

NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
Office of Archives and History
Department of Cultural Resources

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Henrietta – Caroleen High School

Mooresboro vicinity (Avondale community), Rutherford County, RF0430, Listed 12/16/2005
Nomination by Heather Fearnbach
Photographs by Clay Griffith, November 2003

See photo at the end of the nomination

**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 Henrietta-Caroleen High School
other names/site number Tri-High, Tri-Community Elementary, Chase Middle School, Thomas Jefferson
Classical Academy

2. Location

street & number 2527 Highway 221A **N/A** not for publication
city or town Mooresboro vicinity
state North Carolina code NC county Rutherford code 161 zip code 28114

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 for 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.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date
North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain:)	_____	_____

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Name of Property

Rutherford County, NC
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	2	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
1	0	objects
3	2	Total

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

N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: School

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: School

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

CLASSICAL REVIVAL

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK
walls BRICK

roof ASPHALT
other CONCRETE
TERRA COTTA

Narrative Description

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

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Name of Property

Rutherford County, NC
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education
Architecture

Period of Significance

1925-1955

Significant Dates

1925, 1935, 1952, 1955

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Boney, Leslie N., Sr. - Architect

Palmer-Spivey Construction Company - Builder

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):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Name of Property

Rutherford County, NC
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 5 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>17</u>	<u>427394</u>	<u>3903880</u>	3	<u>17</u>	<u>427450</u>	<u>3903667</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>17</u>	<u>427541</u>	<u>3903748</u>	4	<u>17</u>	<u>427359</u>	<u>3903789</u>

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 Heather Fearnbach
organization Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc. date 8/15/2005
street & number 3334 Nottingham Road telephone 336-768-6551
city or town Winston-Salem state NC zip code 27104

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 Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy
street & number 2527 Highway 221A telephone 828-657-9998
city or town Mooresboro state NC zip code 28114

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 listing. 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 20303.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Rutherford County, NC

7. Narrative Description

The Henrietta-Caroleen High School (1925) is located between the mill villages of Henrietta and Caroleen in the community of Avondale in southeastern Rutherford County. The mailing address for the property is Mooresboro, five miles to the northeast in Cleveland County. The school, which sits high on a hill facing west towards Highway 221A, is situated in the southwestern corner of a 48-acre tax parcel, but only the five acres surrounding the school buildings are included the nominated parcel. A corrugated metal canopy supported by pipe columns extends from the north elevation of the school to the 1955 cafeteria and the 1966 classroom annex. A paved parking lot in the rear of the school separates the buildings from athletic fields. Deep ravines north and south of the school divide the campus from wooded sections of the property. A one-story classroom building was recently constructed southeast of the original school complex on an adjacent tax parcel.

The façade of the school, later known as Tri-High, Tri-Community Elementary and Chase Middle School, is accented by a few evergreen trees and shrubs planted along the foundation. A flagpole has recently been added to the grassy median in the middle of the circular drive in front of the school. In 1950 the Tri-Community Woman's Club planted maple trees along the southern edge of the school's entrance drive in memory of sixteen Tri-High School graduates who died in World War II. Four of the trees survive in addition to a commemorative marker.

The surrounding area contains a mix of industrial, religious and residential buildings. A Cone Mills plant and the remains of the Caroleen Mill Village border the northeastern edge of the school parcel. A second Cone Mills plant—the former Avondale Mills #2—fronts the school property to the southeast. The 1924 Avondale United Methodist Church is across Highway 221A on a hill southwest of the school and a variety of early to mid-twentieth century residences line the highway. The Caroleen-Henrietta Cemetery is located on four acres at the southeastern corner of the school property. Second Broad River meanders to the north and west of Highway 221A as it flows southward into South Carolina.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Rutherford County, NC

Henrietta-Caroleen High School 1925, 1935, 1952, Contributing Building

The Henrietta-Caroleen High School is a two-story-on-basement, T-plan, flat-roofed building. The school was executed in red brick laid in running bond with Classical Revival elements including a seven-part façade dominated by a monumental, two-story, portico with a denticulated pediment supported by fluted Corinthian columns. A glazed oculus is centered in the pediment. The double-leaf front door is surmounted by a fanlight and the large, symmetrically-arranged window openings have flat arches and cast-stone keys and sills. Fluted pilasters balance the entrance bay, which includes sidelights on either side of the entry and a flat-roofed hood with a metal balustrade over the door. Brick and concrete steps lead to the front entrance.

