

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Garfield School

other names/site number Garfield Elementary School; Durfee Magnet School

Name of Multiple Property Listing _____

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

street & number 1077 W. Grand Avenue not for publication

city or town Decatur vicinity

state Illinois county Macon zip code 62522

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 at the following level(s) of significance: ___ national ___ statewide ___ local

Applicable National Register Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D

Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date _____

Illinois Department of Natural Resources - SHPO
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date _____

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ___ 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:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action _____

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
0	0	site
0	0	structure
0	0	object
2	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION / school

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS /
Collegiate Gothic

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: LIMESTONE, CONCRETE
walls: BRICK, LIMESTONE

roof: COMPOSITE
other: _____

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity).

Summary Paragraph

The Garfield School is located at 1077 W. Grand Avenue in Decatur, Illinois, approximately 1.5 miles northwest of Decatur's downtown commercial district. The school sits on a large site at the southeast corner of Grand and Oakland Avenues, and there are setbacks with north and west lawns on each street face. A small detached brick powerhouse with a truncated brick smokestack is located directly south of the school building. The remainder of the site consists of a paved south inner courtyard, and paved parking lots and open sports fields to the east and south of the school. The Garfield School is two-stories with flat roofs and an H-shaped footprint with a 1975 multi-purpose room addition on the south end of the historic school's 1927 west addition. The school building was built in phases, with its earliest section dating to 1925, its west addition to 1927, its east addition to 1952, and its last non-contributing southwest addition to 1975. The school building's street-facing facades display simplified traits of the Collegiate Gothic architectural style.

Narrative Description

Building Chronology

The Garfield School was completed in four stages between 1925 and 1975:

- **1925 Original North Block**

The Garfield School's original two-story north block was designed by Decatur architects Brooks, Bramhall & Dague and was completed in September 1925. This red-brick Collegiate Gothic Style structure faces Grand Avenue to the north, is accessed by the building's main north entry, and historically housed nine classrooms and a small 1st floor auditorium (later subdivided for classrooms).

- **1927 West Addition**

Completed in 1927 shortly after the original north block, the two-story west addition was also designed by Brooks, Bramhall & Dague. The red-brick Collegiate Gothic Style west addition faces Oakland Avenue to the west, is accessed by a separate west entry, and historically housed six classrooms.

- **1952 East Addition**

Over two decades after the completion of the original Garfield School, the two-story east addition was designed by architects Charles Harris & Associates (Harris, Spangler, Beall & Salogga after January 1952) and generally matches the massing, materials, fenestration patterns, and Collegiate Gothic Style of the original school building. The east addition faces a parking lot to the east, is accessed by a separate east entry, and historically housed six classrooms.

- **1975 Multi-Purpose Room Addition**

The highly utilitarian multi-purpose room addition just south of the school's 1927 west addition was designed by Texas-based architects Caudill Rowlett Scott and was completed in 1975.

The Garfield School's one-story brick powerhouse located within the rear south courtyard was completed along with the original building in 1925.

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Boundary and Resource Count

The National Register listing boundary is drawn to encompass the Garfield School and its 1925 south powerhouse. Historically the school grounds were larger with playing fields that expanded east across a non-historic parking lot to what is currently Garfield Park, and south across a paved driveway and playlot to Leafland Avenue. These parking lots and playing fields are excluded from the National Register boundary.

The National Register boundary includes two contributing buildings: the Garfield School and its one-story detached brick powerhouse.

Setting and Site

The Garfield School is located at the southeast corner of Grand and Oakland Avenues on Decatur's northwest side. The school is set back from the street by grass lawns. Paved driveways and parking areas / playlots lie to the east and south of the school. Garfield Park is located directly east of the school beyond the parking area, and a large playground / playing field is located directly south of the school.

Garfield School Exterior

The main section of Garfield School is the H-shaped section, the oldest section of which is the center section built in 1925. This section has walls of pressed red brick with a modified Flemish bond and continuous Bedford limestone label courses at the water table and parapet. Window openings are wide flat-arch openings with stylized Bedford limestone label surrounds. The center three bays project out and contain a main entrance at center. The entrance is articulated through recessing buttresses on each side, a wide stone arch and Bedford limestone ornament with Gothic tracery patterns in the center parapet and fleur-de-lis motifs on each buttress. Above, a name plaque on the same stone has a crenellated cap flanked by small pinnacles. The center parapet is castellated.

On the west, a 1927 addition creates an end of the H and extends the same treatment as the center elevation. There is a smaller, less elaborate entrance on this elevation in the same manner as the main entrance. Center steps of Bedford limestone on the north and east of this section have small pinnacles on each side. On the east, a 1951 addition provides some measure of symmetry to the main elevation with the same treatment. On its other elevations, though, while the fenestration matches the west elevation, there are no label surrounds. There is no articulation of its parapets. At the rear, all sections display less formal traits. Throughout all three sections, the original windows are replaced with non-historic windows that conform to historic fenestration somewhat.

On the west side, there is a 1974 addition containing a multi-purpose room that evinces traits of the Modern Movement. The addition is recessed from the west, and has a connector between the older building and itself articulated as a glazed curtain wall on the west and a stair tower on the east. The west wall, taller than the height of the roof of the addition, extends south beyond the south elevation to create a sculptural affect. There is a glazed full-height entrance at the west side of the south elevation. The other walls are blind. In the courtyard is the one-story brick boiler house from 1925, with a chimney at west and a non-historic shed-roof addition at east.

Garfield School Interior

The interior of the school retains its historic, U-shaped corridor layout, single-loaded across most of the building except at the 1st floor center corridor which opens to the school office and classrooms to the north and the auditorium to the south. The corridors have historic brick walls, and largely retain historic varnished wooden doors and casings. Historic terrazzo flooring in the corridors is in good condition. The main entrance lobby is fairly intact with brick walls and historic sidelights on the main entrance and a historic second entrance beyond. The library and assembly room retains its proscenium and stage. Classrooms largely retain historic millwork, blackboards, coat storage areas and book storage cabinets. There even is some historic hardwood flooring evident in classrooms. One major change

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on the interior is the presence of suspended-grid acoustic tile ceilings throughout. Stairwells generally retain historic features.

1925 Powerhouse

The highly utilitarian red-brick powerhouse in cubic in shape with mostly brick infilled windows. Inside the powerhouse is highly utilitarian in character and continues to house mechanical equipment. The brick smokestack, once 78 feet tall, has been truncated to a much lower height in recent decades.

Integrity

The Garfield School retains good integrity to communicate its significance under National Register Criterion C in the Area of Architecture as a good example of a Progressive Era school. Historic character-defining exterior and interior features from the period of significance (the years 1925, 1927 and 1952) remain.

Location: The Garfield School retains good integrity of location and has not been moved from its original location.

Setting: The Garfield School retains good integrity of setting. The historic campus with original 1925 / 1927/ 1952 school remains set at the southeast corner of Grand and Oakland Avenues with grass lawns along the school's north and west street-facing facades. The school remains at the north end of a large open lot, once home to playgrounds and playing fields which have been updated in recent decades. Garfield Park remains to the east of the school.

Design: The Garfield School retains good integrity of design. The school building's retains its exterior character defining features that express its associations with Progressive Era school design – its masonry facades, large window and door openings, south-facing assembly hall block, and 1925 south powerhouse. Changes to the exterior façade design include the replacement of windows and doors and the construction of the non-contributing 1975 multi-purpose room addition. The south powerhouse's have also been infilled and its once-tall smokestack truncated.

Inside, the school building retains its historic two-story spatial layout with single- and double-loaded corridors connecting classrooms, the 1st floor auditorium, stairwells, restrooms, and offices. Public spaces in the 1925 original block and 1927 west addition retain their original terrazzo corridor and stairwell floors, brick walls (though the original glazed brick has been painted), stained wood corridor doors, transoms and trim. Stairwells retain their original painted metal railings; code-required glass enclosures have been constructed to separate the stairwells from the corridors. The 1st floor auditorium retains its large original volume and historic stage and proscenium though non-historic carpet covers the original wood floor. Classrooms retain original wood flooring in some locations and original plaster walls and stained wood doors, chalkboard rails, and wall and window trim. Non-historic dropped gridded ACT ceilings have been installed at all 1925 and 1927 interiors.

Public corridors in the 1952 east addition display replacement linoleum flooring but retain original glazed tile and plaster walls, wood doors, acoustical tile ceilings and recessed fluorescent lighting. Classrooms also display replacement linoleum flooring and original wall plaster and trim.

Despite changes at the exterior façade, the construction of the 1975 southwest addition, and finishes changes at the interior, the Garfield School remains clearly legible as a Progressive Era public school.

Materials and Workmanship: The Garfield School retains good integrity of materials and workmanship. Historic exterior building materials such as red face brick and limestone ornamentation remain intact, and

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interior terrazzo floors and wood doors and trim also remain. Workmanship remains evident in the exterior limestone ornament, particularly at the north and west entry door surrounds and at the crenellated and pinnacled parapet features.

Feeling and Association: The Garfield School's good integrity of design, materials and workmanship clearly express the feeling of an early twentieth century public elementary school. The school retains good integrity of association as it was Decatur's northwest side elementary school for nearly a century.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- 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

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1925 (initial completion); 1927 (east wing completion); 1952 (west wing completion)

Significant Dates

1925; 1927; 1952; 1975; 2000

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation (if applicable)

Architect/Builder

Brooks, Bramhall & Dague (1925, 1927)

Charles Harris & Associates /

Caudill Rowlett Scott (1975)

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations).

The Garfield School, located at 1077 W. Grand Avenue in Decatur, Illinois, is locally significant under National Register Criterion C for Architecture as a good local example of a Progressive Era school. First designed by Decatur architects Brooks, Bramhall & Dague and completed in 1925, the Garfield School was expanded three times in its nine-decade history as a public elementary school, first in 1927 with a west addition design by Brooks, Bramhall & Dague; again in 1952 with an east addition design by Decatur architects Charles Harris & Associates / Harris, Spangler, Beall & Salogga; and again in 1975 with a Late Modern style multi-purpose room addition by Houston, Texas- based architects Caudill Rowlett Scott. The original 1925 Garfield School and its 1927 and 1952 additions accommodated ever-growing numbers of students from Decatur's growing northwest side, reflected the early twentieth century expansion of public school education in Decatur, and expressed the ideals of school building reform championed by the American Progressive Movement.

The Garfield School's periods of significance are 1925, the year of the building's initial completion; 1927, the year of the west addition's completion; and 1952, the year of the east addition's completion, executed to match Brooks, Bramhall & Dague's original architectural vision.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

History of Decatur, Illinois

Decatur, Illinois is the county seat of Macon County in Central Illinois and is located along the Sangamon River. Before White settlement, the land today known as Decatur and the surrounding Macon County area were the ancestral lands of Native American tribes, including the Peoria, Myaamia, Očhéthi Šakówiŋ, Kaskaskia, Sac and Fox, and Kiikaapoi (Kickapoo). Early histories of Macon County report that Native Americans had mostly left or been removed from the area by the time White Settlement first occurred there in the 1810s and 1820s.¹

After Illinois was named a U.S. state in 1818, White families, mostly natives of Kentucky and Tennessee, set up farmsteads on both sides of the Sangamon River in the vicinity of today's Decatur. In January 1829, Macon County was formed by act of the Illinois legislature from a section of Shelby County and named for popular North Carolina politician Nathaniel Macon (1758-1837). Macon County's new county seat was established at the riverfront Ward settlement and given the name Decatur in honor of Stephen Decatur (1779-1820), naval hero of the War of 1812. The town grew around a log county courthouse from 1829, replaced with a brick courthouse in 1838, and around the state-built Springfield-to-Paris road re-routed through Decatur in 1831. Railroad development through Decatur in 1854 drew more newcomers to the growing town. Central Illinois attracted settlement due to the fertility of its prairie soil and from its founding to the present day, Decatur has been the center of Macon County's agricultural industry.²

Decatur saw extensive growth after the Civil War and then again during a three-decade period after 1900 when the city's population tripled, reaching 57,511 citizens. New arrivals were drawn to Decatur's growing industrial sector which included several iron and steel works like Mississippi Valley Structural Steel, along with new lumber and construction businesses.³ James Milliken University on Decatur's west side was founded in 1901 in association with the Presbyterian Church and in honor of Decatur banker James Millikin (1827-1909); the Garfield School's architect Barkley S. Brooks would design and renovated buildings at this educational institution and would also design a new home for aged women for Millikin's wife Anna Aston Millikin (1833-1913).⁴ A 1909 fire that destroyed much of Decatur's downtown began a building program the expanded Decatur's commercial district. Decatur's economic flourishing prompted the expansion of the city south across

¹ "Native Land Digital," accessed November 7, 2023, <https://native-land.ca/>.

Mabel E. Richmond, *Centennial History of Decatur and Macon County* (Decatur, IL: The Decatur Review, 1930), 12, 13.

² *Centennial History of Decatur and Macon County*, 10, 15, 20, 21, 25, 26, 29, 31, 50, 51, 53.

Susan M. Baldwin and Cindi Bills, *National Register of Historic Places Nomination: Roosevelt Junior High School, Macon County, Illinois* (Chicago, IL: Illinois State Historic Preservation Office, 2002), Section 8 page 15.

³ *National Register of Historic Places Nomination: Roosevelt Junior High School*, Section 8 pages 15, 16.

⁴ "MU History," Millikin University, accessed November 13, 2023, <https://millikin.edu/about/mission-values/mu-history>.

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the Sangamon River and to far-flung undeveloped areas, including the city's northwest side developed as a residential community and where the Garfield School was completed in 1925.⁵

Public Education in Decatur

The design and construction of the Garfield School in the mid-1920s was part of a comprehensive early twentieth century public school building program in Decatur and exemplified a statewide trend in the expansion of public school programs and the specialization of school buildings.

Decatur's first school was organized in 1830, one year after the town's founding, in a small room on South Main Street. The town's original log courthouse was put to educational use in 1831, and a local church was rented for instruction in 1839. Decatur's first purpose-built schoolhouse was constructed around 1842, a two-story building at Water and North Park Streets where the ground floor school shared accommodations with a fraternal lodge upstairs.⁶

Decatur's earliest schools were funded by private donations and subscriptions until the passage of the 1855 Illinois Free School Act which provided tax funding for public education programs statewide and required that all Illinois children attend school for at least six months per year. In June 1855 the Decatur school district purchased land for a school at the corner of Church and North Streets and Decatur's first purpose-built schoolhouse – the "Big Brick" – opened two years later in 1857 and remained Decatur's most important school facility until the end of the century.⁷

The early development of Decatur's modern public school system was led by Enoch A. Gastman (1834-1907), a Hudson, Illinois native who arrived in Decatur in 1860 and was named principal of the "Big Brick." One year later Gastman was named head of the high school program, then superintendent of schools, a position he held for 46 years. Under Gastman's leadership, in 1865 the City of Decatur requested and was given by the Illinois state legislature a special charter to appoint a local three-member school board with exceptional authority to make decisions about almost all Decatur school system programming, funding, and building without approval from other government bodies.⁸ Gastman used his school board's new authority to build five new school buildings, including a purpose-built high school, by the end of the decade. In response to Decatur's rapid population growth in the last quarter of the century, Gastman directed the construction of six additional schools by 1900.⁹

E.A. Gastman and the City of Decatur's progressive public education policy anticipated the momentum growing behind public education statewide. The ratification of a new state constitution in 1870 empowered many communities to open new public schools, including separate high schools, under the direction of new school boards. Compulsory school attendance laws were passed by the Illinois state legislature in 1883 and 1889, requiring children as young as seven to attend school and increasing the demand Decatur for new school buildings.¹⁰

The Garfield School, completed in 1925, was part of a three-decade building program that replaced or supplemented existing school buildings from Gastman's tenure. By 1930, the Decatur Board of Education had completed fifteen new schools to accommodate the city's modern public schools program – twelve primary schools: E. A. Gastman (which replaced the "Big Brick"), Roach, Dennis, Ullrich, Washington, Riverside, Garfield, Oglesby, Grant, Mary W. French, Lincoln, and Durfee; three junior high schools: Johns Hill, Roosevelt, and Centennial, and a fourth, Woodrow Wilson, would be completed in

⁵ *National Register of Historic Places Nomination: Roosevelt Junior High School*, Section 8 pages 15, 16.

⁶ *Centennial History of Decatur and Macon County*, 170.

⁷ *Centennial History of Decatur and Macon County*, 171-172

National Register of Historic Places Nomination: Roosevelt Junior High School, Section 8 page 16.

⁸ "Decatur Solves Junior-High-School Construction Program," *American School Board Journal* 81, no. 2 (August 1930), 49.

Centennial History of Decatur and Macon County, 174.

⁹ *Centennial History of Decatur and Macon County*, 174.

¹⁰ John Cramer, *National Register of Historic Places Nomination: Garfield Elementary School, Rock Island County, Illinois* (Chicago, IL: Illinois State Historic Preservation Office, 2017), Section 8 page 12.

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1931; and a large high school, the Stephen Decatur School – all of which except for the two-room Grant School were designed by Barkley S. Brooks or his successor firm Brooks, Bramhall & Dague.¹¹

Decatur's pre- and early Depression Era public schools remained mostly unmodified through the 1930s and 1940s, followed by new building and renovation programs of the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s. Today, changing population and educational trends in Decatur have resulted in the construction of new school facilities and the demolition of the majority of Decatur's nineteenth and early twentieth century public schools, notable exceptions being Roosevelt Junior High School (1923, National Register listed) and Garfield School (1925).

History of the Garfield School

Explosive population growth in Decatur after World War I, and particularly on Decatur's northwest side, made the relief of the overcrowded northwest elementary schools at Pugh, Oglesby, and Oak Grove a priority for the Decatur Board of Education. In 1924, though much of northwest Decatur remained vacant land, its streets were platted and the construction of new single family homes in the vicinity gave the Board no choice but to build a new grade school.¹²

After threatening its obstinate owners with condemnation and city government takeover, in March 1925 the Decatur Board of Education purchased a large plot of vacant farmland at the southeast corner of West Grand and North Oakland Avenues from a Mr. and Mrs. Charles Becker for \$17,460. In just weeks, the Board announced the imminent construction of a new nine-classroom grade school on the site to be designed by well-known local school architects Brooks, Bramhall & Dague and contractors Moeller, Pogue & Williby.¹³

Construction on the new West Grand Avenue school in 1925 was completed in tandem with two other Decatur schools, all three to be named for U.S. presidents as part of local Board of Education policy move away from commemorating local figures. The 32-room Johns Hill school was to be named the George Washington School (demolished); a two-room school in Decatur's northeast Homewood community, to be named the Ulysses S. Grant School (also demolished); and the Garfield School on Decatur's growing northwest side was to be named for the nation's assassinated 20th president James Garfield (1831-1881).¹⁴

Through the spring and summer of 1925, Decatur newspapers closely followed the construction of the new Garfield School where corn fields had grown only the year before.¹⁵ By summer the two-story school and its rear (south) powerhouse with its planned 78-foot smokestack were underway.¹⁶ The rapid pace of construction stalled, however, as the project's September 7th, 1925, deadline approached, reportedly due to delays in millwork deliveries.¹⁷ In the last week of August 1925, the list of work still to be done remained long; final plastering, painting, carpentry work, painting, "terrazza" floor polishing, plumbing and heat fixture installation, furniture location assignments, outdoor clearing and grading, and sidewalk laying all remained incomplete.¹⁸ The *Decatur Daily Review* skeptically asked, "[w]ill the West Grand Avenue school, the Garfield [S]chool, be finished by September 7? The superintendent of schools says that it must be. The contractors say that it will be. The casual observer can't see how it can be."¹⁹

¹¹ *Centennial History of Decatur and Macon County*, 175.

The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague (c.1930), 5.

¹² Michael Shae and Mrs. Richard Theobald, Sr., *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited* (1976), 1.

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ "Swarm of Men Busy at Work on Two Schools," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), March 22, 1925.

"Name Three New Schools," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), May 9, 1925.

¹⁵ "Start Foundation of Grand Ave. School," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), April 1, 1925.

"Swarm of Men Busy at Work on Two Schools," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), March 22, 1925.

"Week's Weather Workmen's Ally," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), May 24, 1925.

¹⁶ "Week's Weather Workmen's Ally."

¹⁷ "Face Delay on Garfield School," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), August 16, 1925.

