

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

McAuley School District #27

AND/OR COMMON

McAuley School District #27

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Rt. 38 - Roosevelt Road, Winfield Township NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

West Chicago

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
14th Federal

STATE

Illinois

CODE

012

COUNTY

DuPage

CODE

043

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESID
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTA
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

DuPage County Board of School Trustees

Regional Board of School Trustees
John F. Gorman, President

STREET & NUMBER

786 Euclid Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Elmhurst

VICINITY OF

STATE
Illinois 60126

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Recorders Office, DuPage County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

421 County Farm Road

CITY, TOWN

Wheaton

STATE
Illinois

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None known

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

McAuley school, located in DuPage County on Roosevelt Road, 1½ miles west of the city of West Chicago, is the last and only fully recognized, still functioning one room school in the midwest. It is a simple frame one story building, built in accordance with architectural recommendations from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and typical of thousands of similar structures built as grammar schools in rural America during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It is situated on land donated by homesteader George McAuley in 1857, where school has been in continuous session from that time to the present--first in a smaller frame building, and since 1913 in the present structure. Former pupils have reported that Frank Hartman, a local mason and contractor, did much of the work on the building.

The schoolhouse faces north towards highway #38 on a wooded lot surrounded by fields. While the proportions of the building are "bungaloid", the detailing reflects the simple classical revival influences popular around the turn of the century in public buildings. It is a 28' x 36' rectangular structure, one story with basement foundation walls of "pressed stone" concrete block. The wood framing of the main structure is covered with narrow gauge weatherboard siding.

Most of the detailing is concentrated on the gabled roof and entrance porch. The asphalt shingled roof features wide overhanging eaves and wide articulated returns that suggest a pediment on the front facing facade. The front entrance is protected by a hipped roof porch supported by two square columns topped by a wide entablature. There is also a side stoop at the rear of the building and a side entrance on the east toward the front which admits to a landing halfway between first floor and basement. The fenestration is similar to most one room schoolhouses of the time with a row of five windows, six over one double hung sash, on the East wall instead of the more favored North. On the front facade there are two small windows on either side of the entrance that open into washrooms, teacher's office and stairwell.

Beneath the main level is a full basement with four windows at ground level. It was originally one large room with a coal/wood furnace at the north end.

The front entry hall opens from the front porch leading into the main classroom, a 26' x 26' square, where all grades are taught. Six large black slate stone blackboards remain on the south wall and another on the west wall. The flooring is narrow width maple and the ceiling is ornamental sheet metal, all original and intact.

In 1963 as part of a remodeling program, a solid block concrete firewall was built across the south end of the basement to separate the lunch area from the newly installed natural gas furnace. The old heavy timber columns and ceiling in the basement were covered with plasterboard. A door was added at the foot of the stairway, and the door at the top removed. The entire building was repaired. On the main floor, carpeting was added over the hardwood flooring and a partition was removed between the front hall and storeroom. This is considered temporary, however, and all of the doors, hardware and trim have been saved so the original partition can be replaced when desired. The only alteration to the exterior of the building was the addition of an exit door and concrete exterior stair on the west basement wall, also in 1963.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1913

BUILDER/ARCHITECT FRANK HARTMAN

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

McAuley Elementary School District #27 was established in rural DuPage County, Illinois, Winfield Township, on or before 1857. The present building, dating from 1913, houses the only remaining one room school with full recognition as a school district in the state. The building is a classic of one room schoolhouse design, bearing a close resemblance to the example "for a less expensive building" illustrated in the Illinois Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction circulars of 1906, 1909, and 1916. It clearly embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type and represents a significant and distinguishable entity--not only an intact relict feature of our culture, but an anachronism by virtue of its continued survival.

Out of the school reform movement of the later 19th Century developed many progressive ideas for the physical atmosphere in which education took place. Controlled illumination, ventilation, electricity, basements, and eventually plumbing became targets of improvement campaigns, which along with better quality teaching were considered in the establishment of the Standard School. Interest in school improvement aroused by the effort to standardize one room rural schools resulted in the passage of the Sanitation Law in 1915. This law required every school to meet the physical requirements of a Standard School by 1917. McAuley school, though built in 1913, easily met the criteria and was, in fact, rather progressive for its date. For example, indoor toilets, while encouraged, were not required even by 1917 though McAuley school apparently built them into the 1913 structure.

