

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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Greensboro Senior High School

other names/site number Grimsley Senior High School

2. Location

street & number 801 Westover Terrace N/A not for publication

city or town Greensboro N/A vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Guilford code 081 Zip code 27408

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Stephen Crow SHPO 7/18/05
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the
National Register
 See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the
National Register.

removed from the National
Register.

other, (explain:)

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 | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 14 | 8 | buildings |
| 0 | 0 | sites |
| 1 | 0 | structures |
| 0 | 0 | objects |
| 15 | 8 | Total |

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/V" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
Historic and Architectural Resources of Greensboro, North Carolina
1880-1941

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school

RECREATION AND CULTURE/sports facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school

RECREATION AND CULTURE/sports facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals

Modern Movement

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other Cast stone

Concrete

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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.)

- Criteria A, B, C, D with checkboxes and descriptions.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- Criteria A through G with checkboxes and descriptions.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- Documentation checkboxes: preliminary determination, previously listed, etc.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education

Architecture

Period of Significance

1929-1956

Significant Dates

1929

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

See continuation sheet.

Primary location of additional data:

- Location checkboxes: State Historic Preservation Office, Other State agency, etc.

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approx. 58 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

| | | | |
|---|------|-------------|---------------|
| 1 | 1 7 | 6 0 6 3 8 0 | 3 9 9 4 2 0 0 |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| 2 | 1 7 | 6 0 6 8 2 0 | 3 9 9 3 9 2 0 |

| | | | |
|---|------|-------------|---------------|
| 3 | 1 7 | 6 0 6 8 7 0 | 3 9 9 3 1 4 0 |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| 4 | 1 7 | 6 0 6 3 4 0 | 3 9 9 3 6 3 0 |

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Laura A. W. Phillips, Architectural Historian

organization _____ date November 15, 2004

street & number 637 N. Spring Street telephone 336/727-1968

City or town Winston-Salem state NC Zip code 27101

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name Guilford County Schools, Dr. Terry B. Grier, Superintendent

street & number 712 N. Eugene Street telephone 336/370-8100

City or town Greensboro state NC Zip code 27401

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. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 1

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

DESCRIPTION

Summary and Setting

Greensboro Senior High School consists of twenty-three buildings and structures set on a campus of approximately fifty-eight acres near the current center of Greensboro. These physical resources range in date from 1929 to 1993, with updates continuing until 2003. The academic campus is oriented to the east, facing Westover Terrace, which provides its eastern boundary. Benjamin Parkway borders the campus on the southwest, and Wendover Avenue runs just north of the campus. These three streets form a triangular tract of approximately 129 acres purchased by the Greater Greensboro School District in 1927 for educational facilities. Greensboro Senior High School occupies part of this larger tract, the remainder of which is occupied by Brooks Global Studies School, Kiser Middle School, and the North Carolina Coaches Association Headquarters building. Thus, the high school's environment consists of other educational institutions that share the school district's tract, a residential neighborhood to the east across Westover Terrace, a city park along Buffalo Creek southwest of Benjamin Parkway, and an upscale suburban commercial area across Wendover Avenue to the north. (See aerial photo.)

The campus itself is divided into three geographic and functional sections by two intra-campus streets. Campus Drive runs east-west from Westover Terrace to Benjamin Parkway, and a curving service drive runs north-south between Campus Drive and Benjamin Parkway, splitting the southern portion of the campus into east and west sections. The school's academic buildings are contained within the southeastern section of campus bounded by Westover Terrace, Campus Drive, the service drive, and Benjamin Parkway. The gymnasiums, swimming pool, tennis courts, and miscellaneous athletic fields are located within the southwestern portion of campus bounded by the service drive, Campus Drive, and Benjamin Parkway. North of Campus Drive are the football and track stadium and its associated structures, the field house, the baseball diamond with its associated structures, and the paved student parking lot. (See site plan.)

The academic buildings are set back from Westover Terrace and are arranged in a semi-circle. A double sidewalk divided by a broad strip of grass leads slightly uphill from Westover Terrace to the central entrance of the Main Building. A sidewalk stretches across the front of the Main Building and then curves eastward from either side to connect with the front entrances of the Vocational Building on the north and the (Old) Science Building on the south before continuing onward to the sidewalk along Westover Terrace. A secondary sidewalk leads northwest from Westover Terrace to the entrance of the Vocational Building. The Main Building, the Vocational Building, and the (Old) Science Building form the front row of the semi-circle and face what is known on campus as the Front Lawn, a broad expanse of lawn whose east half is planted with a variety of oak, maple, magnolia, dogwood, and other trees. The second semi-circular row of buildings, set behind the front row, includes, from north to south, the Hazelman Music Building, the Library, the Home Economics Building, and the New Science Building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 2

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

At the rear of the semi-circle, directly behind the Main Building, is the Cafeteria Building. The buildings of the academic campus are connected by a series of covered walkways. When built in the mid 1930s, these were all frame walkways with plain bracketed wood posts supporting a trussed gable roof. This type of walkway remains along the south side of the rear auditorium wing of the Main Building, extending westward to the Cafeteria Building, and from a walkway connector node south of the Main Building to the New Science Building. The other walkways were replaced in 2002 with two-story, arcaded, open walkways that reflect more the intent of architect Charles C. Hartmann's 1929 design for covered walkways, which he called "cloisters," that were never built. The 2002 walkways have one-story buttress-like brick piers connected by stuccoed round arches. The second-floor walkways across the top of these arcades are covered by a flat aluminum roof supported by aluminum posts. North and south of the Main Building, central connector nodes join the various arcades leading to different buildings. Several additional features complete this section of the high school campus. South of the science buildings is a combination lawn and wooded area. Nestled in the space formed by the rear of the Main Building, the Cafeteria Building, the Hazelman Music Building, and the Service Drive is a wooded area with picnic tables known as the Grove. A courtyard with tables located between the auditorium wing of the Main Building and the Cafeteria Building provides an additional outdoor eating area for students. Originally the courtyard was a grassy area with shrubs, but in 2003 it was paved with concrete and benches were added. A small teachers' parking lot is located between the New Science Building and the Home Economics Building, while a larger parking lot for teachers and buses is found behind (northwest of) the Vocational Building and northeast of the Music Building.

All eight buildings located in the academic section of campus are brick. The Main Building is the largest, and at three stories, the tallest of the eight. The two most recently constructed buildings—the 1967 Library and the 1975 New Science Building—are both just one story in height. The remaining five are two stories. The Main Building dominates the academic buildings not only in size, but also stylistically, in that it establishes the design followed by four of the academic buildings—in addition to the Main Building itself, the (Old) Science Building, the Cafeteria Building, and the Vocational Building. The first three of these were erected in 1929; the Vocational Building was added in 1942. The buildings reflect a late Gothic Revival influence portrayed in a streamlined manner. The effect is created by the use of red brick trimmed in cast stone; simple buttresses, some of which extend above the roof line; partially crenellated cornices; and round-arched entrances, those on the Main, the (Old) Science, and the Vocational buildings ornamented with medieval motifs such as vegetative column caps, tablet flowers, and diapered and vegetative arch bands. The front and rear elevations of these buildings are largely consumed by windows placed between the buttresses. The other four buildings in the academic group are considerably more modern in design, reflecting their construction dates between 1956 and 1975, and each has an individual appearance. Of particular note is the 1956 Home Economics Building, a good example of mid-twentieth-century modernism. Designed by architect Thomas P. Heritage, the asymmetrical building has broad bands of windows contrasting with vertical stretches of

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 3

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

plain brick, the whole topped by a flat roof with widely overhanging eaves.

The second group of campus resources, consisting of athletic facilities, is located west of the service drive, south of Campus Drive, and behind the academic buildings. Directly behind the Music Building on the opposite side of the service drive is the Girls' Gymnasium, now known as the Auxiliary Gymnasium. Built in 1939 according to the design of architect William C. Holleyman, it is a one-story brick building with simple buttresses that reflects Hartmann's designs for the earliest buildings on campus. A modern addition was added to the rear of the Girls' Gymnasium in 1976-1977, but it does not detract from the original design. Northwest of the Girls' Gymnasium and set back from the service drive is the Boys' Gymnasium, now known as the Sawyer Gymnasium. Designed by the architectural firm of McMinn and Norfleet and built in 1954, the Boys' Gymnasium is a large, square, brick building with a flat roof. Its modern design includes a central entrance bay on the facade flanked by blank brick walls and, on the other three elevations, a narrow horizontal band of windows at first-floor height, a broader band of windows just below the cornice line, and a vertical column of windows at the corners. Connected by a hyphen to the southwest corner of the Boys' Gymnasium is the Dewey Pool Building, another large, modern, brick structure that was built in 1976 according to the design of the architectural firm of Atkinson, Wilson, Lysiak. Its simple design features plain ground-to-cornice pilasters and a roof that slopes downward from south to north. West of the Boys' Gymnasium and the Dewey Pool Building are eight lighted, hard-surface tennis courts built in 1975. Forming an L-shape, they are bordered by a chain-link fence. South of the tennis courts are athletic practice fields and the softball field. The remainder of this section of the campus is composed of wooded areas at the corner of Campus Drive and Benjamin Parkway and along the west side of the service drive south of the Girls' Gymnasium.

The third section of the Greensboro Senior High School campus is located north of Campus Drive and is dominated by the football and track stadium, although it also includes the baseball diamond, the field house, smaller structures associated with the stadium and ball field, and the student parking lot. The stadium was completed in 1949, although initial work had begun nearly a decade earlier. Oriented along a northeast-southwest axis, it consists of a football field surrounded by a paved track. The stadium was created by a cut-and-fill process in which dirt was cut from a natural hill at the northeast end, leaving a sloping earth wall that end of the stadium. The dirt cut from the hill was then re-used as fill to create berms on the northwest and southeast sides of the stadium. With the southwest end left open, the stadium's earth surround formed a horseshoe. Curved concrete grandstands were set into the stadium's northwest and southeast berms. Attached to the top center of the northwest grandstand is the original press box and an adjacent concession stand. Attached at the same position on the southeast grandstand is a 1993 combination press box and concession stand. Constructed in 2002 just southeast of the new press box/concession stand is a one-story building that houses the ticket office and restrooms. The original primary ticket booth stood nearby in the parking lot. It was demolished in 2002 with the completion of the new ticket office. An earlier secondary ticket booth remains standing near the northeast end of the stadium, and the original concrete-block restroom buildings, two per side,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 4

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

remain downhill from and behind the grandstand berms. Southwest of the open end of the stadium is the Sigmund Selig Pearl Field House. Built in 1950 according to the design of architect Albert C. Woodroof, it is a modern, one-story, square brick building surrounded by a row of windows and with a projecting and raised front entrance block. Behind the field house is a modern frame shed. Northwest of the stadium is Willie Young Field, the school's baseball diamond. It was built in 1953 and upgraded beginning in 1989. Surrounded by a chain link fence, the ball field is accompanied by a low brick dugout on both the southeast and southwest sides, a tall brick press box behind home plate, and bleachers between the press box and the two dugouts. Completing this section of campus is the student parking lot located east of the stadium. The city paved the parking lot in the mid 1960s in exchange for the school system allowing the city to extend Campus Drive beyond the service drive all the way to Benjamin Parkway. The lot also provides parking for events at the stadium and baseball field.

