

Identifying and Evaluating Rosenwald School Facilities Recommended for Inclusion in a National Historical Park

The Campaign To Create a Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park



August 2021

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION

This report is dedicated to the men and women in nearly 5,000 African American communities in 15 Southern states who were determined to provide for their children the education they had been denied. Already paying taxes for poor or non-existent schools, they eagerly partnered with the Rosenwald Fund, digging deep and giving generously of time, energy, land, and money. Their efforts helped to “make a way out of no way” and provided a better life for their children and descendants. They were key to making the partnership started by Booker T. Washington and Julius Rosenwald an amazing American success story.

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Executive Summary

The Rosenwald Schools Building Program began in 1912 through a partnership between Booker T. Washington, principal of the Tuskegee Institute and a seminal figure in African American education, and Julius Rosenwald, president of Sears, Roebuck and Co. and one of the most prominent philanthropists in early twentieth-century America. During the program's "Tuskegee Phase" (1912-1920), Tuskegee architects developed a set of initial school prototypes that were formally published in 1915 and used to construct schools in Alabama and other southern states. After 1920, the program came under the direction of the Julius Rosenwald Fund, and was administered out of the Fund's Nashville office. Fund architects in Nashville continued to introduce new school building types between 1924 and 1931. By the end of the program in 1932, Rosenwald had helped fund the construction of 4,977 schools, 217 teacher homes and 163 shops for African American children in 15 states across the American South. More than 663,000 pupils in 15 states attended these schools, accounting for one third of African American students in public schools in the South.¹ A significant number of those students attended college, had successful careers and were influential in the Civil Rights Movement.

None of this would have been possible without the nearly 5,000 African American communities that thirsted for education for their children. Already paying taxes for little or even no education, they still wanted Rosenwald Schools for their communities and dug deep to get them. In addition to being important educational institutions, the schools also served as community centers that were sources of pride and cohesiveness.

The Rosenwald Park Campaign (hereinafter cited as Campaign) was founded in 2016 to promote the establishment of the Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park. The mission of the planned park would be to interpret the life and legacy of Julius Rosenwald and the enormous impact of the thousands of schools he helped build had on African American education in the twentieth century. As envisioned by the Campaign, the park would include a visitor center in Chicago and a representative sample of Rosenwald Schools, to be selected by National Park Service. A key milestone for the Campaign and Rosenwald Schools was achieved on January 13, 2021, when President Trump signed into law The Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools Act of 2020, directing the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the sites associated with the life and legacy of Julius Rosenwald, with special emphasis on the Rosenwald Schools, and to determine the most appropriate way to commemorate this significant aspect of American history.

Among the earliest efforts of the Campaign was to identify extant school properties to potentially be included in the National Park designation. These recommendations were solicited and received from State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs) in 14 of the 15 southern states in which Rosenwald Schools were constructed (Missouri did not recommend any schools for reasons discussed later in this report). Working with the SHPOs, the Campaign developed a set of selection criteria to provide an objective framework for the evaluation and selection process. Included among the criteria were architectural and historical integrity, intact physical contexts, fidelity to the most representative school types, presence of an existing condition assessment or historic structure report, existence of community support, and listing in the National Register of Historic Places. By the end of 2017, the SHPOs had recommended 56 school facilities for inclusion in the park based on the selection criteria.

¹ Mary S. Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South* (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2014), 272, Appendix 2.

In conducting its evaluation of the 56 recommended Rosenwald School facilities, members of the Campaign's Schools Evaluation Subcommittee visited 33 Rosenwald Schools and one teacherage in 12 states between January 2018 and October 2019. Additional site visits were postponed in the Spring of 2020 due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 34 school facilities visited by the Campaign, which are discussed in detail in this report, represent the principal property types historically associated with the Rosenwald Schools Building Program. The schools, of both frame and masonry construction, were mostly built after 1920, although two rare Tuskegee Phase examples are included. The visited schools are primarily located in rural or suburban settings, although several later examples are found in urban settings. Local African American communities have played a vital role in the stewardship and restoration of these schools, particularly alumni groups, non-profit organizations, and churches. A number of those schools now serve as community/cultural centers and museums and are highly valued. In some instances, generations of individual families are represented in a given school's history, and have been actively involved in that school's preservation and interpretation. All but four of the schools are either individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places or are contributing resources within National Register Historic Districts. Importantly, five schools have significant associations with the history of the Civil Rights Movement, creating opportunities for interpretive programming. In addition, the majority of school facilities are located within close proximity to existing NPS park units.

The 2018 historic context study performed by EHT Tracerics concluded that Julius Rosenwald and the Rosenwald Schools were of national historic significance and that a Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park would be an important enhancement to the National Park System. The information developed by the Campaign on the 55 Rosenwald Schools and one teacher home recommended for possible inclusion in the park, through its visits to 34 of those facilities and from contacts with support groups for still other Rosenwald Schools, provide additional evidence for those two conclusions. Establishment of the National Historical Park would help ensure the continued preservation of these important cultural resources and highlight the positive, but little known, story of a partnership that helped shape American history in the twentieth century and beyond.

Introduction

Background on the Rosenwald Park Campaign

The Campaign seeks to honor and preserve the important contributions to American history by the innovative businessman and inspiring philanthropist Julius Rosenwald. The Campaign's mission is to have the Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park created with a small number of Rosenwald Schools in their original locations in the south and a visitor center in Rosenwald's home city of Chicago. All sites will be selected by the National Park Service (NPS).

The Campaign began in July 2016, when representatives of the National Parks Conservation Association (NCPA) and National Trust for Historic Preservation (National Trust) held a meeting to plot a course forward for establishing the projected National Historical Park. One impetus for the meeting was the inspiring documentary *Rosenwald* by the Washington, D.C., filmmaker Aviva Kempner. The other was the long-standing work of the National Trust to preserve and restore Rosenwald Schools throughout the southern states following its listing of Rosenwald Schools

as among “America’s 11 Most Endangered Historic Places” in 2002. The Campaign currently has a highly accomplished and diverse Board of Directors consisting of 15 dedicated and productive volunteers and an Advisory Council of respected experts.

The future park will honor and interpret Rosenwald’s contributions to modern business practices at Sears, Roebuck & Co., the breadth of his philanthropy and the key concepts that informed his approach to giving. In particular, Rosenwald’s support and partnerships in advancing African American rights and education in early twentieth century America will be highlighted, with a significant focus on the key impact of Rosenwald Schools on the education of African American children in the southern states.

Since 2016, the Campaign has taken a number of significant steps to advance its goal of having the Park established. As a key first step, beginning in early 2017, the Campaign worked with experts in the 15 states in which the Rosenwald Schools were constructed to develop criteria for assessing Rosenwald Schools for possible recommendation for inclusion in the park. It then solicited recommendations of up to five Rosenwald Schools from the State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs) in each of those states. All 15 states responded. Missouri did not recommend any schools because only four facilities were built there; three no longer existed, and the fourth was not being used in a manner suitable for recommendation. As a result, 14 states recommended 55 Rosenwald Schools and one teacher’s home for evaluation for possible inclusion in the park.

After the recommendations were received, members of the Campaign’s Schools Evaluation Subcommittee reviewed the 56 facilities and began to visit a subset of them. As part of the visits, members photographically documented the facilities and surveyed their current conditions. To date, the members have visited 34 of these facilities in 12 states. The further site visits were postponed by the onset of the COVID-19 crisis in 2020.

In June 2019, Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Representative Danny Davis (D-IL) jointly introduced the Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools Study Act (S. 1863/H.R. 3250), requiring the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the sites associated with the life and legacy of Julius Rosenwald with special emphasis on the Rosenwald Schools and to determine the most appropriate way to commemorate this important chapter in American history. Over 40 non-profit organizations representing a broad spectrum of constituencies expressed official support for this legislation.²

In October 2019, Robert Stanton, Vice President of the Campaign Board and former NPS Director, testified in support of the House legislation at a hearing of the National Parks Subcommittee of the House Natural Resources Committee. By June 2020, the draft legislation had gained 43 cosponsors in the House and nine in the Senate. The bipartisan support represented 17 states and the District of Columbia, reflecting broad national backing for the initiative.³ On December 17, 2020, the House passed H.R. 3250 by a vote of 387 to five, and on December 21 the Senate passed the same bill by unanimous consent. The late Representative John Lewis (D-GA), who attended a Rosenwald School in Alabama, was one of the eight original co-sponsors for the legislation.⁴ On January 13, 2021, the President signed the Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools Act of 2020 into law.⁵

2 Rosenwald Parks Campaign, “A Key Step Forward for the Rosenwald Campaign,” email communication, June 17, 2019.

3 Rosenwald Parks Campaign, Spring 2020 Newsletter.

4 Rosenwald Parks Campaign, “Breaking News: Congress Passes Rosenwald Legislation,” email communication, December 22, 2020.

5 Rosenwald Parks Campaign, “Breaking News: President Signs Rosenwald Legislation,” email communication,

Prior to this important milestone, the Campaign produced two reports to help inform the planning process for the creation of the Park. The first of these reports, an historic context study prepared by EHT Traceries in 2018, concluded that Julius Rosenwald and the Rosenwald Schools are of national historic significance and that a National Historical Park would be an important enhancement to the National Parks System.⁶ It also provided an overview of the life and philanthropy of Julius Rosenwald, the Rosenwald Schools Building Program, notable Rosenwald School alumni and recipients of fellowships from the Julius Rosenwald Fund, building typologies, and summary information on the 56 facilities recommended by the SHPOs. In August 2020, the Campaign issued a second report prepared by Julia Bachrach and Elizabeth Patterson on five sites in Chicago that are potential candidates for the National Historical Park's visitor center.⁷ The Campaign forwarded the reports to the NPS following passage of the legislation. The current report has been prepared to assist the NPS in its evaluation of the 56 facilities and to help expedite the process leading to establishment of the National Historical Park.

Contents of Report

Building on the past efforts, this report traces the history of the Rosenwald Schools Building Program, presents the criteria and process developed by the Campaign for SHPOs to use to make recommendations of Rosenwald Schools in their states for possible inclusion in the ultimate National Historical Park, and presents data on the 56 facilities recommended by the 14 states, with particular emphasis on the subset of 34 facilities visited by members of the Campaign Schools Evaluation Subcommittee. It is intended that this report will serve as a resource for the NPS in its evaluation of these sites in its special resource study and help create the ultimate Park.

First the report provides an overview of the three principal historical phases of the Rosenwald Schools Building Program, beginning with the Rosenwald-Booker T. Washington Partnership (1912-1915); the Rosenwald Rural School Building Program at Tuskegee (Tuskegee Phase), which resulted in the first series of school designs and over 600 schools (1912-1920); and the Nashville Phase (1920-1932), the final period of the program's history when the greatest number of schools were built.

Next, the report documents the Campaign's methodology for identifying and assessing candidate Rosenwald Schools. Discussed is the coordination among the Campaign and state experts in developing consensus criteria for the SHPOs to use in recommending candidate schools to the Campaign. This is followed by a discussion of the 56 Rosenwald School facilities recommended to the Campaign by 14 states. Thereafter, information is presented on the process used by the Campaign to select the 34 facilities to visit and the information gained through those visits and various reference sources. Key findings and conclusions developed through the overall process are presented, as well as a brief discussion of support groups for other Rosenwald Schools that have interest in the National Historical Park. The table summarizing information on the 56 recommended Rosenwald School facilities, and the checklist tables prepared on all the facilities visited by the Campaign are located in the separate appendices document that accompanies this report.

January 13, 2021.

6 Access the 2018 report [here](#).

7 Rosenwald Parks Campaign, Summer 2020 Newsletter. Access the 2020 report [here](#).

Overview History of Rosenwald Schools

Rosenwald-Washington Partnership, 1912-1915



Figure 1: Rosenwald and Washington, undated photo (African American Intellectual Historical Society).

Julius Rosenwald was one of the most successful figures in American business during the first half of the twentieth century. Guided by his faith and convictions, he used his vast wealth to better the lives of those less fortunate. The son of German Jewish immigrant parents, Rosenwald was born in 1862 in Springfield, Illinois. He left high school prior to graduating to learn the clothing trade from his uncles in New York.⁸ He later moved to Chicago and established a successful clothing manufacturing business during the 1880s with his brother and cousin. Rosenwald split a one-half interest with his brother-in-law Aaron Nussbaum in Sears, Roebuck & Company in 1895 after Alvah Roebuck decided to withdraw from the firm. Partnering with entrepreneur Richard Sears, he eventually assumed the role of president of the vast mail order mercantile company following Sears' retirement in 1908, overseeing its rapid growth during the early years of the twentieth century and becoming one of the wealthiest men in America.⁹

Julius Rosenwald's main philanthropic activities began during the early 1900s with small contributions to local organizations and grew significantly over the following decades. The scope of his philanthropy was extensive, and Rosenwald donated to causes such as the Jane Addams Hull House, Jewish charities both in the U.S. and in Europe, and the University of Chicago. Rosenwald became increasingly interested in race issues in 1910 after reading *Up from Slavery*, the

⁸ Peter M. Ascoli, *Julius Rosenwald: The Man Who Built Sears, Roebuck and Advanced the Cause of Black Education in the South* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006), 1-3.

⁹ Lawrence P. Bachmann, "Julius Rosenwald," *American Jewish Historical Quarterly* 66, no. 1 (September 1976): 89-90; Ascoli, 5-7, 21-25.

autobiography of Booker T. Washington, which provides an account of the Black educator's life, struggles, and accomplishments. In addition, *An American Citizen: The Life of William H. Baldwin Jr.*, by John Graham Brooks, was especially influential. Baldwin, a close friend of Booker T. Washington, was a railroad executive and philanthropist who had served on the board of the Tuskegee Institute. Inspired by these books, Rosenwald became involved in the effort to construct YMCAs for African Americans and established a challenge grant program that resulted in the construction of new facilities in 24 cities across the country.¹⁰

In May 1911, Rosenwald met Booker T. Washington in Chicago and joined the Board of Trustees of the Tuskegee Institute that December, after first visiting the campus with a number of family members and associates. In August 1912, in honor of his fiftieth birthday, Rosenwald donated \$675,000 to a number of charities. Tuskegee received \$25,000. Washington recommended that \$2800 of that amount be used to fund the building of six rural schools in Alabama near Tuskegee for African American children in communities with either no schools or woefully inadequate schools. Rosenwald agreed to fund a significant portion of the costs of each school as long as there were contributions by the local communities.

Thereafter, Rosenwald and Washington collaborated closely on the building of rural schools for African American children and became good friends. The relationship ended in November 1915 with the unexpected death of Washington.

Tuskegee Phase, 1912-1920

In addition to contributions from local African American communities, the Rosenwald Schools building program was initially funded personally by Julius Rosenwald, and from 1917 onward by the Julius Rosenwald Fund. The program was administered by Clinton J. Calloway at the Tuskegee Institute department of extension from 1912 to 1920.

The first school plans were developed by Robert R. Taylor, the first African American to graduate from the architecture program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Booker T. Washington recruited Taylor in 1892, who eventually rose to become vice president of the Institute. In designing the early Rosenwald schools, Taylor was assisted by William A. Hazel, head of Tuskegee's architectural and mechanical drawing division, and famed botanist George Washington Carver of the Department of Agricultural Research, who provided material on school grounds, gardens, and demonstration plots.¹¹



Figure 2: Early Rosenwald School in Alabama (The Negro Rural School and Its Relation to the Community).

The first six schools were built in 1913 and 1914. Construction materials for the wood-frame schools were locally sourced and Sears' Modern Homes Division provided pre-fabricated components such

¹⁰ Ascoli, 78-85.

¹¹ Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, 36, 52-53; Richard Dozier, "The Black Architectural Experience in America," *AIA Journal* 65, no. 7 (July 1976): 164-66.

as window sashes, doors, and hardware. The first school constructed was located in Loachapoka, Alabama (demolished). Completed in 1913, it cost \$942.50, of which Rosenwald contributed \$300. State and county authorities were required to maintain the school as a part of the public school system.¹²

In 1914 Rosenwald contributed \$30,000 toward the construction of an additional 100 schools through challenge grants, each grant being no greater than \$300. By 1915, the expanding program was becoming regional in extent. That year, the Tuskegee executive council approved fourteen more Alabama counties as possible recipients for Rosenwald school aid, and agreed to accept applications from Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, and Tennessee. In establishing architectural guidelines for the program, the Tuskegee staff developed three initial building types: one- and two-teacher schools, consolidated schools, and county training schools that served a wide geographic area. The plans developed by the Tuskegee staff were published in a 1915 pamphlet titled *The Rural Negro School and its Relation to the Community*.¹³

Booker T. Washington died on November 15, 1915, at which time there were 78 Rosenwald Schools either completed or under construction in three Southern states, but the Rosenwald-Tuskegee school building program continued. In 1916 Rosenwald contributed funds to help build another 200 schools through challenge grants, again allotting a maximum of \$300 per school. In 1917 Rosenwald established the Julius Rosenwald Fund for the “well being of mankind.” Over time, Tuskegee staff became overwhelmed by the scale of the rapidly growing program and were unable to adequately supervise individual construction projects. In 1919, Rosenwald instituted a temporary freeze on all new school construction and conducted a review of the program’s finances and projects. He also hired Fletcher B. Dresslar, professor of school hygiene and architecture at Nashville’s George Peabody College, to review the program’s architectural standards and to audit schools under construction in six states. As of 1920 there 640 Rosenwald Schools.¹⁴

Nashville Phase and Termination of the Program, 1920-1932

In 1920, control of the program formally transferred from Tuskegee to the Julius Rosenwald Fund and was mainly administered through a new office in Nashville, overseen by director Samuel L. Smith, who had formerly served as the Tennessee agent for Negro schools. Smith had a strong track record of building Rosenwald Schools. Under a new plan he developed, the Fund’s officers in Chicago and Nashville would coordinate with state departments of education and their agents for Negro schools. The plan also implemented stricter requirements and construction standards for new schools, and offered larger grants for

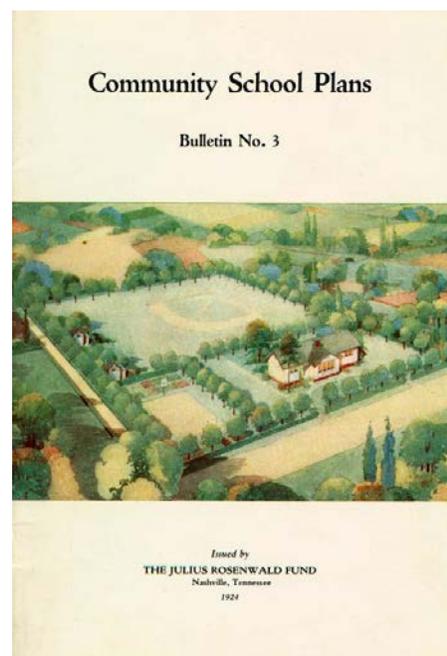


Figure 3: Cover of *Community School Plans*, 1924 (Hathi Trust Digital Library)

12 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, 35-38; Finkelstein, 30-33.

13 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, 50-57; Finkelstein, 30-33.

14 Ascoli, 151, Finkelstein, 35-36, Hoffschwelle, 74-79, Appendix 3.

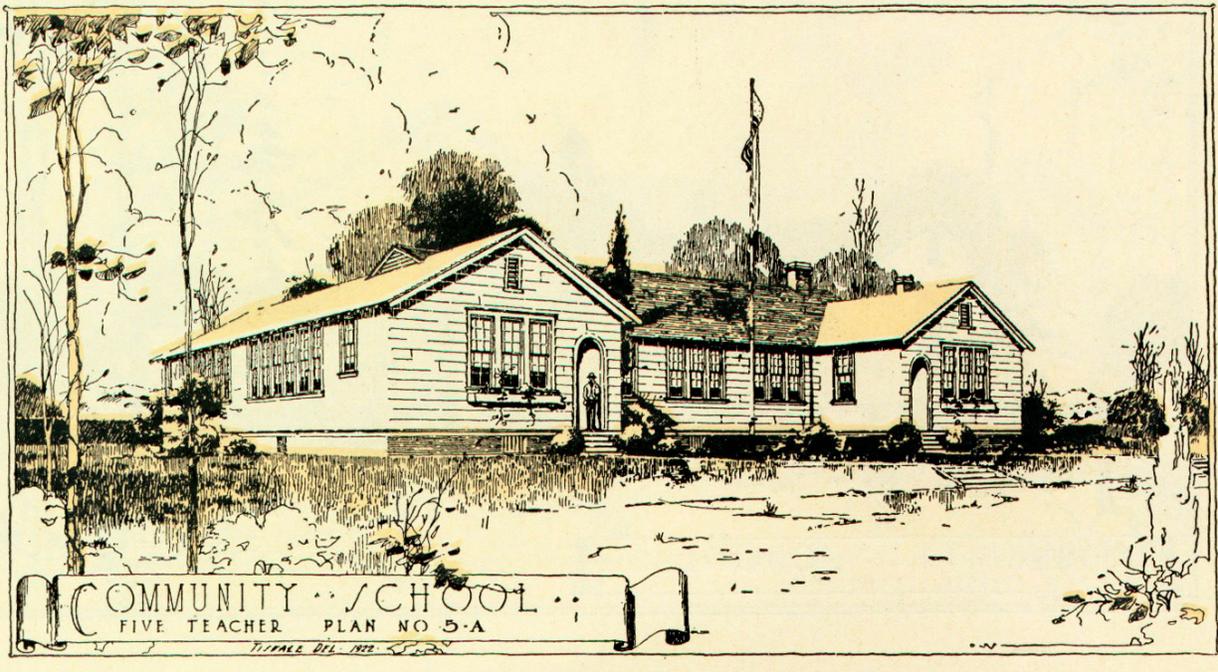


Figure 4: Five Teacher School, Plan 5-A, *Community School Plans*, 1924 (Hathi Trust Digital Library)

three-teacher and bigger consolidated school facilities.¹⁵ Toward these ends, Smith prepared a new set of school designs that would serve as a template for the Rosenwald schools of the 1920s. While they incorporated elements found in the Tuskegee plans, they were mostly based on earlier designs that Smith and Fletcher Dresslar had developed for schools in Tennessee. The Julius Rosenwald Fund released the new plans through the 1921 publication *Community School Plans*. The new schools varied in size from buildings accommodating one to seven teachers. In addition, Smith included plans for privies, industrial buildings, and teacher's cottages. The publication presented detailed specifications and also included general guidance for selecting and beautifying school grounds, determining the size of the school, its location, and the appropriate building plan to use.¹⁶

During the 1920s, the Fund published several revisions and new editions of *Community School Plans*, introducing a proliferation of new building types that addressed a broader range of educational needs. Between 1920 and 1927, the Fund increasingly distributed grants for larger consolidated schools, representing a departure from the modest goals of the program's early years. Also included were grants for teacher's houses, classroom additions, and book purchases. Initially, the teacher's dwellings were locally designed, but in 1927 *Community School Plans* began to feature designs for four, five, and six room homes. This restructuring of the grant program was accompanied by several new architectural plans for seven-teacher schools. From 1920 to 1928 between 400 and 500 Rosenwald Schools were built each year. During those years the Fund's contributions ranged from \$301,341 to \$414,106.¹⁷

In late 1927, Rosenwald chose Edwin R. Embree, vice president of the Rockefeller Foundation,

15 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, 86-92.

16 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, 86-111.

17 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, 131-38, Appendix 3.

to serve as the new president of the Fund.¹⁸ Embree, with the assistance of full-time staff, administered the Fund from its headquarters in Chicago, coordinating with the southern regional office in Nashville managed by Samuel Smith. For the first time, the plan of aid for 1928-1929 offered additional grant funds for the construction of brick and concrete buildings, intended to extend the service life of the structures. This rendered the buildings fireproof, while meeting the building standards in place at that time for white public schools.¹⁹



Figure 5: Dunbar School, Little Rock, Arkansas, 1952
(e-yearbook.com)

During the late 1920s, the Fund phased out support for smaller one and two-teacher rural schools, and instead promoted larger consolidated schools and high schools. In 1928, the Fund's board created a Black industrial high school initiative, which offered to partially subsidize the construction of Black high schools that included industrial and vocational programs. Dunbar Junior and Senior High School and Junior College in Little Rock, Arkansas (today Dunbar Magnet Middle School), completed in 1929, is representative of this new direction and demonstrates the Fund's willingness to approve designs other than those included in *Community School Plans*.²⁰

In 1928, the Fund released an updated edition of *Community School Plans*. Signaling the new emphasis on larger consolidated schools, the bulletin began with plans for ten-teacher schools and worked back to smaller school designs. In addition, all designs for three-teacher or larger facilities featured brick exteriors. The publication introduced new designs for both schools and shop buildings that featured an innovative arrangement of interior spaces while maintaining standards for lighting, ventilation, and sanitation. Following a design review by Cleveland architect Walter J. McCornack, the 1931 edition of *Community School Plans* included amended plans for eight-, ten-, and twelve-teacher schools. The new designs also introduced Colonial Revival-style elements such as pedimented door surrounds and gabled dormers.²¹

The stock market crash of 1929 and the ensuing Great Depression significantly affected the Rosenwald Schools building program, and eventually led to its end. In 1930, the Fund's leadership engaged in a reassessment of its direction and purpose. As part of this review, Embree recommended that the Fund gradually eliminate its school building program, and instead invest in ways to promote greater racial equality, such as the Rosenwald Fellowship program for highly gifted people, two-thirds of whom were Black, mainly in the early stages of their careers, that the Fund had launched in 1928. Signaling this new direction, and acknowledging the impact of the

18 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, 125-27.

19 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, 125-31; Rebecca Ryckley, "The Rural School Project of the Rosenwald Fund" (PhD diss., Georgia State University, 2015), 17.

20 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, 131-38.

21 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, 144-54.

Depression on the Fund's available resources, the Fund eliminated grants for one-teacher schools in 1930 and two-teacher schools in 1931. It also cut all grants for building additions. Amid this re-evaluation of the program's future course, Julius Rosenwald died on January 6, 1932. Having exceeded its initial goal of constructing five thousand new school facilities, and with the value of the Fund's stock holdings greatly reduced, the Julius Rosenwald Fund announced in April of 1932 that the school building program would officially end with that year's appropriation. The last Rosenwald School built with the financial support of the Rosenwald Fund, the Eleanor Roosevelt Rosenwald School in Warm Springs, GA, was built in 1936-1937 at the request of President Franklin Roosevelt, who also contributed \$1,000.²²

Over a twenty-year period between 1912 and 1932, the Rosenwald Fund contributed to construction of 5,357 Rosenwald Schools and related buildings mainly in rural areas of 15 Southern states.²³ As summarized in Table 1 (below), this included partial funding for the construction of 4,977 Rosenwald Schools, as well as 217 teacher homes and 163 shops. Of these 5,357 facilities, only a fraction survives today.

Table 1. Rosenwald Buildings and Capacity by State

State	Buildings				Capacity	
	Schools	Teacherages	Shops	Total	Pupils	Teachers
Alabama	389	7	11	407	40,410	898
Arkansas	338	19	32	389	46,980	1,044
Florida	120	1	4	125	22,545	501
Georgia	242	12	7	261	37,305	829
Kentucky	155	2	1	158	18,090	402
Louisiana	395	31	9	435	51,255	1,139
Maryland	149	2	2	153	15,435	343
Mississippi	557	58	18	633	77,850	1,730
Missouri	3	0	1	4	1,260	28
North Carolina	787	18	8	813	114,210	2,538
Oklahoma	176	16	6	198	19,575	435
South Carolina	481	8	11	500	74,070	1,646
Tennessee	354	9	10	373	44,460	988
Texas	464	31	32	527	57,330	1,274
Virginia	367	3	11	381	42,840	952
Total	4,977	217	163	5,357	663,615	14,747

Source: Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South* (Gainesville, University Press of Florida, 2006), Adapted from Appendix 2

²² Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, 154-60, 276.

²³ Ascoli, 87-89; Stephanie Deutsch, *You Need a Schoolhouse*: Booker T. Washington, Julius Rosenwald, and the Building of Schools for the Segregated South (Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2011), 91-108; Mary S. Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South* (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2016), 18-29.