¹⁸ "Garfield School to be Done Sept. 7," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), August 23, 1925.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*

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The *Decatur Daily Review's* "casual observer" was correct. On Decatur's city-wide first day of school, Tuesday, September 8th, 1925, the new Garfield School's new principal Ms. Mabel Muthersbaugh, her all-female staff of nine teachers, and 335 students made due in an incomplete facility.²⁰ All nine of the 1st through 6th grade classrooms were reportedly complete and filled almost to capacity though the 1st floor auditorium remained under construction.²¹ Still, instruction proceeded in the coming days despite the disturbance caused by ongoing construction. "It isn't such an easy matter to keep school and construct a school at the same time," the *Decatur Daily Review* reported. "That is the situation at the Garfield [S]chool... [which] is in full swing but the building is not quite in full flower. ... The chief sufferers are perhaps the janitors who find it a bit difficult to keep things in apple pie order for school and not interfere with the mechanics. It is only necessary to close the school room doors to shut out most of the noise of saws and hammers and the school can get along very nicely."²²

On its September 8th, 1925 inaugural opening day, the Garfield School's 335 students (including 54 of the youngest "beginner" students) were among Decatur's 5,338 grade school students and 8,848 total students beginning the 1925-1926 school year.²³ Enrollment numbers across the city were growing every year, due in large part to new families moving to the Decatur area; an unnamed school principal remarked that first day of school in 1925 that "she was surprised at the number of new pupils that have come from other places, evidently new families that have moved to Decatur from not only other points in Illinois but from other states as well."²⁴ Garfield's own young students came from Decatur's growing northwest side community of single-family homes whose growth was spurred by its suburban setting, newer paved roads, and flat landscape ready for development, and indeed by the construction of the school itself. For months before the school's opening and for years after the school's completion, local newspapers attracted new families to the neighborhood, announcing the proximity of the new Garfield School in their advertisements for new rental and for-sale housing.²⁵

With construction finally completed in the fall of 1925, the school's final cost was calculated at \$110,000.²⁶ Official celebration of the new school was postponed until after the new year. The building's dedication ceremony was held on the evening of Thursday, January 28th, 1926, likely in the completed 1st floor auditorium.²⁷ The new school was honored with prayer, song, and an American flag presentation, and with an address by Dr. H.W. Shyrock, president of the Southern Illinois State University, who "pointed out how willing people are to put money into an education, not only to prepare themselves and their children to make a living, but to develop their emotional and artistic natures as well."²⁸

The new red-brick Garfield School stood out among the vacant land that surrounded it. For weeks, the unfinished landscape around the school remained without sidewalks with rains creating "a sea of mud which the children had to encounter before entering the new building."²⁹ In mid-1925, a plot of land just east of the Garfield School site was allotted for a new athletic field; this field would later become adjacent Garfield Park.³⁰ And in 1926, vacant land south of the new school was set aside for playing fields.³¹ Beyond the school grounds, the Garfield School remained for decades the neighborhood's largest building, dominating the surrounding small single family homes constructed in the residential lanes around the school.³²

²⁰ "Concrete Walks Being Poured at New School," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), September 2, 1925.

"Teachers Assigned To Decatur Schools," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), September 6, 1925.

²¹ "Say Garfield School Will Be Ready Tuesday," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), September 6, 1925.

²² "Building Fails to Halt School," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), September 9, 1925.

²³ "8,848 Pupils Enroll As Schools Open," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), September 8, 1925.

²⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁵ "Classifieds: N. Oakland Ave.," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), July 29, 1925.

"Will Sell New Tract June 27," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), June 22, 1925.

"Real Estate Business Heavy During Week," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), August 30, 1925.

²⁶ "Garfield School Anniversary: Pupils Think School 'Funner' 50 Years Ago," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), February 27, 1976.

²⁷ "Garfield School is Dedicated," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), January 29, 1926.

²⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁹ "Garfield," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), September 17, 1925.

³⁰ "Roosevelt P.T.A. Approves Trade," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), May 29, 1925.

"Coonradt Tabled Design Approved By School Board," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), June 11, 1925.

³¹ "Sell Roosevelt Athletic Field," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), September 17, 1926.

³² Sanborn Map Company, Decatur, Macon County, Illinois, September 1950. Historical Information Gatherers, Fire Insurance Maps Online (FIMO), <https://fims-historicalinfo-com.chipublib.idm.oclc.org/FIMS.aspx>.

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Few descriptions of the completed Garfield School interior were provided to Decatur's newspapers and original plans have not survived. However, contemporary construction updates reported in local news articles along with current evidence remaining in the building show that the Garfield School was composed of a brick structure with a concrete foundation and basement and had two above-ground floors with nine classrooms, two steel-framed stairwells, and a 1st floor auditorium connected with wide corridors. The corridors and washrooms displayed "terrazza" flooring while maple flooring was laid in the classrooms and auditorium.³³ Corridors were clad in brick walls (probably exposed glazed brick originally though today the brick is painted) with plaster ceilings, while classroom walls and ceilings were both plastered. Doors and trim at doors, windows, and walls were of stained wood. All classrooms had slate blackboards and coat hooks along with school desks and other furniture (some of this furniture was secured to the floors). The building was wired for electricity, powered by machines in the rear powerhouse, and for modern plumbing and heating equipment.³⁴ And "unusual" to many in Decatur was the Garfield School classrooms' lack of separate adjoining cloakrooms, a mainstay in earlier generations of schoolhouses for storing students' cold weather coats but replaced in Garfield's classrooms with built-in wardrobes.³⁵

The *American School Board Journal's* August 1930 description of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague's 1923 Roosevelt Junior High School in Decatur entitled "Decatur Solves Its Junior-High School Construction Program" could also serve as a description of their 1925 Garfield Elementary School and their other grade, junior high and high school buildings:

"The exterior of the building has been carried out in a very dignified adaptation of a modernized gothic. Mat-face variegated red and brown brick have been used and the trim as in mottled buff terra cotta, which combines pleasingly with the brick. [note: the Garfield School's trim was limestone, not terra cotta] Throughout the building the walls are of brick, the concrete corridors are finished with terrazzo floors and brick walls, and the classrooms have plastered walls, maple floors, and oak trim. The auditorium has been carried out in a dignified design, with plastered walls, maple floors, and oak trim. The building is heated and ventilated by means of steam, with direct radiation in all rooms, and central fan ventilation.... The entire heating plant is under automatic control."

The *American School Board Journal's* August 1930 article showcased detailed photographs and schematic of the Roosevelt School, and also Brooks, Bramhall & Dague's Johns Hill Junior High School and Centennial Junior High School, all red and brown brick Collegiate Gothic Style 1920s schoolhouses in Decatur comparable in massing, materials, basic plan, and architectural style with their 1925 Garfield School.

Brooks, Bramhall & Dague's design for the Garfield School had anticipated the future expansion of the school. Though first constructed with only nine classrooms in a linear block facing Grand Avenue to the north, the architects also made preparations for east and west classroom wings for when the need arose, expected to be likely no earlier than 1929. Brooks, Bramhall & Dague used the design of the U-shaped Washington School, their other large elementary school completed in 1925, as a template for the Garfield School's planned wings. It is also possible that Brooks, Bramhall & Dague anticipated even more future additions; in their c.1930 monograph, the firm noted that after 1927 wing had been completed eighteen additional classrooms would be constructed, twelve more than the six-classroom 1952 west addition.³⁶

Need for new classrooms would come sooner than expected. Shockingly for the Decatur Board of Education, the Garfield School's initial 1925 opening day roster of 335 pupils was 100 more than expected. And during the school's first weeks in operation in September 1925, the addition of latecomers increased the enrollment number to 358, more than the new school's 350-student capacity. At its 1925 opening, the new Garfield School was already obsolete and would require immediate expansion.³⁷

³³ "New School to be Completed Ahead of Time," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), August 9, 1925.

"Garfield School to be Done Sept. 7," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), August 23, 1925.

³⁴ "Push Work on Two Schools," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), July 26, 1925.

"Garfield School to be Done Sept. 7."

³⁵ "Garfield School to be Done Sept. 7."

"Week's Weather Workmen's Ally."

³⁶ *The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, 24.

³⁷ "Enrollment in City's Schools 8,848 First Day, Will Be Greater," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), September 9, 1929.

"Three New Buildings Are Added to Decatur Public School System," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), January 3, 1926.

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By September 1925, plans were afoot for Brooks, Bramhall & Dague to oversee construction of the Garfield School's expansion, one of several renovations and new buildings planned as part of a \$1.25 million citywide school improvement program.³⁸ The new two-story west addition would be completed ahead of the 1927-1928 school year and would house six new classrooms and a new stairwell connected by single-loaded corridors, all with the same Collegiate Gothic exterior stylings and utilitarian interior finishes seen in the original 1925 school block.³⁹ Work on the new west addition began in the first week of March 1925 with Parker-Patterson Co. serving as contractors.⁴⁰ This time the project was completed ahead of schedule in late August 1927, weeks before students' arrivals.⁴¹ The east addition's exterior design and materials and interior layout and finishes matched those seen at the original 1925 school building. The Garfield School community celebrated the new \$36,000 west addition and its six new classrooms at an evening dedication ceremony on Friday, October 21st, 1927.⁴²

The Garfield School remained at its 15-classroom size (with a new 468-student capacity) through the end of the 1920s and any discussion of further expansion was halted by the Great Depression of the 1930s and World War II in the early 1940s.⁴³ During this period, Garfield's 1st through 6th grade curriculum included English, spelling, penmanship, arithmetic, geography, art, music, hygiene, and physical education.⁴⁴ A dedicated health room with a school nurse was set up and a sewing room operated by mothers in the parent-teacher association (PTA) who use the space to repair clothing donated to the school for needy families. In the 1930s, the PTA also set up a welfare committee to investigate and address "cases of need" within the Garfield community and to offer clothing, shoes, food and coal to neighborhood families.⁴⁵

A post-war population boom spurred another spate of Decatur public school expansions and new construction beginning in the late 1940s, driven by expected increases of over 1000 enrollees by the early 1950s.⁴⁶ The Decatur Board of Education initiated a plan to add 62 new classrooms citywide and resurrected efforts to complete the long-planned Garfield School east wing. Garfield was to have six additional classrooms at an anticipated construction cost of \$252,000. Plans and elevations prepared by Charles Harris & Associates, who had replaced Brooks, Bramhall & Dague as Decatur's school system architects, showed the intent for the new east wing to match the original building's massing, fenestration pattern, materials, and Collegiate Gothic detailing. The plans promised, however, that the addition's historic appearance would not mean that the new education facilities would be any less-modern; the *Decatur Herald* announced in 1949 that "[t]he new classrooms will be of the same dimensions and design as classrooms in the proposed newer buildings and fully equipped in the same manner."⁴⁷

This time, construction would not be completed in mere months. Construction was delayed on the Garfield's School east addition for two years, with contractors' bids finally sought in June 1951 and work beginning on August 17, 1951.⁴⁸ The anticipated September 1952 completion, intended to coincide with the start of the 1952-1953 school year, came and went

"Roach School to Have \$100,000 Addition This Summer; to Enlarge Four," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), April 18, 1926.

"Two Additions Will Be Built," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), December 21, 1926.

³⁸ "Increase Size of School Area," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), September 1, 1926.

"Two Additions Will Be Built."

³⁹ "Two Additions Will Be Built."

⁴⁰ "Dennis School Addition Will Have Fire Escape," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), February 19, 1927.

"Start Work on Garfield School," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), March 7, 1927.

"Start Work on School Annex," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), March 8, 1927.

⁴¹ "New Wing Is Completed," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), August 28, 1927.

⁴² "Start Work on Garfield School."

"Start Work on School Annex."

"New Wing Is Completed."

"Appointment of Teachers For Public Schools Made," *The Decatur Evening Herald* (Decatur, IL), September 4, 1927.

"Set Dates For Dedication Of New School Addition," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), October 21, 1927.

⁴³ *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited*, 6.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, 14.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, 9.

⁴⁶ "School Officials Plan for Early Building Start," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), January 31, 1947.

⁴⁷ "Why Decatur Needs New Schools – Enrollment to Increase 1,400 in Five Years," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), February 27, 1949.

⁴⁸ "Notice to Contractors," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), June 15, 1951.

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and teachers were authorized to move into the new east addition in just before Christmas 1952.⁴⁹ The new wing's three upstairs classrooms were occupied by 6th graders, and three kindergarten rooms occupied the lower floor.⁵⁰ Though the west addition's exterior aesthetic and basic interior layout matched those of the original 1925-1927 building, the 1952 addition's red-brick facades displayed a simpler interpretation of the Collegiate Gothic Style. Instead of multi-paned double hung windows to match the original building as proposed in a February 1949 *Decatur Sunday Herald* piece on the future addition, the east wing would ultimately display more modern window systems with operable wood ribbon windows at sill level topped by large panels of fixed glass block.⁵¹ The new 1952 east addition interior housed larger classrooms and was clad in more modern materials with laminate flooring tiles, acoustical ceiling tiles, and recessed fluorescent ceiling lighting throughout and with large glazed tile walls in the corridors. Notably, new classroom blackboards were made not of slate but of green glass, intended for use with wax crayons instead of chalk; these green glass panels were not in use for long and were soon replaced with more traditional blackboards.⁵²

Overcrowding continued to plague the Garfield School and by 1955, the 21-room school housed 755 students, the high enrollments Garfield had yet seen and ultimately its peak capacity. The enlarged school especially required accommodations for younger students: the kindergarten program grew to six sections and the 2nd grade program expanded to five classes. A wall was used to divide the 1st floor auditorium into two separate classrooms.⁵³

The Garfield School was expanded again in the 1970s as part of a planned Decatur Board of Education \$12.8 million 20-building renovation and new construction program. The southwest end of the Garfield School, just south of the 1927 west wing, received a 5,100 square foot multi-purpose room, intended for use as a gymnasium and cafeteria, along with a kitchen and storage spaces. At the same time, the subdivided 1st floor auditorium was refurbished as a new IMC (Instructional Materials Center) or library. This expansion and renovation, overseen by Houston, Texas-based architects Caudill Rowlett Scott, was completed in 1974 at a cost of approximately \$207,000.⁵⁴

In 2000, the Garfield School program left the building which was then immediately occupied by the Durfee Magnet School. The Garfield School has been vacant since 2020.⁵⁵

Criterion C – Progressive Era School Architecture

The Garfield School is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a good and intact example of a Progressive Era school, a building type that emerged from the political and social reforms of the American Progressive Movement dating to c. 1890-1930. Progressive politicians, intellectuals, and activists opposed the waste, corruption, poverty and inequality they saw in late nineteenth century America. Through the creation of new governmental regulations and policies at the local, state and federal levels, Progressives championed increased oversight of American business and protections for ordinary Americans. Though some policies that emerged from the Progressive Movement were ultimately unpopular and short-lived, like the nationwide prohibition of alcohol from 1919 to 1933, many more impactful and longer-lasting Progressive Movement successes continued to shape American life long after the end of the Progressive Era and so-called "Progressives" disappeared from the political scene: food, drug, and workplace safety regulations, child labor laws, expansive infrastructure projects, programs to help the rural and urban poor and immigrants, environmental protection and conservation policies, gender and (in some cases) racial equality efforts, and the creation of new government bureaucracies to oversee these vast political and social initiatives.⁵⁶

⁴⁹ "Six Rooms Move Into New Garfield School," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), December 24, 1952.

⁵⁰ *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited*, 26.

⁵¹ *Ibid.*, cover.

⁵² *Ibid.*, 25.

⁵³ *Ibid.*, 31.

⁵⁴ "School Board Seeks Funds for Construction, Renovations, Additions," *The Decatur Herald and Review* (Decatur, IL), December 3, 1972.

"Lakeview Project: Renovation Plan For School Told," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), March 2, 1973.

"Last Project Nearly Ready," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), October 25, 1975.

⁵⁵ Brenden Moore, "Former schoolhouse to join enterprise zone," *The Decatur Herald and Review* (Decatur, IL), February 23, 2023.

Valerie Wells, "School building upkeep costly," *The Decatur Herald and Review* (Decatur, IL), April 20, 2001.

⁵⁶ "Overview," U.S. History Primary Source Timeline: Progressive Era to New Era, 1900-1929, Library of Congress, accessed November 9, 2023, <https://www.loc.gov/classroom-materials/united-states-history-primary-source-timeline/progressive-era-to-new-era-1900-1929/>

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Among the most impactful changes enacted by American Progressives in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries was the improvement and expansion of American public educational systems for students of all ages but particularly for children. As the populations of towns like Decatur, Illinois grew and mandatory school attendance was enforced, citizens saw increased public funding for local public school systems, the creation of new school boards and school districts, the professionalization of school teachers and principals, and the reorganization and standardization of school curricula. Separation of some student spaces by gender and the creation of physical education programs were increasingly encouraged and by the first decade of the twentieth century, educators also recognized that younger and older children had distinct educational and developmental needs that could be best served through specialized classrooms and even separate facilities altogether, spurring the creation of separate kindergarten and grade schools, junior high schools, and high schools.

Public education reform and the specialization of curricula by subject and age group inevitably mandated the improvement of the settings in which American children were educated. In the first decades of the twentieth century, school boards across the country, including Decatur's, oversaw unprecedented school demolition and building programs replacing older school buildings with safer, healthier, and more modern school facilities and ushering in the proliferation of a new Progressive Era school building type.

Beginning in the late nineteenth century, Illinois' state government encouraged communities like Decatur to replace their older schoolhouses with modern public schools, calls that Decatur and its school board superintendent E.A. Gastman heeded with the building of nearly a dozen new school buildings by 1900. In contrast to the traditional single-room schoolhouse of settlement days, modern public schools lauded by Progressive education reformers were large masonry buildings, designed by professional architects to be fireproof with modern amenities including central heating, indoor plumbing, and, later, electric lights. Classrooms were large and of standardized sizes, well-lit and ventilated with operable windows.

According to an August 1930 *American School Board Journal* article entitled "Decatur Solves Its Junior-High School Construction Program" – an article whose author was not named but who at minimum probably consulted with Brooks, Bramhall & Dague on their grade, junior high and high school building designs – urban school builders after World War I faced a landscape of existing pre-war schools that could accommodate neither the increasingly large numbers of children needing education nor changes popular among most municipal education programs which, like that of Decatur, Illinois, moved from "eight-four" plans (eight years of grammar school followed by four years of high school) to more graduated "six-three-three" plans (six years of grade school followed by three years of junior high / middle school and three years of high school).⁵⁷

By the 1920s, the design of new public school buildings was literally professed as a science, and guidance for architects designing these all-important community facilities could be readily found in periodicals like the *Architectural Forum*, *Architectural Record*, and *The American Architect* but also the education-focused *American School Board Journal* and *School Executive*; and in popular books like John J. Donovan's *School Architecture: Principles and Practice* published in 1921. In his 700-plus page *School Architecture*, Donovan, a California-based school architect, assembled essays by himself and an array of American school designers that exhaustively outlined down to the smallest detail the spatial layouts, materials, and building systems that made for successful modern elementary, junior high, and high school buildings. Accompanying the text were plans and detailed photographs of the completed schools by Donovan and others, demonstrating the success of their own designs.

1929/overview/.

"Cities During the Progressive Era," U.S. History Primary Source Timeline: Progressive Era to New Era, 1900-1929, Library of Congress, accessed November 9, 2023, <https://www.loc.gov/classroom-materials/united-states-history-primary-source-timeline/progressive-era-to-new-era-1900-1929/cities-during-progressive-era/>.

"Immigrants in the Progressive Era," U.S. History Primary Source Timeline: Progressive Era to New Era, 1900-1929, Library of Congress, accessed November 9, 2023, <https://www.loc.gov/classroom-materials/united-states-history-primary-source-timeline/progressive-era-to-new-era-1900-1929/immigrants-in-progressive-era/>.

⁵⁷ "Decatur Solves Junior-High-School Construction Program," 49.

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Though the local geographic, political, and demographic conditions in which their public schools were planned may differ, John J. Donovan's *School Architecture* offered architects like Brooks, Bramhall & Dague advice in near scientific detail on how they could confidently execute in any locale a modern public school that was appropriately sited, sized, and furnished, cost effective to build and maintain, safe, and hygienic. Donovan's principles in *School Architecture* assembled the accumulated knowledge of progressive school architects across the country and were expressed in thousands of new school buildings built across America in the 1920s. Whether Brooks, Bramhall & Dague's work helped inform or was informed by Donovan's guidance is unknown but the Decatur firm's 1920s school commissions, and particularly the Garfield School, do reflect the Progressive design and construction standards espoused by Donovan and his co-authors.