Integrity

The Greensboro Senior High School campus contains twenty-three resources including twenty-two buildings and one structure. Of these, sixty-five percent (fifteen resources) contribute to the historic and architectural character of the school and thirty-five percent (eight resources) do not. Due to their location, scale, and materials, the non-contributing resources have little adverse effect on the overall campus. All but one are non-contributing primarily because they were constructed after the end of the period of significance in 1956. The exception is the modern frame shed behind the field house. In addition to having been built after the end of the period of significance, it is visually out of character with the other campus buildings, largely because of its design and materials. The Library and New Science buildings are one-story modern brick buildings that use the same materials as the older buildings, are smaller in scale, and are tucked behind the (Old) Science Building and the south wing of the Main Building so that their effect is minimized. The Dewey Pool Building is a large structure, but because it is red brick like most of the other buildings on campus, is situated behind the Girls' Gymnasium and the Boys' Gymnasium where it is partly out of view, and is simple in design so that it does not compete with the design of the two gymnasiums, its visual effect is diminished. The white concrete block stadium ticket office/restroom building is consistent in color and form with other structures associated with the stadium; likewise, the red brick press box and two dug outs are appropriate for their baseball field setting.

The buildings and structures that make up the high school campus are in very good condition, and there have been few significant alterations since they were built. The primary alterations include: additions to the rear of the Girls' Gymnasium, the rear of the Library, and the north and south ends of the Main Building (elevator towers); the replacement of two of the wooden covered walkways with brick-and-stucco arcaded ones; the remodeling of the interior of the Pearl Field House; and replacement of the window sash in the Main, (Old) Science, Cafeteria buildings and the Girls' Gymnasium. The

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 5

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

original wood doors on the facades of the Main, (Old) Science, and Vocational buildings were replaced in 1981 with nearly identical metal doors, while Cafeteria and Auditorium exterior doors were replaced with plain, modern metal doors in the early 1990s. However, these alterations have not compromised the historic character of the campus. Thus, the Greensboro Senior High School campus still conveys to a great degree the appearance it had acquired by the end of the period of significance in 1956, and it retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Inventory List

The following inventory list provides basic information for all resources that are part of the Greensboro Senior High School campus. Included are the name of each resource, its date of construction, its architect when known, its contributing or noncontributing status, and a summary of its physical character and history. (See, also, attached first-floor plans and nomination photos.) Buildings or structures that add to the historic associations or historic architectural qualities for which the campus is significant, were present during the 1929-1956 period of significance, relate to the documented significance of the campus, and possess historic integrity, or that independently meet the National Register criteria are contributing resources and are designated as such in the inventory list. Buildings or structures that do not add to the historic associations or historic architectural qualities for which the campus is significant; were not present during its period of significance; do not relate to the documented significance of the campus; and due to alterations, additions, or other changes no longer possess historic integrity; or that do not independently meet the National Register criteria are noncontributing resources and are designated as such in the inventory list. Information provided in the inventory list is based primarily on a combination of the on-site survey conducted by the consultant during July and August 2004 and on research with architectural plans, Peter Byrd's 2001 history of the school, deeds, newspaper articles, local histories, National Register nominations, and other sources. The bibliography contains a complete list of sources used.

Main Building/Administration Building

Charles C. Hartmann, architect
Angle-Bickford Company, general contractor
1929
Schenkel Shultz, architects for elevator additions, 2002

Contributing building

The Main Building is just that; it is the focal point of the Greensboro Senior High School campus. Not only is it one of the three brick buildings designed by Charles C. Hartmann that were erected for the opening of the school, but its central position at the head of the semi-circular plan of the academic

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 6

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

section of the campus means that all later academic buildings were oriented toward it spatially. Additionally, its modernized Gothic Revival styling established the design vocabulary for all four additional buildings erected between 1929 and 1942. The largest building on campus, it is a three-story, T-shaped, brick structure with cast stone trim and a flat roof. The central seven bays of its nineteen-bay facade project slightly to emphasize the area surrounding the main entrance, and at either end of the building matching (but windowless) two-bay additions were built in 2002 to provide elevators and handicap-accessible restrooms. All window openings remain intact, although the original sash were replaced in 1977. The facade is divided into bays by simple brick buttresses with cast stone caps, every other one rising above the roof line, except for the projecting center bays, where they all rise above the roof line. A crenellated parapet stretches across the center three bays, and the buttresses of this section rise higher than all the rest. The decorative focal point of the facade is the central entrance, which is composed of three double-leaf glass-and-metal-paneled doors (1981 replacements of the nearly identical original glass-and-wood doors) headed by fixed round-arched transoms and surrounded by slender columns supporting a round arch, all in cast stone and ornamented with medieval motifs such as vegetative column caps, tablet flowers, and diapered and vegetative arch bands. The three doorways are set within a framework of cast stone pilasters and a decorative frieze. Attached to each pilaster is an original brass lighting sconce (bottom now missing) of Gothic design. The rear of the Main Building retains the use of the brick buttresses, but otherwise is plain. However, projecting from the center of the rear elevation is a large wing that houses the auditorium. The sides and rear of the wing continue the use of buttresses, although none rise above the roof line. Between the pilasters on the sides of the wing are tall, original, metal casement windows, and above each, near the top of the pilasters, is a round window. These round windows light the crawl space above the auditorium ceiling. The rear of the wing above the basement is windowless.

Like the exterior, the interior of the Main Building is largely intact. Its plan consists of a central transverse corridor with rooms on either side. Corridor floors are tiled with terra cotta tiles, walls are plastered, doors are primarily glass-and-wood paneled with transoms and reverse S-shaped brass and cast iron handles, and metal lockers are built into the walls. The first floor has a plaster ceiling, but on the second and third floors the ceilings have been dropped slightly and covered with acoustical tiles. Access to the stairways is through double-leaf glass-and-wood-paneled doors with transoms. The main entrance to the building opens to a vestibule of round-arched doorways that open to a large lobby. The lobby is finished with scored plaster resembling stone on the lower two-thirds of the wall and plaster above, the parts separated by a molded wood railing; plastered ceiling beams with classical scrolls at each end; and original Gothic-styled brass hanging light fixtures. Segmental archways open to the main corridor, whose center section, stretching the width of the auditorium, is treated in the same way as the lobby, but also has recessed trophy cases, a round wall clock that projects from the wall, and deep archways with double-leaf paneled doors that lead into the auditorium. On the second floor, although it

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 7

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

has been partitioned, is the original school library with its classical detailing and wall paneling. The original amphitheater-type choral music room survives on the third floor, although it is no longer used for music. The center section of the third-floor hallway rises four steps to accommodate the top rear of the auditorium balcony and the high ceilings of the library on the second floor.

The jewel of the Main Building is the auditorium, which occupies the rear wing of the building. Original wood chairs with decorative cast iron ends (painted to resemble bronze) are installed in curved rows, which are repeated in the large balcony. Large operable casement windows with heavy drapes line either side of the auditorium. Walls are plastered, with the lower half scored and painted to resemble ashlar stone. A paneled and false balustrade separates the upper walls from the lower stone-blocked section. The auditorium is replete with classical detailing such as the coffered ceiling with classical roundels from which replacement lights hang, pilasters and support posts with classical caps, and classical cornices. Decorative ironwork railings separate the seating area from the orchestra pit and, on either side of the stage, border the steps that lead to the stage. The stage has sky lights, trap doors, and underneath, a green room. Due to a lack of money, the decorative work in the auditorium was not completed until 1934. Then it was sponsored by the Civil Works Administration's Public Works of Art Project. Raleigh artist James Augustus McLean was commissioned to paint two large murals—twenty feet tall and seven feet wide—one on either side of the stage. Painted on canvas, the murals were installed by wallpaper hangers. South of the stage is a painting of "Energy," represented by a muscular, shirtless man holding a lightning bolt and standing among and controlling a hydroelectric dam and the throttle of industry. North of the stage is "Education," with a similar man, this time climbing a rocky mountain struggling toward intellectual attainment with the tools of education around and beneath him. The murals are stylistically typical of Depression-era artwork.

(Old) Science Building

Charles C. Hartmann, architect
Angle-Bickford Company, general contractor
1929

Contributing building

The (Old) Science Building is one of the three original structures on the high school campus and is a smaller, slightly simplified version of the Main Building. The exterior survives intact, except for replacement sash in the windows and the exterior doors. It is a rectangular, two-story, brick building with a flat roof, a thirteen-bay facade, and a five-bay depth. Stylistically, it reflects a streamlined version of the late Gothic Revival, achieved through the use of plain brick buttresses with cast stone caps, alternating ones rising above the roof line, with the center two that define the entrance bay rising the highest; a crenellated parapet across the central five bays; and a round-arched entrance with a cast stone surround decorated with ornamentation—moldings and column caps—utilizing medieval motifs.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 8

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

Flanking the entrance are original brass wall sconces of medieval design. The doorway itself consists of a glass-and-metal-paneled, double-leaf door (a 1981 replacement of the original) topped by a round-arched fixed transom. Ornamentation on the two ends of the building and on the rear, southwest elevation, consists only of the brick buttresses. The interior remains largely intact, with a central transverse hall with classrooms on either side and restrooms at the northwest end. As in the Main Building, hall floors are covered with terra cotta tiles, walls are plastered, and, on the first floor, metal lockers are built into the walls. The original science building on campus became known as the (Old) Science Building when the New Science Building was erected in 1975.

Vocational Building

Contributing building

Leon McMinn, architect
1942

The Vocational Building is nearly identical to the (Old) Science Building, which it faces across the Front Lawn. However, it was not one of Charles C. Hartmann's original buildings erected in 1929. Instead, the Vocational Building was erected in 1942 according to the plans of architect Leon McMinn, who clearly based his design on Hartmann's earlier design for a Household Arts Building that was never erected. McMinn's design stylistically matched the Main and (Old) Science buildings that formed the remainder of the front semi-circle of buildings on the Front Lawn. The exterior of the Vocational Building remains true to its original plan, and the interior largely does. It is a rectangular, two-story brick building with a flat roof, a thirteen-bay facade, and a five-bay depth. The fenestration includes paired sixteen-light steel windows with bottom-hung casements of four lights each. Like the other two buildings facing the lawn, the Vocational Building expresses stylistically a streamlined version of the late Gothic Revival. Simple brick buttresses with cast stone caps, some of which rise above the roof, line the southeast facade and the two end elevations. The center five bays of the facade have a raised, crenellated parapet. The main entrance in the center of the facade is the focal point of the exterior's ornamentation. A double-leaf, glass-and-metal-paneled door (a 1981 replacement of the original, nearly identical, glass-and-wood-paneled door) is headed by a round-arched fixed transom, and the whole is enframed by a cast stone, round-arched surround with detailing in various medieval motifs. Original iron wall sconces of medieval design light the entrance. The two end elevations of the building have no decorative detailing besides the buttresses, and the rear of the building is plain, but continues the use of the steel windows as on the facade. The first-floor interior has large rooms for the various technical classes; on the second floor a corridor runs northeast/southwest through the center of the building. The use of cinder block for the interior walls was the first use of this material in a Greensboro school. The Vocational Building was erected as a construction project of the Works Projects Administration.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 9

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

New Science Building

Noncontributing building

McMinn Norfleet Wicker, architects
1975

The New Science Building is a one-story brick structure with a flat roof, narrow vertical windows, and a broad brick string course immediately above the windows. The interior contains multiple open classroom configurations.