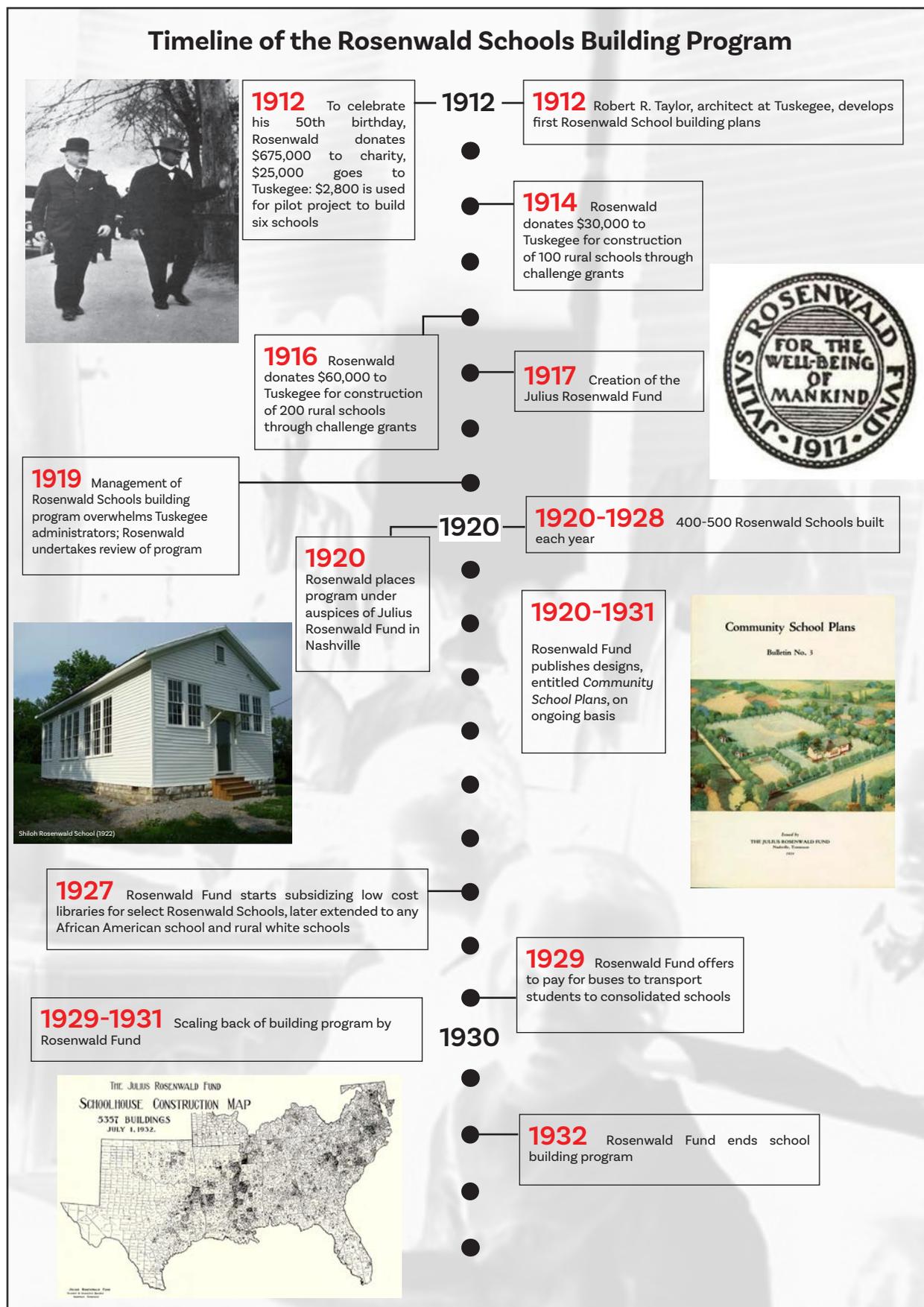


Figure 6: This timeline of the Rosenwald Schools Building Program extends from Julius Rosenwald’s \$25,000 gift to Tuskegee in 1912 through the end of the Rosenwald Schools Building Program in 1932.

Methodology for Identifying and Assessing Rosenwald Schools

Input from Experts in 15 Southern States

In early 2017 the Campaign's planning committee developed draft criteria to assist the State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs) in the 15 Southern states in which Rosenwald Schools were constructed in making recommendations to the Campaign of schools for possible inclusion in the planned National Historical Park. The Campaign then solicited input on the draft criteria and the proposed recommendation process from experts on Rosenwald Schools in the 15 states through a series of conference calls in May 2017. The Campaign was greatly aided in this activity by Susan G. Pearl, the former historian at the Prince George's County Historical Society and an expert on Maryland Rosenwald Schools.

Development of Consensus Criteria

In June 2017 based upon the input from the state experts the Campaign established the final consensus criteria for use by the SHPOs in recommending Rosenwald Schools. Included among the criteria were architectural and historical integrity, intact physical contexts, fidelity to the most representative school types, presence of an existing condition assessment or historic structure report, existence of community support and listing on the National Register of Historic Places or nomination for such listing.

Final Rosenwald Park Campaign Criteria

1. Building retains much of its historical and architectural integrity.
2. The history of the building - school, teacherage, shed, etc. demonstrates its place in the historic context of the Rosenwald Schools.
3. School is an excellent example of the types, periods, styles, and uses of the historical (e.g., one-room, two-room, multiple room schools; schools from the Tuskegee period and Rosenwald Fund period).
4. Some degree of community and civic support exists for the site and its continued use.
5. Condition assessment and/or Historic Structure Report and/or business plan have been prepared for site.
6. Conditions, location, support, etc. that would aid in future management of the site (e.g., near existing units of the National Parks System).
7. Listed on National Register or nominated for listing.
8. Meets three National Park Service (NPS) criteria for new National Park units; namely, national significance, suitability, feasibility (discussed below).

National Significance

A proposed unit was considered nationally significant if it met all four of the following standards:

1. It is an outstanding example of a particular type of resource.

2. It possesses exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the natural or cultural themes of our Nation's heritage
3. It offers superlative opportunities for recreation for public use and enjoyment, or for scientific study
4. It retains a high degree of integrity as a true, accurate, and relatively unspoiled example of the resource.

Suitability

An area that is nationally significant also must meet criteria for suitability and feasibility to qualify as a potential addition to the National Park System. To be **suitable** for inclusion in the System an area must represent a natural or cultural theme or type of recreational resource that is not already adequately represented in the National Park System or is not comparably represented and protected for public enjoyment by another land-managing entity. Adequacy of representation is determined on a case-by-case basis by comparing the proposed area to other units in the National Park System for differences or similarities in the character, quality, quantity, or combination of resources, and opportunities for public enjoyment.

Feasibility

To be **feasible** as a new unit of the National Park System an area's natural systems and/or historic settings must be of sufficient size and appropriate configuration to ensure long-term protection of the resources and to accommodate public use. It must have potential for efficient administration at a reasonable cost. Important feasibility factors include landownership, acquisition costs, life cycle maintenance costs, access, threats to the resource, and staff or development requirements.

School Recommendation Process

In July 2017, the Campaign wrote letters to the SHPOs in the 15 states requesting that each state recommend up to five Rosenwald School facilities. The letters also requested that the SHPOs provide information supporting the recommendation of each site, including location, ownership, and governance of the property. All 15 states responded. Fourteen of the states recommended a total of 56 facilities including 55 Rosenwald Schools and one teacherage for further evaluation. Missouri did not recommend any schools because only four were built there; three no longer existed, and the fourth was not being used in a way considered suitable for recommendation.

Recommendations of Properties from State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs)

Table 1 below shows the distribution of the 56 facilities recommended by the SHPOs by state. Twenty-one (38%) of the schools were two-teacher schools. Over 60% of the recommended schools contained three or fewer classrooms. Seven (13%) of the nominations had more than ten classrooms. One was a teacher home.

Two of the 14 states, Louisiana and Texas, each recommended one Rosenwald School. Two others, Arkansas and Mississippi, recommended three schools. Kentucky recommended six schools, and the rest recommended five schools. South Carolina was the only state to recommend a teacherage.

As of 2017, forty-four of the recommended Rosenwald Schools were listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and two were determined eligible for listing. Nearly all of the facilities were within proximity to one or more National Park units.

Table 2. Distribution of SHPO-Recommended Schools

State	1-teacher	2-teacher	3-teacher	4-teacher	6-teacher	7+-teacher	Teacherage	Total
AL	1	2	1		1			5
AR		1				2		3
FL			1	1		3		5
GA		2			2	1		5
KY	1		1	2	1	1		6
LA		1						1
MD	1	1	1					3
MO								0
MS		1		1	1			3
NC		4				1		5
OK		2		1				3
SC		2	2			1	1	6
TN	1	3	1					5
TX	1							1
VA	2	2		1				5
Total	7	21	7	6	5	9	1	56

Source: Rosenwald Park Campaign

Process for Evaluating Recommended Schools

After receiving the recommendations from the SHPOs, the Campaign reviewed the submitted data, as well as other available information on the 56 properties to identify the ones to visit. In late 2017, the Campaign formed a Schools Evaluation Subcommittee consisting of the following Planning Committee members: Dorothy Canter, Stephanie Deutsch, Carol Shull, Allan Spears and Kate Stevenson. Stephanie Deutsch, the author of “You Need A Schoolhouse: Booker T. Washington, Julius Rosenwald and the Building of Schools for the Segregated South,” had previously visited and lectured at a number of Rosenwald Schools at the request of their support groups and brought unique expertise to the Subcommittee. Carol Shull and Kate Stevenson also contributed significantly as experts in historic preservation and high-ranking National Park Service retirees.

Additional context was provided by the Campaign’s 2018 historic context study report, which identified appropriate areas of significance for evaluating the Rosenwald Schools under consideration.

The Subcommittee also developed criteria to review the 56 facilities and help select the subset of schools to visit. Table 3 contains those criteria, most of which are modeled on the consensus criteria submitted to the SHPOs.

Table 3. Criteria for Ranking Recommended Rosenwald Schools for Visits by Campaign Members

•	Building retains much of its historical and architectural integrity
•	School is an excellent example of the types, periods, styles and uses of Rosenwald Schools (e.g., one-room, two-room, multiple room schools; schools from Tuskegee period and Rosenwald Fund period)
•	Existing condition of facility (e.g., restored, undergoing restoration)
•	Some degree of community and civic support exists for the site and its continued use
•	Proximity to existing unit(s) of National Parks System
•	Listed on National Register or nominated for listing
•	Geographical distribution
•	Impressions from prior visit to school
•	Meets three National Park Service (NPS) criteria for new National Park units; namely, national significance, suitability, feasibility*

Summary of Site Visits

In conducting its evaluation of the 56 recommended Rosenwald School facilities members of the Campaign’s School Evaluation Subcommittee visited 33 Rosenwald Schools and one teacherage in 12 states between January 2018 and October 2019. A Subcommittee member had planned to visit the Berea Consolidated School in Kentucky and the Longstreet School in Louisiana in the spring of 2020, but the pandemic prevented those visits from taking place.

During the site visits, the Campaign representatives talked with owners and community representatives when available and took exterior and interior photographs of the visited school properties. Following each visit the Campaign entered relevant information on the school (and teacherage) into a standardized checklist table, including its location, year built, floor plan, duration of use as a school/teacher home, subsequent use, restoration activities, current condition and ownership, interest in affiliation with the NPS and special stories associated with the facility. Photographs from the visit were also added to each checklist table, as well as information from various sources.

The Campaign representatives who visited the 34 Rosenwald School facilities have different professional backgrounds. They did not perform detailed analyses of the properties based on historic structures reports. Further, the level of detail and sometimes the use of terminology in the checklist tables they prepared and hence in this report vary depending on a number of factors such as whether they were able to meet with knowledgeable individuals at the school facility and whether they had access to the interior at the time of the visit. For most of the 34 school facilities the status of the property dates to the time of the visit, although in three cases (Hopewell, Noble Hill and Ridgeley Schools), the status was updated through subsequent visits or correspondence.

The Campaign visited five one-teacher schools in four states, 15 two-teacher schools in nine states, two three-teacher schools in two states, two four-teacher schools in two states, two six-teacher schools in two states and seven seven+-teacher schools in four states, as well as the one teacherage.

Table 4, below, provides a summary of these site visits. The table is organized by School Type

from smallest to largest (e.g. one- teacher, two-teacher) to aid in a comparative analysis of the representative school types that were recommended by the SHPOs. A more detailed description of each property follows in the next section of this report.

Table 4. Summary Table of Visited Rosenwald School Facilities

School Type	School	State/County/ Congressional District	Additions	Current Owner/Use	Support G
One-Teacher	Cairo Rosenwald School	TN/Sumner/ 6th		Williams Chapel Baptist Church; community center	Cairo Improvem Club (infor group)
One-Teacher	Hopewell School	TX/Bastrop/ 113th	Rear elevation expanded during period of significance.	Hopewell Community Club / history museum, community center, educational uses	Active Hop Communi Center committe
One-Teacher	Old Galesville Elementary School	MD/Anne Arundel/4th	2nd classroom added in 1931	Galesville Community Center Organization, Inc / community center	Galesville Communi Center Organizati
One-Teacher	St Paul's Chapel School	VA/ Brunswick/ 5th		Ms. Ella Avery- Smothers /vacant and open	Unknown
One-Teacher	Shady Grove School	VA/Louisa/ 7th		Shady Grove Baptist Church/ planned living history museum and community center	Shady Gro (Rosenwal School, Inc
Two-Teacher	Bay Springs School	MS/Forrest/ 4th	Addition in 1940s	Private owner/ community meeting place	

Group	Interest in Being in National Park	Special Features	Proximity to National Park Unit	Connection to Civil Rights Movement	Photo
ment rma	Need to Consider		Within one hour of Stone's Creek National Battlefield		
pewell ty e	Unclear	Cedar Creek Colony was one of 10 colonies of freed slaves established in Bastrop County after Civil War	About an hour and a half from both San Antonio Missions and Lyndon B Johnson National Historical Parks		
ty ion, Inc	Yes		Within one hour of Star Spangled Banner National Historical Trail		
	Unknown		Within one hour of Richmond National Battlefield Park		
ve (d) c	Interested in discussing further		Within one hour of Richmond National Battlefield Park		
	Open to conversation			Used by owner Vernon Dahmer for voter registration purposes; Dahmer killed in 1966 when home near school firebombed	

Table 4. Summary Table of Visited Rosenwald School Facilities					
School Type	School	State/County/ Congressional District	Additions	Current Owner/Use	Support G
Two-Teacher	Canetuck School	NC/Pender/ 8th	Bathroom added; stage added 1965; screen doors added to front doors; installation of accessibility ramp	Canetuck Community Center, Inc./community center	Canetuck Communi Center, Inc
Two-Teacher	Cusseta Industrial High School	GA/ Chattahoochee /11th	Restrooms attached with covered walkway to side of building; kitchen added	Chattahoochee County Historical Society/museum	Historical society; fu events
Two-Teacher	Durham's Chapel School	TN/Sumner/ 6th		Durham Chapel Community Club/ active community club/congregation	
Two-Teacher	Hope School	SC/ Newberry/5th		Hope School Community Center, Inc./community center	
Two-Teacher	Noble Hill School	GA/Bartow/ 11th	Ramps, restroom addition in rear	Noble Hill-Wheeler Foundation Inc./ museum	Local and
Two-Teacher	Old Merritt School	AL/Bullock/ 3rd	Additions in 1935/1946 compatible in design to original; brick "equalization" school built behind school at later date	Bullock County Board of Education/	Unknown
Two-Teacher	Pine Grove School	SC/Richland/2nd	New HVAC and handicapped access; cinder block infill added between brick piers; kitchen addition	Richland County Recreation Commission	

Group	Interest in Being in National Park	Special Features	Proximity to National Park Unit	Connection to Civil Rights Movement	Photo
City	Would like more information		Two miles from Moore's Creek National Battlefield Park		
Fundraising	Yes		Close to Jimmy Carter NHS; Ocmulgee Mounds NHP; Freedom Riders NM; and Horseshoe Bend NMP		
			Within one hour of Stone's Creek National Battlefield Park		
			Within one hour of Ninety Six National Historic Site		
County	Unclear		Within one hour of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park		
	Unknown		Near Tuskegee Institute National Historical Site		
			Within a half hour of Congaree National Park		

Table 4. Summary Table of Visited Rosenwald School Facilities					
School Type	School	State/County/ Congressional District	Additions	Current Owner/Use	Support G
Two-Teacher	Ridgeley School	MD/Prince Georges/4th	Classroom addition, bathrooms added in 1940s	Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission/ museum/ community center	Staffed by Sigma Theta Sorority
Two-Teacher	Russell School	NC/Durham/4th		Cain's Chapel Missionary Baptist Church/community center	Friends of Russell Rosenwald School
Two-Teacher	Scrabble School	VA/ Rappahannock/ 5th		County of Rappahannock/ adult community center; heritage area	Scrabble School Preservation Foundation
Two-Teacher	Second Union School	VA/ Goochland/ 7th	Handicapped access ramp; new HVAC	Second Union Church/Museum for history of African American education in Goochland	
Two-Teacher	Selma Rosenwald School	AR/Drew/ 1st		Local Masonic lodge/ community center	Masons and Eastern Star meet there
Two-Teacher	Shiloh Rosenwald School	AL/Macon/3rd		Shiloh Community Restoration Foundation	
Two-Teacher	Tankersley School	AL/ Montgomery/2nd		Owned by nonprofit corporation; vacant	Questionable
Three-Teacher	Mt. Zion Rosenwald School	SC/ Florence/7th		Mt. Zion United Methodist Church	
Three-Teacher	San Domingo	MD/ Wicomico/1st		John Quinton Foundation, Inc/ community center	Limited community support

Group	Interest in Being in National Park	Special Features	Proximity to National Park Unit	Connection to Civil Rights Movement	Photo
Delta Eta			Greenbelt Park, Oxon Cove Park & Oxon Hill Farm		
d	Under consideration		Within one hour of Guilford Courthouse National Military Park		
School on n			Near Shenandoah National Park		
	Yes		Within one hour of Richmond National Battlefield Park		
nd cars e	Yes		Not far from Arkansas Post National Memorial		
		Part of notorious syphilis study conducted there	Within one hour of Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail		
ble			Near Tuskegee institute National Historical Site		
			Within one hour of Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site		
community	High interest in affiliation with NPS	San Domingo was free black town started in 1820	Within one hour of Assateague Island National Seashore		

Table 4. Summary Table of Visited Rosenwald School Facilities

School Type	School	State/County/ Congressional District	Additions	Current Owner/Use	Support G
Four-Teacher	Rosenwald Hall	OK/ Seminole/5th		Town of Lima	
Four-Teacher	Walthall County Training School	MS/ Walthall/3rd	Additions removed in 2008-9 after Hurricane Katrina	Antioch Church	Limited co support
Six-Teacher	Elmore County Training School	AL/Elmore/ 2nd	Yes	City of Wetumpka/ Elmore County Black History Museum	Elmore Co Black Hist Museum
Six-Teacher	Prentiss Institute	MS/ Jefferson Davis/3rd		Prentiss Institute Board of Trustees/ museum, auditorium, community center	Extensive
Seven+-Teacher	A. Quinn Jones Center	FL/Alachua/3rd		Alachua County	
Seven+-Teacher	Dunbar Junior High	AR/Pulaski/ 2nd	Gymnasium in separate bldg.	Little Rock School District/still used as school	National D Alumni Associatio
Seven+-Teacher	Fort Valley High and Industrial School	GA/Peach/2nd		Fort Valley State University	
Seven+-Teacher	Lucy Moten Elementary School	FL/Leon/5th		Florida A&M University	

Group	Interest in Being in National Park	Special Features	Proximity to National Park Unit	Connection to Civil Rights Movement	Photo
		All black town history; could be companion unit to Nicodemus NHS in KS			
Community	Interested				
County History	Under consideration	Non- Rosenwald teacherage on property	Near Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail		
	Interested			During 1950s site hosted voter registration drives.	
			Within one hour of Fort Matanzas and Castillo de San Marcos National Monuments		
Dunbar on		Designed by same architects who designed Little Rock Central HS; was only black secondary school in Arkansas accredited by North Central Association	Within one mile of Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site	Most of Little Rock Nine went to school before integrating Little Rock Central HS	
			Close to Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park		
					

Table 4. Summary Table of Visited Rosenwald School Facilities					
School Type	School	State/County/ Congressional District	Additions	Current Owner/Use	Support G
Seven+-Teacher	Paul Laurence Dunbar School	FL/Lee/19th		Lee County	
Seven+-Teacher	Peake High School	AR/Clark/ 4th	Shop building constructed in 1929	Arkadelphia School District/Pre-School	Peake High School Alumni Foundation Inc. and The Buffalo Foundation
Seven+-Teacher	Williamston Colored School	NC/Martin/ 1st	1939 addition; front doors in 1970s; interior space reconfiguration in 1970s	Martin County Board of Education	Leased to Hayes Alumni Association since 2000
Teacher Home	Great Branch Rosenwald Teacherage	SC/ Orangeburg /6th			Great Branch Community Center

Group	Interest in Being in National Park	Special Features	Proximity to National Park Unit	Connection to Civil Rights Movement	Photo
			Within one hour of Everglades National Park		
h umni n, oes n, Inc.			Within one hour of Bill Clinton Birthplace National Historic Site		
E.J. umni n 6	Alumni Assoc. interested; no contact with owner		Within one hour of Fort Raleigh National Historic Site		
ch ty			Within one hour of Congaree National Park		

Summary of Findings

Evaluation of 34 Properties by School Type

One-Teacher Schools

Approximately 968 one-teacher facilities were constructed over the duration of the Rosenwald Schools program. First appearing in the 1915 Tuskegee publication, *The Negro Rural School and its Relation to the Community*, the one-teacher school (Design 11) was a one-story, frame, rectangular-plan building with a hipped roof and interior chimney stacks. The main entrance was centered within the five-bay front elevation and sheltered by a gabled hood supported by brackets. Its interior plan contained a row of small rooms (library, cloak room, vestibule, coat room, and kitchen) oriented to the front of the building. Behind these rooms were a single large classroom and a work room, which were separated by a partition. The 1924 edition of *Community School Plans*, published by the Julius Rosenwald Fund, featured two new designs for frame, one-teacher schools. Plan 1 is a side-gabled design while Plan 1-A is front gabled. Plan 1-A, designed to face north or south, features full-sized windows on one side of the building and smaller breeze windows on the other. Both plans contain a single classroom and an industrial room. Plans 1 and 1-A continued to appear through the 1931 edition of *Community School Plans*.¹

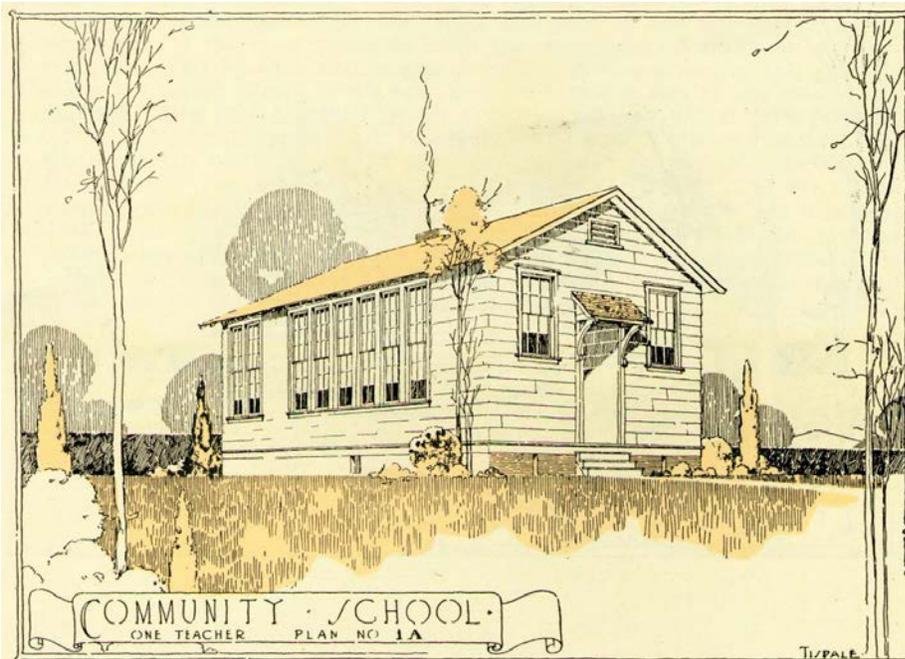
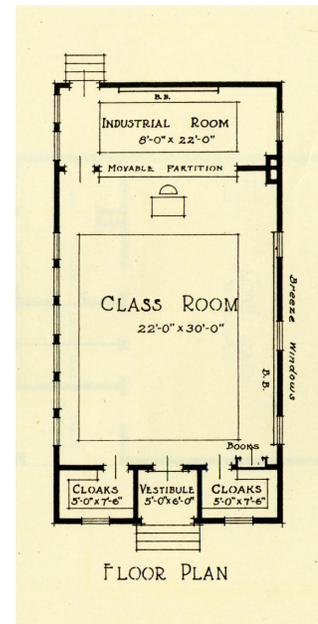


Figure 7: Plan 1-A floor plan (upper) and sketch drawing (lower) from the 1924 edition of *Community School Plans*

¹ Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, 7-8, 154-60, 276.

Cairo Rosenwald School (Tennessee)

Built: 1922-1923

School Plan: 1-A

The Cairo Rosenwald School is situated on a 3.7-acre property on Zieglers Fort Road in the unincorporated community of Cairo, Sumner County, Tennessee, just north of the Cumberland River. The wood frame building was erected between 1922 and 1923 and is an example of Plan 1-A. The school was built at a total cost of \$1,900. The Julius Rosenwald Fund contributed \$500 of the total cost, with the remaining \$1,200 was split evenly between African American members of the community and the Tennessee public school fund. The school served students in grades one through eight from 1923 through 1959, at which point the consolidation of local schools prompted its closure and transition into a community center. The school continues to be used as a community center under the ownership of Williams Chapel Baptist Church.²



Figure 8: Cairo Rosenwald School, c. 1923 (Fisk University)

The Cairo Rosenwald School is a one-story, frame, three-bay, front-gabled building on a coursed stone foundation. The school is clad in wood siding and is capped by a metal roof. The main entrance is centered in the front elevation and is sheltered by a simple bracketed wood canopy. The school's windows are original and vary from six-over-six to nine-over-nine double-hung, wood sash on wood sills. Alterations to the school have included the installation of new vinyl flooring, which covered the original wood floors. The original desks have survived, and the

² Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Cairo Rosenwald School, May 16, 2018; National Register of Historic Places, Cairo Rosenwald School, Sumner County, Tennessee, National Register # 96001359.

original photograph of Julius Rosenwald still hangs over the door. The school does not have an indoor bathroom.³ Restoration and stabilization work was undertaken by the Tennessee Preservation Trust and the Middle Tennessee State University Center for Historic Preservation in 2008, through a grant provided by the Lowes Charitable and Educational Foundation, in partnership with the National Trust. During the restoration, the original front stairs were reconstructed, the original windowsills were repaired, and several original windows received new custom upper sashes. A wheelchair ramp was added to the back of the structure. Repairs were made to the roof, and the awning received a new



Figure 9: Classroom, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)



Figure 10: Front elevation, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)

cover. The original siding was repainted. Lost elements were reproduced using custom-milled replacements. A root cellar was found during crawlspace excavation.⁴

The Cairo Rosenwald School still exhibits the majority of its original materials and design elements and has retained sufficient integrity to convey its historical significance. The school was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1996. It was found to be significant under Criteria A and C for its role in the education and social history of the African American community and as an intact example of standard Rosenwald Fund school plan. The period of significance is 1922 to 1946, extending from the school's completion to 50 years from the time of listing (use as a school ended in 1959).⁵

The brothers Charles and Frank Brinkley went to the school; their father taught there. Significant historical records relating to the school are being kept off site by Velma Brinkley, the wife of Frank. Betty Williams went to the school, as did her father, grandmother, and grandfather; the school closed when she was in the

3 Checklist Table for Cairo Rosenwald School.

4 Mary S. Hoffschwelle, *Preserving Rosenwald Schools*. (Washington: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 2012), 20.

5 National Register of Historic Places, Cairo Rosenwald School, Sumner County, Tennessee, National Register # 96001359.

third grade. She has report cards and textbooks from the school, as well as letters from her father from World War II, stored in her home.⁶

The Cairo School is about 56 miles from Stones River National Battlefield. It was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Tennessee on November 15, 2017.⁷ A total of 354 Rosenwald Schools, nine teacher homes and ten shops were constructed in Tennessee. More than 44,000



Figure 11: Charles and Frank Brinkley standing in the Cairo School (courtesy of @Andrew Feiler, andrewfeiler.com)

African American children attended these schools.⁸

The Cairo School was identified in *The Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools Act of 2020*, which directed the Secretary of Interior to conduct a special resource study of sites associated with the life and legacy of Julius Rosenwald, with special emphasis on ten named schools.

On May 16, 2018, Dorothy Canter and Alan Spears toured the Cairo School and met with seven persons, including the Brinkley brothers and Betty Williams, all of whom had attended the school.⁹



Figure 12: Alan Spears with community members and school alumni, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)

6 Checklist Table for Cairo Rosenwald School; Feiler, 35.

7 Holly Barnett, Tennessee Historical Commission, to Rosenwald Park Campaign, November 15, 2017.

8 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

9 Checklist Table for Cairo Rosenwald School.

Hopewell School (Texas)

Built: 1921-1922

School Plan: 1-A

The Hopewell School is located on the north side of TX 21 West in the unincorporated community of Cedar Creek, Bastrop County, Texas. Erected between 1921 and 1922, the school's design was based on Rosenwald Plan 1A, and it was constructed at total cost of \$1,700. The Julius Rosenwald Fund contributed \$500, the local African American community contributed \$50, and the remaining \$1,150 was provided by public funding.¹⁰

Cedar Creek was one of ten freedmen colonies of freed slaves established in Bastrop County after the Civil War. The land on which the school is located was previously owned by Martin and Sophia McDonald, who were born into slavery in Tennessee during the mid-nineteenth century. The McDonalds were early residents of Cedar Creek, purchasing their first property in 1876. By 1906 the McDonalds had amassed 1,100 acres. Martin McDonald died in 1912, and in 1919, as information regarding the Rosenwald Schools Program reached Bastrop County, Sophia McDonald donated an acre and a half for a community school and church. Sophia McDonald's daughter, Artelia McDonald Brown, was the Hopewell School's first teacher.¹¹



Figure 13: Elroy and Sophia Williams holding painting of Martin and Sophia McDonald inside Hopewell School (photo courtesy of @Andrew Feiler, andrewfeiler.com)

10 Fisk University, Rosenwald Database, "Hopewell School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu/> (accessed April 15, 2021).
11 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Hopewell School, April 17, 2019; National Register of Historic



Figure 14: Hopewell School, 2019 (Carol Shull)

One of two schools in the county to serve African American students in 1921 when it was built, the Hopewell School functioned as an elementary school until 1933, after which it was used as a one-year high school. In 1941, the school was reclassified as a two-year high school. All grades were taught by only one or two teachers. The school once featured demonstration gardens and recreation courts on the grounds of the adjacent Hopewell Primitive Baptist Church. The Hopewell School remained open through the 1950s but closed with the integration of public schools in Bastrop County. The school building is currently owned by the non-profit Hopewell Community Club. While the building is not used full-time, it is open to the public for viewing.¹²

The Hopewell School is a one-story, frame, three-bay, front-gabled building constructed on wood piers. The school is clad in wood siding and is capped by a metal roof with a single interior brick chimney. The main entrance is centered in the front elevation and is sheltered by a simple bracketed wood canopy. The school's windows are almost all original and vary from six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash on wood sills in the front elevation to nine-over-nine sash windows on the western elevation, to one-light casement windows on the east side. The school has retained

Places, Hopewell School, Bastrop County, Texas, National Register # 15000334; Andrew Feiler, *A Better Life for their Children: Julius Rosenwald, Booker T. Washington, and the 4,978 Schools That Changed America* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2021), 33.

