

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name (former) Jamestown High School  
other names/site number Jamestown Public School

### 2. Location

street & number 200 West Main Street n/a not for publication  
city, town Jamestown n/a vicinity  
state North Carolina code NC county Guilford code 035 zip code 28601

### 3. Classification

| Ownership of Property                            | Category of Property                            | Number of Resources within Property |                          |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
|  |   | Contributing                        | Noncontributing          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> private                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <u>1</u>                            | <u>      </u> buildings  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local | <input type="checkbox"/> district               | <u>      </u>                       | <u>      </u> sites      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-State            | <input type="checkbox"/> site                   | <u>      </u>                       | <u>      </u> structures |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal          | <input type="checkbox"/> structure              | <u>      </u>                       | <u>      </u> objects    |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> object                 | <u>1</u>                            | <u>      </u> Total      |

Name of related multiple property listing: n/a  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register -0-

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.  See continuation sheet.

William S. Fair 10-28-91  
Signature of certifying official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school

EDUCATION/library

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival

foundation brick

walls brick

roof slate

other cast stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The former Jamestown High School is a substantial landmark in Jamestown. It is located in the 200 block of West Main Street in the center of the town and is prominently sited on a hill fronted by a generous lawn. Visible from all directions, the building faces south. From the southeast the semi-circular entrance drive passes through trees opening to an expanse of lawn to the front (south) and east. To the west and north of the building is a chain-link fence, separating it from a paved parking lot to the immediate west and a modern exercise/playground facility to the north. Farther north are a modern brick school building, the 1940s home economics building and late 1940s gymnasium which were associated with the school but are not included in the nominated area.

Constructed in 1915, over the years the building expanded to accommodate increased enrollment and changing trends. In 1926 a large auditorium and classroom addition was built at the rear; in the 1930s a classroom annex was added to the east, and in the 1960s unsympathetic brick stair towers were added at each end, replacing the original interior stairs. These additions were removed in a major rehabilitation and adaptive reuse in 1986 and 1987.

### Exterior

The school is representative of the more impressive school buildings built in North Carolina cities in the early twentieth century. A handsome two-and-one-half-story brick Neoclassical style building with cast stone detailing, it was erected in 1915 and opened for classes that year.<sup>1</sup> Architect for the building was Charles E. Hartge of Raleigh.<sup>2</sup> The Neoclassical style was a dominant style throughout the country during the first half of the twentieth century, distinguished from the eighteenth and early nineteenth century Classical Revival style in its frequent use of ornate column capitals, grouped windows, and roofline balustrade.<sup>3</sup> A number of features typically associated with the institutional Neoclassical style characterize this building. The school's facade is dominated by a full-height tetrastyle portico with flat roof and deep entablature supported by Ionic columns and pilasters. The structure is laid in American stretcher bond with red-tinted mortar joints and accentuated with cast stone trim. Typical of the style, ornamentation is placed at focal points at the entrance, fenestration and joining of roof and walls, augmented by ornamentation characteristic of the architect.

The building has a slate deck-hipped roof with cresting. In its center is a pyramidal-roofed louvered cupola providing uplift ventilation. At front and rear elevations are three hipped dormers, evenly spaced and also with cresting. A hipped dormer is centered at each side elevation. The roof ends in a moderate overhang with hidden gutters in a boxed eave. Beneath is dentil molding and a cast stone belt course. Dormers echo the roofline and eave but lack the dentil molding of the main roof. A brick chimney with ornamented brickwork rises at the rear. A second, lower brick chimney at the northeast rear corner has been removed.

The front facade of the building is nine bays wide with symmetrically balanced windows and central door. It is broken into a three-part massing by the portico and by the projection of its three central

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford Co., NC

bays. Broad concrete steps lead to the front entrance. Brick stair railings appear to be 1960s replacements; photographs indicate they closely resemble the originals. Centered beneath the portico is a large round arch framing the entrance. The doorway itself is inset approximately two feet. Above the double front door is a transom flanked by sidelights above a molded wood panel. At the entrance bay's second story are three one-over-one windows separated by plain mullions. The presence of paired and triple windows and the transoms differentiate the Neoclassical style from early Classical Revival buildings.

The portico is the dramatic focus of the building. Dentil molding found at the eave line of the main roof is repeated here, as well as in the cornice of the portico's ceiling. Typical of the Neoclassical style, the columns of the Jamestown School are more ornate than those of early Classical Revival or Greek Revival buildings. Its use of Ionic capitals was made possible by the introduction of mass-produced capitals prefabricated of molded plaster or composition materials.<sup>4</sup> Jamestown's original capitals are of molded clay and plaster with twine used as a bonding material. The four capitals on the building today are 1980s replacements<sup>5</sup> similar but not identical to the originals. The originals were a correct Greek Ionic design while the replacements are Roman Ionic. The two original Greek Ionic pilaster capitals remain on display inside the building.

Cresting the portico is a roof-line balustrade with X-panel railings between squat posts. Each post of the balustrade is situated above a porch column, reflecting the fenestration pattern below. The balustrade is a typical element of the Neoclassical style; like the Ionic columns it was much more common in Neoclassical buildings than in the earlier styles they imitated.<sup>6</sup>

The rear facade is also broken into a three-part massing by a three-bay central projection, but has no entrance or porch. A noticeable change to the building is here: the first floor central portion of the rear wall was rebuilt in the 1980s to replace the wall believed to have been removed in 1926 when the auditorium and classroom annex was added.

Triple windows are found in the central bays at front and back elevations; single windows flank the front door and are repeated above. However, most fenestration of the building is paired windows with cast stone sills and lintels on both first and second levels.

Side elevations are five bays wide, each with a central entrance recessed beneath a stuccoed round arch similar to that at the front, but smaller. Above each door is a modillioned and molded cast stone lintel and narrow panel of windows to light the stairwells. Also echoing the front are double doors flanked by sidelights and transom. Doors at all three entrances are replacement wood six-panel doors. Ghost marks reflect removal of the 1960s stair towers.

