

ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS AND HERITAGE

Nomination Form

1. Name

historic Howell and Graves Junior High School
 and/or common Muscle Shoals Board of Education

2. Location

street & number 3300 Wilson Dam Road
 city, town Muscle Shoals ---vicinity of _____
 state Alabama county Colbert zip 35661

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 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 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 type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Muscle Shoals Board of Education Phone number 205-389-2600
 street & number 3300 Wilson Dam Road
 city, town Muscle Shoals ---vicinity of _____ zip 35661

5. Floor plan & site plan. Use space below to sketch floor plan and site plan or attach additional sheet.
 Attached

6. Description (See attached instructions for specific guidelines.)

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance.

Dating from 1927, the Howell and Graves Junior High School is a 3-bay, 2-story brick structure depicting the Jacobethan style which was popular in early-20th century school architecture. Elements of the style include the brick exterior fabric, decorative stonework (quoins, cornice, water table, window surrounds, and projecting center bay), brick parapet, large window bays, and decorative brick and stone inlay patterns. The upper portion of the crenellated parapet was removed in recent years due to decay, though the decorative stone centerpiece has been incorporated into a brick sign located in the front yard. The building is constructed on a rectangular plan, with a T-shaped hallway and a rear projecting auditorium. Originally, the plan included a centrally located office, auditorium and four classrooms on the first floor, with five additional classrooms above. A full basement provided a spacious utility area. Though some of the classrooms have been divided into smaller areas, the primary interior spaces are still evident.

Facing east, the Howell and Graves School is located in the southwestern edge of Muscle Shoals in a neighborhood which evolved during the early 20th century, most notably after the incorporation of the community in 1923. It is bounded on the east by Wilson Dam Road, on the north by Monroe Avenue, on the south by Kimberly Avenue, and on the west by a rear parking lot. The setting encompasses a city block and consists of sparse landscaping and original sidewalks and lighting. Several houses dating from the 1920s remain in the vicinity and give the neighborhood a notable early-20th century architectural flavor.

The building has undergone several renovations over the years, including the removal of the upper portion of the parapet, the replacement of original window sashes with glass bricks, the covering of interior plaster walls with sheetrock, the covering of the wood floors with tile and carpet, the installation of acoustical tile ceilings, and the addition of several interior walls. (See "Brief History of Muscle Shoals School System, 1956-1974" for a detailed discussion of renovation projects). The building is currently occupied by the Muscle Shoals Board of Education offices.

7. Significance (See attached instructions for specific guidelines.)

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"/> 1600-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input 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"/> other (specify)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	