¹² Ibid.

its original interior and exterior siding, most doors, roofline, blackboards, walls, and floors. The rear elevation was expanded during the period of significance.¹³

Rehabilitation of the school building itself, which began in 2017, is essentially complete. Some site work is underway, and exhibits are being furnished and set up on the interior. The foundation was stabilized, and a new metal roof installed in keeping with the original form. Windows were restored, as was the original interior and exterior siding. The restoration was funded by a Civil Rights grant from NPS and a grant from Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative of Texas, as well as financial support from local businesses, organizations and Bastrop County. A grant from



Figure 15: Front elevation, 2019 (Carol Shull)

the National Trust for Historic Preservation is funding interior exhibits and displays. The Hopewell Community Club and American Youth Works are partnering to carry out the project. The restored Hopewell School is to be used as a living history space for locals and tourists and as a community center for Cedar Creek and the surrounding area. It will also be used for education, and the Hopewell Community Club is working with the Bastrop Independent School District to prepare a Teaching with Historic Places lesson plan and arrange for students to visit the school as part of the curriculum.¹⁴



Figure 16: Classroom, 2019 (Carol Shull)

The Hopewell School demonstrates good integrity, having retained most of its original windows, cladding, and many interior features. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2015 under Criterion A for its association with racial segregation in Bastrop County schools and the Julius Rosenwald Fund. The period of significance extends from 1921-1959, from the school's completion to its closure in 1959.¹⁵

The Hopewell School is about 70 miles from the Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park, depending

13 Checklist Table for Hopewell School.

14 Checklist Table for Hopewell School.

15 National Register of Historic Places, Hopewell School, Bastrop County, Texas, National Register # 15000334.

on the route. It is also about 90 miles from San Antonio Missions National Historical Park. It was the only Rosenwald School recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Texas on November 27, 2017.¹⁶ A total of 464 Rosenwald Schools, 31 teacher homes and 32 shops were constructed in Texas. More than 57,000 African American children attended these schools.¹⁷



Figure 17: Side elevation, 2019 (Carol Shull)

On April 17, 2019, Carol Shull toured the Hopewell School and met with David M. Porter, III.¹⁸



Figure 18: Hopewell School, c. 1930 (Fisk University)

¹⁶ Julius Rosenwald National Historical Park, Texas Property for Consideration, submitted by Gregory Smith, Texas Historical Commission, and David Porter, A Glimmer of Hope Austin, to the Rosenwald Park Campaign, November 27, 2017.

¹⁷ Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

¹⁸ Checklist Table for Hopewell School.

Old Galesville Elementary School (Maryland)

Built: 1929-1930

School Plan: 1-A

Located at 916 W. Benning Road, in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, the Old Galesville Elementary School occupies a 0.90-acre property situated just south of Tenthhouse Creek, a tributary of the West River. The school is designated AA-914 in the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, a statewide survey database administered by the Maryland Historical Trust (SHPO). It also forms part of the West Benning Road Survey District (AA-2317), a collection of 20 historic resources at the heart of a historic African American neighborhood in Galesville. Many of the residents of Galesville worked for the nearby Woodfield Oyster Company on Tenthhouse Creek, which during its heyday in the 1940s, employed over 800 people.¹⁹ The Old Galesville School was constructed in 1929-1930. It was built at a total cost of \$1,900, of which the local community contributed \$100, the state \$1,600, and the Rosenwald Fund \$200. The one-teacher school was later expanded into a two-teacher school in 1931.²⁰ The school remained in active use from 1930 until 1956, teaching students from grades one through six. The Galesville Community Center Organization, the current owners, purchased the school from the county Board of Education in 1958. The school remained vacant for many years, but now functions as a community center.²¹



Figure 19: Old Galesville School, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)



Figure 20: Old Galesville School, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)

Architecturally, the Old Galesville Elementary School is an example of school Plan 1-A, and elements of the original design are still evident, seen in the school's one-story, side-gabled form, wood-sash windows (double-hung and casement), and interior brick chimney. The main entrance, with its double-leaf wood doors, bracketed hood, and multi-light transom, were likely added at the time that the school was expanded to a two-teacher facility. Today, the school exists in a restored state and exhibits excellent integrity, maintaining many original features. The restoration occurred in 2008-2009 and was sponsored by Preservation Maryland,

19 Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, West Benning Road Survey District, Galesville, Anne Arundel County, MIHP #AA-2317.

20 Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Galesville School," http://rosenwald.fisk.edu/?module=search.details&set_v=aWQ9MTUyNg==&school_county=Anne%20Arundel&school_state=MD&button=Search&o=0 (accessed March 21, 2021).

21 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Old Galesville School, May 4, 2018.

Arundel Community Development Services, Anne Arundel County Community Capital Grants, and a bond bill from the State of Maryland. On the interior, a new modern kitchen has been added to prepare meals for special events that help sustain the school. Two new storage sheds were also added on the site of the former privies.²²

The Old Galesville School is significant as an example of a one-school plan that was expanded historically, and for its association with the historic African American community of Galesville. While the school has not been individually listed in the National Register to date, it was included in the Multi-Property Documentation Form, Rosenwald Schools of Anne Arundel County, Maryland (1921-1932).²³

The school is located close to a number of sites of importance to African American history in Galesville; namely the Galesville Community Center; Galesville Heritage Museum, Wilson House (home of freed slave Henry Wilson who bought property); Hot Sox ballfield, Ebenezer AME Church. Along with the school, these sites could potentially be included on an interpretive walking tour of the town.²⁴

The Old Galesville School was one of three Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Maryland on October 13, 2017.²⁵ One hundred forty-nine Rosenwald Schools, two teacher homes and two shops were constructed in Maryland. Over 15,000 African American children were educated in these schools.²⁶

Dorothy Canter, Howard Morse, and Don and Kate Stevenson visited the school on May 2, 2018, and met with community representatives Gertrude Makell, Lyndra Pratt Marshall, and Roger Marshall.²⁷



Figure 21: Classroom, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)



Figure 22: Interpretive displays, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)

22 Ibid.

23 National Register of Historic Places, Multi-Property Documentation Form, Rosenwald Schools of Anne Arundel County, Maryland (1921-1932), 2005.

24 Checklist Table for Old Galesville School.

25 Peter Kurtze, Administrator, Evaluation and Registration, Maryland Historical Trust, to Alan Spears, October 13, 2017.

26 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

27 Checklist Table for Old Galesville School.

St. Paul's Chapel School (Virginia)

Built: c. 1920

School Plan: Nonstandard one-teacher

The St. Paul's Chapel School is located on Brunswick Drive at I-85 in Meredithville, Brunswick County, Virginia, on a 2-acre site surrounded by pine trees. The school was erected in 1920 for a total cost of \$1,500. Julius Rosenwald committed to providing funding for the school in 1915, during the formative years of the program, but depressed economic conditions made it difficult for the local African American community to raise the required matching funds, and construction was delayed for five years. In 1920, The Rosenwald Fund contributed \$300 towards the school, the local African American community contributed \$450, and the remaining \$750 was provided by public funding.²⁸



Figure 23: St. Paul's Chapel School, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)

In 1941, the farm belonging to Delia Bailey on which the school was constructed was purchased by Stewart Avery, a sharecropper. Though Avery remained adamant that the school was under his ownership, it was eventually ruled that the school was on public lands, and the parcel was deeded to Brunswick County in 1951. The school closed nine years later in 1960 and fell into neglect. Of the thirteen Rosenwald schools in Brunswick County, St. Paul's Chapel School was the only to have a one-teacher plan. The school's early development in the history of the Rosenwald Fund is reflected in the frame school's nonstandard plan and its construction on private land, which would not be permitted under later program requirements. The school is currently owned by a descendant of Stewart Avery.²⁹

The St. Paul's Chapel School is a one-story, frame, front-gabled building clad in wood weatherboard. The school is built on stone piers and has a metal roof. A small, gabled porch extends from the front elevation and shelters the main entrance. There is an additional entrance in the north elevation. The school's windows appear to be original and vary from six-over-six to nine-over-nine double-hung, wood sash on wood sills. As of early 2019, the school was in fair condition; there had been no additions or major modifications to the building. On the interior, the original pine floors and pine beadboard walls and ceilings remained. The original cast-iron stove was present although the blackboards had been removed. Accessory privies and a shed on the site had been demolished. The school was restored in 2004 by owner Ella Avery Smothers, and there are plans

²⁸ Fisk University, Rosenwald Database, "St. Paul School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu/> (accessed April 15, 2021); Feiler, 26.

²⁹ Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for St. Paul's School, January 31, 2018; National Register of Historic Places, St. Paul's School, Brunswick County, Virginia, National Register, 04000037; Feiler, 26.

to rehabilitate the school as a museum and cultural center. When Campaign representatives visited the school in January 2019, there was no lock on the door. It needed external painting, repairs to the roof, stair, and floor. There was also one broken window.³⁰

The school exhibits excellent integrity, maintaining many original features. It was added to the Virginia Landmarks Register in 2003, and the National Register of Historic Places in 2004. The school was nominated to the National Register under Criteria A and C for its association with the history of the Brunswick County African American community and as an example of a Virginia Rosenwald School. The period of significance extends from c.1917-1941. The form does not provide a rationale as to why this period was chosen (use as a school ended in 1960).³¹



Figure 24: St. Paul's Chapel School, side elevation, 2018
(Dorothy Canter)



Figure 25: St. Paul's Chapel School, interior detail, 2018
(Dorothy Canter)

The St. Paul's Chapel School is located about 69 miles from Richmond National Battlefield Park. It was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Virginia in September 2017.³² A total of 367 Rosenwald Schools, three teacher homes and 11 shops were constructed in Virginia. Nearly 43,000 African American children were educated in these schools.³³

On January 31, 2019, Dorothy Canter, Carol Shull and Kate Stevenson toured the St. Paul's Chapel School but did not meet with any representative of the school.³⁴

30 Ibid.

31 Ibid.

32 Marc C. Wagner, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, to Alan Spears, Rosenwald Park Campaign, September 23, 2017.

33 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

34 Checklist Table for St. Paul's Chapel School.

Shady Grove School (Virginia)

Built: 1924-1925

School Plan: 1

One of two Rosenwald schools built in Louisa County, the Shady Grove school is located at 2925 Three Chopt Road, Louisa, Virginia. The school was erected between 1924-1925 and its design was based on Rosenwald Plan 1. It was constructed for a total cost of \$1,500: the Julius Rosenwald Fund contributed \$400, the local African American community contributed \$700, and the remaining \$400 was provided by public funding. The movement to replace an aged log cabin school in the current location of the Shady Grove School with a new one was initiated by George Walter Hayden, chair of the Patrons' League, formed by African American community



Figure 26: Shady Grove School, front elevation, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

members. In 1922, Hayden pressed W.D. Gresham, Supervisor for Negro Education for Virginia's State Board of Education, to address the need for a new school in Shady Grove. The following year, after Gresham visited the site, the Rosenwald Fund offered to provide a construction grant of \$400. Delayed by the challenges to secure equipment, construction didn't begin until 1924. Two acres of land was donated by Patrons' League member Thomas Jackson, and labor was largely provided by the local African American community. The one teacher school opened in 1925, serving approximately twenty-five students each year in grades one through seven. The site was used for adult education at night. The school closed in 1962. Wilmore Shelton subsequently purchased the school from Louisa County and sold it to the nearby Shady Grove Baptist Church for a consideration of one dollar. The church is currently restoring the building for use as a living history museum and community center.³⁵

The Shady Grove School is a one-story, frame, front-gabled building clad in wood weatherboard. The school is built on concrete piers and is capped by a metal roof. An exterior brick chimney rises at the rear elevation. The main entrance is located in a recessed front-elevation corner porch accessed by wood steps. Windows, located in the side elevations, appear to be original and are nine-over-nine double-hung, wood sash on wood sills. Built following Plan 1, the school includes a single classroom, two cloakrooms, and an industrial room. When the school was in use, one of the cloakrooms served as a library. As of February 2019, the school was in good condition, with very little alteration of its original fabric. The interior wall cladding was original, as were the floors and

³⁵ Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Shady Grove School, February 1, 2019; National Register of Historic Places, Shady Grove School, Louisa County, Virginia, National Register # 09000416.

ceilings. The original blackboard had been retained, although the original stove was no longer present. A wheelchair ramp had been added to the front face (east side) of the building, and the original porch had been removed. Privies have been demolished, but the water pump remained on site. Recent work involved roof replacement (2016), exterior painting, and addition of the handicap ramp (2018). Work on the interior was planned for 2019.³⁶

The school exhibits good integrity, having retained many of its original materials and features. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2009. It was designated under National Register Criteria A and C as an example of an intact Rosenwald school, and as an example of the impact of the “separate but equal” educational policy in Virginia. The period of significance is 1925-1962, corresponding with its years of operation as a school. The Shady Grove School was also added to the Virginia Landmarks Register in 2009.³⁷

The Shady Grove School is located within one hour’s drive of Richmond National Battlefield Park. The school was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Virginia in September 2017.³⁸ A total of 367 Rosenwald Schools, three teacher homes and 11 shops were constructed in Virginia. Nearly 43,000 African American children were educated in these schools.³⁹



Figure 27: Classroom interior, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)



Figure 28: Side elevation, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

The Shady Grove School was identified in *The Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools Act of 2020*, which directed the Secretary of Interior to conduct a special resource study of sites associated with the life and legacy of Julius Rosenwald, with special emphasis on ten named schools.

On February 1, 2019, Dorothy Canter, Carol Shull and Kate Stevenson toured Shady Grove School with Jeannette Powell and Nell Morris.⁴⁰

36 Checklist Table for Shady Grove School.

37 Ibid.

38 Marc C. Wagner, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, to Alan Spears, Rosenwald Park Campaign, September 23, 2017.

39 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

40 Checklist Table for Shady Grove School.

Two-Teacher Schools

The largest number of Rosenwald Schools were two-teacher buildings (1,946), which first appeared in the 1924 edition of *Community School Plans*.⁴¹ The publication included three plans, all of which were one-story, frame buildings with the characteristic wood-sash ribbon windows. In all three plans, the industrial room is situated in the front of the building within a gabled or hipped-roof projection and two classrooms are located at the rear. The three schools differed somewhat in the exterior design. Plan 2-C featured a tiered, front-facing gabled roof, while the design for Plan 20 incorporated a cross-gabled roof. Plan 20-A featured a hipped roof with cross gables—the only hipped roof form to appear in the publication. In addition, Plans 20 and 20-A called for movable partitions between the classrooms. Plan 2-C had been phased out by the 1931 edition of *Community School Plans*, as the Rosenwald Fund began to limit their support for smaller one and two teacher schools.

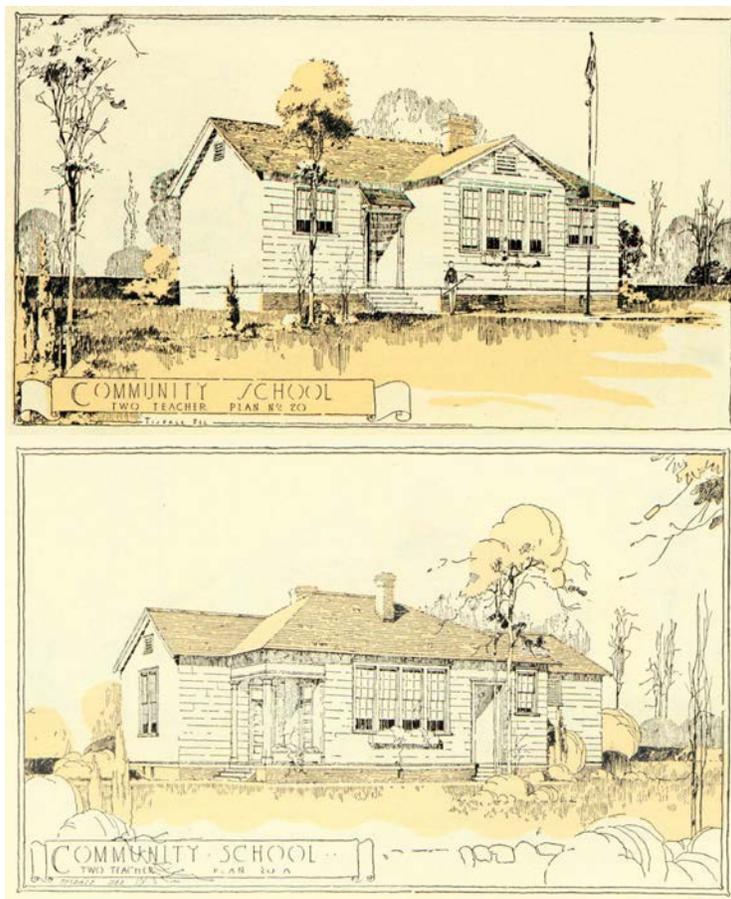
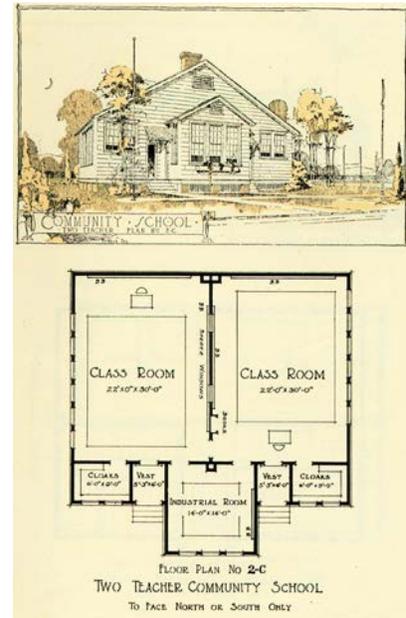


Figure 29: Plan 2-C floorplan (above); sketch drawing of Plan 20 (left upper); and 20-A (left lower) from the 1924 edition of *Community School Plan*.

41 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 4; Mary S. Hoffschwelle, *Preserving Rosenwald Schools* (Washington: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 2012), 7-8.

Bay Springs School (Mississippi)

Built: 1926

School Plan: 20

The Bay Springs School is located at 888 Monroe Road in Hattiesburg, Forrest County, Mississippi. The Bay Springs School was constructed in 1926 and is an example of Rosenwald Plan 20. It was erected at a total cost of \$3,100: the local African American community contributed \$1,500, public funds accounted for \$500, and the Rosenwald Fund provided \$1,100.⁴² The school served grades one through twelve and was constructed on land donated by Warren Kelly. The Dahmer family, relatives of Warren Kelly, owned a farm and store adjacent to the school and were active members of the community. Vernon Dahmer, Sr., Warren Kelly's grandson, served as a member of the Board of Trustees and his wife taught at the school. A rear addition with a gabled roof was added to the structure in the 1940s, and, throughout its use as a school, additional structures were added to the site. These included a two-story, Rosenwald-funded classroom building, cafeteria, industrial arts shop, and school master's house. During the school's first few decades, approximately 120 students attended the school. Attendance rose to nearly 300 students during the school's peak years from the 1940s to the school's closure in 1958. The school building later serving as a community center, church, and gathering site for activists during the Civil Rights Movement.⁴³



Figure 30: Bay Springs School, 2018 (Alan Spears)

The school became a center for local Civil Rights activism during the 1960s. Teachers at the school, and other segregated black schools across the south, taught their students about the values of equality and democracy, helping lay the foundation for the Civil Rights Movement. Black southern teachers also coordinated with the NAACP's Legal Defense Fund by supplying data that would later be used by Thurgood Marshall in his legal fight to end school segregation. Vernon Dahmer was the head of the local chapter of the NAACP, and the school was the site of voter registration drives and meetings of the NAACP and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee. During the "Freedom Summer" of 1964, Dahmer hosted a large Fourth of July picnic at the school for voter registration volunteers and the local African American community. On January 10, 1966, Vernon Dahmer, Sr. was killed when members of the Ku Klux Klan set his home and store on fire. Both his wife Ellie and children survived. Dahmer was targeted for his activism as a local NAACP leader and for using his store as a location for community members to pay their poll taxes in order

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42 Fisk University, Rosenwald Database, "Bay Springs School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu/> (accessed April 15, 2021).

43 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Bay Springs Rosenwald School, April 18, 2019; Jesse Bass, "Preserving History: Resident Restoring Kelly Settlement's Rosenwald School," *Hattiesburg American*, May 29, 2013; Jennifer V. O. Baughn, Chief Architectural Historian, National Trust for Historic Preservation, to Friends of Rosenwald Schools, November 21, 2007.



Figure 31: Ellie J. Dahmer, widow of Vernon Dahmer and former Rosenwald School student and teacher, inside the school (courtesy of @Andrew Feiler, andrewfeiler.com)

to be eligible to vote. Poll taxes in Mississippi were abolished that March. In 1998, Sam Bowers, Imperial Wizard of the Mississippi White Knights, received a life sentence for the murder.⁴⁴ In 2016, the Mississippi State legislature designated January 10 as Vernon Dahmer Day.⁴⁵

The two-teacher school building is presently owned by Dennis Dahmer, son of Vernon Dahmer, Sr., and great-grandson of Warren Kelley. The Dahmer family has maintained the school using private funds, with the structure serving as a church in 2002. It currently functions as a community meeting place.⁴⁶

The Bay Springs School is a one-story, frame building built on a brick pier foundation. The school is clad in wood weatherboard siding and has a standing-seam metal roof and exterior brick end chimney. Dual entrances, located in the front elevation, are sheltered by bracketed canopies and are accessed by sets of wood steps. The school's windows appear to be original and consist of both six-over-six and nine-over-nine double-hung, wood sash on wood sills. As of April 2019, the school was in good condition. Significant damage was caused to the roof and foundation in 2005 by Hurricane Katrina. Work in 2008-2009 involved restoring the school's floors, windows, and the replacement of the roof, funded both privately and with a grant from the Mississippi Department

44 Ibid; Feiler, 58-59.

45 Arielle Dreher, "Mississippi Legislature Honors Klan Victim Vernon Dahmer Sr.," *Jackson Free Press*, January 8, 2016.

46 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Bay Springs Rosenwald School; Feiler, 58-59.

of Archives and History.⁴⁷

The Bay Springs Rosenwald School maintains excellent integrity, having retained many of its original materials and design elements. While the school demonstrates significance for its association with the Rosenwald Schools Program and the Civil Rights Movement, it has not to date been listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Of the original 633 Rosenwald schools built in Mississippi, only 18 are extant today, and the school was listed as a Mississippi Landmark in 2013.⁴⁸

The Bay Springs School was one of three Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Mississippi in December 2017.⁴⁹ A total of 633 Rosenwald schools, teacher homes and shops were built in Mississippi, and nearly 78,000 African American children were educated in these school facilities.⁵⁰

The Bay Springs School was identified in *The Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools Act of 2020*, which directed the Secretary of Interior to conduct a special resource study of sites associated with the life and legacy of Julius Rosenwald, with special emphasis on ten named schools.

On April 18, 2019, Alan Spears visited the school and met with Dennis Dahmer.⁵¹



Figure 32: Classroom interior (Alan Spears)



Figure 33: Dennis Dahmer in restored classroom
(Hattiesburg American)

47 Checklist Table for Bay Springs Rosenwald School; Bass, "Preserving History: Resident Restoring Kelly Settlement's Rosenwald School."

48 Mississippi Department of Archives and History, "Bay Springs School II [Rosenwald]," MDAH Historic Resource Inventory Fact Sheet, <https://www.apps.mdah.ms.gov/Public/prop.aspx?id=100446&view=facts&y=824> (accessed April 2021).

49 Jennifer Baughn, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, to Dorothy Canter, Rosenwald Park Campaign, December 5, 2017.

50 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

51 Checklist Table for Bay Springs Rosenwald School.

Canetuck School (North Carolina)

Built: 1921-1922

School Plan: 20

The Canetuck School is located at 6098 Canetuck Road in the community of Canetuck, Pender County, North Carolina. The school serves as an example of Rosenwald Plan 20 with minor original alterations. It was completed in 1922 at a total cost of \$2,700, with \$800 provided by the Rosenwald Fund, \$1,226 by the local African American community, and \$674 by public funds.⁵²



Figure 34: Canetuck School, c. 1922 (Fisk University)

Pender County is located in southeastern North Carolina, and its economy has historically been associated with agriculture. Slightly more than 4.5 acres of land for the school were donated by Benjamin Franklin Keith, whose ancestors lived in the area since receiving land grants in the 1780s, and who, after opposing the 1898 Wilmington insurrection, retired to Canetuck in 1916. The Pender County Board of Education awarded the construction contract to J.M. Hymn on September 5, 1921. The school served grades one through six, with approximately 50 to 70 students each year. Consolidation led to its closure in 1958. The structure fell into disuse before being converted into a community center in 1965.⁵³ The Canetuck Community Center, Inc., a non-profit organization currently owns the building. Social events and classes are held there, and it serves as a polling place and flu shot clinic.⁵⁴

The Canetuck School is a one-story, frame, seven-bay building clad in wood weatherboard siding and the solid foundation has been parged with stucco. The building exhibits a hipped, standing-seam metal roof with a gabled front projection and interior brick chimney that has been covered in cement. Typical of the Plan 20, dual entrances are located in the front elevation and are recessed and sheltered by the overhang of the roof. The school's windows, which appear to be original, are comprised of both six-over-six and nine-over-nine double-hung, wood sash on wood sills. There have been a number of alterations to the building. The north cloakroom was converted into a bathroom after 1965 and a shed-roofed bathroom addition was added. An interior movable partition wall separating two classrooms has been removed, and most of the wood sheathing that covered the walls and ceilings has been covered with vertical wood paneling and painted plywood. A stage was added c. 1965 when the school was converted into a community center. In addition, a handicapped accessibility ramp has been installed leading to one of the two front entrances. The building underwent repairs following a grant from the Lowe's Charitable Educational Foundation in 2010. The site once featured two concrete-floored privies,

52 Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Canetuck School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

53 National Register of Historic Places, Canetuck School, Pender County, North Carolina, National Register #100002520.

54 Checklist Table for Canetuck School.

which are no longer extant.⁵⁵

Despite these alterations, the Canetuck School still demonstrates sufficient integrity to communicate its architectural and historical significance. The school was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2018 under Criteria A and C for its association with African American education in Pender County, North Carolina, and as an intact example of a Plan 20 two-teacher school. The period of significance is 1921-1958, extending from the school's construction to its closure. The Canetuck School is one of fifteen Rosenwald Schools built in Pender County; only one other two-teacher school, Maple Hill School, remains but was moved from its original location and significantly altered.⁵⁶



Figure 35: Front elevation, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)



Figure 36: Side and rear elevations, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

The Canetuck School is about ten miles from Moore's Creek National Battlefield on the same road. It was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of North Carolina on September 22, 2017.⁵⁷ More Rosenwald School facilities were built in North Carolina than in any other state; namely, 787 Rosenwald Schools, 18 teacher homes and eight shops. More than 114,000 African American children attended these schools.⁵⁸

On May 2, 2019, Dorothy Canter visited the school and met with Mae Verta Kea and Claudia Stack.⁵⁹

55 Rosenwald Park Foundation, Checklist Table for Canetuck School, May 2, 2019.

56 Checklist Table for Canetuck School; National Register of Historic Places, Canetuck School, Pender County, North Carolina, National Register #100002520.

57 Claudia R. Brown, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, to Rosenwald Park Campaign, September 22, 2017.

58 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

59 Checklist Table for Canetuck School.

Cusseta Industrial High School (Georgia)

Built: 1929-1930

School Plan: 20

The Cusseta Industrial High School is located at 113 Sandy Road, Cusseta, Chattahoochee County, Georgia. Constructed between 1929-1930, the frame school is an example of Rosenwald Plan 20. The total cost of the school was \$2,973, with \$750 provided by the Rosenwald Fund, \$250 from the local African American community, and the remaining \$1,973 came from public funds.⁶⁰ At the time of its opening in 1930, it was the only high school in the county to serve African American students.



Figure 37: Cusseta Industrial High School, c. 1930 (Fisk University)

During its operation, water was provided from a nearby creek, and students supplied coal and chopped wood for the stove. The school closed in 1958, subsequently serving as a Country Club, Lion's Club, Kiwanis Club, and site for Boy Scout meetings. The Chattahoochee County Historic Preservation Society, led by William and Gwanda Place, owns the building and land. The school is open to visitors.⁶¹

The Cusseta School is a one-story, frame building built on a brick pier foundation. The school is clad in wood weatherboard siding and has a cross-gabled standing-seam metal roof pierced by an interior brick chimney. Dual entrances, located in the front elevation, are sheltered by bracketed canopies and are accessed by sets of wood steps. The school's windows are in-kind replacements of the originals and consist of both six-over-six and nine-over-nine double-hung, wood sash on wood sills. The interior plan features two classrooms, a cloakroom, and an industrial room. The site formerly featured privies, barracks, and a garden which are no longer extant.⁶²

As of April 2019, the school was in good condition. Alterations have included a restroom addition, attached by a hyphen to the side elevation, and a new kitchen. In 2013, a \$10,000 matching grant was provided by the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Rosenwald Schools Centennial Fund towards the restoration of the school. As part of the project, the foundation and floor of the industrial room was repaired, wiring was updated, and the front and rear windows were replaced with new windows to match the historic ones. In 2016, a rest room was added to the school along with a covered walkway and handicapped ramp. In 2019, the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation awarded the school a Callahan Incentive Grant of \$3,750 for restoration work.⁶³ With this funding,

60 Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Cusseta School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

61 Hon. Sanford D. Bishop, Jr., "In Recognition of the Historic Marker Dedication for Cusseta Industrial High School," in *Proceedings and Debates of the 113th Congress* (United States: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2012), 159: 8803-04; Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Cusseta Industrial High School, April 18, 2019.