A cast-stone water table provides a break in the composition of each elevation at the top of the foundation wall. A cast-stone belt course encircles the building above the second-floor windows and a few feet below the projecting, denticulated, glazed terra cotta cornice. Cast-stone diamond medallions embellish the area between the cornice and the parapeted roofline, which is capped with glazed terra cotta coping. Recessed brick panels enliven the north and south elevations. The tall, corbelled, brick chimney projecting from the flat roof served the abandoned boiler in the basement. All of the original six-over-six wood sash windows throughout the building were replaced with one-over-one, two-over-two or six-part metal sash in 1977.¹ Modern single and double-leaf steel fire doors provide access to the sides and rear of the school.

The parapeted rear wall of the original building demarcates the beginning of the 1935 brick gymnasium addition behind the auditorium. The composition of the exterior elevations of the gym matches the original block of the school, although the rear wall of the gym has been painted white. A hip-roofed, concrete block, 1952 addition on the northern elevation of the gym contains dressing rooms for the students and the gym teacher's office.

¹ Fixed Asset Inventory Record Forms, Tri-Community School, Rutherford County Board of Education, Forest City, North Carolina.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Rutherford County, NC

The entry vestibule, which is flanked by administrative offices and the teacher's lounge, intersects with a transverse hall leading to the auditorium, five classrooms and restrooms on the first floor. Seven additional classrooms, a large library and restrooms are located on the second floor. The furnace room, three classrooms and a storage room occupy the basement. Prior to the construction of the cafeteria building in 1955, one of the first-floor classrooms served as the cafeteria. Two sets of stairs, one at each end of the building, provide access to all three levels of the school. The auditorium projects from the east elevation of the building and access to the gym addition is through the stage entrances.

The interior of the school retains hardwood floors, plaster walls, and simple wood baseboards, chair rails and door and window surrounds. The classrooms feature original blackboards, wood doors and six-light movable transoms. Dropped acoustical tile ceilings obscure the original ceiling material throughout the building. The auditorium contains original wood seating, an intact stage with beadboard wainscoting, a pressed tin ceiling and original pendant light fixtures. The gymnasium features built-in seating along the western wall and exposed steel roof trusses. The stair halls were lined with pressed brick and the original wood stairs replaced with steel stairs in the 1950s. The original septic tank was replaced by a sewage plant located northeast of the school buildings in 1967. All of the bathrooms in the school were renovated in 1978.²

Cafeteria 1955, 1967, Contributing Building

A corrugated metal canopy supported by pipe columns connects the school to the cafeteria and classroom annex, which are located northeast of the original school building. The cafeteria is a one-story, flat-roofed, rectangular, red brick building accented with a cast-stone water table. A narrow cast-stone belt course encircles the building below the metal casement windows and a wide cast-stone belt course encircles the building above the windows. Some of the original window openings have been enclosed with plywood siding. A 540-square foot storage room was added to the east elevation of the cafeteria in 1967.³

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Rutherford County, NC

World War II Commemorative Marker Circa 1950, Contributing Object

The Tri-Community Woman's Club planted maple trees along the southern edge of the school's entrance drive in memory of sixteen Tri-High School graduates who died in World War II. Four of the trees survive in addition to a flat bronze commemorative marker on a concrete base. The marker is 27 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches wide, 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep, 22 inches tall at the front and 30 inches tall at the back.

Classroom Annex 1966, Noncontributing Building

The classroom annex, located north of the cafeteria, is a one-story, flat-roofed, rectangular, red brick building. The interior of the building is characterized by concrete block walls, vinyl floors, exposed concrete ceiling joists and hollow-core doors. Double-leaf glass doors on the north and south elevations provide access to the building.

Maintenance Trailer 1980s, Noncontributing Building

A single-wide trailer located northeast of the original school building serves as the maintenance headquarters for the school.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Rutherford County, NC

Summary Statement

The Henrietta-Caroleen High School is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Education and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. Henrietta-Caroleen High School opened in 1925 and served the local community until 1999, first as a high school, then as an elementary school, and finally as a middle school. The building currently houses the Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy, a public charter school. Henrietta-Caroleen High School is significant for its role in the statewide school consolidation movement that resulted in the construction of hundreds of impressive brick facilities to replace modest frame schools. The building is also significant as a distinctive example of a Classical Revival-style school in Rutherford County. Leslie N. Boney, a Wilmington-based architect who designed approximately one thousand schools in fifty-four North Carolina counties, completed the plans for Henrietta-Caroleen High School in 1924. The Palmer-Spivey Construction Company of Charlotte built the school. The period of significance for Henrietta-Caroleen High School begins in 1925, when the building was completed and ends in 1955, with the construction of the cafeteria.