Ornamentation of the building is found at all elevations. Between the floor levels at each bay, rectangles of raised brick create a framed panel and band the width of the windows. The bands are made up of a soldier course of brick set off by raised stretcher courses with a central panel of herringbone-patterned brick framed by raised brick. The windows and banded panels are recessed to give the impression of pilasters defining the bays. The "pilasters" are further accentuated by the use of cast stone banding to create a capital-like embellishment at the top which draws the eye up and adds verticality to the building, counteracting the horizontality of the eaves, belt course and water table.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford Co., NC

Hartge used additional detailing to elevate the building. At both faces of each corner of the building and at the corners of front and rear projections is a decorative pattern of buff-colored brick creating a figure. The buff brick is the color of the cast stone; it drops to intersect a horizontal narrow buff band and is an integral part of the belt course panels. As a result the eave line is highly ornamented with boxed eave, dentil molding, cast stone belt course interacting with the buff brick figure, "capitals" between each bay, and the prominent entablature of the front portico. The buff brick figure further serves to reduce the mass of the wide brick posts necessary for support at each corner of the building. At the back of the building, the horizontal band in the central projection is higher, even with the central sash line of the second-floor windows. The reason for this difference may have been the presence of a rear auditorium projection.<sup>7</sup>

Another element employed by Hartge to lighten the building was the muntin pattern. The original second-story sash had a complex upper muntin pattern integral to the building's design, and 4-light transoms on the first floor. The upper sash of the second-floor windows are embraced by the cornice band; the glazing pattern was an additional component of Hartge's efforts to reduce the mass of the building. In the 1980s rehabilitation all sash of first and second floors were removed and replaced with one-over-one thermal pane sash. Window transoms were replaced with a single-light panel. Basement and dormer windows retain their original sash and muntin patterns. The transom and sidelights of the front entrance were also replaced with single lights, while those of the two side entrances retain their decorative muntin pattern.

#### Interior

The building has a T-hall plan. The original school offices and nurse's station, today the library office and workspace, are on both sides of the north-to-south entrance hall. The front hall meets an east-to-west corridor off of which doors lead to the original classrooms, now used as reading rooms, stacks, and a local history museum. These are flooded with light from the large grouped windows. The two original interior stairs from first floor to basement remain. Their newels are square panelled classical posts with flat dentilled capitals. The balustrade is composed of plain square pickets and typical molded wooden handrail of the early twentieth century. On both sides, the stairs from first floor to second are 1986-1987 replacements of the originals which had been removed when stair towers were built in the 1960s.

The building is supported by exterior load-bearing brick walls and two interior load-bearing brick walls which run the full east-west length of the building. The exterior walls extend the full height of the building; the interior load-bearing walls occur on the first and second levels and help support the floor systems at the second and third levels. Interior walls do not appear to support any of the roof structure.<sup>8</sup> Interior finish of brick walls is painted plaster on lath. The non-load-bearing partitions between classrooms are lath and plaster on both sides. Floors are rift pine boards<sup>9</sup> on wood joists, with new wood floors in the stair areas. The full basement was excavated and developed for use during initial construction; the basement level is partially above-grade, receiving significant light from the paired windows.

The most significant change to the original floor plan<sup>10</sup> is the addition on the second floor of partitions at each end of the hall enclosing the stairs. Originally the hall continued uninterrupted from east stair to west stair<sup>11</sup>. In addition, the building has seen additions and attachments which have since been removed.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 3 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford Co., NC

Classroom doors on the first floor have three-light transoms; no transoms are found on the second floor. Extensive woodwork typical of the 1920s is found in the halls and classrooms, including molded surrounds at classroom doors and blackboards, wide window surrounds with molded lintels and sills in the halls, and crown mold and deep baseboards throughout the building. A steel beam was installed at the main level in 1926 when the auditorium annex was added.

**Summary**

Part of the school's significance lies in its setting on a grassy hill, making it the most prominent building in Jamestown. The school's facade and handsome front grounds retain their architectural integrity and are in good condition. Major alterations to the building include 1) replacement of all first and second floor windows with thermal-paned one-over-one sash and single-paned transoms; 2) removal of 1920s, 1930s and 1960s additions; and 3) construction of new first-story rear brick wall to replace wall removed in 1926 and ghost marks where 1960s stair towers were removed. These changes, however, have not significantly compromised the overall integrity of the building; it retains its dominant proportions, salient elements of Hartge's design and overall neoclassical character.

**Endnotes**

1. High Point Enterprise, September 21, 1915, page 6; and October 5, 1915.
2. High Point Enterprise, May 6, 1915, page 4; letter and application from E. J. Coltrane to state Board of Education, August 10, 1915; and signed and dated contractors' invoices, October 29, 1915.
3. McAlester, pp. 169-172 and 343-346.
4. McAlester, page 344.
5. The Guilford County Board of Education removed the two outer columns and capitals while the building remained in its ownership; during the rehabilitation it was determined the remaining columns and capitals required replacement as well. New wood columns came from Alabama; the new capitals came from a company in Minnesota. The original capitals are on display in the local archives room inside the building. Original sash are currently stored in the southwest upstairs room.
6. McAlester, page 344.
7. Examination of a 1986 photograph (High Point Enterprise, 3/28/86, page B1) showing the demolition of the rear annex indicates that the three-bay portion of the annex may have been original to the 1915 construction rather than to the 1926 addition. This would explain the raised band and would have provided the auditorium space which was an integral part of progressive brick school design of this period. In addition, early promotional materials boast the existence of an auditorium, the auditorium room is the only one with two original entrance doors, one at each side, and interviews reveal that auditorium seating extended from the back of this room. Furthermore, had the building

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford Co., NC

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stopped at today's current rear wall with a classroom in place of the current reading room, it seems an unlikely plan to remove several bays of brick wall and make part of an existing room into an auditorium. It is far more likely, and consistent with the plans of similar schools across the state, that the current reading room was half of the original auditorium with the two doors leading to two side corridors at the back of the room.