62 Checklist Table for Cusseta Industrial High School.

63 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Cusseta Industrial High School, April 18, 2019.

the building was painted, the roof was replaced, flooring was repaired, and the remaining windows were replaced on the rear elevation.⁶⁴

Despite the new restroom addition, the Cusseta Industrial High School retains excellent integrity. The school was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2011 under Criteria A for its association with the Rosenwald Fund and African American education and heritage, and under Criterion C as an intact example of a two-teacher Rosenwald school. The period of significance is 1930-1958, corresponding with its years of operation as a school.⁶⁵



Figure 38: Front elevation, 2019 (Kate and Don Stevenson)



Figure 39: Classroom interior, 2019 (Kate and Don Stevenson)

The Cusseta School is closest to the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site in Plains, Georgia (about 36 miles). It is also about 92 miles from Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park in Georgia, about 128 miles from the Freedom Riders National Monument in Alabama, and about 85 miles from the Horseshoe Bend National Military Park in Alabama.

The Cusseta Industrial High School was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Georgia on September 22, 2017.⁶⁶ In Georgia,

242 Rosenwald Schools, 12 teacher homes and seven shops were constructed. More than 37,000 African American children attended these schools.⁶⁷

On April 18, 2019, Kate and Don Stevenson visited the school and met with Bill and Gwanda Place.⁶⁸

64 National Register of Historic Places, Cusseta Industrial High School, Chattahoochee County, Georgia, National Register # 11000184.

65 Ibid.

66 Melissa Jest, African American Programs Coordinator, Georgia Historic Preservation Division, to Dorothy Canter, November 2, 2017.

67 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

68 Checklist Table for Cusseta Industrial High School.

Durham's Chapel School (Tennessee)

Built: 1923

School Plan: 20

Durham's Chapel School is situated at 5055 Old TN 31E, adjacent to Durham's Chapel Baptist Church and Cemetery, in Bethpage, Sumner County, Tennessee. It was built in 1923 following Rosenwald Plan 20, although it is oriented with its main façade to the northeast, slightly askew from the plan's intended facing of either east or west. The school cost a total of \$3,750, \$700 of which was paid for by the Rosenwald Fund. The local African American community and public each contributed \$1,525.⁶⁹



Figure 40: Durham's Chapel School, c. 1923 (Fisk University)

The Durham's Chapel Baptist Church was founded in 1866 on land donated by Rodney Durham. Construction of the Durham Chapel's School in 1923 consolidated two prior schools located on the site and associated with the church. During the 1950s, funding was granted to update the industrial room, at which point a stove, refrigerator, and sink were added. Low enrollment led to the school's closure in 1962. Following its closure, ownership transitioned to Durham's Chapel Baptist Church, which used the space as a community hall until 1995. The school is currently owned by the Durham Chapel Community Club.⁷⁰

The one-story, frame, school sits on a rock face limestone foundation, is clad in wood clapboard, and features a cross-gabled roof covered in asphalt shingles. In keeping with Plan 20, dual entrances are located in the front elevation and are sheltered by bracketed canopies. Also typical of the Plan 20 design, the school's windows include both six-over-six and nine-over-nine double-hung, wood sash on wood sills. The original doors, wood flooring, ceiling, wainscoting, plaster walls, and moldings are retained. The school features a stage and interior classroom partition, typical of Plan 20 schools. Also remaining are the chalkboards, a bulletin board, wooden cabinets, and a wood-burning stove. The site features a concrete sidewalk, well and a water pump dating to the school's construction. Two privies, also dating to 1923, are located nearby but are in poor condition. The building does not have indoor bathrooms.⁷¹ In 2005, the roof was replaced following a grant awarded by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Gutters have been installed, concealing the originally exposed rafter tails. Additional work occurred in 2012, including the restoration of windows which had previous been obscured by plywood.⁷²

69 Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Durham's Chapel School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

70 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Durham's Chapel School, May 16, 2018.

71 National Register of Historic Places, Durham's Chapel Baptist Church, Cemetery, and School, Sumner County, Tennessee, National Register # 06000652.

72 Checklist Table for Durham's Chapel School; Rose French, "Students of segregation-era schools push for repair, recognition," *Jackson Sun* (Jackson, TN), May 27, 2007.

The Durham Chapel's School has retained a high level of integrity, having retained most of its original materials, architectural features, and floorplan. Durham's Chapel School, Church, and Cemetery were added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2006. The property is significant under Criteria A and C for its role in Sumner County's education and social history and African American ethnic heritage, and as an example of a school built to standard Rosenwald specifications. The period of significance for the district is 1870-1956, extending from the construction of the church to 50 years from the time of listing (use as a school ended in 1962).⁷³



Figure 41: Front elevation, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)



Figure 42: Classroom interior, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)

The school is about 56 miles from Stones River National Battlefield. The Durham's Chapel School was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Tennessee on November 15, 2017.⁷⁴ Three hundred fifty four Rosenwald Schools, 9 teacher homes and 10 shops were constructed in Tennessee. More than 44,000 African American children attended these schools.⁷⁵

On May 16, 2018, Dorothy Canter and Alan Spears met with Maggie Brown, Lilly Patterson, and Howard Thurman, representing the Durham Chapel Community Club, and Holly Barnett from the Tennessee Historical Commission.⁷⁶

73 National Register of Historic Places, Durham's Chapel Baptist Church, Cemetery, and School, Sumner County, Tennessee, National Register # 06000652.

74 Holly Barnett, Tennessee Historical Commission, to Rosenwald Park Campaign, November 15, 2017.

75 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

76 Checklist Table for Durham's Chapel School.

Hope School (South Carolina)

Built: 1925-1926

School Plan: 20

The Hope School is situated at 1971 Hope Station Road in Pomaria, Newberry County, South Carolina. Constructed between 1925 and 1926 following Rosenwald Plan 20, the school cost \$2,900. The Rosenwald Fund contributed \$700, local African American community members contributed \$600, local white community members contributed \$400, and \$1,200 was provided through public funding.⁷⁷ The frame school was



Figure 43: Hope School, c. 1926 (Fisk University)

built on two acres of land donated by the Hope family to Newberry County in 1925. James H. Hope was the South Carolina State Superintendent of Education from 1922 to 1926 and was an advocate for the Rosenwald Schools Building Program. Local residents named the school in his honor.⁷⁸ The school served grades one through six, with heat provided by a stove and water brought to the site from a store a half mile away. The Hope School closed in 1954, prompted by the state's Equalization

Program. The current owner is the Hope School Community Center, Inc., which bought it from the School District for \$500. The facility is now used as a community center.⁷⁹



Figure 44: Hope School, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

The one-story Hope School is of frame construction and rests on a brick pier foundation. The school is clad in wood weatherboard siding and has a cross-gabled standing-seam metal roof pierced by an interior brick chimney. Dual entrances are located in front-elevation recesses and are sheltered by bracketed canopies. Fenestration includes both six-over-six and nine-over-nine double-hung, wood sash windows on wood

⁷⁷ Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Hope School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

⁷⁸ Feiler, 67.

⁷⁹ Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Hope Rosenwald School, October 3, 2019; National Register of Historic Places, Hope Rosenwald School, Newberry County, South Carolina, National Register # 07001045; Andrew Wigger, "Hope remembered," *Newberry Observer* (Newberry, South Carolina), March 6, 2017.

sills. Prior to the school's restoration, major alterations included the lowering of one of the classroom ceilings and the application of vinyl siding on the exterior. The original privies were also removed. In 2004-2005 the school was restored with funding from a \$100,000 grant from the South Carolina Budget and Control Board. The restoration was led by Ron Hope, a descendant of James Hope and a retired Army officer. As part of the restoration, the vinyl siding and dropped ceilings were removed, and windows were replaced in-kind using historic windows salvaged from another county school. Hope found some of the school's original desks inside the building and restored them as well. In addition, the kitchen was



Figure 45: Classroom interiors, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

updated, air conditioning installed, and a bathroom was added in one of the cloakrooms. Nearly all the interior wall sheathing, molding, wainscoting, flooring, doors, and transoms are original. One original wood-burning stove remains at the school. Several of the school's desks, the second wood-burning stove, and an original sign with the name of the school are now on display at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, DC.⁸⁰

Post-restoration, the Hope School exhibits good integrity, with inappropriate past alterations removed and original finishes and features restored. The school was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2007. It was found to be significant under Criteria A and C for its role in South Carolina's African American educational and social history, and as an example of early twentieth century schoolhouse construction. The period of significance extends from 1925-1954, corresponding with its years of operation as a school.⁸¹

The Hope School is located about 43 miles from the Ninety-Six National Historic Site. It was one of five Rosenwald Schools and one teacher home recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of South Carolina in September 2017.⁸² A total of 481 Rosenwald Schools, eight teacher homes and 11 shops were constructed in South Carolina. More than 74,000 African American children attended these schools.⁸³

Dorothy Canter, Stephanie Deutsch and Tracy Hayes visited the school on October 3, 2019, and met with Tenetha Hall, Ron Hope and Thomas Hall.⁸⁴

80 Ibid; Feiler, 67.

81 National Register of Historic Places, Hope Rosenwald School, Newberry County, South Carolina, National Register # 07001045.

82 Brad Sauls, Supervisor of Survey, Registration & Grants, South Carolina Department of Archives & History, to Alan Spears, September 20, 2017.

83 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

84 Checklist Table for Hope Rosenwald School.

Noble Hill School (Georgia)

Built: 1922-1923

School Plan: 2-C

The Noble Hill School is located in Bartow County, Georgia, at 2361 Joe Frank Harris Pkwy, NW, in the unincorporated community of Cassville. It was erected between 1922-1923 and is an example of Rosenwald Plan 2-C. The total cost of construction was \$2,125, with \$1,000 dollars contributed by the local African American community, \$25 from white individuals, \$400 from the public, and \$700 from the Rosenwald Fund. The Noble Hill School was the first of two Rosenwald Schools built in the county.⁸⁵

Prior to the school's construction, local African American students had been taught at a school built in 1885. That school was condemned in 1921, and classes moved to the New Hope Baptist Church. That year, schoolteacher C.W.

Williams pursued Rosenwald Funds for a new school building. Upon approval of the grant, builder Webster Wheeler, a former Cassville resident who had relocated to Detroit to work for the Ford Motor Company as part of the Great Migration of southern blacks to northern industrial cities, returned home to the community to construct the school. Webster was aided by Daniel Harris, a local farmer and carpenter, and his son Bethel also pitched in. Both the senior Wheeler and Harris became trustees of the new school.⁸⁶



Figure 47: Front and side elevations, 2019 (Don Stevenson)



Figure 46: Noble Hill School, 1925 (courtesy of Noble Hill School)

From 1923 through 1955, the Noble School served grades one through seven, with each classroom containing multiple grades separated by four-foot dividers. Twenty different teachers taught in the building over that period. Yearly enrollment was as high as nearly 100 students. The school had no indoor plumbing and originally no electricity.

85 Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Cassville School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021); National Register of Historic Places, Noble Hill School, Bartow County, Georgia, National Register # 87001103.
86 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Noble Hill School, April 16, 2019; National Register of Historic Places, Noble Hill School, Bartow County, Georgia, National Register # 87001103; Feiler, 47.



Figure 48: Valerie and Marian Coleman, descendants of Webster Wheeler, inside the Memorial Center (courtesy of @Andrew Feiler, andrewfeiler.com)

Heat was provided by a potbelly stove.⁸⁷

The school closed in 1955 when all African American schools in Georgia were consolidated into larger African-American schools, a process that was called “equalization.” Following its closure, ownership of the school transferred to New Hope Baptist Church and then to Bethel Wheeler, who used it as a storage facility until his death. In 1983 when neighbors and alumni came together to consider restoration of the school as the Noble Hill-Wheeler Memorial Center, Bertha Wheeler, Bethel’s widow, donated the building and a portion of the property to the Center. Dr. Susie Weems Wheeler, the wife of a grandson of Webster Wheeler, and other family members bought the remaining land. Dr. Wheeler had attended Noble Hill School and went on to a distinguished career in education. One of her accomplishments was in helping to integrate the Bartow County school system. She also helped spearhead the restoration process, which was funded by \$200,000 in donations raised by alumni of the school and \$3,000 in grants. The Memorial Center opened in December 1989.⁸⁸

The site is currently owned by the Noble Hill-Wheeler Foundation Inc. and functions as a cultural heritage center. The Noble Hill-Wheeler Memorial Center concentrates on African American history in Bartow County. It also hosts weddings, picnics, meetings and educational tours for students

⁸⁷ Ibid.

⁸⁸ “Enlightened attitude saves landmarks in black history,” *North County Times* (Oceanside, California), September 3, 1993; Noble Hill-Wheeler Memorial Center brochure provided to the Rosenwald Parks Campaign, May 28, 2021.

from elementary school to college. The center is curated by Valerie Coleman, the great-great granddaughter of Webster Wheeler.⁸⁹

The Noble Hill School is a one-story, frame, five-bay building with a front-gabled metal roof. The school is constructed on a brick foundation and is clad in wood weatherboard siding. Two front entrances are arranged in the front elevation to either side of a gabled projection and are sheltered by bracketed wood canopies. The windows appear to be original and are both six-over-six and nine-over-nine, double-hung wood sash on wood sills. The interior plan includes two classrooms, cloakrooms, and an industrial room in the front projection. Alterations to the school have been minimal and have included a restroom addition at the rear of the building and the installation of a new wheelchair ramp. In addition to the original blackboards, most of the original doors, baseboards, ceilings, floors, and walls remain. As of May 2021, the school was in good condition. Two privies are located on the property, in addition to a block wellhouse that was constructed during the 1950s, and a yellow building that was the residence of Bethel and Bertha Wheeler. That building was purchased in 2017 with the goal of restoring it for use as an administration and meeting facility.⁹⁰



Figure 49: Rear elevation, 2019 (Don Stevenson)

Despite the addition of a wheelchair ramp and rear restroom, the frame building retains integrity and is recognizable as an example of Plan 2-C. The school was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1987. It was found to be significant under Criterion A for its association with early twentieth-century education for African American students in Georgia, and under Criterion C as an example of a Rosenwald School. The nomination does not clearly define a Period of Significance for the school, but its contribution under Criterion A is discussed relative to the 1923-1955 timeframe during which it operated as a school.⁹¹



Figure 50: Classroom, 2019 (Don Stevenson)

The Noble Hill School is about 35 miles from Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park in Marietta, Georgia. It was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the

89 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Noble Hill School, April 16, 2019; National Register of Historic Places, Noble Hill School, Bartow County, Georgia, National Register # 87001103; Feiler, 47.

90 Ibid.

91 National Register of Historic Places, Noble Hill School, Bartow County, Georgia, National Register # 87001103.

planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Georgia on September 22, 2017.⁹² A total of 242 Rosenwald Schools, 12 teacher homes and seven shops were constructed in Georgia. More than 37,000 African American children attended these schools.⁹³



Figure 51: Noble Hill School prior to restoration, 1982
(courtesy of Noble Hill School)

The Noble Hill School was identified in *The Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools Act of 2020*, which directed the Secretary of Interior to conduct a special resource study of sites associated with the life and legacy of Julius Rosenwald, with special emphasis on ten named schools.

Kate and Don Stevenson visited the school on April 16, 2019, and met with Valerie Coleman, Sheri Henshaw and Jeanne Cyriaque. Dorothy Canter also visited the school on May 28, 2021, and met with Valerie and Marion Coleman.⁹⁴

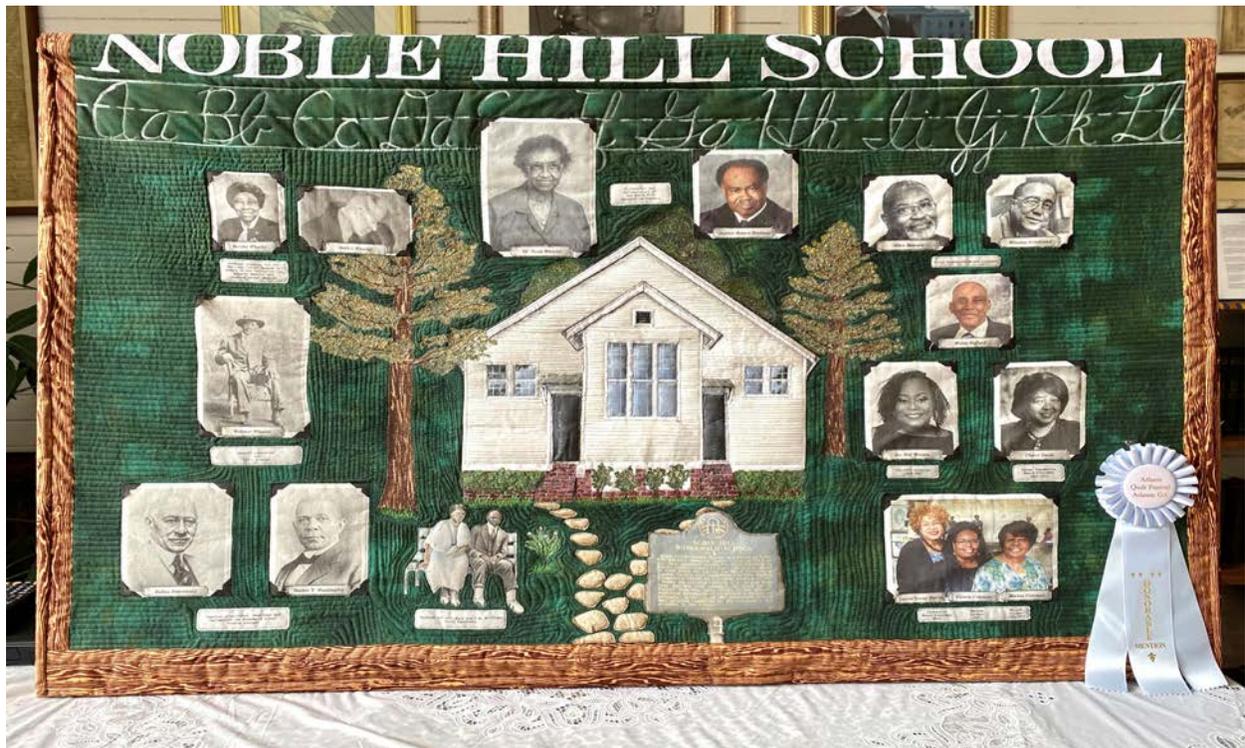


Figure 52: Commemorative quilt on display at the school, 2021 (Dorothy Canter)

92 Melissa Jest, African American Programs Coordinator, Georgia Historic Preservation Division, to Dorothy Canter, November 2, 2017.

93 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

94 Checklist Table for Noble Hill School.

Old Merritt School (Alabama)

Built: 1920-1921

School Plan: Combination of 20 and 20-A

Old Merritt School, located on Old Troy Road in Midway, Bullock County, Alabama, opened in 1921 as the Midway Elementary Public Colored School.⁹⁵ Construction costs totaled \$2,600 with \$800 in funding provided from the Rosenwald Fund, \$800 was paid by public funds, and the final \$1,000 from the African American community.⁹⁶



Figure 53: Old Merritt School, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

The school is a combination of Plans 20 and 20-A. It was constructed as an elementary school on two acres of land sold by Margaret Elizabeth Merritt to the state of Alabama in 1921. During its use as an elementary school, two frame additions were added to the original frame structure. The eastern wing was added c. 1935 and the western wing c. 1946. The industrial room also was enlarged in 1946. In 1949, the school ceased to serve elementary school students and was converted to use as a high school. It was renamed the Elizabeth Merritt High School at this time. A detached concrete block building was constructed on the site in 1949, followed later by a brick building and the addition of a gym and lunchroom. In 1971, the school complex transitioned back to an elementary school, serving kindergarten through grade six until 1978 when it closed and became a community center.⁹⁷

The one-story, frame building is clad in weatherboard, sits on brick piers, and consists of a front-gabled main block and two attached front-gabled wings. Windows are six-over-six and nine-over-nine, double-hung wood sash on wood sills. The exterior of the original central block was constructed following Plan 20, with two classrooms under a metal standing seam side gabled roof. A front-gabled industrial room projects on the north side. The interior layout followed Plan 20-A, with two classrooms separated by a folding partition and cloakrooms in the eastern classroom, now a bathroom. Alterations have included the 1935 and 1946 additions, both of which were compatible in design to the original school building. Both frame additions originally featured two classrooms and are oriented with their gable ends facing north and south and feature an interior brick chimney on each end. Other alterations have included the removal of the folding doors separating the two original classrooms and the construction of a new brick “equalization” school on the property during the 1960s (no longer in use and subjected to significant vandalism). Porches covered with shed roofs connect the additions to the projecting industrial room. A new paved driveway surrounds the school with a new parking lot on one side. Restoration work occurred in

The one-story, frame building is clad in weatherboard, sits on brick piers, and consists of a front-gabled main block and two attached front-gabled wings. Windows are six-over-six and nine-over-nine, double-hung wood sash on wood sills. The exterior of the original central block was constructed following Plan 20, with two classrooms under a metal standing seam side gabled roof. A front-gabled industrial room projects on the north side. The interior layout followed Plan 20-A, with two classrooms separated by a folding partition and cloakrooms in the eastern classroom, now a bathroom. Alterations have included the 1935 and 1946 additions, both of which were compatible in design to the original school building. Both frame additions originally featured two classrooms and are oriented with their gable ends facing north and south and feature an interior brick chimney on each end. Other alterations have included the removal of the folding doors separating the two original classrooms and the construction of a new brick “equalization” school on the property during the 1960s (no longer in use and subjected to significant vandalism). Porches covered with shed roofs connect the additions to the projecting industrial room. A new paved driveway surrounds the school with a new parking lot on one side. Restoration work occurred in

95 “2013 Historic Merritt Rosenwald School Reunion Tour Held,” *Union Springs Herald*, September 4, 2013.

96 Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, “Midway School,” <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

97 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Old Merritt School, May 13, 2019; “2013 Historic Merritt Rosenwald School Reunion Tour Held,” *Union Springs Herald*, September 4, 2013.

2009. Presently, the school is owned by the Bullock County Board of Education.⁹⁸

The Old Merritt School retains sufficient integrity to convey its historical importance, and its original form is still readable between the compatible, historic additions. The school was added to the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage in 1990, and the National Register of Historic Places in 1998. It was found to be significant under Criteria A and C for its role in the history of African American education as a school built under the Rosenwald School Building Fund Program, and as an example of a Samuel Smith and Rosenwald designed school. The period of significance extends from c. 1922 to 1937 (use as a school ended in 1978). The nomination does not provide a rationale for why these dates were chosen, although the Period of Significance in the Multiple Property Documentation Form for Rosenwald Schools in Alabama extends to 1937.⁹⁹

The Old Merritt School is about 35 miles from Tuskegee Institute National Historical Site. It one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Alabama on November 3, 2017.¹⁰⁰ A total of 389 Rosenwald Schools, seven teacher homes and 11 shops were constructed in Alabama. More than 40,000 African American children attended these schools.¹⁰¹

Dorothy Canter visited the site on May 13, 2019 and walked around the outside of the school. She was not able to gain entrance to the school.¹⁰²



Figure 54: Side elevation with equalization school in background, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)



Figure 55: State historical marker, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

98 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Old Merritt School, May 13, 2019.

99 National Register of Historic Places, Merritt School, Bullock County, Alabama, National Register # 98000110.

100 Dorothy Walker, Alabama Historical Commission, to Dorothy Canter, November 28, 2017.

101 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

102 Checklist Table for Old Merritt School.

Pine Grove School (South Carolina)

Built: 1923

School Plan: Nonstandard two-teacher

The Pine Grove School is located at 937 Piney Woods Road in Columbia, Richland County, South Carolina. Completed in 1923, the school was built at a total cost of \$2,500: the African American community contributed \$285, local white residents donated \$315, public funds accounted for \$1,200, and the Rosenwald Fund provided \$700. The school is a variant of Rosenwald Plan 2-C, incorporating two classrooms and two cloakrooms, but lacking an industrial room.¹⁰³



Figure 56: Pine Grove School, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

Prior to the school's construction, local African American children attended a two-room schoolhouse located on the grounds of the nearby Pine Grove AME Church. By the 1920s, the condition of this school had deteriorated such that the community began the fundraising effort to build a new school. In 1923, local resident Adam Metz donated four acres of land to the Richland County school district for the new Pine Grove School. Upon its completion, the two-teacher school housed grades one through seven, with an attendance of approximately 40 to 50 students per year. The school operated as part of the Richland County School District from 1923 until its closure in 1950. The school remained vacant until 1968, when the school district sold the property to the Pine Grove Community Development Club, who used the building as a community center for over 30 years. In 2002, the Richland County Recreation Commission acquired the property and the former school building continued to function as a meeting hall for the local community. The county restored the school in 2006 and it currently serves as an interpretive center to educate the public about the Rosenwald Schools initiative and life in a two-room school.¹⁰⁴

The Pine Grove School is a one-story, frame, rectangular-plan, building with a front-gabled, standing-seam tin roof. The primary entrance is centered in a one-bay gabled projection and is accessed by a set of concrete steps with steel railing, and by a wheelchair ramp that extends to one side. The school is built on brick piers and is clad in wood siding. Fenestration consists of a combination of six-over-six and nine-over-nine, double-hung, wood-sash windows on wood sills. The interior is separated into two classrooms and two cloakrooms. Wood burning stoves in the classrooms tie into a central chimney. The original tongue and groove wood ceilings have been retained although

¹⁰³ Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Pine Grove School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021); Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Pine Grove Rosenwald School, October 3, 2019.

¹⁰⁴ National Register of Historic Places, Pine Grove Rosenwald School, Richland County, South Carolina, National Register #08001397; Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Pine Grove Rosenwald School, October 3, 2019; Checklist Table for Pine Grove Rosenwald School.

the original folding doors between the classrooms have been removed. The two original privies on the site have been removed and there are currently no indoor restrooms in the school building. Sharing a lot with the recently constructed Pine Grove Community Center, the school is now part of Pine Grove Park, which is owned and managed by Richland County Recreation Commission.¹⁰⁵

There have been several alterations to the school over the years. These have included the addition of a new HVAC system and handicapped access; cinder block infill added between brick piers; a kitchen addition; and vinyl floor tiles and wood veneer wall paneling added after the school's closure. The county began a restoration of the school in 2006, which entailed the removal of the kitchen addition; the application of new weatherboard to the north elevation; replacement of the roof using the original material types; replacement of the original six-over-six windows on one of the side elevations with historically accurate nine-over-nine windows.¹⁰⁶



Figure 57: Front elevation, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

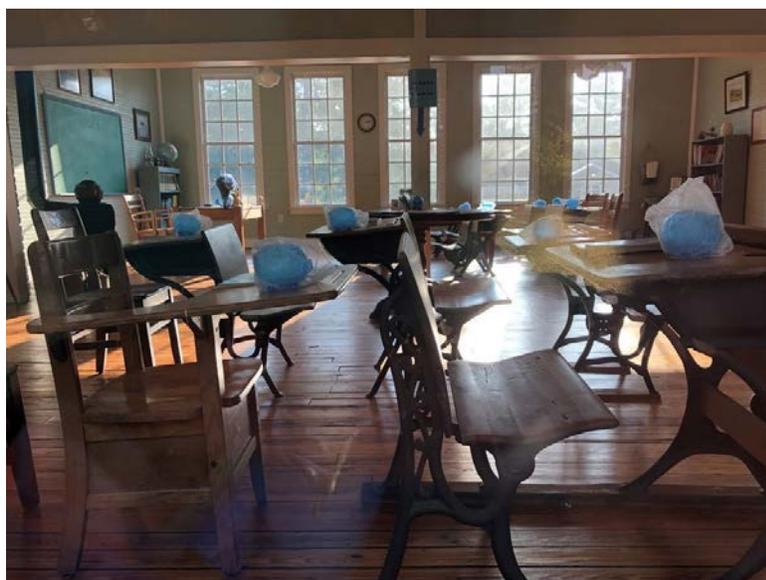


Figure 58: Classroom interior, taken from outside the building, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

The Pine Grove School retains the integrity to convey its historical and architectural significance and the school was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2008. The school was nominated under Criterion A, and meets the requirements outlined in the South Carolina Rosenwald Schools multi-property documentation form. The Pine Grove School is an excellent example of an historic Rosenwald School and represents the modernization of African American education in the Jim Crow South and the educational improvements brought about by the philanthropic efforts of the Julius Rosenwald Fund. The period of significance is 1923-

105 Ibid.
106 Ibid.

1950, corresponding with its years of operation as a school.¹⁰⁷

The Pine Grove School is located about 30 miles from Congaree National Park. It was one of five Rosenwald Schools and one teacher home recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of South Carolina in September 2017.¹⁰⁸ A total of 481 Rosenwald Schools, eight teacher homes and 11 shops were constructed in South Carolina. More than 74,000 African American children attended these schools.¹⁰⁹

Dorothy Canter, Stephanie Deutsch and Tracy Hayes visited the school on October 3, 2019. The Campaign representatives only conducted an exterior survey of the school at this time, as interior access to the building was not available during their visit.¹¹⁰



Figure 59: Restored classroom interior (courtesy of @Andrew Feiler, andrewfeiler.com).