Historical Background and Education Context

Few educational opportunities were available to the children of Rutherford County before the Civil War. Public schools were established in 1842, but school terms were short and facilities primitive. Most of the public schools in the county were closed during the early years of Reconstruction, and private academies such as Rutherfordton, Oak Hill, Round Hill, Burnt Chimney and Westminster were too expensive for the average family. Although a provision to supplement additional funding for a countywide school system was defeated in an 1873 referendum, the legislature passed an act establishing the Rutherford County Board of Education in 1877. The first recorded meeting was in 1879, during which the board appointed committeemen for 106 school districts, 81 white and 25 black. Funding for school construction was meager until 1905, when money for school improvements such as new buildings, small libraries and higher teacher salaries was appropriated from the State Literary Fund.⁴

⁴ William B. Bynum, ed., *The Heritage of Rutherford County, Volume I* (Forest City: Genealogical Society of Old Tryon County, Inc., 1984), 61-62.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Rutherford County, NC

Charles Brantley Aycock, governor of North Carolina from 1900 to 1905, advocated extensive improvements in the state's public schools. His campaign for universal education resulted in the creation of the Central Committee for the Promotion of Public Education in North Carolina and stimulated the construction of eleven hundred new public schools across the state. As in most parts of rural North Carolina, schools in Rutherford County were modest frame buildings with few students and one or two teachers until the 1910s. In 1919, there were only two brick schools in county, in Forest City and Rutherfordton. By 1920 improvements in the road system throughout the county made the consolidation of more students in larger, improved school facilities a possibility. In 1922 there were 9,000 white school children and 240 white teachers in Rutherford County. Eight consolidated school buildings were in use, and sixteen school buses transported students to classes.⁵

On January 17, 1924, *The Sun* reported on the educational wave sweeping Rutherford County: "Many new schoolhouses were completed last year, while others are under consideration. The attendance in all our schools is the best in the history of the county. Practically all schools in the county are crowded." The article detailed plans for the consolidation of township schools and urged readers to support local school bond issues. Special school bond elections were held in each school district—a notice for the Henrietta-Caroleen School District election appeared in *The Sun* on May 15, 1924. The majority of voters in the community supported the proposed \$150,000 school bond to erect a new high school between Henrietta and Caroleen, enlarge an existing school in Henrietta for use as an elementary school and build a new elementary school in Caroleen. Previously, Henrietta Mills had subsidized the cost of school buildings and teacher salaries in conjunction with the Rutherford County Board of Education in these communities.⁶

⁵ *The Rutherford County News*, Rutherfordton, North Carolina, February 14, 1929; "Progress of the Schools," *The Courier*, Forest City, North Carolina, November 23, 1922.

⁶ "Educational Wave Sweeping County," *The Sun*, Rutherfordton, North Carolina, January 17, 1924; "Notice of Special School Bond Election," *The Sun*, May 15, 1924; Clarence W. Griffin, "Rutherford County Schools," In *Essays on North Carolina History* (Forest City: The Forest City Courier, 1951), 206.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Rutherford County, NC

Bids for all three construction projects were received in August of 1924, and work was soon underway. The contract for the Henrietta-Caroleen High School was let in September. The installation of a new heating plant in the Henrietta Elementary School was the top construction priority as the winter months approached. On April 30, 1925, *The Courier* reported that “the extensive program of the Henrietta-Caroleen school district is nearing completion.” Articles in *The Sun* and *The Courier* in late July of 1925 mentioned the terracing of the school grounds, which would be further improved with grass and shrubs in time for the opening of school in September.⁷

Henrietta-Caroleen High School opened on September 8, 1925. Heywood Thompson was the first principal, and his faculty consisted of four female teachers. Seventh through twelfth graders were instructed in math by Minnie Lee Fagan, English by Phebe Day, French and Latin by Margaret Doggett and history by Berta Lee High. J. B. Jones served as superintendent of the Henrietta-Caroleen school system.⁸

On October 8, 1925, *The Courier* reported that “the consolidation program which is probably more than seventy-five percent complete has made it possible for a large majority of Rutherford County children to attend splendidly equipped modern school buildings where there is every facility for their proper instruction.”⁹ In 1926 seventy-five percent of the county’s 12,787 school age children attended classes. Six high schools in the county were accredited: Cliffside, Cool Springs, Ellenboro, Henrietta-Caroleen, Rutherfordton-Spindale-Ruth and Mt. Vernon.¹⁰ By 1927, the number of school districts had been reduced to seventy-four as a result of the improvement in Rutherford County

⁷ “School Opens 1st Henrietta-Caroleen,” *The Sun*, August 28, 1924; “School Contracts Let,” *The Sun*, October 2, 1924; “Interesting News from Henrietta,” *The Sun*, December 4, 1924; “Henrietta-Caroleen Consolidated School is Now Nearing Completion,” *The Courier*, April 30, 1925; “Beautifying Grounds,” *The Sun*, July 23, 1925; “Work on Henrietta School Progressing,” *The Courier*, July 30, 1925.