8. Yelverton & Brewer Report.

9. Jamestown News, July 12, 1989, page 4.

10. Another possible change is the removal of the first floor rear auditorium extension.

11. Interview, G. S. Crihfield.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford Co., NC

richer. In 1907 the General Assembly enacted a law providing for the creation and maintenance of "standard" high schools, with a full three- or four-year curriculum, in each county. That same year the Guilford County Board of Education selected Jamestown and Pleasant Garden as sites for the county's first two standard high schools. Jamestown's high school would draw students from the western half of the county, Pleasant Garden from the eastern half.<sup>7</sup>

Jamestown was chosen in part because of its long history of support for education since first settled by Quakers in the 1750s, and in part because of its rural location. Jamestown High School was established with \$500 from the community's local tax, matched in turn by the board and the state, for a total of \$1,500. A frame school was built. First year's enrollment consisted of sixteen boys and fifteen girls; there were two teachers.<sup>8</sup> Pleasant Garden's enrollment was double that of Jamestown. Both schools held a term of 160 days for three years. The following year a third high school was created at Monticello, a rural community in the northern part of the county.<sup>9</sup>

In 1911, at the initiation of the county school system and with the endorsement of the Farmers' Union, the General Assembly passed the Guilford County Farm Life School Act. Farm Life schools were a national curriculum trend among rural schools that helped prepare students for their lives in rural communities, and marked the introduction of agriculture and home economics into the school curriculum.<sup>10</sup> At Jamestown, which successfully sought designation as a Farm Life school, ten acres was acquired about one-third mile from the school for the school farm,<sup>11</sup> and Mrs. E. J. Coltrane was hired to teach domestic science, following special training at Cornell University. The community and Board both provided funds; \$2,100 was contributed by the Board for establishment of the Farm Life program.

Limited transportation made a boarding school at Jamestown a practical option. Hence dormitories were established cooperatively by the county Board of Education and the communities in order to make regular high school attendance realistic. The board approved \$1,000 toward construction of dormitories at Jamestown in August of 1912. A girls dormitory was built that year and a boys dorm was erected, probably in 1914, at the school's farm.<sup>12</sup> In the same year the county employed a teacher for the agriculture program for all three of its Farm Life schools.

By 1914 Jamestown's enrollment had increased significantly and five classrooms were added to its school. However, on February 18, 1915, the frame building was destroyed by fire.<sup>13</sup> A newspaper at the time said "The Jamestown school was one of the most widely known high schools in the state. There were 265 students in this school. . . Education authorities placed the Jamestown school in the front rank of the state's great high schools, and there is no doubt but that the burning of the school will prove a distinct loss to Jamestown and Guilford County as well, as there were numerous students there from all over the county. The dormitories in which they lived were unharmed."<sup>14</sup>

Jamestown wasted no time making preparations for construction of a new school. Fortunately, insurance on the old building was sufficient to cover a large percent of the cost, and this money was increased by the addition of a bond issue of \$15,000,<sup>15</sup> an appropriation of \$2,000 from the county Board of Education,<sup>16</sup> and a "handsome donation by a private individual."<sup>17</sup> A new building, this one of brick, was completed by the fall of the year. County money helped pay for the building; however, the local citizens formed the Betterment Society (later the PTA) and were responsible for grading and planting.<sup>18</sup>

The High Point Enterprise of May 6, 1915, reported that "C.E. Hartge, of Raleigh and High Point, has just been engaged to draw the plans for the new school building at Jamestown." Principal during this time was

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford Co., NC

Education requesting a \$2,000 loan for completion of the "new building already well underway. We are spending approximately \$25,000, and this \$2,000 will be needed to finish the work."<sup>19</sup> Coltrane's application, which was successful in obtaining the loan, stated that the school was for the white race and that 306 children of school age were in the Jamestown district. The school was to be built on the 24 acres of the school farm. Coltrane's application also states that the building was "designed by architect C. E. Hartge, Raleigh" and lists a cost of \$21,000 (although his letter stated it would be closer to \$25,000). The school was to have "14 class rooms and auditorium with office, etc."

A pamphlet produced by the school in 1915 while the new building was under construction promoted "Jamestown Public High School and Farm Life School," advertising its

New main building, 20 rooms and auditorium; costing over \$20,000.  
Complete equipment for teaching agriculture, cooking and sewing.  
Tuition free.  
Separate dormitories for boys and girls.  
School farm of 24 acres.  
Teaching force: Two men and eight women, all especially trained for their work.

The school was not built on the site of the 1907 frame school, but on a portion of the farm, near the boys dormitory.<sup>20</sup> It opened in October. A High Point newspaper of September 21 reported

"The opening of Jamestown High School has been postponed until October 5. This is because of the unfinished condition of the new building, which has not been finished because of weather conditions, the contractors having done everything they could to complete it earlier. This is a splendid building and is a true index of the progressiveness of the community in which it is located. Prospects for a fine opening are good. Many more applications for rooms and board in the dormitories have been received this year than ever before. The increased enrollment has made a new teacher necessary to relieve the congestion which would have been caused by the many new students, and the trustees have already arranged for the new member of the faculty..."<sup>21</sup>

According to a 1920s description:

"The new building contains twelve classrooms, two laboratories, a good auditorium, two music rooms, an office and a library. The entire building is well arranged and heated by steam heating apparatus. Everything about the building has been designed in accordance with recognized theories of school architecture, and it is furnished throughout with improved and modern equipment."<sup>22</sup>

Excerpts from Jamestown High School's 1914-1915 handbook provide information on the school's programs. Although the handbook was prepared for an academic year in the frame building, one can surmise that much of the information would have applied equally to academic life the following year in the new brick school. The curriculum left little choice for the student. English, history, mathematics and science were supplemented with a choice of Latin or agriculture for boys and Latin or home economics for girls. Juniors and seniors could take French or German if they desired. For an additional fee of \$2.50 per month, any student could also receive music instruction. Jamestown School emphasized the importance of college

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford Co., NC

By 1916, more students were enrolled in Guilford County schools than any rural school system in the state, and Guilford County was the only rural school system with two high schools accredited by the University of North Carolina.<sup>24</sup> Jamestown Public School is said to have become the first accredited rural high school in North Carolina.<sup>25</sup> Accreditation meant that the students were able to leave high school and enter the college freshman class without examinations. Jamestown School was a union school, meaning it contained all the grades one through eleven; the twelfth grade was added to the system in 1945.

