

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

RECEIVED DEC 24 1990

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

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 Georgetown Public School other names/site number Grant Avenue School

2. Location

street & number 307 West Grant Avenue city, town Georgetown state Ohio code OH county Brown code 015 zip code 45121

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: [X] private, [ ] public-local, [ ] public-State, [ ] public-Federal. Category of Property: [X] building(s), [ ] district, [ ] site, [ ] structure, [ ] object. Number of Resources within Property: Contributing 1, Noncontributing 0, Total 1. Name of related multiple property listing: N/A. Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0.

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] 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 [X] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. Signature of certifying official: Barbara Fowle, Date: 12-14-90.

In my opinion, the property [ ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet. Signature of commenting or other official: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is: [X] entered in the National Register. [ ] determined eligible for the National Register. [ ] determined not eligible for the National Register. [ ] removed from the National Register. [ ] other, (explain:). Entered in the National Register: Martha Z. Baker, 25 Jan. 1991. Signature of the Keeper: [Signature], Date of Action: \_\_\_\_\_

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Education: school  

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Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/trade: specialty store  
Recreation and culture  

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)Second Renaissance Revival  
Richardsonian Romanesque  

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Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone  
walls brick  

---

roof asphalt shingle  
other   

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**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

The Georgetown Public School in Georgetown, Brown County, Ohio is a 2-1/2 story, common bond brick structure composed of a main rectangular section with two subordinate wings on the north and south sides which form an overall cruciform plan. The saddleback hip roof contains a central cupola flanked by two simple brick chimneys. Both the east and west ends of the roof contain a single hip-roofed dormer. The building rests on a raised foundation of rough-cut stone. The school is sited at the east, level end of a triangular lot in a predominantly residential area two blocks west of the Georgetown commercial district. The building's integrity is remarkably intact. Later iron fire escapes are the only exterior change; the interior changes consist of a lowered ceiling in a second story classroom, subdivision of another second story classroom into two rooms, the addition of a bathroom in the cloakroom of a first story classroom, and c. 1950 changes to the basement for a large cafeteria and bathroom additions.

The common bond brick building features brick quoins on the corners, rock-faced brick Gibbs surrounds on the first story rectangular windows, and large radiating brick arches over the round-arched second story windows. A brick beltcourse connects the second story windows on all sides of the building. All windows have the original sash, which is 2/2 on the first and second story windows and 6/6 in the basement window sash.

The roof has wide overhanging eaves with single wood brackets. The cupola in the center of the main roof has a square paneled base with an octagonal steeple with trefoil arched openings atop it. Two small hip-roofed dormers in the east and west ends of the roof have paired window openings with 6/6 wooden sash. Exterior doors are paneled wood with glass panels in the upper half.

The building is basically symmetrical on the north and south sides, which both have a central projecting wing. Both are eleven bays wide, including the three bay projecting section which is two bays deep.

The east and west sides are also similar and are six bays wide. The bays are arranged in groups of three on both the first and second stories. The east side has four doors in the center, instead of windows, which have large two-pane transoms above. The second story doors on the east side are connected by a central iron fire escape. Two double-door entrances are also located in the recessed sections of the east and west sides. Stone steps lead up to these entrances, which have multi-panel wood doors with large transoms above.

The interior plan is composed of a central hallway with two staircases leading from the north and south sides of the square hall area. The stairways have beaded board closed railings with chamfered newel posts on the corners. A large flat skylight with multiple panes of glass, possibly a later addition, is located in the center of the stairhall ceiling.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Georgetown Public School, Georgetown, Ohio, Brown County

Section number 7 Page 1

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Six classrooms are grouped around the hall on both stories.

Entrances to the classrooms have single four-panel wood doors with two-pane transoms above. The original radiators, blackboards, and wood floors are present in most of the rooms. Most of the rooms have newer fluorescent lighting fixtures, although some have had their c. 1930 domed hanging fixtures restored, which had been stored in the basement until recently. The classrooms have long narrow cloakrooms. The basement contains a c. 1950 cafeteria, small utility areas, and bathrooms.

