



PRELIMINARY INFORMATION FORM (PIF) for INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

Note: PIFs are prepared by applicants and evaluated by DHR staff and the State Review Board based on information known at the time of preparation. Recommendations concerning PIFs are subject to change if new information becomes available.

DHR No. (to be completed by DHR staff) 265-0004-0122

1. General Property Information

Property name: Triplett High and Graded School

Property address: 6044 Main Street

City or Town: Mount Jackson

Zip code: 22842

Name of the Independent City or County where the property is located: Shenandoah County

Category of Property (choose only one of the following):

Building Site Structure Object

2. Physical Aspects

Acreage: approx. 2 acres

Setting (choose only one of the following):

Urban Suburban Town Village Hamlet Rural

Briefly describe the property's overall location and setting, including any notable landscape features:

The property stands at the south end of the Mount Jackson Historic District, listed in the state and national registers in 1993. A large frame mill and nineteenth-century houses stand on surrounding parcels. The grounds are mostly lawn area with a few small and large shade trees, gravel and concrete parking/drive areas, and a limestone retaining wall along the front sidewalk with concrete steps that ascend to the portico and front entry.

3. Architectural Description

Architectural Style(s): Colonial Revival

If the property was designed by an architect, landscape architect, engineer, or other professional, please list here: The building is assumed to have been designed by a state school authority architect

If the builder is known, please list here: _____

Date of construction (can be approximate): 1939, ca. 1948, 1990s

Narrative Description (Please do not exceed one page in describing the property):

Briefly describe the property's general characteristics, such as its current use (and historic use if different), as well as the primary building or structure on the property (such as a house, store, mill, factory, depot, bridge, etc.). Include the materials and method(s) of construction, physical appearance and condition (exterior and interior), and any additions or other major alterations.

Triplett High and Graded School, located at 6044 Main Street in Mount Jackson, Shenandoah County, Virginia, is a 1939 Colonial Revival building containing classrooms and an auditorium/gymnasium with a 1994 firehouse addition and adjacent ca. 1948 cafeteria (described under outbuildings). The two-story load-bearing brick building features a monumental portico with Doric-derived columns on stepped square pedestals. The portico has a slate roof and a round window-like panel with a keyblock surround in the pediment, and it shelters a principal entry with a pediment, crosssetted surround, and multi-pane transom. The original large steel-framed classroom windows have hopper sashes. A cornice with a flat parapet above (stepped up over the portico) wraps around the end elevations where there are recessed entries in two-story header-stackbond surrounds. To the rear projects the tall one-story auditorium/gymnasium with large round-arched windows on the south elevation with concrete or cast-stone keystones and impost blocks and textured glass panes. A one-story hyphen with 1939 and ca. 1960 sections, which formerly connected to a 1925 classroom building, now connects to a one-story rescue squad garage of prefab metal construction built in 1994.

The interior features plaster wall and ceiling finishes, and a variety of flooring including concrete and maple strip. A wide T-shaped hallway connects the front entry to the south end entry and north hyphen entry with stairs at the ends. The stairs have metal balusters and newels and soapstone treads. At the T-juncture and north end are decorative archways. The classrooms retain their original wood and glass panel entry doors and transoms, coat closets, glass-fronted cabinets, blackboard surrounds (original or early), and (in at least one classroom) metal coat hooks. Shallow round-arched niches have/had drinking fountains of Moderne design (one survives). The auditorium/gymnasium features a stage with a slightly projecting paneled proscenium arch and apron. The walls are glazed block up to about head height and there are bleachers under the windows.

In a bullet list, include any outbuildings or secondary resources or major landscape features (such as barns, sheds, dam and mill pond, storage tanks, scales, railroad spurs, etc.), including their condition and their estimated construction dates.

- The ca. 1948 cafeteria is a one-story building of brick-faced concrete block and flat-roofed utilitarian design. It features a mix of original and replacement windows, a 1998 side addition of vinyl-sided frame with asphalt-shingle roofing, a dining area with tile flooring and stippled ceiling tiles, and a kitchen with original/early wood base cabinets and wood and glass panel doors. The cafeteria address is 131 Triplett Road.

4. Property's History and Significance (Please do not exceed one page)

Briefly explain the property's historic importance, such as significant events, persons, and/or families associated with the property.

If the property is important for its architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, or other aspects of design, please include a brief explanation of this aspect.