Home Economics Building

Contributing building

Thomas P. Heritage, architect
1956

Located between the Library and New Science Buildings, the Home Economics Building is a good example of mid-twentieth-century modernism. It is a two-story, brick and glass, rectangular building of asymmetrical design with a flat roof and widely overhanging eaves. Although the northeast (facade), northwest, and southeast elevations are not identical, each is composed of brick vertical sections and alternating horizontal bands of windows and green metal panels. In addition, the cornice and a band between the first and second floors is sheathed in green-tinted cast stone. The rear (southwest) elevation has fewer windows and is slightly L-shaped, with the space between the projecting southeast ell and the northwest end of the building used as a patio on the first floor and a deck on the second floor. The asymmetrical interior is tailored to meet the particular needs of classes in home life skills. In addition to offices, restrooms, and corner stairs, each floor has a living area with a brick fireplace, several kitchens with both electrical and gas appliances, laundry rooms, general laboratories, and workrooms. Many of the kitchen cabinets and appliances appear to be original. On the northwest half of the first floor a large student health center occupies the space originally used as a teaching kindergarten.

Library/Media Center

Noncontributing building

Lawrence H. Mallard, architect for original building
1967
Schenkel Schultz, architects for rear addition, 2002

Located between the auditorium wing of the Main Building and the Home Economics Building, the Library is a modern one-story brick structure with a flat roof, a broad concrete cornice band, and narrow floor-to-ceiling facade windows separated by plain brick pilasters. Around 2002 the library was doubled in size, with the addition offset from the west and south sides of the original building. The south and west elevations of the addition have plain brick walls with bands of narrow, horizontal windows. The interior features a large, open reading and circulation room, increased in size by the addition, and offices

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 10

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

and classrooms along the north side.

Herbert R. Hazelman Music Building

Contributing building

I. A. Sigmon, architect (based on designs submitted by Herbert R. Hazelman)
1956

Located behind and between the Main Building and the Vocational Building, the Music Building is a plain, rectangular, two-story brick building with a flat roof. Glass-block windows surround the building in two rows, one per floor. All entrances have double-leaf metal doors and are flanked from ground to cornice by plain brick pilasters. The main entrance is on the center of the southeast facade. The northwest elevation has an entrance near each corner, while the northeast and southwest elevations each have a single entrance in the southeast half of the elevation. On the interior, each floor has a U-shaped corridor. The first floor has a large rehearsal room near the center, while the second floor has two large rehearsal rooms at opposite (southeast and northwest) ends of the building. Surrounding rooms, primarily around the outside of the corridors, include multiple small rehearsal rooms, offices, instrument storage rooms, teaching studios, music libraries, and restrooms. In 2004 the building was named for long-time (1936-1978) band director Herbert R. Hazelman.

Cafeteria Building

Contributing building

Charles C. Hartmann, architect
Angle-Bickford Company, general contractor
1929
Schenkel Shultz, architects for elevator addition, 2002

One of the three original buildings erected at the high school, the Cafeteria Building is a simplified version of the Main Building. Its placement behind the auditorium wing of the Main Building suggests its secondary significance in the original campus plan of buildings arranged in a semi-circle and thus explains its simplicity while still echoing the stylishness of the Main Building. The Cafeteria Building is a two-story brick structure, nine bays wide and three bays deep, with a flat roof and a one-story rear kitchen extension recessed from each end of the building and terminated with a large chimney stack for the boiler that is housed in the basement at the rear of the building. There are five entrances along the east facade of the cafeteria building. The three in the center open into the cafeteria proper, and the two remaining entrances enter into the stairwells at each end of the building. There is also an entrance into the elevator tower at the south end of the building. Like the entrances of the Main Building, each of the center three entrances is round-arched, but unlike those of the Main Building, these entrances lack adornment except for simple brick corbeling. Originally these doors had round-arched, fixed transoms, but they were infilled in the 1990s. Secondary entrances are found on the sides and rear of the building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 11

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

Brick buttresses with cast stone caps surround the building and define the bays. Window openings remain the same, but the original sash were replaced in 1977. Exterior doors were replaced with metal doors in the 1990s. The first floor consists of a large, open lunchroom that stretches from one end of the building to the other, with side entrances and stairs at each end. The first floor of the rear extension contains the service room and kitchen flanked by store rooms. The second floor, between the end stairs and restrooms, contains a terra cotta tile-floored central corridor flanked by classrooms that originally included a rehearsal room for the band and orchestra. The recessed corridor lockers and the glass-and-wood-paneled doors with transoms match those of the Main Building. An elevator tower was added to the south elevation in 2002.

Girls' Gymnasium/Auxiliary Gymnasium

Contributing building

William C. Holleyman, architect

1939

James C. Posey, architect for addition, 1977

C. A. Cofer, mechanical engineer for addition, 1977

Sutton-Kennerly, structural engineer for addition, 1977

Although used temporarily as a combination band and shop building until the Vocational Building was erected in 1942, this building has spent most of its life as a gymnasium. The front half of the building, facing the service drive to the east, was erected in 1939 and is a one-story, rectangular, red brick structure with a flat roof and cast stone-capped buttresses positioned between the windows and central doors on the east facade and south elevation. At the north end of the facade is an arcade, now infilled, that originally connected the building to the main, frame gymnasium that had been erected in 1933 and stood until 1954. The entire interior of the five-bay-wide and three-bay deep 1939 building houses a basketball court whose wood ceiling is supported by metal trusses. The arcaded section at the north end of the facade contains another large room for gymnastics. Originally this space housed the dressing rooms and an open passage to the 1933 frame gym. In 1976 a modern addition containing primarily locker rooms, showers, and offices was built to the rear of the Girls' Gymnasium. About the same size as the original gymnasium and connected to it by a north-south hallway, the red brick addition is very plain, with a blank wall at the south end, a glass northwest corner and, in between, a west elevation with a band of narrow, horizontal windows midway up the wall and a band of larger windows at ground level.

Boys' Gymnasium/Main Gymnasium/Robert R. Sawyer Gymnasium

Contributing building

McMinn and Norfleet, architects

L. B. Gallimore, general contractor

Rottman and Leland, consulting engineers

Arnold Stone Company, maker of pre-stressed girders

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 12

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

1954

A good example of mid-twentieth-century modernism, the Boys' Gymnasium—known after 1977 as the Main Gymnasium and after 2000 as the Robert R. Sawyer Gymnasium for retired athletic director Bob Sawyer—is a large, modern, two-story, square, brick building. It has a flat roof of two levels—the lower level around the outer edge of the building and the higher level accommodating the depth of the concrete girders. The east facade is composed of plain stretches of brick interrupted only by the central three-bay entrance headed by square painted glass panels to the cornice line. The north, south, and west elevations are all composed of two horizontal bands of windows—one at the top of each floor level, with the top band somewhat taller than the narrower first-floor band—an entrance near each end of each elevation, a solid brick section at one end of the elevation and a section at the other end with limestone panels at first-floor level and glass panels at second-floor level. The interior is nearly consumed by a large, open, playing floor with retractable bleachers on north and south sides. Originally the gymnasium could seat 3,500, but with changing fire codes, the seating capacity has stood at 2,400 since 1991. On the first-story level, the playing floor is surrounded on the east side by the lobby, offices, and concession room which are separated from the playing floor by a partial wall; storage, restrooms, shower rooms, and locker rooms on the north and south sides; and additional locker rooms, shower rooms, restrooms, offices, storage and equipment rooms, laundry room, and first aid room on the west side. A balcony surrounds the interior at second-floor level. Open stairs are at each corner of the interior. Of particular structural significance, the Boys's Gymnasium was built with pre-stressed concrete girders supporting the roof. These seven beams, reinforced by a system of taut steel cables, are 120 feet long and weigh sixty-three tons each. (See attached illustration.) At the time of the gymnasium's construction, this technology had not been used yet in Greensboro, and the prestressed concrete beams were the longest used in the erection of a building to that point within the United States. Thus, the building of the gymnasium attracted great attention among architects and engineers from both the Greensboro area and beyond.

John Gordon Dewey Swimming Pool Building

Noncontributing building

Atkinson, Wilson, Lysiak, architects

1976

Located southwest of the Boys' Gymnasium, the swimming pool building is named for a former captain of the swim team who died in his senior year at the high school. The building is a large, L-shaped, brick structure laid in running bond with plain ground-to-cornice brick pilasters and a roof that slopes downward from south to north. The twenty-five-foot-long indoor pool was one of the first on a high school campus in North Carolina.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 13

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

Sigmund Selig Pearl Field House

Contributing building

Albert C. Woodroof, architect

1950

Clinton E. Gravely, architect for renovations, 1985

The field house is located just southwest of the football/track stadium. It is a nearly-square, one-story, utilitarian building—nine bays wide and ten deep—with a modernist flair. At the center of the facade, an entrance block rises several feet above the main height of the building and projects forward several feet from the rest of the facade. The body of the building is red brick laid in stretcher bond, the plain walls interrupted by a row of windows around all four sides. A brick string course located just above the windows runs around the front and two side elevations, and raised brick courses at the front corners of the building give the effect of decorative quoins. Contrasting with the red brick of the building's walls are the cast stone cornice band and main and side entrance surrounds. Ornamentation is restricted primarily to the main entrance with its wide, modern, reeded surround with cornerblocks and its flanking, modern, aluminum wall sconces. The raised front block of the field house contains the World War II Memorial Room, an octagonal, wood-paneled space with recessed cases for various football mementoes. Although the remainder of the interior was renovated in 1985, it still contains a coaches' office, a laundry room, and duplicate locker rooms, showers, and bathrooms for home and visiting teams. The field house is named for Sigmund Selig Pearl, a Greensboro Senior High School student who was killed during World War II in the Battle of the Bulge.

Shed

Noncontributing building

ca. 1990s

Next to the tree line southwest of the field house stands a large rectangular frame shed with what appears to be plywood siding, a low gable roof, a pedestrian door on the northeast side and a large double door at the southeast end.

