

ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS AND HERITAGE NOMINATION FORM

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY - DATE ADDED:

1. NAME

Historic: J.B. Pennington High School Gymnasium
and/or Common: _____

2. LOCATION

Street & Number: 81 College St.
City, Town: Blountsville ---Vicinity of: _____
State: AL County: Blount Zip: 35031-

3. CLASSIFICATION

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building(s)	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Religious
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> In process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> Being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: lodge

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

Name: Blount County Board of Education Telephone: () - _____
Street & Number: P. O. Box 578
City or Town: Oneonta State: AL Zip: 35121-
Email Address: _____

5. FLOOR PLAN & SITE PLAN

(Attach sketched floor plan and/or site plan.)

6. DESCRIPTION

(See attached instructions for specific guidelines on completing the description.)

CONDITION

- Excellent Deteriorated
 Good Ruins
 Fair Unexposed

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

- Unaltered Original Site
 Altered Moved Date Moved

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE.

The J.B. Pennington High School Gymnasium is a rectangular one-story brick building with a hipped composition shingle roof. The building faces southwest and is five bays wide and ten bays deep. A pedimented portico with replacement aluminum columns is centered at the south façade. Three entrance doors are located within the portico: the center entrance has a plain metal door with a tall transom; the outer doors are fixed with blind transoms. Metal 20-light industrial windows are located at the outer bays. The exterior walls are constructed of exposed red brick set in a variation of common bond with five rows of stretchers separated by a row of alternating headers and stretchers. The eight center bays of the west elevation are slightly recessed and are separated by pilasters. Each bay has a single twelve-light industrial window placed high on the elevation with brick below. These windows were originally taller as evidenced by the brick infill below. Similar windows are located in the outer bays. The east elevation is similar to the west except that it has a simple replacement metal pedestrian door at its northern bay. The north elevation is blank except for a series of window and entrance openings at the basement level that open into a continuous walkway well.

The interior plan consists of a single large room with exposed steel roof trusses and wood plank ceilings. Exterior walls are painted brick and the flooring is a wood gymnasium floor. Two small stairwells, with simple pipe railings, at the northeast and northwest corners descend to locker rooms in the basement.

The building retains its overall historic design and appearance and continues to function as a high school gymnasium. Alterations have included the replacement of the portico columns and modifications to the windows at the sidewalls. The building is in generally good condition.

7. SIGNIFICANCE

(See attached instructions for specific guidelines on completing the significance.)

PERIOD

- Prehistoric
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- 1900-

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE-CHECK AND EXPLAIN BELOW

- archeology-prehistoric
- archeology-historic
- agriculture
- architecture
- art
- commerce
- communications

- community planning
- conservation
- education
- engineering
- exploration/settlement
- funerary art
- humanitarian

- industry
- landscape architecture
- law
- literature
- military
- music
- politics/government

- religion
- scientific
- sculpture
- social history
- theater
- other

SPECIFIC DATES: 1939

BUILDER/ARCHITECT: _____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The J.B. Pennington High School Gymnasium is historically significant as the gymnasium for Blountsville's high school, a role it has served since 1939. It is also architecturally significant as an example of the work of noted Birmingham architect Charles H. McCauley.

The J.B. Pennington High School Gymnasium was constructed in 1939. The high school was constructed after a fire destroyed the Ninth District Agricultural School, which operated at the site from 1895 to 1939. The high school building itself was destroyed by fire in 1991 and was replaced by a modern building of similar design. The gymnasium was built at the same time as the high school and continues to serve as an auxiliary gym for the school.

The building was designed by architect Charles H. McCauley and built by Henry L. Flinn. McCauley (1925-1970) was born in Chicago and received his architectural training at the University of Illinois in Champaign. He designed the Canal Zone Hospital during the First World War and came to Birmingham in 1919, where he worked for William Leslie Welton. In 1925, McCauley opened his own architectural firm and was responsible for such projects as the Birmingham City Hall, Temple Beth-El, the Avalon Building, the Hotel Highland, and numerous other residences, schools, and other buildings.¹

¹ Carolyn Green Satterfield, Ph. D., Historic Sites of Jefferson County, Alabama (Birmingham, AL: Jefferson County Historical

8. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Davis, Jr., Robert Scott. A Blountsville Picture Book. Blountsville, AL: Blountsville Historical Society. 1999.
Heritage of Blount County. Oneonta, AL: Blount County Historical Society. 1989.
Heritage of Blount County Alabama. Clanton, Alabama: Heritage Publishing Consultants, Inc., 1999
Powell, George. Blount County, Glimpses of the Past. Oneonta, AL: Junior Blount County Historical Society. 1981.
Rogers, William Warren, et. al. Alabama: The History of a Deep South State. Tuscaloosa, AL: University of Alabama Press, 1994.
Satterfield, Carolyn Green, Ph.D. Historic Sites of Jefferson County, Alabama (Birmingham, AL: Jefferson County Historical Commission, 1976/1985) p. 153.

9. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of nominated property: <1
Quadrangle name: Blountsville

Enclose map showing location of property. (city or county map, state highway department map, or USGS map)

10. FORM PREPARED BY

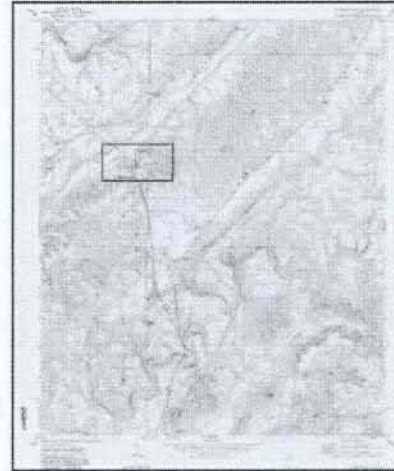
Name/title: David B. Schneider (assisted by members of the Blountsville Historical Comm.)
Organization: Schneider Historic Preservation, LLC Date: August 5, 2007
Street & Number: 411 East 6th Street Telephone: (256) 310-6320
City or Town: Anniston State: AL Zip: 36207-
Email Address: db Schneider@bellsouth.net

11. PLEASE SUBMIT COLOR IMAGES OF THE PROPERTY WITH THIS FORM:

Images are essential to the review process. They can be 4x6 color prints or digital images on a CD. Please see the "Instructions for Completing an AR Form" for more details on images or contact the AHC at 334.230.2687.