Triplett High and Graded School is the principal surviving historic educational resource in the town of Mount Jackson, Virginia. The school consists of a 1939 Colonial Revival classroom and auditorium/gymnasium building, built with New Deal funding, and a ca. 1948 cafeteria. The 1939 building, which was an addition to a no-longer-extant 1925 building of similar design, retains virtually all of its character-defining features such as a Doric portico, steel-framed windows, and interior stairs, archways, classroom finishes, and an auditorium/gymnasium with a stage with a proscenium arch. White high school students used the building until 1959. In later years it served as an elementary school and middle school, for white and black students after integration, until closing in 1993. Triplett High and Graded School is potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the Education area of significance as Mount Jackson's principal surviving historic educational resource. The school is potentially eligible under Criterion C in the Architecture area of significance as a well-preserved example of Colonial Revival school design just prior to the postwar transition to Modernism. The potential period of significance extends from 1939 to 1974. The school, which is currently a contributing resource in the Mount Jackson Historic District, is potentially eligible at the local level of significance. The ca. 1948 cafeteria would be a contributing secondary resource in the designation. Triplett High and Graded School was also known historically as Triplett High and Vocational School.

Educational use of the site at the southern entrance to Mount Jackson began in the early 1920s with the construction of the original Triplett High School, which was named after Dr. J. I. Triplett who contributed \$5,000 to construction. After the original building burned in 1924 the community resolved to build a "better and a bigger" replacement. The October 9, 1925, *Shenandoah Herald* reported, "In no other way is the civic spirit of Mt. Jackson as well exemplified as in its splendid Triplett High and Vocational School, which will be opened on Monday. This modern building stands as a monument not only to the progressiveness of the community but it is a testimonial to the community's courage in rising superior to a disaster which would have blighted the growth of many towns." In 1938 the community accepted Public Works Administration funds to build an addition for elementary school use plus an auditorium/gymnasium for use by all grades. Opened in 1939, the addition was similar enough to the 1925 building to suggest it was adapted from the same design. High school use continued to 1960 when Stonewall Jackson High School opened in Quicksburg. School use was discontinued in 1993 and in 1994 the property was given to the town fire department. The 1925 section was torn down and a rescue squad garage built in its place. The property is currently undergoing rehabilitation as the Mount Jackson Community Center, continuing an aspect of its use that has been part of its identity since the 1920s. Current plans are to upgrade the appearance of the garage wing as a sports hall of Modernist appearance to clearly distinguish it from the historic construction.

Please list all sources of information used to research the history of the property, such as deeds, census and tax records, and/or published articles and books. (It is not necessary to attach lengthy articles or family genealogies to this form.)

Burruss, D. Warrick, II. "Mt. Jackson High & Graded School." In *Triplett High School, 1925-1959, Mt. Jackson, Virginia, Alumni Reunion*. Pamphlet, 2003. Truban Archives, Shenandoah County Library, Edinburg, Va.

Edwards, David A. "Mount Jackson Historic District." National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 1993.

Janney, Barbara. "A Brief History of Schools in Mt. Jackson." Typescript, n.d. Truban Archives, Shenandoah County Library, Edinburg, Va.

Northern Virginia Daily (Strasburg, Va.).

The Omega (1959 Triplett School yearbook).

Reflections: Early Schools of Shenandoah County, Virginia. Woodstock, Va.: Shenandoah County Historical Society, 1995.

Sanborn maps of Mount Jackson, Virginia, 1923 and 1930.

Shenandoah County Library. "Triplett High and Vocational School." *Shenandoah Stories*, accessed August 4, 2024, <http://shenandoahstories.org/items/show/12>.

Shenandoah Herald (Woodstock, Va.).

Spirit of '44 (1944 Triplett School yearbook).

Spirit of '45 (1945 Triplett School yearbook).

5. Property Ownership (Check as many categories as apply):

Private: _____ Public\Local _____ Public\State _____ Public\Federal _____

Current Legal Owner(s) of the Property (If the property has more than one owner, please list each below or on an additional sheet.)

name/title: William Todd Holtzman

organization: Triplett School LLC, Triplett School Cafeteria, LLC

street & number: 5588 Main Street

city or town: Mount Jackson state: VA zip code: 22842

e-mail: tholtzman@holtzmancorp.com telephone: (540) 325-6084

Legal Owner's Signature: _____

Date: _____

•• **Signature required for processing all applications.** ••

In the event of corporate ownership you must provide the name and title of the appropriate contact person.