Photographic information:

Georgetown Public School  
306 W. Grant Avenue  
Georgetown, Brown County, Ohio

The above name and address are the same for all fifteen of the following photographs.

The location of the original negatives for the photographs is:

Miami Purchase Association  
1225 Elm Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45210

The photographer for all photographs is Rita Walsh. All photographs were taken in June 1990.

Photo #1  
View of southeast corner, photographer facing northwest

Photo #2  
View of south facade, photographer facing north

Photo #3  
View of west facade, photographer facing east

Photo #4  
View of Cherry Street, photographer facing east

Photo #5  
View of north facade, photographer facing south

Photo #6  
View of northeast corner, photographer facing southwest

Photo #7  
View of Grant Avenue streetscape, photographer facing southwest

(continued)

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Georgetwon Public School, Georgetwon, Ohio, Brown County

Section number   7   Page   2  

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Photo #8

View of east facade, photographer facing southwest

Photo #9

View of stairway in center hall, first floor, photographer facing southwest

Photo #10

View of southwest classroom, first floor, photographer facing southeast

Photo #11

View of northeast classroom, first floor, photographer facing northwest

Photo #12

View of center hall, second floor, photographer facing southeast

Photo #13

View of northwest classroom cloakroom, second floor, photographer facing north

Photo #14

View of south classroom, second floor, photographer facing northwest

Photo #15

View of northeast classroom, second floor, photographer facing northeast

**8. Statement of Significance**

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)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Education

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1898-1921

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1898

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Samuel Hannaford & Sons, Cincinnati, OH (arch.)

Fletcher Bros. Co, Cincinnati, OH (builder)

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Georgetown Public School in Georgetown, Brown County, Ohio is significant under both Criterion A and C. The 1898 school building is significant under Criterion A because it represents a period in Georgetown's educational history when a single building housed all of the public school grades in a central location, a typical practice in small towns in the late 19th century. The Georgetown Public School is one of only two examples of such schools remaining in Brown County. The Georgetown Public School housed all of the public school grades from the time of its construction until 1921, when a new high school was built across the street to the south. The structure is the oldest and most imposing school building in Georgetown, the county seat of Brown County. The Georgetown Public School is significant under Criterion C because it is an architecturally significant example of an institutional building in Georgetown from the turn of the century.

The Georgetown Public School was constructed in 1898 to replace an earlier school on the site which was destroyed by a fire in 1897. This earlier school, built in 1856, had five rooms and served the elementary grades as well as three years of high school after 1880. After 1891, this earlier building was also where Georgetown's black children first attended school. In 1899, the new 12-room school building was opened and served all grades of Georgetown's school children, who were grouped in four categories - high school, grammar, intermediate, and primary. An enumeration of the school children in Georgetown in June 1899 counted 460 students from ages 6 to 21 years old. The school rooms were also rented out for other educational endeavors in the community, including German classes and Normal training.

In 1921, a new two-story high school was built across the street from the 1898 school because of overcrowding. The Georgetown Public School was used for elementary grades until 1988. It presently houses several small businesses and community activities.

While the Georgetown Public School is the earliest public school in the village, there are two school buildings remaining in the village which represent an earlier phase in Georgetown's educational history. Both two-room brick schoolhouses, the Grant Schoolhouse now owned by the Ohio Historical Society and a school building included in the Georgetown Historic District (NR 1978) were built in the 1820s as subscription schools and did not serve all of the village's population.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Georgetown Public School, Georgetwon, Ohio, Brown County

Section number 8 Page 2

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The Georgetown Public School was the village's first and only school building constructed to serve all of the public school grades. Only two such school buildings still exist in Brown County, although it was common for small towns to have a single building in a central location serve all of the public school grades in the late 19th century. The only other example is the 1880 Italianate style Higginsport School, which is also in remarkably intact condition. In 1912, there were nine such schools in the county, three of them built around the same time as the Georgetown school. The rest of Brown County's older public school buildings date from the 1910s and 1920s.