Topo Map

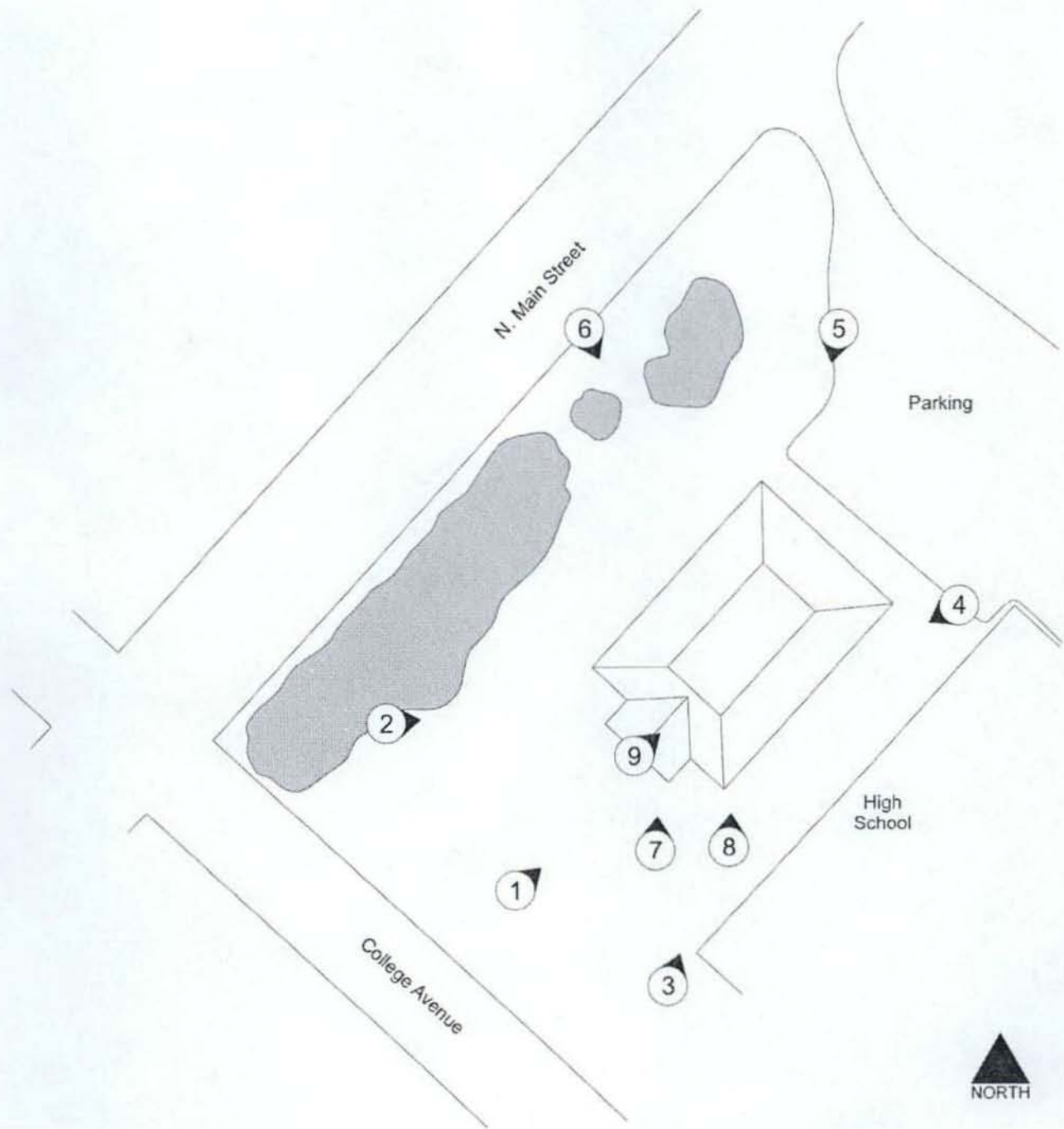
General Location Maps



Blountsville Quadrangle
16 / 537897 E / 3771592 N
Created 1969, Revised 1986

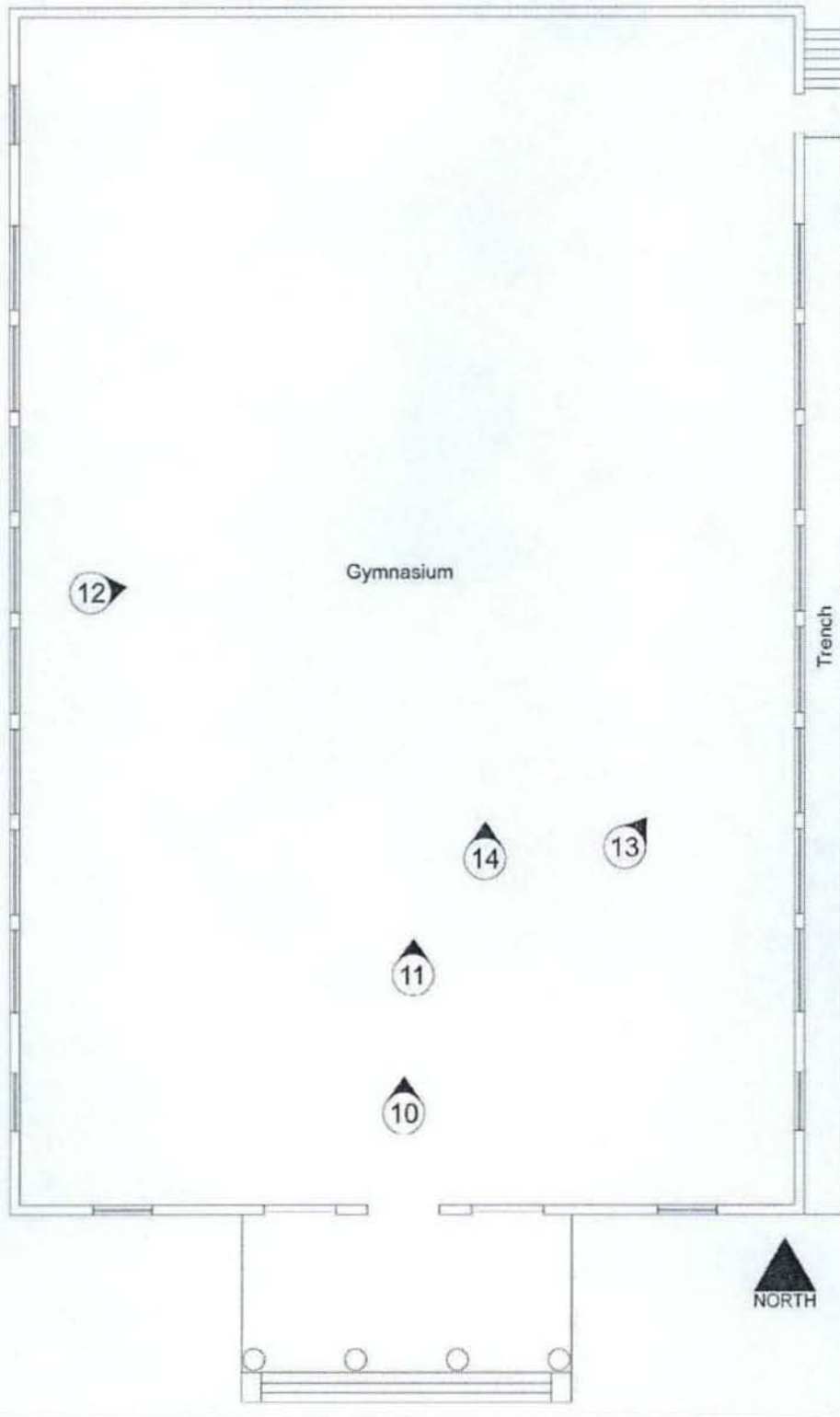


Siteplan
(Not to Scale)