Contact person: _____

Daytime Telephone: _____

Applicant Information (Individual completing form if other than legal owner of property)

name/title: J. Daniel Pezzoni

organization: Landmark Preservation Associates

street & number: 6 Houston St.

city or town: Lexington state: Virginia zip code: 24450

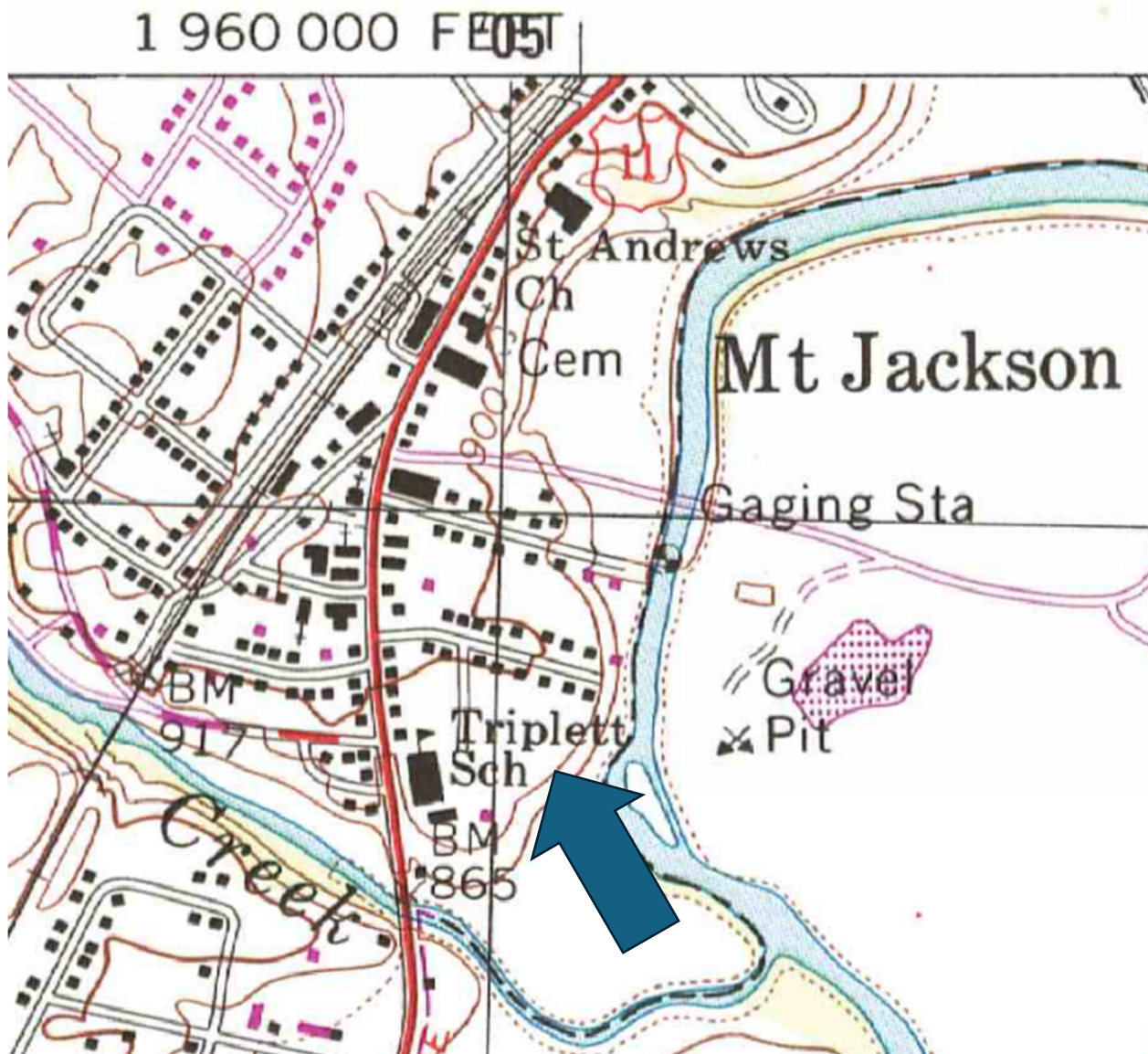
e-mail: gilespezzoni@rockbridge.net telephone: (540) 464-5315

Date: August 5, 2024

PLEASE DO NOT ATTACH CONTINUATION SHEETS TO THIS FORM. THANK YOU!