Greensboro Sr. High School Stadium/Robert B. Jamieson Stadium

Contributing structure

Lee Engineering Corporation, engineers

1948-1949

Wilson and Lysiak, engineers for renovations, 1993

The stadium is a horseshoe-shaped structure with the southwest end open. The horseshoe is formed by the earth wall of a cut-away hill on the northeast end and, on northwest and southeast sides, by earth berms—created with the fill dirt from the cut-away hill—into which curved, poured concrete grandstands, reinforced underneath and on the sides walls by reinforced steel, have been built. The original wood

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 14

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

bench seating was replaced in 1988 with aluminum benches. Also in 1988 a new scoreboard was installed at the northeast end of the horseshoe. The original concrete block and glass press box remains at the top of the northwest grandstand; next to it is a concession stand. In 1993 a new, rusticated concrete block press box/concession stand was built atop the southeast grandstand. In the center of the stadium is the football field, surrounded by an oval track added in 1958. Originally the track was cinder, but in 1975 it was paved. Although approval for the stadium's construction was won in 1939, and some earthmoving took place in 1941, major design and construction did not occur until 1948-1949. The stadium was supported, in part, by the Works Projects Administration, and some of the early manual labor was supplied by the students. The largest on-campus high school stadium in the state, it can accommodate more than 10,000 spectators. It was renamed in 1975 for long-time football coach and athletic director Robert B. Jamieson, who retired then after forty-two years at the high school.

Stadium Ticket Office and Restroom Building

Noncontributing building

Wilson and Lysiak, engineers

Dennis and Sharp, general contractors

2002

The current ticket office and restroom building is located at the entrance to the stadium on its southeast side adjacent to the parking lot. It is a white-painted, rusticated concrete block building, slightly curved to echo the layout of the grandstands, with a low-pitched shed roof. An open central passage allows for the purchase of tickets and entrance to the stadium; the restrooms are located on either side of the center passage with doors on the northwest side of the building.

(Old) Ticket Booth

Contributing building

ca. 1950

An original, secondary ticket booth (the main one stood in the parking lot but was demolished in 2002) for the stadium is a small, concrete-block building with a shed roof, a narrow door on the stadium side, and ticket windows on the opposite side. It is located atop the berm at the northeast end of the stadium, set in the center of the stadium fence line, half in and half out.

(Old) Stadium Restrooms (4)

Contributing buildings

ca. 1949

The original stadium restrooms are rectangular, concrete-block buildings with a door located at each end and a low-pitched gable roof. They are located outside the berm near the southwest end of the stadium, two per side.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 15

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

Baseball Facility

Northwest of the stadium is Willie Young Field, the school's baseball facility, named for the athletic groundskeeper at the school from 1949 to 1972. Enclosed with a chain link fence, the field is oriented with home plate at the southwest corner of the diamond and the scoreboard at the northeast edge. Behind home plate is the press box, flanked by low metal bleachers. Along the fence line halfway between home plate and first base and between home plate and third base are the team dugouts. Near third base but outside the diamond is the fence-enclosed bull pen and two small sheds.

Press Box
1991

Noncontributing building

The press box is a tall, rectangular, red brick building with a slightly sloping shed roof.

Dugouts (2)
ca. 1990

Noncontributing buildings

The two dugouts are low, rectangular, red brick buildings with an open side facing the diamond and a slightly sloping shed roof.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 16

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architects/Builders

- Hartmann, Charles C. of Associated Architects (architect/Main Building, Cafeteria Building, and [Old] Science Building; all 1929)
- Angle-Bickford Company (general contractor/Main Building, Cafeteria Building, and Old Science Building; all 1929)
- Holleyman, William C. Jr. (architect/Girls' Gymnasium; 1939)
- Posey, James C. (architect/addition to Girls' Gymnasium; 1977)
- Cofer, C. A. (mechanical engineer/addition to Girls' Gymnasium; 1977)
- Sutton-Kennerly (structural engineer/addition to Girls' Gymnasium; 1977)
- McMinn, Leon (architect/Vocational Building; 1942)
- Lee Engineering Corporation (engineer/Greensboro Sr. High School Stadium/Robert B. Jamieson Stadium; 1948-1949)
- Wilson and Lysiak (engineers/renovations to Greensboro Sr. High School/Robert B. Jamieson Stadium, including press box/concession stand; 1993 and Ticket Office/Restroom Building; 2002)
- Dennis and Sharp (general contractor/Ticket Office/Restroom Building; 2002)
- Woodroof, Albert C. (architect/Sigmund Selig Pearl Field House; 1950)
- Gravely, Clinton E. (architect/renovation to Field House; 1985)
- McMinn and Norfleet (architects/Boys' Gymnasium; 1954)
- Gallimore, L. B. (general contractor/Boys' Gymnasium; 1954)
- Rottman and Leland (consulting engineers/Boys' Gymnasium; 1954)
- Arnold Stone Company (maker of pre-stressed girders/Boys' Gymnasium; 1954)
- Heritage, Thomas P. (architect/Home Economics Building; 1956)
- Sigmon, I. A. (architect/Music Building; 1956)
- Mallard, Lawrence H. (architect/Library; 1967)
- McMinn Norfleet Wicker (architects/New Science Building; 1975)
- Atkinson, Wilson, Lysiak (architects/Dewey Pool Building; 1976)
- Schenkel Shultz (architects/covered walks and additions to Main Building, Library, and Cafeteria; 2002)
- Loman, Ricky (architect/courtyard renovations; 2003)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 17

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

Summary

When it opened On September 9, 1929, on Westover Terrace near the northwestern edge (now the center) of Greensboro, North Carolina, Greensboro Senior High School was heralded as the city's \$1,000,000 high school. This was quite a distinction, since the average value of a school in North Carolina at that time was around \$18,000. Built at the culmination of a wave of school construction in Greensboro, as well as in North Carolina, Greensboro Senior High School was the most important and, by far, the most expensive unit in the city's school building program of the late 1920s. Five other schools were built in Greensboro at the same time, including the James Benson Dudley Senior High School (NR 2003) for the city's African-American students. Greensboro Senior High School was to be the city's flagship high school, a status it has retained to the present. Throughout its history, the school has excelled in its academic programs, arts education, and sports. In 1962, after the expanding city had begun to construct additional high schools, Greensboro Senior High School's name was changed to Grimsley Senior High School. The name primarily allowed the school to retain the initials GHS and, coincidentally, to memorialize George Adonijah Grimsley (1862-1935), who, as superintendent of Greensboro's public schools from 1890 to 1902, had directed the establishment of Greensboro High School in 1899.

Greensboro Senior High School is distinctive in having a campus that resembles a small college more than it does a high school. During the planning stage for the construction of the high school, the school board decided that instead of having one large building, the high school campus should be composed of a number of separate buildings. Beginning with a Main Building, Cafeteria Building, and (Old) Science Building, the campus grew to include a Vocational Building, a Music Building, a Home Economics Building, a Library, a New Science Building, a Girls' Gymnasium, a Boys' Gymnasium, a Pool Building, and a Field House, along with a football and track stadium, a baseball field, tennis courts, and other athletic fields, all set on approximately fifty-eight acres. Most of these facilities were erected by 1956.

Greensboro architect Charles C. Hartmann (1889-1977) designed the original buildings at Greensboro Senior High School. The city's most prominent architect during the 1920s, Hartmann gained fame as the designer of the Jefferson Standard Building, but among his other designs of that decade were the Woolworth Building, Greensboro Bank and Trust Building, Central Fire Station, L. Richardson Memorial Hospital, the Julian Price House, and the James Benson Dudley Senior High School, all of which are listed—either individually or as part of an historic district—in the National Register. Hartmann designed six buildings for the new campus, but due to significant inflation in 1929, only three—the Main Building, the Cafeteria, and the (Old) Science Building—could be erected with the available money. All three of these three-and two-story, respectively, red brick buildings with cast stone trim reflect a late Gothic Revival stylistic influence rendered in a streamlined manner. Simple buttresses, some of which extend above the roof line, and partially crenellated cornices create this effect,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 18

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

along with round-arched entrances embellished with medieval motifs. Extending from the rear of the Main Building is an elaborate auditorium whose decoration—including massive allegorical murals of "Education" and "Energy" painted by Raleigh artist James Augustus McLean—was completed in 1934 with funding from the Civil Works Administration's Public Works of Art Project. Hartmann's original buildings influenced the exterior designs of the 1939 Girls' Gymnasium (William C. Holleyman Jr., architect) and the 1942 Vocational Building (Leon McMinn, architect). Later buildings on campus, all by different architects, were decidedly more modern. The 1956 Home Economics Building, designed by Thomas P. Heritage, is a particularly good example of mid-twentieth-century modernism, while the 1954 Boys' Gymnasium included a technological first. Designed by the architecture firm of McMinn and Norfleet, the gymnasium utilized 120-foot-long prestressed concrete beams that were the longest of their type ever used in the construction of a building in the United States at the time of the gymnasium's construction.

Because of its local significance in the educational history of Greensboro, the Greensboro Senior High School fulfills Criterion A for listing in the National Register. Due to its local significance in the architectural history of Greensboro, the school also meets Criterion C. Context 2, "Modern Suburbanization and Industrialization, 1900-1941," in "Historic and Architectural Resources of Greensboro, North Carolina, 1880-1940" (MPDF) provides the context for establishing Greensboro Senior High School's eligibility. Additional supportive context is provided herein. The school falls under Property Type 5a, "Education Buildings," and meets Registration Requirement, page F-33. The period of significance for Greensboro Senior High School extends from 1929, the year of its original construction and opening, to 1956, the year of construction of both the Home Economics Building and the Music Building. Although these two buildings are just under fifty years old and do not exhibit exceptional significance, they nevertheless represent an important continuation of the school's significant academic and physical development as seen in the period prior to 1954. Subsequent to 1956, there was a gap of more than ten years before construction at the school resumed.

Historical Background/Education and Architecture Contexts

In the central piedmont North Carolina city of Greensboro, the first public schools began operating in 1875. However, it was 1899 before a high school department, separate from the grammar school level, was created. At that time, Superintendent George A. Grimsley established the Greensboro High School in the former St. Agnes Catholic Church building (built 1877) on North Forbis Street. One of the first public high schools in North Carolina, Greensboro High School occupied the North Forbis Street site from 1899 to 1910. Initially, the high school ended with the ninth grade. The tenth grade was added in 1902, and the first reference of an eleventh grade was during the 1905-1906 school year (Byrd, 6).

From Greensboro High School's first decade, it was a leader in the state. In 1902, it had the first

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 19

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

high school library and the first textbook rental system in the state. Music instruction was first offered in 1900, and in 1905 the school organized its first athletic team, the football squad (Byrd, 6-7).