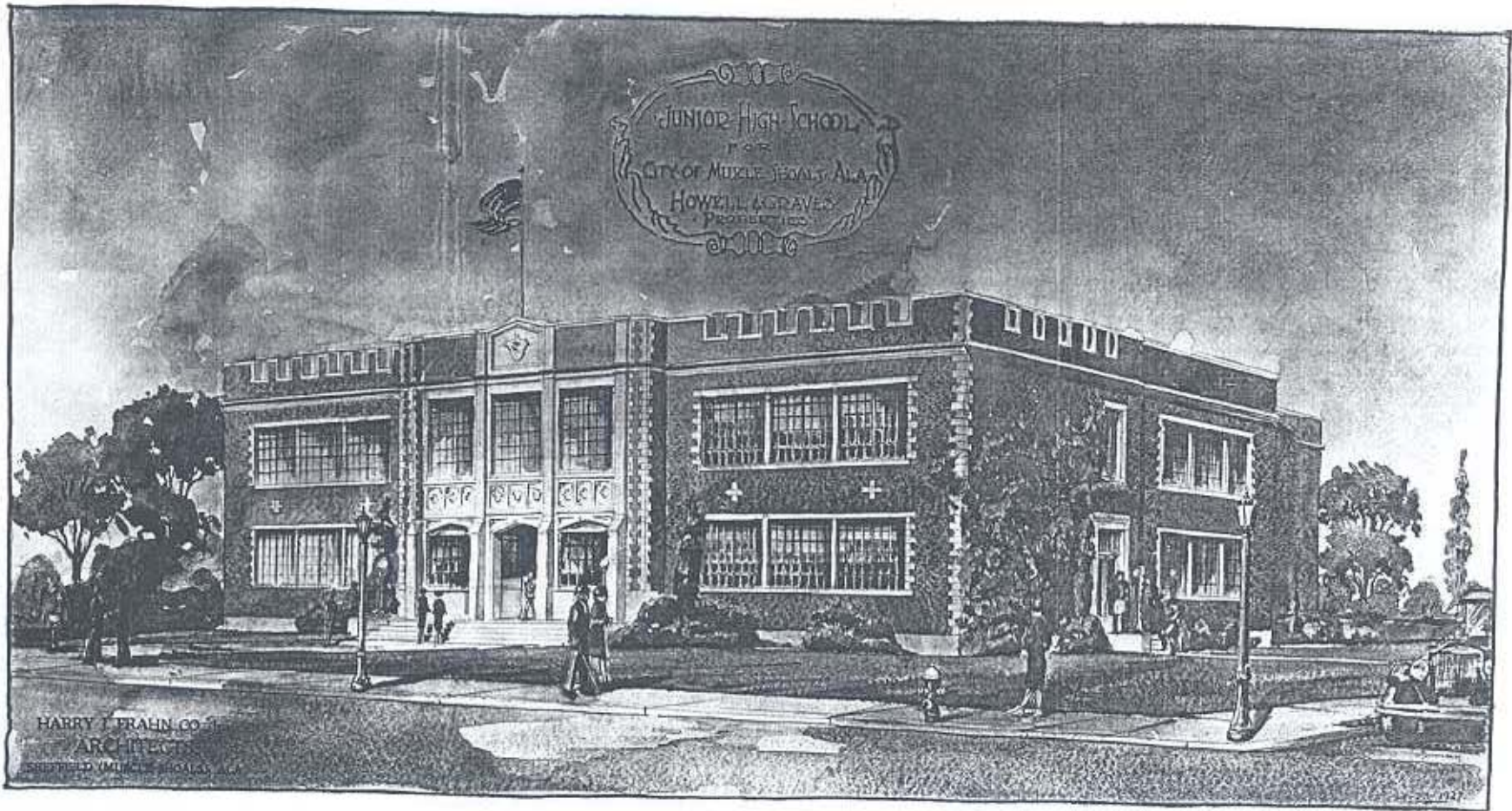
Specific dates 1927 Builder/Architect Harry J. Frahn Co., Inc.

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph).

The Howell and Graves Junior High School is eligible for listing on the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage under criteria A and C, in the areas of education and architecture. Possessing both notable architectural design and monumental scale, the school reflects the prevailing early-20th century idealism in public education. It furthermore depicts the general prosperity and population growth brought about by the construction of Wilson Dam and the industrial development of the Tennessee River during the previous decade.

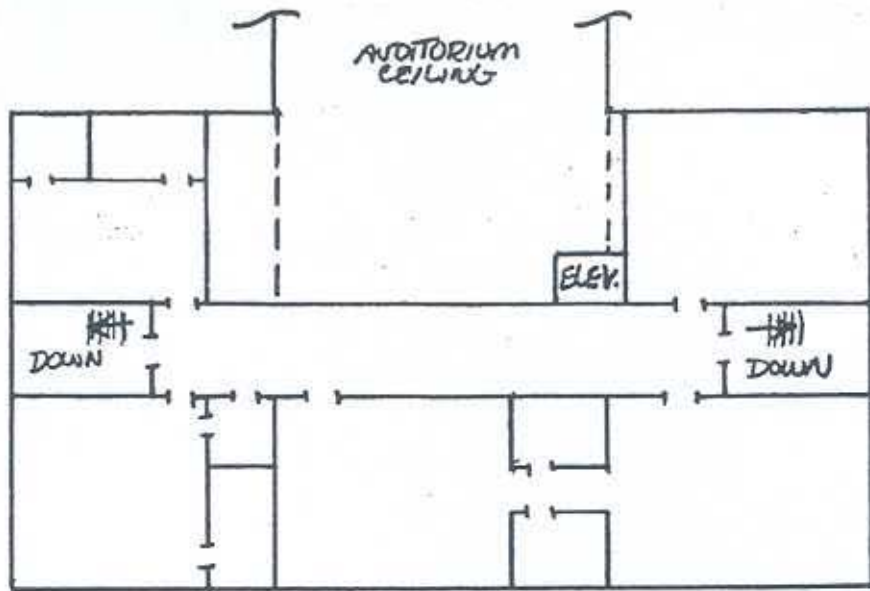
HISTORICAL SUMMARY:

Dating from 1927, the Howell and Graves Junior High School was constructed to meet the needs of a growing population. Discussions began in the spring of 1927 regarding the location of a school in the Howell and Graves Subdivision of Muscle Shoals. Mr. A.L. Howell of the Howell and Graves Realty Company proposed that a \$60,000 building be erected in the newly developed neighborhood on a lot which would be deeded to the State of Alabama by the Howell & Graves Realty Company in return for a deed to the old school site, the Cross Roads School. In addition, Howell & Graves pledged \$20,000 toward construction of the new school. (Records indicate that the Cross Roads School was accepted by the Colbert County Board of Education as a gift for the Negroes). Bids for the new school were taken in August, 1927, according to plans specified by Harry J. Frahn of Frahn Architect, Inc. The construction contract was awarded to Hurd and Company of Sheffield. By the following summer, construction was completed and the school was ready for use in the 1928-29 term. The Colbert County Board of Education arranged for a program of teacher training with the Florence State Teachers College (now the University of North Alabama). A primary and secondary curriculum was offered, with 246 students enrolled in grades 1-9 by 1930 and 224 enrolled in grades 1-10 by 1931. As the Muscle Shoals area continued to grow, the Howell and Graves School in 1958 became a part of the new Muscle Shoals Board of Education system. Under its direction, Howell and Graves has served as a middle school, an elementary school, and finally as the city Board of Education office.

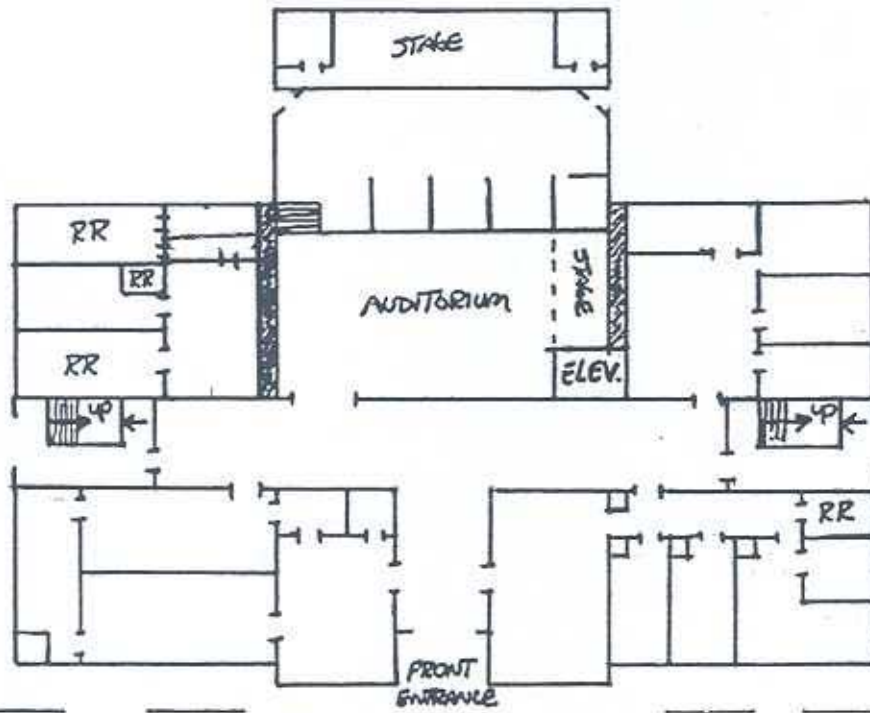


HARRY T. FRAHN CO.
ARCHITECTS
SHEFFIELD (MURRELLS FALLS), ALA.