School Architecture is divided into lengthy chapters, starting with advice on optimal locations for schools, site planning, playgrounds, running tracks, athletic fields, and swimming pools. Next it offers lessons in good school building programming, planning, and construction – the selection of qualified architects, locating connected functions in proximity to each other, anticipating future school renovations and expansions, and selecting building materials and their correct methods of installation and maintenance – and in appropriate landscape design and plantings. *School Architecture* also steps outside of school design and advocates at length for legislation to standardize education and building programs and for modern school administration practices.⁵⁸

Elementary, junior high and high school design guidelines are presented in separate chapters. Elementary school sites must be large enough to accommodate playgrounds, playing fields, and future expansions – “[t]here should be one-fourth acre for every classroom,” *School Architecture* suggests, and “[n]o city should locate a school building on less than five acres” – and school buildings, as seen at the Garfield School, should be located at the far north end of the parcel to accommodate sun-facing south playing fields for outdoor play in cold winter months.⁵⁹

Grade school buildings themselves should neither be too expansive nor too tall, with no more than ten generously-sized classrooms per floor recommended (the Garfield School as fully realized in 1952 was two stories tall with ten 1st floor classrooms and eleven 2nd floor classrooms). Large operable windows across the building facades were critical for light and ventilation inside, and *School Architecture* recommends that “the ratio of window space to floor surface should be at least one square foot of glass to five of floor space.”⁶⁰ It was also important that a school building be “attractive” both inside and out. And though many Progressive Era school architects expressed opinions on architectural style, preferring particular historic aesthetics for school buildings over others, in the extensive *School Architecture* Donovan and his co-authors did not state preferences for specific architectural styles – their project photographs show inclinations toward Classical Revival, Collegiate Gothic, Tudor Revival, and even Spanish Colonial Revival styles – and instead focused on the spatial, material, and technological qualities that made for successful modern public schools.⁶¹

Inside, public entrances, corridors, and stairwells are advised to be wide and well-lit to handle the crush of everyday use and the panic of emergency egress. Resilient and easily cleanable cement or terrazzo flooring and glazed brick walls up to a level of five feet were recommended for these spaces, and light-colored painted plaster for their ceilings. Corridors should have partially glazed classroom doors with upper operable transoms should swing out into the corridors to respectively increase natural light infiltration and ventilation into these spaces and to help facilitate quick exits during emergencies. *School Architecture* provides detailed measured drawings for ideal stairwell and stair landing widths, treads, risers, and railings. These 1920s finishes and features all remain in the Garfield School's 1925 and 1927 sections, though the 1952 addition public corridors and stairwells are clad in linoleum flooring and glazed tile walls (also approved treatments in *School Architecture*) and acoustical ceiling tiles with recessed fluorescent ceiling lighting.⁶²

Different classroom schemes, some including separate cloakrooms (called “wardrobes” by the authors) and some without, were carefully drawn and dimensioned (the Garfield School's designers chose to install built-in wardrobes in the classrooms in lieu of separate cloakrooms). Typical classroom dimensions, both in plan and section, were analyzed to maximize natural

⁵⁸ John J. Donovan and others, *School Architecture: Principles and Practices* (New York: The MacMillan Company, 1921), 1-17, 569.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, 85-110.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, 208.

⁶¹ *Ibid.*, 1-574.

⁶² *Ibid.*, 85-110.

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light and ventilation, and the ideal heights of blackboards, chalkrails, window sills and picture rails dictated. Maple floors and stained and shellacked wood trim were preferred in classrooms, and paint schemes should maximize the diffusion of light: ceilings should always be white but the walls below could be “light buffs, light grays, or any of the light, soft, pleasing hues which will harmonize with the wood stains.” At present, the Garfield School’s original paint schemes are not known, but built-in classroom wardrobes, blackboard locations, maple floors, and stained wood trim are still seen across the school’s interior. Architects should also consider in advance equipment needed throughout the school including light fixtures, lockers, and bookshelves, features that were all found in the Garfield School.⁶³

School Architecture recommends the inclusion of larger assembly halls in elementary schools both for daytime gatherings of students but also for evening and week use as neighborhood community centers. “Elementary schools of five or more classrooms should have an assembly hall,” the book directs, “in order that the principal may call the school together for talks, or for choral instruction by the music teacher. The small school assembly hall should be simple in character and should be equipped with a small stage, moving picture booth, level floor, and moveable chairs. The room can then be used for folk dancing and games by the pupils, and for social meetings by the community.”⁶⁴ The Garfield School’s assembly hall / auditorium is indeed furnished with a stage and a level floor, though no evidence of a movie projector booth remains, and as suggested Garfield’s auditorium is located on the 1st floor “on axis with the [school’s] main entrance for convenience to the pupils and the public.”⁶⁵

School Architecture advised that 1920s modern schools accommodate of special kindergarten, library, music, cafeteria, and physical education spaces. The smaller Garfield School does not appear to have had dedicated kindergarten classrooms until its 1952 expansion and did not have a dedicated library, music, cafeteria, or physical education space; a library was later set up in the subdivided auditorium and any music, dining, and athletic activities were held in the modified auditorium until the southwest multi-purpose room was added in 1975.⁶⁶

Above all, safety and hygiene were to be the highest priority for school architects like Brooks, Bramhall & Dague. As seen at the Garfield School, education facilities were to be of fireproof construction with wide corridors and stairwells and an abundance of building exits (the original 1925 Garfield School probably had secondary side or rear exits and the fully realized 1952 Garfield School had three exits and five interior stairwells). Fixed but adjustable desks and seats in every classroom, the kind of which we know were installed in the original Garfield School, would correct student posture and, when positioned with generous aisles between and around the desks, would avoid obstructing exits in an emergency. Modern plumbing for hallway water fountains and with ample lavatory, toilet and urinal facilities would be designed and located for maximum cleanability. Indeed, all surfaces including glazed brick walls and terrazzo flooring were designed for optimum cleanliness. And mechanical heat and ventilation registers and vents were carefully located for the comfort of occupants and also to help avoid the spread of contagious airborne diseases.⁶⁷

As a good example of a Progressive Era public school, the Garfield School’s fireproof masonry construction, wide entrances, corridors, and stairwells, large classrooms lit by large operable windows, 1st floor assembly hall, modern restroom facilities, and mechanical heat and ventilation systems all reflect the design principles of 1920s modern school design.

Collegiate Gothic Style Architecture

This description borrows heavily from the National Register nomination for Bloomington High School in Bloomington, Illinois, prepared by Raymond “Terry” Tatum and listed in 2018 (NR #10002327).

The Garfield School’s street-facing facades displaying massings and details associated with the Collegiate Gothic Style, an early twentieth-century adaptation of the earlier Gothic Revival style that was largely used in American educational buildings for purposes both functional and philosophical.

⁶³ Ibid.

⁶⁴ Ibid, 320.

⁶⁵ Ibid, 323.

⁶⁶ Ibid, 279-304, 342, 349, 513-522.

⁶⁷ Ibid, 204-217.

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In the early nineteenth century the Gothic Revival style of architecture spread across the United States as medieval precedents in design took hold in the imagination of American builders. Although there are isolated examples of the Gothic Revival as early as Baltimore, Maryland's St. Mary's Chapel (1808) by architect Maximilian Godefroy, the first important period of the Gothic Revival is the 1830s and 1840s. Although most often used for churches, the Gothic Revival style early on was also used for college buildings, including the Yale College Library (1846), designed by Henry Austin and Alexander Jackson Davis's New York University building (1837). The Gothic Revival style, and the medieval European period that it evoked, was strongly associated with the English universities of Oxford and Cambridge, founded during the Middle Ages, and by the end of the nineteenth century, the style was beginning to be used widely for American college and secondary school buildings. Prominent universities and colleges such as Yale, Duke, and Princeton employed the Gothic Revival style (now called "Collegiate Gothic" due to its educational associations) in this period to create an atmosphere of respected antiquity.⁶⁸

By World War I, the Collegiate Gothic had become a prominent style for primary and secondary school buildings as well. James O. Betelle, a Newark, New Jersey, architect in the early 1900s, called out the utility of the Collegiate Gothic style for school architecture. He noted, in an article published in the *American School Building Journal* in April 1919, that strong local architectural traditions, such as Colonial in New England and Spanish in California, should be given precedence in those locations, but that Collegiate Gothic was preferred almost everywhere else for city school buildings. Betelle noted the historical associations of the style with Oxford and Cambridge as philosophical reasons for the style's use for school buildings. But he also noted functional reasons for embracing the style, including the larger window-to-wall ratio and plainer wall surfaces that Collegiate Gothic allowed, in comparison to the Classical or Georgian style, both of which he felt left less design leeway for an architect adapting them to a school building. Betelle felt that Gothic-style ornament could be concentrated around entrances and along rooflines, keeping costs lower than with Classical Revival designs, which in his opinion depended more elaborate decoration applied more liberally throughout the building's facades.⁶⁹

In addition, as already noted, city public schools were becoming larger and more complicated spatially in the early twentieth century. Changes in American educational policy in the Progressive Era encouraged the separation of younger and older children into separate grade, junior high, and high school facilities, each with specialized features and spaces. Grade schools like the Garfield School were to be built of fireproof masonry with large corridors, stairwells, and classrooms and in some cases large assembly spaces like gymnasiums and auditoriums.

The Collegiate Gothic aesthetic fit well with the more elaborate spatial planning required for modern school buildings. Collegiate Gothic style buildings like the Garfield School are typically rectangular in plan with flat rooflines hidden parapets with exterior walls are typically brick or stone with stone or terra cotta trim. Gothic-arched entrances are often highlighted by central towers and bay windows, as well as Gothic-style stone tracery, panels and heraldic shields.

The facades of the Garfield School's original 1925 block and 1927 addition, designed by architects Brooks, Bramhall & Dague, and 1952 addition which followed the basic aesthetic of the original 1920s building, display restrained versions of features typical of the Collegiate Gothic style. The H-shaped footprint is regular in form and plan and its red brick walls, contrasting gray limestone trim, Gothic arched doors with their buttressed stone surrounds, Tudor style window surrounds, and crenellated parapet and pinnacle features at the street-facing north and west facades are typical of the style typically used in Collegiate Gothic Style public schools.

⁶⁸ "Collegiate Gothic, 1910-1950," Washington State Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation, accessed November 9, 2023, <https://dahp.wa.gov/historic-preservation/historic-buildings/architectural-style-guide/collegiate-gothic>.

⁶⁹ James O. Betelle, "Architectural Styles as Applied to School Buildings," *American School Board Journal* 58, no. 4 (April 1919), 27, 75.

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Brooks Bramhall & Dague, Architects of the Garfield School

Brooks Bramhall & Dague (sometimes recorded as Brooks-Bramhall & Dague), the Decatur-based architectural firm and designer of most of Decatur's early twentieth century public school buildings, was led by partners Barkley S. Brooks (1863-1954), and Arthur E. Bramhall (1884-1963) and England Dague (1891-1987).

Senior partner Barkley S. Brooks was born on a farm outside of Moweaqua, Illinois, approximately fifteen miles south of Decatur. Brooks travelled in his young adulthood and learned the building trade working for contractors and, after arriving in Decatur in 1894, for architect and contractor Arthur H. Humphrey before beginning his own architectural practice around the turn of the century.⁷⁰ Brooks' early commissions were well-known in Decatur – the Oakland School (1896, demolished) for which Humphrey & Brooks served as contractors; the Anna B. Millikin Home for children (1902, destroyed by fire in 1970); the E.A. Gastman School at North and Church Streets (1903, demolished); James Millikin University's Women's Dormitory, later Aston Hall (1906, extant); German Baptist Brethren Church (1908, demolished); the Decatur Senior High School (1911, demolished), and the Morehouse & Wells Co. Building, Decatur's first fireproof building (1911, extant) and National Register listed as a contributing building in the Decatur Downtown Historic District.⁷¹

In 1911, Barkley S. Brooks elevated employee Arthur E. Bramhall, a native of LaPorte, Indiana and a recent graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's architecture program, to the level of junior partner in the new firm of Brooks & Bramhall.⁷² Nine years later in 1920 the firm's chief draftsman, Danville, Illinois native England Dague, was appointed the third and final partner. Dague soon became the firm's leading designer for most of its best-known projects.⁷³

Over their decades-long partnership that lasted into the 1940s, Brooks, Bramhall & Dague worked primarily in Decatur but also in smaller communities across Illinois and the larger Midwest, designing churches, funeral homes, hospitals, banks, office buildings, store buildings, lodge buildings, children's homes, university dormitories, theaters, foundries, jails, bakeries, warehouses, industrial buildings, laundries, garages, apartment buildings, and dozens of single-family residences, all in a variety of historic architectural styles.⁷⁴

The firm's major commissions came from government bodies, religious institutions, commercial developers, and private homebuilders in Decatur, Illinois, and likewise most of Decatur's largest and most recognizable early twentieth century buildings got their start in the Brooks Bramhall & Dague offices in downtown Decatur: the National Bank of Decatur (initially completed in 1915 and expanded in 1929), National Register listed as a contributing building in the Decatur Downtown Historic District; the Sigma Phi Sigma Fraternity House in Champaign, Illinois (1923, demolished); a large addition to the Wabash Employees Hospital (1925, demolished) for use by workers of the Wabash Railroad; the 1000-seat Westminster Presbyterian Church (1928, extant), National Register listed as a contributing building in Decatur's West End

⁷⁰ "Advertisement: Arcade Office Building Directory," *The Morning Herald Dispatch* (Decatur, IL), May 19, 1895.

"Humphrey & Books," *The Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), December 13, 1895.

⁷¹ "B.S. Brooks, 91, Retired Architect Dies," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), March 4, 1954.

"Oakland School," *The Evening Bulletin* (Decatur, IL), September 4, 1896.

"Anna B. Millikin Home," *The Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), January 19, 1902.

"Will Visit Other Schools," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), September 29, 1906.

"Plans Now Ready for the New German Baptist Brethren Church," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), April 26, 1908.

"2 Major Fires Strike Decatur," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), May 7, 1970.

Cheryl D. Peck, "His Accomplishments Evident," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), January 23, 1972.

"Herald & Review pages reveal history's tidbits," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), August 28, 1993.

Herb Meeker, "New Oakland High School moves closer, with bond sale on tap," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), December 25, 2010.

The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague, 5-9, 15, 26, 27, 29, 34-38, 40, 44.

⁷² "City Briefs," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), September 17, 1911.

"A.E. Bramhall, Retired Architect, Dies at Home," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), November 17, 1963.

⁷³ "City Briefs."

"Advertisement: B.S. Brooks, A.E. Bramhall, Architects," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), January 1, 1913.

"Building designer England Dague dies," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), September 17, 1987.

Bob Sampson, "Dague's Architecture Throughout Decatur," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), August 8, 1977.

Steve Cahalan, "Today's landmarks outlive their creators," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), February 28, 1981.

⁷⁴ *The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, 5-7.

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Historic District; the Dawson & Wikoff Funeral Home (1929, extant); Decatur's Montgomery Place residential neighborhood (late 1920s), including Brooks' own Prairie School-inspired home at 7 Montgomery Place (1929), all located within Decatur's West End Historic District; the Decatur City Public Hospital (1931, demolished); Dague's favorite commission, the Art Moderne style Decatur Main Post Office (1934, extant); and expansions and improvements to the Decatur and Macon County Hospital and Tuberculosis Sanatorium (completed 1937, demolished).⁷⁵

Brooks, Bramhall & Dague's most significant and longest-lasting client was Decatur's Board of Education for whom the firm served as "architects for the school system" through the early 1930s.⁷⁶ Over two decades beginning in the early 1910s, the firm's largest commissions came from renovations to existing Decatur public schools and at least sixteen new Decatur public schools, including ten elementary schools, three junior high schools, and one high school. Among the largest and most prominent of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague's Decatur public school projects were (in chronological order):

- Riverside Elementary School at 1033 E. Cantrell (1907, demolished), designed by Brooks' solo firm but included in the firm's c.1930 monograph;⁷⁷
- Roach Elementary School at 1932 E. William Street (1908, demolished), designed by Brooks' solo firm but included in the firm's c.1930 monograph;⁷⁸
- Oglesby Elementary School at 2400 N. Union Street / 255 W. McKinley Avenue (1910, demolished), designed by Brooks' solo firm but included in the firm's c.1930 monograph;⁷⁹
- Dennis Elementary School at 1499 E. Main Street (1910, extant), designed by Brooks' solo firm but included in the firm's c.1930 monograph;⁸⁰
- Stephen Decatur High School at North and Jackson Streets (1911, demolished), designed by Brooks' solo firm but included in the firm's c.1930 monograph;⁸¹

⁷⁵ "A Look Back," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), May 13, 2013.

"Snapshots: This Week in History," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), October 7, 2002.

"Building designer England Dague dies."

"Dawson & Wikoff Making Plans for Beautiful English Residence," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), February 19, 1928.

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"Invite Public to Inspect New City Public Hospital," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), February 1, 1931.

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"Sanatorium Board Plans Remodeling," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), January 8, 1937.

"Work Begins Next Week," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), March 29, 1937.

⁷⁶ "School System Has Caught Up With Decatur's Growth," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), November 16, 1927.

⁷⁷ *The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, 5.

"Wreckers prepare to work on Riverside," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), October 30, 1980.

"Marks the Best in School Building," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), October 6, 1907.

⁷⁸ *The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, 5.

"Still no potential buyers for Lakeview, Roach schools," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), September 2, 1982.

"Where to vote in Saturday's school elections," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), April 11, 1980.

Kenneth Lowe, "Remembering Roach," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), October 9, 2011.

"Preparing For School Opening," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), August 21, 1907.

"East End's New Evidence of Growth and Progress," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), January 19, 1908.

⁷⁹ *The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, 5.

"'Oglesby School' is Name Chosen," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), March 9, 1910.

"Oak Grove Long Without Plumbing," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), May 11, 1949.

"Where to vote in Saturday's school elections."

⁸⁰ *The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, 5.

"Where to vote in Saturday's school elections."

"Dennis School Best in Decatur," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), November 6, 1910.

⁸¹ *The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, 5.

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- Mary W. French Elementary School at 520 W. Wood Street (1914, extant);⁸²
- Ullrich Elementary School at 618 E. Orchard Street (1914, demolished);⁸³
- Durfee Elementary School at Grand Avenue and Jasper Street (1915, extant);⁸⁴
- Lincoln School at 965 N. Church Street (1917, demolished);⁸⁵
- Roosevelt Junior High School at 701 W. Grand Avenue (1922, extant);⁸⁶
- Washington School at 400 S. Maffitt Street (1925, demolished), at its completion, largest elementary school in Decatur;⁸⁷
- Garfield School at 1077 W. Grand Avenue (1925 with additions in 1927, 1952, and 1975, extant), designed to match the Washington School with future east and west wings;
- Johns Hill Junior High School at 1025 E Johns Ave (1929, demolished)⁸⁸
- Centennial Junior High School at 1500 E. Condit Street (1929, extant)⁸⁹
- Woodrow Wilson Junior High School at 1100 W. Sunset Avenue (1931, demolished)⁹⁰

From 1911 through the late 1940s, Brooks, Bramhall & Dague completed approximately 175 local building projects. Activity within the firm slowed in the 1930s, and the business appears to have come to a close by the 1950s.⁹¹

Charles Harris & Associates / Harris, Spangler, Beall & Salogga, Architects of the 1952 Addition

The architectural firm of Charles Harris & Associates, architects of the Garfield School's 1952 east addition, was established in Decatur in 1929 by two local architects Charles Harris (1882-1981) and Rodney E. Spangler (1899-1982).⁹² The firm changed its name to Harris, Spangler, Beall & Salogga during the time the Garfield School's east addition was being designed and constructed.⁹³

⁸² "A Look Back," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), March 24, 2007.

⁸³ *The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, 5.

"In South End," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), June 21, 1914.

"Decatur's Two New School Houses Being Erected," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), June 21, 1914.

⁸⁴ *The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, 5.

"In South End," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), June 21, 1914.

"Decatur's Two New School Houses Being Erected," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), June 21, 1914.

"Classifieds: Manufacturing Manager," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), September 28, 1982.

"School's walls come down," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), April 14, 1984.

⁸⁴ *The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, 5.

"Architect's Drawing of New Durfee School Front Elevation," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), March 21, 1915.

⁸⁵ *The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, 5, 25.

"Notice to Contractors," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), March 16, 1917.

"Lincoln School Has Great Tradition," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), April 1, 1955.

⁸⁶ *The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, 5, 16.

National Register of Historic Places Nomination: Roosevelt Junior High School, Section 8 page 11.

⁸⁷ *The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, 5, 22, 23.

"Washington's contracts aim for success," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), September 7, 1992.

⁸⁸ *The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, 5, 17.

Valerie Wells, "'The Hill Was Home:' Original Johns Hill Magnet School coming down," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), September 24, 2021.

⁸⁹ *The Work of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, 5, 20, 21.

"'Centennial Junior High' Is Name Given New School," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), May 3, 1929.

⁹⁰ "Where to vote in Saturday's school elections."

⁹¹ *National Register of Historic Places Nomination: Roosevelt Junior High School*, Section 8 page 12.

The firm of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague did not appear to have any appearances in Decatur newspapers after the completion of the Woodrow Wilson Junior High School in 1931.

⁹² Steve Cahalan, "Decatur business marks 60 years of service," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), May 22, 1989.

"Architectural Firm Marks 25th Anniversary Here," *The Decatur Herald* (Decatur, IL), February 28, 1954.

"Obituary: Spangler," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), February 12, 1982.

"Obituary: Harris," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), July 28, 1981.

⁹³ "Decatur business marks 60 years of service."

"Architectural Firm Marks 25th Anniversary Here."