While each rural schoolhouse varied slightly according to the generosity of the local taxpayers, the number of pupils it was planning to serve, and even the whims of the local builder, they all had a commonality of purpose and characteristics which made the structure distinctive. This was due in large part to the directives and circulars issued by the Illinois Office of Public Instruction. These circulars very clearly instructed local administrators on the construction of the one room schoolhouse, giving architectural designs, plans and detail. It is clearly no accident that McAuley school so closely resembles one of these designs. Undoubtedly many other one room schoolhouses of the state did also, but have not remained so uniquely intact.

While consolidation of rural one room schools was encouraged from the early Twentieth Century, the strong recommendation by Governor Horner in 1935 to eliminate all one room schools did away with many of them by the end of World War II. Most all the rest disappeared by 1960 due to the rapidly growing population, scarcity of teachers, and inexpensive transportation--all of which encouraged consolidation with larger urban schools. Though in many instances the buildings continued to be used as community meeting places, many others were sold at public auction or destroyed.

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
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Continuation sheet McAuley School District #27 Item number 7

Page 2

Included on the site is a garage, believed to have been built in 1913--an 11' x 20' one story rectangle. Of wood frame construction on a concrete slab, it is, like the schoolhouse, covered with narrow gauge weatherboard. It has a gabled roof with asphalt shingles. It has not been altered.

Also on the school grounds are two intrusions--temporary classrooms placed behind the school in 1971. They will be removed when no longer used by the pupils. The property is fenced on the north with a cyclone fence and on the south, west and east by wooded line fences that separate the playground from the adjacent farmer's fields.

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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date entered

Continuation sheet McAuley School District #27 Item number 8

Page 2

McAuley school was established in the 1850's as one of ten rural schools in DuPage County. The records of one early newspaper present evidence that school was in session in 1853 on this site though county records indicate that classes were taught on the site from 1857. Records in the Educational Service Region of DuPage County indicate that the present structure was built in 1913. The Township Treasurers Bond Register shows that ten school bonds were issued to District #27 on November 12, 1912 in the amount of \$2,000 which were to pay for the new school building. There is also a notice stating that the old schoolhouse was sold at public auction on February 15, 1913. School records indicate that there has been a stable enrollment of twenty to thirty pupils of all ages since 1857. These records contain the names of the farm families in the community, and show that in 1960, for instance, there were at least a dozen children who were fourth generation pupils at the school.

By the late 1960's there were no other one room school districts in the state. In 1967 an attempt was made by District #33 West Chicago Elementary to consolidate with McAuley. It was voted down by the DuPage County Board of School Trustees as being against the will of the people of District #27. A similar attempt was made in 1972, but was voted down in referendum election. McAuley school alone has survived because it has a community determined to keep it going and a dedicated board and teacher. Maintaining itself as a very small entity through all the changes in educational history, McAuley has continued on a traditional path and kept its integrity because of its tenacity and its unique attributes.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Winfield Township Treasurer's Book 1859-1950 at DuPage County Educational Service Region office (see enclosure-item F)
DuPage County Bond Register (all Townships) 1878-1950, DuPage Co. Educ. Service Region office (see enclosure-item G)
(See continuation sheet)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2

QUADRANGLE NAME NW 1/4 Wheaton

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Parcel 04-08-103-002

NW 1/4 Sec 8 T39-R9E

For additional description see Enclosures (Items N,0)

SW 1/4 Sec 8 T39-R9E

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Illinois		DuPage	

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Fayann H. Stone, Superintendent

ORGANIZATION

McAuley School District #27

DATE

January 6, 1982

STREET & NUMBER

Route 38 - Roosevelt Road

TELEPHONE

312/231-4849

CITY OR TOWN

West Chicago

STATE

Illinois

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET Bibliography ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Site Plans - (See enclosure-Item A)

Architect's Drawings including alterations - (See enclosure-Items B and B1)

Circular 1, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Springfield, Il., 1906
(showing prototype Architect's recommendations for Schoolhouses of the
era) (See enclosure-Item C)

