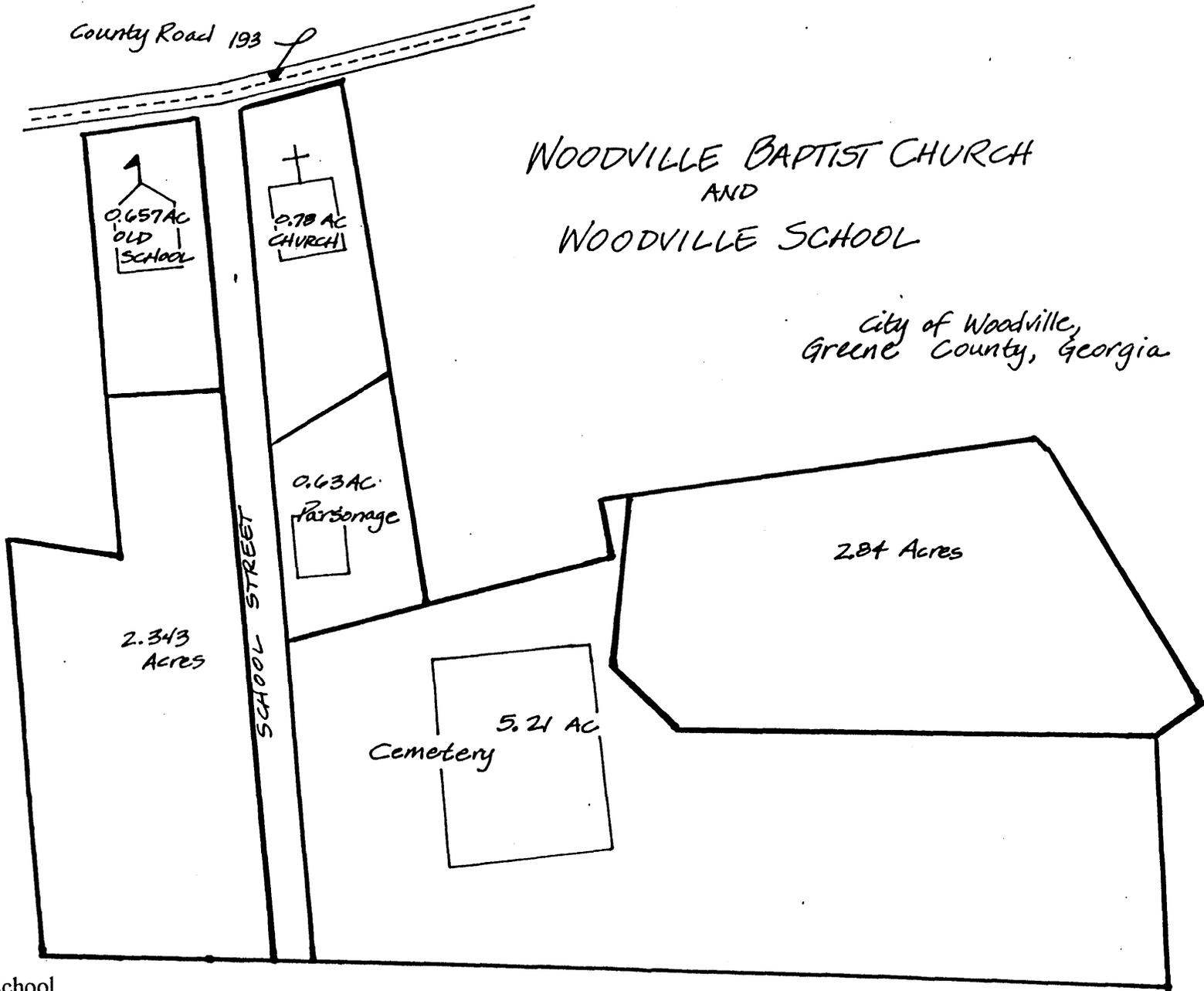
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26 of 27: Woodville Cemetery; photographer facing north.

