



Changes Coming to Historic Newby Elementary Campus

The entrance to the Newby campus (originally the Mooresville High School campus) has been a familiar scene to Mooresville residents for more than 100 years. Even before the construction of the current elementary school, the archways, bench and sundial statue were a familiar sight to passersby.

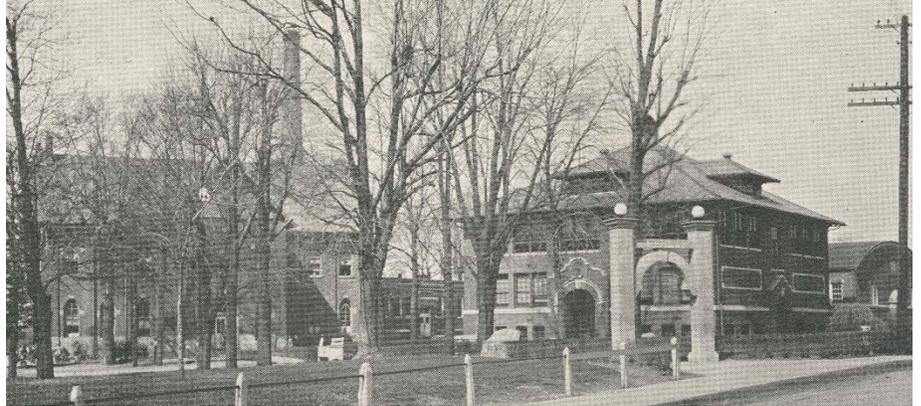
Unfortunately, the sundial statue and the bench it sat beside are aging and weakening. Due to safety concerns, the school facilities staff has secured the statue in a safe area and blocked the bench from student use.

The bench has been a part of the campus for about 100 years. It is first photographed in the 1917 Mooresville High School yearbook and was placed along the original walkway to the Academy building. The campus archways were constructed as donations by the senior classes of 1912 and 1914 and it is believed the bench was a senior class donation near that same time. The statue is first shown in the 1930 MHS yearbook and originally sat closer to Monroe St. near the current Newby sign. It appears that it originally had a small plate on top of it, perhaps a sundial, and then for several years a newer concrete planter was added to the top.

Any community members or alumni interested in helping with the saving of the statue or funding the creation of a replica bench, we ask that you consider donating to the Community Foundation of Morgan County (250 N. Monroe St., Mooresville, IN 46158 or

www.cfmconline.org for online donations) with the notation of the "Academy Bench Fund." A determination about the future of the area and any possible renovation will be made by Wednesday, September 10, 2014.

For more information, please contact Susan Haynes, Mooresville Schools Communications Director, at 831-0950, ext. 2015 or susan.haynes@mooresvilleschools.org. To learn more about the history of Mooresville Schools and the Newby campus, visit www.MooresvilleSchools.org and click on "About Us."



PHOTOS:

TOP: The 1930 MHS yearbook has the first known photo of the sundial. It is just to the left of the base of the telephone pole. It was later moved next to the bench. The buildings in the photo are the 1911-1959 Mooresville High School building (now demolished) and the Academy building with a front wing which was part of the building from 1883-1936. The front wing was removed when Newby Memorial Elementary School was built in 1936.

MIDDLE: Students Jot Comer and Beldon Wade near the sundial in the 1950 MHS yearbook.

BOTTOM: The 1917 MHS yearbook shows the first photo of the bench. The senior classes of 1912 and 1914 donated archways to the campus and it is believed that the bench was a donation of a senior class near that same time. Unfortunately, no date or information was inscribed. The buildings in the photo are the 1911-1959 Mooresville High School building (now demolished) and the Academy building with a front wing which was part of the building from 1883-1936.