Signed Statement Forms from two former pupils who attended McAuley School testi-
fying as to their attendance at the old school and then the new.
Mort Haffey (for father) (See enclosure-Item D)
Lydia Wurtz (See enclosure-Item D)

DuPage County Atlas, Thompson & Burr, 1874 - Reproduction copy at McAuley School,
original at DuPage County Historical Society, Wheaton, Il.
(see enclosure-Item H)

Second Biennial Report, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State of Illinois,
Springfield, 1857-58. (Showing existence of School District #3, now
District #27) (See enclosure-Item I)

School Directories for Kane County 1911-13 and 1920-21. These are quotes from
State Standards for the two eras. Note the earliest does NOT spell
out that windows should be on one side only, whereas the later
(1920-21) standards do. This is another reason to believe the
building was indeed prior to 1920 as it has windows on both North
and South. (See enclosures - Items J and K)

Historical Preservation - "Educational Legacy: Rural One-Room Schoolhouses"
Volume 23, No. 4, Aug/Sept., 1977. (See enclosure-Item L)

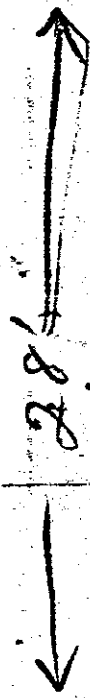
"Welch's Attendance Book" from the McAuley files for teacher Leona M. Perry
(deceased). This attendance record verifies Mort Haffey's and
Lydia Wurtz's statements. (See enclosure - Item M)

Records from Chicago Title and Trust Co., Wheaton, Il: Tract Book-Sec. 8,
Twnshp. 39, R. 9 - Page 1, Document #11308, Deed-George McAuley
to School District, dated April 13, 1857. (See enclosure-Items N and O)

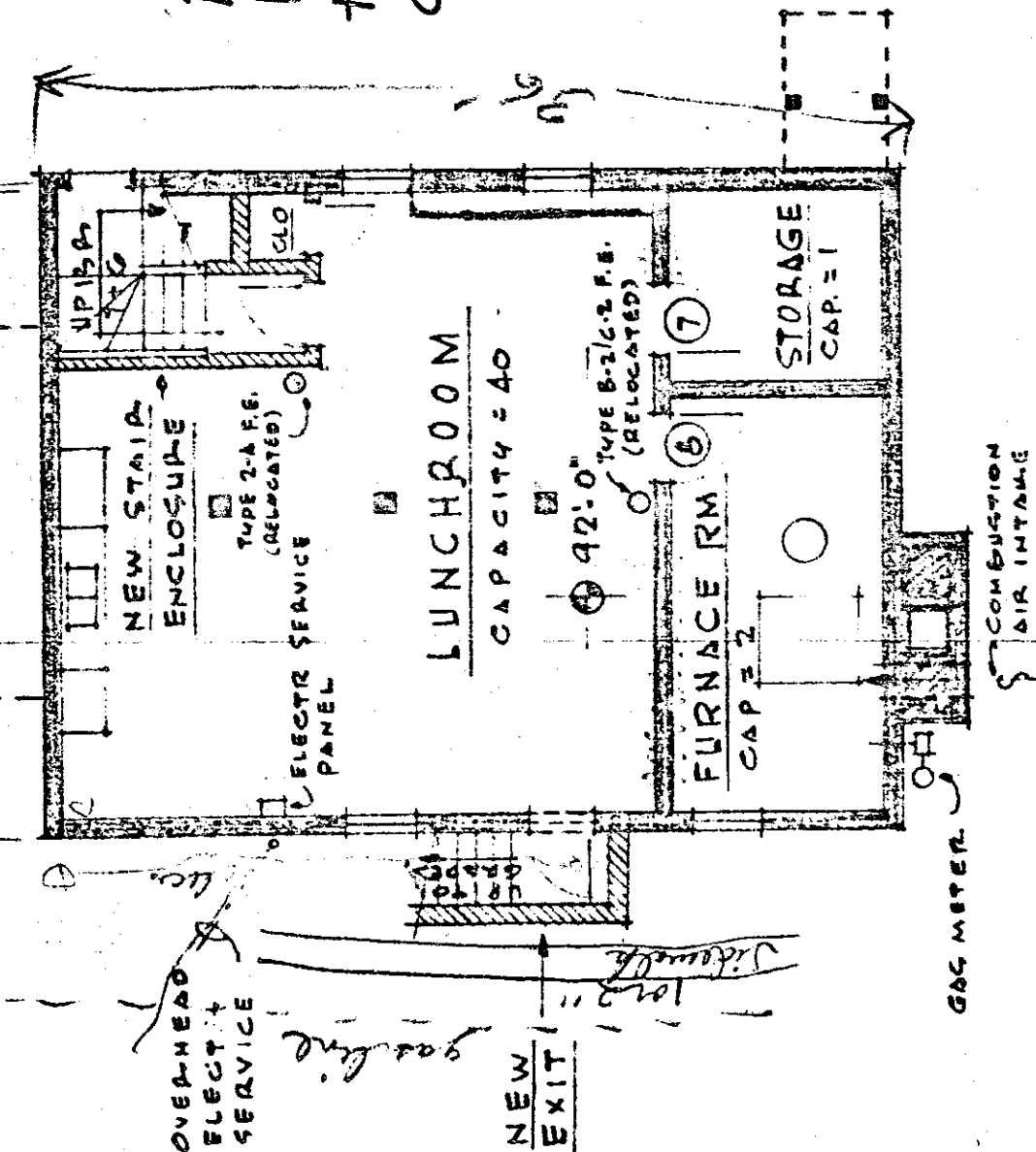
Article referring to 1853 Superintendent's Report. (See enclosure-Item P)