In 1916 the county School Board executed a deed to W. J. Ragsdale for the old school site, which he had purchased at an auction sale of the property.<sup>26</sup> In 1928 Jamestown erected a "teacherage," which was a dwelling for teachers. By the 1940s, the principal lived on the first floor and single female teachers on the second floor. The boys dormitory was converted for use as the Music Building. The dormitories and teacherage have all been demolished. In 1948 a gym, still standing, was built, with patrons providing lighting for the athletic field in 1949.<sup>27</sup> Jamestown High School became an elementary school in 1959 with its last high school class graduating that year;<sup>28</sup> high school students were moved to the new Lucy C. Ragsdale School nearby. The elementary school continued until the new Jamestown Elementary School opened in 1982.

In early 1986 the Guilford County Board of Education deeded the building to the Town of Jamestown,<sup>29</sup> which in turn leased it to the Historic Jamestown Society for rehabilitation as a library, civic building or other educational use. In March 1986 a nonprofit corporation, the Old Jamestown School Association, was formed and assumed the lease. The deed provides that the property be returned to the Guilford County Board of Education if not used for the above purposes.<sup>30</sup> Following a rehabilitation which entailed the removal of additions, Jamestown's first library opened in 1988 on the first floor of the building. Also on the first floor are a meeting room and local archives room. Plans for a second phase include an auditorium on the second floor for use as a theater and cultural arts center.<sup>31</sup>

#### Architecture Context

The Neoclassical style was a dominant style for houses and institutional buildings throughout the country during the first half of the twentieth century. The Jamestown School is typical of the early years of the style, which generally emphasized hipped roofs and elaborate, correct columns. After about 1925 there was more emphasis on simpler, slender columns.<sup>32</sup> The style originated at the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893, held in Chicago. The Exposition's architecture was directed to be classical, with monumental buildings placed around a central court. Through widespread reporting of the buildings at the Exposition the Neoclassical style became popular, the monumental designs particularly adaptable for public and commercial buildings and the smaller for domestic architecture.<sup>33</sup> The style was ideal for the twentieth century revival in education, a good vehicle for a community to assert its commitment to its schools.

Charles E. Hartge is known to have been the architect of the Jamestown High School. It was reported in the High Point newspaper in May of 1915; principal E. J. Coltrane states it in his application for a State Board of Education loan in August, and Hartge's dated signature appears on two contractors' invoices of October, 1915. Furthermore, the building displays details characteristic of Hartge's designs, such as the buff brick ornamentation and use of raised and recessed brick to diminish the building's bulk.

Hartge was a German-born architect prominent in eastern North Carolina.<sup>34</sup> Born in Hamburg in 1865 and

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 4 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford Co., NC

his death in 1918.<sup>36</sup> As early as 1890 Hartge was corresponding with J.W. Root, Chicago architect and then secretary of the AIA, expressing a desire for rules and standards in the practice of architecture. Hartge was also active with the NC Board of Architecture. He was prominent in a push to get a licensing act<sup>37</sup> and succeeded with passage of the Practice Act Bill in 1915, a legislative act which provided for a board of registration and a licensing procedure. Hartge was one of the five members of the first North Carolina Board of Architectural Registration and Examination established by the 1915 act.<sup>38</sup>

Hartge died in Raleigh during the flu epidemic of 1918 at the age of 53.<sup>39</sup> According to his obituaries, "some of the best known buildings in the State are products of his genius and the building trade in general loses one of its most prominent members." At his death he was secretary of the North Carolina State Board of Architecture. He had been elected president of the North Carolina AIA in 1916.<sup>40</sup>

While a comprehensive list of his designs is not known, most of the buildings identified with Hartge are in Raleigh. These include the Pittman Auditorium (1906-1907) at St. Mary's College and the remodeling of Smedes Hall there (in St. Mary's College H.D., NR 1978); the Wake County Home (1913-1914); and the Church of the Good Shepherd downtown (1914) (in Capitol Area H.D., NR 1978).<sup>41</sup> He planned buildings at North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts (NC A&M) in Raleigh with H.P.S. Keller<sup>42</sup> and is believed to have designed a number of schools. Near Raleigh he designed the large and handsome brick Wakelon High School and Farm Life School (1913-1914) (NR 1976).<sup>43</sup> He is known also to have built the First Methodist Church in Washington, N.C. (1899) (in Washington H.D., NR 1979), with its strongly Germanic tower.

Most pertinent to this discussion of his Jamestown High School is the Lillington Middle School in Harnett County which is strikingly similar to the Jamestown School. At first glance the building is a twin; upon close examination there are differences, the more prominent being the use of Doric columns in contrast to Jamestown's Ionic, a gabled portico at the rear of the Lillington building, and a similar but distinct sash pattern. Nevertheless, the buildings are notably similar in mass, size and details. Lillington's school was also built in 1915, which helps to explain the seemingly remarkable speed of Hartge, who was hired in May to draw a design and had a building completed by October.

No record has been found to indicate whether proposals were sought and received from other architects. It is possible that Hartge was working on a building in High Point at the time (thus the newspaper's statement "from Raleigh and High Point").