Floorplan Sketch
(Not to Scale)

FIRST FLOOR



Photographs:

1. J.B. Pennington High School Gymnasium
2. Blountsville, Blount County, AL
3. David B. Schneider, Schneider Historic Preservation, LLC
4. July 2007
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207
6. Exterior, East façade (right) and south elevation, camera facing northwest
7. Photo #01

6. Exterior, west (left) and south (right) elevations, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #02

6. Exterior, south façade (left) and east elevation elevation, camera facing north
7. Photo #03

6. Exterior, east elevation, camera facing west
7. Photo #04

6. Exterior, north elevation, camera facing south
7. Photo #05

7. Exterior, west elevation, camera facing southeast
7. Photo #06

6. Exterior, detail of portico, camera facing north
7. Photo #07

6. Exterior, detail, camera facing north
7. Photo #08

6. Exterior, detail of plaque, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #09

6. Interior, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #10

6. Interior, 2nd floor, Anteroom, camera facing south
7. Photo #11

6. Interior, camera facing southeast
7. Photo #12

6. Interior, detail of roof trusses, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #13

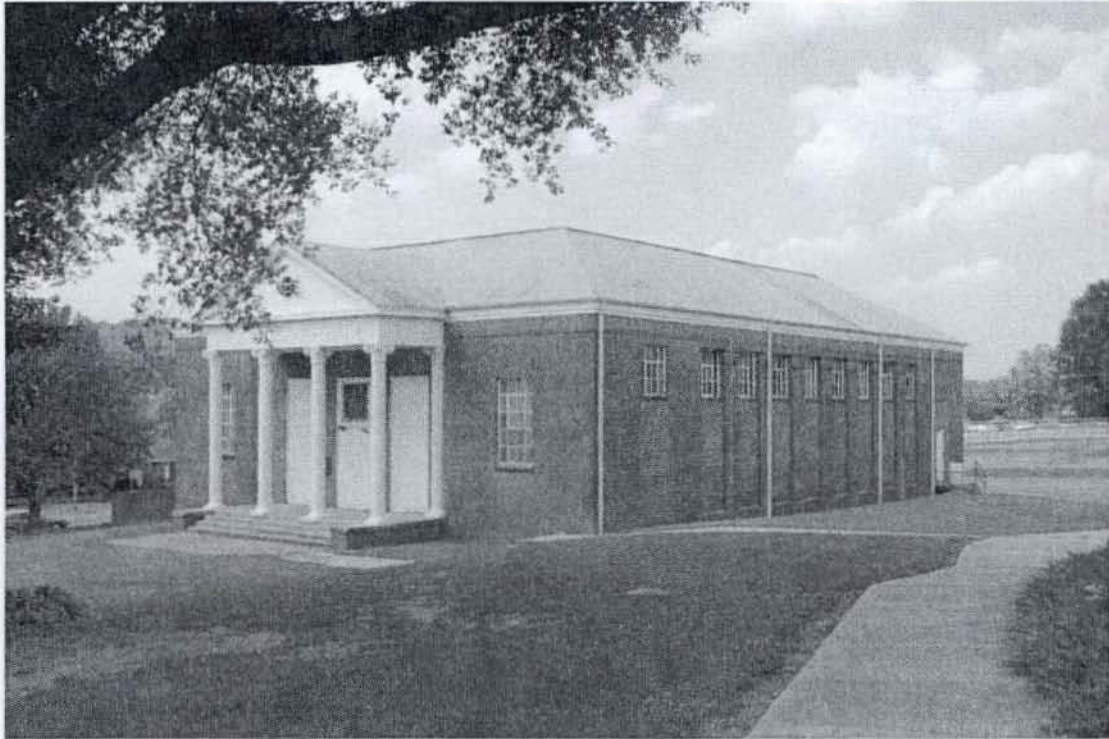
6. Interior, detail of flooring, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #14