By 1910 the former church building could no longer hold the school's student body, so for one year Greensboro High School moved next door to the Lindsey Street Grammar School. The following year, the high school moved to a new, two-story brick building on Spring Street, where it was known as Greensboro Central High School. There it remained until 1929. While at the Spring Street location, the school experienced several firsts. In 1917 it was accredited for the first time, in 1922 its chapter of the National Honor Society was the first established in North Carolina, and the following year, it was the first school in the state to form a student council (Byrd, 7, 9).

The 1920s was a pivotal decade in terms of public education. During this time the state's public school system began to take on its modern dimensions. It was a time of consolidation, when multiple small schools were combined into larger, centrally located schools. The construction of hundreds of schools across the state during the decade greatly improved the physical settings in which education took place. By the end of the 1920s, only twenty-two log school buildings remained in use in the state, and frame schools had declined by nearly fifty percent. However, during the same period brick school buildings increased by approximately 400 percent—from 248 to almost 1000. Property values are another indicator of the physical improvements that took place in North Carolina's public schools during the 1920s. In 1918-1919 the average value of a school in North Carolina was just under \$2,000; by the end of the 1920s the average value had increased to nearly \$18,000 (Sumner, 1, 4-5; National Register nomination for James Benson Dudley Senior High School).

Greensboro reflected this statewide movement toward better schools. In 1920 Drs. George D. Strayer and N. L. Englehardt of Columbia University conducted a study that demonstrated that all of the city's schools, including Greensboro High School, were physically substandard (Byrd, 10). As a result of this study, Greensboro undertook major school-building programs during the 1920s. The numerous modest frame schools in and around the city were replaced by large brick structures. Only one frame school—the East White Oak School—dating from prior to 1920 (1916) survives within the city limits. Construction of schools in Greensboro continued throughout the 1920s, attempting to keep up with a booming school-age population, particularly because during that time annexation doubled the size of the city. Two major building campaigns took place. The first, beginning in 1922, was funded by a million-dollar bond issue. The New York architectural firm of Starett and Van Vleck designed four large brick buildings—the Charles B. Aycock, Charles D. McIver, David B. Caldwell, and Joseph C. Price schools—that were classical in design but modern in function. Each had a large auditorium, a gymnasium, and a cafeteria, along with many other modern features. The second building campaign resulted from a \$2,300,000 school bond referendum passed by Greensboro citizens in 1926. It funded the Gillespie Park Junior High School, the Hunter School at Pomona, the Clara Peck School, the Lindley Grammar School, and the James Benson Dudley Senior High School (NR 2003), the first high school for African American students built by the city. Also included was the construction of the city's premiere

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 20

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

school, the Greensboro Senior High School for white students, built to replace the 1911 Spring Street campus. The community pride in this school, even before its construction, can be seen in a late-1920s promotional brochure for the Lake Daniel development adjacent to the school site. The developers made the future Greensboro High School, which they called the "Million Dollar School," a central selling point for their new subdivision (Brown, 74, 76; National Register nomination for James Benson Dudley Senior High School; Engelhardt, 226).

On November 5, 1927, the Greater Greensboro School District purchased a tract of just over 129 acres known as the Scales property from Hamilton Lakes, Inc. (Deed Book 571, p. 359). At the time of its purchase, the site was controversial, for many considered it to be too far out in the country for the construction of the new high school. Indeed, the tract was at the northwest edge of the developed city. Nevertheless, thinking to the future, the school district purchased the tract, and today its location is near the center of present-day Greensboro (Byrd, 10-11; Engelhardt 248).

In 1927 the Greensboro board of education hired educational consultants Strayer and Engelhardt to prepare a study that would help the city determine how best to allocate the \$2,300,000 from the bond issue so that the best interests of the entire city could be served. Strayer and Engelhardt looked not only at the current school enrollments but also at the probable growth of Greensboro during the next fifteen years (Engelhardt, 226-227). In recommending the purchase of the Scales property for the high school, they expressed the local competitiveness of Greensboro with other North Carolina cities by writing that the "site has been selected with the thought that Greensboro should have as desirable a setting for its high school as has been given the high schools in Winston-Salem, High Point, Salisbury, Asheville, Goldsboro, and some of the other North Carolina cities" (Engelhardt, 247). The consultants also recommended that the site be developed as the educational center for the city of Greensboro with not only a senior high school, but also with an elementary school, a junior high school, and a junior college (Engelhardt, 247). Eventually, all these facilities were built, except for the junior college.

Having selected the site for the high school, the school board decided that instead of having one large building, the campus should be composed of a number of separate buildings, like a small college campus (Byrd, 11). As built, the high school occupied only a part of the triangular-shaped Scales tract. In later years, the Clyde Eugene Brooks Elementary School, now Brooks Global Studies School, was constructed at the northeast corner in 1952, and the Claude M. Kiser Junior High School, now Kiser Middle School, was built on the northwest portion of the property in 1957.

New York City native Charles Conrad Hartmann (1889-1977), whose firm at the time was known as the Associated Architects, was chosen as the architect for the new high school. Educated at Columbia University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris, Hartmann worked early in his career with the New York architectural firm of Warren and Wetmore on Grand Central Terminal. During his subsequent employment for noted New York hotel designer William L. Stoddart, he came to Greensboro in 1919 to supervise the construction of the O'Henry Hotel. His work on that project greatly impressed Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company president Julian

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 21

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

Price, who offered Hartmann the architectural commission for the Jefferson Standard Building if Hartmann would agree to relocate to Greensboro. Hartmann agreed, set up practice in the city, designed the Jefferson Standard Building (NR 1975), and several years later designed Julian Price's own Tudor Revival-style mansion in Fisher Park (NRHD 1992). Erected in 1922-1923, the Jefferson Standard Building instantly became a downtown landmark, and Hartmann went on to design many prominent buildings in downtown Greensboro—including the Woolworth Building (NRHD 1982), the Greensboro Bank and Trust Building (NRHD 1982), and the Central Fire Station (NR 1980)—largely providing a new face for Greensboro's downtown in the 1920s. Hartmann's prolific body of work included not only banks and office buildings, but also hospitals—among which was the L. Richardson Memorial Hospital (NR 1992), Greensboro's first modern hospital for African Americans—industrial buildings, churches, prominent houses and apartment buildings, housing projects, and schools, including the 1929 James Benson Dudley Senior High School (NR 2003)—Greensboro's first high school for African-American students—as well as the Greensboro Senior High School. The Angle-Blackford company was selected as the general contractor for the high school's original buildings (*Greensboro Daily News*, January 4 and September 8, 1929, and January 1, 1978; National Register nomination for James Benson Dudley Senior High School and Gymnasium; National Register nomination for Jefferson Standard Building; Brown, 68, 126, 128, 130, 138, 213, 295; Bradley notes).

Hartmann designed six buildings for the new Greensboro Senior High School, but by the time construction began in January 1929, inflation had risen to such an extent that only three of the proposed six buildings could be erected with the available money. These three were the Administration, or Main, Building, the Cafeteria Building, and the Science Building. The three-story Main Building was erected at the center of campus and included offices, classrooms, a drama room on the first floor, a library on the second floor, a choral rehearsal room on the third floor, and a 1,500-seat auditorium that projected from the rear of the building. The two-story Cafeteria Building, located behind the auditorium of the Main Building, housed the cafeteria on the first floor and classrooms and a rehearsal room for the band and orchestra on the second floor. Southeast of the Main Building, the two-story Science Building had classrooms and an art studio on the first floor and laboratories, including one for home economics, on the second floor (Byrd, 11; Hartmann plans). All three buildings are red brick with cast stone trim. Stylistically, they reflect a late Gothic Revival influence rendered in a streamlined manner. Simple buttresses, some of which extend above the roof line, and partially crenellated cornices create this effect, coupled with round-arched entrances, those on the Main and Science buildings decorated with medieval motifs such as vegetative column caps, tablet flowers, and diapered and vegetative arch bands. The Main, Science, and Vocational buildings also have lighting sconces of medieval design flanking the entrances. The design of the three original buildings influenced the later designs of the Auxiliary or Girls' Gymnasium (1939) and the Vocational Building (1942). These early buildings at Greensboro Senior High School are similar architecturally to the 1929 James Benson Dudley Senior High School, which Hartmann also designed. Unlike the two high schools, however, most of the other schools built in

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 22

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

Greensboro during the 1920s expressed the Colonial Revival or Neo-Classical Revival styles.

Originally planned but not built were a Household Arts Building intended for the site of the Vocational Building, a brick gymnasium that was to be built on the site of the Hazelman Music Building, and a Shop Building that would have been built on the site of today's Home Economics Building (Hartmann plans). Because the gymnasium could not be built initially as designed, a small, one-story, wood-frame field house with dressing rooms was erected during the summer and early fall of 1929 in the northern half of the space in front of the present Sawyer Gymnasium (Byrd, 11).

On September 9, 1929, Greensboro Senior High School, with a student body of more than 1,100 in grades nine through eleven, opened the school year at its new campus on Westover Terrace. The *Greensboro Daily News* carried numerous articles and photographs celebrating Greensboro's new schools. It heralded Greensboro Senior High School as "Greensboro's \$1,000,000 High School" and said that it was the most important unit in Greensboro's school building program of the late 1920s (Byrd, 11; *Greensboro Daily News*, September 8 and 10, 1929). Although other accounts state that the total cost of the school was only between \$800,000 and \$900,000, still, the Greensboro Senior High School was by far the most expensive in the city. The significant investment in this school can also be seen by comparison with the nearly \$18,000 average value of a public schoolhouse in North Carolina at the end of the 1920s (Sumner, 5). The newspaper described the amenities of each of the buildings at the high school, listed the various subcontractors and sources of materials, and pointed out that the new school was a real asset to the city and particularly to the exclusive residential sections in the western, northwestern, and northern areas of Greensboro (*Greensboro Daily News*, September 8, 1929).

Shortly after the high school opened, the stock market crashed and the country entered the Great Depression. The Depression had a profound effect—though not fully realized until 1933—on Greensboro Senior High School. In 1933 the state took charge of running the public schools in North Carolina. That same year, Greensboro citizens failed to pass a bond that would have provided supplementary funds for running the local schools. The high school lost instruction in art, music, drama, and vocational training; school publications were stopped; the honor society was suspended; library services were eliminated; staffing and salaries were reduced; the school year was shortened by a month; and other changes devastated the quality of the school. As a result, it lost accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools (Byrd, 12).

Even as the Depression quashed many of the programs and activities at Greensboro High School, others thrived or had their start during these years. The school's debating teams excelled, as did the boys' athletic program, winning numerous championships in several sports. The hiring of Coach Bob Jamieson in 1933 as head of athletics, a position he held for forty-two years, had a stabilizing effect on the sports program, which became known for its superiority. Herbert Hazelman was hired in 1936 to reactivate the music department, and over a forty-year period he developed a model for other schools. In 1935 the school established its first work-study program, known as the Diversified Occupations program. It was the first such program in North Carolina and only the second in the South. In 1936

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 23

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

Greensboro approved a local supplementary school tax, and Greensboro Senior High School was finally able to begin its recovery from the Depression in earnest (Byrd, 12-13, 16).