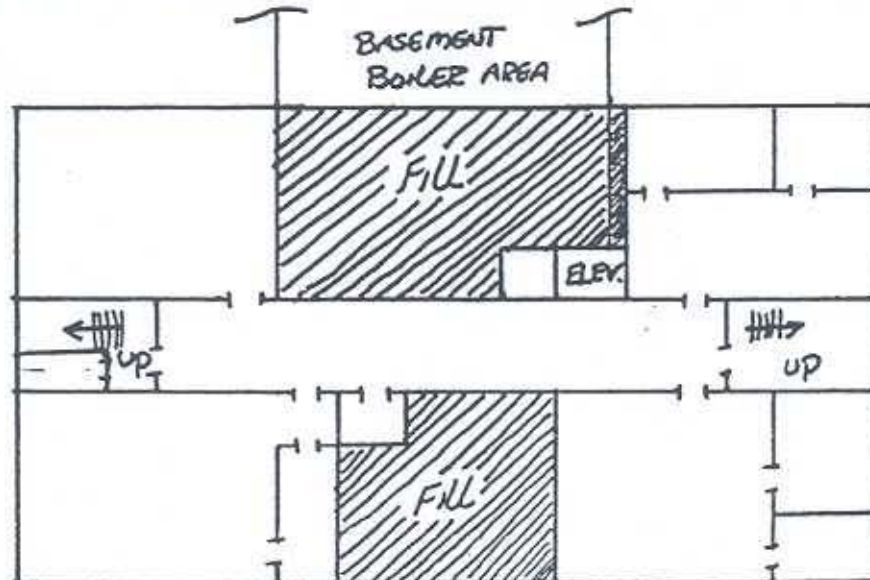
HOWELL-GRAVES
BLG.



2ND FLOOR



1ST FLOOR



BASEMENT

8. Major Bibliographical References

Bradford, Debbie.

9. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property ____ 1 city block ____