6. Exterior, East façade (right) and south elevation, camera facing northwest
7. Photo #01



6. Exterior, west (left) and south (right) elevations, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #02



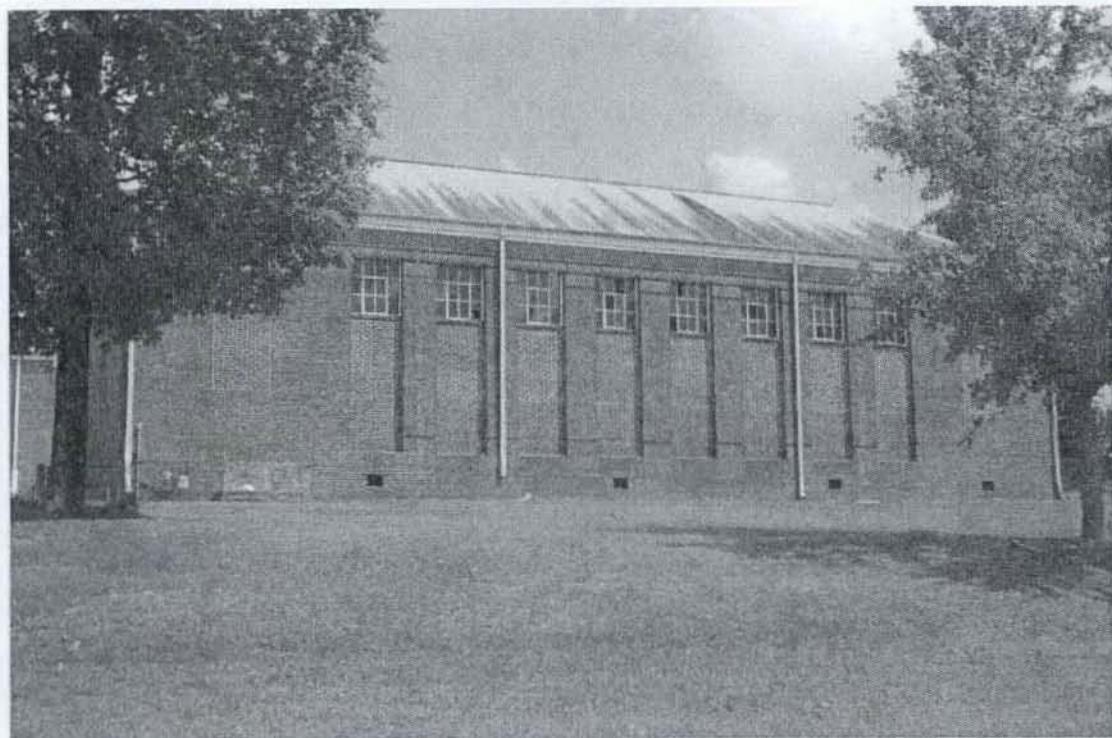
6. Exterior, south façade (left) and east elevation elevation, camera facing north
7. Photo #03



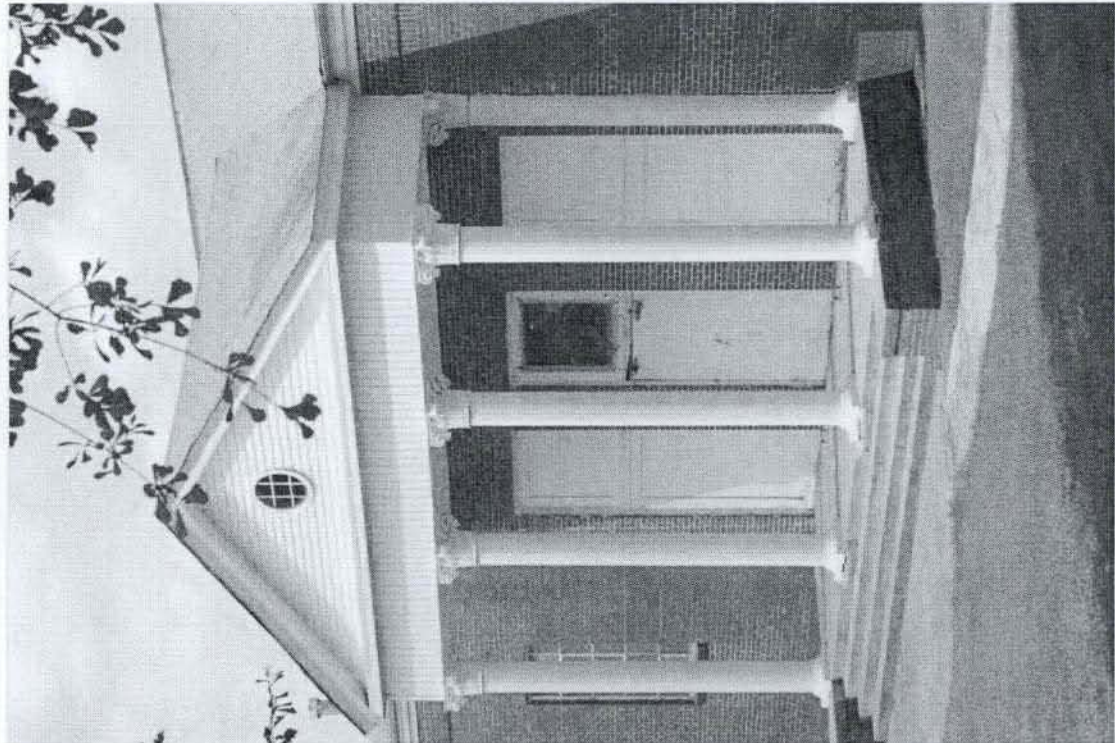
6. Exterior, east elevation, camera facing west
7. Photo #04