Triplett High and Graded School
6044 Main Street, Mount Jackson
Shenandoah County, Virginia

PIF Location Map

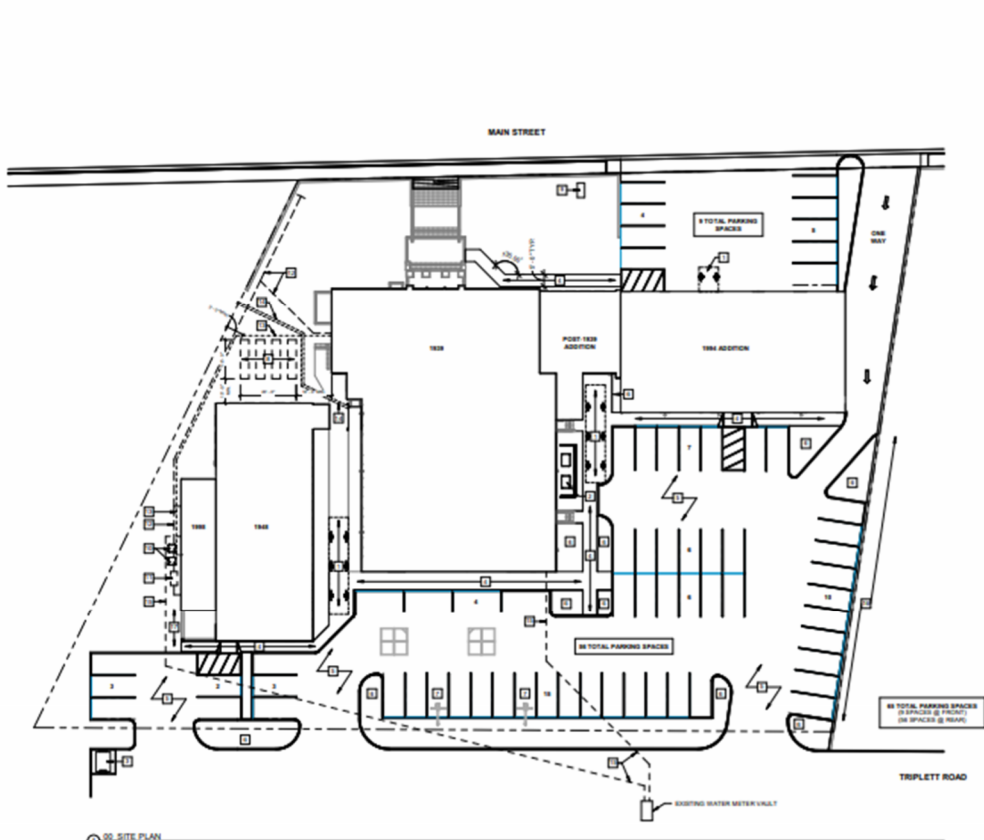


Triplett High and Graded School

6044 Main Street, Mount Jackson
Shenandoah County, Virginia

PIF Sketch Map

(building footprints are essentially current; parking spaces are proposed)



- SITE PLAN KEYNOTES**
- 0 NUMBERS IN RED LETTERS BELOW MAY NOT APPLY TO EVERY SHEET. ONLY NUMBERS KEYS ON SHEET SHALL APPLY.
 - 1 NEW ENTRANCE CANOPY
 - 2 NEW HVAC CONDENSING UNIT W/ MECH. SCREENING
 - 3 NEW DUMPSTER ON CONC. PAD. SEE CIVIL PLANS FOR DETAILS OF BLANK & ENCLOSURE
 - 4 NEW CONC. SIDEWALK
 - 5 NEW ASPHALT PAVING BY CURB & GUTTER
 - 6 NEW LANDSCAPED ISLAND
 - 7 NEW OUTDOOR HANDSTALL ISOL.
 - 8 (2) 1.000-GAL. PREPARE TANK, UNDERGROUND
 - 9 EXIST. POND & SLICE. FOR DRAINAGE. PREPARE FOR USE
 - 10 NEW HVAC CONDENSING UNITS
 - 11 NEW DRAINAGE RECEPTOR, UNDERGROUND
 - 12 NEW SANITARY RESEAL. CONNECT TO EXISTING. SEE PLUMBING DRAWINGS
 - 13 NEW UNDERGROUND CONDUIT FOR LOW VOLTAGE CABLES. FROM DRAYTHOUSE BY BANK BRIDGE. MAXIMUM: 100' SPACING TO IN POWER CAPACITY BALANCE. SEE ELECTRICAL DRAWINGS
 - 14 10' STORM DRAIN. RESPECT FROM EXISTING TO ADJAC. PROPOSED FIELD. SEE CIVIL DRAWINGS
 - 15 NEW DOMESTIC WATER SERVICE. SEE PLUMBING DRAWINGS
 - 16 REPAIR & PATCH EXIST. CONCRETE WALL AS REQUIRED
 - 17 RESEAL AS REQUIRED TO IMPROVE DRAINAGE AROUND EXIST. PORCH. BLUE COORDINATE IN CIVIL SITE PLAN.