From invoices we know the builders of the Jamestown school as well. Although it is not known when, A. F. (Andy) Brooks and William Baker Hunt of Pleasant Garden were hired to construct the school. During the 1980s rehabilitation a piece of interior molding was found with "W. B. Hunt" written on the back.<sup>44</sup> Andy Brooks was a contractor and builder who had founded Brooks Lumber Company in 1895. He and Hunt were not generally associated, but completed this school and one other job together.<sup>45</sup> Invoices for construction of the school were written on Brooks's business stationery with "& Hunt" written in pen after his name on the heading. William Hunt was a prominent builder from Pleasant Garden. Buildings he constructed include Schiffman's Jewelry building in downtown Greensboro, College Place United Methodist Church, and McKiver School on Lee Street. He is also said to have built the old Sedgfield Inn and a school in Pleasant Garden, since demolished.<sup>46</sup>

No information could be found regarding details of Hartge's supervision of the project; however, Hartge apparently was at the site near project completion. Two invoices from Brooks & Hunt dated October 20,

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 5 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford Co., NC

\$100 be withheld until completion of minor details, and signed and dated each.<sup>47</sup> The invoices show that Brooks & Hunt's main bill for construction of the school building was \$18,117. The second invoice is for "extras" including a flue in the east end; brick for a dormitory; Guilford Lumber Company's bill on doors, frames and trims; and painting and staining doors and frames. The school also received an invoice of October 24, 1915, from Coursen & Miller, Artesian Well Drillers & Contractors from Salisbury, for drilling and installing a boiler pump. A statement dated October 25, 1915 from Greensboro Roofing Company was "to certify that A. F. Brooks of Brooks & Hunt" had paid all outstanding bills on the school project.

The former Jamestown High School is representative of the emerging statewide effort to update schools and school buildings. Built in 1915, it was a forerunner of this trend. By the 1920s North Carolina led the nation in building rural consolidated schools.<sup>48</sup> In the late 1920s and early 1930s there remained a number of one- and two-teacher schools being conducted in inadequate wooden buildings, but by the late 1930s most had been abandoned in favor of brick consolidated schools.<sup>49</sup>

The Jamestown building embodies many of the characteristics of the new healthful design of school facilities: brick, with an auditorium area, central corridors, large classrooms and plentiful windows for light and ventilation. The school's design also demonstrates the beginnings of a comprehensive approach to education, with specialized spaces for auditorium, library, laboratory and music rooms. Hartge's careful use of cast stone and brick ornamentation and decorative muntins served to soften the bulk of this large building; he was successful in using these elements to create a well-balanced design.

The boundaries of the nominated property include approximately 2.8 acres of the original 24-acre school tract.<sup>50</sup> The boundaries are drawn to encompass the 1915 building, the front and east side lawns, and the driveway from the east. The boundaries exclude a paved parking lot to the west and a modern exercise/playground facility to the north. The west and north boundaries are delineated by a chain link fence. Not included are buildings associated with the school which because of their post-1941 construction dates are non-contributing.

## Endnotes

1. Preslar, Charles J., Jr., ed. A History of Catawba County, 1954, Compiled and Published by Catawba County Historical Association, Inc., p. 154.
2. Ibid, p. 150.
3. Ibid, p. 149.
4. Preslar on page 150 cites "State School Facts," published monthly by the State Department of Public Instruction.
5. Powell, William S. North Carolina, A History, 1977, New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., and Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, p. 183.
6. Ibid.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford Co.,  
NC

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8. Ibid., page 55.
9. Ibid., page 55.
10. Interview, John E. Batchelor.
11. Later increased to 24 acres. This became the site of the 1915 school building.
12. Miller, "Brief Sketch," and 1915 photograph brochure of the school.
13. Greensboro Daily News, February 19, 1915.
14. Ibid.
15. School Board Minutes, 3/3/15: "A petition was presented signed by more than 1/4 of the freeholders of the Jamestown special tax school district asking for an election to determine the will of the people whether bonds to an amount of \$15,000 shall be issued and sold." Apparently the election was a success.
16. School Board Minutes 3/13/15: "It was ordered that \$2,000 be appropriated from the building fund for the Jamestown school district to be paid in four years and earlier if possible, provided at least \$500 will be paid by September 1, 1915."
17. Information from page from chapter "Jamestown Public High School" in unidentified pamphlet in files of Jamestown Library, probably published ca. 1922 or ca. 1930.
18. Jobe paper.
19. Records of State Board of Education.
20. Photograph caption, 1915 brochure.
21. High Point Enterprise, September 21, 1915, page 6.
22. 1915 brochure.
23. Jamestown News, August 15, 1990.
24. Greensboro News & Record, September 23, 1990.
25. Jobe, paper.
26. School Board Minutes, 3/4/16.
27. Batchelor, page 104.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford Co.,  
NC

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29. Guilford County Deed Book 3485, page 1053, February 3, 1986.
30. Ibid.
31. Greensboro News & Record, 6/11/87.
32. McAlester, page 344.
33. Ibid., pages 345-346.
34. Bishir, N.C. Architecture, page 323.
35. Bishir et al, Architects & Builders, chapter by Brown, pages 285-286.
36. Raleigh Times, 10/25/18, page 6; and News & Observer, 10/28/18, page 3. Both supplied by David Black.
37. Interview, Charlotte Brown.
38. Personal Communication with Brown; also Bishir et al, Architects & Builders, chapter by Brown, page 338.
39. Wake County Death Certificate; also Raleigh Times, 10/25/18, page 6. Both provided by David Black.
40. News & Observer, 10/26/18, page 8. Provided by David Black.
41. Black & Black, Historic designation application (Raleigh Historic Properties Commission), Wake County Home, Raleigh.
42. Ibid., and Bishir, NC Architecture, page 376.
43. David Black, personal communication, and photograph from Heritage of Wake County, page 65.
44. Interview, Stephen Hunt Jobe, and Jamestown News, 7/12/89.
45. They built a hunting lodge for Percy Rockefeller near Fayetteville, according to article in Jamestown News, 7/12/89.
46. Interview, Stephen Hunt Jobe.
47. Invoices, framed and displayed in local archives room of Jamestown Library (former JHS).
48. Powell, p. 184.
49. Ibid., p. 185.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet 10.1

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property approx. 2.8 acres

UTM References

|   |                                 |                                      |  |   |                      |                      |                      |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
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|   | Zone                            | Easting                              | Northing                                 |   | Zone                 | Easting              | Northing             |
| C | <input type="text"/>            | <input type="text"/>                 | <input type="text"/>                     | D | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The property is all of parcel 3 in section 952 of Guilford County ACL Tax Map 94-7039. It is bounded on the south by Main Street, east by Ragsdale Road, west and north by chain link fence delineating current property line.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundaries include the 1915 building, the front and east side lawns, and the driveway from the east. The boundaries exclude a paved parking lot to the west and a modern exercise/playground facility to the north. The west and north boundaries are delineated by a chain link fence. The property consists of 2.8 acres of the original 24-acre school farm parcel which retains integrity and is historically and physically associated with the former Jamestown High School.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Langdon Edmunds Oppermann  
 organization Preservation and Planning Consultant date August 1991

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 9 Page 1 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford County, NC

## Books

Batchelor, John E. The Guilford County Schools: A History. Winston-Salem: John F. Blair Publishers, 1991.