Quadrangle name _____

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

10. Form Prepared By

Sally Moore (AHC) and _____

name/title Debbie Bradford

organization City of Muscle Shoals

date June 19, 1997

street & number P.O. Box 2624

telephone 205-386-9202 or 383-5675

city or town Muscle Shoals

state AL

zip 35662

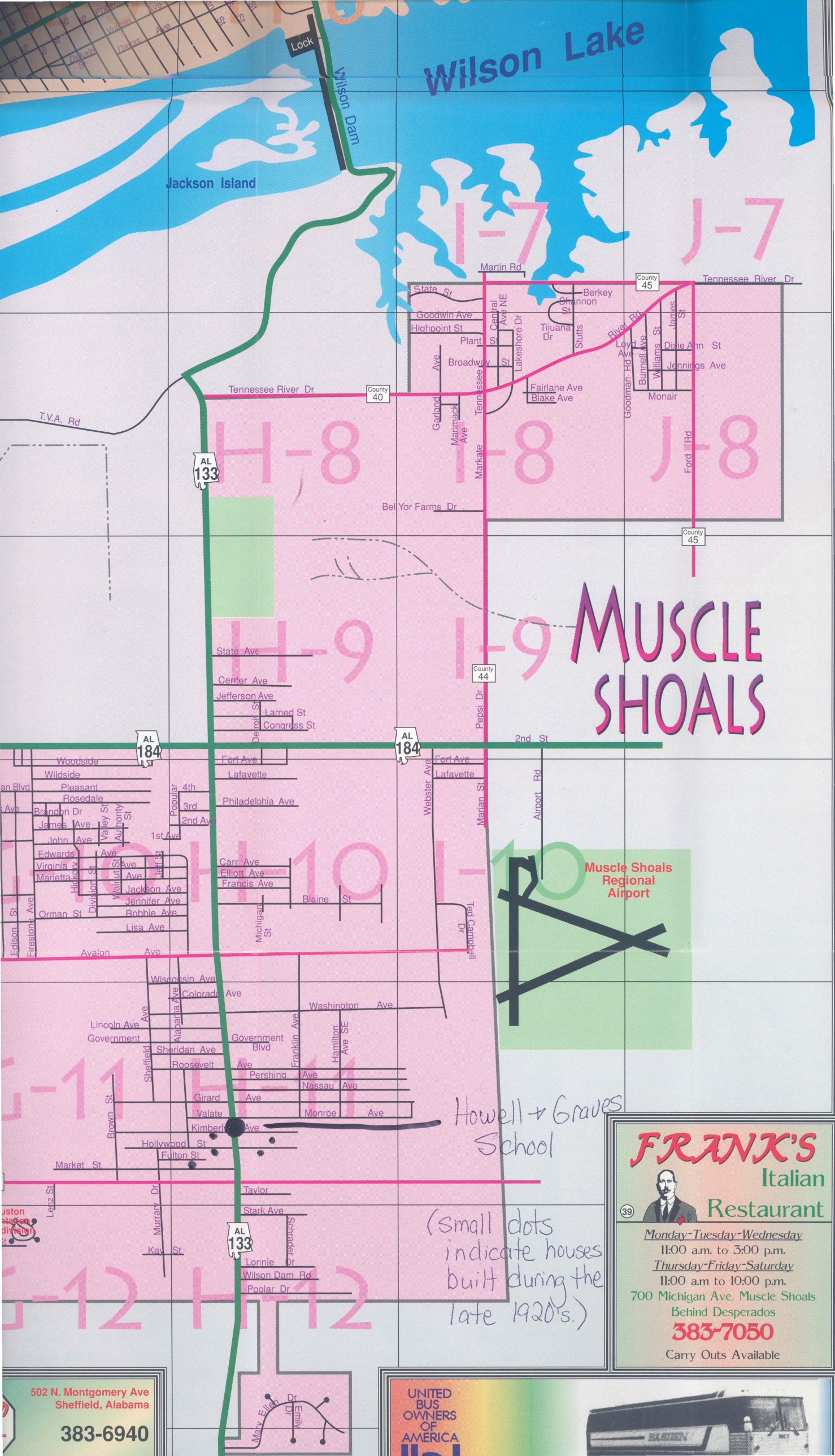
Home address: Debbie Bradford, 307 Lonnie Drive, Muscle Shoals, AL 35661(205-383-9450)

11. Please submit color slides of the property with this form.

Color slides are essential to the review process.

12. Please return ALABAMA REGISTER form and documentation to:

Alabama Register Coordinator
Alabama Historical Commission
468 South Perry Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900



Wilson Lake

Jackson Island

MUSCLE SHOALS

Muscle Shoals Regional Airport

Howell + Graves School

(small dots indicate houses built during the late 1920's.)

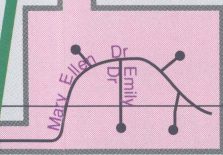
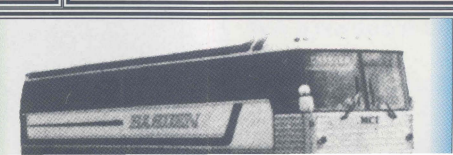
FRANK'S
Italian Restaurant



Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday
11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Thursday-Friday-Saturday
11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
700 Michigan Ave. Muscle Shoals
Behind Desperados
383-7050
Carry Outs Available

502 N. Montgomery Ave
Sheffield, Alabama
383-6940

UNITED BUS OWNERS OF AMERICA



Brief history of the beginning of
Howell & Graves School
as recorded in the minutes of the
Colbert County Board of Education