Surprisingly, the physical development of Greensboro Senior High School did not halt completely during the Depression. When the campus opened in 1929, three permanent brick buildings—the Main Building, the Cafeteria, and the Science Building—were accompanied by a frame field house. The field house was intended to be a temporary structure, in lieu of the planned brick gymnasium that could not be built at the time. However, when a frame gymnasium was erected in 1933, it was attached to the field house, which was then used for dressing rooms and office space. The frame gymnasium and field house remained in use until 1954 (Byrd, 11, 14).

Although the school auditorium had been built in 1929 as part of the Main Building, funds had not been available to paint the interior. Five years later, in 1934, the auditorium finally was painted under the sponsorship of the Civil Works Administration's Public Works of Art Project, a Depression-era work program of the federal government. Through this program North Carolina was given \$200,000 to put artists to work. Raleigh artist James Augustus McLean was asked to develop a program to distribute the money, and his program was later adopted nationwide. One of the leading decorators in the South, John Luppe, was general supervisor of the artwork. Overall, the auditorium used soft colors and classical motifs. James McLean, assisted by Katherine Morris, painted two large murals on canvas—twenty feet tall and seven feet wide—representing the concepts of Education and Energy on the walls to the north and south of the stage. Each mural depicts a strong, shirtless man. In "Education," the man climbs a rocky mountain, struggling upward in search of intellectual attainment. Some tools of education—books, a globe, and a skull—are around him. In "Energy," the man stands among the cogs of industry. One raised hand grasps a bolt of lightning, representing natural power and resources. The man's other hand controls the throttle of industry, while his knee braces a hydroelectric dam. In their bold strength and modernism, the murals are typical of Depression-era artwork. McLean had two other Civil Works Administration commissions in North Carolina. One was for a series of four murals (only one of which survives) at North Carolina State University; the other was for a large mural at the library in Concord. All of these murals were painted on canvas and, at least in the high school auditorium, hung by wallpaper hangers. In 1984 the auditorium murals were restored, which mostly consisted of cleaning, by Greensboro artist Henry Rood Jr. and his son, Bill. The restoration was paid for by funds from alumni, students, faculty, and the school administrators (*Greensboro Daily News*, October 23, 1934; *Greensboro News and Record*, May 25, 1985; Byrd, 14).

The mid-1930s saw the construction of the first of the covered walkways that connected the primary buildings on campus. Built to protect students from inclement weather, these one-story walkways had frame posts and frame roofs. Charles Hartmann's original plans for the walkways, which he called "cloisters," were for one-story brick arcades with uncovered walkways on top. A lack of funds prevented construction of the walkways as planned and, instead, the frame walkways were built (Byrd, 14-15). In 2002 the frame walkways across the front of campus were replaced by two-story, brick-and-

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 24 Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

stucco, arcaded walkways. While not copying Hartmann's original design, the new walkways were based upon his design and reflected more of the intent of it than did the original walkways.

The Girls' Gymnasium, now known as the Auxiliary Gymnasium, was designed by Greensboro architect William C. Holleyman Jr. and was built with Public Works Administration funding in 1939. However, it was used initially as a combination band and shop building, called the Music and Arts Building, until the Vocational Building was erected in 1942. Through the years, in addition to being used as a gymnasium, the building served as the site of school dances and open houses after games. In 1976-1977 the Girls' Gymnasium was expanded with a modern addition on the west side that was designed by Greensboro architect James C. Posey with C. A. Cofer serving as mechanical engineer and Sutton-Kennerly as structural engineer (Byrd, 15; Holleyman plans; Posey plans).

The Vocational Building was designed by Greensboro architect Leon McMinn. With the Main Building and the Science Building, it completed the curved front row of campus buildings as originally intended. Erected in 1942 as a construction project of the Works Projects Administration, it was the first school building in Greensboro in which the interior was built of cinder blocks. The first floor of the Vocational Building housed various industrial arts classes, including a woodworking shop, a print shop, a machine shop, and an electronics shop. On the second floor were classrooms for architectural drafting, the work-study programs and, for awhile, space for the orchestra and band (Byrd, 15; McMinn plans).

During World War II and the early post-war years, Greensboro Senior High School was particularly active in helping in the effort at home. The student body sold \$12,000 worth of war bonds in 1942 and even more in 1943, which was enough to sponsor the building of an airplane in each of those years. Scrap bins were established at school, and students brought a variety of materials for reprocessing. In 1942 a garden was created on the school property behind the Cafeteria Building. The school system hired a sharecropper to work the garden, and a wagon and two horses were supplied. Until around 1946, this garden produced food for lunches at the high school and for other schools in Greensboro. Also during the war, in 1942, a twelfth grade was added to the high school, although it was optional until the class of 1947. Because the ninth grade was then relegated to the junior high school division, Greensboro Senior High School remained a three-year school, but now with grades ten, eleven, and twelve. After the war, between 1945 and 1948, the Veterans' Administration contracted with the school to operate the first veterans' school in North Carolina, giving returning soldiers the opportunity to complete high school or prepare for continuing their educations in college. The veterans' school, in which classes were taught in the afternoons and evenings by the high school faculty, served as a model nationwide (Byrd, 14, 16-17).

A direct effect of World War II on the campus can be seen in the construction of the school stadium. Plans for a campus stadium began to be discussed in the 1930s, but until the stadium was completed, the school's football games were held in Greensboro's War Memorial Stadium. Approval for the stadium project came in 1939, but after work began in 1941, it was delayed, first by World War II and later by a lack of funds. The design of the stadium was based on that of the Bowman Gray

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 25

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

Memorial Stadium in Winston-Salem, revised to suit the particular needs of the Greensboro site. Supported in part by the Work Projects Administration, the stadium was also funded by the school board and by stockholders of the Greensboro High School Stadium Corporation, formed for the purpose of supporting the stadium. Lee Engineering Corporation of Charlotte provided the plans and specifications for the stadium in late 1948, and construction took place in 1949, with the stadium placed into regular use in the fall of that year. Located northwest of the main part of campus on the north side of Campus Drive, the stadium was sited on naturally sloping land that was covered with scrub pine. Tons of dirt were moved by the WPA to create the stadium floor within a tall earthen horseshoe into which the grandstands were built. With its curved, concrete grandstands that can accommodate more than 10,000 spectators, the stadium is the largest on-campus high school stadium in the state. Dedicated to the memory of the school's alumni killed in World War II, the stadium was named in honor of Coach Robert B. Jamieson when he retired in 1975 after forty-two years as athletic director. In 1988 aluminum benches replaced the original wooden ones and a new scoreboard was installed. In 1993 a new press box/concession house, for which Wilson and Lysiak were the engineers, was built on the stadium's east side (Byrd, 17; Morgan Letter; Lee Letter; Fitch Letter; Wilson and Lysiak plans).

The track within the stadium was not added until 1958. Originally cinder, the oval track was paved in 1975 (Byrd, 18).

Soon after the completion of the stadium, the Sigmund Selig Pearl Field House was built immediately southwest of it in 1950. Local architect Albert C. Woodroof was the designer of this modern one-story brick building. The field house was named in memory of a former Greensboro Senior High School student who was killed in the Battle of the Bulge. The field house was renovated in 1985 based on plans by the Greensboro firm of Clinton E. Gravely, Architect and Associates (Byrd, 18; Woodroof plans; Gravely plans).

Campus life at Greensboro Senior High School prospered after World War II. Both social and service clubs began to flourish. After a nineteen-year hiatus, the school yearbook was re-instituted in 1950 and renamed the *Whirligig*. For about ten years beginning with the 1949-1950 school year, a student-run campus radio station operated as WGPS. It served not only as the radio voice for the Greensboro Public Schools, but also broadcast music and educational programs. (Byrd, 18-19).

The 1950s brought continued physical growth to the Greensboro Senior High School campus. A baseball field, located northwest of the football stadium, was completed in the spring of 1953. It was named, after his death in 1974, for Willie Young, the athletic groundskeeper at the school from 1949 until 1972. The baseball field was used for home games until the mid-1970s, when the games were moved to Jaycee Park. In 1989 a general upgrading of the field was begun, and home games resumed on campus in 1991, the year in which a brick press box was built (Byrd, 21).

In 1954 a new Boys' Gymnasium was erected behind the old gymnasium, which was then demolished. McMinn and Norfleet, Architects, of Greensboro designed the gymnasium, L. B. Gallimore served as general contractor, and the firm of Rottman and Leland served as consulting engineers. At the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 26

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

time of its construction, the new gymnasium was the largest high school gymnasium in the state. Seven 120-foot-long prestressed concrete beams reinforced by a system of taut steel cables and weighing sixty-three tons each support the gymnasium's roof. When the gymnasium was built, prestressed concrete beams in the construction of buildings had been used for some time in Europe. However, this construction technology was still new in the United States and had not been used in the Greensboro area. At the time of the gymnasium's construction, the 120-foot beams were the longest of their type ever used in the construction of a building in the United States, the next longest length—ninety-four feet—having been used in a school gymnasium in St. Louis. The raising of the pre-stressed concrete girders, made on site by the Arnold Stone Company, drew engineers and architects from elsewhere in the country to observe this unusual engineering feat. The gymnasium's original wood bleachers could seat 3,500, quite an increase from the old gymnasium's capacity of between 300 and 400. However, changing fire codes reduced the seating capacity, and since the installation of metal and plastic bleachers in 1991, the seating capacity has stood at 2,400. In addition to basketball games and other physical education activities, the Boys' Gymnasium was for many years the site of the school prom and graduation exercises. When the Girls' Gymnasium was renamed the Auxiliary Gymnasium in 1977, the Boys's Gymnasium became the Main Gymnasium, and in 2000 it was renamed the Sawyer Gymnasium in honor of retired Athletic Director Bob Sawyer (Shea, "Prestressed Roof"; Byrd, 21; McMinn and Norfleet plans; *Greensboro Daily News*, September 16, 1953; *Greensboro Record*, September 17, 1953; *High Life*, October 2, 1953; *Whirligig*, 1954).

Improved athletic facilities were accompanied by outstanding achievements in the school's athletic programs. During this period, Greensboro Senior High School remained one of the powerhouses in high school sports in the region, with numerous state championships won not only in the major sports, but also in the minor sports for both boys and girls. By the late twentieth century the school's athletic teams had won considerably more state championships throughout the school's history than had any other high school in the state. This continuity of excellence was also prompted by a stability of good leadership; in the sixty-six-year period between 1933 and 1999, the athletic program at the high school was overseen by only two men—coaches Bob Jamieson and Bob Sawyer (Byrd 21, 27, 32, 40).