⁸ “Henrietta-Caroleen Schools Open Soon,” *The Sun*, August 27, 1925.

⁹ “Public Schools Open Oct. 19,” *The Courier*, October 8, 1925

¹⁰ “The Public Schools of Rutherford County,” *The Courier*, July 1, 1926.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Rutherford County, NC

roads and the statewide school consolidation effort.¹¹ In 1929, an article in *The Rutherford County News* reported that twenty-four modern brick schools built since 1918 housed the majority of the students in the county.¹²

A. C. Lovelace, the superintendent of the Henrietta-Caroleen School District in 1930, employed six teachers at the Henrietta-Caroleen High School in 1930. The subjects offered to the 131 students enrolled that year in the eighth through eleventh grades included English, math, civics, history, French, science, home economics, bookkeeping, stenography and typing. Classes began at 8:25 in the morning and let out at 3:30 in the afternoon.¹³

The new Henrietta-Caroleen school system retained some ties to the Henrietta Mills Company. The library from the old school above the Caroleen Mill Store became the core of the library at the new high school.¹⁴ Henrietta Mills provided electric power for all three schools, and maintained ownership of the tracts of land containing the new school buildings until 1953, when the property was deeded to the Rutherford County Board of Education. By that time the Henrietta-Caroleen High School was known as the Henrietta-Caroleen-Avondale High School, or Tri-High.¹⁵

¹¹ William B. Bynum, ed., *The Heritage of Rutherford County, Volume I*, 62.

¹² *The Rutherford County News*, February 14, 1929.

¹³ "Principal's Annual High School Report for the Year 1929-1930, Henrietta-Caroleen High School," (Raleigh: State Department of Public Instruction, Division of Instructional Services, 1930).

¹⁴ William B. Bynum, ed., *The Heritage of Rutherford County, Volume I*, 38.

¹⁵ "Henrietta-Caroleen-Avondale, Rutherford County, Operation of Plant and Sanitation Survey of North Carolina Public Schools," (Raleigh: State School Commission and State Board of Health, 1940), 2, 7; Rutherford County Deeds, Office of the Register of Deeds, Rutherford County Courthouse, Rutherfordton, North Carolina.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Rutherford County, NC

Chase High School was completed in 1960, further consolidating the county school system. "Chase" is an acronym for all of the communities served by the new school: "C" for Caroleen and Cliffside, "H" for Henrietta and Harris, "A" for Avondale, "S" for Shiloh and "E" for everyone else.¹⁶ Tri-High became Tri-Community Elementary School and eventually was utilized as Chase Middle School. In 1999 a new middle school replaced the old campus and Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy, a public charter school, took over the deed. Approximately 320 students attended the academy in 2003, the same size student body of the 1939-40 school year.¹⁷

Architecture Context

The former Henrietta-Caroleen High School is one of three extant Rutherford County high school buildings constructed in 1924-1925 at the height of the statewide school consolidation movement. Henrietta-Caroleen High School, Rutherfordton-Spindale Central High School and Cool Springs High School have remained in continuous use by the Rutherford County School Board since their construction. All have functioned in a variety of capacities: Henrietta-Caroleen is now a public charter school, Rutherfordton-Spindale is a middle school, and Cool Springs serves as the administrative office for Rutherford County Schools.

Consolidated schools constructed during the 1920s across North Carolina incorporated new design standards intended to result in fireproof, sanitary buildings. The Division of Schoolhouse Planning in the Department of Public Instruction provided standardized plans and advice for the construction of the schools. Most school systems then hired architects to design imposing brick, concrete and stone facilities, often with Classical Revival or Gothic Revival elements, to replace modest, one- and two-room, frame

¹⁶ William B. Bynum, ed., *The Heritage of Rutherford County, Volume I*, 38.

¹⁷ "Henrietta-Caroleen-Avondale, Rutherford County, Operation of Plant and Sanitation Survey of North Carolina Public Schools," 2.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Rutherford County, NC

schools. Floor plans allowed for wide bands of windows to illuminate classrooms, libraries, auditoriums and gymnasiums. The new school designs also incorporated central heating plants, multiple bathrooms and cafeterias.