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Senior partner Charles Harris was born in Perry County, Indiana, and received an architectural engineering degree from the University of Illinois before his move to Decatur.⁹⁴ Partner Rodney E. Spangler, born in Amboy, Illinois, also studied at the University of Illinois and became a supervising architect and architecture instructor on the Champaign campus before establishing his Decatur business with Harris.⁹⁵ Their practice completed several public projects in Decatur in its early years including the Illinois Terminal Railroad Passenger Station at 1065 N. Van Dyke Street (1931, extant), and the Macon County Courthouse at 253 E Wood St (1939, extant) and the Decatur YMCA at 151 W. Prairie Avenue (1952) along with architect Aschauer & Waggoner.⁹⁶

Beginning in the 1930s, Charles Harris & Associates replaced Brooks, Bramhall & Dague as Decatur's Board of Education architects and were responsible for school renovations and new school buildings in Decatur through the 1950s. The firm's largest Decatur public school commission was the Eisenhower High School at 1200 S. 16th Street (1957, extant but heavily remodeled in the early 2010s).⁹⁷

In 1952, Charles Harris & Associates was renamed Harris, Spangler, Beall & Salogga, recognizing two new partners: William C. Beall (1910-1981), a Decatur native and graduate of Cornell University and the Fontainebleau School of Architecture in France, and Frederick W. Salogga (1908-1994), another Decatur native, graduate of the University of Illinois, and later an associate professor of architecture with the university.⁹⁸

In 1958 the firm was renamed Spangler, Beall, Salogga & Bradley after the departure of Charles Harris and the promotion of new partner Graham Bradley (1927-2016), another University of Illinois graduate.⁹⁹ As the firm grew it underwent several name changes, taking on its final moniker of Bradley, Likins, Dillow, Drayton c.1985.¹⁰⁰ Among the firm's prominent late twentieth century works in Decatur include several buildings at Millikin University, Trinity Lutheran Church at 1960 E. Johns Avenue (1968, extant), and the Decatur Civic Center at 1 Gary K Anderson Plaza (1980, extant) with HOK, Inc. The firm remains in operation today as the Decatur-based BLDD.¹⁰¹

⁹⁴ "Obituary: Harris."

⁹⁵ "Today's landmarks outlive their creators."

⁹⁶ "Decatur business marks 60 years of service."

"Macon County Courthouse – Decatur, IL," Living New Deal, accessed November 8, 2023, <https://livingnewdeal.org/sites/mason-county-courthouse-decatur-il/>.

"Today's landmarks outlive their creators."

"Decatur's YMCA Building to Be Opened Tuesday," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), October 12, 1952.

⁹⁷ Bill Ruminski, "Architect's influence permeates Decatur," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), February 23, 1992.

"Decatur business marks 60 years of service."

"Construction Work Progressing On Decatur's Eisenhower High School," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), June 16, 1957.

Valerie Wells, "Eisenhower progress showing up," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), January 16, 2013.

⁹⁸ "Architectural Firm Marks 25th Anniversary Here."

"Obituary: Salogga," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), May 15, 1994.

"Obituary: Beall," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), July 14, 1981.

⁹⁹ "Architectural Firm Marks 25th Anniversary Here."

"Obituary: Bradley," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), January 2, 2016.

¹⁰⁰ "Architectural Firm Marks 25th Anniversary Here."

"Decatur business marks 60 years of service."

"Likins, Dillow Become Partners in Architecture Firm," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), January 20, 1974.

"Obituary: Bradley."

"On the move," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), January 31, 1985.

"Help Wanted: Architectural Draftsman," *Herald & Review* (Decatur, IL), January 24, 1986.

¹⁰¹ "Decatur business marks 60 years of service."

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"All Pastors Return: Trinity Lutheran Plans Dedication," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), June 8, 1968.

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Caudill Rowlett Scott, Architects of the 1975 Addition

Caudill Rowlett Scott (or simply CRS), architects of the Garfield School's 1975 addition, were named "executive architect" for Decatur public schools in 1973. CRS was first brought to Decatur to assess existing building needs and to standardize heating, lighting, wall, and steel systems in school buildings, and then to oversee school facility expansions and renovations like that at the Garfield School along with the construction new school buildings.¹⁰² The Decatur School District ended their relationship with CRS in the late 1970s after a legal dispute.¹⁰³

The Houston, Texas-based Caudill Rowlett Scott was founded in 1948 by architects William Wayne Caudill (1914-1983) and John W. Rowlett (1914-1978) (who had previously operated as Caudill & Rowlett) and Wallie E. Scott, Jr. (1921-1989). Once among the largest architectural and engineering practices in the United States, CRS primarily consulted on and designed elementary schools, high schools, colleges, and universities and the firm's clientele extended to twenty-six states and eight foreign countries. CRS was best known for their Olin Hall of Science at Colorado College in Colorado Springs, Colorado (1961, extant); Harvard University's Roy E. Larsen Hall in Cambridge, Massachusetts (1965, extant); the original Cypress College campus in Cypress, California (1970, extant); and the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (1981).¹⁰⁴

CRS was named the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Architecture Firm of the Year in 1972.¹⁰⁵ Both Caudill and Rowlett were both named Fellows of the American Institute of Architects (in 1962 and 1969 respectively), and Caudill was posthumously awarded the AIA Gold Medal in 1985.¹⁰⁶

Comparable School Buildings in Decatur, Illinois

Of the many public school buildings built in Decatur in the first three decades of the twentieth century, almost all of them were completed by architects Brooks, Bramhall & Dague.

Decatur's earliest nineteenth century school buildings are no longer extant, and most Decatur public schools from the first half of the twentieth century which are comparable in type and architectural style to the Garfield School have been demolished. The following historic Decatur public school buildings remain extant, all designed by Barkley S. Brooks or his successor firm Brooks, Bramhall & Dague:

- Dennis Elementary School at 1499 E. Main Street (1910, extant)
- Mary W. French Elementary School at 520 W. Wood Street (1914, extant)
- Durfee Elementary School at Grand Avenue and Jasper Street (1915, extant)
- Roosevelt Junior High School at 701 W. Grand Avenue (1922, extant)
- Garfield School at 1077 W. Grand Avenue (1925 with additions in 1927, 1952, and 1975, extant)
- Centennial Junior High School at 1500 E. Condit Street (1929, extant)

Among Decatur's public school buildings, the Garfield School is one of six extant pre-World War II public school buildings and one of only four extant historic elementary schools.

¹⁰² "Lakeview Project: Renovation Plan For School Told."

Ron Ingram, "Schools Hire Architect," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), January 10, 1973.

¹⁰³ "School-architect dispute settled," *The Decatur Daily Review* (Decatur, IL), July 19, 1978.

¹⁰⁴ Nancy Solomon, ed., *Architecture INTL: Celebrating the Past, Designing the Future* (USA: The American Institute of Architects, 2008) 272.

"Caudill, William Wayne (1914-1983)," Texas State Historical Association (TSHA), accessed November 7, 2023, <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/caudill-william-wayne>.

¹⁰⁵ *ProFile 1996: The Sourcebook of U.S. Architectural Design Firms* (Atlanta, Georgia: Construction Market Data, 1996), 31.

¹⁰⁶ *Architecture INTL: Celebrating the Past, Designing the Future*, 272.

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Conclusion

Decatur, Illinois' Garfield School, a public elementary school that operated from 1925 to 2000, is locally significant under National Register Criterion C for Architecture as a good local example of a Progressive Era school. The building's original 1920s design by architects Brooks, Bramhall & Dague (1925 original block and 1927 west addition), completed by architects Charles Harris & Associates / Harris, Spangler, Beall & Salogga (1952 east addition), expresses the planning principles of early twentieth century modern school design, clad in medieval-inspired Collegiate Gothic Style facades popular among Decatur's 1920s public schools.

Garfield School

Name of Property

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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 # _____
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Name of repository: Decatur Public Library – Decatur, Illinois

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

Garfield School
Name of Property

Macon County, Illinois
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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 4.19 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>39.8542965</u>	<u>-88.9721286</u>	3	_____	_____
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude
2	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Garfield School sits on a 4.19-acre plot bounded by Grand Avenue to the north, Oakland Avenue to the west, and paved driveways, parking areas and playlots to the east and south (see Figure 2.) The National Register boundary is basically rectangular in shape, extending from the southeast curb corner of Grand and Oakland Avenues south the southern edge of school's south driveway (just south of the 1975 multi-purpose room addition); then extending directly east to western edge of Garfield Park; then extending directly north along the edge of Garfield Park to the Grand Avenue curb; then directly west along the Grand Avenue curb to the southeast corner of Grand and Oakland Avenues.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The National Register boundary has been drawn to encompass the footprint of the Garfield School, its street-facing north and west lawns, and east and south driveways, parking areas, and playlots. Garfield Park east of the school and large open playgrounds and playing fields south of the school which were formally part of the Garfield School campus are described in this nomination as part of the immediate site but do not lie within the National Register boundary because they are not strongly associated with the historic significance of the school.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John Cramer (Ramsey Historic Consultants, primary contact) + date _____
organization Michael Allen (Preservation Research Office) telephone 337.781.1180
street & number 1105 W. Chicago Avenue, Suite 201 email john@ramseyhcinc.com
city or town Chicago state IL zip code 60647

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **GIS Location Map (Google Earth or BING)**
- **Local Location Map**

Garfield School

Name of Property

Macon County, Illinois

County and State

- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).

Garfield School
Name of Property

Macon County, Illinois
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Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Garfield School
City or Vicinity: Decatur
County: Macon **State:** Illinois
Photographer: Michael Allen
Date Photographed: September 2023

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- Photo 1 of 15.** Grand Avenue (north) facade, looking southeast.
- Photo 2 of 15.** Grand Avenue (north) facade, looking southeast.
- Photo 3 of 15.** Grand Avenue (north) facade entrance detail, looking south.
- Photo 4 of 15.** Oakland Avenue (west) facade, looking southeast.
- Photo 5 of 15.** Oakland Avenue (west) facade, looking northeast.
- Photo 6 of 15.** South facade, looking northwest.
- Photo 7 of 15.** 1925 Powerhouse and south facade, looking north.
- Photo 8 of 15.** East facade, looking southwest.
- Photo 9 of 15.** 1925 original block, 1st floor main entrance vestibule, looking north.
- Photo 10 of 15.** 1925 original block, 1st floor corridor, looking west.
- Photo 11 of 15.** 1925 original block, 1st floor auditorium, looking southwest.
- Photo 12 of 15.** 1925 original block / 1927 west addition, typical classroom.
- Photo 13 of 15.** 1927 west addition, stairwell, looking east.
- Photo 14 of 15.** 1952 west addition, 1st floor corridor, looking north.
- Photo 15 of 15.** 1975 multi-purpose room addition, looking north.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Garfield School
Name of Property
Macon County, Illinois
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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page 34

List of Figures

(Resize, compact, and paste images of maps and historic documents in this section. Place captions, with figure numbers above each image. Orient maps so that north is at the top of the page, all document should be inserted with the top toward the top of the page.)

- Figure 1.** Garfield School – Location map
- Figure 2.** Garfield School – Site map with National Register boundary
- Figure 3.** Garfield School – Google Earth GIS Map
- Figure 4.** Garfield School – Current 1st floor plan
- Figure 5.** Garfield School – Current 1st floor plan
- Figure 6.** Garfield School building chronology plan
- Figure 7.** 1950 Sanborn fire insurance map.
- Figure 8.** Enlarged view of 1950 Sanborn fire insurance map. The text at top is incorrect: the Garfield School’s east half was completed in 1925 and the west half was completed in 1927.
- Figure 9.** Garfield School’s 1925 original block, looking southwest. From “Garfield School To Be Done Sept. 7,” *The Decatur Daily Review*, August 23, 1925.
- Figure 10.** Garfield School’s 1925 original block, looking southwest. From “Garfield School on West Grand Ave.,” *The Decatur Daily Review*, October 4, 1925.
- Figure 11.** Garfield School’s 1925 original block (left) and 1927 west addition (right). From “New Wing Is Completed,” *The Decatur Herald*, August 28, 1927.
- Figure 12.** 1931 Garfield School class photo in front of the 1925 original block main entrance. From Herald and Review Garfield School, “Various Class Photographs from Garfield School,” Decatur Public Library Local History Photo Collection, accessed November 12, 2023, <http://omeka.decalurlibrary.org/items/show/3719>.
- Figure 13.** Women standing along the Garfield School 1925 original block’s north facade just east of the main entrance, looking southeast, c. 1930. From *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited*, 1976.
- Figure 14.** Man standing at the Garfield School 1925 original block’s main entrance, looking southwest, c. 1930. From *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited*, 1976.
- Figure 15.** Garfield School’s north (left) and west facades (right) from *The Works of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, c. 1930, with the 1925 block at left and the 1927 west addition right. The unbuilt 1952 east addition is yet to be built at left.
- Figure 16.** Rendering of Decatur’s Washington School from *School Board Journal*, July 1926, page 9. The Washington School was completed the same year as the Garfield School’s 1925 original block and also designed by Brooks, Bramhall & Dague. The Washington School (now demolished) with its center block and side wings was nearly identical to the architects’ vision for the Garfield School which was not fully realized until Garfield’s completion in 1952.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

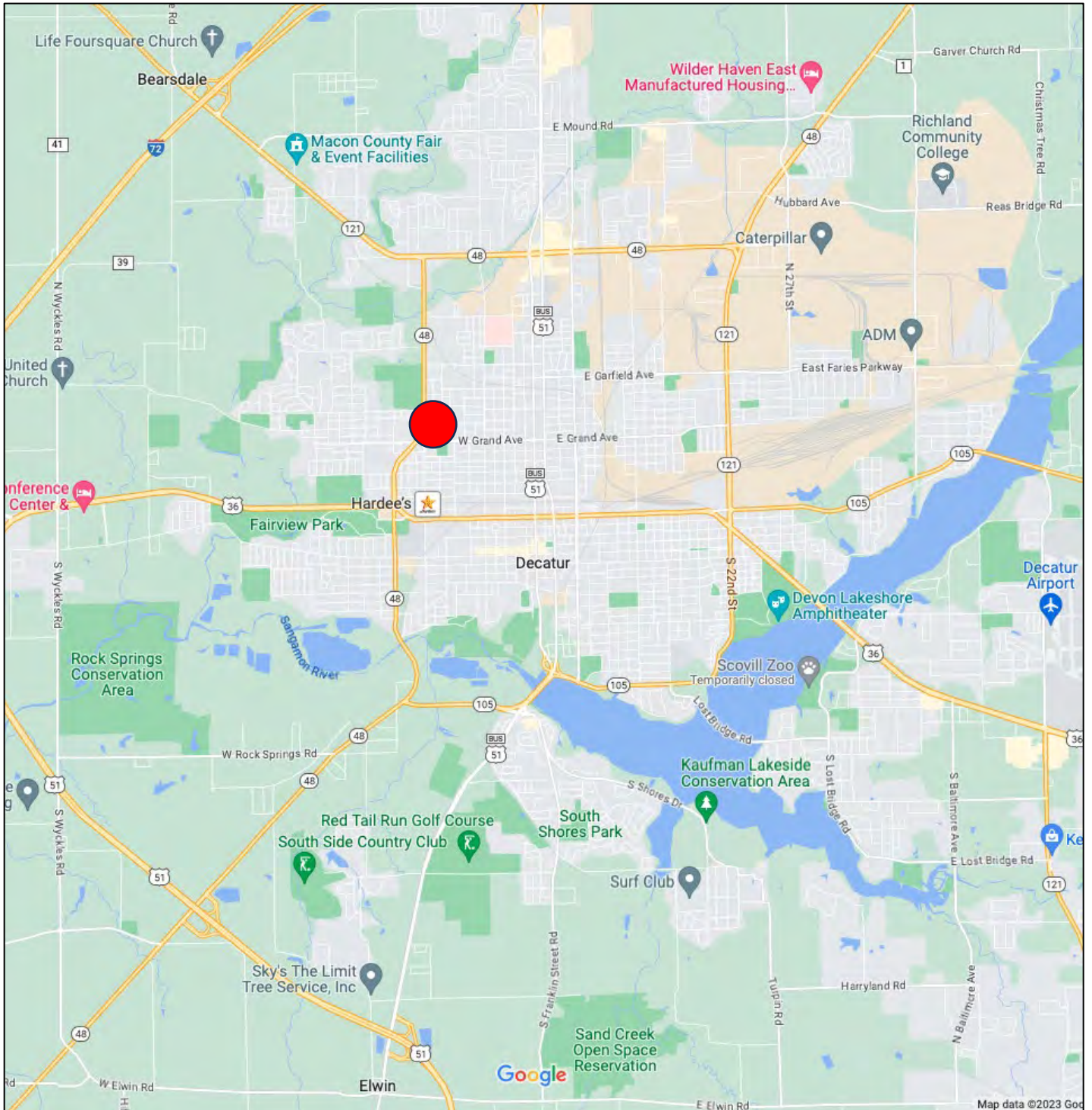
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- Figure 17.** Garfield School's 1925 original block north facade, looking south, before 1952. From *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited*, 1976.
- Figure 18.** Garfield School north facade, facing east, after 1927. From *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited*, 1976.
- Figure 19.** Elevation and 1st floor plan of the proposed Garfield School east addition. From "Why Decatur Needs New Schools - Enrollment to Increase 1,400 in Five Years," *Decatur Sunday Herald*, February 27, 1949. The completed 1952 addition was much simpler in ornamentation and displayed more modern window systems with operable wood ribbon windows at sill level topped by large panels of fixed glass block.
- Figure 20.** Garfield School's 1925 original block (right) and 1952 east addition (left) after 1952, looking southwest. From *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited*, 1976.
- Figure 21.** Garfield School's north facade, looking southeast, 1976. From *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited*, 1976.
- Figure 22.** Garfield School's north (left) and west facade (center), looking southeast, 1976. The newly constructed 1975 multi-purpose room addition is at right. From *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited*, 1976.

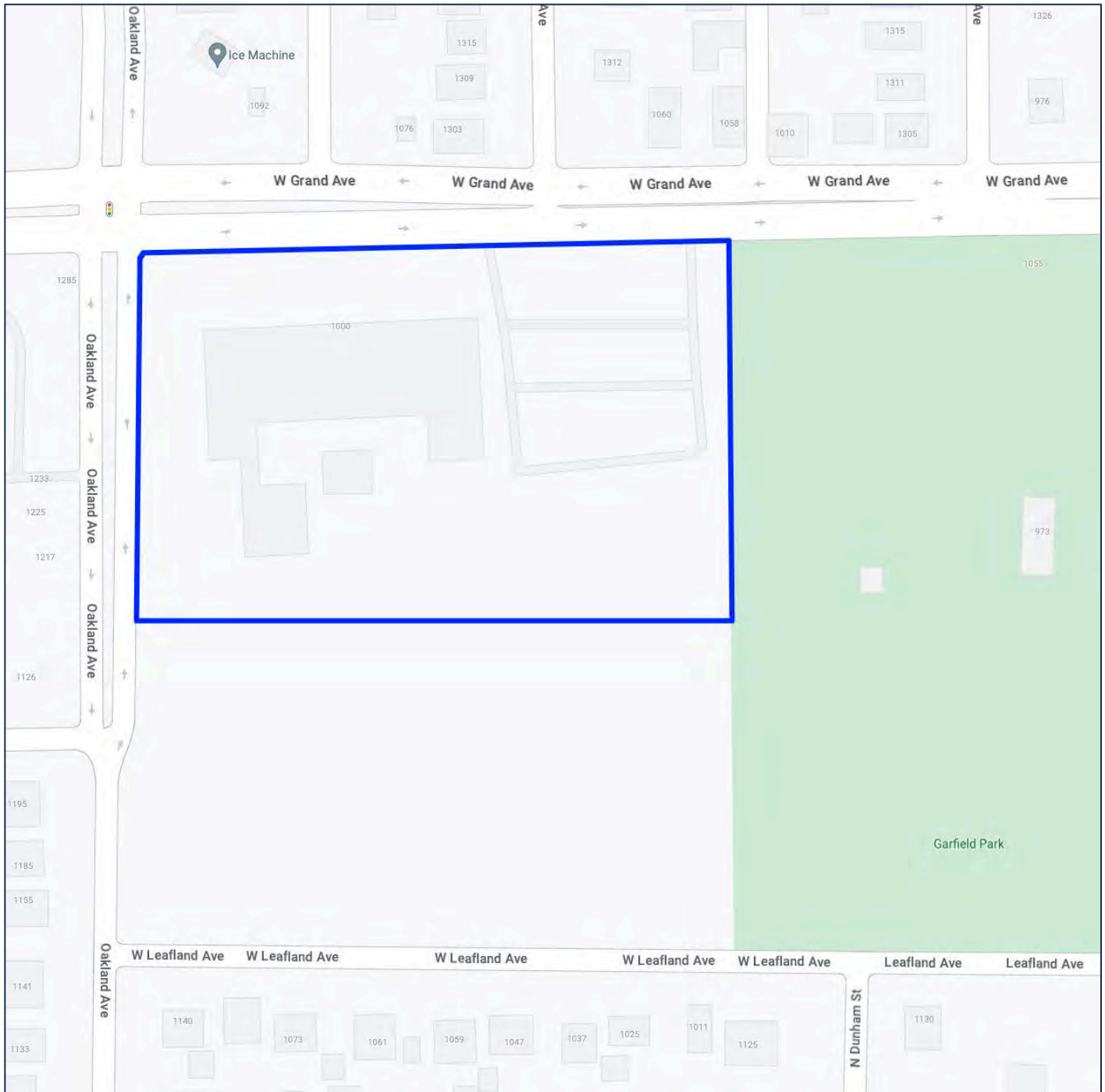
Property name: Garfield School
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Figure 1. Garfield School – Location map