There were other changes during the 1950s. In 1951 the student body voted to change the school colors from purple and gold to the current blue and white. This necessitated a change in the name of the school's athletic teams, which had been known as the Purple Whirlwinds. They became the Whirlwinds, but soon that name was shortened to the Whirlies, a nickname that had been in use since at least the 1940s. Beginning in 1956, the school's tornado-like whirlwind mascot was supplemented by the whirlbird (Byrd, 23).

The original layout for Greensboro Senior High School was completed in 1956, when the Home Economics and Music buildings filled spaces where structures had been intended in the 1929 campus plan. The Home Economics Building was erected between, but set back from, the Main Building and the 1929 Science Building. Designed by Greensboro architect Thomas P. Heritage, the two-story

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 27

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

building is a good example of mid-twentieth-century modernism. It greatly expanded the Home Economics department from its previous space in one room of the Science Building. A kindergarten was included in the new Home Economics Building, moving there from the second floor of the Cafeteria Building. This allowed students in child-development classes to observe and assist in a laboratory setting. The kindergarten continued to operate until 1986, when the grade structure in the Greensboro City Schools again changed, so that the high schools had grades nine through twelve. With Greensboro/Grimsley Senior High School taking on an additional grade, more space was needed to accommodate the new ninth-graders, and there was no longer room for the kindergarten (Byrd, 23; Heritage plans).

Greensboro architect I. A. Sigmon designed the Music Building, which was constructed in the space between, and set back from, the Main Building and the Vocational Building. This two-story facility allowed the orchestra and the band to move from their previous rehearsal spaces on the second floor of the Vocational Building, which they had used since 1942. At the same time, the Music Building enabled the choral groups to move from the third floor of the Main Building, which had been used for their practice space since 1929. Although, for cost reasons, it was not installed until 1964, the Music Building was the first on campus to have air conditioning (Byrd, 23; Sigmon plans).

Events of particular significance to the future of Greensboro Senior High School occurred in the 1950s and 1960s. In the fall of 1957, Josephine Boyd became the first African-American student to attend the school. She transferred from James Benson Dudley Senior High School, which was then the city's African-American high school. When Boyd graduated in 1958, Greensboro Senior High School became the first formerly all-white high school in North Carolina to graduate an African-American student. Nevertheless, the student body was not fully integrated until 1971, when Greensboro schools were placed under a court-ordered busing plan. The first African-American faculty member came to the high school in 1966, but, like the student body, full faculty integration was not accomplished until 1971 (Byrd, 23-24).

Another significant event was the changing of the school's name. In 1958 Page Senior High School opened, and after that many thought it inappropriate for one high school to bear the name Greensboro, since there was more than one high school in the city. It should be noted that there had been more than one since 1929, when, along with Greensboro Senior High School, the James Benson Dudley Senior High School (NR 2003) for African-American students had opened. So that the school could retain the initials GHS, Greensboro Senior High School's name changed in 1962 to Grimsley Senior High School, the name it has retained to the present. Although the new name was unpopular at the time, the choice was an appropriate one. George Adonijah Grimsley (1862-1935) became superintendent of the Greensboro City Schools in 1890, when he was only twenty-eight years old, and retained that position until 1902. In 1897 he was instrumental in obtaining passage in the General Assembly of the Scales Library Act, which provided for tax-supported public libraries in North Carolina; in 1902 he led the movement to establish the Greensboro Public Library, one of the first public

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 28

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

libraries in the state. Of greatest importance, however, Grimsley was responsible for the establishment of Greensboro High School in 1899 (Byrd, 24, 45; Arnett, 227-230).

The fall of 1962 marked the school's largest enrollment. Shortly before Ben L. Smith Senior High School opened, Grimsley's student body numbered 2,300. To handle this many students, the school had overlapping shifts during the 1962-1963 academic year (Byrd, 24).

The campus continued to develop during the 1960s and 1970s. In 1962 the Greensboro Youth Council sponsored the School Beautiful program in Greensboro. Students at Grimsley High School, working primarily through various service clubs, made many improvements to the appearance of the campus and succeeded in winning the city beautification award for seven of the nine years in which it was awarded in recognition of the most-improved campus. In 1966 the school was featured on the state garden tour (Byrd, 25).

Prior to the mid 1960s, Campus Drive was an unnamed stretch of road that entered the campus from Westover Terrace and ended at the service drive that runs in front of the gymnasiums and curves behind the cafeteria. In 1964-1965 Campus Drive was extended westward to Benjamin Parkway. In exchange for gaining this cut through campus, the city paved the student parking lot next to the stadium (Byrd, 25).

In 1967 a separate one-story Library, designed by Greensboro architect Lawrence H. Mallard, was built between the auditorium and the Home Economics Building. Prior to the construction of this building, the library had been located on the second floor of the Main Building, centered on the east side facing Westover Terrace (Byrd, 26; Mallard plans). Although the former library space in the Main Building has been subdivided, many of its original architectural features are still visible.

Clay tennis courts were built behind the 1929 Science Building in the mid 1940s. In their day, they were the finest clay courts in Greensboro, but by the late 1960s, the school could no longer maintain them. Instead, in 1975, eight lighted, hard-surface tennis courts were built southwest of the Boys' Gymnasium under the joint sponsorship of the Greensboro City Schools and the City of Greensboro (Byrd, 28-29).

The New Science Building, whose name distinguished it from the 1929 Science Building, which then became known as the Old Science Building, was also erected in 1975. It was designed by the Greensboro firm of McMinn Norfleet Wicker Architects. Located directly behind (southwest of) the (Old) Science Building, the new one-story building contained a darkroom, a greenhouse, and multiple open-classroom configurations (Byrd, 29; McMinn Northfleet Wicker plans).

Finally, the last of the primary campus buildings, the Dewey Pool, was constructed in 1976. It was designed by the local firm of Atkinson, Wilson, Lysiak, Architects. Located southwest of the Boys' Gymnasium, it is a large, one-story building with a roof that slopes downward from south to north. Named for John Gordon Dewey, a former captain of the swim team who died in 1971 during his senior year of high school, the twenty-five-yard-long indoor pool with diving well was one of the first on a high school campus in North Carolina. Its construction was a joint effort of local school officials, the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 29

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

city council, the county commissioners, and the Greensboro Swimming Association (Byrd, 29; Atkinson, Wilson, Lysiak plans).

No additional primary buildings have been erected at Greensboro/Grimsley Senior High School since 1976, but other physical improvements have taken place on campus. In 1977 a rear addition was built to the Girls' Gymnasium. In 1984 the two murals in the auditorium were restored, and the following year the Field House was renovated. Beginning in the late 1980s, renovations were made to both Jamieson Stadium and Young Field. In 2002 an addition was built to the Library. In the same year, the school was made handicap accessible with the addition of two elevator towers on the Main Building and one on the Cafeteria Building. The school was fully served by an HVAC system, computer technology was added, and the two front covered walkways were built. Finally, in 2003, the courtyard between the auditorium and the Cafeteria Building was renovated (Byrd, 29-30; Wilson and Lysiak plans).

In the fall of 1986, Greensboro schools converted from a junior high school system, with grades seven through nine, to a middle school system, with grades six through eight. With this change, Greensboro/Grimsley Senior High School became a four-year high school covering grades nine through twelve. An even larger transition occurred in the summer of 1993, when the Greensboro City Schools were consolidated with the Guilford County Schools and the High Point City Schools to create one Guilford County system. This marked the first change in the governing authority of Greensboro/Grimsley Senior High School since its beginning in 1899 (Byrd, 30-31).

Although it is now only one of more than a dozen high schools in Guilford County, Greensboro/Grimsley Senior High School retains its important place in the education of local high school students. One reflection of its impact can be seen in the fact that from 1899 to 2000 well over 30,000 students graduated from the school. In 1996 the Greensboro/Grimsley Senior High School Alumni and Friends Association was formed with over 700 charter members. The association's goal is to work to continue the long history of excellence at Greensboro/Grimsley Senior High School in its academics, athletics, music, and art, and to maintain the cultural and social experience of the school (Byrd, 34, 47).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 9 Page 30

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Architectural plans on file at Guilford County Schools Facilities Management Office, Greensboro, North Carolina.

Arnett, Ethel Stephens. *For Whom Our Public Schools Were Named, Greensboro, North Carolina*. Greensboro: Piedmont Press, 1973.

Bradley, Harry. Handwritten notes on Charles C. Hartmann. Copy on file at Survey and Planning Branch, North Carolina Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Brown, Marvin A. *Greensboro: An Architectural Record*. Greensboro: Preservation Greensboro, Inc./Junior League of Greensboro/City of Greensboro, 1995.

Byrd, Peter. "A History of Greensboro/Grimsley Senior High School." In *Greensboro/Grimsley Senior High School Alumni Directory 2001*.

Charles C. Hartmann Architects. Selected Project Portfolio. Copy on file at Survey and Planning Branch, North Carolina Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Engelhardt, N. L. "School Building Needs of Greensboro, North Carolina." *School Building Programs in American Cities*. New York: Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, 1928.

Fitch, F. B. Letter to E. D. Broadhurst, November 18, 1948.

Greensboro Daily News.

January 4, 1929

September 8, 1929

September 10, 1929

October 23, 1934

September 16, 1953

January 1, 1978

Greensboro News and Record.

May 25, 1985

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 9 Page 31

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

Greensboro Record.

September 17, 1953

Guilford County Records: Deeds. Guilford County Courthouse, Greensboro, North Carolina.

High Life (Greensboro Senior High School student newspaper).

October 2, 1953

Lee, A. C. Letter to E. D. Broadhurst, October 4, 1948.

Little-Stokes, Ruth. National Register nomination for Jefferson Standard Building, 1975.

Martin, Jennifer F. National Register nomination for James Benson Dudley Senior High School and Gymnasium, 2002.

Morgan, Roy L. Letter to Stockholders, Greensboro High School Stadium Corporation, July 1, 1948.

Shea, William D. "Prestressed Roof Girders Set Span Record." Reprint from *Engineering News-Record*, January 21, 1954.

Sumner, Jim. "A Brief History of North Carolina's Early Twentieth Century Public School System." *North Carolina Historic Preservation Office Newsletter* (Spring 1990): 1-5.