The brick consolidated schools built in Rutherford County in the 1920s reflected these statewide trends. Half a million dollars in school bonds provided the seed money for the construction of a series of consolidated schools throughout the county beginning in 1924. By 1929, twenty-four new brick schools designed by a number of architects housed the majority of elementary through high school-age students.¹⁸

Louis Humbert Asbury Sr., a Charlotte architect, designed Cliffside Public School for Charles Henry Haynes, the president of Cliffside Mills, in 1920. Cliffside, constructed to house all grades of the mill employees' children, was the first modern school building in Rutherford County. Its imposing, Classical Revival-style, brick façade, dominated by a pedimented portico supported by massive paired columns, was an important architectural predecessor of the consolidated schools built in the county during the 1920s.¹⁹

Asbury also designed Rutherford County's Cool Springs High School, a very similar building, just a few years later. Forest City's burgeoning population made the construction of a new consolidated high school a priority only two years after the completion of a new school for all grades in 1922. H. A. Kistler constructed the Classical Revival-style high school, which opened to students in September of 1925.²⁰

Leslie N. Boney Sr., an architect based in Wilmington, North Carolina, designed Henrietta-Caroleen High School in 1924. The building, with its seven-part façade, symmetrical window placement and monumental pedimented portico, was similar to

¹⁸ *The Rutherford County News*, February 14, 1929.

¹⁹ Davyd Foard Hood, "Cliffside Public School," National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1997.

²⁰ Davyd Foard Hood, "Cool Springs High School," National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1999.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Rutherford County, NC

other consolidated schools designed by Boney during the 1920s. Boney's first school commission was for the 1919 New Hanover High School in Wilmington, one of the first fireproof high schools in North Carolina. That commission was the beginning of a long career in school planning and design, resulting in his involvement with over one thousand school projects in fifty-four North Carolina counties before his death in 1964.²¹

Rutherford-Spindale Central High School, also built during 1924-25, is one of only three known school buildings designed by Hugh Edward White of the Gastonia firm of White, Streeter and Chamberlain. Like Cliffside, Henrietta-Caroleen and Cool Springs, Rutherfordton-Spindale Central High School is a monumental two-story, brick building with Classical Revival design elements. However, the L-shaped plan of the school is markedly different from the more traditional T-shaped plans of other contemporary Rutherford County high schools.²²

Like Cool Springs and Rutherfordton-Spindale Central, Henrietta-Caroleen High School was a product of the statewide school consolidation movement that resulted in the construction of hundreds of impressive brick facilities to replace modest frame schools. The distinctive Classical Revival style of these schools often makes them civic landmarks. The 1935 gymnasium addition reflects the incorporation of athletic facilities into school buildings during that period, while the plain, utilitarian, 1955 cafeteria building is a product of the school system's concern with providing separate, modern, sanitary food service areas for North Carolina students during the 1950s.

²¹ "Leslie N. Boney, Architect." http://www.boneyarchitects.com/pages/boney/the_beginning.jsp

²² Davyd Foard Hood, "Rutherford-Spindale Central High School," National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1992.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 12

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Rutherford County, NC

9. Bibliography

Bynum, William B., ed. *The Heritage of Rutherford County, Volume I*. Forest City: Genealogical Society of Old Tryon County, Inc., 1984.

The Courier, Forest City, North Carolina, 1922-1926.

Fixed Asset Inventory Record Forms, Tri-Community School, Rutherford County Board of Education, Forest City, North Carolina.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9, 10 Page 13

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Rutherford County, NC

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10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property includes approximately five acres of Rutherford County tax parcels 1616895 and 1616892, as indicated on the enclosed survey map #413 (scale 1"=200').

Boundary Justification

The nominated tract contains the historic buildings and WWII commemorative marker associated with the former Henrietta-Caroleen High School and provides a historically appropriate setting for the school. U. S. Highway 221A forms the north and west boundaries of the tract, the southern boundary is at the top of a ravine and the eastern boundary follows the change in elevation at the rear of the school, encompassing the flat plateau upon which the complex is situated. The majority of the remainder of the tax parcel is undeveloped and wooded.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number **Photos** Page 14

Henrietta-Caroleen High School
Rutherford County, NC

Photograph Catalog

All photos by Clay Griffith of Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc., on November 14, 2003. Negatives located at the North Carolina HPO.

1. Henrietta-Caroleen High School Façade (West Elevation)
2. Side (South) Elevation
3. Classroom
4. Auditorium
5. Cafeteria
6. World War II Commemorative Marker
7. Classroom Annex