Bishir, Catherine W. North Carolina Architecture. Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 1990.

Bishir, Catherine W., Charlotte V. Brown, Carl R. Lounsbury, Ernest H. Wood III, Architects and Builders in North Carolina: A History of the Practice of Building. Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 1990.

Lefler, Hugh Talmage, and Albert Ray Newsome. North Carolina: The History of a Southern State. Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press, second edition, 1963.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1989.

Powell, William S. North Carolina, A History. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., and Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1977.

Preslar, Charles J., Jr., ed. A History of Catawba County. Hickory: Compiled and Published by Catawba County Historical Association, Inc., 1954.

Wellman, Manly Wade, and Larry Edward Tise. Winston-Salem in History, Volume 3: Education. Winston-Salem: Historic Winston, 1976.

Whitener, Russell W. "The Growth and Development of Education in Catawba County." A thesis submitted to the faculty of the University of North Carolina in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in the Department of Education. Unpublished manuscript. Chapel Hill, 1924.

## Maps, Plats and Deeds

Guilford County Deed Book 3485, Book 1053, February 3, 1986.

Guilford County ACL Tax Map No. 94-7039-952-12.

Survey plat: "Property of Guilford County Board of Education--Jamestown Township" Truelove Engineers, December 1985.

Site plan drawings by Stephen Hunt Jobe.

Site plan drawings in Conditions report by Yelverton and Brewer.

## Newspapers

The Review (High Point)  
12/27/17

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 9 Page 2 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford County, NCGreensboro News & Record7/25/85  
12/11/86  
6/11/87  
10/6/88  
9/23/90 (Special Edition)High Point Enterprise5/6/15  
3/28/86  
2/5/91Jamestown News & Guilford Gazetteer8/27/80  
8/22/85  
9/5/85  
9/26/85  
10/17/85  
11/28/85  
12/18/86  
7/12/89  
8/15/90  
9/12/90Winston-Salem Journal

2/19/15

**Miscellaneous Documents**

Black and Black: Historic Property Designation Application for Wake County Home, Raleigh.

Documents and Photographs in the collection housed in the local history archives of the Jamestown Library.

Jobe, Stephen Hunt: unpublished manuscript; paper on adaptive reuse of Jamestown High School prepared as part of requirements for NCSU architectural conservation class, 1989.

National Register nomination, Roanoke Rapids High School, 1988.

Oppermann, Langdon E.: National Register Nomination for Highland School, Hickory, N.C., 1990.

Oppermann, Langdon E.: National Register Nomination for Lenoir High School, Lenoir, N.C., 1990.

Record of the Board of Education, Guilford County, 1913-1916.

Records of State Board of Education; special loan fund 1914-1915, box 40. 8/10/15 letter and application from JHS, provided by David Black.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 3 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford County, NC

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Subject files at Jamestown Library, Jamestown, NC

1915 school brochure, 3" x 6" with photographs and captions; in collection at archives room of Jamestown Library.

Yelverton, Donald, AIS, and Jerry Brewer, P.E.: Conditions Report on Jamestown High School, 1980.

**Interviews**

John E. Batchelor, author, The Guilford County Schools, A History.

David Black, preservation consultant who provided assistance and historic documents.

Terry Brooks, owner of Brooks Lumber Co and grandson of A. F. Brooks, Builder.

Charlotte Brown, co-author of Architects & Builders in North Carolina.

G. S. Carihfield, former JHS student and co-chairman of 1980s efforts to save, Stephen Hunt Jobe, great-grandson of W. B. Hunt, Builder.

Kathy Durbin, librarian at Jamestown Library in the former JHS building. rehabilitate and reuse the school building.

Melinda Faley, staff planner, Guilford County Joint Historic Properties Commission.

Jane Haney, staff of Mendenhall Plantation working on compilation of records of Jamestown's history.

Stephen Hunt Jobe, grandson of builder W.B. Hunt.

Dorothy Miller, local historian and former JHS teacher, school administrator, and co-chairman of 1980s efforts to save, rehabilitate and reuse the school building.

Jack Perdue, local historian and member, Guilford County Joint HPC.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number Photographs Page 1 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford County, NC

The following information is true for each of the six photographs which accompanies this nomination.

Name of property: (former) Jamestown High School  
Location: 200 West Main Street  
Jamestown, NC (Guilford County)  
Photographer: Langdon Edmunds Oppermann  
Date of Photo: July 1991  
Location of  
original negative: SHPO Office  
NC Division of Archives & History  
Raleigh, NC 27601