107 National Register of Historic Places, Pine Grove Rosenwald School, Richland County, South Carolina, National Register #08001397

108 Brad Sauls, Supervisor of Survey, Registration & Grants, South Carolina Department of Archives & History, to Alan Spears, September 20, 2017.

109 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

110 Checklist Table for Pine Grove School.

Ridgeley School (Maryland)

Built: 1927

School Plan: Nonstandard two-teacher

The Ridgeley school is located at 8507 Central Avenue in Capitol Heights, Prince Georges County, Maryland. Completed in 1927, the total cost of the school was \$5,300, with \$200 provided by the African American community, \$700 from the Rosenwald Fund, and \$4,400 from public funds.¹¹¹ The two-teacher school does not follow a standard Rosenwald Plan.

Prior to the construction of the Ridgeley School, classes were held at a local meeting hall, adjoining the lot to the east, that was associated with the Ridgley Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1926, members of the community formally requested aid from the Rosenwald Fund for the construction of a new school. In 1927, Mary Eliza Ridgley provided two acres of land, and the school was built that same year.¹¹² When the school opened, each of the two classrooms served three or more grades. The central passage was used for teaching carpentry and home economics. In the 1940s, an additional classroom was added to the rear of the structure. The school functioned as an elementary school until 1957, at which point it was transformed into a school for students with special needs. From 1963 through 2009, the structure was used as a school-bus management office by the Prince George's County Public Schools.¹¹³



Figure 60: Ridgeley School, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)



Figure 61: Ridgeley School, c. 1927 (Fisk University)

The Ridgeley School is a one-story, frame, L-plan building clad in wood shingles. The school is constructed on a rough-faced concrete block foundation and features an asphalt shingle hipped roof. The main entrance is sheltered by a flat wood canopy. Windows include nine-over-nine and twelve-over-twelve double-hung wood-sash windows on wood sills and six-light wood casement windows. The school also features three brick chimneys. Designed by North

111 Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Ridgley School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

112 The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, *African-American Historic and Cultural Resources in Prince George's County, Maryland* (Prince George's County Planning Department, 2012), 120, 127-128.

113 Rosenwald School Campaign, Checklist Table for Ridgeley School, compiled 2016-2020; National Register of Historic Places, Ridgeley School, Prince George's County, Maryland, National Register #14001093.

Carolina-based architectural firm of Linthicum and Linthicum, the Ridgeley School does not follow standard Rosenwald plan but is characteristic of the four two-teacher schools built in Prince George's County. The plan included two classrooms and two cloakrooms, accessed by interior hallways. Two privies stood on the two-acre property, as well as space for sports and games. A one-story, frame, hipped-roof rear addition was built during the 1940s.¹¹⁴

The school was restored between 2009-2011. Exterior work included the conservation of existing historic windows and surrounds; fabrication of three missing historic windows based on photographic documentation; installation of new gutters and downspouts; removal of a late twentieth-century infill doorway. In addition, a historic recessed entry was restored, an accessibility ramp was constructed, and the entire building was sheathed with new rectangular wood shingles that replicates the original siding. On the interior, a kitchen was added to the structure, and the rear addition now houses bathrooms. The original hooks still exist in one of the cloakrooms. The building was opened to the public in 2011 as a museum and educational meeting space.¹¹⁵

The Ridgeley School demonstrates excellent integrity post-restoration. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2015 under Criteria A and C as a two-teacher school constructed with the aid of the Rosenwald Fund. The period of significance extends from 1927-1963, representing



Figure 62: Mildred Estelle Ridgley Gray, former student, teacher, and principal (courtesy of @Andrew Feiler, andrewfeiler.com)

114 *African-American Historic and Cultural Resources; Checklist Table for Ridgeley School; National Register of Historic Places, Ridgeley School, Prince George's County, Maryland, National Register #14001093.*

115 *Checklist Table for Ridgeley School; National Register of Historic Places, Ridgeley School, Prince George's County, Maryland, National Register #14001093.*

the time that it was used as a school.¹¹⁶

The Ridgeley School is owned by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. The Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., plays a very active role in the school, providing weekly activities and programs including tours, book reviews, bridge classes, a poster contest for elementary students and the annual celebration of the school and reunion of alumni during the Black History Month. The Ridgley and Ridgley Gray families have been involved in creating, preserving and restoring the Ridgeley School.¹¹⁷

The Ridgeley School is located near two National Park units - Greenbelt Park and Oxon Cove Park and Oxon Hill Farm. The Ridgeley School was one of three Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Maryland on October 13, 2017.¹¹⁸ One hundred forty-nine Rosenwald Schools, two teacher homes and two shops were constructed in Maryland. Over 15,000 African American children were educated in these schools.¹¹⁹

The Ridgeley School was identified in *The Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools Act of 2020*, which directed the Secretary of Interior to conduct a special resource study of sites associated with the life and legacy of Julius Rosenwald, with special emphasis on ten named schools.

Dorothy Canter and Alan Spears visited the school on November 9, 2016, and met with Susan Pearl and representatives of the Prince George's County alumnae chapter of Delta Sigma Theta sorority. Carol Shull and Kate and Don Stevenson visited the school on February 24, 2019.¹²⁰



Figure 63: Restored Classroom, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)



Figure 64: Cloakroom, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

116 Ibid.

117 Checklist Table for Ridgeley School.

118 Peter Kurtze, Administrator, Evaluation and Registration, Maryland Historical Trust, to Alan Spears, October 13, 2017.

119 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

120 Checklist Table for Ridgeley School.

Russell School (North Carolina)

Built: 1927

School Plan: 2-C

Located at 2001 Saint Mary's Road in Hillsborough, Durham County, North Carolina, the Russell School is the only extant Rosenwald school of the eighteen constructed in the county. The school, an example of Plan 2-C, was built in 1927 at a total cost of \$3,695. The Rosenwald Fund provided \$700, the local African American Community provided \$270, and public funds constituted the remaining \$2,725.¹²¹

In the first decades of the twentieth century, Durham County's schools for African American students were underfunded in comparison to schools for white children. According to a 1916 report by the state inspector, all of the county's twenty-one schools for African American students were unpainted and two thirds lacked desks. This included the old Russell School on Hillsboro Road (Saint Mary's), but it was not until eleven years later that funding became available for a new Russell School. In 1927, Harvey Wilson donated two acres of land adjacent to Cain's Chapel Church, east of the old school, to the Board of Education. Construction of the school began the same year. Upon its opening, the school served students in grades one through seven who resided as far as six miles away, who either walked or were driven by their parents until a school bus became available in the 1940s. Grades one through three were taught in one classroom, and grades four through seven in the other. One of the school's teachers, Lillie Rogers, taught at Russell School every year from its opening until its closure in 1945 when students were transferred to nearby consolidated schools. That same year, the present owner, Cain's Chapel Baptist Church, purchased the Russell School. Since being sold, the building has continuously been used as a community center, as well as a temporary worship space during the replacement of Cain's Chapel.¹²²



Figure 65: Russell School, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

The Russell School is a one-story, frame, five-bay building with a front-gabled metal roof. The school is constructed on a brick foundation and is clad in wood weatherboard siding. Two front entrances are arranged in the front elevation to either side of a gabled projection and are sheltered by bracketed wood canopies. The windows appear to be original and are both six-over-six and nine-over-nine, double-hung wood sash on wood sills. Early alterations included the replacement of the front steps with concrete blocks in the 1940s and the addition of chandeliers to the interior. By the 1940s the industrial room was in use as a kitchen. Otherwise, there have been no substantive alterations to the school and nearly all of the original interior and exterior fabric remained intact and in good condition as of May 2019. The two slate chalkboards, the partition doors separating the two classrooms and the original cast-iron stoves were retained. The site's

¹²¹ Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Russell School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

¹²² National Register of Historic Places, Russell School, Durham County, North Carolina, National Register # 09000601.

original privies were not extant. In 2019 additional interior and exterior electrical outlets were installed to bring the school up to existing electrical code. The school retains integrity and has been well maintained by the Friends of the Russell Rosenwald School, which holds two fundraising events annually. It also sells virtual chairs modeled after the original chairs used during the years that the school operated to raise money.¹²³

Russell School was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2009 under Criteria A for its relation to African American education in Durham County and under Criterion C as an example of a two-teacher Rosenwald building. The period of significance extends from 1927-1945, corresponding with its years of operation as a school.¹²⁴



Figure 66: Classroom interior, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

The Russell School is located about 66 miles from Guilford Courthouse National Military Park. It was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of North Carolina on September 22, 2017.¹²⁵ More Rosenwald School facilities were built in North Carolina than in any other

state; namely, 787 Rosenwald Schools, 18 teacher homes and eight shops. More than 114,000 African American children attended these schools.¹²⁶ The Russell School was identified in *The Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools Act of 2020*, which directed the Secretary of Interior to conduct a special resource study of sites associated with the life and legacy of Julius Rosenwald, with special emphasis on ten named schools.

On May 1, 2019, Dorothy Canter visited the school and met with a number of members of the Friends of Russell Rosenwald School, led by Phyllis Mack Horton, the group's chair.¹²⁷



Figure 67: Classroom interior, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

123 Ibid., Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Russell School, May 1, 2019.

124 National Register of Historic Places, Russell School, Durham County, North Carolina, National Register # 09000601.

125 Claudia R. Brown, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, to Rosenwald Park Campaign, September 22, 2017.

126 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

127 Checklist Table for Russell School.

Scrabble School (Virginia)

Built: 1921-1922

School Plan: Modified 20-A

The Scrabble School is located at 111 Scrabble Road in Castleton, Rappahannock County, Virginia. Completed in 1922, Rosenwald Fund records refer to the school as the Woodville School, due to its proximity to the larger village of Woodville, but it came to be known as the Scrabble School for the community in which it was built and for which it served. The Scrabble School was the first of four schools in Rappahannock County to be built under the auspices of Julius Rosenwald Fund. The school was constructed at a total cost of \$3225. The Rosenwald Fund contributed \$800, the local African American community \$1,100, white community members \$125, and the public \$1,200.¹²⁸



Figure 68: front elevation, 2018 (scrabbleschool.org)

The school is a modified version of Plan 20-A, later depicted in the 1924 edition of Community School Plans. The school was built on two acres of land donated by the Grant family. Isaiah Wallace, the grandson of a former slave and a proponent of education, was largely responsible for securing funding and rallying support for the school. The school featured two main classrooms, one of which held grades one through three, and the other grades four through seven. Enrollment varied by year, dropping low enough for the school to be temporarily converted into a one teacher school in 1943. A block coal shed was built on site c. 1950, and a rear bathroom was added in 1961. The school exclusively served African American students from its opening until 1966. In 1967, the Scrabble School was desegregated, serving both white and African American first graders before closing in 1968. The building was continuously vacant for several decades, remaining under ownership of the county.¹²⁹

The one-story, frame school sits on a poured concrete foundation and has a side-gabled standing-seam metal roof. Originally clad in weatherboard, the exterior walls are now finished in rough cast stucco. Windows are original, three-over-one double-hung wood sash Craftsman-Style units on wood sills. Both classrooms contain a brick chimney. Two privies were constructed with the school, though only their septic tanks remain. The school's configuration is similar to that shown in Plan 20-A, but features only a single, centered vestibule. On either side of the vestibule is a cloakroom, followed by a small activity room. There are rooms for fuel storage in the south and west corners.

¹²⁸ Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Woodville School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

¹²⁹ Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Scrabble School, January 25, 2018; National Register of Historic Places, Scrabble School, Rappahannock County, Virginia, National Register # 07001143.

Funds to restore the school were raised in 2005 by the Scrabble School Preservation Foundation, founded by E. Franklin Warner and other Scrabble alumni. Restoration work was aided by grants from the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation, the Alice Rosenwald Flexible Fund, Jesse & Rose Loeb Foundation, and the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. Interventions included the installation of new windows, and the construction of a new kitchen in place of the 1961 addition. The school reopened as the Senior Center of Rappahannock County in 2009. It also houses the Rappahannock African-American Heritage Center, which features an exhibit on the school, the community it once served, and its place in local, state and national history.¹³⁰



Figure 69: School interior, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)

The school exhibits sufficient integrity to communicate its significance, and retains original oak floors, wainscoting, plaster walls, moldings, and beadboard ceilings. Exposed rafters and brackets supporting the entrance's shed roof remain on the exterior. The Scrabble School was listed in the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places in 2007. It was listed under Criterion A for its association with the early twentieth century African American Education and the Rosenwald Fund, and under Criterion C as an example of an early Rosenwald designed plan. The period of significance is 1921-1957, extending from the school's construction to 50 years from the time of listing (use as a school ended in 1968).¹³¹

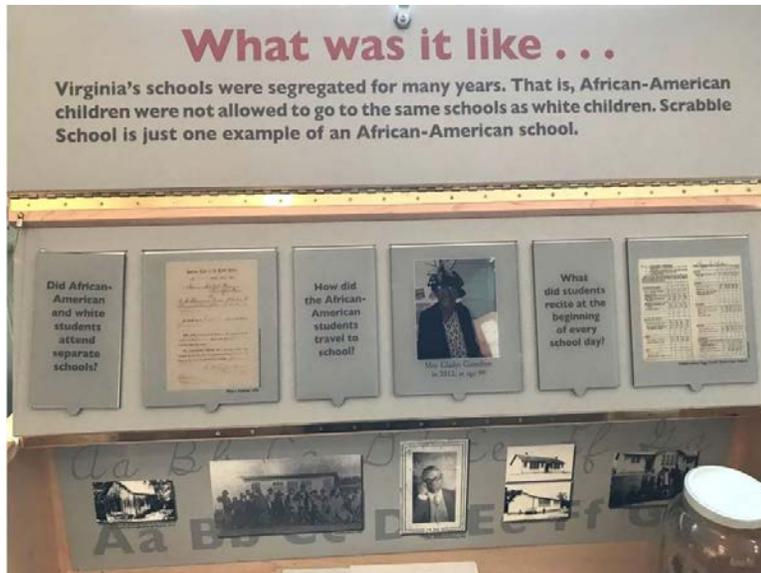


Figure 70: Interpretive exhibit, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)

The school is currently owned and maintained by Rappahannock County, Virginia. The Scrabble

130 Ibid; The Scrabble School Preservation Foundation, "The Scrabble School," <https://www.scrabbleschool.org/> (accessed June 2021).

131 National Register of Historic Places, Scrabble School, Rappahannock County, Virginia, National Register # 07001143.



Figure 71: Scrabble School, c. 1922 (Fisk University)

School Preservation Foundation, which was established as a community effort to preserve the school and tell its history through educational programs, is very active and has also created educational materials that are part of the elementary school curriculum of both Rappahannock and Culpeper Counties.

The Scrabble School is located less than 30 miles from the Thornton Gap entrance to Shenandoah National Park. It was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Virginia in September 2017.¹³² A total of 367 Rosenwald Schools, three teacher homes and 11 shops were constructed in Virginia. Nearly 43,000 African American children were educated in these schools.¹³³

On January 25, 2018, Dorothy Canter, Stephanie Deutsch, Carol Shull, and Kate and Don Stevenson toured Scrabble School, and met with Nan Roberts and Susanna Spencer, representatives of the Scrabble School Preservation Foundation.¹³⁴

132 Marc C. Wagner, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, to Alan Spears, Rosenwald Park Campaign, September 23, 2017.

133 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

134 Checklist Table for Scrabble School.

Second Union School (Virginia)

Built: 1918

School Plan: Nonstandard two-teacher

The Second Union school is located at 2843 Hadensville Fife Road in Goochland, Virginia. Completed in 1918, it is the oldest remaining Rosenwald school in Goochland County. Construction cost \$2,000, \$50 of which was provided by the Julius Rosenwald Fund, and \$150 by the local African American community. The remaining \$1,800 was paid for by public funds.¹³⁵ Prior to the school's construction, classes were held either in or near the Second Union Church. In 1917, S. B. and Matthew Massie sold two acres of land adjoining the church to the Byrd School District. The Second Union School was built the following year, during the Tuskegee phase of the Rosenwald Schools Building Program. During its use, the school served grades one through seven and underwent few modifications, but electrification occurred in the 1930s.¹³⁶



Figure 72: Second Union School, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

Following its closure in 1959, the school was sold to the Second Union Church, which used the building for Sunday school and bible classes, and, later, for storage. The school, still under church ownership, currently operates as the Second Union Rosenwald School Museum, an African American history museum.¹³⁷

The one-story, frame, weatherboarded school sits on a brick pier foundation. The school has a hipped, slate shingle roof with a gabled front projection. The roof is pierced by an interior brick chimney. Windows are two-over-two, double-hung wood sash on wood sills. There is a covered entrance to a classroom on each side of the projection, both approached by concrete steps. The projection features a semicircular vent. The school retains its original pine floors, walls, and windows. The chalkboards and original light fixtures are present, but the wood-burning stove and folding partition doors between the classrooms are no longer extant. The two privies on site have been demolished.

In 2005, the Second Union School received a restoration grant from Lowe's and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Work included asbestos removal, lead-based paint abatement, replacement of the roof, and repairs to the windows, siding, and concrete steps. A wheelchair ramp was built, wrapping around the western corner of the building. Electrical and HVAC work also

135 Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Second Union School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

136 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Second Union School, February 1, 2019; National Register of Historic Places, Second Union School, Goochland County, Virginia, National Register # 05001583.

137 Ibid.

occurred. The parking lot of the Second Union Church surrounds the school.¹³⁸

The school demonstrates good integrity through the retention of original features and materials. It was listed in VA Landmarks Register in 2005 and added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2006. It was found to be significant under Criteria A and C for its association with the Rosenwald Fund and early twentieth century African American education, and as an example of an early twentieth century rural school. The period of significance is c. 1918-1955, extending from the school's completion to 50 years from the time that the form was prepared in 2005 (use as a school ended in 1959).¹³⁹



Figure 73: Front and side elevations, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)



Figure 74: Interpretive exhibits in the restored interior, 2019
(Dorothy Canter)

The Second Union School is located about 32 miles from Richmond National Battlefield Park. It was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Virginia in September 2017.¹⁴⁰ A total of 367 Rosenwald Schools, three teacher homes and 11 shops were constructed in Virginia. Nearly 43,000 African American children were educated in these schools.¹⁴¹

On February 1, 2019, Kate Stevenson, Carol Shull, and Dorothy Canter toured Second

Union School, and met with community representatives Calvin Hopkins, Julia Giles Price, and Mary Turner-Day of the Second Union Baptist Church.¹⁴²

138 Checklist Table for Second Union School; Second Union Rosenwald School Museum, Inc., "Restoration Work," <https://secondunionrosenwaldschool.org/about-us> (accessed April 2021).

139 National Register of Historic Places, Second Union School, Goochland County, Virginia, National Register # 05001583.

140 Marc C. Wagner, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, to Alan Spears, Rosenwald Park Campaign, September 23, 2017.

141 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

142 Checklist Table for Second Union School.

Selma Rosenwald School (Arkansas)

Built: 1924

School Plan: 20

The Selma Rosenwald School is located at 146 Selma Collins Road in Drew County, Arkansas, across the road from the historic Sweet Hope Church, which was the focus for creating the school. Completed in 1924, the school was constructed on two acres of land at a total cost of \$2,275. The Rosenwald Fund contributed \$700, the local African American community \$500, and the remaining \$1,075 was paid for with public funds.¹⁴³



Figure 75: Selma Rosenwald School, c. 1924 (Fisk University)

When originally constructed, the school served grades one through eight, and at times went up to grade ten. A playground was installed in front of the school, and a baseball diamond in the rear in the 1950s. In 1958, a cafeteria building was relocated from a nearby sawmill to the property. Following its closure in 1964, the school was purchased by the Masons, and has since served as a Masonic Lodge.¹⁴⁴

The one-story, frame building is clad in wood weatherboard siding and is set on a brick pier foundation currently covered in sheet metal. The cross-gabled roof covered is in asphalt shingles and an interior brick chimney rises from the center. The school's windows include both six-over-six and nine-over-nine double-hung wood sash units on wood sills. Subsequent modifications after the closure of the school included the addition of a new door in the center of the gabled front projection.¹⁴⁵

In 2013, the building was restored with grant funding awarded by Lowe's and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.¹⁴⁶ The non-original center door opening was removed, and the gabled projection returned to its original appearance. The concrete steps leading to the previous location of the center doorway remain. A handicapped ramp has been added to the southern entrance. Windows have been restored to their original appearance, and window unit air conditioners removed. As of May 2018, the school was in good condition. The site currently functions as a community center, at which picnics and school reunions take place and tours and historic presentations are given. The Masons and Eastern Stars also meet there. The foundations of separate bathrooms,

¹⁴³ Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Selma Rosenwald School, May 15, 2018; Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Selma School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

¹⁴⁴ National Register of Historic Places, Selma Rosenwald School, Drew County, Arkansas, National Register # 06000069.

¹⁴⁵ Checklist Table for Selma Rosenwald School.

¹⁴⁶ The Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas, "Nine in Need, 2010," <https://preservearkansas.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/2010-Nine-in-Need-1.pdf> (accessed April 2021).

demolished prior to 2003, and the cafeteria, demolished c. 2004, remain on site. The baseball diamond is also retained.¹⁴⁷

In 2018, the Selma Rosenwald School demonstrated good integrity, and restoration work had returned the school to its original appearance. The school was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2006 under Criterion A for its association with African American education in Drew County, and for its association with the Rosenwald School program. The period of significance is 1924-1956, extending from the school's completion to 50 years from the time of listing (use as a school ended in 1964). Historically, the school and the nearby Sweet Hope Church were central to life in this rural community, and the school is the only surviving Rosenwald School in Drew County.¹⁴⁸



Figure 76: Front and side elevations, 2018 (Alan Spears)



Figure 77: Classroom interior, 2018 (Alan Spears)

The Selma Rosenwald School is located about 37 miles from Arkansas Post National Memorial.

It was one of three Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Arkansas in 2017.¹⁴⁹ A total of 338 Rosenwald Schools, 19 teacher homes and 32 shops were constructed in Arkansas. Nearly 47,000 African American children were educated in these schools.¹⁵⁰

On May 15, 2018, Dorothy Canter and Alan Spears visited the school and met with community center representative Bob Ware.¹⁵¹

147 Checklist Table for Selma Rosenwald School.

148 National Register of Historic Places, Selma Rosenwald School, Drew County, Arkansas, National Register # 06000069.

149 Arkansas Schools for Proposed Rosenwald National Park, submitted to the Rosenwald Park Campaign by Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, 2017.

150 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

151 Checklist Table for Selma Rosenwald School.

Shiloh Rosenwald School (Alabama)

Built: 1921-1922

School Plan: 20

The Shiloh School is located at 7 Shiloh Road, south of Shiloh Baptist Missionary Church, in Notasulga, Macon County, Alabama. Members of the congregation built the school, which was completed in 1922.¹⁵² Construction costs totaled \$2,870. The local African American community contributed \$1,170, the Rosenwald Fund provided a grant of \$800, and public funds accounted for the remaining \$900.¹⁵³ The west-facing two-teacher school was built according to Plan 20, later depicted in the 1924 edition of Community School Plans. Prior to the establishment of the Rosenwald Fund, Macon County had been the location of an earlier school program developed in 1905 by Booker T. Washington and partially funded by Henry Huttleston Rodgers. Through this program, forty-six schools were built in the county.¹⁵⁴



Figure 78: Shiloh Rosenwald School, 2019 (Don Stevenson)



Figure 79: Rear elevation, 2019 (Don Stevenson)

In 1912, after donating \$25,000 to the Tuskegee Institute as part of his 50th birthday contribution to multiple organizations, Julius Rosenwald agreed to Booker T. Washington's request that he help fund the construction of six additional rural schools as a pilot project in the region around Tuskegee. This project would later develop into the Rosenwald Schools Building Program, through which the Shiloh School was constructed in 1922 on two acres donated by the Shiloh Ministry Baptist Church. The school served grades one through six. Heat

was provided by a pot belly stove, and there was a well, two privies, and a playground on site. The

¹⁵² Frye Gaillard, *Alabama's Civil Rights Trail: An Illustrated Guide to the Cradle of Freedom* (Tuscaloosa, Alabama: The University of Alabama Press, 2010), 212-216.

¹⁵³ Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Shiloh School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

¹⁵⁴ Shiloh Community Restoration Foundation, "Shiloh Community School Then and Now," <https://www.shilohcommfound.com/shiloh-community-restoration-foundaton/the-school/the-school-then-and-now/> (accessed April 2021).

school closed in 1964.¹⁵⁵

The school is significant for its association with the Tuskegee Syphilis Study. Beginning in 1932, the Shiloh School and Ministry Baptist Church became a “round up” location, from where African American men with syphilis would be transported to Tuskegee and subsequently exploited through the Tuskegee Syphilis Study under the guise of receiving proper examinations and care. For forty years the men received no treatment, with penicillin intentionally not administered even though it had become a standard cure by 1947.



Figure 80: Restored classroom interior, 2019 (Don Stevenson)

The study initially enrolled 600 African American men, 399 with syphilis and 201 who did not have the disease as a control group. Approximately fifty men enrolled from the Shiloh School and Baptist Church. Some individuals involved with the study were school alumni, including Charlie Pollard who testified before Congress in 1973, a year after the study was brought to an end. By the end of the study, 128 men had died from syphilis or related complications. Some victims had spread syphilis to their partners, and children had been born with the disease. The nearby Shiloh Cemetery is the resting place of many of the men involved in the study.

Following its closure in 1964, the school was owned by the Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church. In 2006, ownership transferred to the Shiloh Community Restoration Foundation, established that same year with Elizabeth “Liz” Sims serving as the first president. She was an alumna of the school, and both of her grandfathers had been victims of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study.¹⁵⁶



Figure 81: Restored classroom interior, 2019 (Don Stevenson)

There have been a number of alterations to the school. The building was remodeled in 1936, and the industrial room was enlarged using federal New Deal funding.¹⁵⁷

More recent alterations have included replacement of the front steps and the installation of a wheelchair ramp which wraps around the northwestern corner of the building. The spaces between the original brick piers have been infilled with concrete block.¹⁵⁸ The present metal

155 Ibid.

156 Ibid.

157 Feiler, 40.

158 Robert Gamble, “Shiloh Rosenwald School,” SAH Archipedia, <https://sah-archipedia.org/buildings/AL-01-087->

roof is a replacement. Nearly all the original interior walls, ceilings, floors, and doors have been retained, but the western windows were replaced in 1996. Both the original stage and folding partition are in place, and the classrooms contain original desks, chalkboards, bookcases, and cabinets. Also present are the original bible used for the daily devotional and an original piano. One of the cloakrooms has been converted into a restroom.¹⁵⁹ Windows were repaired in 2007. In 2009, the Shiloh Community Restoration Foundation was awarded a grant for \$50,000 from the Lowe's Charitable and Education Foundation through the National Trust for Historic Preservation.¹⁶⁰ Additional restoration work occurred in 2011, and the school was dedicated as a museum in 2016.¹⁶¹

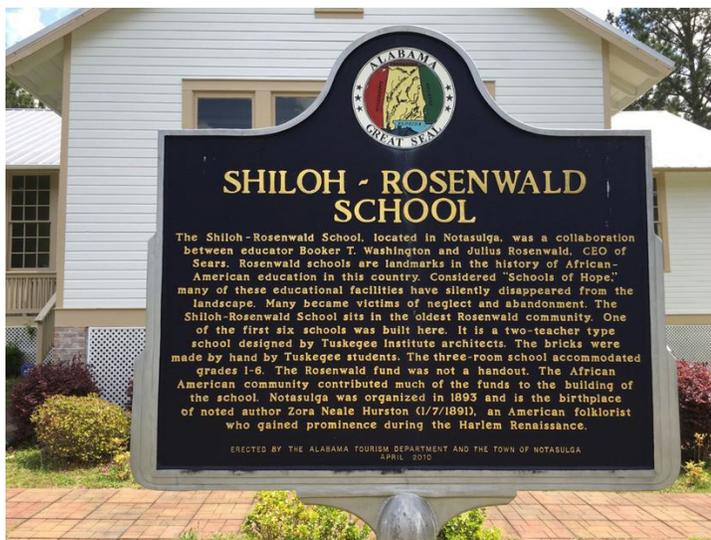


Figure 82: State historical marker, 2019 (Don Stevenson)

The Shiloh School demonstrates the integrity to reflect its significance as a surviving Plan 20 Rosenwald School. The school, church, and cemetery were listed in the Alabama Register in 2006. In 2010, the property was listed in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with the Rosenwald School program, its history as an educational and community institution in the segregated south, and for its role in the Tuskegee Syphilis Study. The period of significance is c. 1919 to 1960, which extends from the construction of the contributing Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church to 50 years from the time of listing (use as a school ended in 1964; the Syphilis Study ended in 1972).¹⁶²

The Shiloh Rosenwald School is located near four National Park units in Alabama. It is slightly less than eight miles from the Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site and 5.5 miles from the Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site. It is also nearly 43 miles from Montgomery, Alabama, where the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail terminates at the State Capitol, and it is about 43 miles from Horseshoe Bend National Military Park.

The connection to Tuskegee Institute is strong for several reasons. First, Booker T. Washington, the president of Tuskegee, had been working for years to build elementary schools for African American children near Tuskegee. Moreover, the first six Rosenwald Schools built at Washington's request with partial funding from Julius Rosenwald's 1912 donation to Tuskegee Institute in celebration of his 50th birthday were also in close proximity to Tuskegee. Further, the Shiloh Rosenwald School and nearby Ministry Baptist Church served as one of the round-up locations from which African American male volunteers were transported to Tuskegee Institute for examinations and research

0097 (accessed April 2021).