April 28, 1927 - Mr. A.L. Howell, of the Howell and Graves Realty Company, came before the Board with a committee from the Cross Roads District to present a proposition in regard to a new school building in said district, which includes the Howell & Graves Subdivision. Since the district 3-mill tax had been voted on March 22nd, 1927, Mr. Howell proposed that to donate \$20,000 to the Board to be used in building a school, provided the County Board would authorize the issuance of school district warrants for the sum of \$40,000 which would construct a \$60,000 school building. Mr. Howell proposed to do this under the direction of the Board and provided the state board would deed the Howell & Graves Company the school property now owned by the state in return for which the state would be deeded a similar lot to be located by the board in the Howell & Graves Subdivision, in said district, on which the school should be located.

June 17, 1927 - The Board unanimously accepted the report of Mr. Peach, Mr. Henniger and Mr. Hudson, concerning the proposition of the new school building in the Howell and Graves Sub-Division. The report was as follows: First, the County Board deed the old school site, know as the Cross Roads School, to Howell & Graves; second, Howell & Graves was to deed the State of Alabama a like tract on the Wilson Dam Highway for a new school site; third, Howell & Graves donate \$20,000 to be used in the construction of the new school building; fourth, the County board to match the above amount with \$40,000 which would give the district a \$60,000 school building; fifth, Howell & Graves agreed to buy the \$40,000 in warrants which was to be issued by the county as their part of the contract provided \$30,000 be issued against the district tax of 19A or Cross Roads and \$10,000 against the County three mill tax; this amount to be taken from the district tax after the interest and principal for each year was paid. The above warrants were to be taken as of July 1st, at 6 percent semi-annually payable one tenth each year until paid. Then funds were to be placed in the building fund of the funds and the building was to be constructed under the direction of the County Board of Education and Harry J. Frahn, architect, and Howell & Graves.

As this report was accepted, the following resolution was offered:

Whereas: a contract has been agreed upon by the County Board of Education and Howell and Graves for the erection of a Junior High School Building to cost \$60,000; the said building to be built under the supervision of Harry J. Frahn, architect, Howell and Graves and the Colbert County Board of Education; \$20,000 of the above amount to be furnished by the said Howell & Graves and \$40,000 in warrants be furnished by the County Board of Education; \$30,000 in warrants to be issued against the district tax on which the said school is to be located; the three mill tax to be solely pledged for the payment of these warrants which are to bear 6 per cent interest semi-annually, date of warrants to be July 1st and interest Jan. 1st, and July 1st, 1927. The remaining \$10,000 in warrants in denomination of \$1000 to be issued against the County 3-mill tax, one tenth to be paid annually, date of warrants bearing July 1st, 1927; this fund to be placed in the Howell & Graves School building fund to the credit of G.H. Carter, Treasurer, of Public School funds of Colbert County.

Upon motion by Mr. Henniger, seconded by Mr. Kimbrough, the resolution as suggested by the Superintendent, offering to name the new school Howell & Graves Junior High School, was unanimously adopted.

Upon motion by Mr. Kimbrough, seconded by Mr. Henniger, the Superintendent requested to prepare a deed which would transfer the old site of Cross Roads school to Howell and Graves, in return for which a deed was to be received for a similar school. The Board accepted the old building as a gift for the Negroes as the Superintendent had suggested and had been authorized to get help if possible to erect a building for the Negroes at Cave Springs.

Certificate of County Board to the State Supt. Requesting Sale of School Property:

Whereas: the Colbert Co. Board of Education recognizes the need of better school advantage in the Cross Roads School District, the following contract is set out:

"For and in consideration of a donation of more than \$3909.00 made by the Howell Graves Development Co. to the erection of the High School building, and a deed to 1-1/3 acres, more or less, on which the said high school building stands, which deed was made by the above named company and is now on file with the State Dept. of Education, the County Board of Education hereby recommends that the old school property as described below, be sold to the Howell-Graves Development Co. for \$1.00 and a deed to the new high school property mentioned above."