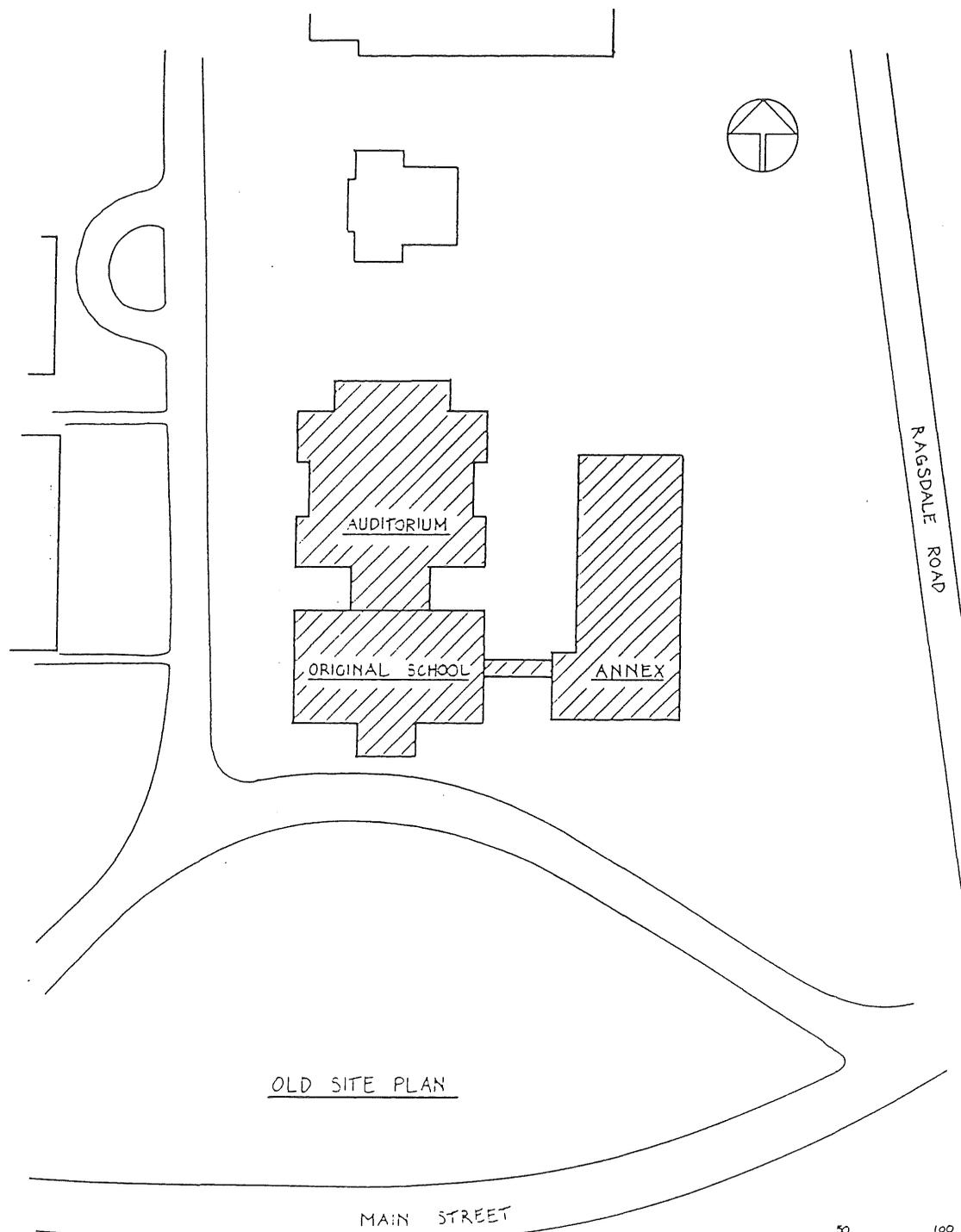
**Photo #** (Photograph numbers are keyed to sketch map showing  
location and direction of camera)

- 1 South (front) and East elevations  
Photographer facing NW
- 2 North (rear) and West elevations  
Photographer facing SE
- 3 Portico and front (S) entrance  
Photographer facing N
- 4 West (side) entrance showing ghostmarks of stair towers  
Photographer facing E
- 5 Interior E-W hall showing arch at junction of entrance hall  
Photographer facing SW
- 6 Interior showing reconstructed stairs between 1st and 2nd floor  
Photographer facing SE

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Exhibits Page 1 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford Co., NC