JUNE 7, 1950

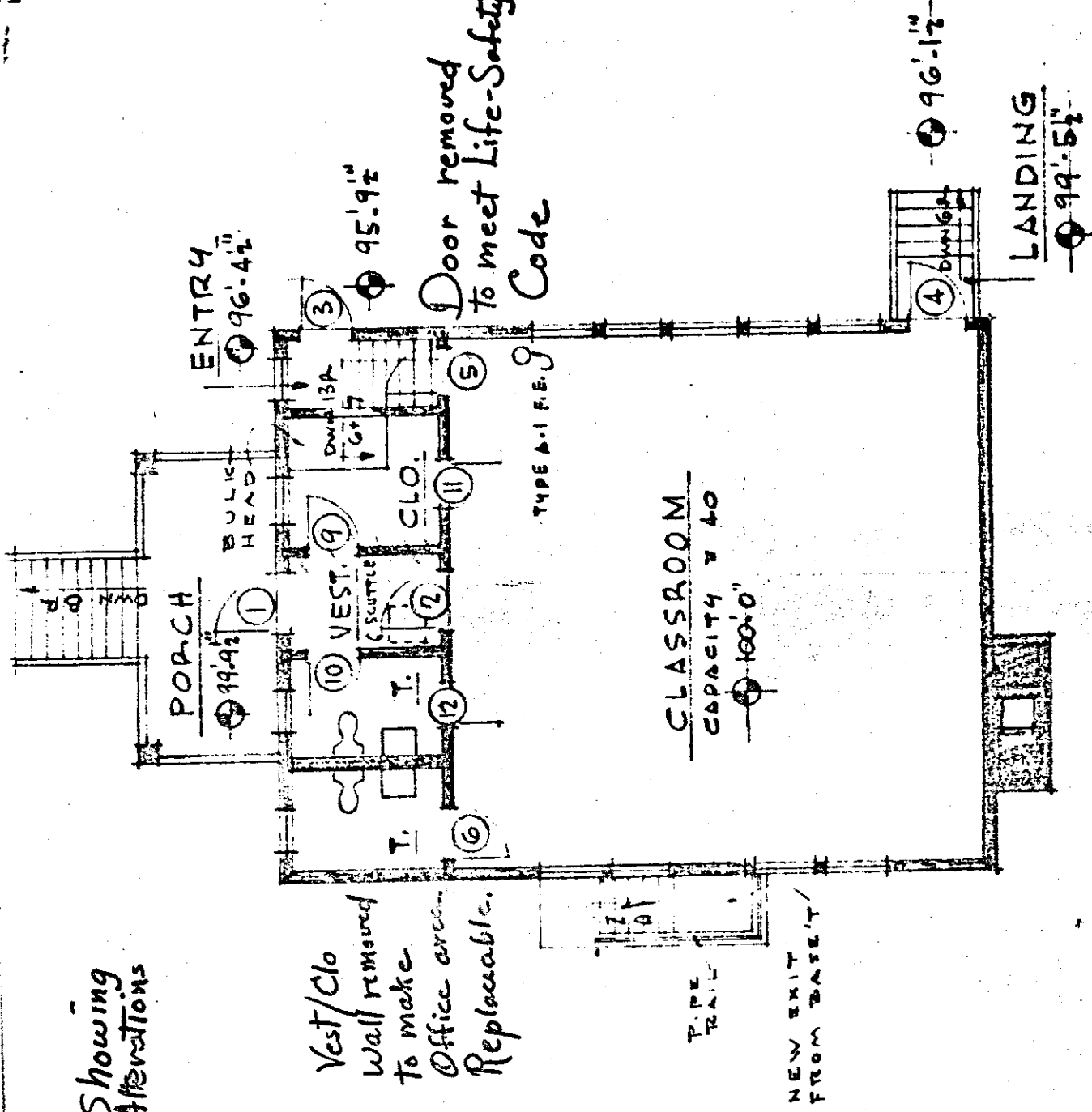
Pink xx walls have been added in basement to conform to Life-Safety Code