The Georgetown Public School is one of four turn-of-the-century institutional buildings in Georgetown. The other three are the 1898 Fraternity Hall on E. Cherry Street; the 1902 F. & A. M. Building on Main Street, and the 1907 Public Building on State Street (Rte. 125). All three of these buildings are included within the boundaries of the Georgetown Historic District (NR 1978). Fraternity Hall and the F. & A. M. Building are part of a row of commercial buildings in blocks which face the Brown County Courthouse. The Public Building, constructed to house the police station, mayor's office, and other village administration activities, is a freestanding corner building located just west of the commercial/courthouse center.

All three of these institutional buildings are three stories in height and of brick construction. The Fraternity Hall has Richardsonian Romanesque and Queen Anne styling, seen in the large round-arched second story windows and decorative cast iron storefront and cornice. The F. & A. M. Building is a severe example of Classical Revival, its plain rectangular block relieved by a simple cornice and projecting pedimented entrance porch. The Public Building is Second Renaissance Revival in style, with a rusticated first story and large cornice with central pediment.

The Georgetown Public School is the most sophisticated and imaginative stylistically of the four institutional buildings. The exterior exhibits a combination of fashionable stylistic elements from the 1890s, seen in the Richardsonian Romanesque style arched windows in the second story, the first story Gibbs surround windows indicative of the Colonial Revival style, and the fanciful central cupola with trefoil arches. An unusual feature is the overhanging wood eaves with exposed rafter tails similar to bungalows from a later period. On both the interior and the exterior, the building's original design is remarkably unchanged.

The Georgetown Public School is one of thirty known educational buildings designed by the firm of Samuel Hannaford & Sons. Samuel Hannaford, a native of England, started his architectural practice in Cincinnati in 1858 and joined in a partnership with two of his sons in 1887. The firm was in existence until 1964 and was responsible for the designs of hundreds of structures in Ohio and neighboring states. Samuel Hannaford and his firm were skilled designers in the popular styles of the time and received many important public and private commissions. Fifty-five Cincinnati area buildings by the firm were listed in a thematic National Register nomination in 1980.

The Georgetown Public School is similar in its massing, size and some stylistic details to Cincinnati schools built in the 1890s, although these were not designed by Hannaford & Sons. The Georgetown school's interior design is typical of late 19th century schools in its spacious hallways, double stairwells, generously-sized classrooms with two walls of windows to provide light and air circulation, and large cloakrooms adjacent to the classrooms.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Brown County to Date: Historical, Biographical Souvenir, The News Democrat, pub. (1912)  
History of Brown County, Brown County Historical Society, compilers (c. 1968)  
Atlas of Brown County, Ohio, Lake, Griffiths, and Stevenson (1875)  
Georgetown Exempted Village Board of Education Minutes, 1898-1915, Board of Education  
offices, P.O. Drawer 299, Georgetown, Ohio 45121  
Ohio Historic Inventory forms for Brown County public school buildings, Ohio Historic  
Preservation Office, Columbus, Ohio  
Samuel Hannaford/Samuel Hannaford & Sons National Register thematic nomination, Stephen  
C. Gordon and Elisabeth Tuttle (1980)  
Computer list of buildings designed by Samuel Hannaford/Samuel Hannaford & Sons,  
Walter A. Langsam, compiler, Cincinnati, Ohio

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- 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

Specify repository:

Miami Purchase Association  
1225 Elm St., Cincinnati, Ohio 45210

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property Approximately one acre

UTM References

A 

1	6	2	4	7	7	8	0	4	3	0	5	7	0	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

Situated, lying and being in the Village of Georgetown, Town of Pleasant, in the County of Brown, State of Ohio, and in that part of said Village laid out by Thomas Jennings and known and designated on the recorded plat of said addition to said town, their numbering, to wit: One hundred fifty three (153), One hundred fifty four (154), One hundred fifty five (155), One hundred fifty six (156), and One hundred fifty seven (157).