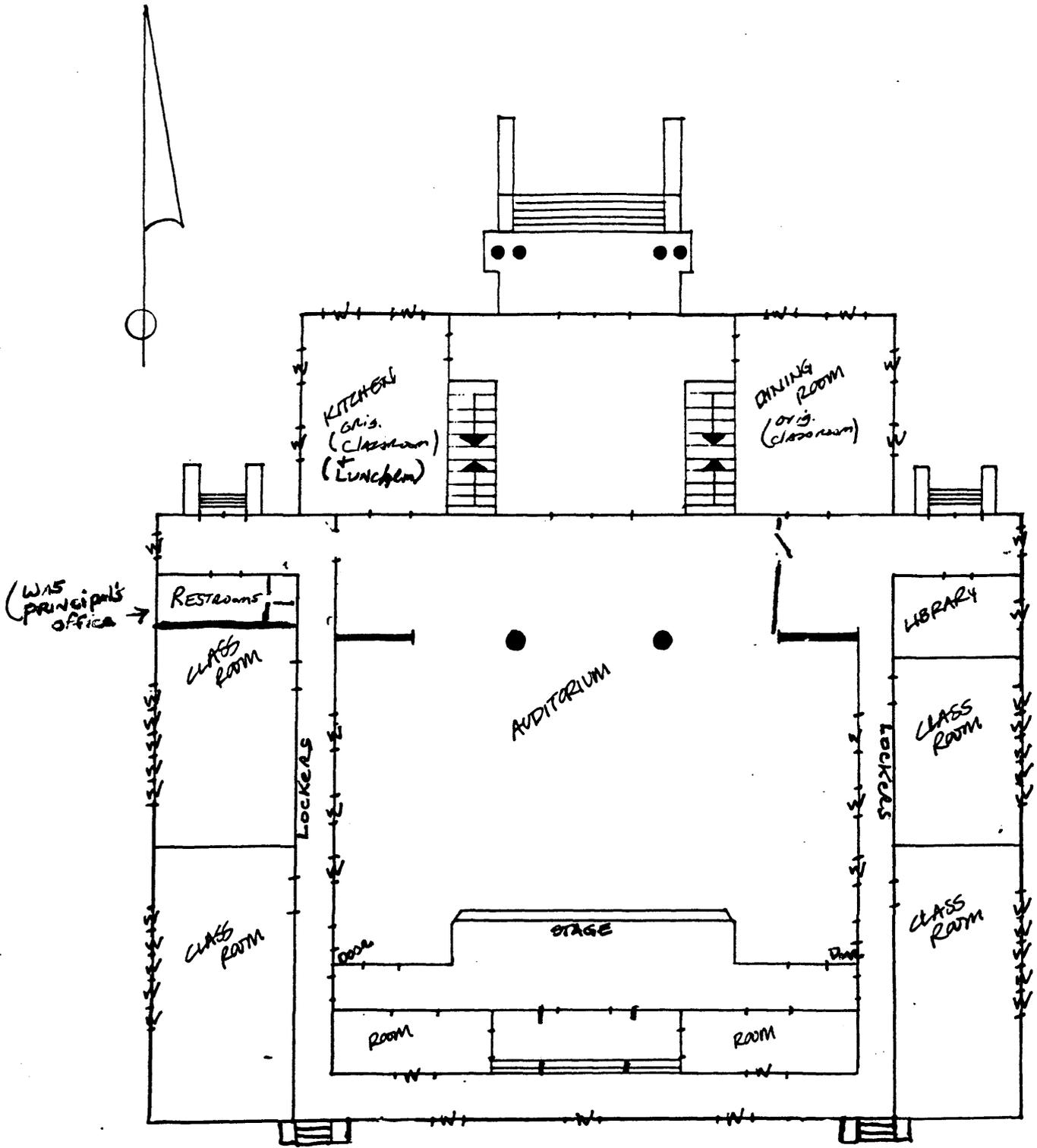
27 of 27: Woodville Cemetery; photographer facing west.



Woodville Baptist Church and School  
 Woodville, Greene County, Georgia  
 Tax map  
 Scale: 1" = 200'  
 Source: Greene County Tax Assessor's Office, map W-2  
 Date: c1995  
 Key: The historic resources are marked directly on the map.

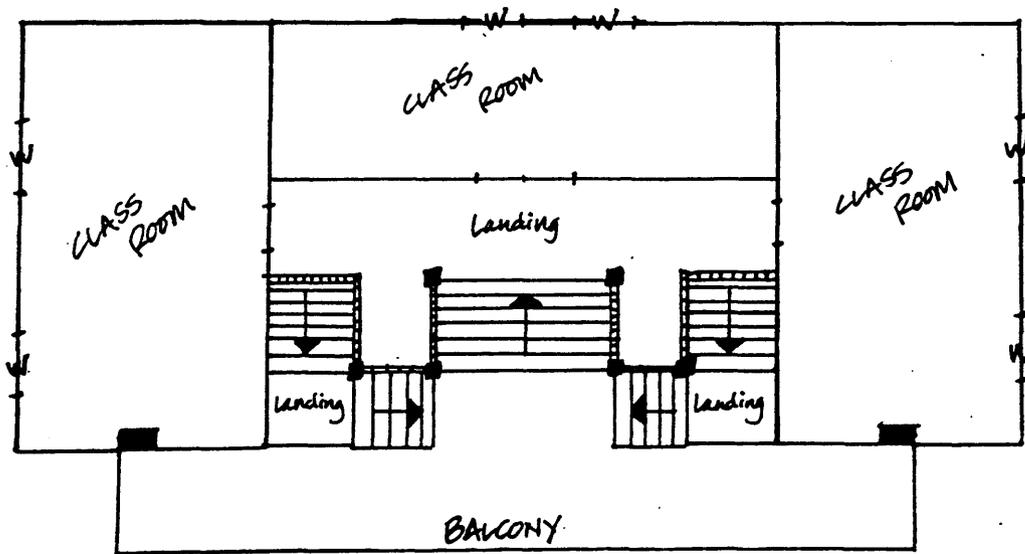


Woodville School  
Woodville, Greene County, Georgia  
Site plan  
Scale: Not to scale  
Source: Drawn by student  
Date: 1996