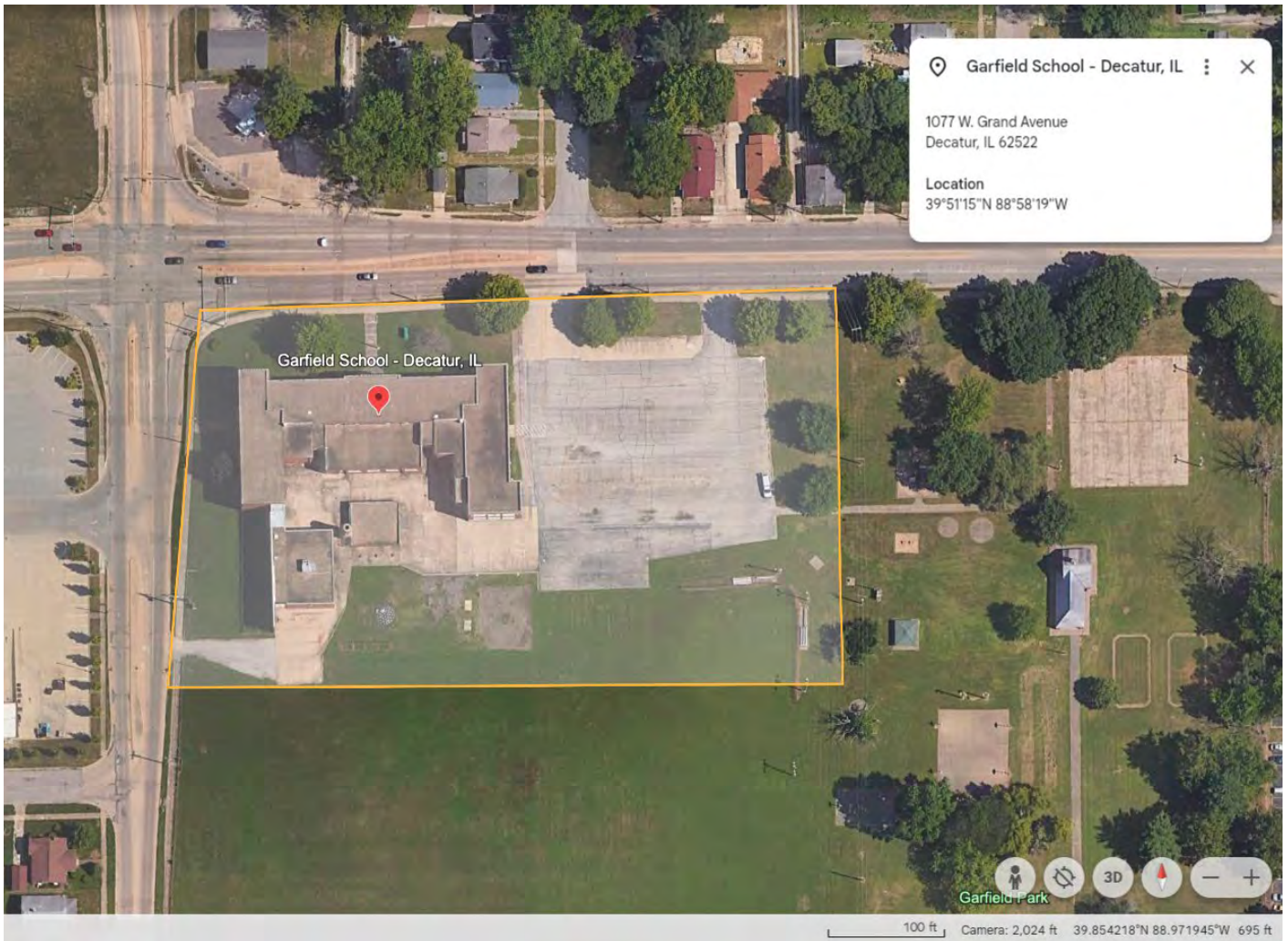
Property name: Garfield School
Illinois, County: Macon

Figure 2. Garfield School – Site map with National Register boundary



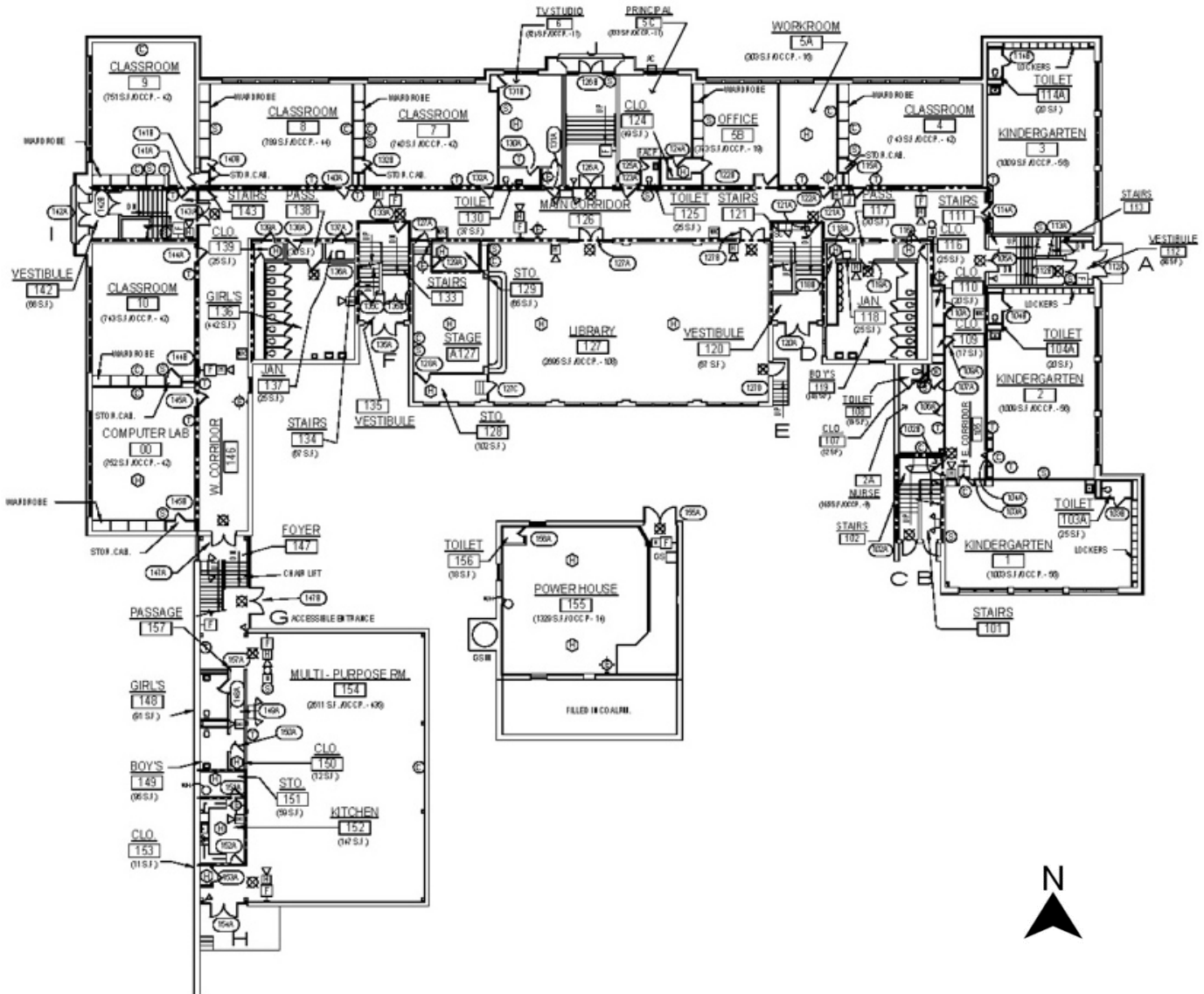
Property name: Garfield School
Illinois, County: Macon

Figure 3. Garfield School – Google Earth GIS Map



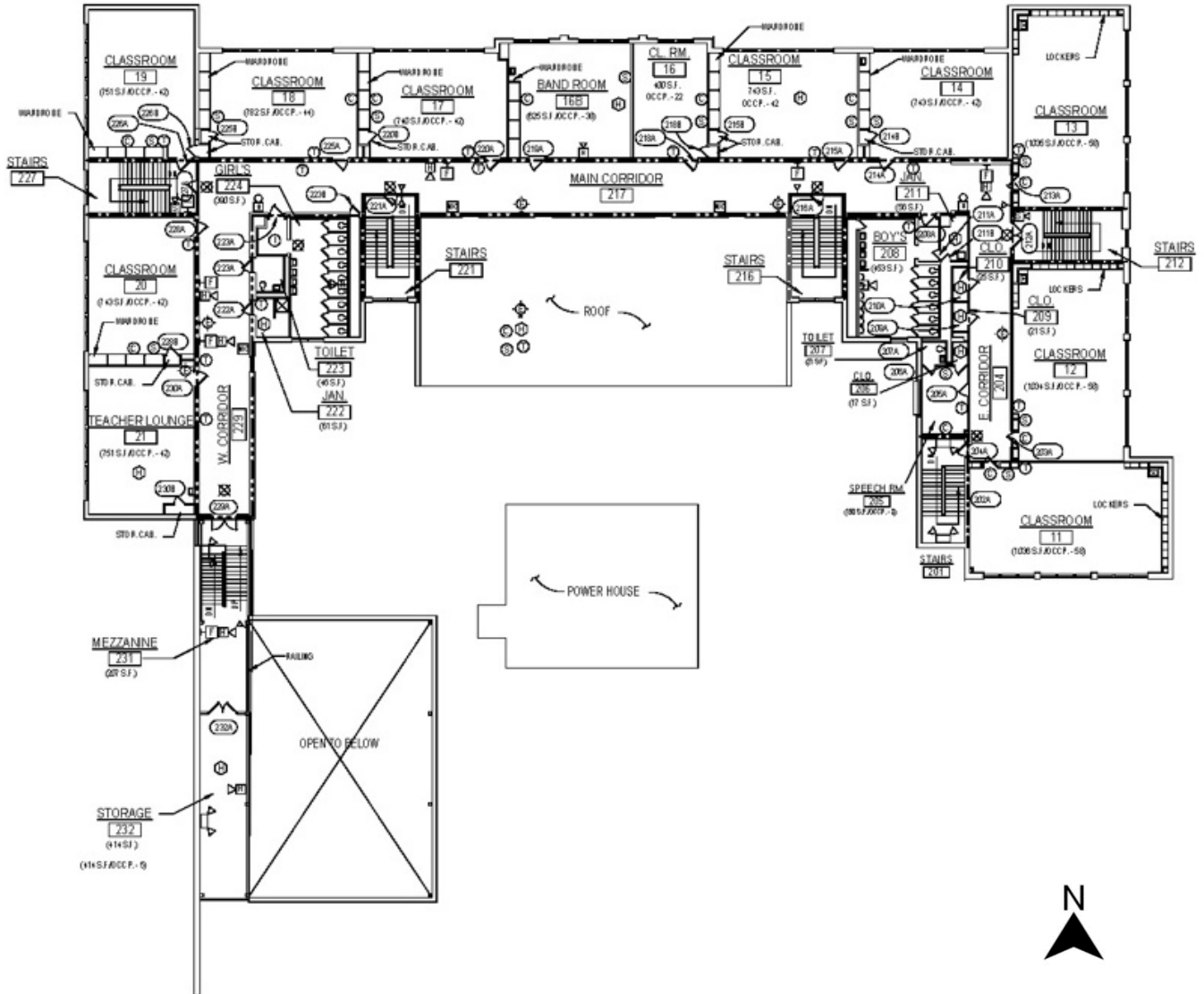
Property name: Garfield School
Illinois, County: Macon

Figure 4. Garfield School – Current 1st floor plan



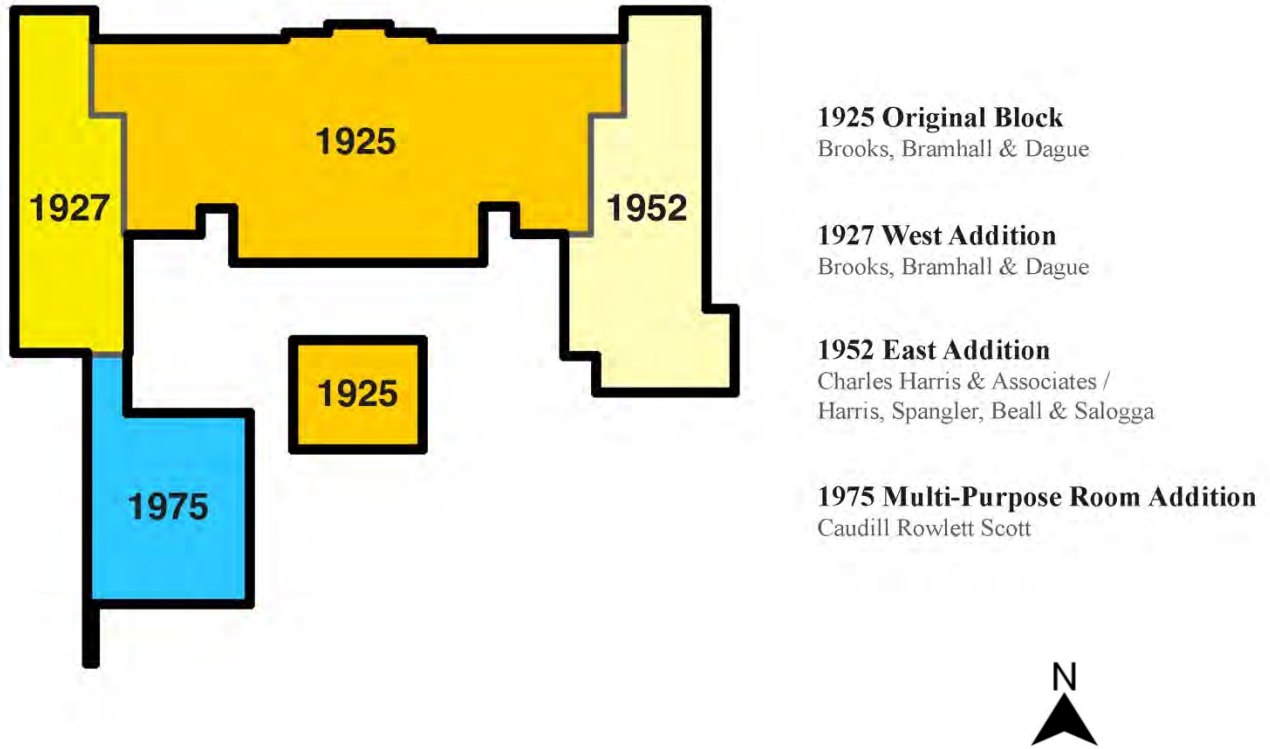
Property name: Garfield School
Illinois, County: Macon

Figure 5. Garfield School – Current 2nd floor plan



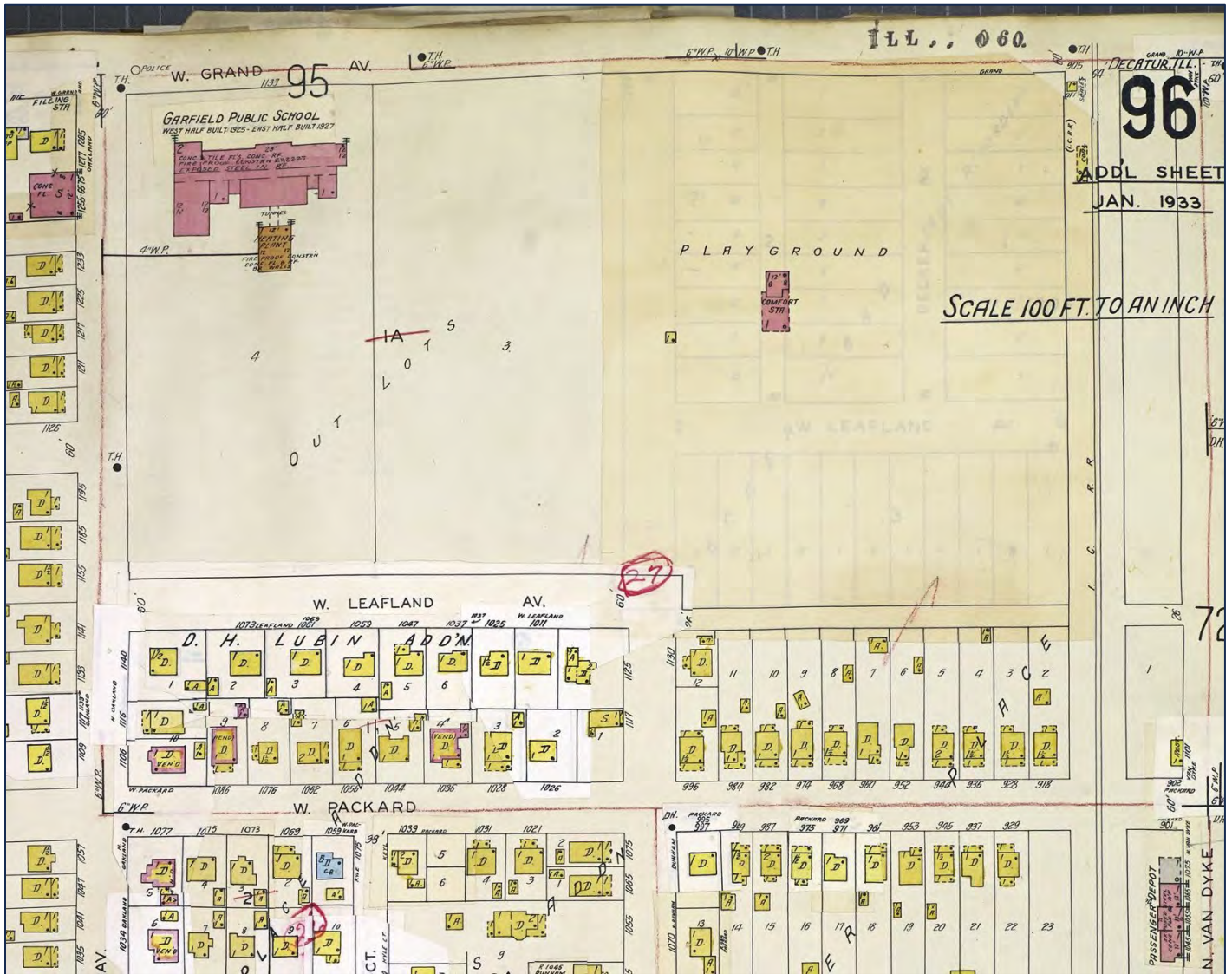
Property name: Garfield School
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Figure 6. Garfield School building chronology plan



Property name: Garfield School
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Figure 7. 1950 Sanborn fire insurance map.



Property name: Garfield School
Illinois, County: Macon

Figure 8. Enlarged view of 1950 Sanborn fire insurance map. The text at top is incorrect: the Garfield School's east half was completed in 1925 and the west half was completed in 1927.

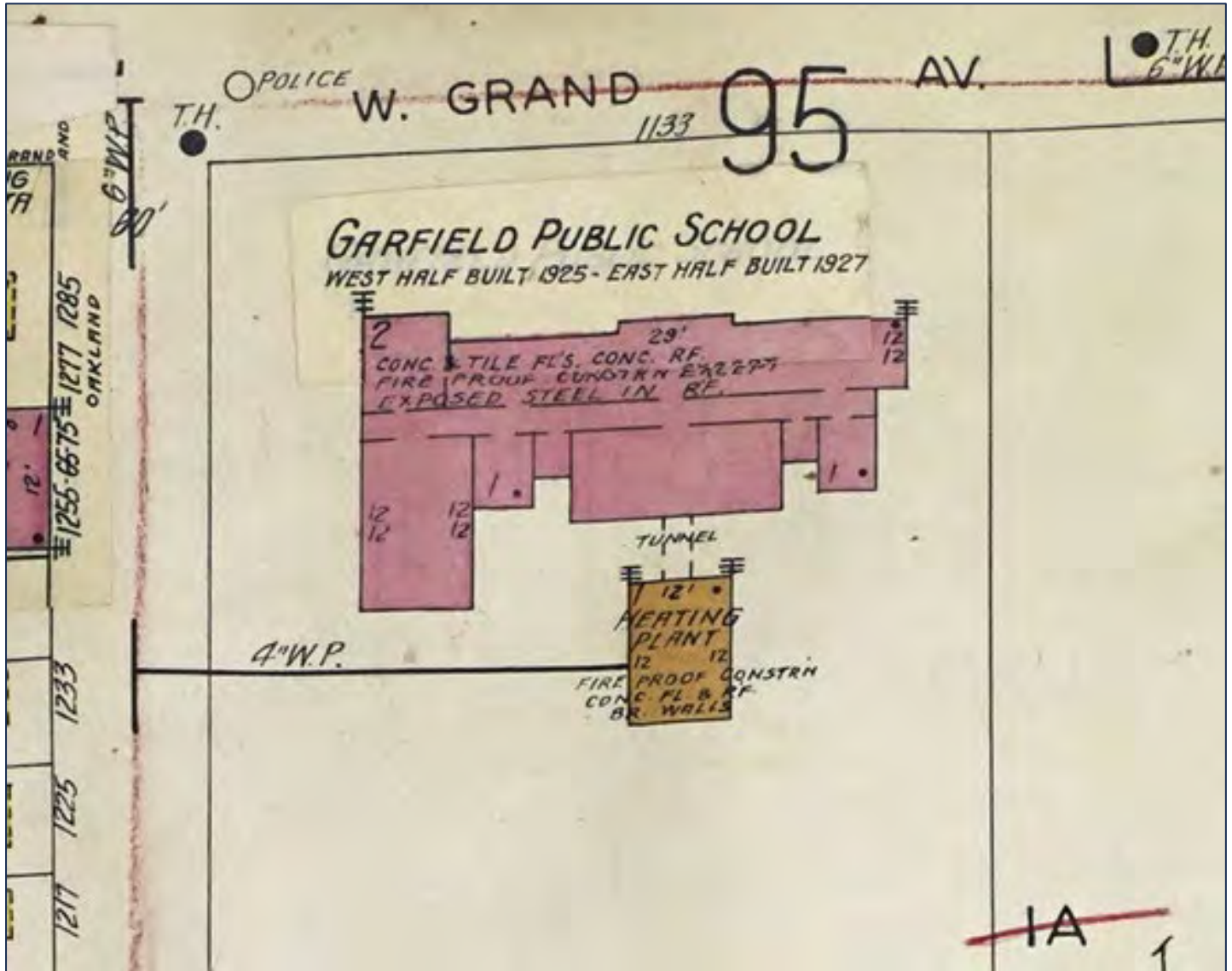


Figure 9. Garfield School's 1925 original block, looking southwest. From "Garfield School To Be Done Sept. 7," *The Decatur Daily Review*, August 23, 1925.