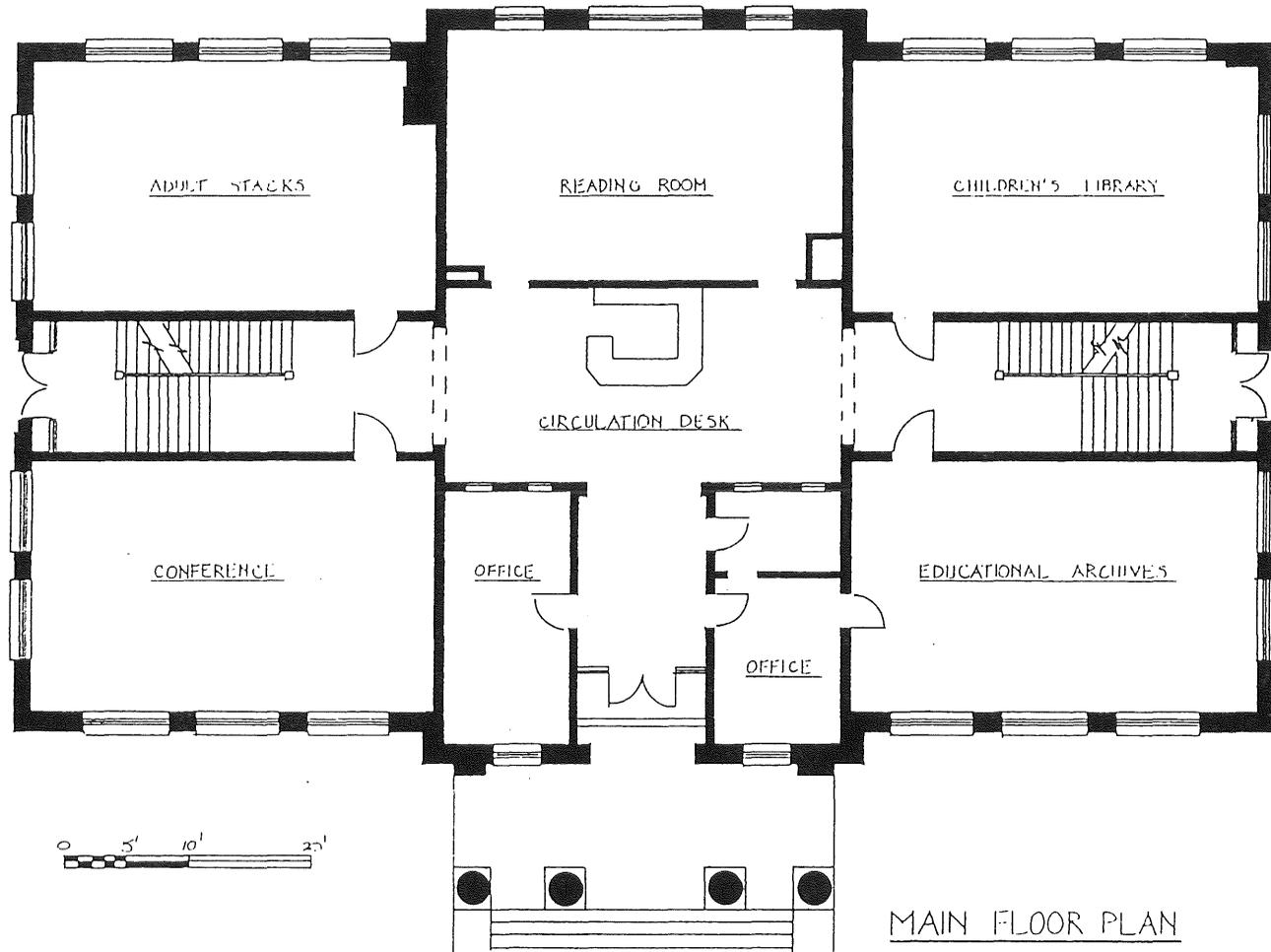


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Exhibits Page 2 (former) Jamestown High School, Guilford Co., NC

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MAIN FLOOR PLAN

Jamestown High School  
Jamestown, Guilford Co., NC

Zone 17

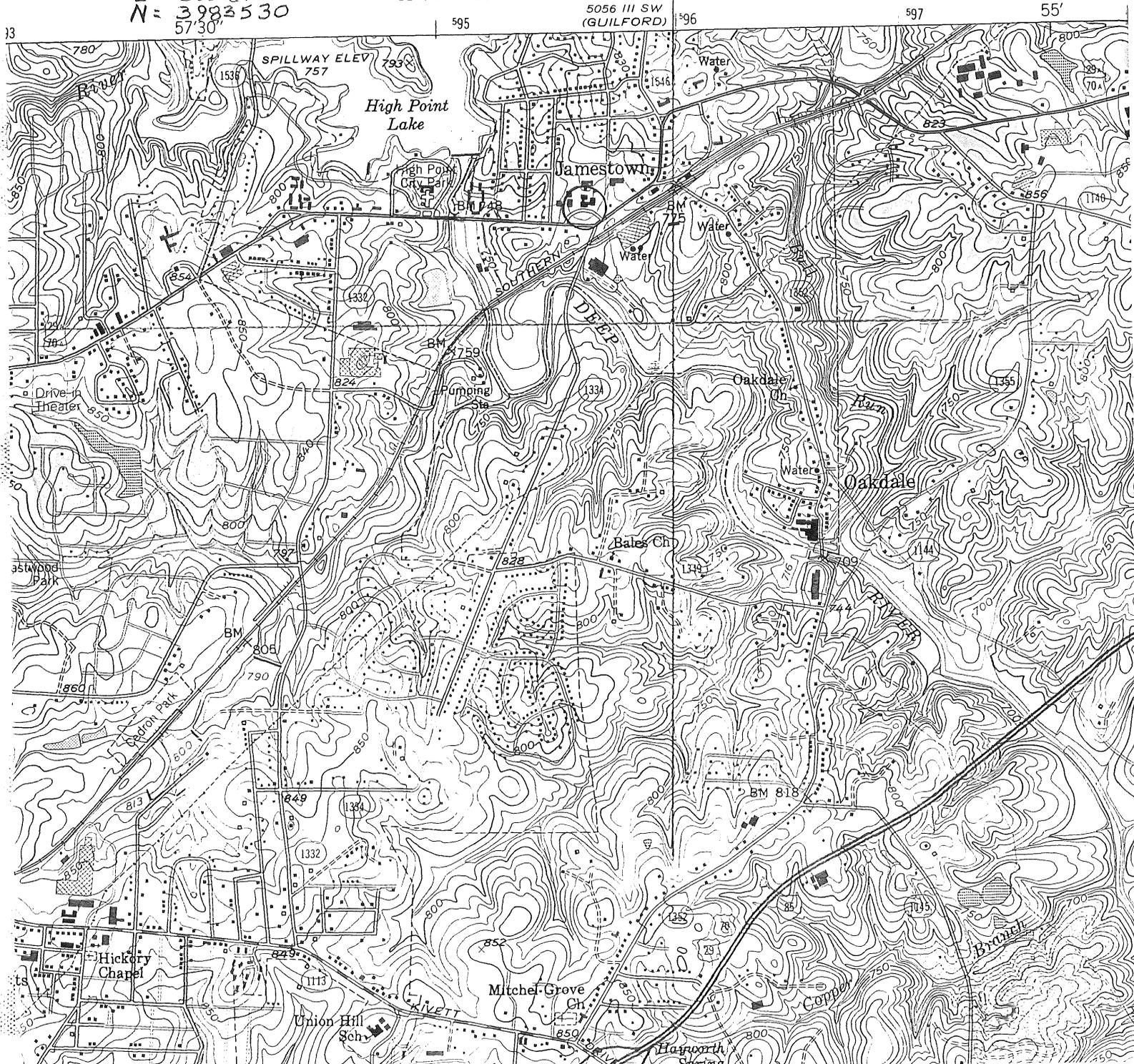
High Point East Quad STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

E = 595620  
N = 3983530

HIGHWAY AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

5056 III SW  
(GUILFORD)

GUILFORD COLLEGE 5.7 MI



(former) Jamestown High School  
 200 W. Main Street  
 Jamestown, Guilford Co., N.C.  
 ACL Tax Map No. 94-7039-952-3