August 16, 1927 - A called meeting for the purpose of considering bids for the Howell and Graves Junior High School. After considering all bids it was unanimously decided to award the contract for erection of the building as per plans and specifications of Frahn Architect Inc. to Hurd and Co. Of Sheffield for the sum of Sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.) provided the required bond could be made. The Contract for electric wiring was awarded to E.T.Holland, of Tuscumbia, as per plans and specifications of Frahn Architect, Inc. for the sum of Five thousand three hundred sixty-five dollars.(\$5365) The heating contract was awarded to Machtolff of Sheffield for the sum of Four thousand nine hundred ninety (\$4990) as per plans and specifications on file in the office of the County Board of Education. By mutual agreement between the County Board of Education and Mr. Howell and Harry Frahn it was agreed to pay Mr. Frahn the sum of \$3,000 for the architects fee. After accepting all bids Mr. Frahn was instructed to prepare bonds as per agreement and turn them over to the County Board of Education. In order to comply with the contracts make above the County Board of Education is delivering to Howell and Graves \$30,000.00 Colbert County District No. 19A three mill tax warrants at par with accrued interest from July 1st, 1927 and Howell and Graves agrees to put up \$39,009.00 Mr. G.H. Carter, the treasurer was instructed to draw on Howell and Graves for the above amount plus the accrued interest on the \$30,000. District warrants. This makes a total of \$69,000. The County Board agrees to put up the balance which is \$10,000 making a total of the contract \$79,009.

March 10, 1928 - Mr. Alfred Howell came before the Board and went over the school proposition at Muscle Shoals City. Mr. Peach, Mr. Henniger and the Superintendent were authorized to investigate any possible defects in the building and were given authority to act in cooperation with the State Architect. The question of the dedication of the building was brought up and the Supt. With Mr. Henniger was appointed to arrange for it on the 29th of May with the Masonic Lodge in charge.

June 24, 1928 - The Board passed the following resolution - "Whereas the Howell and Graves Schools has been built and is ready for use this term the Board or community is without funds to equip the building, therefore- be it - Resolved, that the chairman and supt. Take whatever steps necessary to negotiate district warrants to Howell and Graves to the amount of \$2500 to be sold at Par to buy equipment for the building.

July 3, 1929 - Dr. H.J. Willingham, president of the Florence State Teachers College outlined the program of teacher training and agreed to furnish the necessary teachers from his college to do practice teaching at the Howell and Graves School for a period of six weeks provided the Board would furnish the transportation and the supervising principal, Miss Williams. The Board agreed to this and the superintendent was authorized to notify the patrons of the Howell and Graves School to get their children ready for school July 15th. The supt. Was authorized to work out, with the approval of the Board plan to use these teachers when they were available.

Enrollment Records

Howell Grave Junior High School

(These records were taken from microfilmed records and are as accurate as possible. These are the earliest recorded records.)

1930-1931

Principal - Edna Williams

1 st grade	Mrs. A. Davis, teacher	76 total
2 nd grade	Mrs. J.R. Allen	24 total
3 rd grade		38 total
4 th grade	Mrs. C. Thigpen	23 total
5 th grade		24 total
6 th grade	Miss Frances DePrez	36 total
7 th grade	Mr. Rufus Porter	14 total
8 th grade		7 total
9 th grade	Miss Edna Williams	4 total
		TOTAL 246

1931 - 1932

Principal Rufus Porter

Low 1 st grade	Mrs. J. T. Davis	
High 1 st grade	Carmel McGuire	70 total
2 nd grade	Mrs. J.R. Allen	29 total
3 rd grade	Mrs. Allen	13 total
4 th grade	Mrs. Chas Thigpen	20 total
5 th grade	Mrs. Chas. Thigpen	15 total
6 th grade	Francis DesPrez	30 total
7 th grade		26 total
8 th grade		11 total
9 th grade	Lucille McBride	6 total
10 th grade		4 total
		TOTAL 224









20AD162



Monroe Ave
Wilson Dam Rd







EXIT