A valuable improvement being made to the neighborhood on South Park street.

GARFIELD SCHOOL TO BE DONE SEPT. 7

Much Work, However, Yet to Be Done.

Will the West Grand Avenue school, the Garfield school, be finished by Sept. 7? The superintendent of schools says that it must be. The contractors say that it will be. The casual observer can't see how it can be. However, the contract calls for its completion by that date. It is an emergency job and its completion is essential to housing all of the Decatur pupils who will enter school in September.

MUCH TO BE DONE.

There is still much work to do and a short time in which to do it. There are plastering and carpenter work and painting and terrazzo floor polishing. Plumbing and heating and ventilation and lighting fixtures must be installed. After that the slate blackboards must be set, the school desks placed and other school furniture put in.

DOORS AND WINDOWS.

Last week the rest of the windows were put in. The setting of the interior door frames was commenced Monday. The doors had yet to be hung and the trim put on. The hard wood floors of the school room had been laid. These have yet to be cleaned and sanded and finished. The hard wood floor of the auditorium had not then been put down and the terrazzo floors in the corridors and wash room had to be polished.

OUTSIDE WORK.

Outside the ground around the building has to be cleared, more grading done and walks laid. The latter includes concrete sidewalks on the street in front of the school grounds. These things are no part of the general contract. Perhaps some of these things may be done after school has opened.

WASHINGTON SCHOOL

To Open In September



—Photo by Seltz Studios

New Garfield School.

BUILDING PLEASES SOUTH PARK ST.

**'Gene Linxweiler Plans
New Store Home.**

Property owners and business men on South Park street are all greatly pleased with the plans of Eugene Linxweiler of the Linxweiler Printing Co. for his new building in that block. This large, two story structure of brick and stone-trim, and pleasing design, is to be a decided asset to that section of the business district. For a number of years, nothing but holes in the ground marking the site of former old brick structures, have been an eyesore and detriment to the neighborhood.

The dimensions of the building will be 66 by 90 feet. The building will have open space and natural light from three sides as there is to be a six foot court in the rear and the property to the east is occupied by a filling station.

TWICE FLOOR SPACE.

Mr. Linxweiler is building for a new home for his rapidly growing business and the new plant will give him twice as much floor space as he now has in the 200 block North Main street. It was also to be arranged purposely for this line of business. The entire basement, which will have a ceiling with eight foot clearance, will house the printing plant, the stock room, rest rooms and cloak rooms for employees.

THREE STORE ROOMS.

The first floor will have three store rooms. The two to the west will be 20 by 90 feet each and will be rented out. The east room, 25 by 90 feet, which will have light on the three sides, will have large display windows and a balcony, 25 by 30 feet for storage of stock and fixtures. The ceiling of the first floor will have a seventeen foot clearance.

The second floor will have a twelve foot clearance. This will be devoted to office rooms, nine large rooms in all, and so arranged that practically all of them will have plenty of natural light.

TQ COST \$35,000

The cost of the building is to be about \$35,000.

Property name: Garfield School
 Illinois, County: Macon

Figure 10. Garfield School's 1925 original block, looking southwest. From "Garfield School on West Grand Ave.," *The Decatur Daily Review*, October 4, 1925.

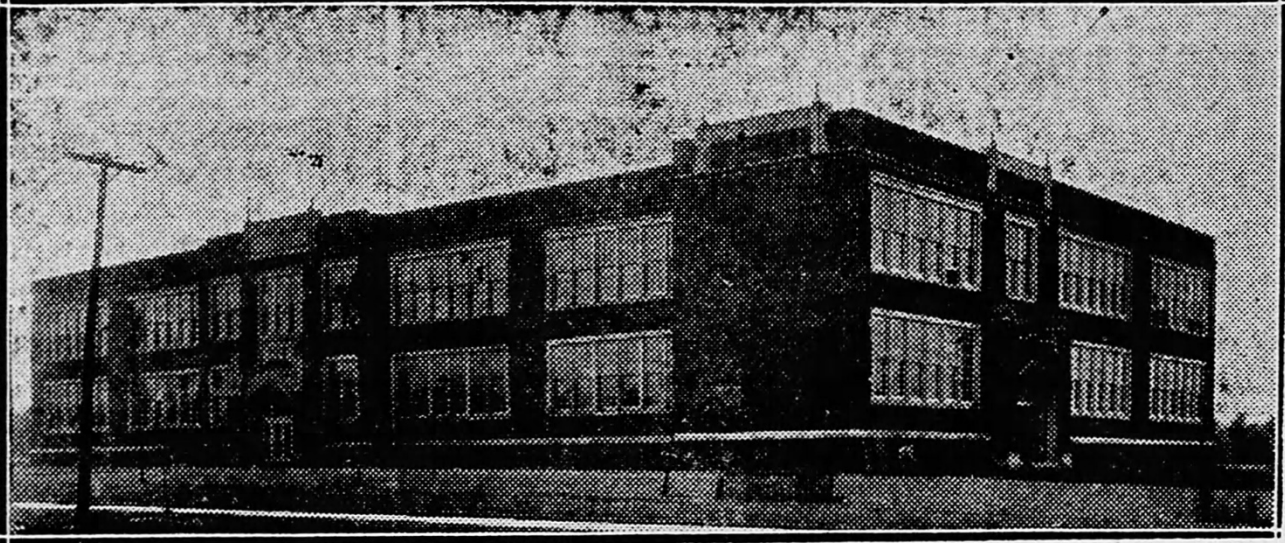
DECATUR, ILLINOIS, SUNDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 4, 1925.		<i>Pages 25 to</i>
<p>RS WEEK ee Day LOSED rs on ty teach- Thursday, his week l, and it e for the least 600 tend, and about 650 cause for ng away e schools l for the s of the</p>	<p>Garfield School on West Grand Ave.</p> 	<p>\$15, Gradin Announ day by th would sta new bath just west structure. tween \$80 mated the about \$15 of handli The bat back from hill and now lead west of house and Plans f the hand</p>
<p>Work on the new Garfield school has been practically finished, and has been accepted by the school board, although not formally as yet. —Photo by Setty Studio</p>		
<p>STILL HOPEFUL OF</p>	<p>He arrived on the day of the Harroid funeral and visited the home after the funeral. The story relates the incidents of the bank examination</p>	<p>48 PAINTINGS GO NIGHT</p>

Property name: Garfield School
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Figure 11. Garfield School's 1925 original block (left) and 1927 west addition (right). From "New Wing Is Completed," *The Decatur Herald*, August 28, 1927.

DECATUR HERALD SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 1927

New Wing Is Completed



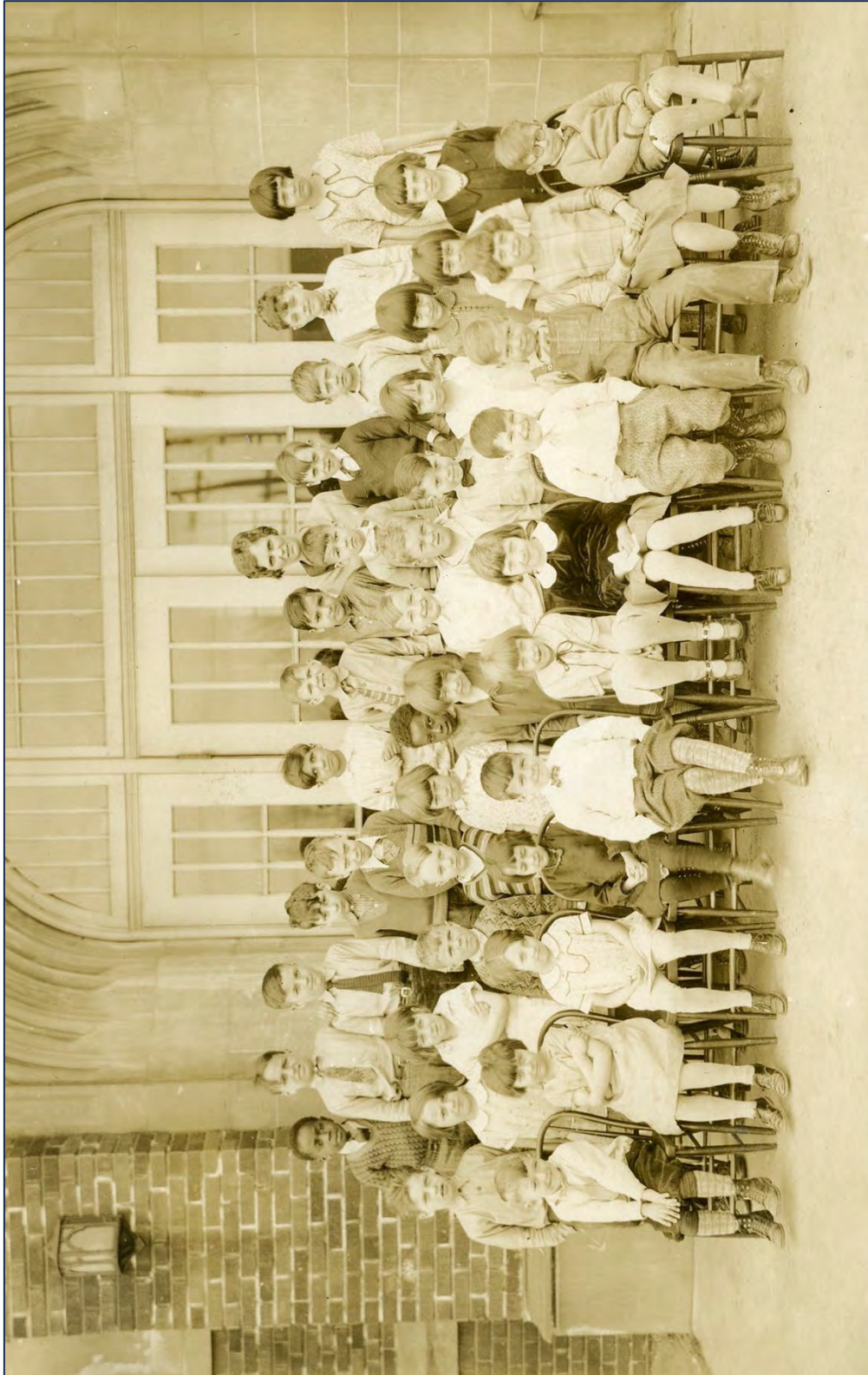
—Photo by Seitz

Installation of seats in the new wing of the Garfield school was completed Friday putting the unit practically in shape for the opening of school a week away. Garfield school was built only two years ago, but so rapidly expanding is that section of the city in which it is located, that an addition was needed this year.

pete for any band prizes for the rea-	the concert next Sunday will be:	Cornet solo, "The Charmer" L. F. Boos
---------------------------------------	----------------------------------	---------------------------------------

Property name: Garfield School
Illinois, County: Macon

Figure 12. 1931 Garfield School class photo in front of the 1925 original block main entrance. From Herald and Review Garfield School, "Various Class Photographs from Garfield School," Decatur Public Library Local History Photo Collection, accessed November 12, 2023, <http://omeka.decalurlibrary.org/items/show/3719>.



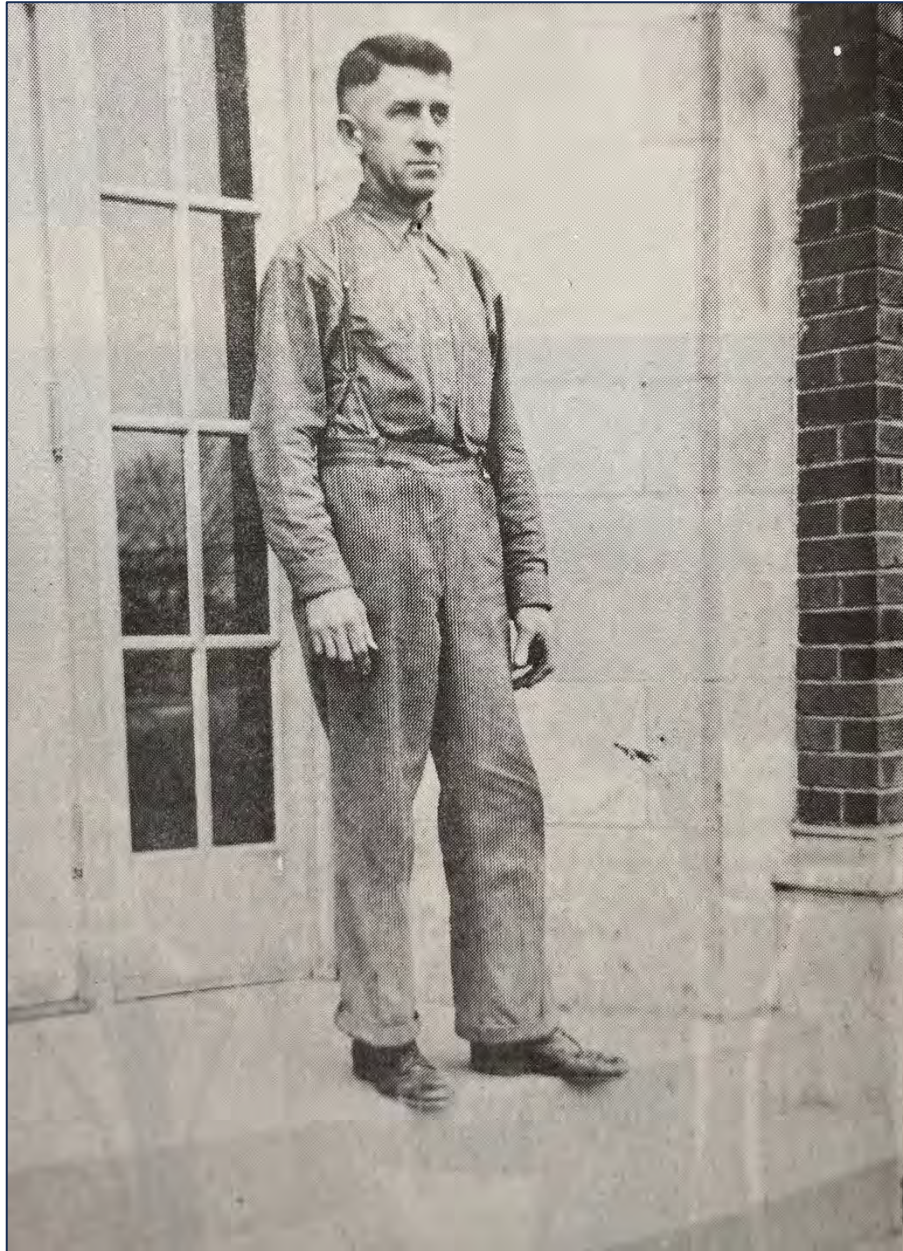
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Figure 13. Women standing along the Garfield School 1925 original block's north facade just east of the main entrance, looking southeast, c. 1930. From *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited*, 1976.



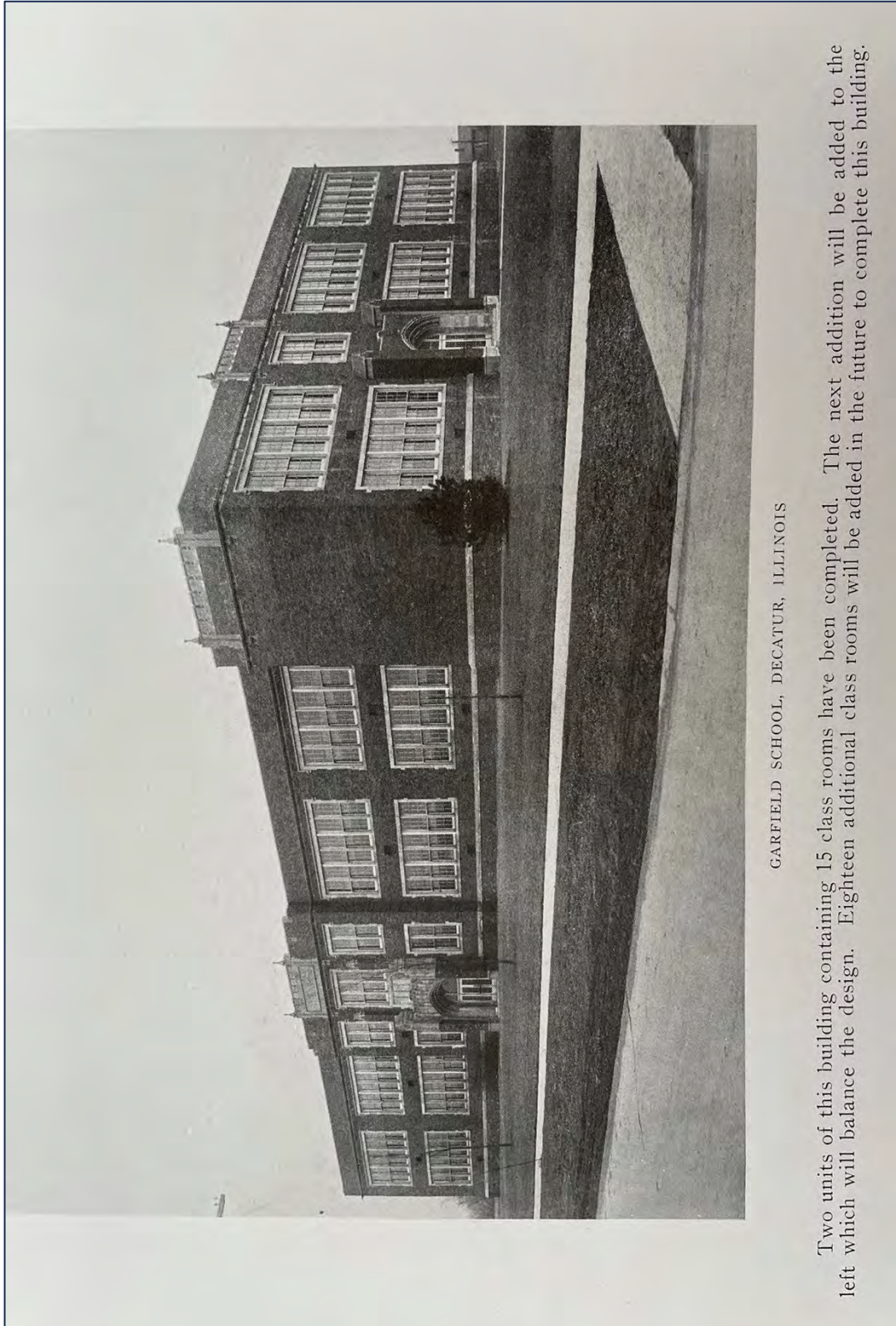
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Figure 14. Man standing at the Garfield School 1925 original block's main entrance, looking southwest, c. 1930. From *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited*, 1976.



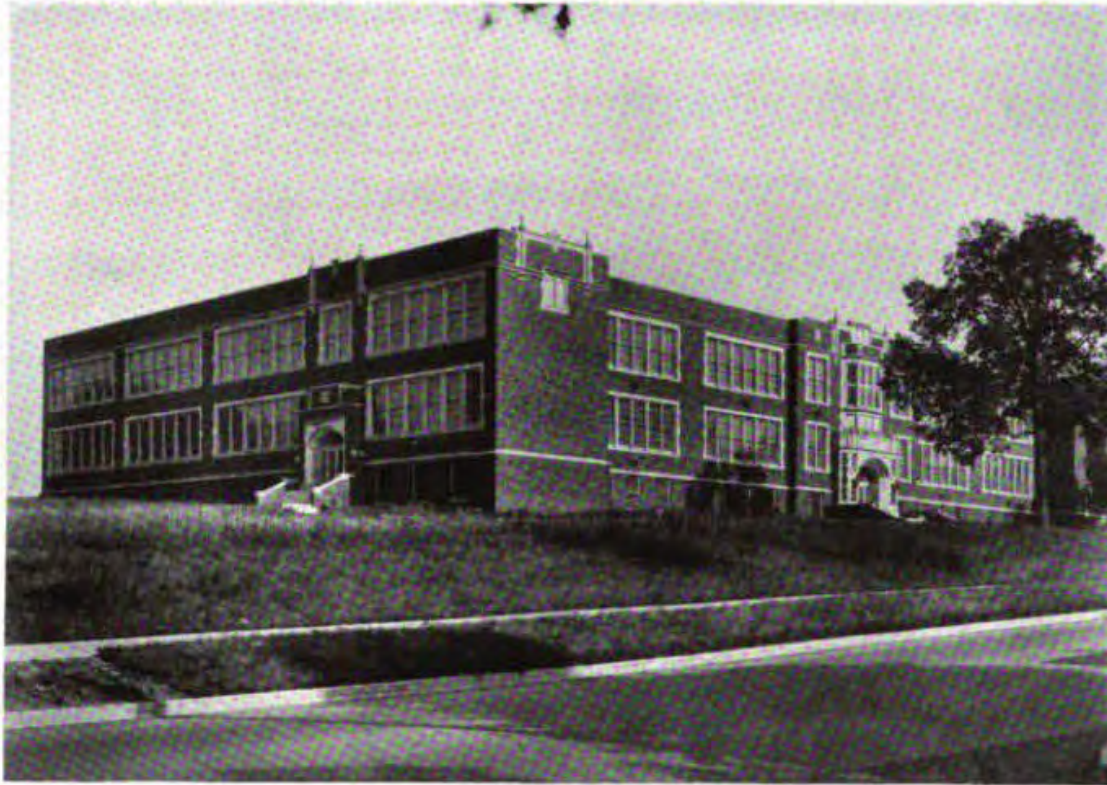
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Figure 15. Garfield School's north (left) and west facades (right) from *The Works of Brooks, Bramhall & Dague*, c. 1930, with the 1925 block at left and the 1927 west addition right. The unbuilt 1952 east addition is yet to be built at left.