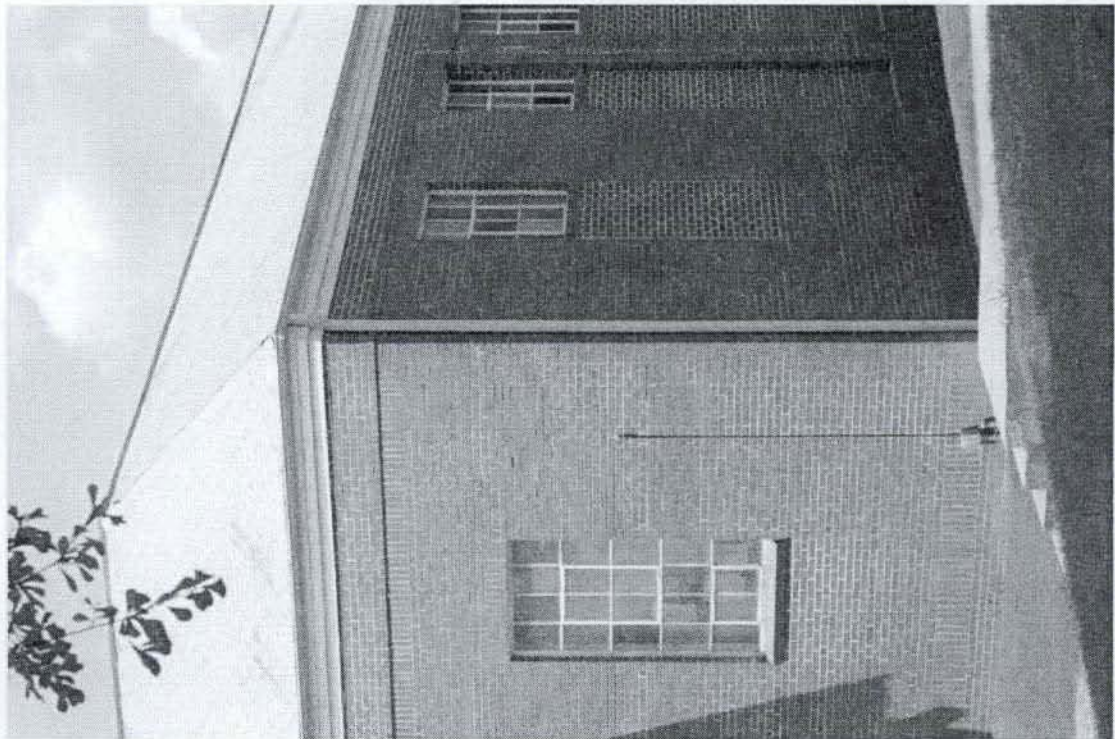
6. Exterior, north elevation, camera facing south
7. Photo #05



6. Exterior, west elevation, camera facing southeast
7. Photo #06



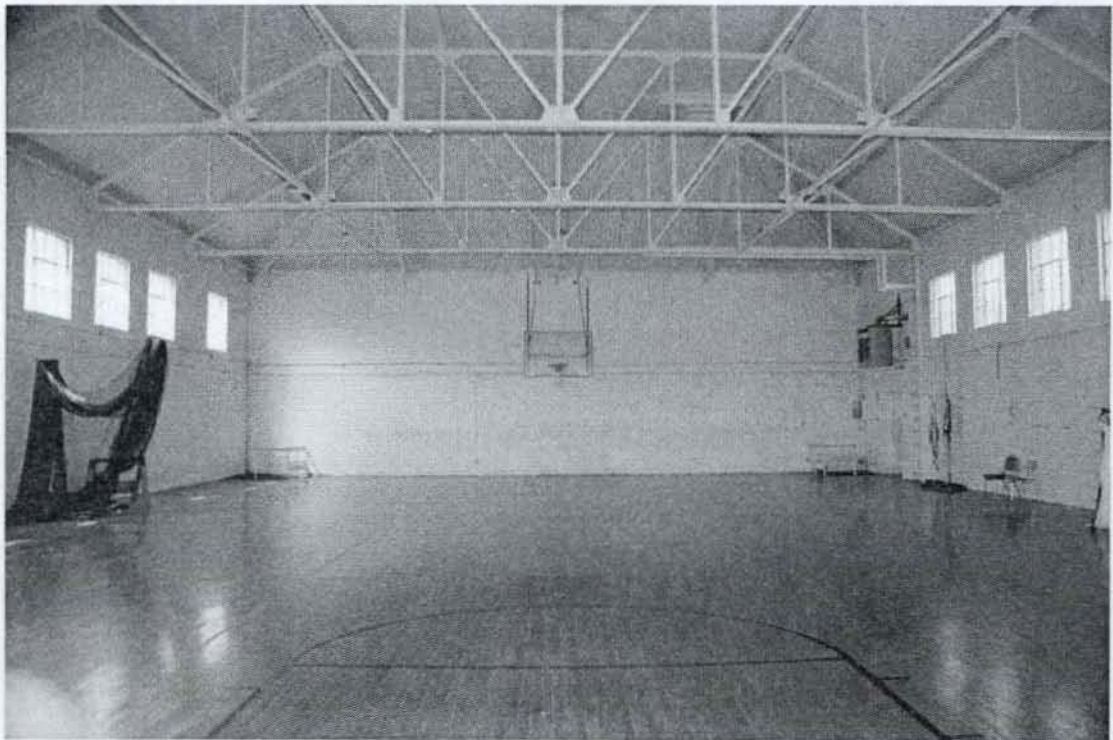
6. Exterior, detail of portico, camera facing north
7. Photo #07