159 "School Plans," Shiloh Community Restoration Foundation. <https://www.shilohcommfound.com/shiloh-community-restoration-foundaton/the-school/school-plans/> (accessed April 2021); Feiler 41.

160 "School restoration draws attention," *The Auburn Villager*, October 16, 2009.

161 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Shiloh Rosenwald School, April 19, 2019.

162 National Register of Historic Places, Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church and Rosenwald School, Macon County, Alabama, National Register # 10000522.



Figure 83: Classroom interior with original piano, 2021 (courtesy of @Andrew Feiler, andrewfeiler.com)

related studies, but never treatment, as part of the infamous and highly unethical Tuskegee Syphilis Study that lasted from 1932 until 1972.

The Shiloh Rosenwald School is part of the Civil Rights story both through the education received by the students who attended the school and its use in the egregious Tuskegee Syphilis Study. Given its relative proximity to Montgomery, it could also become a part of the overall story of African American life, education, and Civil Rights activities in Alabama.

The Shiloh School was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Alabama on November 3, 2017.¹⁶³ A total of 389 Rosenwald Schools, seven teacher homes and 11 shops were constructed in Alabama. More than 40,000 African American children attended these schools.¹⁶⁴

The Shiloh School was identified in *The Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools Act of 2020*, which directed the Secretary of Interior to conduct a special resource study of sites associated with the life and legacy of Julius Rosenwald, with special emphasis on ten named schools.

On April 19, 2019, Kate and Don Stevenson visited the school and met with Felicia Chandler and other representatives of the Shiloh Community Restoration Foundation.¹⁶⁵

163 ibid.

164 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

165 Checklist Table for Shiloh School.

Tankersley School (Alabama)

Built: 1922

School Plan: Modified 20

The Tankersley School is located on School Spur Road in Hope Hull, Montgomery County, Alabama. The school was completed in 1922 at a cost of \$5,300, with the Rosenwald Fund providing \$1,000, the local African American community \$1,500, and the public school system \$2,800.¹⁶⁶ The school is an example of Plan 20, depicted in the 1924 edition of *Community School Plans*.



Figure 84: Tankersley School, c. 1922 (Fisk University)

Prior to the school's construction, classes were held at the Pythian Masonic Hall with Jacob W. Williams as principal. When the Hall was outgrown, five acres were purchased from Dr. William Tankersley, a member of the Board of Education, for a new school. Construction was delayed due to World War I. Following the war, ten more acres were purchased adjacent to the first five to meet the school board's minimum requirement of fifteen acres for a new school. Ten acres of the site remained forest, with the frame school and playground built on the remaining five acres in 1922. The site also featured two privies, two water pumps, a basketball court and garden. The Tankersley School accommodated grades one through six with Jacob W. Williams serving as the first principal. In addition to classrooms, the school was used by the community as a library and event space. The school closed in 1967 upon integration of the school district. It was purchased by the Montgomery County Farmer's Service and Welfare Association in 1994.¹⁶⁷

The Tankersley School is a one-story, frame building built on a brick pier foundation. The school is clad in wood weatherboard siding and has a cross-gabled asphalt shingle roof pierced by an interior brick chimney. Dual entrances are located in the front elevation, to either side of a front-gabled projection. The school's windows consist of nine-over-nine double-hung, wood sash on wood sills. The interior plan features two classrooms, a cloakroom, and an industrial room. The interior retains its stage, partition door, and blackboards and their moldings, as well as a several built-in storage cabinets. Weatherboard siding remains on the exterior. In 1997, the original metal roof was replaced with asphalt, but the rafters and brackets remain. Repainting occurred in 2007, accompanied by stabilization work performed on the foundation. As of May 2019, the school was in poor condition, however, with most of its windows boarded up or broken; boarded up doors; one large hole in the roof; part of the brick chimney missing; and the building overgrown with vines.¹⁶⁸

¹⁶⁶ Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Tankersley School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

¹⁶⁷ National Register of Historic Places, Tankersley Rosenwald School, Montgomery County, Alabama, National Register # 08001332.

¹⁶⁸ Ibid.; Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Tankersley Rosenwald School, May 13, 2019.

Integrity was sufficient to convey the building's significance, and the original building form, wood siding, and some original windows remained, in addition to interior elements. Tankersley School was added to the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage in 2003. The school was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2008 under Criteria A and C for its association with the African-American struggle for equal education and as an example of the types of rural schools built through the Rosenwald Fund. The period of significance is 1922-1958, extending from the school's completion to 50 years from the time of listing (use as a school ended in 1967).¹⁶⁹



Figure 85: Front elevation, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

The Tankersley School is located about 46 miles from Tuskegee Institute National Historical Site. It was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Alabama on November 3, 2017.¹⁷⁰ A total of 389 Rosenwald Schools, seven teacher homes and 11 shops were constructed in Alabama. More than 40,000 African American children attended these schools.¹⁷¹



Figure 86: Rear elevation, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

Dorothy Canter visited the site on May 13, 2019, with Dorothy Walker of the Alabama Historical Commission and walked around the outside of the school. They did not gain entrance to its interior or meet with representatives of the site's owner.¹⁷²

¹⁶⁹ National Register of Historic Places, Tankersley Rosenwald School, Montgomery County, Alabama, National Register # 08001332.

¹⁷⁰ Dorothy Walker, Alabama Historical Commission, to Dorothy Canter, November 28, 2017.

¹⁷¹ Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

¹⁷² Checklist Table for Tankersley Rosenwald School,

Three-Teacher Schools

Approximately 763 three-teacher schools were constructed over the duration of the Rosenwald Schools Building Program.¹⁷³ The 1924 edition of *Community School Plans* provided two plans for three-teacher schools, which varied from front- to side-gabled in form. In Plan 3, the front entrance is centered under a pedimented entry porch, while in Plan 3-B it is slightly off center and is sheltered by an asymmetrically-positioned gabled porch, an element adapted from the Craftsman style. Both plans feature an entrance vestibule and corridor, and consist of three classrooms and an industrial room. Updated versions of these two plans, designated Plans 30 and 3-A, appeared in the 1931 edition of *Community School Plans*. The 1931 schools are largely the same as the 1924 designs, but are brick buildings rather than frame. In addition, Plan 30 includes new side entrances and a different placement of the cloakrooms.

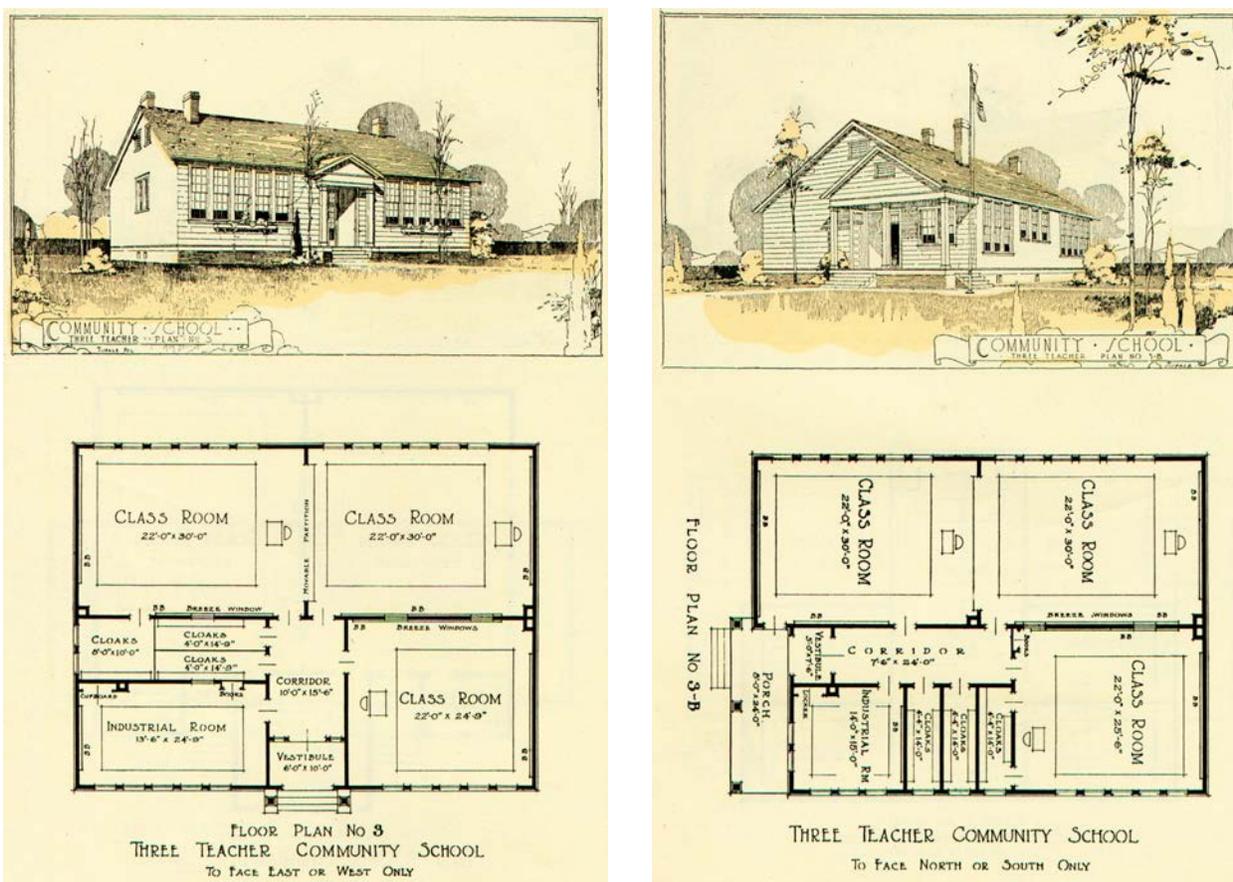


Figure 87: Plan 3 (left) and Plan 3-B (right) from the 1924 edition of *Community School Plans*.

Mount Zion Rosenwald School (South Carolina)

Built: 1925-1926

School Plan: Modified 3-B

Mount Zion Rosenwald is located at 5040 Liberty Chapel Road in Florence, Florence County, South Carolina, across the road from Mt. Zion Church. Built in 1925-1926, the design of the school was based on Rosenwald Plan 3-B from the 1924 edition of Community School Plans. The school was constructed at a cost of \$3,850. The local African American community donated \$1,000, public funding constituted \$1,950, and the Rosenwald Fund provided \$900.¹⁷⁴

Prior to the school's construction, classes were held in a small lodge



Figure 88: Front elevation, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)



Figure 89: Side elevation, with second entrance, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

near Mt. Zion Church. The Church, established in 1868, was an important institution in this rural community, and the early school building was constructed soon after its founding. This building was lost to fire in the early 1920s. Following the fire, a church member donated four acres of land for construction of the new Rosenwald school.¹⁷⁵

The western classroom held grades three and four, and the north classrooms grades one and two. These two classrooms were separated by a moveable blackboard partition. The industrial room, located in the south corner of the structure,

¹⁷⁴ Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Mt. Zion School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

¹⁷⁵ Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Mt. Zion Rosenwald School, October 4, 2019; National Register of Historic Places, Mt. Zion Rosenwald School, Florence County, South Carolina, National Register # 01001098; Feiler, 63.

served as both the principal's office and a fifth-grade classroom. The school season lasted approximately four to five months, as students partook in seasonal agricultural work. Mount Zion Rosenwald school closed in 1952 after students were transferred to the newly built segregated Mars Bluff School. The school remained vacant and by the 1980s, former students began the effort to restore the building for use as a community center. In 1987, owner Amelia W. Vernon donated the school and adjoining property to the Mt. Zion Methodist Church. As of October 2019, the school was being refurbished for use as a church hall.¹⁷⁶



Figure 90: Classroom, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

The one-story, frame, weatherboarded structure sits on a brick foundation and features a standing seam metal roof and two brick chimneys. The main entrance is located in a gabled frame porch that is asymmetrically placed within the front elevation. A secondary entrance is located in one of the side elevations and features a one-light transom. Windows include six-over-six and nine-over-nine double-hung wood sash on wood sills. Alterations have included replacement of the original front porch and replacement of the side entrance door. Recent restoration work, funded through a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and money provided by the Bruce and Lee Foundation, involved the in-kind replacement of windows on one side of building and the replacement of the original porch and stairs. As of October 2019 the school was in fair condition but needed interior work and roof work.¹⁷⁷

The Mount Zion school exhibits sufficient integrity to convey its significance and the school is easily recognizable as a Plan 3-B design. As mentioned, the school was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2001. It was designated under Criterion A for its association with the development of public education for African Americans in South Carolina, the Rosenwald Fund, and under Criterion C as an example of a standardized school form developed in response to “separate but equal” policies. The period of



Figure 91: Classroom, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

176 Ibid.

177 Checklist Table for Mt. Zion Rosenwald School.

significance extends from 1925-1952, covering the school's construction through its use as a school.¹⁷⁸

The National Park units closest to Mt. Zion School are the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site north of Charleston and the Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historical Parks in Charleston. The distance between Florence and Charleston is approximately 136 miles. The Mt. Zion School was one of five Rosenwald Schools and one teacher home recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of South Carolina in September 2017.¹⁷⁹ A total of 481 Rosenwald Schools, eight teacher homes and 11 shops were constructed in South Carolina. More than 74,000 African American children attended these schools.¹⁸⁰

Dorothy Canter, Stephanie Deutsch and Tracy Hayes visited the school on October 4, 2019, and met with Terry James and Rickie Cooper.¹⁸¹

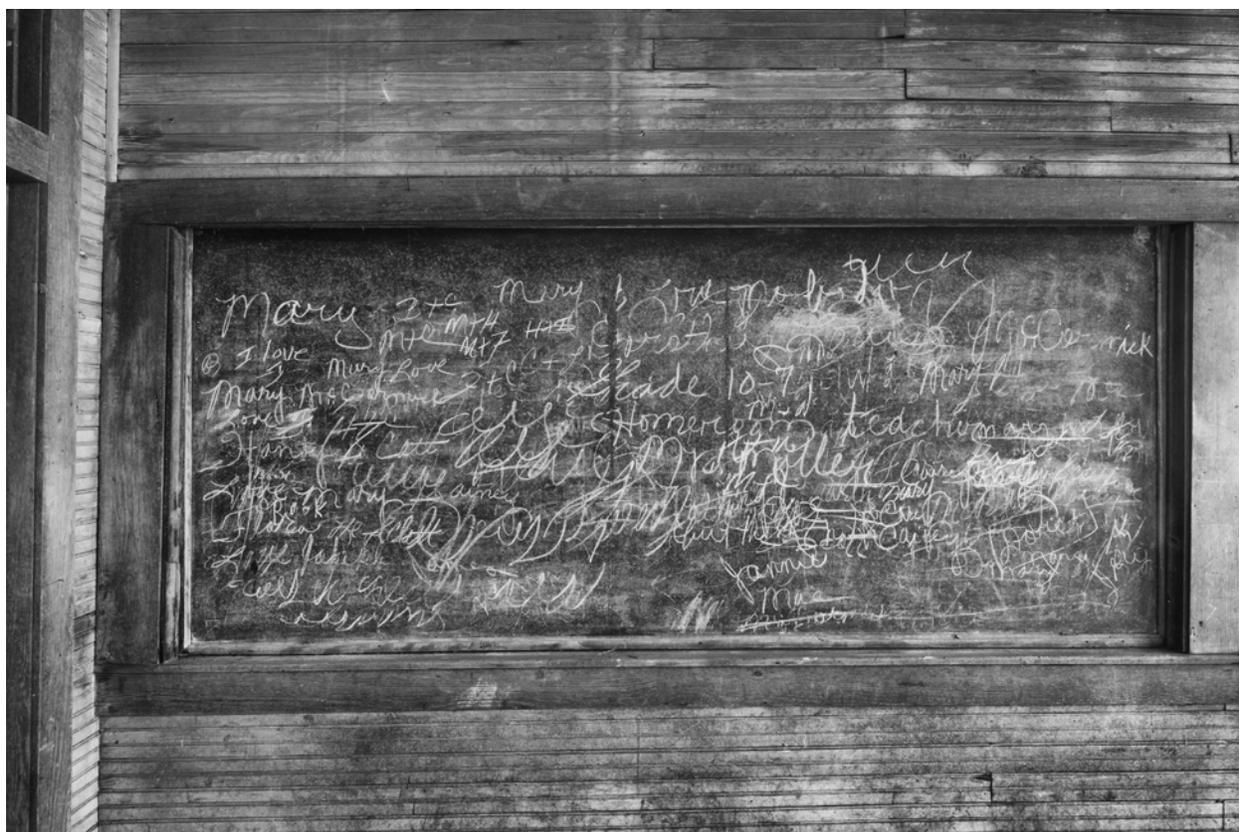


Figure 92: Original chalkboard, 2021 (courtesy of @Andrew Feiler, andrewfeiler.com)

178 National Register of Historic Places, Mt. Zion Rosenwald School, Florence County, South Carolina, National Register # 01001098.

179 Brad Sauls, Supervisor of Survey, Registration & Grants, South Carolina Department of Archives & History, to Alan Spears, September 20, 2017.

180 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

181 Checklist Table for Mt. Zion Rosenwald School.

San Domingo School (Maryland)

Built: 1919

School Plan: Nonstandard three-teacher

The San Domingo School, also referred to as the Sharptown Colored School, is located at 11526 Old School Road in the community of San Domingo in Wicomico County, Maryland. The school was built in 1919, during the Tuskegee phase of the Rosenwald Schools Building Program, with \$500 provided by the Rosenwald Fund, \$800 from the local African American community, and the remaining \$5,000 from public funds.¹⁹⁰ The school does not follow a standard Rosenwald Plan, but is derived from the Central School Plan published by Tuskegee in 1915. The central school was developed for communities with larger, more concentrated populations.¹⁹¹



Figure 93: San Domingo School, 2018 (Don Stevenson)

The free African American community of San Domingo was founded in 1820 by James Brown. The name San Domingo likely originates from Santo Domingo, the former name for Haiti. Brown sold and rented land to other free African Americans, and the swampland grew into a contained, self-sufficient farming community of about 200 families.¹⁹² Prior to the school's construction, the community was served by a one-room schoolhouse built in the 1870s. As the population of the area increased, a larger school was needed, and in 1919 African American residents raised funds for the construction of a new building. William L. Brown, a descendant of James Brown, donated two acres of land for the new school, and local members of the community cut and delivered the lumber for the building and excavated the basement.¹⁹³ The San Domingo school remained in use until 1961, when the Board of Education sold the property to the Sharptown Recreation & Lodge Center for use as a community center and lodge.¹⁹⁴ The building functioned as a day care center during the 1970s.¹⁹⁵

In 2004, Newell Quinton organized a community effort to preserve the school. He and his seven siblings, including two who would later attend Morgan State University and participate in 1963

190 Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Sharpton School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

191 Feiler, 21.

192 Tom Horton, Dave Harp and Sandy Cannon-Brown, "Saving San Domingo," Bay Journal (video), Mar 3, 2021, https://www.bayjournal.com/multimedia/saving-san-domingo/video_94272be8-7c35-11eb-9843-3b53f8c49f83.html (accessed April 2021).

193 National Register of Historic Places, San Domingo School, Wicomico County, Maryland, National Register # 07000044; Feiler, 21.

194 Candice Evans, "Wicomico students help preserve local history," *Star Democrat* (Easton, Maryland), July 2, 2007.

195 Horton et al., "Saving San Domingo."

protests of segregated movie theatres, were educated at the San Domingo Rosenwald School.¹⁹⁶ Quinton and his family established the John Quinton Foundation, named for his great-great-grandfather, an early resident of San Domingo who immigrated to Maryland from the Caribbean and married a relative of James Brown.¹⁹⁷ In 2014, the John Quinton Foundation undertook a major restoration of the San Domingo school after which it was reopened as a community center and Masons Lodge.¹⁹⁸



Figure 94: Side and rear elevations, 2018 (Don Stevenson)

The two-story rectangular frame building faces northeast with the ridge of the medium-pitched hip roof oriented on a northwest/southeast axis. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles pierced by a broad brick chimney slightly off-center. The school is three bays wide set on a low brick foundation. The interior remains essentially intact, retaining its early twentieth-century woodwork and schoolroom fixtures including blackboards, beadboard walls, five-panel doors and their hardware, folding doors, and a stage on the second floor. Prior to the 2014 restoration, while in use as a Masonic lodge, the school underwent multiple alterations, including the installation of a new bathroom, the application of aluminum siding, and enclosure of several windows. The restoration returned the exterior of the building to its original appearance.¹⁹⁹



Figure 95: Restored classroom interior, 2018 (Don Stevenson)

The San Domingo Rosenwald School retains excellent integrity. The school was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2007. It was found to be significant under Criteria A and C for its role in early and mid-twentieth century African American education in Wicomico County, and as a school designed during the Rosenwald Fund's early years at the Tuskegee Institute. The period of significance is 1919-1956, extending from the school's completion to 50 years from the

196 Ibid.

197 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for San Domingo Rosenwald School, January 18, 2018; Chris Guy, "On the Shore, a town apart," *Baltimore Sun*, November 19, 2007.

198 Hoffschwelle, *Preserving Rosenwald Schools*, 13.

199 Checklist Table for San Domingo Rosenwald School.

time that the form was prepared in 2006 (use as a school ended in 1961).²⁰⁰

The San Domingo Rosenwald School is located about 42 miles from Assateague Island National Seashore. It was one of three Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Maryland on October 13, 2017.²⁰¹ One hundred forty-nine Rosenwald Schools, two teacher homes and two shops were constructed in Maryland. Over 15,000 African American children were educated in these schools.²⁰²

The San Domingo Rosenwald School was identified in *The Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools Act of 2020*, which directed the Secretary of Interior to conduct a special resource study of sites associated with the life and legacy of Julius Rosenwald, with special emphasis on ten named schools.

Kate Stevenson Carol Shull, Don Stevenson, and Dorothy Canter visited the school on January 18, 2018, and met with Newell Quinton and one of his sisters.²⁰³



Figure 96: Newell Quinton demonstrating folding doors, 2014 (*Washington Post*)

200 National Register of Historic Places, San Domingo School, Wicomico County, Maryland, National Register # 07000044.

201 Peter Kurtze, Administrator, Evaluation and Registration, Maryland Historical Trust, to Alan Spears, October 13, 2017.

202 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

203 Checklist Table for San Domingo Rosenwald School.

Four-Teacher Schools

Like the one, two, and three-teacher building types, four-teacher schools were among the most widely developed over the duration of the program, with approximately 551 examples constructed.¹⁸² The first four-classroom plan was called the central school, and was a two-story, frame building designed by Tuskegee architects that appeared in the 1915 publication *The Negro Rural School and its Relation to the Community*. After 1920, Rosenwald Fund architects in Nashville designed two different types of four teacher schools. Plan 4, first published in the 1924 edition of *Community School Plans*, is a T-shaped building with centered entrances. It features a large auditorium, along with classrooms, an industrial room, and an office-library. Plan 4-A is an H-plan building with a central auditorium and classrooms located in the outer wings. Both plans were updated in the 1931 edition as brick buildings, and the 1931 Plan 4 featured new side entrances.

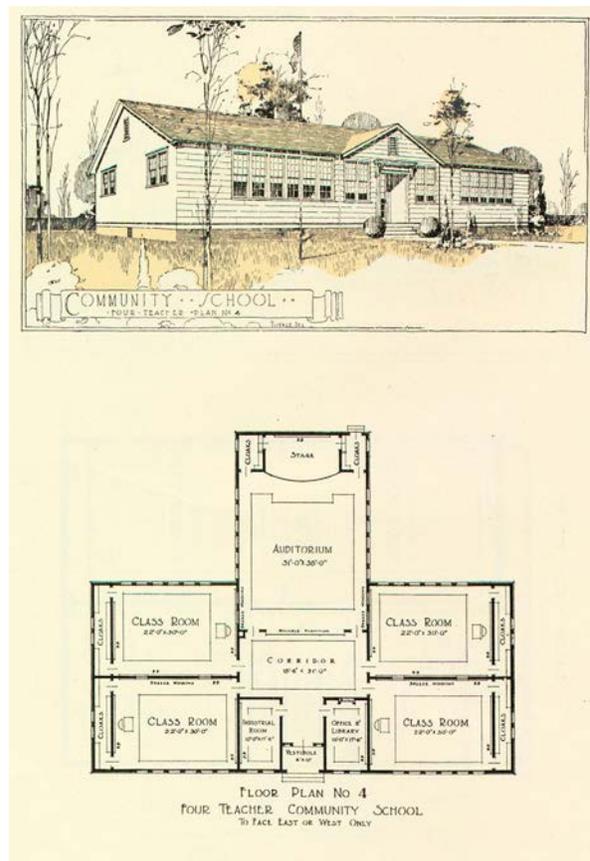
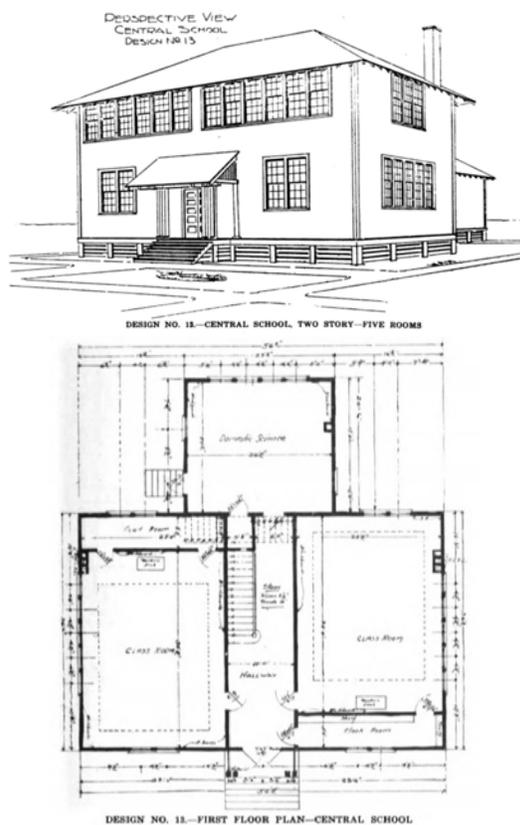


Figure 97: Central School, 1915 (left) and Plan 4-A, 1924 (right) from the 1924 edition of *Community School Plans*.

Rosenwald Hall (Oklahoma)

Built: 1921

School Plan: Nonstandard four-teacher

Rosenwald Hall is located at the northeast corner of College and Broadway Streets in Lima, Seminole County, Oklahoma. Lima is one of thirteen existing historic African American communities established on former Native American land prior to Oklahoma's establishment as a state in 1907. After emancipation, Oklahoma's African Americans created these all-black towns, which once numbered over fifty, as small farming communities supporting a variety of black-owned businesses. Jim Crow laws adopted after 1907 by the state of Oklahoma, combined with the Great Depression, caused many African Americans to migrate out of the state. Yet, towns such as Lima survive as a testimony to the Oklahoma's African American history.¹⁸³



Figure 98: Rosenwald Hall (*The Oklahoman*, February 21, 2016)

Rosenwald Hall was constructed in 1921 as an elementary school. Listed in the Fund records as the "Lima School," the building was constructed at a cost of \$10,200. The local community contributed \$9,000 and the Julius Rosenwald Fund provided the remaining \$1,200. The school was originally constructed as a four-teacher elementary school and contained a library, established through a \$120 grant from the Rosenwald Fund.¹⁸⁴

Rosenwald Hall is a rare example of a masonry Rosenwald School from this period of the program's history, when most of the schools being constructed under the program were of frame construction. The school's design also differs from those published by Tuskegee and the Rosenwald Fund. The one-story, rectangular plan school exhibits a flat roof and is constructed of brick on a foundation of local sandstone. The segmental-arched brick entrance surround features a rectangular stone placard that is engraved with the name of the school and its date of construction. The roofline of the façade is lined by a pedimented brick parapet. Alterations to the school have included the replacement of the original windows and the modification of some window openings. The Lima High School, an impressive, two-story brick school completed in 1914, once stood directly east of Rosenwald Hall. Rosenwald Hall functioned as an elementary school from 1921 until its closure in 1966, after which it served as a day care facility. The building is owned by the town of Lima and was vacant and in poor condition as of 2018.¹⁸⁵

The school retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance. It was listed in the National

¹⁸³ Feiler, 27.

¹⁸⁴ Feiler, 27; Fisk University, Rosenwald Database, "Lima School, Dist. #5," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu/> (accessed April 14, 2021).

¹⁸⁵ Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Rosenwald Hall, undated; "Lima High School," *Lima Observer*, October 2, 1914, 1.



Figure 99: Rosenwald Hall, with Lima High School in the background, c. 1921 (Fisk University)

Register in 1984 as part of the “Educational Resources Associated with All-Black Towns in Oklahoma” Multiple Property Submission. The nomination does not define a specific period of significance for Rosenwald Hall. The school is significant as the only Rosenwald School to have survived in the state’s historic African American communities.¹⁸⁶

Rosenwald Hall is about 60 miles from the Chickasaw National Recreation Area. It was one of three Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Oklahoma in September 2017.¹⁸⁷ A total of 176 Rosenwald Schools, 16 teacher homes and six shops were constructed in Oklahoma between 1920 and 1932. Over 19,500 African American children were educated in these schools.¹⁸⁸

Stephanie Deutsch visited the school in 2018 and surveyed the exterior of the building, but not the interior due to its abandoned condition.¹⁸⁹

186 National Register of Historic Places, Educational Resources Associated with All-Black Towns in Oklahoma, National Register #84003427.

187 Lynda Ozan, Architectural Historian, Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office, to Alan Spears, National Parks Conservation Association, September 15, 2017.