Property name: Garfield School
Illinois, County: Macon

Figure 16. Rendering of Decatur's Washington School from *School Board Journal*, July 1926, page 9. The Washington School was completed the same year as the Garfield School's 1925 original block and also designed by Brooks, Bramhall & Dague. The Washington School (now demolished) with its center block and side wings was nearly identical to the architects' vision for the Garfield School which was not fully realized until Garfield's completion in 1952.

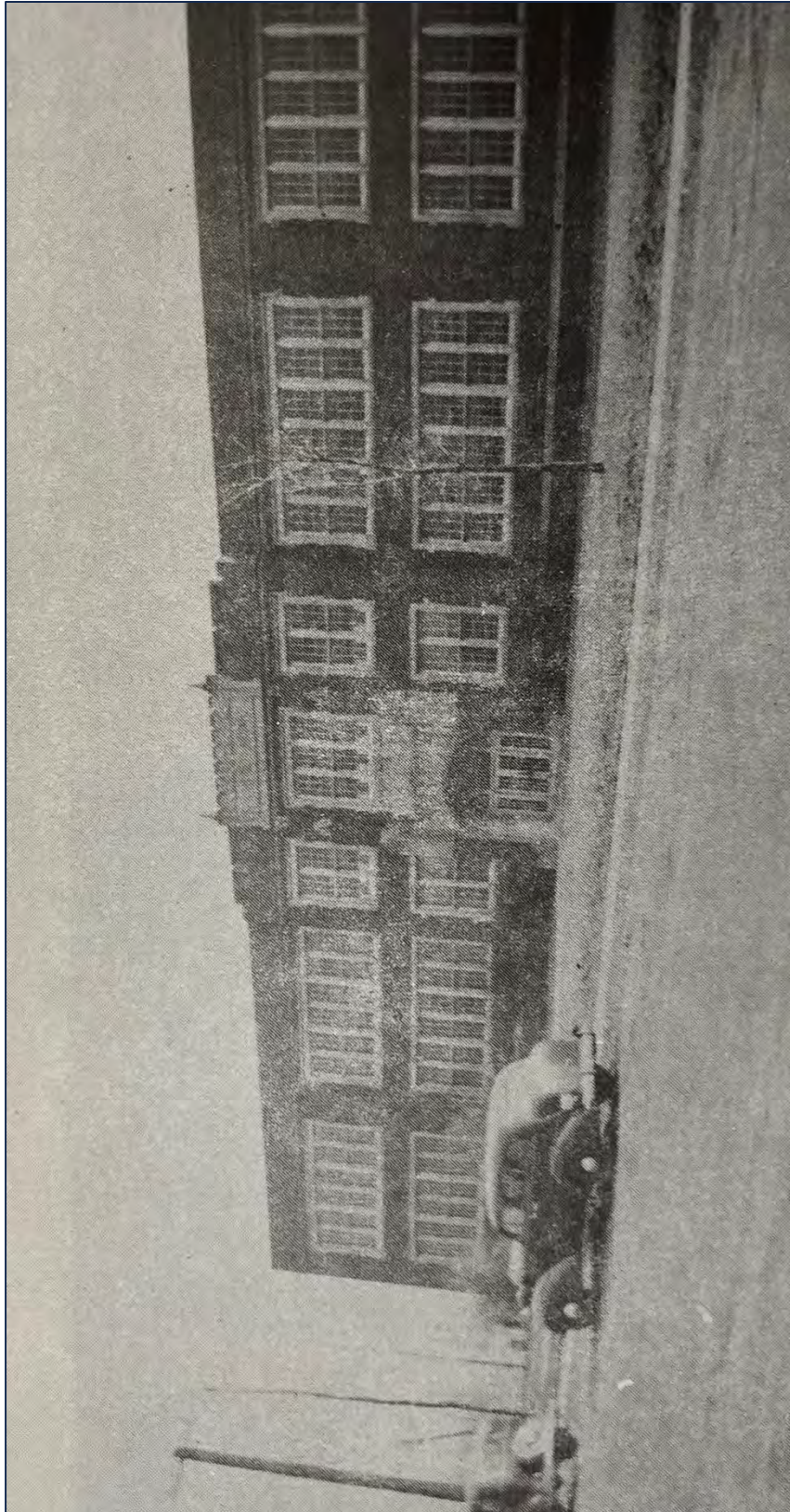


WASHINGTON SCHOOL, DECATUR, ILLINOIS

Decatur's largest Elementary School, erected in 1925. This building has thirty-two class rooms, an auditorium and a large room for Physical Education. The building is faced with brick and trimmed in lime stone.

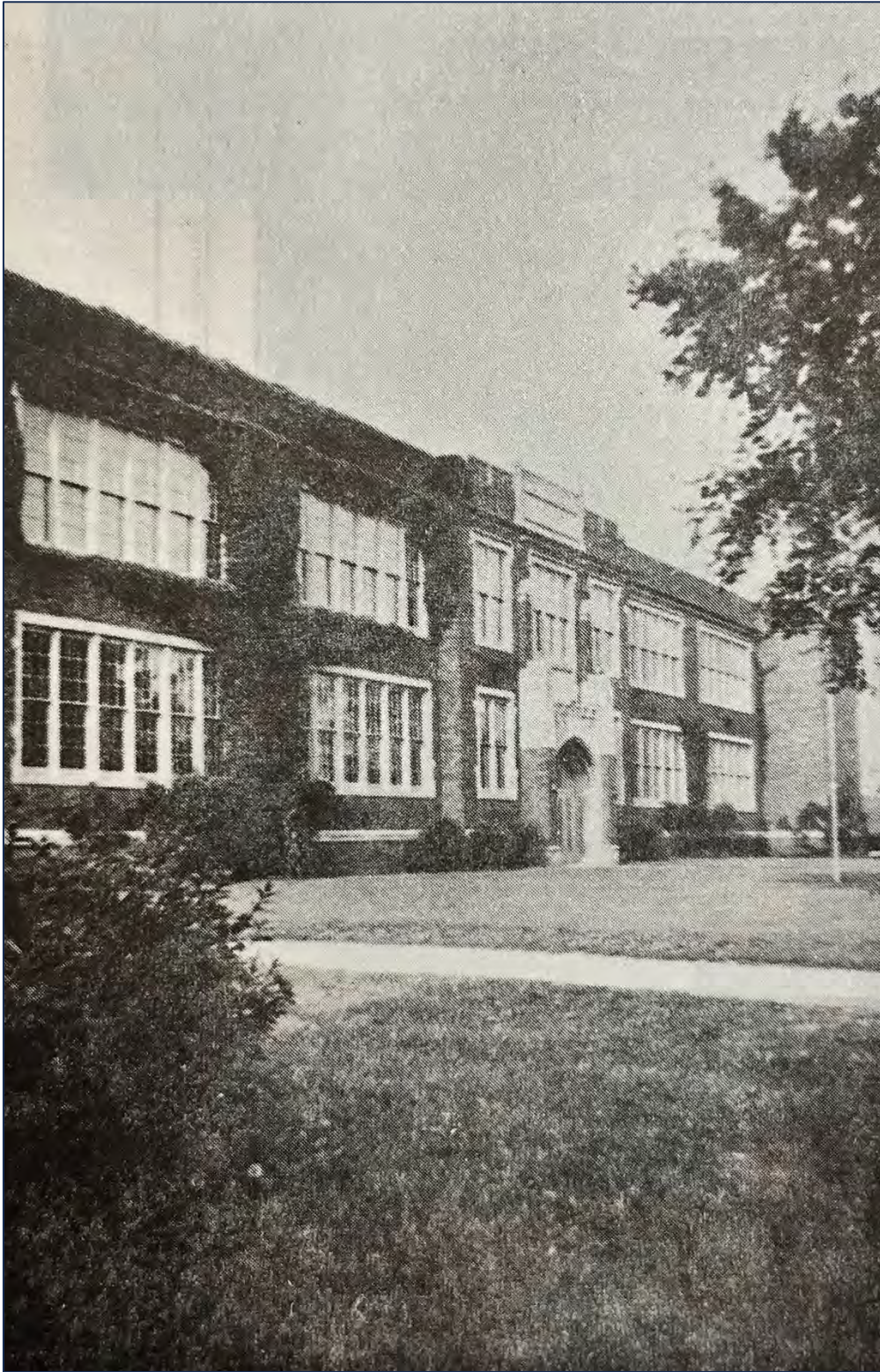
Property name: Garfield School
Illinois, County: Macon

Figure 17. Garfield School's 1925 original block north facade, looking south, before 1952. From *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited*, 1976.



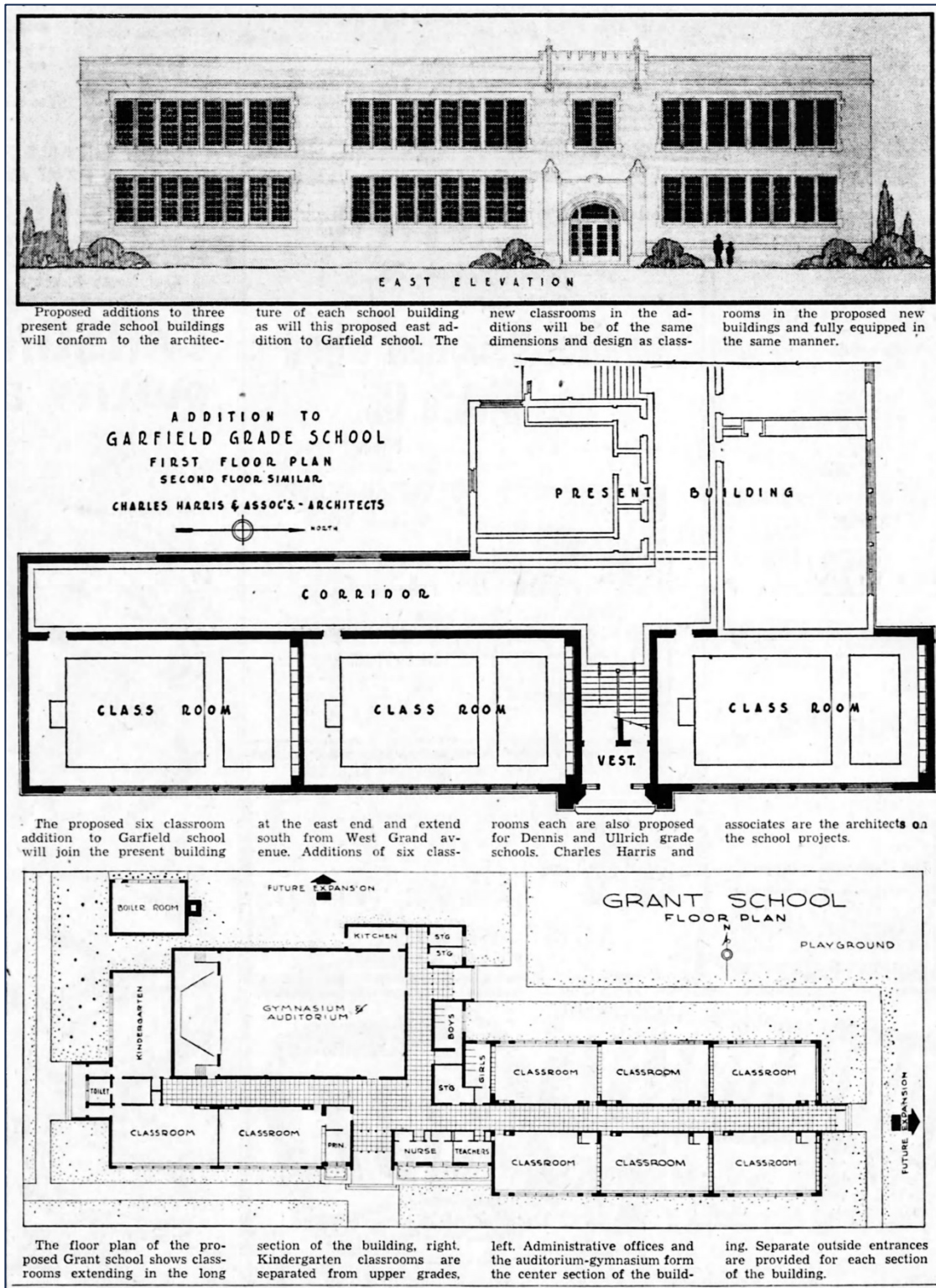
Property name: Garfield School
Illinois, County: Macon

Figure 18. Garfield School north facade, facing east, after 1927. From *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited*, 1976.



Property name: Garfield School
 Illinois, County: Macon

Figure 19. Elevation and 1st floor plan of the proposed Garfield School east addition. From "Why Decatur Needs New Schools - Enrollment to Increase 1,400 in Five Years," *Decatur Sunday Herald*, February 27, 1949. The completed 1952 addition was much simpler in ornamentation and displayed more modern window systems with operable wood ribbon windows at sill level topped by large panels of fixed glass block.



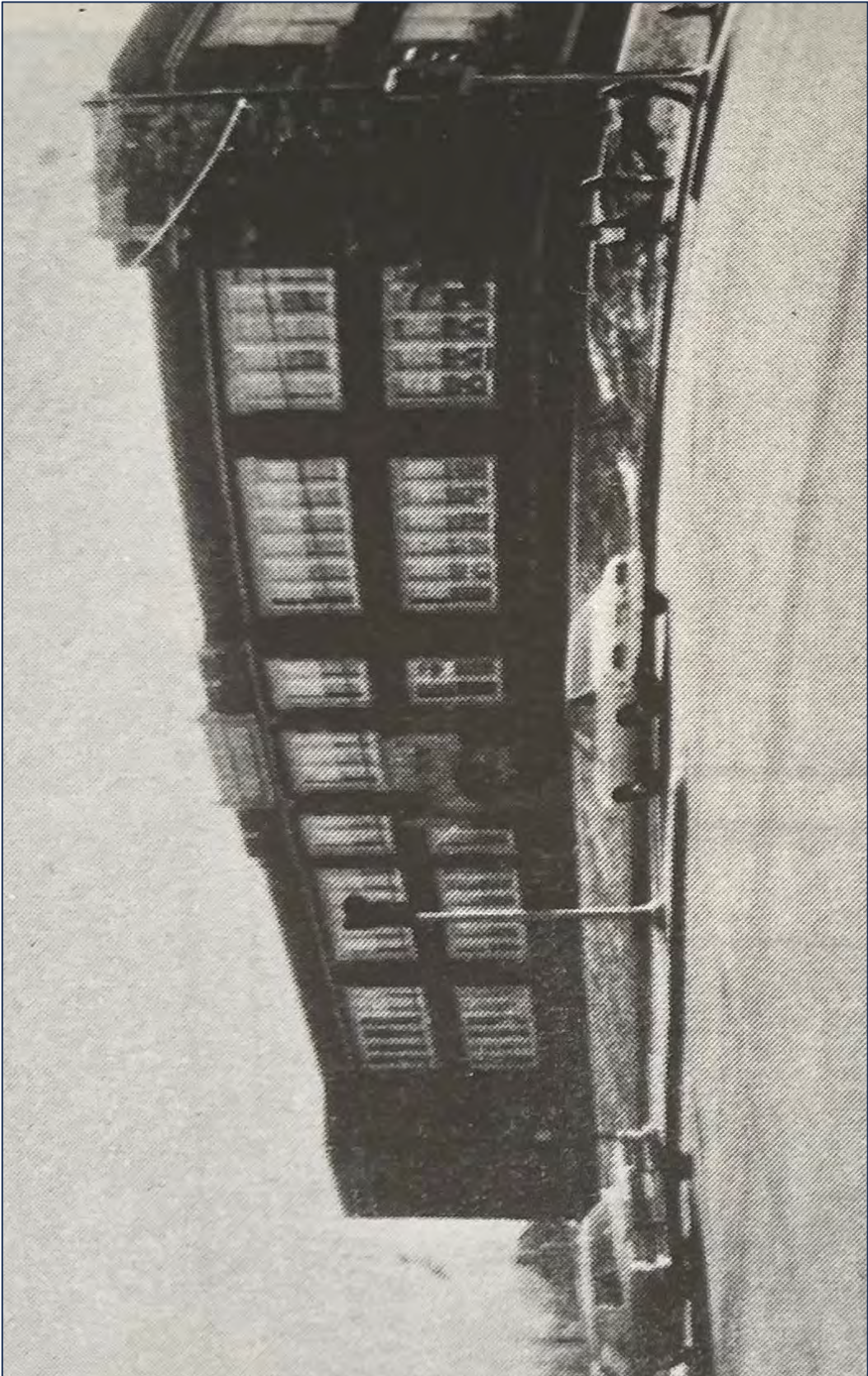
Property name: Garfield School
Illinois, County: Macon

Figure 20. Garfield School’s 1925 original block (right) and 1952 east addition (left) after 1952, looking southwest. From *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited*, 1976.



Property name: Garfield School
Illinois, County: Macon

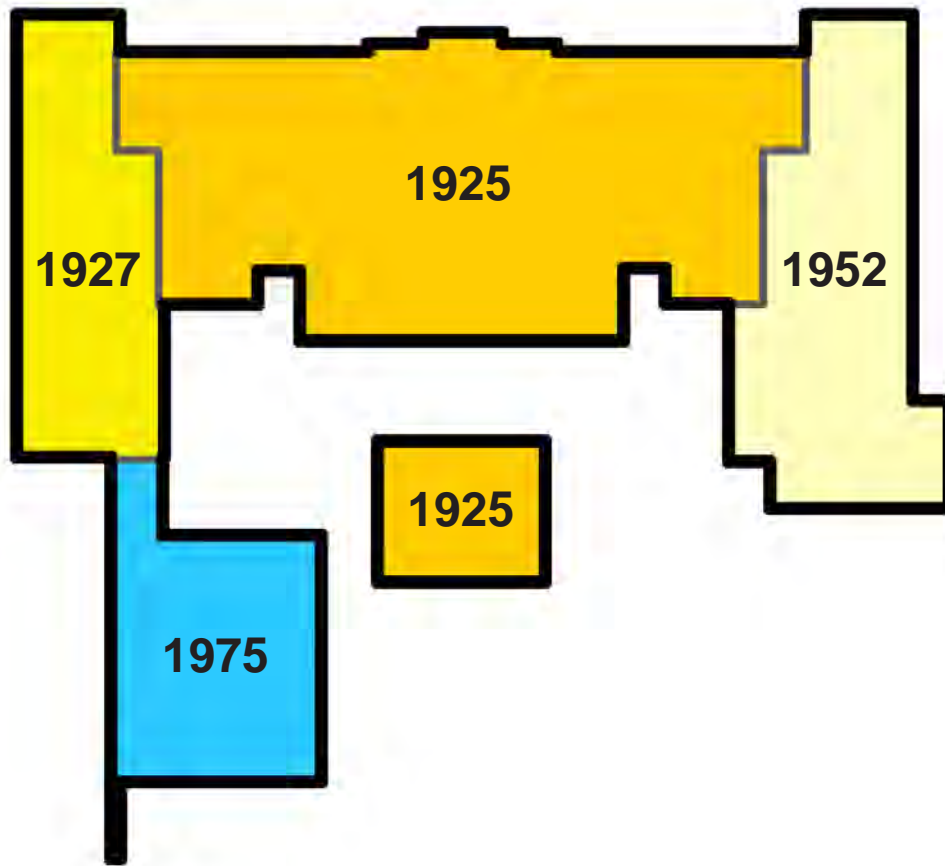
Figure 21. Garfield School's north facade, looking southeast, 1976. From *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited*, 1976.



Property name: Garfield School
Illinois, County: Macon

Figure 22. Garfield School's north (left) and west facade (center), looking southeast, 1976. The newly constructed 1975 multi-purpose room addition is at right. From *Garfield School, Fifty Years Revisited*, 1976.