00 SITE PLAN
11-2020





JAMES WILLIAM
FINKHOUSER
MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES
DISTRICT 10
HOUSE OF DELEGATES
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

↑ WINCHESTER
← BASYE
← ORKNEY SPRINGS

















SPEED
LIMIT
25





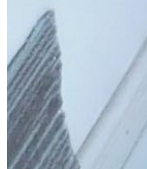








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CLASS
FLEX

STAIR
STOP



FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY
PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION

JOHN M. CARMODY
FEDERAL WORKS ADMINISTRATOR

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRIPLETT HIGH AND
VOCATIONAL SCHOOL ADDITION
1939













CLASS
FLOOR
201





STAIR
5/28









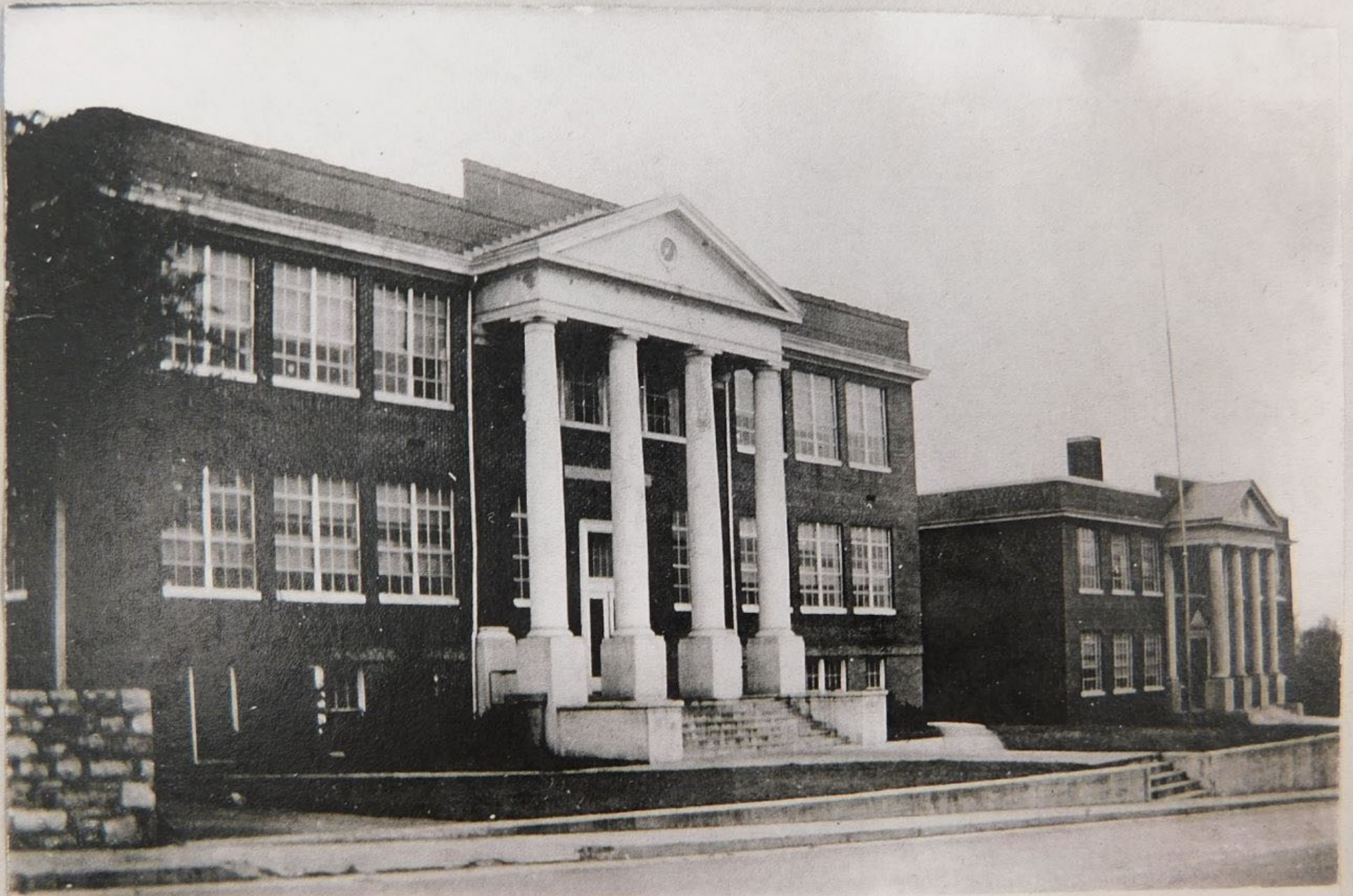














Band



FIRST ROW: Eileen Lutz, Don Bowman, Judy Litten, Judy Steadman, Barbara Will.