See continuation sheet

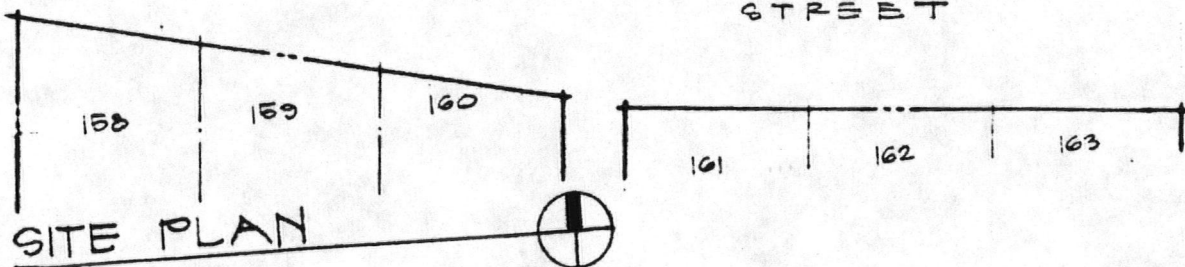
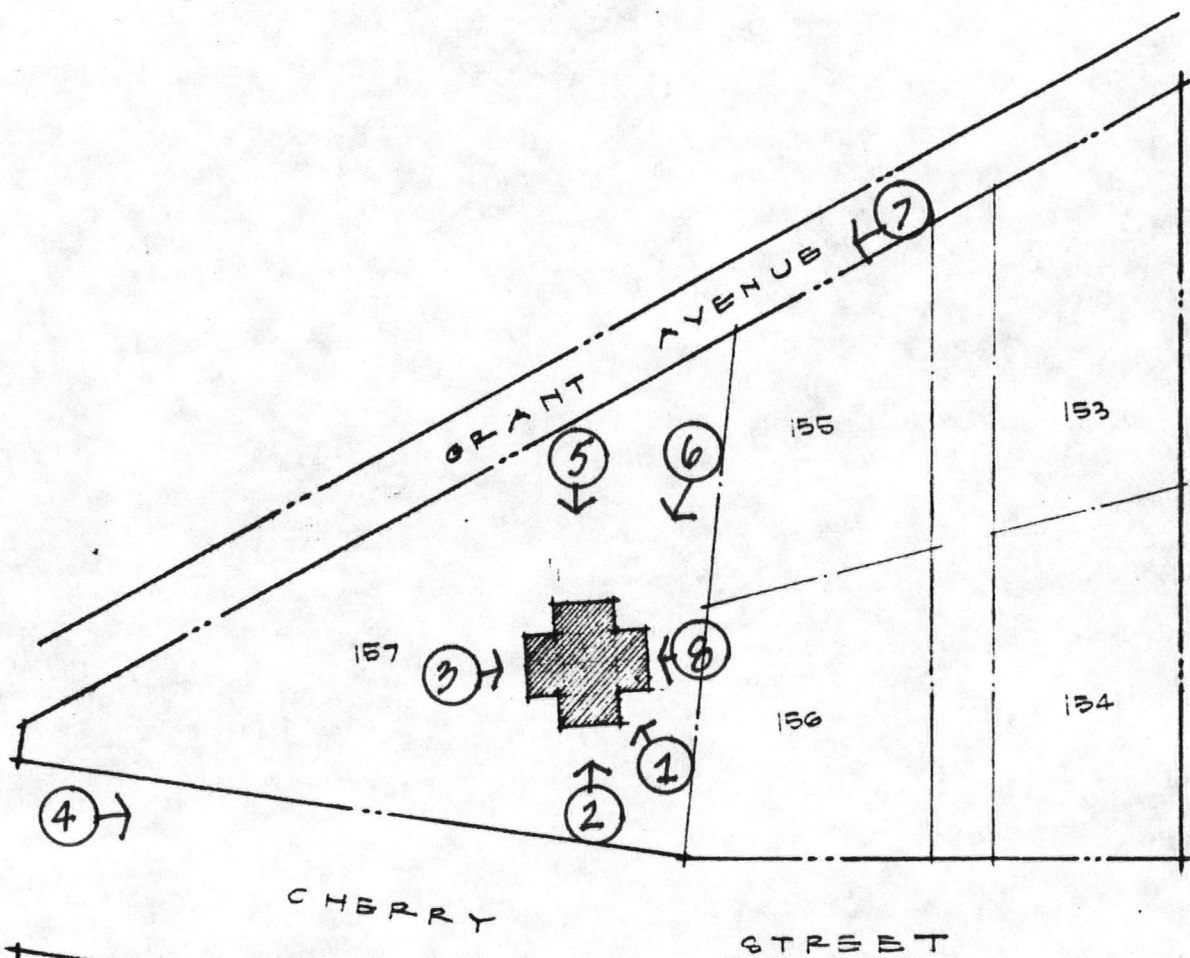
**Boundary Justification**

The lots which contain the building and its adjacent parking lot and green space is the only property being nominated. It is the property historically associated with the nominated structure.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Rita Walsh/Architectural Historian  
organization Miami Purchase Association date 10/90  
street & number 1225 Elm Street telephone (513) 721-4506  
city or town Cincinnati state Ohio zip code 45210

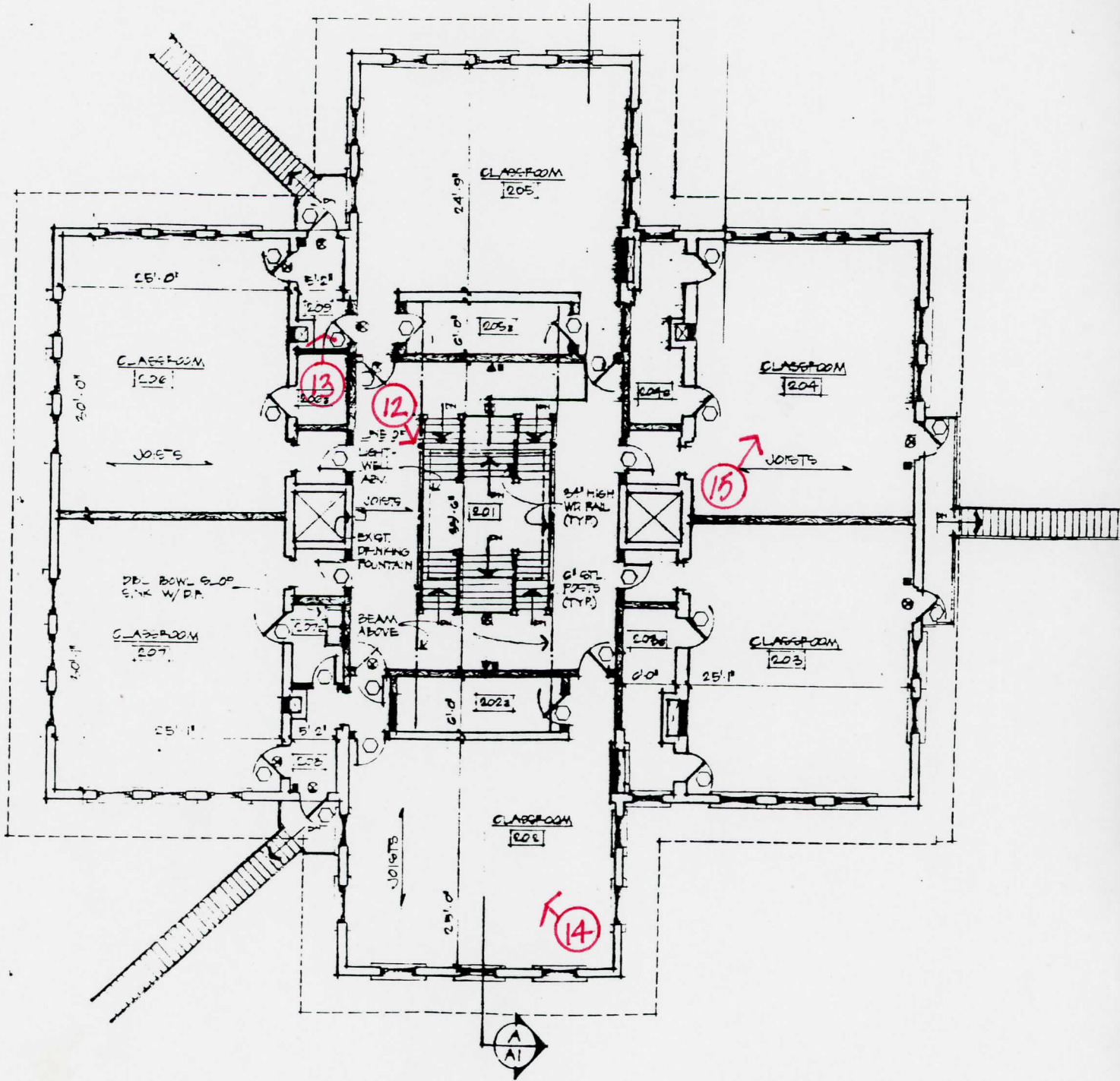


SITE PLAN

NO SCALE

GEORGETOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL  
 GEORGETOWN, BROWN COUNTY, OHIO

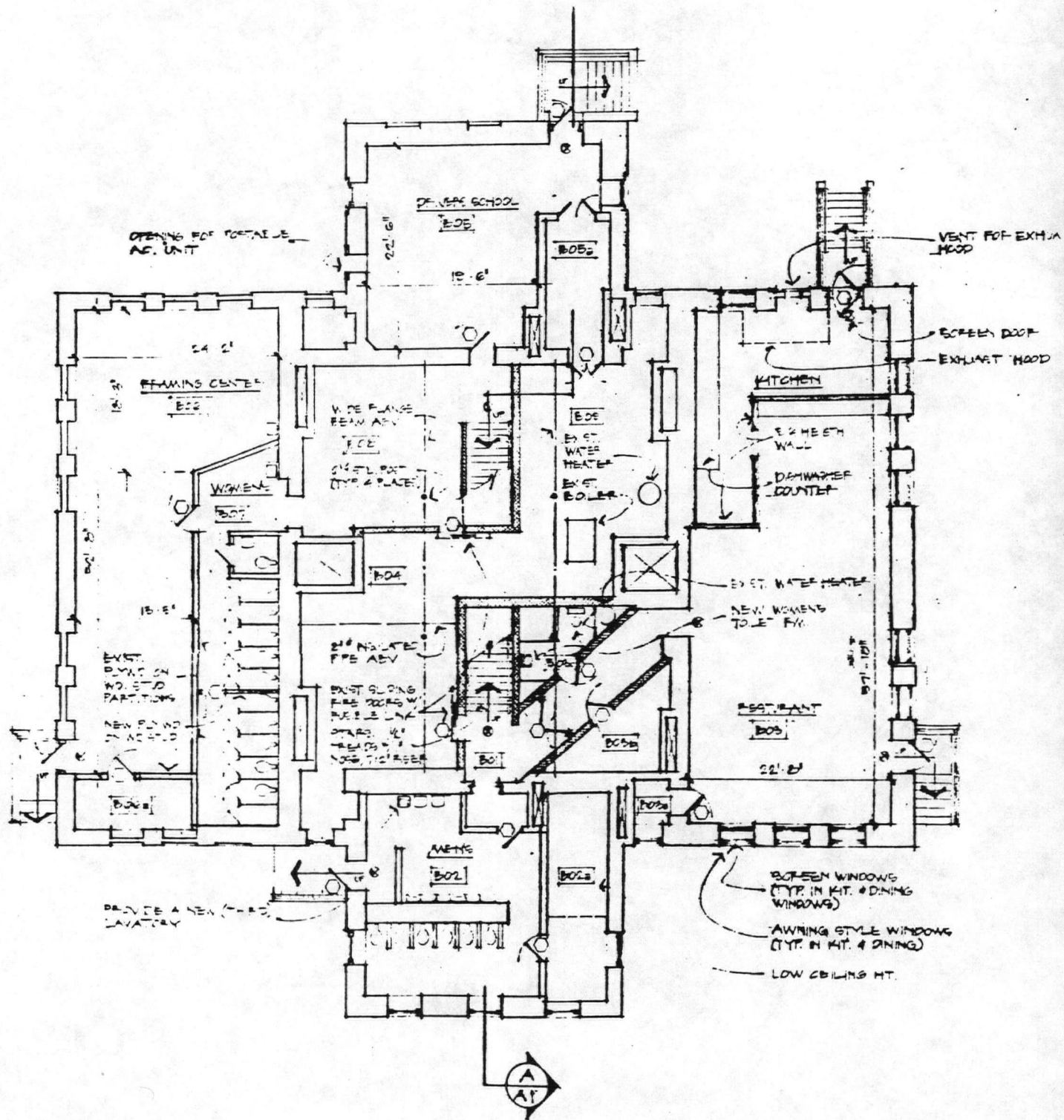




SECOND FLOOR PLAN

GEORGETOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL  
 GEORGETOWN, BROWN COUNTY, OHIO

• PLAN SHOWN INDICATES PROPOSED DESIGN



BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN

GEORGETOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL  
 GEORGETOWN, BROWN COUNTY, OHIO

• PLAN SHOWN INDICATES PROPOSED DESIGN

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Georgetown Public School

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: OHIO, Brown

DATE RECEIVED: 12/24/90      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/09/91  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/25/91      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/07/91  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90002215

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    25 Feb. 1991 DATE **Entered in the National Register**

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_  
REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_  
DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

---

CLASSIFICATION

count       resource type

---

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

---

FUNCTION

historic       current

---

DESCRIPTION

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

---

SIGNIFICANCE

Period      Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates      Builder/Architect  
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

summary paragraph  
 completeness  
 clarity  
 applicable criteria  
 justification of areas checked  
 relating significance to the resource  
 context  
 relationship of integrity to significance  
 justification of exception  
 other

---

BIBLIOGRAPHY

---

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage       verbal boundary description  
 UTM's       boundary justification

---

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps     USGS maps     photographs     presentation

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OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



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PHOTO #1

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GEORGETOWN, BROWN COUNTY, OH

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PHOTO #3

GEORGETOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL

GEORGETOWN, BROWN COUNTY, OHIO







JCPenney Catalog Merchant

NO PARKING  
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AS SHOWN

PHOTO #5.

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PHOTO # 11

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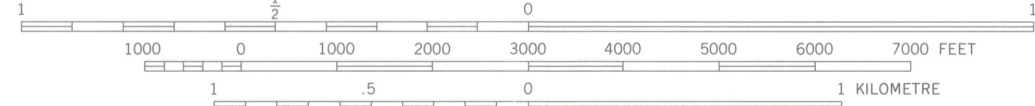
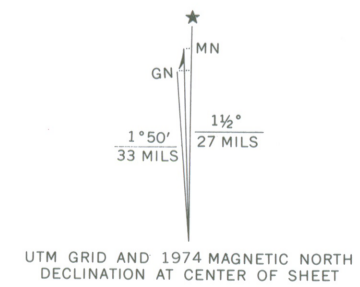
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GEORGETOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL  
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GEORGETOWN, BROWN COUNTY, OHIO  
UTM 16/247780/4305700

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Kentucky area mapped in cooperation with State of Kentucky  
Geological Survey

Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE  
Topography in Ohio by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
photographs taken 1960. Field checked 1961  
Topography in Kentucky by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
photographs taken 1950. Field checked 1952. Revised 1961  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum. 10,000-foot grids  
based on Ohio coordinate system, south zone, and Kentucky coordinate  
system, north zone. 1,000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid  
ticks, zone 17, shown in blue  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines when  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked  
The state boundary as shown represents the approximate position of  
the low water line as determined from U. S. Corps of Engineers  
Ohio River charts, surveyed 1913, and supplementary information  
Ohio area lies within the Virginia Military District



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 10 FOOT CONTOURS  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40506,  
AND KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U. S. Route	State Route

HIGGINSPORT, OHIO-KY.

N3845-WB352.5/7.5

1961

PHOTOREVISED 1974

AMS 4261 IV SW-SERIES V852

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with  
State of Ohio agencies from aerial photographs taken  
1974. This information not field checked.





**Ohio Senate**  
Statehouse  
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0604  
614/466-8082

**Committees:**  
Education and Retirement,  
Chairman  
Economic Development  
Highways and Transportation  
Rules

**Cooper Snyder**  
14th District

RECEIVED NOV 26 1990

November 23, 1990

Mr. Jeff Winstel  
National Register Manager  
Ohio Historic Preservation Office  
1982 Velma Avenue  
Columbus, Ohio 43211-2497

Re: Georgetown Public School, 307 West Grant Avenue, Georgetown  
Brown County, Ohio

Dear Manager Winstel:

I am pleased to learn that you are giving consideration to the referenced site for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. I know that you've worked in the past with the principles involved and they take great pride in maintaining historic integrity.

I am familiar with the site. It is a classic structure and deserves favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cooper Snyder".

Cooper Snyder  
State Senator

CS/ja

cc: Mr. and Mrs. John Ruthven, 7471 Dr. Faul Road, Georgetown  
Dr. and Mrs. John Donohoo, West Blair Avenue, Georgetown  
Mr. and Mrs. Henry McKinley, 1255 South Main, Georgetown  
Mr. Les Kautz, 851 S. R. 125, Hamersville, Ohio 45130

**Ohio Historic Preservation Office**

Ohio Historical Center  
1982 Velma Avenue  
Columbus, Ohio 43211-2497  
(614) 297-2470

RECEIVED

DEC 24 1990

**NATIONAL  
REGISTER**



**OHIO  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**  
SINCE 1885

December 18, 1990

Ms. Carol Shull, Chief  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
P.O. Box 37127  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

Dear Carol:

Enclosed are six (6) new National Register nominations. All the appropriate notification procedure have been followed for these new submissions.

In regard to the use of labels on the photographs of the German Village Historic District and the Latty, Judge Alexander, House nominations, these photographs were taken prior to the October 1988. I am requesting that they be accepted because of this.

New Submissions

County

Georgetown School  
German Village Historic District  
Latty, Judge Alexander, House  
Lange Hotel  
Soldiers Memorial Parkway and  
McKinley Memorial Parkway  
Simmons, Edwin H. House

Brown  
Butler  
Defiance  
Preble  
  
Sandusky  
Wood

Ms. Carol Shull  
December 18, 1990  
Page 2

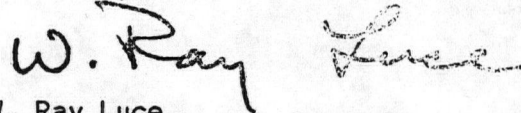
I am also requesting that the following property be delisted due to its recent demolition.

Rathbun, Levi, House  
Mechanicsburg MRA

Champaign

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "W. Ray Luce". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

W. Ray Luce  
State Historic Preservation officer

WRL/jw:dh

Enclosures

nrohpt/trans.rev