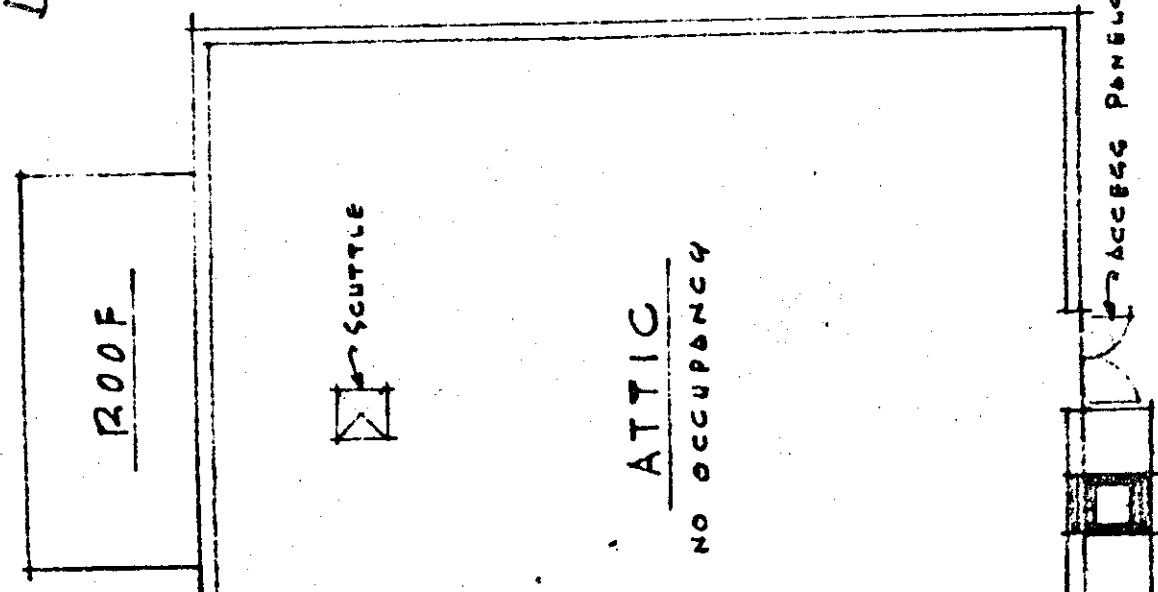
Item B2
Showing Alterations



Item Showing Alterations
B1



Vest/Clo
Wall removed
to make
Office area
Replacable.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

ATTIC PLAN

RULES GOVERNING THE CONSTRUCTION OF ONE-ROOM SCHOOLS - 1906

Item

C

CIRCULAR 1.

... OFFICE OF ...