Whirligig (Greensboro Senior High School year book). 1950 and 1954.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 10 Page 32

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is shown by the bold black line on the accompanying Guilford County Tax Map 586 drawn to a scale of 1" = 200'.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the Greensboro Senior High School encompasses the current school campus of approximately fifty-eight acres, which includes all the historic resources associated with the school within their setting. The approximately fifty-eight acres constitutes that part of the tract of approximately 129 acres purchased by the Greater Greensboro School District in 1927 that was utilized for the high school. The remainder of the overall tract provided the campuses for the 1952 Clyde Eugene Brooks Elementary School (now Brooks Global Studies School) and the 1957 Claude M. Kiser Junior High School (now Kiser Middle School), as well as the land for the headquarters building of the North Carolina Coaches Association.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number Photos Page 33

Greensboro Senior High School
Guilford County, North Carolina

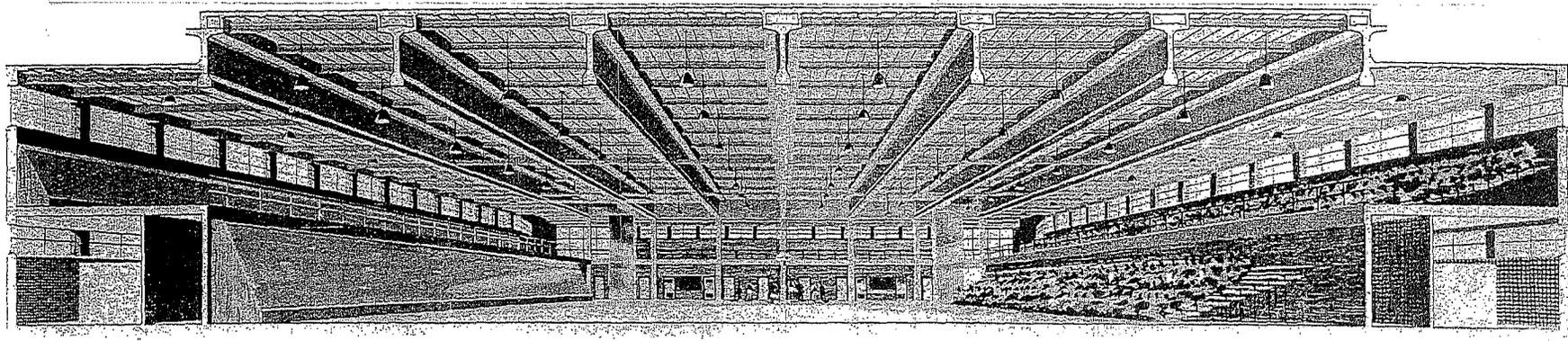
PHOTOGRAPHS

The following information for #1-5 applies to all nomination photographs:

- 1) Greensboro Senior High School
- 2) Greensboro, Guilford County, North Carolina
- 3) Laura A. W. Phillips
- 4) D, G, and O were photographed 8/04. All others were photographed 7/04.
- 5) North Carolina Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh
- 6-7) A: Main Building with front walk, view to W
B: Front Lawn with Main Building and (Old) Science Building, view to S
C: Entrance detail, Main Building, view to W
D: Lobby, Main Building, view to W
E: Auditorium, Main Building, view to N
F: Energy mural, Auditorium, Main Building, view to W
G: First-floor hall, Main Building, view to S
H: (Old) Science Building, view to S
I: Vocational Building, view to N
J: Cafeteria Building, view to SW
K: Home Economics Building, view to SW
L: Library and side elevation of auditorium, Main Building, view to NW
M: Frame walkway with connecting arcaded walkway at rear, view to N
N: Girls' Gymnasium, view to SW
O: Basketball court, Girls' Gymnasium, view to SW
P: Boys' Gymnasium, view to SE
Q: Sigmund Selig Pearl Field House, view to S
R: Jamieson Stadium, view to N

Boys' Gym, Greensboro Senior High School, Greensboro, Guilford County, N. C.

From *Engineering News-Record*, January 21, 1954

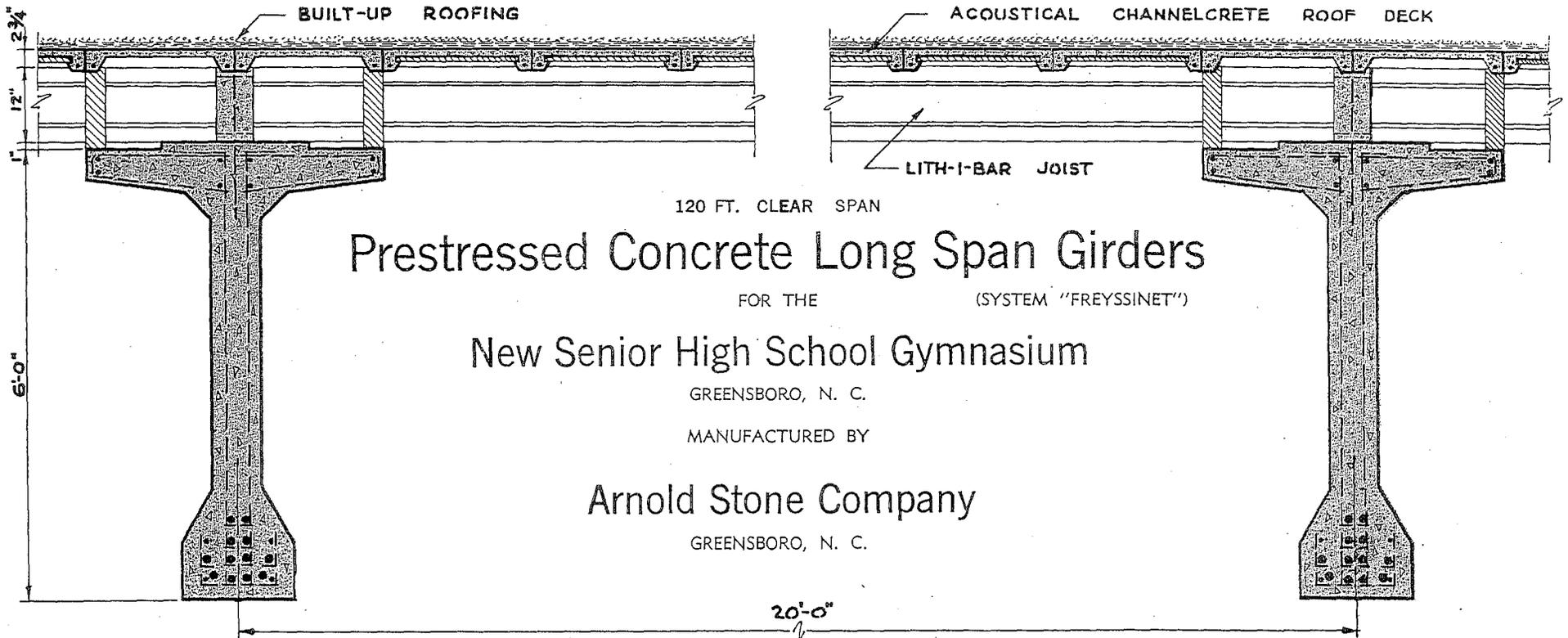


PERSPECTIVE SECTION SHOWING PRE-STRESSED CONCRETE ROOF CONSTRUCTION

L. B. GALLIMORE—CONTRACTOR

McMINN & NORFLEET—ARCHITECTS

FREYSSINET CO. INC., CONSULTING ENGRS.



Prestressed Concrete Long Span Girders

FOR THE

(SYSTEM "FREYSSINET")

New Senior High School Gymnasium

GREENSBORO, N. C.

MANUFACTURED BY

Arnold Stone Company

GREENSBORO, N. C.

Greensboro Senior High School

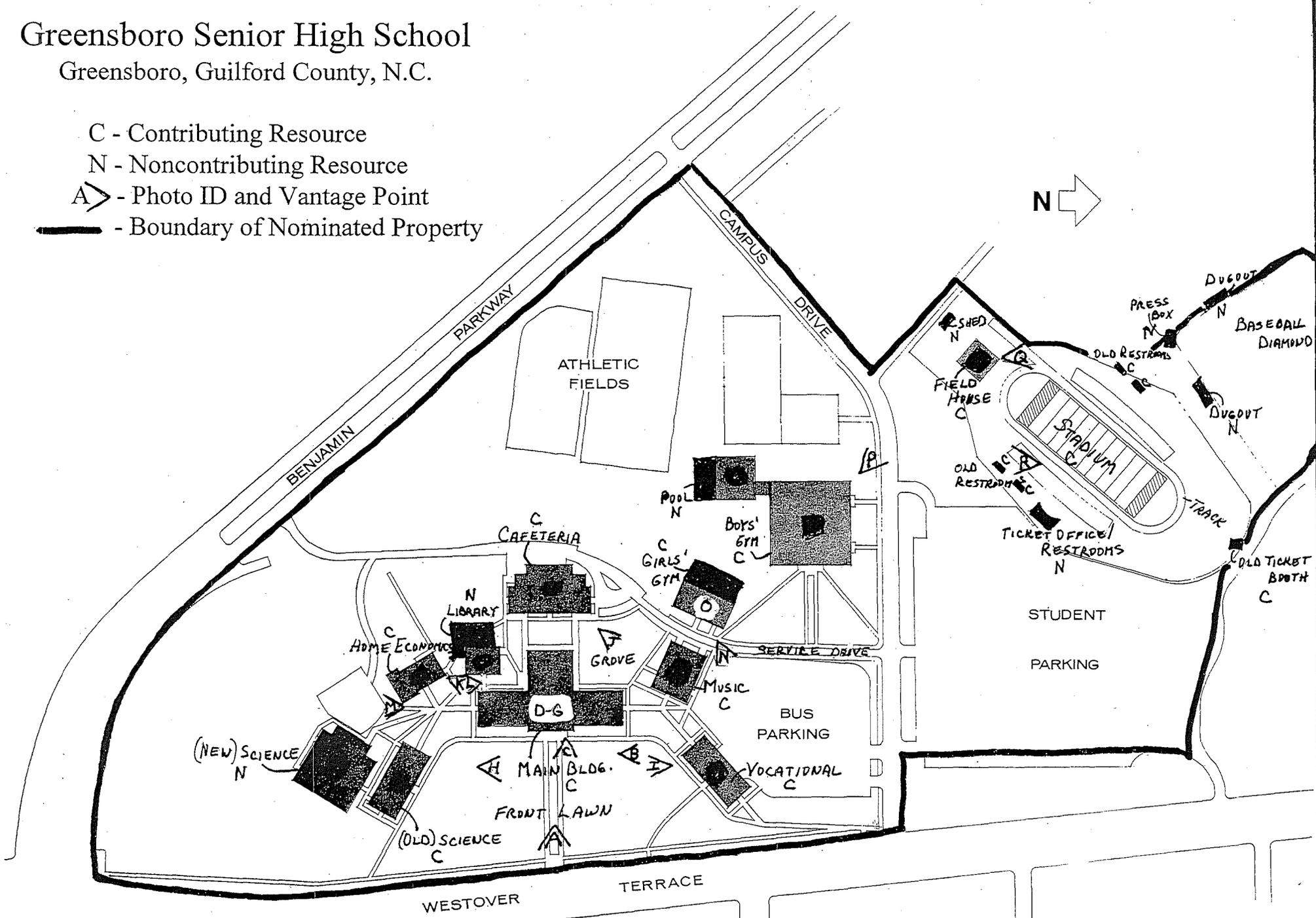
Greensboro, Guilford County, N.C.

C - Contributing Resource

N - Noncontributing Resource

A > - Photo ID and Vantage Point

— - Boundary of Nominated Property



NOT TO SCALE

GREGORY L. LONG
MARCH 7, 1979