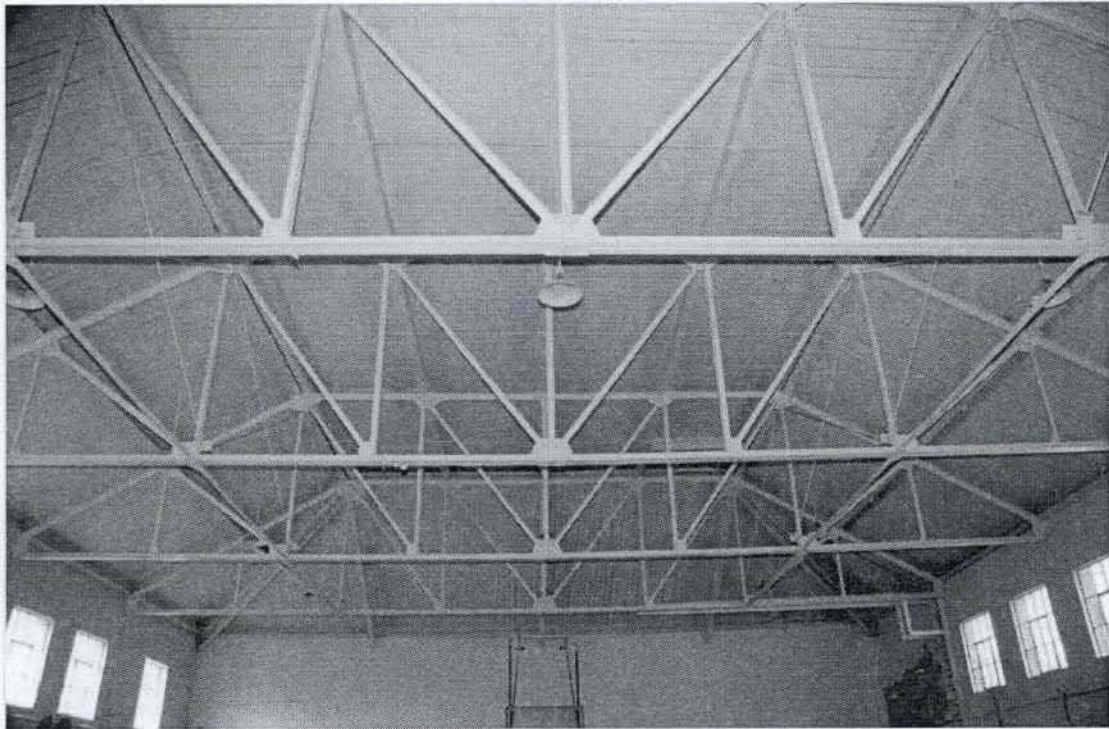
6. Exterior, detail, camera facing north
7. Photo #08