WOODVILLE SCHOOL  
(FIRST FLOOR)

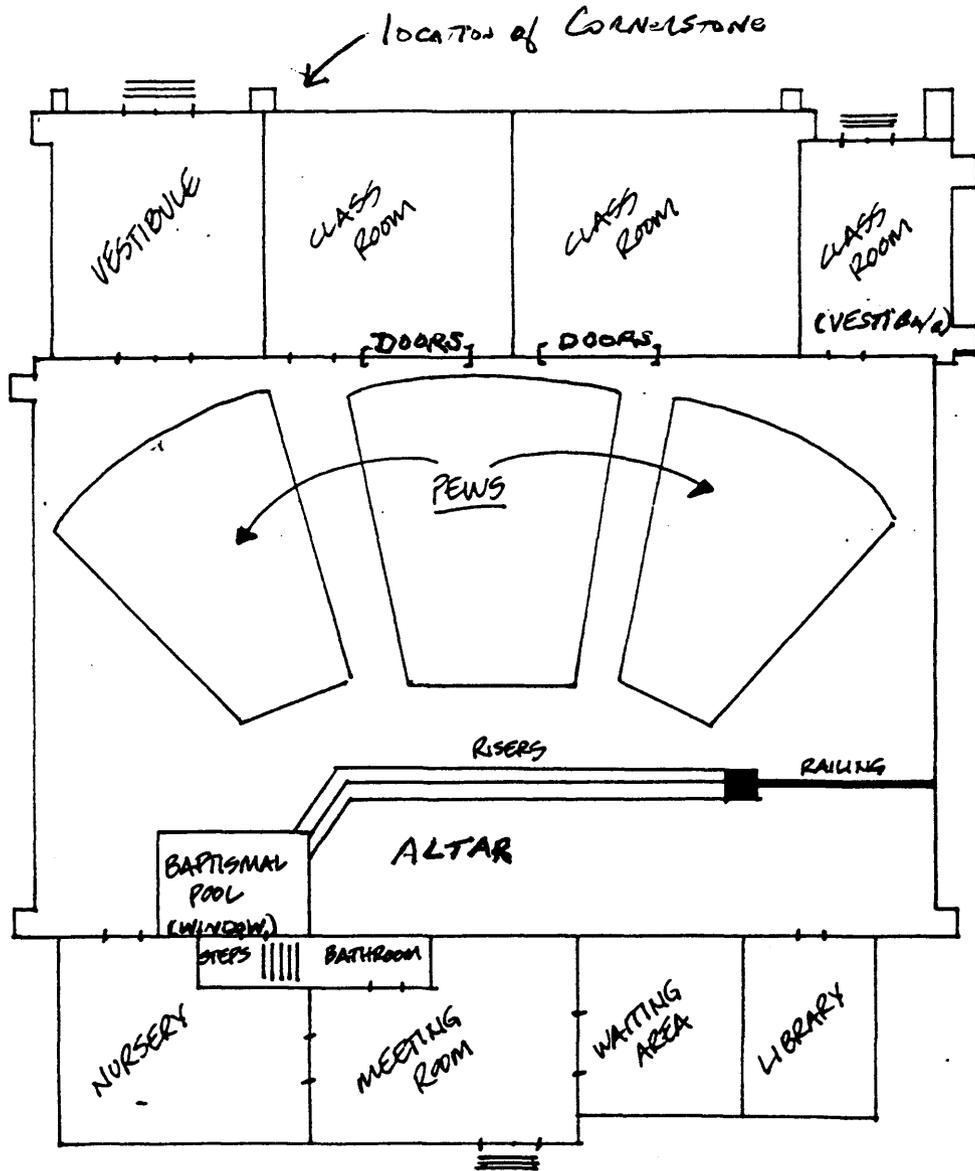
Woodville School  
 Woodville, Greene County, Georgia  
 First Floor Plan  
 Scale: Not to scale  
 Source: Drawn by student  
 Date: 1996



WOODVILLE SCHOOL  
(SECOND FLOOR)

Woodville School  
Woodville, Greene County, Georgia  
Second Floor Plan  
Scale: Not to scale  
Source: Drawn by student  
Date: 1996

# County Road 193



Woodville Baptist Church  
Woodville, Greene County, Georgia  
Floor Plan  
Scale: Not to scale  
Source: Drawn by student  
Date: 1996