188 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

189 Checklist Table for Rosenwald Hall.

Walthall County Training School (Mississippi)

Built: 1920-1921
School Plan: 400

The Walthall County Training School, also referred to as the Ginntown School, is situated at 181 Ginntown Road in Tylertown, Walthall County, Mississippi. Constructed between 1920 and 1921, the four-teacher school is a variation of Plan 400 and cost a total of \$6,995 to build.²⁰⁴

The Rosenwald Fund contributed \$1,200, the local African American community contributed \$4,995, and \$800 was contributed by white community members.²⁰⁵

Upon opening, the school served grades one through twelve. The Rosenwald Fund contributed to additional development on the site including a classroom addition (1922) and a teacher's home (1924). The campus continued to grow with a student dormitory (c. 1940), a vocational building (1941), a lunchroom (1945), and an elementary building (c. 1950). Also present was a pump house, a building for food storage, and three privies. Use of the dormitory was discontinued after 1948 and the introduction of bus service in the county. The school was closed in the late 1959 amid school consolidation. The campus remained vacant until 1966 when the main building was reopened as a Head Start Center. Over the next decades, the other associated buildings were demolished. The Head Start Center closed in 1989, and the building became only occasionally used by Antioch M.B. Church and alumni reunion groups.²⁰⁶



Figure 100: Walthall County Training School, 2019 (Alan Spears)

The frame, one-story building sits on a brick pier foundation and is clad in weatherboard. The main mass of the school is covered by a metal, clipped gable roof with exposed rafter tails and brackets. A small vestibule on the southwest end of the school features an entrance accessible by a wooden staircase. A second vestibule covered by a gabled roof with a grade-level doorway is located on the northeast end of the structure. The interior features four classrooms, an industrial room, two bathrooms, and a corner stage.²⁰⁷

The school suffered damage from Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Subsequent repair work was conducted between 2006 and 2013 and was funded through a grant from Lowes. The 1922 addition was removed, the roof replaced, and new nine-over-nine, double-hung, wood-sash windows were installed matching the originals. On the interior, the school retains its original wood

204 Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Ginn Town School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

205 Ibid.

206 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Walthall County Training School, April 17, 2019; National Register of Historic Places, Walthall Training School, Walthall County, Mississippi, National Register #100001032.

207 Ibid.

floors, walls, and ceiling. The site also retains a fountain made by members of the class of 1942, and a former dormitory added in 1940. The pumphouse, food storage building, and privies are no longer present.²⁰⁸

The Walthall County Training School still exhibits the majority of its original materials and design elements and has retained sufficient integrity to convey its historical significance. The school was listed as a Mississippi Landmark in 2010 and added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2017. It was found to be significant under Criteria A and C for its role in the segregated high school education of Ginntown and Walthall County African American students, and as an example of a school constructed following a standard Rosenwald Fund design. The period of significance extends from the school's construction in 1920 to its closure in 1959.²⁰⁹

The Walthall County Training School was



Figure 101: Fountain made by students in 1942
(National Register Nomination)



Figure 102: State marker with side elevation of school in distance, 2019 (Alan Spears)

one of three Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Mississippi in December 2017.²¹⁰ A total of 633 Rosenwald schools, teacher homes and shops were built in Mississippi. Nearly 78,000 African American children were educated in the Mississippi schools.²¹¹ Less than 20 are still extant.²¹²

Alan Spears of the Rosenwald Park Campaign visited the school on April 17, 2019.²¹³

208 Checklist Table for Walthall County Training School.

209 National Register of Historic Places, Walthall Training School, Walthall County, Mississippi, National Register #100001032.

210 Jennifer Baughn, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, to Dorothy Canter, Rosenwald Park Campaign, December 5, 2017.

211 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

212 National Register of Historic Places, Walthall Training School, Walthall County, Mississippi, National Register #100001032.

213 Checklist Table for Walthall County Training School.

Six-Teacher Schools

Approximately 251 six-teacher schools were constructed over the course of the Rosenwald Schools program.²¹⁴ Three different six-teacher designs were published in the 1924 edition of *Community School Plans*. Plan 6 is a one-story, frame, rectangular-plan building with a side-gabled roof. It exhibits a centered front entrance as well as side-elevation entrances. Six classrooms, an industrial room, and an office/library are arranged around a central north-south corridor. Plan 6-A is based on the same basic H-plan layout that was applied to the four and five-teacher types (Plans 4-A and 5-A), but with three classrooms in each side wing. Plan 60 is a variation on Plan 6 that includes a large auditorium at one end of the building. The 1931 edition of *Community School Plans* featured updated versions of Plans 6 and 6-A. The revised Plan 6 featured a T-shaped plan like Plan 4, but with a new wing at the end of the auditorium. In Plan 6-A, the new rear wing was attached to the H-plan school by two cloisters that enclose a central courtyard.

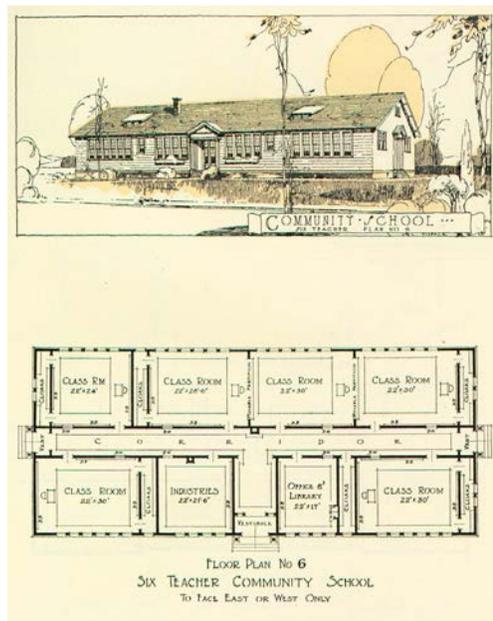
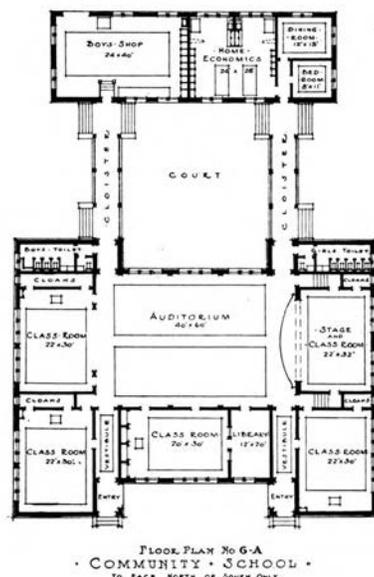
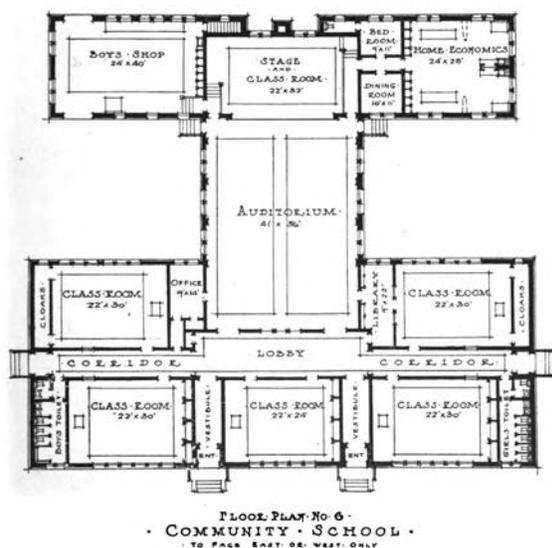


Figure 103: Plan 6 from the 1924 edition of *Community School Plans* (upper); Plans 6 (lower left) and 6-A (lower right) from the 1931 edition.



214 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 4.

Elmore County Training School (Alabama)

Built: 1924

School Plan: Nonstandard six-teacher

The Elmore County Training School is located at 202 Lancaster Street in Wetumpka, Elmore County, Alabama. The school is the only extant Rosenwald School in the county, and the only one to have been built of brick.²¹⁵ Elmore County Training School was constructed on five acres of land in 1924 at a total cost of \$6,700. The Rosenwald Fund contributed \$1,300, the Wetumpka African American community \$3,500, and the public \$1,900.²¹⁶ Prior to the school's construction, there were no schools in the county dedicated for African American students.



Figure 104: Front view of Elmore County Training School, 2019
(Dorothy Canter)

At its opening, the school had less than 200 students at the elementary and high school levels combined. The school was expanded soon after its completion with a two-room vocational agriculture building added to the site in 1928, which was followed by a home economics building. Enrollment continued to grow and by the early 1930s elementary students were moved to a new building on site. In 1934 the school was connected to city water, and after establishing

a library and acquiring new furniture and supplies, the school was accredited by the State Department of Education in 1935. Three additional acres were acquired by the school district in 1937, and an adjoining eight-room house was purchased in 1939 to accommodate female teachers. A lunchroom was added in 1946. By 1947, the school had again become overcrowded, leading to a loss of accreditation, and prompting the construction of a four-room junior high building the following year. By 1953, the school had an enrollment of 306 students and eight teachers at



Figure 105: Rear view of Elmore County Training School, 2019
(Dorothy Canter)

215 "Exhibits on display at Black History Museum," *The Wetumpka Herald* (Wetumpka, Alabama), February 21, 2014.

216 Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "County Training School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

the elementary level, and 329 students and fourteen teachers at the high school level.²¹⁷

The Elmore County Training School closed in 1966 following desegregation and the building was converted for use as a recreation center. In 1986, the school was transformed into the Elmore County Black History Museum, displaying artifacts donated by local African American families and hosting a variety of gatherings, including a group of local women who met weekly in the building to quilt. The Elmore County Association of Black Heritage helps support the museum. The school is currently owned by City of Wetumpka.²¹⁸

Today, buildings on the site consist of the 1924 Rosenwald school building, and a c. 1947 one-story junior high school building to its southeast that is no longer in use. Two small one-story buildings associated with the baseball field are located in the east half of the school grounds. North of the school is an eight-room teacher's home purchased in 1939 (not built as part of the Rosenwald program). The original privies are no longer extant.²¹⁹

The Colonial Revival-Style, masonry Rosenwald school follows an H-shaped plan, composed of north and south wings with front facing gables, connected by a center wing. The main façade faces west, with a central entrance surrounded by a pedimented wood portico. The building features paired double-hung wood windows and smaller clerestory windows. Many of the original openings have been infilled with brick on the side and rear elevations. As of May 2019, the interior was in good condition and featured original floors, ceilings, and folding doors. Wood molding had been added to certain interior walls for hanging pictures. The school had not been formally restored, although general maintenance was ongoing, and the roof had been replaced several



Figure 106: Teacher's Home, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)



Figure 107: Equalization school, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

217 "Early Advancements in Education for the Negroes in Wetumpka," *Wetumpka Herald* (Wetumpka, Alabama), February 12, 1953.

218 Feiler, 51; "Exhibits on display at Black History Museum," *Wetumpka Herald*, February 21, 2014.

219 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Elmore County Training School, May 14, 2019.

years earlier. Overall, the Elmore County Training School was in good condition.²²⁰

The Elmore County Training School still exhibits the majority of its original materials and design elements and has retained sufficient integrity to convey its historical significance. The school was listed in the Alabama Register in 2002.

The presence on the property of a teacher home and junior high school, in addition to the original Rosenwald School, are all part of the story of African American education in the South from the start of the Rosenwald Schools Building Program in 1912 through the ultimate integration of schools following the Brown v. Board of Education decision by the Supreme Court in 1954.

The Elmore County Black History Museum is 16 miles from Montgomery, Alabama, where a number of important sites connected to the Civil Rights Movement exist. Importantly, the Selma to Montgomery National Historic trail terminates at the Alabama State Capitol in Montgomery. Also, the Greyhound Freedom Riders Museum is in the downtown area, as is the National Memorial for Peace and Justice, commonly known as the Lynching Memorial.

Further, the Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site is 37 miles from the school and 38 miles from Montgomery. Booker T. Washington, the founder and first president of Tuskegee, met Julius Rosenwald in May 1911 in Chicago. In late 1911 Rosenwald joined the Tuskegee board. In August 1912 he donated \$25,000 to Tuskegee as part of his overall contribution of \$675,000 to charitable organizations in honor of his 50th birthday. A small portion of the amount started the Rosenwald Schools Building



Figure 108: Montgomery Greyhound station, 2019
(Dorothy Canter)



Figure 109: “The Oaks,” home of Booker T. Washington, on the Tuskegee campus, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

220 Ibid.

Program which ultimately educated 1/3 of the black children in the South in the first half of the 20th century.

That Program also contributed to the Civil Rights Movement. John Lewis was educated at a Rosenwald School in Alabama that no longer exists. The leader of the Selma to Montgomery March in March 1965, Lewis was severely beaten during the first attempt to cross the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma. Later he became a long serving and effective Congressman. A significant amount of the story of the Jim Crow Era is preserved and interpreted in Montgomery, Alabama.



Figure 110: Edmund Pettus Bridge, Selma, Alabama, 2019
(Dorothy Canter)



Figure 111: Elmore County Training School, interpretive display in interior, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

The Elmore County Training School was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Alabama on November 3, 2017.²²¹ A total of 389 Rosenwald Schools, seven teacher homes and 11 shops were constructed in Alabama. More than 40,000 African American children attended these schools.²²²

The Elmore County Training School was identified in *The Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools Act of 2020*, which directed the Secretary of Interior to conduct

a special resource study of sites associated with the life and legacy of Julius Rosenwald, with special emphasis on ten named schools.

Dorothy Canter visited the site on May 14, 2019 and met with Frazine Taylor, President of the Elmore County Association of Black Heritage.²²³

221 Dorothy Walker, Alabama Historical Commission, to Dorothy Canter, November 28, 2017.

222 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

223 Checklist Table for Elmore County Training School.

Prentiss Institute (Mississippi)

Built: 1926

School Plan: 6-A

The Prentiss Institute, also known as the Prentiss Normal and Industrial Institute, is situated at 292 J.E. Johnson Road in Prentiss, Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi. Built in 1926, the design of the school was derived from Plan 6-A and included six classrooms and an auditorium. According to Rosenwald Fund records, construction costs totaled \$12,750, of which the Rosenwald Fund contributed \$2,350, African Americans donated \$1,900, and “whites” provided \$8,500.²²⁴



Figure 112: Prentiss Institute, 2019 (Alan Spears)

The Prentiss Normal Industrial Institute was founded by Jonas E. and Bertha LaBranche Johnson on a forty-five-acre site in 1907 as a private elementary school for African American students. The school was chartered as a high school two years later. Prior to the Rosenwald building's construction, classes were held in a frame house, built c. 1820. In the decades following the construction of the Rosenwald School in 1926, additional structures were added to the campus and the school expanded its programming. In 1931, the institute introduced a junior college program, and in 1944, it developed a program for veterans. During the 1950s, the school was used to host voter registration drives. In 1959, the Prentiss School stopped serving high school students after a public African American high school was established by the county. The Prentiss Institute continued its junior college program, adding a library and cafeteria in the 1960s. The school closed in 1989 due to financial difficulties, partially because of growing opportunities elsewhere for its students. Under ownership of the Prentiss Institute Board of Trustees, the school currently functions as a museum and community center.²²⁵

The one-story plus basement rusticated concrete block building is the only remaining Rosenwald school derived from the 6-A Plan in Mississippi. The building is H-shaped in plan, with its main façade facing west, and consists of a central block containing the auditorium and two front-gabled wings that each contain three classrooms. A covered wood porch, accessible by three sets of stairs, spans the full width of the central block. Within the porch, the central block contains an entrance to the auditorium and two separate entrances to the western-most classrooms. Three six-light clerestory windows above the porch provide additional light into the large auditorium space. A courtyard is formed at the rear of the school, with individual entrances to classrooms

224 Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, “Prentiss School,” <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

225 National Register of Historic Places, Prentiss Normal and industrial Institute Historic District, Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi, National Register # 16000282.

and the auditorium. In addition to the classrooms and auditorium, the interior features a kitchen and two bathrooms. A gymnasium is adjacent to the 1926 school building but is not in use. Dormitory and cafeteria buildings are located across the street from the main school building and were currently vacant and in disrepair as of April 2019.²²⁶



Figure 113: Rear courtyard, 2019 (Alan Spears)

The 1926 Rosenwald School building was restored by school alumni with the assistance from a grant from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. In February 2013 the building was rededicated. In 2014 the Mississippi Heritage Trust awarded the Prentiss Institute Board of Trustees a Heritage Award for Restoration. The restored building contains an auditorium, classrooms and a museum. Work included roof replacement, new floors, and internal bathrooms. As of April 2019, the building was in excellent condition.²²⁷

The Prentiss Institute school retains excellent integrity and still exhibits the majority of its original materials and design elements to convey its historical significance. The school was listed as a Mississippi Landmark in 2003 and is part of the Prentiss Normal and Industrial Institute Historic District, listed in the National Register in 2016. The District was found to be significant under Criterion A for its role in African American educational and ethnic heritage and its association with voter registration drives during the Civil Rights Movement. The school was listed under Criterion C as an example of a school constructed following a Rosenwald plan. The period of significance for the Prentiss Normal Institute Historic District extends from 1907, the year the college was established, through 1971, the year that co-founder Bertha LaBranche Johnson died and the beginning of mandated integration of public schools in Mississippi.²²⁸

The Prentiss Institute is about 122 miles from both Vicksburg National Military Park and Gulf Islands National Seashore, and about 102 miles from the Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home National Monument in Jackson, Mississippi. The Prentiss Institute was one of three Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Mississippi in December 2017.²²⁹ A total of 633 Rosenwald schools, teacher homes, and shops were built in Mississippi, and nearly 78,000 African American children were educated in these school facilities.²³⁰

On April 17, 2019, Alan Spears met with representatives at the Prentiss Institute.²³¹

226 Ibid.; Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for the Prentiss Institute, April 17, 2019.

227 Checklist Table for the Prentiss Institute; Mississippi Encyclopedia, "Prentiss Normal and Industrial Institute," <https://mississippiencyclopedia.org/entries/prentiss-normal-and-industrial-institute/> (accessed June 2021).

228 National Register of Historic Places, Prentiss Normal and Industrial Institute Historic District, Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi, National Register # 16000282.

229 Jennifer Baughn, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, to Dorothy Canter, Rosenwald Park Campaign, December 5, 2017.

230 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

231 Checklist Table for the Prentiss Institute.

A. Quinn Jones Center (Florida)

Built: 1924

School Plan: Nonstandard 14-teacher

The A. Quinn Jones Center is located at 1108 NW 7th Avenue in Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida. The school opened in 1924 under the name Lincoln High. The fourteen-teacher school was one of the largest Rosenwald Schools to be constructed in the state of Florida and was built at a cost of \$42,500. The Rosenwald Fund granted \$1,500, the local African American community contributed \$1,000, and the remaining \$40,000 came from public funds. The school, designed by the architectural firm Edwards and Sayward and built by Winston and Penny, does not follow a standard Rosenwald plan. A classroom addition was constructed in 1926, towards which the Rosenwald Fund contributed an additional \$200.²³³

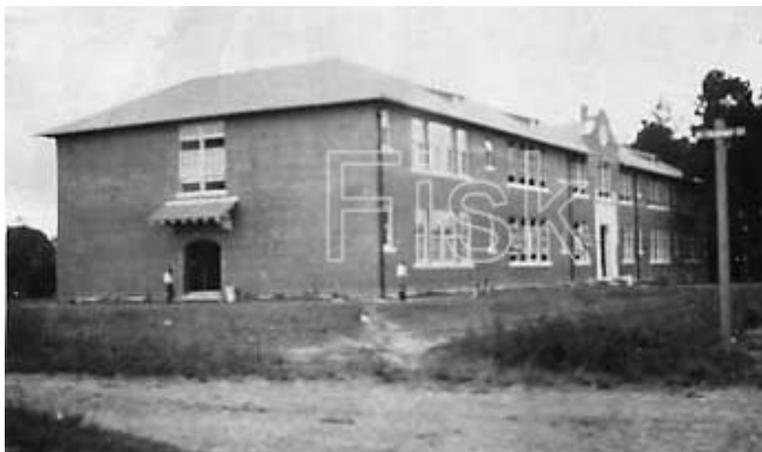


Figure 115: Lincoln High School, c. 1923 (Fisk University)

Prior to the school's construction, African Americans in Gainesville did not have a facility in which to obtain an education beyond the eighth grade. Upon opening, the school served grades one through eleven.²³⁴ Lincoln High School expanded to offer a full high school education in 1925.²³⁵ That same year, the school became one of only two African American schools accredited by the State of Florida. In 1957, a new high school was built (also called Lincoln High School), and the building was converted into Lincoln Middle School.²³⁶ The name was later changed to A. Quinn Jones Elementary, honoring the school's first principal, who had served at the school for thirty-five years.²³⁷

The former house of A. Quinn Jones, located directly across the street from the school at 1019 NW 7th Avenue, is now operated as a Museum and Cultural Center. The house was listed in the National Register in 2010 recognizing Jones' role in improving access to and the quality of the education available to the African-American community in Florida.²³⁸ The school currently functions as the A. Quinn Jones Center for Excellence, serving middle school and high school level students.

233 Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Lincoln Consolidated School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021); Bland & Associates, Inc., "The Phase I Survey of Surviving Rosenwald Schools Within Fifteen Counties of Florida," May 2009.

234 A. Quinn Jones Museum, "A. Quinn Jones: An Inspired Life," <https://www.aqjmuseum.org/about-a-quinn-jones> (accessed April 2021).

235 Ann DeRosa Byrne, "Old Lincoln High - A. Quinn Jones Building," Florida Master Site File Site Inventory Form (Florida Department of State, Division of Archives, History and Records Management, 2007).

236 Bland & Associates, Inc., "The Phase II Survey of Surviving Rosenwald Schools Within Twenty-Six Counties of Florida," June 2011.

237 Byrne, "Old Lincoln High - A. Quinn Jones Building."

238 National Register of Historic Places, Jones A Quinn House, Alachua County, Florida, National Register #09001278.

The T-shaped school is comprised of a main classroom building that faces east onto Northwest 10th Street and a smaller rear auditorium wing. The exterior is clad in red brick and features a hipped roof with a flat top covered in asphalt shingles. The original entrance to the school is centered on the east façade and features a one-story stone surround decorated with finials and colonnettes. Above the entrance is a curvilinear brick parapet with a quatrefoil vent at the roofline. This feature is repeated at the center of the rear, west elevation on the auditorium wing. While the original entrance remains, the opening has been infilled with glass block and the entrance relocated to the rear of the building. The north and south elevations of the west auditorium each feature three arched windows spanning between the first and second story, separated by pilasters. A comparison of the current building with historic images contained in the Fisk University Rosenwald Archives reveals that the school has largely retained its original form and appearance.



Figure 116: Lincoln School, c. 1923 (Fisk University)



Figure 117: A. Quinn Jones Center, undated (University of North Florida)

The school's integrity is slightly diminished as a result of various alterations; however, the school still exhibits the majority of its original materials and design elements and has retained sufficient integrity to convey its historical significance. The A. Quinn Jones Center is not listed in the National Register or in Gainesville's Local Register of Historic Places.

The A. Quinn Jones Center is about 76 miles from Fort Matanzas National Monument and 75 miles from Castillo de San Marcos National Monument. The A. Quinn Jones Center was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Florida on November 3, 2017.²³⁹ A total of 120 Rosenwald Schools, one teacher home and four shops were constructed in Florida. Slightly more than 22,500 African American children attended these schools. A survey conducted by the Florida State Historic Preservation Office found that only 25 Rosenwald Schools and one shop building were still extant in 2011.²⁴⁰

Stephanie Deutsch visited the school in March 2018 and met with Dean Petrina Leggon.²⁴¹

239 Alissa Slade Lotane, Florida Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, to Alan Spears, National Parks Conservation Association, November 3, 2017.

240 Alissa Slade Lotane, Florida Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, to Alan Spears, National Parks Conservation Association, November 3, 2017; Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

241 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for A. Quinn Jones Center, March 2018.

Dunbar Junior High School, Senior High School, and Junior College (Arkansas)

Built: 1929

School Plan: Nonstandard high school

Dunbar Junior High School, Senior High School, and Junior College is located at 1100 Wright Avenue in Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas. Built in 1929, the school was first known as the Negro School of Industrial Arts, but soon changed its name to Dunbar Junior High School, Senior High School, and Junior College in honor of African American poet Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872-1906). Designed by the architectural firm of Wittenberg & Delony in the Art Deco style, the school was completed at a cost of \$400,000. Only a portion of this amount could be paid for by the Little Rock School Board, as they had exhausted their funding two years earlier constructing the \$1.5 million



Figure 118: Dunbar Junior High School, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)

white-only Central High School, also designed by Wittenberg & Delony. To supplement the cost of Dunbar Junior High School, grants were provided by the Julius Rosenwald Fund and Rockefeller General Education Board. At 200,000 square feet, the school was a third of the size of Central High School, with a capacity of 1,600 students compared to 3,000 students. Central High School was celebrated locally for its quality academics and modern facilities. Separate but unequal, Dunbar relied on used textbooks and lab equipment discarded by the white high school.²⁴²

The two- and three-story irregular-shaped building is constructed of red brick, concrete and native stone. Evocative of the Art Deco style, the school features a variety of brickwork techniques employed to embellish the facades and a vertical massing emphasized through the use of pilasters capped with stone that extend beyond the roofline. On the façade, two projecting entrances are raised above grade and feature stone surrounds inscribed with the words “Dunbar High School” reflecting Collegiate Gothic-style influences. The interior of the school originally featured thirty-four classrooms finished with wood and terrazzo floors and brick wainscoting. The school has undergone only minor alterations including replacement of finishes, limited infill of openings, and replacement of windows and doors. In 2003, a large gymnasium was added to the northwest corner of the school.²⁴³ In May 2018, the school was in need of extensive deferred maintenance. There were leaks in a number of areas of the building. At that time, work was being done to seal the building’s foundation beneath ground level in the front because of recurring leaks into the infirmary following rainstorms. The facility needed rewiring and a new HVAC system as well.²⁴⁴

242 National Register of Historic Places, Dunbar Junior and Senior High School and Junior College, Pulaski County, Arkansas, National Register # 80000782; National Park Service, Little Rock Central High School: Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, 1929-1955 (brochure), <https://www.nps.gov/chsc/planyourvisit/upload/Dunbar-High-School-Brochure.pdf> (accessed April 2021); Feiler, 96.

243 Ibid.

244 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Dunbar Junior High School, May 14, 2018.

From 1929 through 1955, the school functioned as a junior/senior high school and as a junior college. Both traditional liberal arts and vocational curricula were offered. In 1932, the school became one of only two southern industrial arts schools to receive a junior college rating by the North Central Accreditation Association. The Dunbar curriculum was later used as the basis for admittance to colleges and universities throughout the United States. It was also the only black secondary school in Arkansas accredited by the Association. By 1935, the school's enrollment had reached over 1,700 students. The school was visited by Eleanor Roosevelt, Count Basie, Duke Ellington, and Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Sr.²⁴⁵



Figure 119: Auditorium, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)

Since its construction, the school has continuously served students under ownership of the Little Rock School District, most recently as the Dunbar Magnet Middle School, established in 1999. As of 2018 it was experiencing declining enrollment.²⁴⁶

A model school for African Americans in Arkansas, Dunbar Junior High also played an important role in the Civil Rights Movement including struggles for equal pay and integration. In 1942, Sue Cowan Williams (née Morris), a teacher at Dunbar High School, represented African American teachers as the plaintiff in a case challenging the rate of salaries allotted to teachers in the Little Rock School District based solely on skin color. She eventually won the suit in 1945 but lost her job as a result. In 1952, her job was reinstated, and she remained at Dunbar until 1974, when she retired.²⁴⁷



Figure 120: Cafeteria, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)

In 1955, one year after *Brown v. Board of Education* ruled that racial segregation in public education was unconstitutional, Dunbar High School was converted into a junior high as the school district developed a plan for gradual desegregation (known as the Blossom Plan) starting with the district's high schools.²⁴⁸ That year, the School Board constructed a new high school for the city's African American students transferred from Dunbar named for Horace Mann (1796-1859), the U.S. Congressman and education

245 Checklist Table for Dunbar Junior High School;

Little Rock Central High School: Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, 1929-1955; Arkansas Schools for Proposed Rosenwald National Park, submitted to the Rosenwald Park Campaign by Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, 2017.

246 Checklist Table for Dunbar Junior High School.

247 John A. Kirk, "The NAACP Campaign for Teachers' Salary Equalization: African American Women Educators and the Early Civil Rights Struggle." *Journal of African American History* 94, no. 4 (2009): 529-52.

248 *Little Rock Central High School: Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, 1929-1955*.

reformer. In 1957, desegregation of the school district began at Central High School, with all other schools remaining segregated. On September 4, 1957, nine African American students (all former students of Dunbar and Horace Mann) were the first African American students to attend Central High School. Upon arriving at the high school, the “Little Rock Nine,” as the nine students came to be known, were surrounded by an angry crowd of protesters and were turned away by the National Guard on orders from Arkansas Governor Orval Faubus. The students again attempted to enter the school escorted by police on September 23 but were sent home after another angry crowd attempted to rush into the school. The Little Rock Nine did not begin regular attendance at Central High until September 25, 1957 when President Dwight Eisenhower federalized the National Guard and sent U.S. Army troops to guard the students. Following these events, Little Rock’s Central High School became a national and international symbol of resistance to desegregation.²⁴⁹



Figure 121: Exhibit, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)

Dunbar School was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1980 under Criterion C for its architectural design and Criterion A for its association with segregated education in Arkansas. The school is also significant under Criterion A for its association with *Morris v. Williams*, the Little Rock Nine, and for being one of only two industrial arts schools admitted into the North Central Accreditation Association. Typical of many older nominations, the form does not denote a period of significance, but rather, lists 1929, the date of construction, as a significant date.²⁵⁰

Dunbar Magnet Middle School is located about one mile from Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, which also is an active school. Dunbar was one of three Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Arkansas in 2017.²⁵¹ A total of 338 Rosenwald Schools, 19 teacher homes and 32 shops were constructed in Arkansas. Nearly 47,000 African American children were educated in these schools.²⁵²

The Dunbar School was identified in *The Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools Act of 2020*, which directed the Secretary of Interior to conduct a special resource study of sites associated with the life and legacy of Julius Rosenwald, with special emphasis on ten named schools.