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

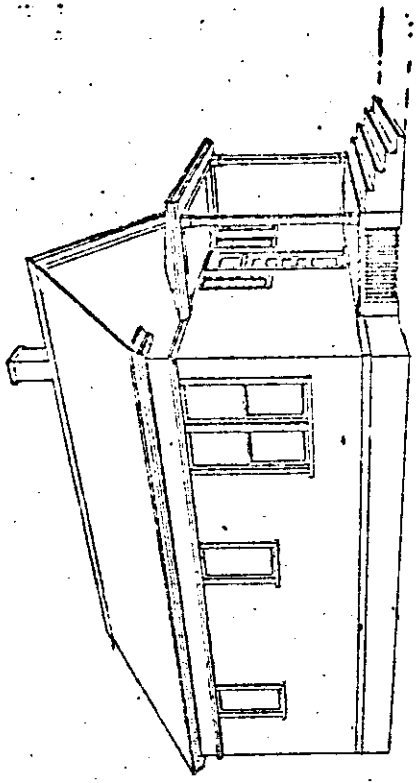
DECEMBER 15, 1906.

To TEACHERS:

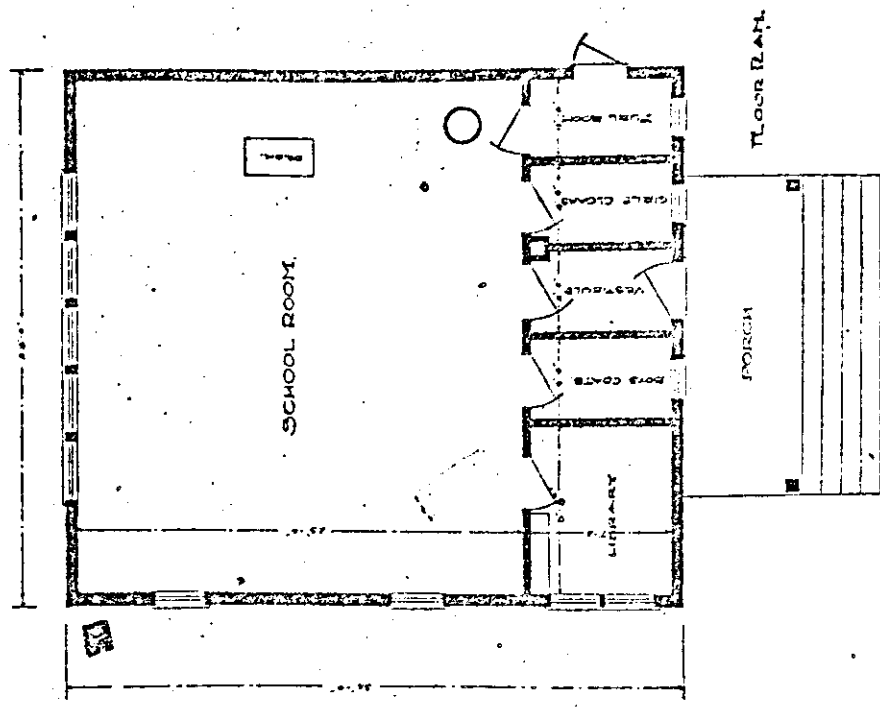
State certificates issued hereafter, will be granted in accordance with Section 2, Article 7, of the general school law, which is as follows:

SECTION 2. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, to grant State certificates to teachers that may be qualified to receive them. Such certificates shall be valid in every district in this State, during the good behavior of the holder thereof. But such certificates shall be granted only upon public examination, under such regulations and by such examiners, as the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall prescribe and appoint. *Provided, however,* that each examination shall be complete in itself; *and, provided, further,* that the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall have power to suspend the operation of any State certificate for immorality or other unprofessional conduct. Before entering upon his duties as teacher, the holder of any State certificate shall present the same to the county superintendent for registration. A fee of one dollar shall be charged therefor, and covered into the institute fund. (As amended by an Act approved May 12, 1905.)

A LESS EXPENSIVE HOUSE.



PERSPECTIVE



FLOOR PLAN

A LESS EXPENSIVE HOUSE.

In some districts the assessed value of the property is so low that it will be impossible to raise the money by taxation to build so expensive a house as the Illinois district school. For such, a less expensive plan is suggested.

The foundation is 28 by 32 feet; the school room 23 by 26 feet 6 inches; the library, 7 feet by 8 feet, 8 inches; the coat rooms, vestibule and the fuel room each 4 by 7 feet. The room will seat 35 children. If preferred the floor plan may be reversed, placing the library where the fuel room is, the heater and fuel room where the library now is.