1925 Original Block
Brooks, Bramhall & Dague

1927 West Addition
Brooks, Bramhall & Dague

1952 East Addition
Charles Harris & Associates /
Harris, Spangler, Beall & Salogga

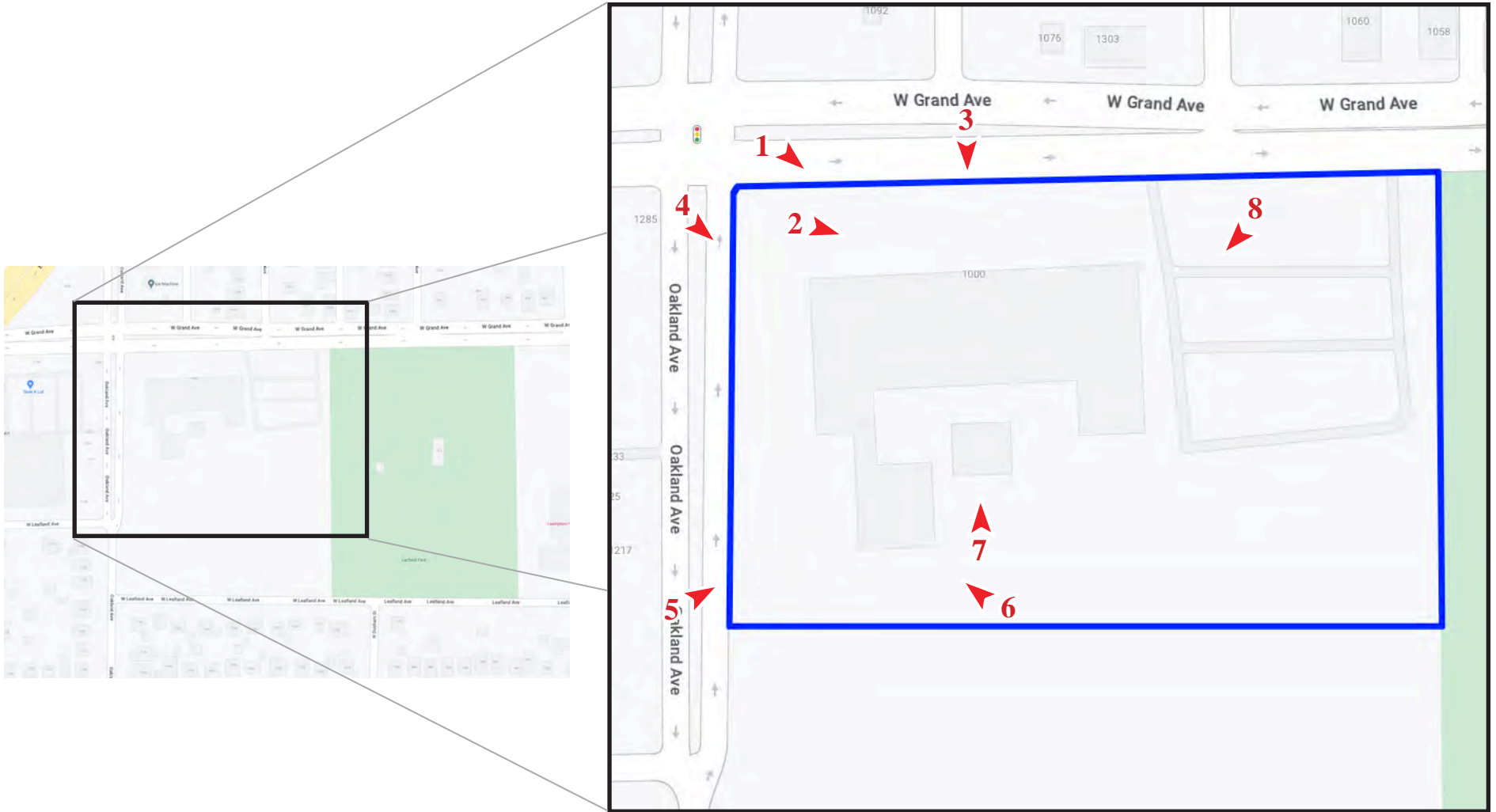
1975 Multi-Purpose Room Addition
Caudill Rowlett Scott

Building Chronology Plan

Garfield School
1077 W. Grand Avenue
Decatur (Macon County), Illinois 62522

National Register Nomination
Photo Key





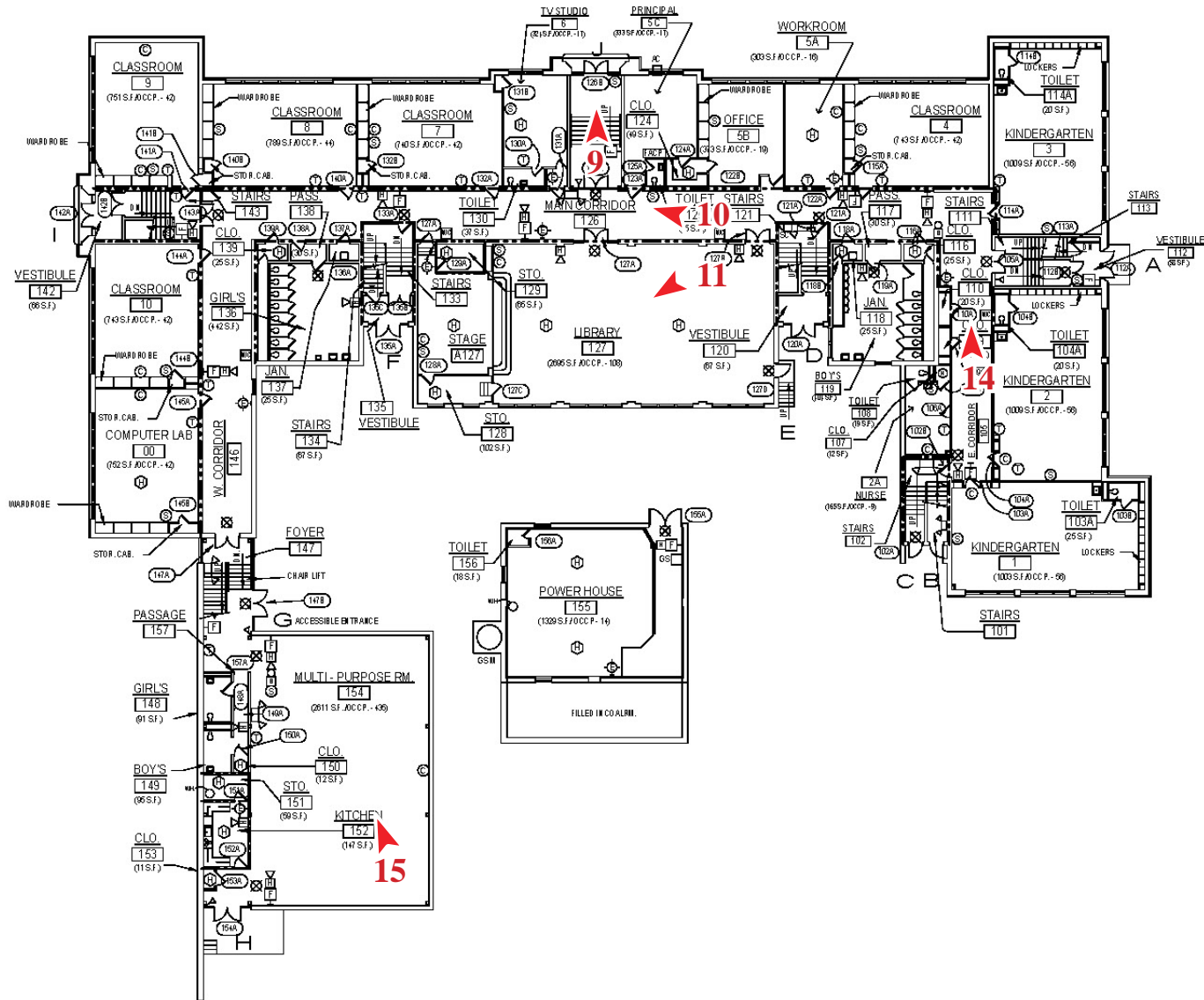
— National Register boundary

Site Plan

Garfield School
1077 W. Grand Avenue
Decatur (Macon County), Illinois 62522

National Register Nomination
Photo Key



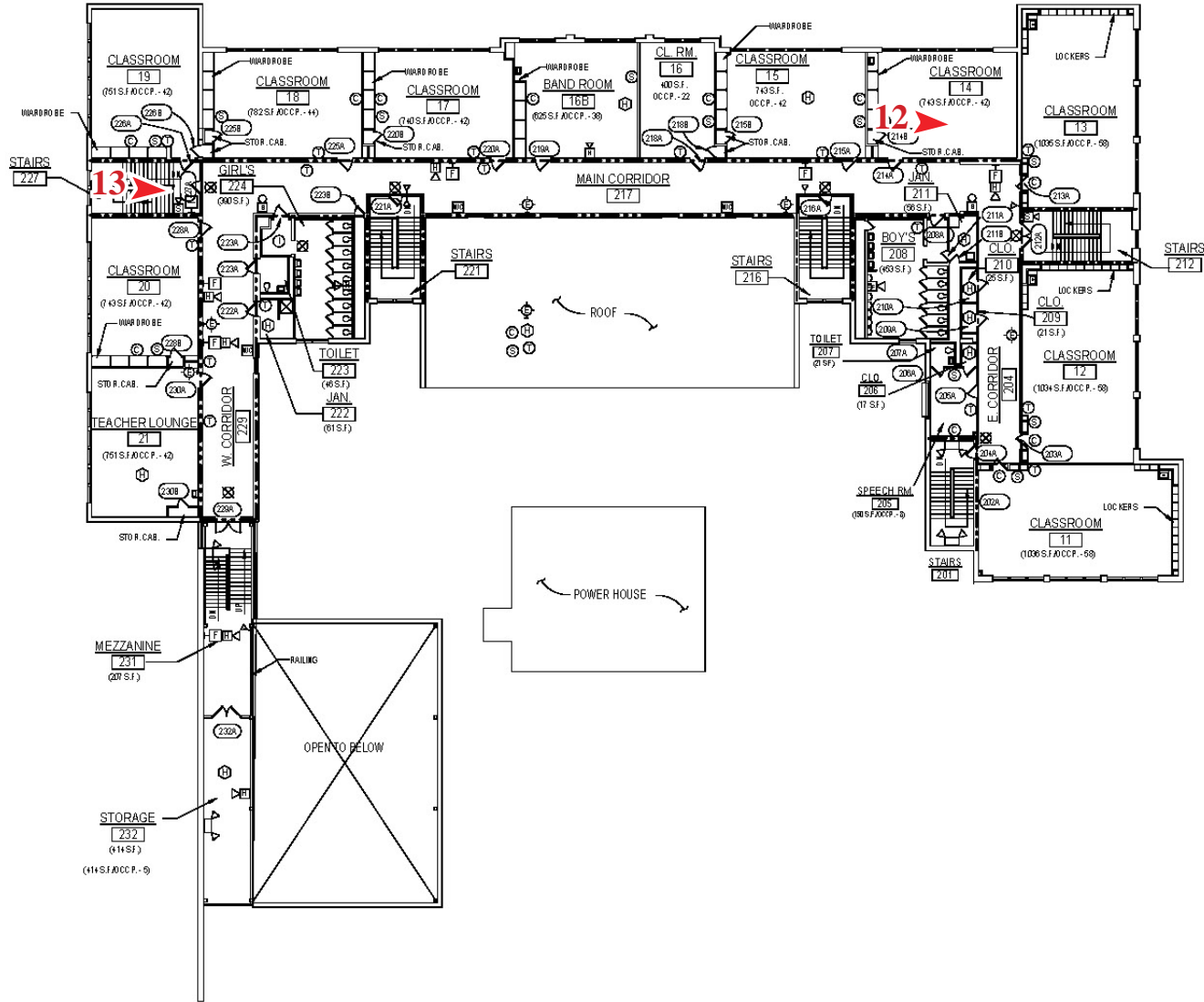


1st Floor

Garfield School
 1077 W. Grand Avenue
 Decatur (Macon County), Illinois 62522

National Register Nomination
 Photo Key





2nd Floor

Garfield School
 1077 W. Grand Avenue
 Decatur (Macon County), Illinois 62522

National Register Nomination
 Photo Key



National Register Nomination
Garfield School
1077 W. Grand Avenue
Decatur (Macon County), Illinois 62522



Photo 1. Grand Avenue (north) facade, looking southeast.



Photo 2. Grand Avenue (north) facade, looking southeast.

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Photo 3. Grand Avenue (north) facade entrance detail, looking south.



Photo 4. Oakland Avenue (west) facade, looking southeast.

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Photo 5. Oakland Avenue (west) facade, looking northeast.



Photo 6. South facade, looking northwest.

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Photo 7. 1925 Powerhouse and south facade, looking north.



Photo 8. East facade, looking southwest.

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Photo 9. 1925 original block, 1st floor main entrance vestibule, looking north.



Photo 10. 1925 original block, 1st floor corridor, looking west.

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Photo 11. 1925 original block, 1st floor auditorium, looking southwest.

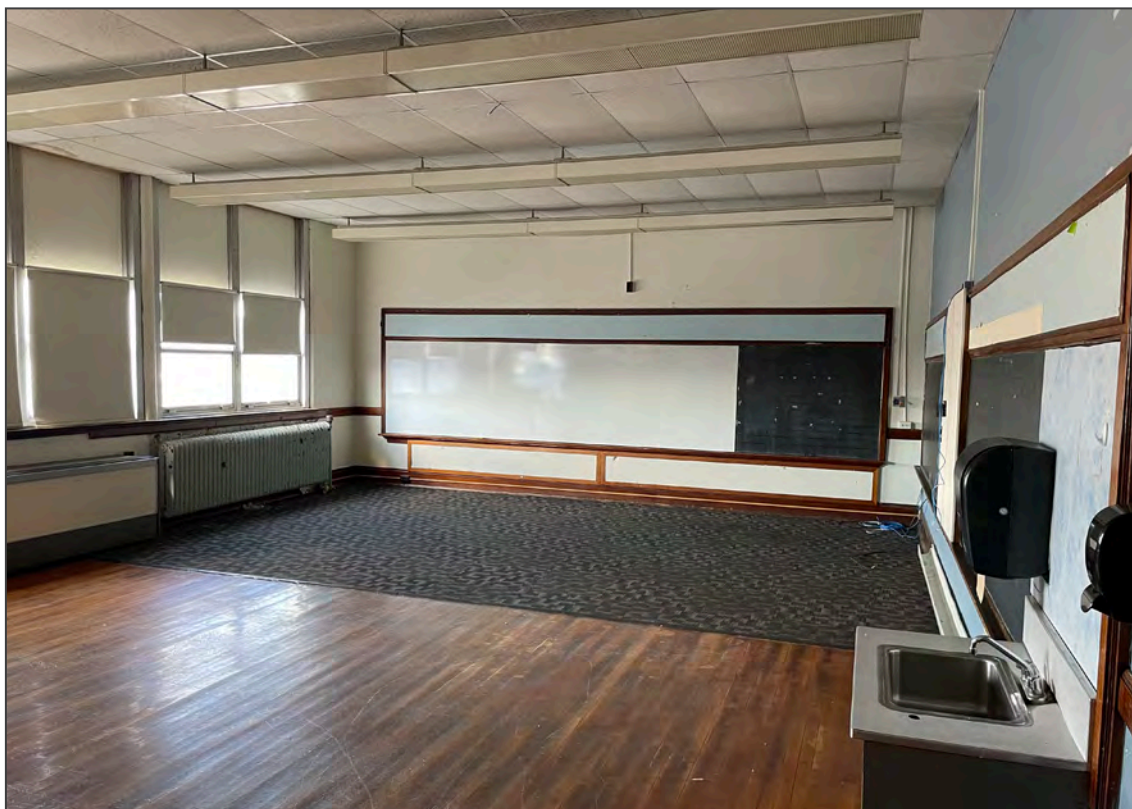
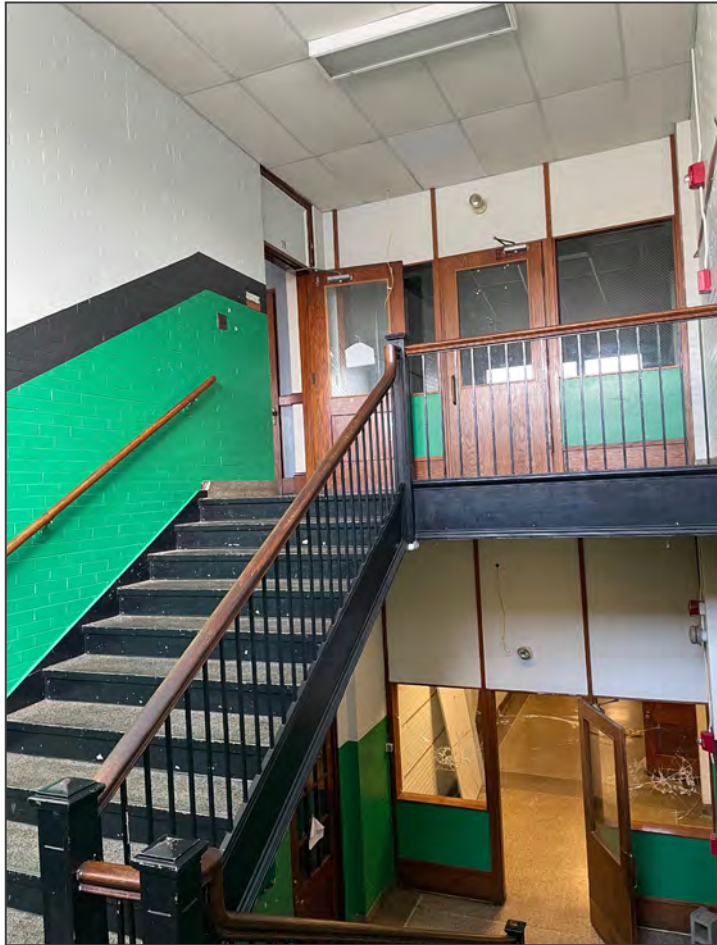


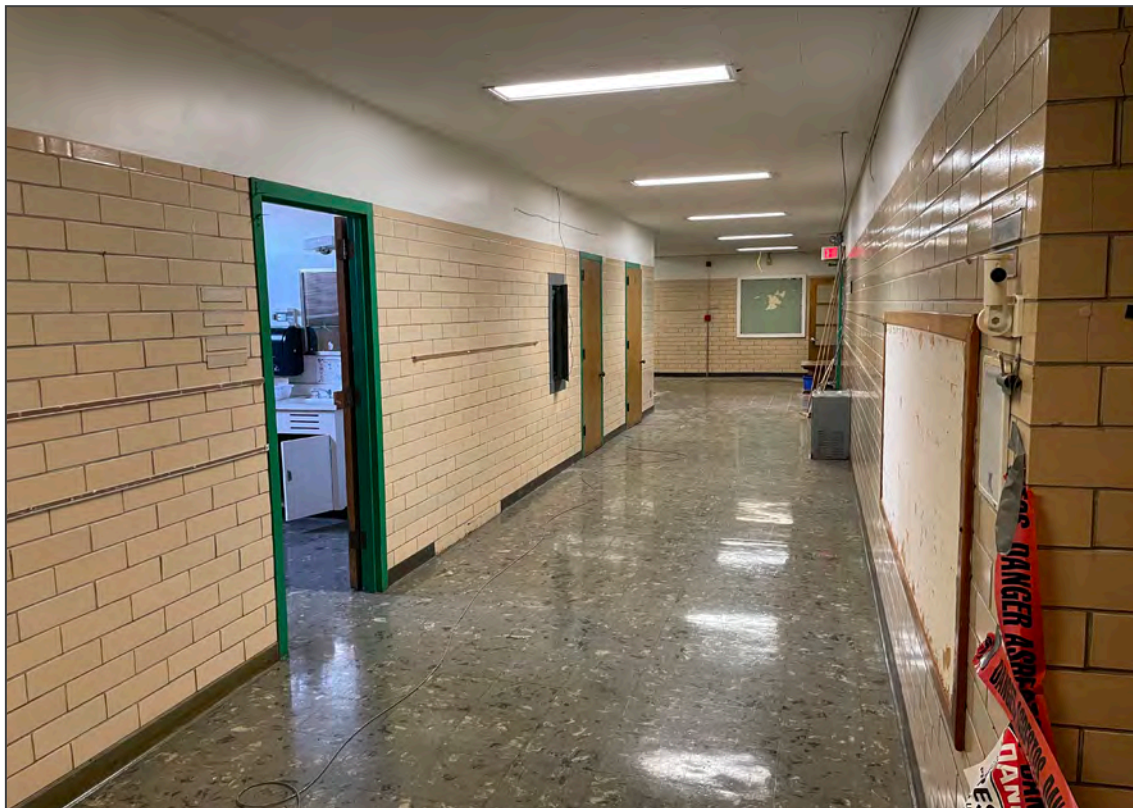
Photo 12. 1925 original block / 1927 west addition, typical classroom.

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Left:
Photo 13. 1927 west addition,
stairwell, looking east.

Below:
Photo 14. 1952 west addition,
1st floor corridor, looking north.



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Photo 15. 1975 multi-purpose room addition, looking north.