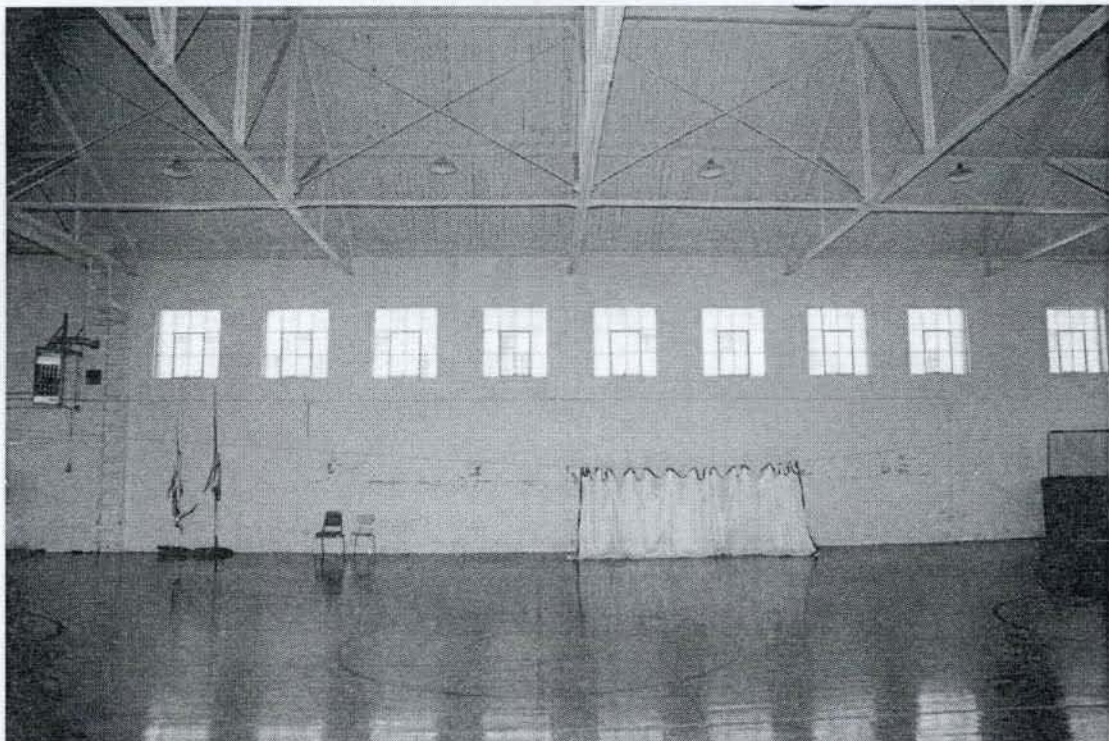
6. Exterior, detail of plaque, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #09



6. Interior, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #10



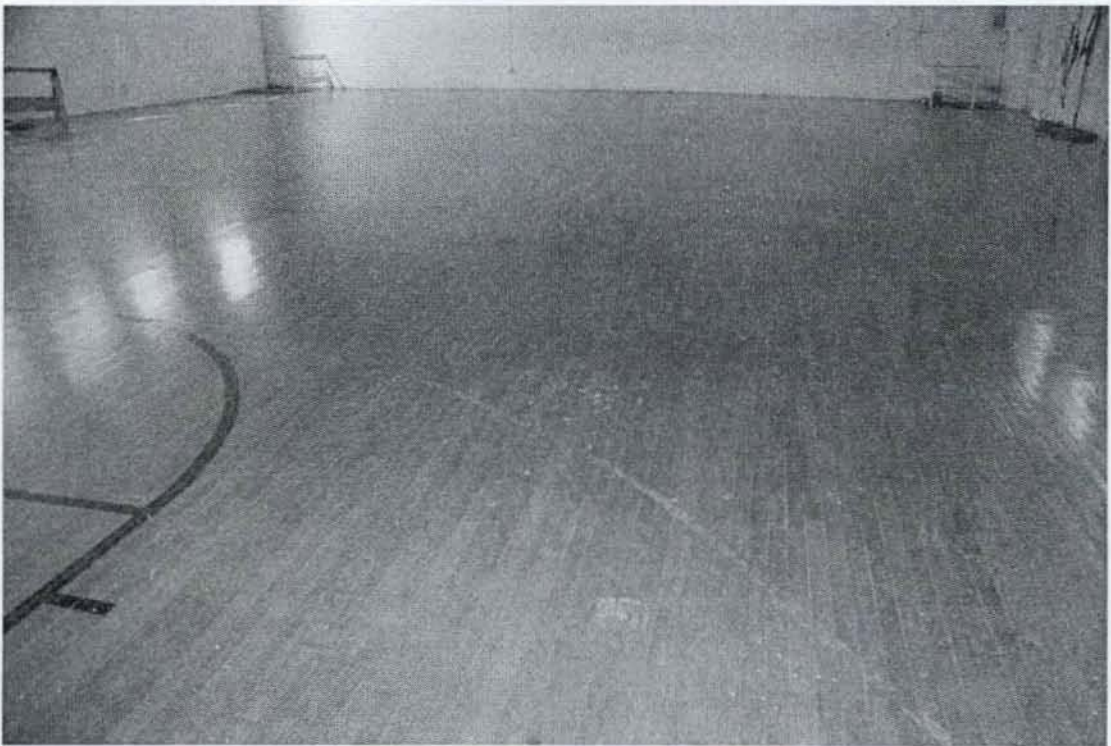
6. Interior, 2nd floor, Anteroom, camera facing south
7. Photo #11



6. Interior, camera facing southeast
7. Photo #12



6. Interior, detail of roof trusses, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #13



6. Interior, detail of flooring, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #14