

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

1. Name of Property

historic name Everett School

other names/site number St. Joseph Christian School

2. Location

street & number 826 South 14th Street [n/a] not for publication

city or town Saint Joseph [n/a] vicinity

state Missouri code MO county Buchanan code 29 zip code 64507

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ 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 ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)

Mark A. Miles
Signature of certifying official/Title Mark A. Miles/Deputy SHPO

7/29/05
Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)

Signature of certifying official/Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date

☐ entered in the National Register

See continuation sheet [].

☐ determined eligible for the National Register

See continuation sheet [].

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register

☐ other, explain see continuation sheet [].

5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		contributing	noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	3	0 building
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	0	0 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-state	<input type="checkbox"/> site	0	0 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	0	0 objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	3	0 total

Name of related multiple property listing.

Historic Resources of Saint Joseph, Buchanan

County, Missouri

Number of contributing resources

previously listed in the National Register.

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

Education/school

Current Functions

Education/school

7. Description

Architectural Classification

Late 19th & 20th Century Revival/

Colonial Revival

see continuation sheet [].

Materials

foundation brick

walls brick

roof asphalt

other stone

see continuation sheet [].

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

See continuation sheet [x]

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

☒ **A.** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

☐ **B.** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☒ **C.** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

☐ **D.** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

Property is:

☐ **A.** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ **B.** removed from its original location.

☐ **C.** a birthplace or grave.

☐ **D.** a cemetery.

☐ **E.** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☐ **F.** a commemorative property.

☐ **G.** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

Education

Architecture

Period of Significance

1909-1955

Significant Dates

1909

Significant Persons

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Meier, Rudolph

Lehr, James W./Builder

Eckel, E.J.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ 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:

Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical DataAcreage of Property 1.85 acres**UTM References**

A. Zone	Easting	Northing	B. Zone	Easting	Northing
	15/342060/4402470				
C. Zone	Easting	Northing	D. Zone	Easting	Northing

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Shelley White and Penelope Kress, Historic Preservation Consultants
organization _____ date 11/30/04
street & number 1316 Francis Street telephone 816-364-5333
city or town St. Joseph state MO zip code 64501

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets**Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Area Ministers for Christ, Inc., Joseph Gregory, President
street & number 826 South 14th Street telephone 816-232-3600
city or town Saint Joseph state MO zip code 64507

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Everett School
Buchanan County
Historic Resources of St. Joseph, Buchanan
County, Missouri, Multiple Property Listing

SUMMARY:

The Everett School, 826 S. 14th St., is a highly intact example of early 20th Century Colonial Revival school in St. Joseph, Buchanan County. The large brick school is two stories with a raised basement and a crenellated parapet. The school was built on a modified E floorplan with the stems of the E constituting the three projecting front bays. The two side bays are the widest and contain groups of 5 original 6/6 windows on each floor. The central bay is narrower and is topped by a large projecting metal arch with prominent keystone. The school, constructed in 1909, is associated with two other contributing historic buildings on the site: a gymnasium and a power plant. The gymnasium is connected to the school by a one-story kitchen addition constructed in 1954. Built soon after the completion of the school, the walls of the gym are disguised by a series of brick arches with limestone details. The power plant was constructed in 1907 to power nearby Central High School (since demolished), also powered Everett School once it was completed. The one-story power plant reflects the character of the neighboring buildings with multi-paned windows, limestone details, and a tall chimney with decorative brickwork. All three buildings are highly intact, retaining original detail and materials. Located in a residential area of late 19th and early 20th Century buildings, Everett School has maintained its original open space around the parking lot and playground.

EXTERIOR:

Everett School is a modified E plan with a raised basement. It sets back from the top of a short concrete retaining wall about 30' from the corner of Fourteenth and Olive Streets. There is a brick sidewalk on the Olive Street side between the retaining wall and the street and a concrete sidewalk on the Fourteenth Street side between the retaining wall and the street. There is a grassy patch between the top of the retaining wall and the asphalt sidewalk which goes from the east side of the gymnasium and across the east side of the school and around to the south entrance. The west side of the school is surrounded by a large asphalt playground/parking lot that extends almost to Thirteenth Street. There is a 6' chainlink fence which extends from the driveway on the south around to the west side of the playground.

Everett School is a two-story red pressed brick building with a center hall and classrooms off to either side. It has limestone details and wood trim surrounding the windows. The top of the parapet and the cornice, over the second floor windows, are molded metal. The cornice encloses built-in boxed gutters. Limestone belt courses wrap the entire building over the second floor and the basement windows. The building consists of seven bays.

West Side:

The west facade is considered the primary facade. It is the facade shown in historic photographs. However, it differs very little from the east facade. The pediment is more ornate and has the recessed portion of the E plan. It does overlook a massive asphalt parking lot and playground. The center bay has a round pediment

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in the parapet. Inside the pediment is a glass window which has been painted. Below the pediment is a series of four double-hung windows, consisting of four-over-four, six-over-six, six-over-six, and four-over-four sashes, each with transoms having corresponding lights (four-six-six-four). Under those windows is a stone marker, however, the name "Everett School" has been smeared over with concrete. Under the stone marker, is the same window series as above, without transom windows. Four concrete steps lead up to two metal doors with three light sidelights.

The second, center, and sixth bays project from the rest of the building twelve feet. There are stone quoins flanking the three prominent bays between the belt courses on the east and west (front) facade, however, there are no quoins on the actual corners.

The second and sixth bays on the first and second floors have five double-hung six-over-six sash grouped window units. At the basement level, there are five single double-hung six-over-six sash windows which are smaller in size.

The first and seventh bays, which are recessed, have single four-over-four double-hung vertically elongated windows on the first and second floors, and single four-over-four double-hung smaller windows at the basement.

The recessed third and fifth bays have a window unit which consists of two twelve light fixed sashes on top of one double hung six-over-six sash, located in the stairwell between the first and second floors. At the basement level in each bay, there is a metal entrance door with a four-over-four transom.

Nearly all the windows are original, however, it appears that all exterior doors have been replaced.

East Side:

The east facade is very similar to the west facade with the exception that there are no "E" projections. Also, the central pediment is less prominent than the one on the west side as the west side was considered the front of the school. The center bay has an arched pediment in the center of the roof which has a limestone oculus detail consisting of an eight part molding with four keystones. Below the pediment is a series of four double-hung windows, consisting of four-over-four, six-over-six, six-over-six, and four-over-four sashes, each with transoms having corresponding lights (four-six-six-four). Under those windows is a stone marker, however, the name "Everett School" has been smeared over with concrete. Under the stone marker, is the same window series as above, without transom windows. Two metal doors with three light sidelights rests on top of twelve concrete steps.

The second, center, and fourth bays project from the rest of the building two feet. There are stone quoins flanking the three prominent bays between the belt courses on the east and west (front) facade, however, there are no quoins on the actual corners.

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The second and fourth bays on the first and second floors have five double-hung six-over-six sash grouped window units. At the basement level, there are five single double-hung six-over-six sash windows which are smaller in size.

The first and fifth bays, which are recessed, have single four-over-four double-hung vertically elongated windows on the first and second floors, and single four-over-four double-hung smaller windows at the basement.

Nearly all the windows are original, however, it appears that all exterior doors have been replaced.

North and South Side:

The north and the south side are identical, however, the north side has an addition attached which is described below. There are three bays on each side of the building. The first and third bays are solid brick and have a three brick recess, creating the illusion of an inset panel. The center bay has a series of four double-hung windows, consisting of four-over-four, six-over-six, six-over-six, and four-over-four sashes, each with transoms having corresponding lights (four-six-six-four) on the second floor; and there is the same window series as above, without transom windows on the first floor. Two metal doors with three light sidelights rests on top of ten concrete steps.

Additions:

A one story kitchen was added in 1954 between the original building on the north side and the gymnasium on the south side, facing the west, connecting the two buildings. The kitchen is built of pressed red brick. There are four bays, including a double hung window, and entrance door which rests on top of four concrete stairs, and another double hung window. The window sills are limestone. The fourth bay has a service door which is flanked by sidelights and a vented transom above. The parapet has a metal cap and a k-style gutter is attached.

This 1954 addition is now 50 years old and is considered an historic addition. The metal service door with metal surrounds and louvered vent are modern materials. The building itself is not very big and as such has little impact on the overall integrity.

In 1961 a two story addition was built on the east side between the original building on the north and the gymnasium on the south, connecting the two buildings. This expanded the school two classrooms. The addition is constructed of pressed red brick. The addition has three bays. The first and second bays have grouped window units of three aluminum horizontal two-over-two double hung sash with affixed transom on both the first and second floor. The third bay has a grouped window unit of two aluminum horizontal two-over-two double hung sash with affixed transom on the second floor and two metal doors in a wood frame with a four light transom on the first floor. All windows have limestone sills. The parapet has a

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limestone cap.

With the exception of the aluminum windows, this addition is compatible to the original building. It is set back from the building about 1', it repeats the pattern of the grouping of windows as found on the original building, and the transom doorway is compatible to the secondary exit door on the south side of the building. The use of the limestone sills and parapet cap is also compatible with the design of the building without creating a false sense of history. Overall, the 1961 addition has a minimal impact on the original school building's historic integrity.

Gymnasium:

The gymnasium was built shortly after Everett School and was meant to be utilized by both Everett School and Central High School students, Central High School being located on adjoining grounds, facing the west. Access to the gym from Everett was an exterior walk, while Central High School students accessed the gym via underground tunnel which was added in 1910. The gym has a series of brick arches on the upper portion of each side of the building. The windows were originally fan lights, with four lights each. They were filled with brick in 1961. These arches all have stone sills. A brick soldier belt course wraps around the building, connecting the limestone sills. A belt course of limestone with a cap of brick soldiers wraps around the lower portion of the building. The metal cornice encloses built-in box gutters and also wraps around the entire building.

The main exterior entrance to the gym is on the east side and projects ten feet from the rest of the building. There is a parapet with an arched pediment with decorative brickwork above the metal cornice. An arch under the parapet provides ventilation. There is a metal cap on top of the parapet. There are two metal doors with a fourteen light transom providing access to the building.

The 1961 changes to the gymnasium, while unfortunate, have a minimal impact on integrity as the brick fill of the windows basically matches the brick and the original feel of the architectural design remains intact.

Power Plant:

To the north of the school building sits a separate building that houses the school's boiler room as well as a maintenance shop. This building was built in 1907 as the power plant to Central High School. After the completion of Everett School and the gymnasium, the boiler was reconfigured to supply power and heat to all three buildings. The building is comprised of pressed red brick and is one story tall. There is a two story tall chimney protruding from the roof which is also built of pressed red brick. The building is built into a hill, and thus only has two sides exposed with the north and west sides underground, except for the parapet level which protrudes above ground. The entrance is on the east side and there are two six-over-six double hung windows on either side of the entrance. The entrance has a thirty light transom over two wood paneled doors in the center, which each have six lights. There is a limestone belt course at the ground level as well as one at the beginning of the parapet wall. The parapet wall is capped with terra cotta tiles.

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INTERIOR:

The interior of Everett School is intact and most original elements remain. There are hardwood floors throughout the building. Original chalk boards and bulletin boards remain and are still in use. The original interior doors to the classrooms as well as second sets of interior entrance doors all remain. There are false ceilings, however they do retain much of the height of the ceilings. No original light fixtures exist as fluorescent lights have replaced them. The classrooms remain intact although a computer lab has been created out of what was once an open hallway. The original principal's office, on the west, still is used for that purpose and it overlooks the playground. A second office was created directly across the hall – above the staircase as the principal's office is configured. There are three classrooms on the first floor and five classrooms on the second floor.

The 1961 addition consists of one classroom on each floor. The windows are aluminum and the first floor room has an exterior door. The floors are linoleum tile. The lights are fluorescent and the ceiling height is much lower than in the original school building.

There is a short hallway linking the original school house to the addition and then to the gymnasium.

The gymnasium has exposed brick walls, which have been painted. The arched windows on the upper portion of the walls have all been bricked in. A stage was added on the north wall in 1961 as evidence of the bricked in window arches have been obscured by the stage. The gym's floor is a hardwood floor. Exiting the gym to the west is a small kitchen/lunch room. To the north of that is a locker room and gym storage space. Continuing down the corridor, there is a set of double doors that leads to a tunnel that once provided interior access from Central High School to the gym. Just before entering the tunnel, there is a bricked in archway that once led to the outside. The tunnel is intact for several feet and currently provides storage space. It is constructed of brick.

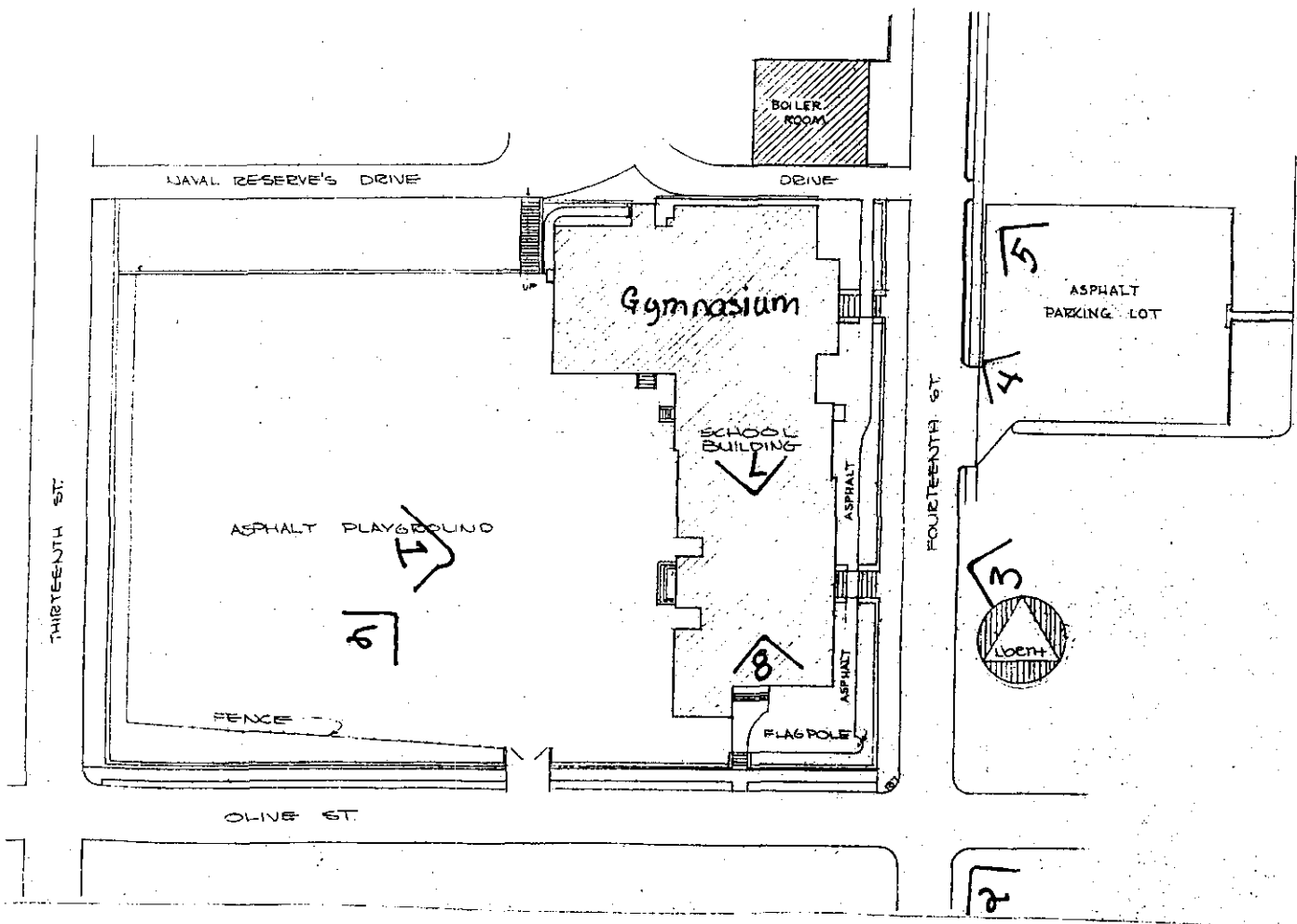
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SITE PLAN WITH PHOTO ANGLES

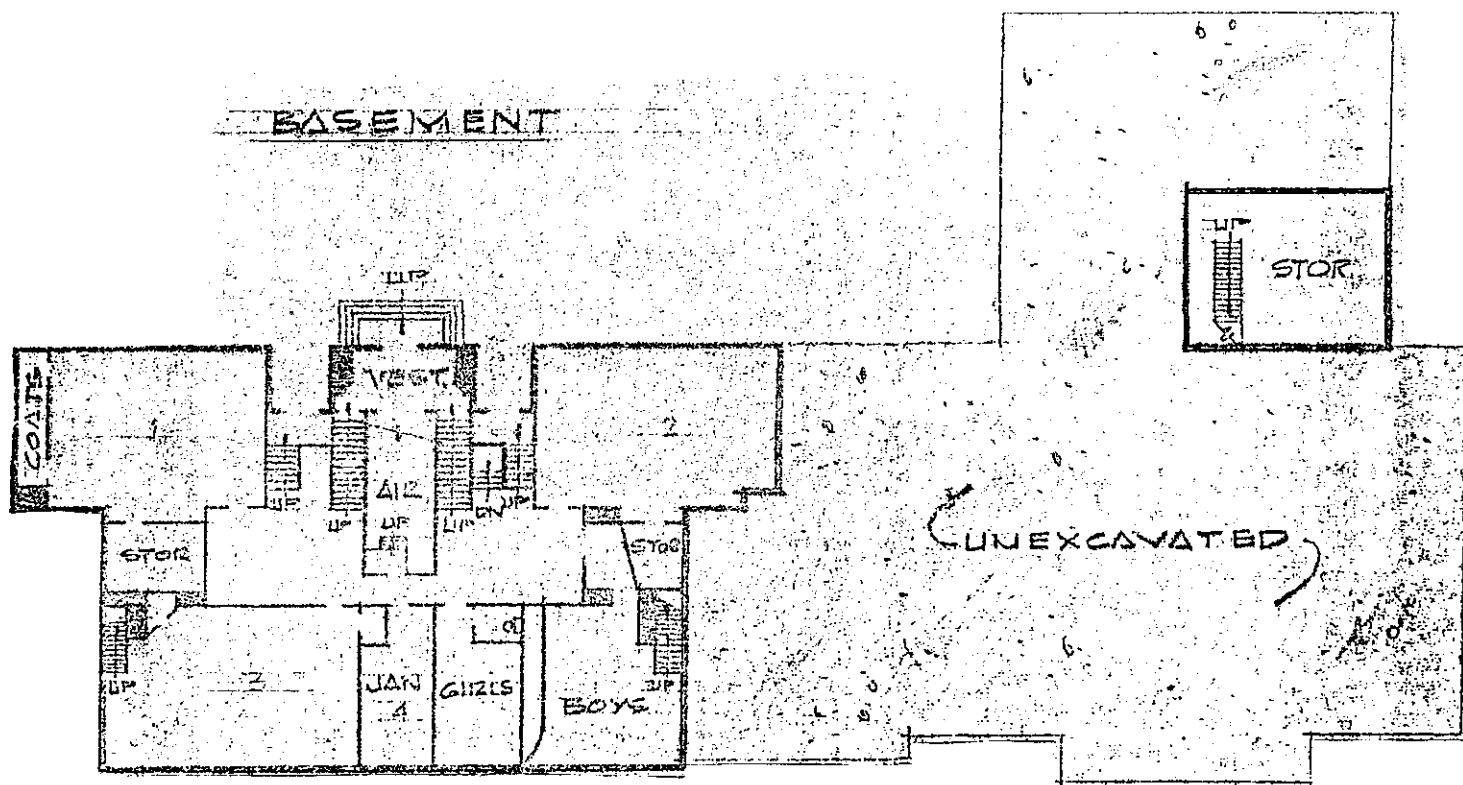


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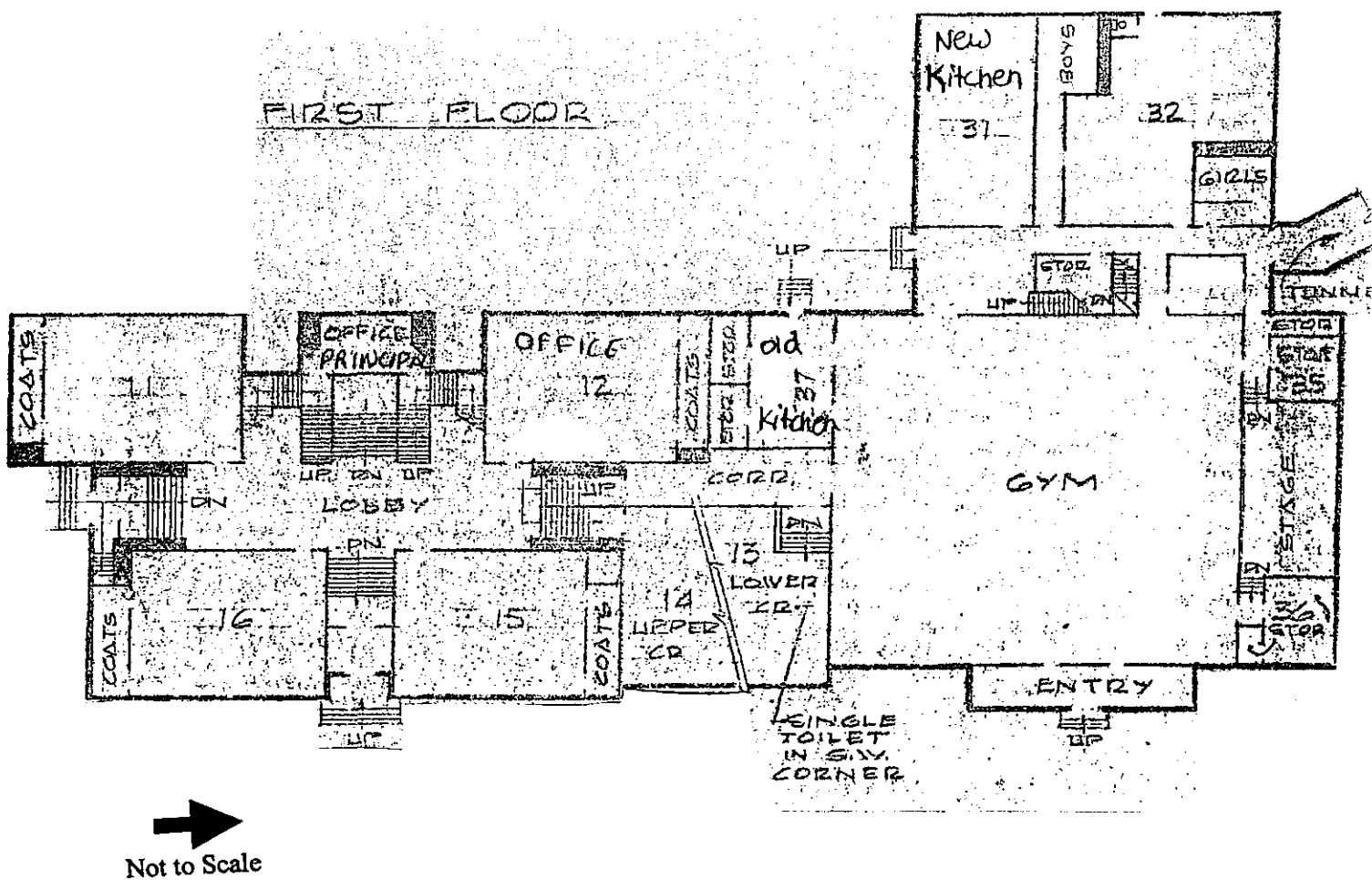
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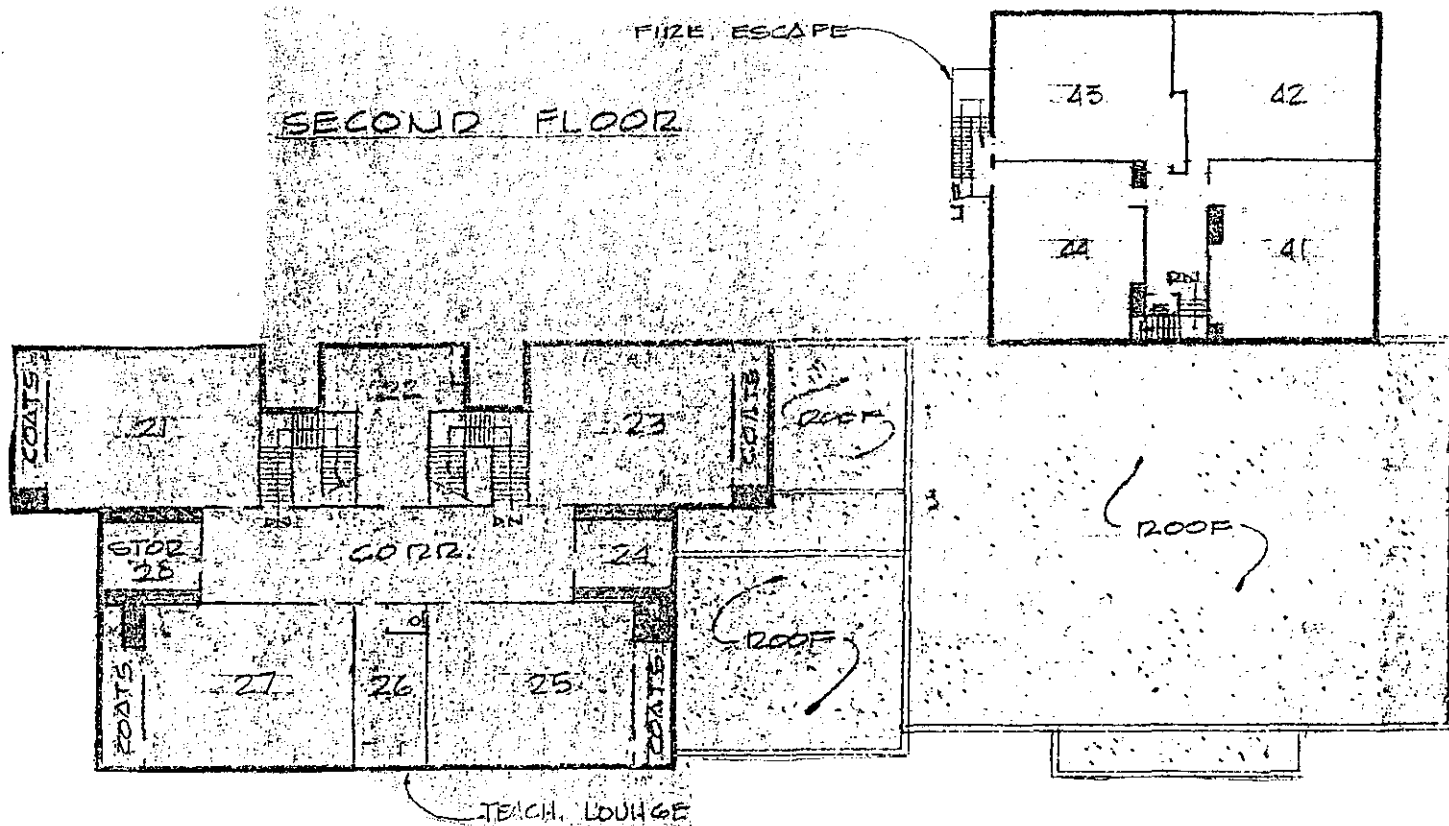


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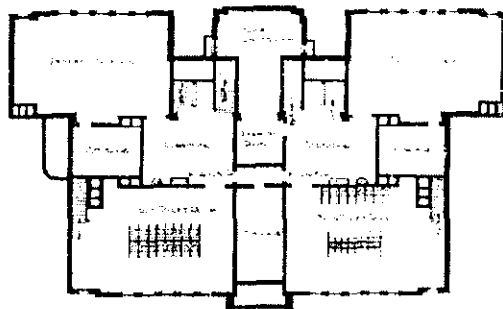
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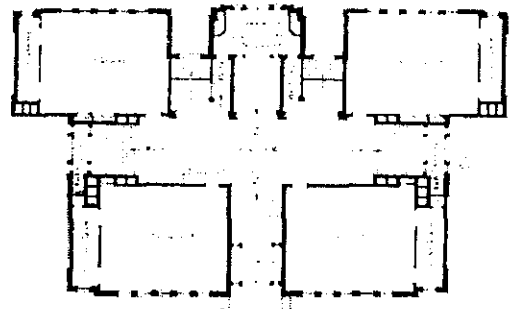
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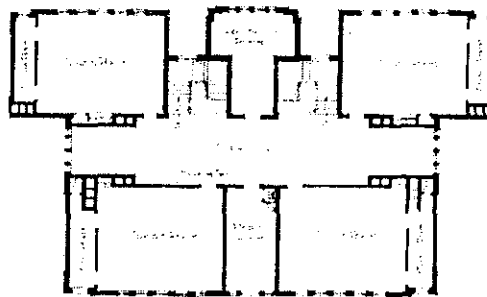
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Floor Plan—Everett School



Floor Plan—Everett School



Floor Plan—Everett School

FLOOR PLANS—EVERETT SCHOOL.



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Statement of Significance

Summary

Everett School at 826 South 14th Street, Saint Joseph, Buchanan County, Missouri, is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Education, and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. Under Criterion A, this building is representative of the development of elementary public schools in St. Joseph during the late 19th and early 20th Centuries. Between 1898-1909, continued population growth as well as the increased importance of education in St. Joseph made it necessary to build twenty new school buildings. (See Multiple-Property Listing (MPL) "Historic Resources of St. Joseph, Buchanan County, Missouri under the historic context: Wholesale Distribution in St. Joseph, 1866-1914.") Everett School is also significant under Criterion C as the best remaining example of an early 20th Century Colonial Revival school in St. Joseph. The period of significance runs from 1909 when the school was built to 1955, the arbitrary fifty year mark. However, the building continued to be used as Everett Elementary School until its closure in 1985. The building was purchased later that year and re-opened in the Fall of 1986 as Saint Joseph Christian School, which continues to operate in the building today.

Elaboration

Education:

Education of children in Buchanan County, Missouri began in 1839. From 1841-1844, the courthouse at Sparta was used for educational purposes. The few schools in St. Joseph during this time were loosely organized as a country school district. It wasn't until 1860 that citizens banded together to obtain a charter from the State Legislature to incorporate the St. Joseph Board of Public Schools. These schools were open to "free white persons" residing within the city limits. The city was divided into three wards, each having its own school building. The schools were opened on April 23, 1860. By the winter of 1861, several students had mastered the curriculum, and it was decided that further education was necessary. Prof. Edward B. Neely was hired to oversee the higher education. In March 1861, he opened a new school which developed into St. Joseph High School. This was the second high school opened in the State of Missouri, the first being in St. Louis. (History of Northwest Missouri, 1915.)

The school was closed, along with all St. Joseph Public Schools, later that year due to the Civil War. All public schools reopened in 1864 for "resident taxpayers." At that time, classrooms were immediately filled to capacity and several students were turned away. A charter amendment passed in 1866 increased tax collection, funding the construction of two more schools.

With the increased funds, Everett School at 12th & Olive and the High School at 10th & Edmond were built. Both buildings had identical plans and each cost \$36,000. (First Report of the Public Schools of the State

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of Missouri to the 24th General Assembly Jefferson City, 1867.) Students were charged a small tuition – 50 cents for primary pupils and \$1 for high school pupils, to cover operation costs. By 1872 the need for tuition fees ceased and the schools have been free ever since. However, population increases in the 1870's put a strain on the school system and more buildings were needed, as well as improvements on existing structures. Everett School received a \$6000 addition in 1872.

Throughout the 1880's the school board tried several times to increase tax rates to build a new, centrally located high school. They were finally successful by the early 1890's, yet chose what was considered an out of range, inaccessible, expensive piece of land on the highest point of Carpenter's Hill at 13th and Olive. Edmund J. Eckel produced plans which were adopted by the board in the winter of 1894-95. The new school was opened for classes in the spring of 1896. (Daily News' History of Buchanan County and St. Joseph, Missouri, 1898.)

By 1899, there were approximately 36,000 children enrolled in school. There were 18 schools in existence in 1900. In 1909 enrollment had increased to 42,000. Between 1898-1909, \$1,295,000 in bonds were raised for the school district to be spent on new buildings, their sites, and equipment as well as improvements to existing schools. The new construction and improvements to existing buildings began in 1898 and lasted until 1910. Additions were made to Bliss, Ernst, Floyd, Garfield, Jackson, Krug, Musser, South Park, Webster, Young, Bartlett, and Lincoln Schools. Nineteen new buildings were built which included Benton, Blair, Eugene Field, Florence, Hosea, Hyde, Maxwell, Noyes, Sherwood, Wyatt, and Douglass as well as replacement buildings of Everett, Hall, Humbolt, McKinley, Neely, Robidoux, and Washington Schools. Also, the High School gymnasium was built. This brought the total number of schools owned and operated by the Saint Joseph Public School Board to 34. (*Annual Report of St. Joseph Public School Board of Education, 1909.*) Of these 34 schools only eight built before 1910 remain, the others having been closed, demolished, or rebuilt in later years.

The original Everett School was built in 1866 at the corner of 12th & Olive Streets in the fifth ward. The School Board minutes of July 13, 1866 state, "On a motion of Judge Bliss the house in process of erection on the corner of 12th & Olive Streets was named the Everett School." There was no reason given for the selection of the name. This school underwent three additions, one in 1871, one in 1880, and the last in 1904 as this particular area of town grew rapidly. (History of Northwest Missouri, 1915.)

However, the Board of Education's Annual Report of 1909 expressed the need for a new Everett School. "At the beginning of this decade, the properties of the School District were largely a series of ancient, inconvenient buildings and unsanitary outhouses, a menace to the health of every child and affording no comforts or conveniences, and illy adapted for school use. Today there is not a city in the country the size of St. Joseph that can show a higher average of substantial modern buildings with complete sanitary equipment. This change has been brought about in response to a decided public demand." Specifically, Everett School "was originally heated with stoves and had no basement nor sanitary conveniences. In 1904,

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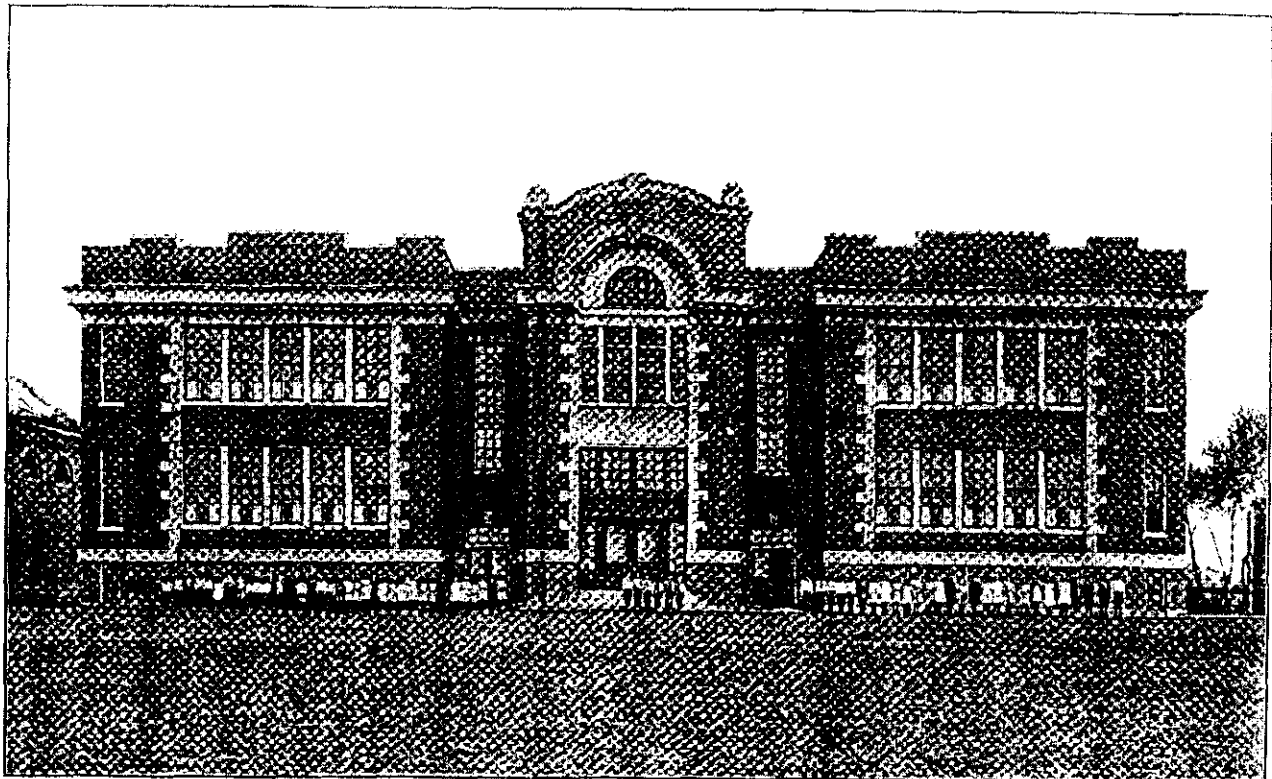
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two rooms were added and modern heat and sanitary closets installed. The building, however, was old, poorly arranged, cramped in its conveniences, unsafe in case of fire, unsanitary, and impossible to modernize."

As a result, at the August 17, 1908 School Board meeting, a motion was moved and carried to purchase the two corner lots at Fourteenth & Olive for \$2000 and \$2200 for the purpose of building a new school. On December 28, 1908, the School Board awarded the architect firm of Meier & Meier the contract to build the new Everett School. On May 3, 1909, bids were open to build the school. J.W. Lehr submitted the lowest bid at \$34,363, thus winning the contract. The new school was built behind at Fourteenth and Olive and to the south of St. Joseph High School, newly renamed Central High School. J.W. Lehr communicated to the Board on December 21, 1909 that he had completed the school. The final cost of the school and its furnishings was \$55,938. The old school was sold to the U.S. Army for use as a field hospital.

Figure 1



EVERETT SCHOOL.

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Everett School was heated via a power plant located on the school grounds. This detached building was erected in 1907 to house the central heating plant for the High School. It was later reconfigured to also heat Everett School and finally the gymnasium. (*Annual Report of St. Joseph Public School Board of Education*, 1909; St. Joseph School Board minutes May 24, 1909.)

There had been much discussion in 1907 about building a gymnasium for the high school. At the request of the board, E.J. Eckel submitted building plans, however, the school board could not reach an agreement, and thus tabled the idea. This did not sit well with students. According to the August 17, 1908 meeting, "A number of High School boys appeared before the Board urging the erection of a gymnasium. Upon motion the Secretary was instructed to have the plans which were prepared by Mr. Eckel last year at the next meeting." Mr. Boschen, Mr. Eckel's partner, re-presented the plans at the following meeting. The bid process opened, the lowest one coming in at \$25,000. After another year of discussion and plan changes, the contract was finally awarded at the August 23, 1909 meeting to J.W. Lehr to construct the gymnasium for \$18,260. The decision to build the gym was finally reached as Everett School students would be able to utilize the gym along with the high school students. At the June 7, 1910 meeting, Eckel and Boschen's plans for the subway wall and walk between Central High and the gymnasium were adopted.

Everett School was utilized continuously as a neighborhood public elementary school until the January 14, 1985 meeting, when it was recommended by the School Board that the school be closed at the end of the school year. This recommendation came as a result of declining enrollment in the neighborhood. At the February 25, 1985 meeting the motion to close the school passed unanimously, with the decision on the disposing of the building to be decided later. In 1986, Area Ministers for Christ bought the building and opened St. Joseph Christian School that fall. They continue to operate their school there today. As of 2004, Saint Joseph still has twenty historic schools that were built before 1954, fifteen of them are still in use as St. Joseph Public Schools. Of the five schools not in use by St. Joseph Public Schools, one is a residential care facility, one is used for a Christian school, one is apartments, one is used as a community/recreational center, and the last is a residence/photography studio.

Edward Everett:

According to the *Forty-Fifth Annual Report of the Board of Education, of the City of St. Joseph, MO, For the Year 1908-1909*, Everett School was named in honor of Edward Everett. Edward Everett was Constitutionalist-Unionist candidate for vice-president in the 1860 election. This party was a coming-together of the Whigs and Know-Nothings and they selected Senator John Bell of Tennessee as their presidential nominee with Edward Everett as his running mate. They did not discuss particular issues, however, they did denounce sectionalism and called for national unity. The party took last place in the national election and disbanded shortly thereafter. However, the party took second place in the State of Missouri and took the popular vote in Buchanan County. (*Old St. Jo: Gateway to the West, 1799-1932*, Logan, 1979)

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Edward Everett was born on April 11, 1794 in Dorchester, Massachusetts. He graduated from Harvard University with high honors in 1811. He became a minister for a short time until Harvard offered him the new position of Eliot Professorship of Greek Literature. He then took a four year sabbatical to receive more training in Europe. Upon his return in 1819, he took up editorship of Boston's *North American Review*, then the country's leading literacy magazine. Everett was quickly regarded as a role model for the new generation of New England intellectuals.

He expanded his public speaking capabilities by running for the U.S. House of Representatives. He served as a Republican for ten years (1825-1835). During this time he shifted his views from free trade to a protectionist position. He also opposed the displacement of the Cherokee, however, he did not openly oppose slavery as the cotton industry was much too important. He was then elected governor of Massachusetts for four consecutive one-year terms. During this period he was an avid supporter of Horace Mann and his educational reforms. He lost his bid for a fifth term to Democrat Marcus Morton by one vote.

Afterwards, he returned to Harvard to serve as its president for several years. However, it wasn't long before he returned to political life. He drafted the Hulsemann Letter in 1850 which spelled out American sympathy for the Hungarians and their revolution. He was appointed the secretary of state during the last four months of Millard Fillmore's presidency. During that short term, he also participated in Commodore Matthew Perry's treaty with Japan. He also firmly opposed handing over Cuba to Spain.

He was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1853 and was outspoken against the Kansas-Nebraska bill, although he failed to show up to vote on the matter. He resigned his position after much outrage at this failure. He then traveled the country, giving speeches, trying to foster national sentiment. His most famous speech was "The Character of Washington" which he gave 135 times. It was after this time that he ran for vice president on the Constitutionalist-Union ticket.

After the Civil War broke out, Everett gave strong support for the war. He then embarked on another speech tour, this time to rally northerners. What was to be his highest speaking achievement ended up being his most forgettable. In 1863, he delivered a two hour speech at Gettysburg, only to be upstaged by President Abraham Lincoln's short closing remarks. "'I should be glad," Everett graciously told the president afterward, "if I could flatter myself, that I came as near to the central idea of the occasion in two hours as you did in two minutes.'" (American National Biography, Vol. 7, pg 630). Edward Everett died January 15, 1865 at his home in Boston.

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Architecture:

Everett School

Everett School is locally significant under Criterion C as the best remaining example of the Colonial Revival style, and it embodies the distinctive characteristics of that style as it is adapted in the St. Joseph school building design. Everett School is also representative of the work of a major Saint Joseph contractor, J.W. Lehr, and the architectural firm Meier & Meier. The Colonial Revival architecture reuses aspects of the early Colonial buildings found in the English colonies in America. Most widely used are the Georgian and Federal styles. The Colonial Revival style however, is usually a rather free interpretation of these styles as they often exaggerate the architectural details. The Philadelphia Centennial of 1876 is responsible for awaking America's interest in our Colonial architectural heritage. However, it didn't become widely popular until after the turn of the century, especially because new methods of printing permitted a mass dissemination of photographs and books and periodicals. *The American Architect and Building News* in 1898 began a series called "The Georgian Period: Being Photographs and Measured Drawings of Colonial Work With Text." By ca. 1905, Colonial Revival styles were popular with speculative house builders and architects alike. The Colonial Revival style remains a significant form of architectural detailing to this day.

Of the eight remaining school buildings built before 1910, four were constructed in the Classic/Colonial Revival style, indicating it was a popular school design (see Figures 1-4). Neely and Robidoux were built in the Classic design. Although it retains much of its integrity, Neely has suffered from the modernization of the 1970's and has had its windows replaced. Robidoux, previously listed on the National Register of Historic Places, however, retains a high degree of integrity, not having any additions or alterations. Both Washington and Everett were built in the Colonial Revival style. While both schools remain virtually intact, Everett was built with a higher degree of architectural detail. Characteristic of Colonial Revival buildings, Everett School has a prominent pediment over the entrance, classic style cornices and built-in gutters, the use of belt courses, and quoins. The school also retains double-hung rectangular sash windows with multiple panes and multiple adjacent windows treated as a singular architectural units as well as doors with transoms and sidelights which are characteristic of the Colonial Revival style.

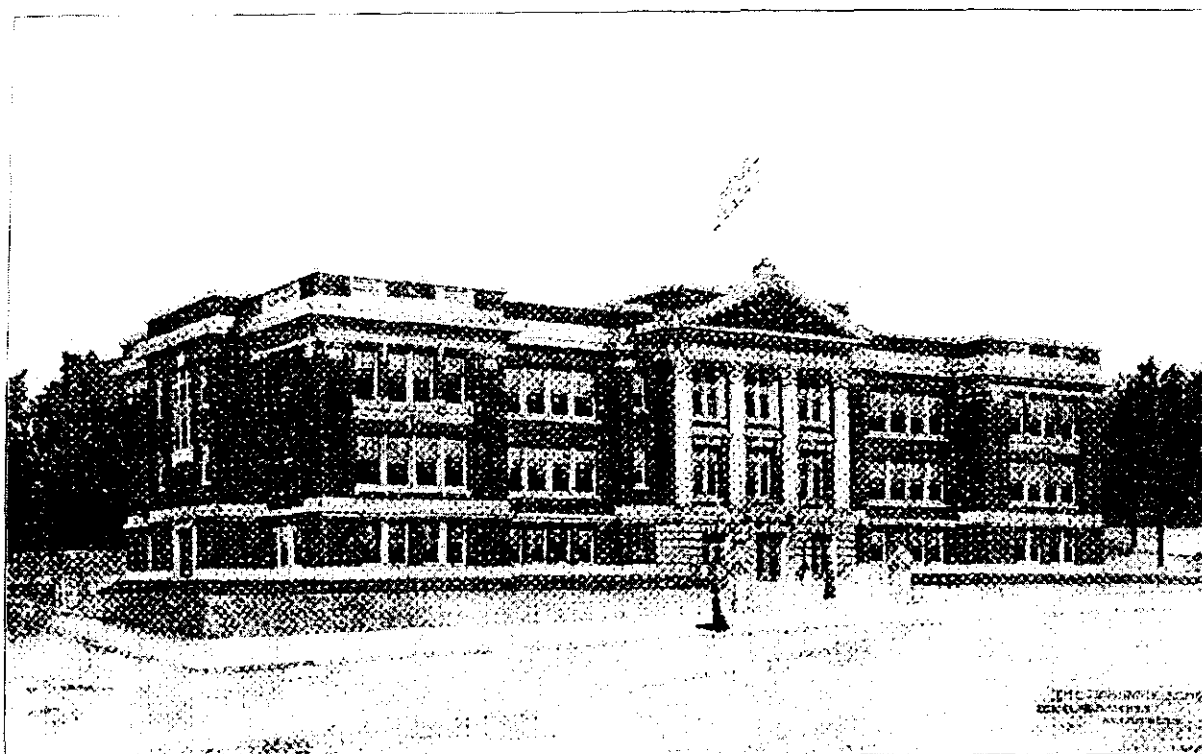
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Fig. 2



ROBIDOUX SCHOOL.

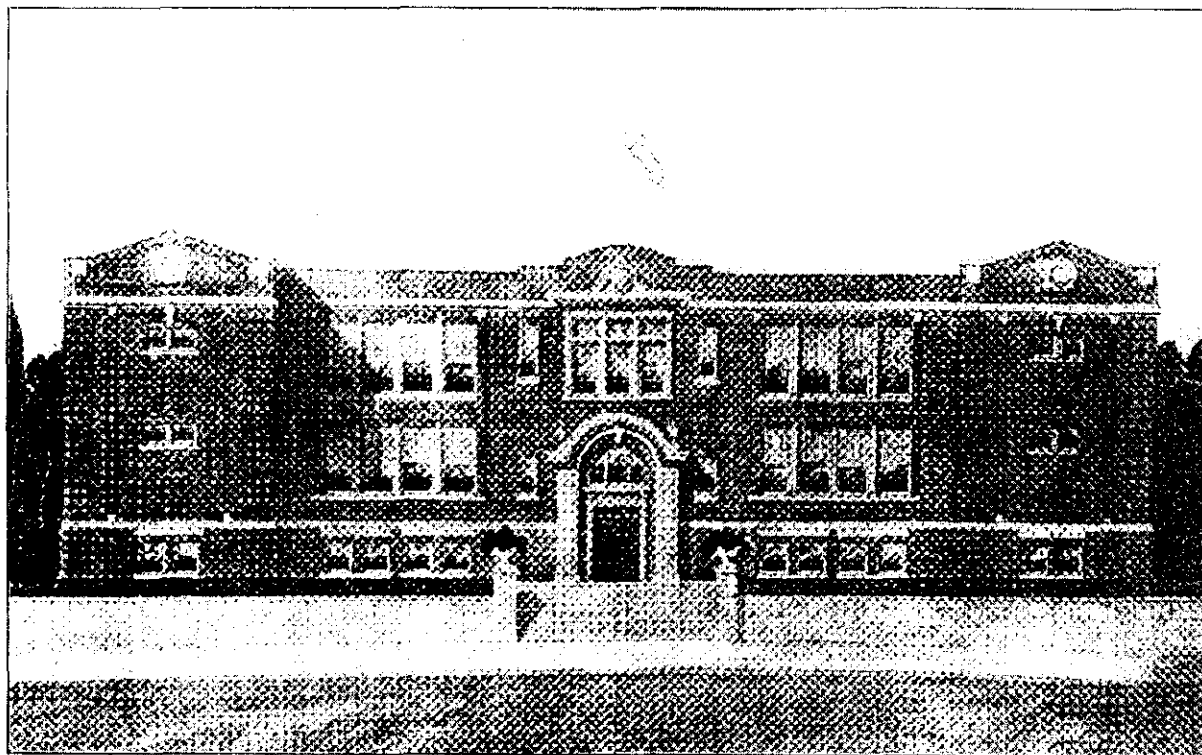
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Fig. 3



WASHINGTON SCHOOL IN COURSE OF ERECTION.

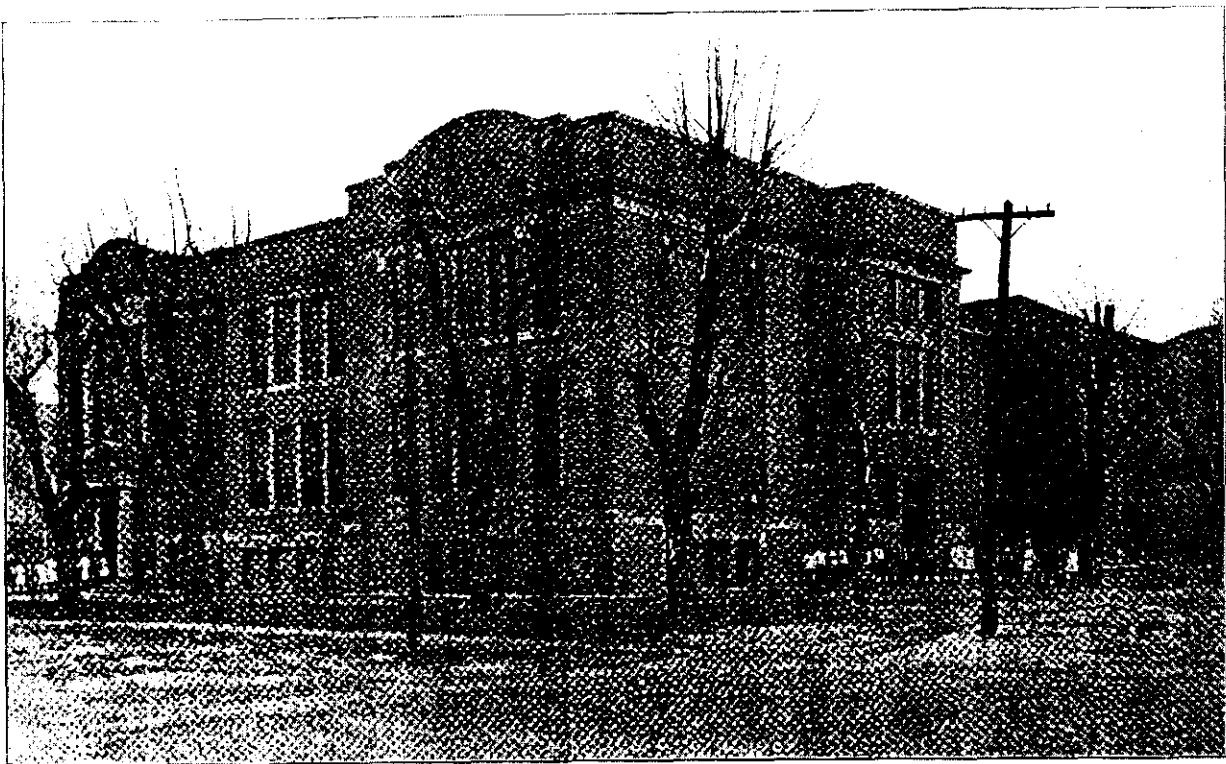
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Fig. 4



NEELY SCHOOL.

Also noteworthy is the plan design of the school. Developed by William B. Ittner, a Saint Louis architect employed by the Saint Louis School District and well-known for school design, Everett School's architects Meier & Meier utilized Ittner's E-plan (or "open-plan") in its design. Of the four schools discussed above, Everett School is the only one built with this design. The E-plan was first used by Ittner in 1900 on three elementary schools in St. Louis. Everett School's design closely follows Ittner's much-used plan. Similarities include Everett having a long center hall which parallels the street; three wings projecting from the body, one on either side, and one in the middle; classrooms located in each wing; center wing having an entrance staircase; two stories tall with raised basement; of fireproof construction; the entrance being rather monumental and embellished; and secondary entrances located at the sides and rear of the school. ("St. Louis, Missouri, Public Schools of William B. Ittner" National Register Nomination, 1992)

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Finally, Everett School meets the registration requirements set forth in the "St. Louis, Missouri, Public Schools of William B. Ittner," National Register Nomination, 1992. These requirements include "retain physical integrity; retain original materials; retain characteristically-shaped plan, scale, roof shape and fenestration; additions should not obstruct the adjoining elevation, although a non-obstructing addition on a side elevation is permissible." As previously discussed, Everett retains a high degree of integrity.

Gymnasium and Power Plant

Both the gymnasium and power plant are locally significant under Criterion C as representative examples of the work of the architectural firm Eckel & Boschen. J.W. Lehr was also the contractor for the construction of the gymnasium. Eckel was selected as the architect of the gymnasium and the power plant because he previously designed Central High School in 1894. He later designed the tunnel connecting Central High School to the gymnasium. Central High School was built in the Romanesque style. Eckel successfully married the Romanesque and Colonial Revival styles together in his design for the gymnasium. The Romanesque-style arch-topped windows repeat the same pattern as the high school while the wider proportions and stone sills reflect the Colonial Revival style of Everett School. The roof pitch is the same as Central while the parapet on the projected entrance lines up and mimics the parapet on Everett. The cornice, while less ornate, also mimics Everett's cornice. Locating Central High School and Everett School together was the only instance of the combined use of resources of a high school, an elementary school, a gymnasium, and a power plant in Saint Joseph. (*Annual Report of St. Joseph Public School Board of Education*, 1909)

Contractor:

J.W. Lehr

James Wesley Lehr was born in Bremen, Indiana in 1855. He began to learn the trade of carpentry at the age of eighteen. He moved to Kansas in 1875 and lived there for four years before moving to Bethany, MO where he started a furniture factory. The factory prospered until 1886 when it was destroyed by fire. Lehr moved to St. Joseph following the fire and took employment with one of the leading contracting firms of the day. He struck out on his own in 1889 and by 1916 he was able to incorporate into the Lehr Construction Company, with himself as president and general manager. The firm built several of St. Joseph's finest buildings and homes, including City Hall, the Y.W.C.A., and the Christian Scientist Church. Lehr Construction Company was awarded the contracts to build Hall School, build Blair School, build the Bartlett School addition, repair the McKinley School, and build the new Washington School in addition to building the new Everett School. Lehr was also awarded the contract to build the gymnasium. Lehr Construction Company is still in business today and is still family-owned. (*Missouri: Mother of the West*, Williams, 1930).

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Architects:

Alfred Meier, Rudolph Meier, and Eugene R. Meier

Alfred Meier practiced architecture from the late 1800's to the early 1900's in both St. Joseph and Atchison, Kansas. While he divided his time between the two cities, he made St. Joseph his home. His son Rudolph Meier also became an architect and joined with his father to form the firm Meier & Meier. Some of the buildings Alfred designed include the Block Brothers Building in St. Joseph, the Mount Saint Scholastica Academy and St. Benedictine Monastery in Atchison, KS, the Court House in Savannah, MO, and his own home at 28th & Clay in St. Joseph. (*St. Joseph News-Press* and *St. Joseph Gazette*, Obituary, May 8, 1916)

Rudolph Meier joined his father sometime around 1908 and practiced architecture in St. Joseph until 1922, after which he was no longer listed in the City Directory. Rudolph is credited with designing the Noyes Hospital, the Lincoln Building, and North High School (now Lafayette High School). Together, the firm of Meier & Meier was hired to design the new Everett School. (*Historic Architects of Saint Joseph, MO*, Prawl)

Eugene R. Meier, another of Alfred's sons, was also an architect and City Directories show him living at the same address as Rudolph Meier beginning in 1923. Eugene Meier was hired by the School Board to design the two-story classroom addition to Everett School in 1961. The School Board had a policy in which they tried to retain the original architect when proposing changes to existing schools. Perhaps Eugene was also involved in the firm of Meier & Meier.

E.J. Eckel

Edmund Jacques Eckel was St. Joseph's most prolific architect with a career that last over 65 years. He was born in France in 1845 and studied at l'Ecole des Beaux-Arts. He arrived in St. Joseph at age 24, on his way to Kansas City, delayed by a washed-out bridge. Eckel worked tirelessly over his career and had numerous partnerships. Eckel, while working independently, was hired by the School Board to design the High School in 1894. He took on Walter Boschen as a partner in 1908. Eckel submitted a gymnasium design for the school which was chosen in 1907. After much discussion and a series of changes assisted by Boschen, the gymnasium was finally built in 1909. (*Historic Architects of Saint Joseph, MO*, Prawl; and numerous references in School Board Minutes, 1907-1909)

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Walter Boschen

Walter Boschen relocated to St. Joseph to become Eckel's partner. They remained partners from 1908-1911, when Boschen accepted an offer to relocate to New York City. However, city leaders convinced Boschen to stay to see out the construction of the First Presbyterian Church which he designed along with Eckel. They also convinced him of that fact that he would have plenty of opportunities to design other buildings in St. Joseph. Their persistence paid off, and Walter Boschen stayed, forming his own independent practice until his death in 1955. Walter Boschen also designed the First Christian Church at 10th and Faraon and the Century Apartments at 25th and Union. (*Historic Architects of Saint Joseph, MO, Prawl*)

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Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property occupies all of Lots 1-6 and Lots 8-12 and the unnumbered Lot lying East of and adjacent to Lot 1 and the South 15.8 feet of Lot 7, all in PATTON'S SUB-DIVISION of Lots 9 and 10 Block 6 PATEE ADDITION, an addition to the City of St. Joseph, Buchanan County, Missouri and that part of Lot 8, Block 6 PATEE ADDITION, an addition to the City of St. Joseph, Buchanan County, Missouri, described as follows: Beginning at the Southeast corner of the said Lot 8; thence North along the East line of the said Lot 8, 81.7 feet; thence West parallel to the South line of the said Lot 8, 94.0 feet; thence South parallel to the said East line 68.4 feet; thence West parallel to the said South line 58.0 feet; thence South parallel to the said East line 13.3 feet to the said South line; thence East along said South line 140.0 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The Boundary includes the portion of the city lots which retain their original property lines and have been historically associated with the nominated property. This boundary excludes the property originally occupied by Central High School (demolished) and the existing additional parking lot across Fourteenth Street which was not associated with the property during the period of significance.

Photographs

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Everett School

826 South 14th Street, Saint Joseph,

Buchanan County, MO

Photographer: Shelley White

Photos 1-6, September 2004

Negatives on file with Shelley White, 1316 Francis Street, St. Joseph, MO 64501

List of Photographs

See the Site Plan for indication of camera angles.

1. Facade, West side
2. Facade, Southeast side
3. Facade, East Side

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4. Gymnasium and Addition, East side
5. Power Plant, East and South sides
6. Gymnasium and Kitchen Addition, South and West sides
7. Main Hall, facing South
8. Main Hall, facing North

Everett School
 Buchanan Co.
 Missouri
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