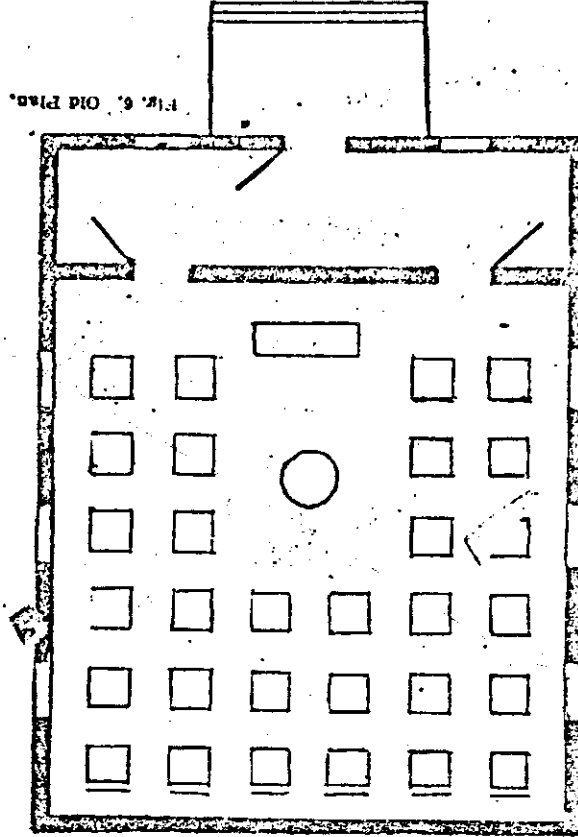
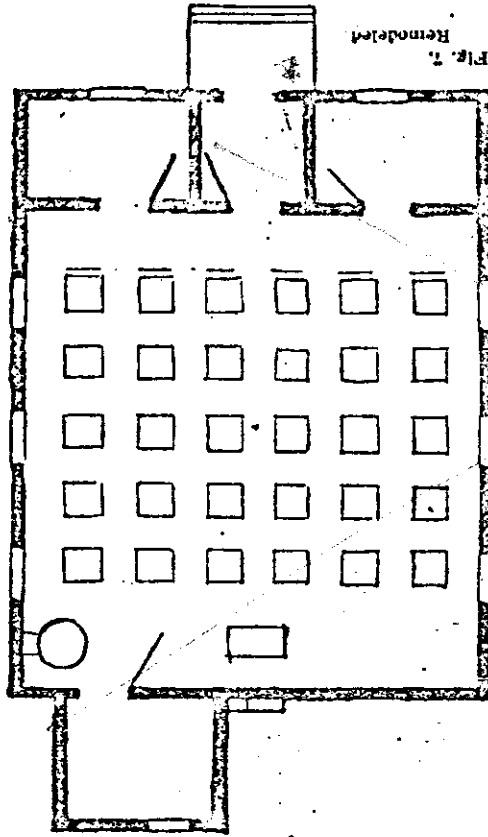
It provides all the conveniences of the more expensive house, but is smaller and plain in appearance. The cost of building will be from \$800 to \$1,000, depending upon the price of material and labor in different localities.

REPAIRING AND IMPROVING OLD BUILDINGS.

Most of the country school houses built forty years ago are usually of the type shown in figure 6. The timbers are still sound and districts do not like to discard the old and build new houses. A house of this type can be repaired and improved at small cost. The house then will be good for a generation.

The common hall and vestibule can be divided into a vestibule and two cloak rooms. The chimney should be torn down and a double one built from the ground up; the stove replaced by a school heater and placed in the corner out of the way. A fuel room can be built on the back of the building.

The only defect in this house will be the lighting. Even this may be remedied by placing windows in the rear of the house closing the windows on one side and building the fuel room on the windowless side. The seats should then face the blank wall. If the change in the windows is not made, shades should be provided that roll up at the bottom, admitting the needed light from above, thus not coming directly into the children's eyes.



COLORADO, Mesa County, Clifton, Clifton Community Center and Church, F and Main St. (06/03/82)
COLORADO, Montrose County, Montrose, Denver and Rio-Grande Depot, 20 N. Rio Grande Ave.
(06/03/82)

COLORADO, Montrose County, Montrose, Montrose City Hall, 433 S. 1st St. (06/03/82)
COLORADO, Morgan County, Brush, All Saints Church of Eben Ezer, 120 Hospital Rd. (06/03/82)
COLORADO, Pueblo County, Pueblo, Galligan House, 501 Colorado Ave. (06/03/82)
COLORADO, Pueblo County, Pueblo, Gast Mansion, 1801 Greenwood St. (06/03/82)

CONNECTICUT, Fairfield County, Bridgeport, Division Street Historic District, Roughly bounded by
State St., Iranistan, Black Rock and West Aves. (06/03/82)

CONNECTICUT, New London County, New London, Woodworth, Nathan A., House, 28 Channing St.
(06/01/82)

CONNECTICUT, Fairfield County, Newton, New York Belting and Packing Co., 45—71 and 79—89 Glen
Rd. (06/02/82)

DELAWARE, Kent County, Milford vicinity, Archeological Site No. 7K-F-4 and 23, (06/03/82)

GEORGIA, Coweta County, Newnan, Northwest Newnan Residential Historic District, Roughly
bounded by RR tracks, Jefferson, Cavender, Duncan, and Browns Sts. (05/28/82)

IDAHO, Bannock County, Pocatello, Pocatello Historic District, Roughly bounded by RR tracks, W.
Fremont, W. Bonneville and Garfield Sts. (06/03/82)

ILLINOIS, Adams County, Quincy, Newcomb, Richard F., House, 301 Maine St. (06/03/82)

ILLINOIS, Coles County, Oakland, Rutherford, Dr. Hiram, House and Office, 14 S. Pike St. (06/03/82)

ILLINOIS, Cook County, Chicago Heights, Bloom Township High School, 19th St., Dixie Hwy. and
Chicago Heights St. (06/03/82)

ILLINOIS, Cook County, Chicago, Railway Exchange Building, 80 E. Jackson Blvd. and 224 S. Michigan
Ave. (06/03/82)

ILLINOIS, Cook County, Chicago, Warner, Seth, House, 631 N. Central Ave. (06/03/82)

ILLINOIS, DuPage County, West Chicago vicinity, McAuley School District No. 27, Roosevelt Rd.
(06/03/82)

ILLINOIS, Kane County, Aurora, Hotel Aurora, 2 N. Stolp Ave. (06/03/82)

ILLINOIS, Kankakee County, Kankakee, Swannell, Charles E., House, 901 S. Chicago (06/03/82)

ILLINOIS, McHenry County, McHenry, Count's House, 1803 Waukegan (06/03/82)

ILLINOIS, Randolph County, Sparta, Sparta Historic District, S. St. Louis, W. 3rd and S. James Sts.
(06/03/82)

ILLINOIS, Rock Island County, Rock Island, Rock Island Lines Passenger Station, 3029 5th Ave.
(06/03/82)

ILLINOIS, Sangamon County, Springfield, Boulton, H. P., House, 1123 S. 2nd St. (06/03/82)

ILLINOIS, Whiteside County, Tampico, Main Street Historic District, S. Main St. (06/03/82)

INDIANA, Allen County, Fort Wayne, Bass, John H., Mansion (Brookside) 2701 Spring St. (06/02/82)

INDIANA, Marion County, Indianapolis, Lombard Building, 22—28 E. Washington St. (06/01/82)

INDIANA, Marion County, Indianapolis, Thompson, William N., House, 4343 N. Meridian St. (06/01/82)

KENTUCKY, Fayette County, Lexington vicinity, McCann, Benjamin, House (Castlelawn), Old
Richmond Pike (06/03/82)

KENTUCKY, Fayette County, Lexington vicinity, McCann, Neal, House, 5364 Todds Rd. (06/03/82)

KENTUCKY, Greenup County, Greenup vicinity, Stuart, Jesse, House, Stuarts Lane off W-Hollow Rd.
(06/01/82)

KENTUCKY, Woodford County, Archeological Site 15-Wd-61, (06/02/82)

LOUISIANA, Evangeline County, Ville Platte, Dardeau Building, 224 W. Main (06/01/82)