On May 14, 2018, Dorothy Canter and Alan Spears visited the school and met with the school’s principal Paul Smith.²⁵³

249 National Park Service, *Little Rock Central High School, National Historic Site: General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement*, (2002) 74-75, 178.

250 National Register of Historic Places, Dunbar Junior and Senior High School and Junior College, Pulaski County, Arkansas, National Register # 80000782.

251 Arkansas Schools for Proposed Rosenwald National Park, submitted to the Rosenwald Park Campaign by Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, 2017.

252 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

253 Checklist Table for A. Quinn Jones Center, May 14, 2018.

Fort Valley County Training School (Alabama)

Built: 1926-1929

School Plan: Nonstandard ten teacher

The Fort Valley County Training School is located in Fort Valley, Peach County, Georgia, on the campus of Fort Valley State University. The building was designed by the New York firm of Ludlow and Peabody, which designed several other campus buildings. Construction began in 1926 and the building was completed in 1929. The building was constructed at a cost of \$32,600, of which the state contributed \$28,000, the local community \$2,500, and the Julius Rosenwald Fund \$2,100. Additional funding was also provided by the General Education Board, a philanthropic organization created in 1902.²⁵⁴



Figure 122: Fort Valley County Training School, 2019 (Don Stevenson)



Figure 123: Side and rear elevations, 2019 (Don Stevenson)

The Fort Valley County Training School was part of the Fort Valley High and Industrial School, a historic African American educational institution established in 1895. Henry A. Hunt became principal of the school in 1904, and upon his retirement in 1929, was awarded a medal for his twenty-five years of service at Fort Valley. In 1931, Hunt received a Julius Rosenwald Fund fellowship of \$1,400 to travel to Scandinavian countries to study agriculture and cooperatives. Hunt was later appointed by President Franklin Roosevelt as assistant to the Governor of the

Farm Credit Administration and “Black Cabinet” advisor.²⁵⁵

²⁵⁴ Fisk University, Rosenwald Database, “Fort Valley County Training School,” <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu/> (accessed April 15, 2021); National Register of Historic Places, Fort Valley State College Historic District, Peach County, Georgia, National Register #00000390.

²⁵⁵ Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Fort Valley High and Industrial School, April 17, 2019.

In 1932, the school became known as the Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School. It became a senior college in the University System of Georgia in 1939 and was renamed Fort Valley State College. Julian Bond, former chairman of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, resided as a child on the Fort Valley campus when his father Horace Mann Bond, was president of the school. In 1996, the institution became Fort Valley State University and is one of only three historically African American state-supported colleges in Georgia. Today the original Rosenwald school building is known as Founder's Hall, and is home to the university's fine arts department.²⁵⁶



Figure 124: Signage, 2019 (Don Stevenson)



Figure 125: Interior hallway, 2019 (Don Stevenson)

Alterations to the two-story, brick, Georgian Revival-style academic building include the replacement of the original windows, installation of a handicapped access ramp, and the construction of two rear additions. The two-story additions are faced in brick matching the original construction and are sensitive to but distinguishable from, the 1929 building. The interior has been modernized and includes an auditorium.²⁵⁷ Overall, the building still exhibits strong integrity and retains original character-defining Colonial Revival-Style architectural elements, which include its cupola, molded

cornice, terra cotta panels, and blind-arched windows with rondels. In addition to its significant associations with the history of Fort Valley State University, the building is also significant as an example of the larger vocational training schools developed under the Rosenwald Fund's industrial high school initiative, which began in 1928.²⁵⁸

256 Ibid; Feiler, 75.

257 Checklist Table for Fort Valley High and Industrial School, April 17, 2019.

258 National Register of Historic Places, Fort Valley State College Historic District, Peach County, Georgia, National Register #00000390.



Figure 126: Fort Valley County Training School, c. 1929 (Fisk University)

The building is a contributing resource within the Fort Valley State College Historic District, and was listed in the National Register in 2000. The district was found to be significant under Criteria A and C for its association with African-American education and for its multiple Georgian Revival buildings. The district's period of significance extends from the founding of the school in 1895 to the opening of the Bywaters (Hunt) Building on campus in 1952.²⁵⁹

The Fort Valley County Training School is located about 32 miles from Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park. The Fort Valley County Training School was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Georgia on September 22, 2017.²⁶⁰ A total of 242 Rosenwald Schools, 12 teacher homes and seven shops were constructed in Georgia. More than 37,000 African American children attended these schools.²⁶¹

Kate and Don Stevenson visited the school on April 17, 2019.²⁶²

259 Ibid.

260 Melissa Jest, African American Programs Coordinator, Georgia Historic Preservation Division, to Dorothy Canter, November 2, 2017.

261 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

262 Checklist Table for Fort Valley County Training School.

Lucy Moten Elementary School (Florida)

Built: 1931-1932

School Plan: Nonstandard ten-teacher

Lucy Moten Elementary School is situated in Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida, at 444 Gamble Street. The ten-teacher school was built between 1931 and 1932 on the campus of the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College, which was established in 1887 as the State Normal College for Colored Students on the campus of Florida State. It moved to its current campus in the 1890s. The Rosenwald-funded Moten School building was originally intended to serve as a teacher training facility for that institution. The school was built at a total cost of \$58,191, with the Rosenwald Fund contributing



Figure 127: Lucy Moten Elementary School, 2019 (Stephanie Deutsch)

\$3,600 and the remaining \$54,591 from public funds.²⁶³ The school was designed by architect Rudolph Weaver and built by Grahn Construction Company.²⁶⁴ In 1935, it was renamed for Lucy E. Moten (1851-1933), a national leader in African American education and protegee of Frederick Douglass. In 1953, the school became associated with the Florida Agriculture and Mechanical University's (FAMU) College of Education, functioning as a private elementary school. The school is still owned by the university and presently serves as FAMU's recruitment office.²⁶⁵

The U-shaped, Colonial Revival style single-story brick school is comprised of three wings, each with a gabled roof. The south elevation serves as the façade and contains two entrances recessed within cross-gabled vestibules detailed with brick quoining. A small copper cupola is centrally located at the ridge of the middle wing. The school also features a raised basement, accessible at grade level from within the courtyard. As of 1988, the interior contained two offices, a reading room, and eight classrooms on its first floor, and two additional classrooms in the basement. Alterations to the building include replacement of the original solid wood exterior doors and some of the interior doors; renovations of the bathrooms; installation of new flooring; replacement of the mechanical systems; addition of florescent lighting; replacement of the original slate tile roof with asphalt shingles; and addition of an elevator on the rear elevation. At some point prior to 1988, a covered walkway leading to a neighboring building was added to the west side of the structure. As of February 2019, the school was in good condition.²⁶⁶

263 Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "F.A. & M.C. Practice School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

264 James Roth, "Lucy Moten Elementary School," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form (Florida Nomination Proposal, 1988).

265 Ibid; Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Lucy Moten Elementary School, February 14, 2019.

266 Ibid.

Despite the alterations, the school retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance. The Lucy Moten Elementary School was listed in the National Register in 1996 as part of the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College Historic District. The district was found to be significant under Criteria A and C for comprising a historically black land-grant college, for being Florida's only state supported black education facilities, and for its growth from a training school to a university. The district was also found to be significant for having examples of Georgian Revival, Neo-Classical Revival, and Colonial Revival style buildings. The period of significance for the historic district begins in 1907 with the construction of the Carnegie Library on campus, and ends in 1953 with the recognition of the academic standing of the school through its official designation as Florida A & M University.²⁶⁷

The NPS Southeast Archaeological Center (SEAC) is about two miles away. The closest National Park unit to the Lucy Moten School is Gulf Islands National Seashore, which is about 167 miles from Tallahassee. The school was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Florida in December 2017.²⁶⁸ A total of 120 Rosenwald Schools, 1 teacher home and 4 shops were constructed in Florida. More than 22,500 African American children attended these schools.²⁶⁹

Stephanie Deutsch visited the school on February 14, 2019 and met with university representatives Archie Bouie and Craig Talton. Mr. Bouie attended the school, as did his mother and her sisters.²⁷⁰



Figure 128: Lucy Moten Elementary School signage, 2019
(Stephanie Deutsch)

267 National Register of Historic Places, Florida Agricultural & Mechanical College Historic District, Leon County, Florida, National Register #96000530.

268 Alissa Slade Lotane, Florida Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, to Alan Spears, National Parks Conservation Association, November 3, 2017.

269 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

270 Checklist Table for Lucy Moten Elementary School.

Paul Laurence Dunbar School (Florida)

Built: 1927

School Plan: Non-standard 17-teacher

Paul Laurence Dunbar School is located at 1857 High Street in Fort Myers, Lee County, Florida. The non-standard 17-teacher school was built in 1927 on a 4.77-acre property. It is one of the largest Rosenwald Schools built in Florida and is reflective of the larger industrial high schools that became the focus of the Rosenwald Schools Program during its later years under Fund director Edwin Embree.²⁷¹ The Rosenwald Fund paid \$2,600 of the \$136,500 total construction cost. African American community members contributed \$1,700, and white community members \$400. The remaining \$131,800 came from public funds.²⁷² Prior to Dunbar's construction, the county had two primary schools for African American students, built in 1913 and 1922, but no high school. The land was purchased in 1926 for the erection of a high school to accommodate the county's growing African American student population, and the school was built the following year. Rather than using a standard Rosenwald plan, the school was built following architect L.N. Iredell's plans for a local white high school, thus ensuring that African American high school students would have a comparable facility.²⁷³



Figure 129: Paul Laurence Dunbar School, 2018 (Carol Shull)

Upon its opening, the school served Lee County students in grades eight through twelve, as well as students from neighboring Collier and Charlotte counties which lacked their own high schools for African American students. The school grew, with expansions to the campus in 1951 and 1958. Modifications to the Rosenwald building also occurred in 1958, at which point the auditorium was converted into additional classrooms, and the stage into storage and a library expansion. In 1962, a new high school for African American students was built, and Dunbar transitioned into a middle school. The county desegregated its schools five years later and the school closed in 1969. In 1977, the school reopened as the Dunbar Community School, administered by the Lee County school district. The school functioned as a center for seventh grade education, and later for adult learning, and it continues in this role today. It is still owned by Lee County.²⁷⁴

²⁷¹ Hoffschwelle, 131-138; Feiler, 81.

²⁷² Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Dunbar High School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

²⁷³ National Register of Historic Places, Dunbar, Paul Lawrence, School, Lee County, Florida, National Register #92000025.

²⁷⁴ Ibid; Feiler, 81.

The Mission Revival-Style school features a T-shaped plan with a two-story classroom building and a smaller one-story wing containing the auditorium. The building is constructed of masonry blocks covered with stucco topped by a flat roof surrounded by a parapet.²⁷⁵ The main façade faces west onto High Street and features a central shallow three-bay projection accented by a curvilinear parapet. The central primary entrance projects beyond the face of the building at the first floor and consists of an arched opening topped by a curvilinear parapet. Similar entrances are located on the north and south elevations. The school was rehabilitated, consistent with its historic character, in the mid-1990s. During rehabilitation, the auditorium was restored (after having been converted into two classrooms). The building's historic windows had been removed in 1982 and replaced with aluminum sash awning windows, however wood-sash windows that are consistent with the original historic windows were installed as part of the rehabilitation. The site includes a monument/wall in front listing names of graduates.²⁷⁶



Figure 130: Paul Laurence Dunbar School, undated (Lee County Schools)



Figure 131: Monument on school grounds, 2018 (Carol Shull)

As of January 2018, the Paul Laurence Dunbar School still exhibited the majority of its original materials and design elements and retained sufficient integrity to convey its historical significance. The school was listed in the National Register in 1992, significant under Criterion A for being the first secondary school for African American students in Lee County. The period of significance extends from 1927-1962, the time in which it served as the only high school for African American students in Lee, Collier and Charlotte Counties.²⁷⁷

275 Ibid.

276 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Paul Laurence Dunbar School, January 18, 2018.

277 National Register of Historic Places, Dunbar, Paul Lawrence, School, Lee County, Florida, National Register #92000025.

The school is associated with the Florida African American Heritage Network (FAAHPN) and has local and statewide support.²⁷⁸ It is within blocks of a pre-Rosenwald African American school, which would be useful for interpretation and comparison. The Paul Laurence Dunbar School is also located about 12 miles from Big Cypress National Preserve and about 84 miles from Everglades National Park. It was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Florida in December 2017.²⁷⁹ A total of 120 Rosenwald Schools, 1 teacher home and 4 shops were constructed in Florida. More than 22,500 African American children attended these schools.²⁸⁰

Carol Shull visited the school on January 18, 2018, and met with Principal George (Ken) Burns; Secretary to the Principal Bettye Walker; and Lavon Simms, former student and former Fort Myers City Council member.²⁸¹

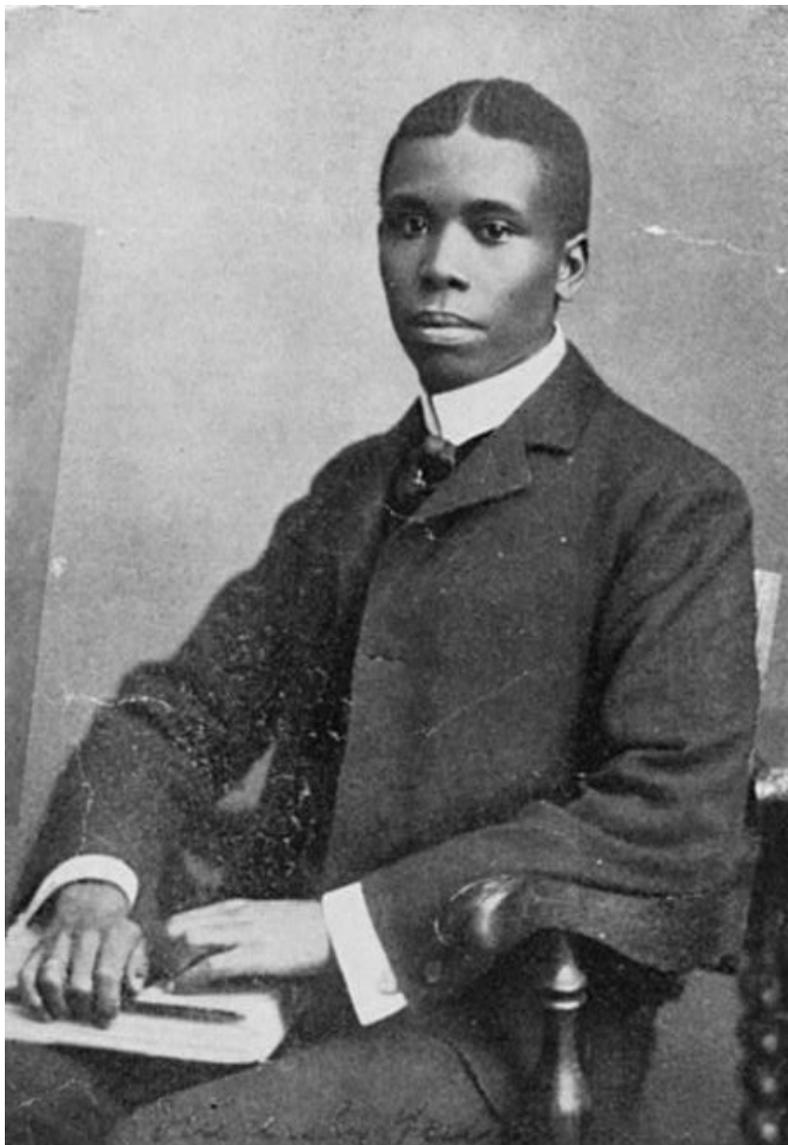


Figure 132: Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872-1906), the school's namesake. The son of former enslaved persons, Dunbar grew up in Ohio, was educated at Howard University in Washington, D.C., and worked as a librarian at the Library of Congress for many years. Acclaimed internationally, Dunbar was one of the first Black poets in American Literature (Library of Congress)

278 Checklist Table for Paul Laurence Dunbar School

279 Alissa Slade Lotane, Florida Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, to Alan Spears, National Parks Conservation Association, November 3, 2017.

280 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

281 Checklist Table for the Paul Laurence Dunbar School.

Peake High School (Arkansas)

Built: 1928

School Plan: Nonstandard ten-teacher

Peake High School is located in Arkadelphia, Clark County, Arkansas, at 1600 Caddo Street. The ten-teacher school was built in 1928, and its design is based on Rosenwald Plan 7-A. It cost \$25,400, of which the Rosenwald Fund granted \$2,600, African American community members contributed \$2,000, and \$20,800 came from public funding.²⁸² A vocational shop was built on site in 1929, partially paid for by an additional Rosenwald grant of \$250.²⁸³



Figure 133: Front elevation, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)

The school sits on land sold by the family of J. Edward Peake to the Arkadelphia Special School District Number One in 1928. Upon opening, the school served grades one through eight, with an enrollment of less than 300 students. By the 1960s, population growth necessitated the construction of a new school building on the property, which functioned as an elementary school. Arkadelphia public schools became integrated in 1969 and the elementary school building became Peake Middle School. Between 1984 and 2001, the original Rosenwald School building served as a Head Start facility, after which it was used as a storage facility by the local school district. Beginning in 2013, it began housing the school district's pre-kindergarten program. The Peake School is currently owned by the Arkadelphia School District. The Peake High School Alumni Foundation, Inc. and The Buffaloes' Foundation, Inc. are involved with the school and award annual scholarships to deserving students.²⁸⁴



Figure 134: Peake High School, c. 1928 (Fisk University)

The one-story, H-shaped ten room school is derived from Plan 7-A. The brick-clad building sits on a cast-concrete foundation and features an asphalt shingle roof. Large banks of windows are located around the building, which provide light to the classrooms, which, along with an industrial room are located in the eastern and western wings. Small additions have been added to the south end of both outer wings. The central wing is mostly comprised of the auditorium, with administrative spaces on the southern side.²⁸⁵ The

282 Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Peake School (Arkadelphia)," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

283 Fisk University, Rosenwald Fund Card File Database, "Vocational Shop at Peake School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu> (accessed April 2021).

284 National Register of Historic Places, Peake High School, Clark County, Arkansas, National Register # 04001499.

285 Ibid.

building originally featured a central projecting bay containing a segmental arch entry door topped by a curvilinear brick parapet bay. The original entry bay was removed at some point and today the front façade features a full-width covered porch. Renovation work in 2013 resulted in the reconfiguration of interior spaces involving the cafeteria/kitchen, new indoor bathrooms, and removal of the auditorium stage during conversion of the space into a community room. The school has retained many of its original windows. As of May 2018, the original water trough still existed in the rear of the building. It is the only remaining Rosenwald School in the county.²⁸⁶



Figure 135: Community room, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)

The integrity of the Peake High School is slightly diminished as a result of alterations to the façade and entrance; however, the school still exhibits the majority of its original materials and design elements and has retained sufficient integrity to convey its historical significance. Peake High School was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2005. The school was found to be significant under Criterion A for its association with Julius Rosenwald and education in Arkadelphia and Clark County. The period of significance is from 1928-1955, extending from the school's completion to 50 years from the time of listing (integration of the school system occurred in 1969; use as a school ended in 2001).²⁸⁷

The distance between Peake High School and the Bill Clinton Birthplace National Historic Site is about 48 miles. The Peake High School was one of three Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of Arkansas in 2017.²⁸⁸ A total of 338 Rosenwald Schools, 19 teacher homes and 32 shops were constructed in Arkansas. Nearly 47,000 African American children were educated in these schools.²⁸⁹



Figure 136: Original water trough, 2018 (Dorothy Canter)

On May 14, 2018, Dorothy Canter and Alan Spears visited the school and met with school representative Tasha Hines and Gloria Fallin, representing the Peake High School Alumni Foundation, Inc.²⁹⁰

286 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Peake High School, May 14, 2018.

287 National Register of Historic Places, Peake High School, Clark County, Arkansas, National Register # 04001499.

288 Arkansas Schools for Proposed Rosenwald National Park, submitted to the Rosenwald Park Campaign by Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, 2017.

289 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

290 Checklist Table for Peake High School.

Williamston Colored School (North Carolina)

Built: 1931

School Plan: Nonstandard 12-teacher

The Williamston Colored School is located at 705 Washington Street in Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina in a mixed commercial and residential area. The school was built in 1930-1931 and was designed by Henderson, North Carolina architect Eric G. Flannagan. Described in Rosenwald Fund records as a twelve-teacher school, the design is based on Plan 12-A from the 1931 edition of *Community School Plans*. The school was constructed at a cost of \$34,094, of which the community contributed \$28,094 and the Julius Rosenwald Fund contributed \$6,000. The Fund also provided a grant of \$120 to help establish the school's library.²⁹¹



Figure 137: Williamston Colored School, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)



Figure 138: Rear elevation, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

The one-story, red brick, five-bay, H-plan school building is based on Plan 12-A with some modifications. The school originally housed ten classrooms, two administrative rooms, a classroom/library, and an auditorium. It was the first high school constructed for African Americans in Williamston and was a focal point for the community, hosting sports and cultural events, until its closing in 1972.²⁹²

The building is currently owned by the Martin County Board of Education. Since 2006, the E. J. Hayes Alumni Association has leased the building, which is now

called the E. J. Hayes Alumni Center, for reunions, festivals, and community workdays. Alterations to the building include the addition of a one-story brick addition in 1939, infill and alteration

291 Fisk University, Rosenwald Database, "Williamston School," <http://rosenwald.fisk.edu/> (accessed April 15, 2021); National Register of Historic Places, Williamston Colored School, Martin County, North Carolina, National Register #14000445.

292 Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Williamston Colored School, May 3, 2019.

of openings, installation of an accessible ramp, reconfiguration of some of the classrooms and office spaces, and application of plywood boards to openings. In 2013, the Alumni Association received a \$500,000 grant from the Community Development Block Grant Catalyst Program in Williamston to repair and restore the building, which was ongoing in May 2019; most windows except those of the front exterior and the exterior of one wing had been boarded up; windows on that wing were covered on the outside with Plexiglas for protection from rain. There also were some roof leaks.²⁹³



Figure 139: Auditorium stage (lower), 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

The Williamston Colored School demonstrates good integrity, retaining most of its character-defining features, but was in need of repairs as of May 2019. The school was listed in the National Register in 2014. It was found to be significant under Criteria A and C for its association with black education and heritage as Williamston's first modern high school for African American students, and for its Rosenwald

associated architectural plan. The period of significance extends from the school's opening in 1931 until its closing in 1972. It was the only high school for African Americans in Williamston and eastern Martin County.²⁹⁴



Figure 140: Window detail, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

The Williamston Colored School is about 95 miles from Cape Hatteras National Seashore. It was one of five Rosenwald Schools recommended for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of North Carolina on September 22, 2017.²⁹⁵ More Rosenwald School facilities were

²⁹³ Ibid.

²⁹⁴ National Register of Historic Places, Williamston Colored School, Martin County, North Carolina, National Register #14000445.

²⁹⁵ Claudia R. Brown, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, to Rosenwald Park Campaign, September 22, 2017.

built in North Carolina than in any other state; namely, 787 Rosenwald Schools, 18 teacher homes and eight shops. More than 114,000 African American children attended these schools.²⁹⁶

On May 3, 2019, Dorothy Canter visited the school and met with representatives of the E. J. Hayes Alumni Association Angela Bell, William Newsome, Willie Peele, Cerine Pou, and Louis Peele.²⁹⁷



Figure 141: School memorabilia, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)



Figure 142: Historic photograph of alumni, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

296 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.
297 Checklist Table for Williamston Colored School.

Teacherages (Teachers' Houses)

A total of 217 teacherages were built in fourteen states. Only four school facilities were built in Missouri: three schools and one shop. Plans for a three and five-room "Teacher's Cottage" first appeared in the 1915 *The Negro Rural School and its Relation to the Community*. Both were one-story frame structures built on brick piers. The three-room plan featured a hipped roof with dual interior chimneys and a three-bay facade with a centered front entrance and porch. The five-room plan was for a side-gabled frame dwelling with a single interior chimney and rear kitchen extension. The 1924 edition of *Community School Plans* included designs for a four and five-room teacher's home. The four-room (Plan 200) was a frame, square-plan, side-gabled dwelling with interior chimneys and an entrance porch. The five-room plan (Plan 301) differed in that it was rectangular in plan and featured a gabled dormer and an extra bedroom. The 1931 edition offered additional designs for new seven and nine-room dwellings (Plans 7 and 9). Plan 7 was a brick, rectangular-plan structure covered by a hipped roof with lower cross gables. Plan 9 was a brick, rectangular-plan, side-gabled, Colonial Revival-style house with a single interior chimney and three gabled dormers. In both plans, rooms were arranged to either side of a long hallway.

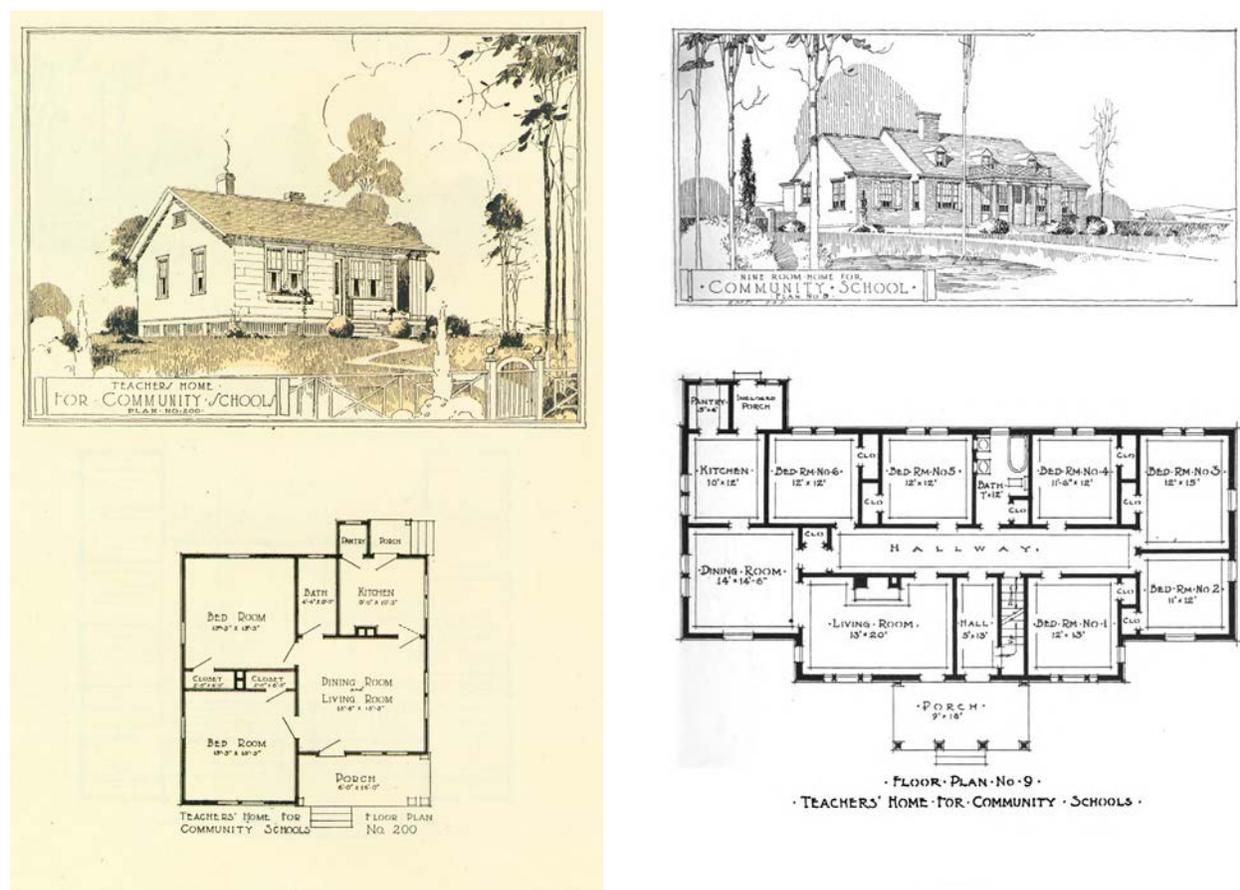


Figure 143: Plan 200 (left) from the 1924 edition of *Community School Plans*; Plan 9 (right) from 1931.

Great Branch Rosenwald Teacherage (South Carolina)

Built: 1924-1925

School Plan: Nonstandard

The Great Branch Rosenwald Teacherage is located in Orangeburg County, South Carolina at 2890 Neeses Highway, approximately 10 miles west of the city of Orangeburg. The dwelling was purpose-built as a teacher's home in 1925 and formed part of the Great Branch School complex. The Rosenwald Fund contributed \$900, and the local African American community provided \$1,750 towards its total construction cost of \$2,650. While the design of the teacherage does not correspond to any of the plans published in the 1924 edition



Figure 144: Great Branch Teacherage, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

of *Community School Plans*, it is similar to Tuskegee Plan 16. It is one of two surviving teacher's homes in South Carolina, the other being the teacherage at the State College Training School on the South Carolina State University campus in Orangeburg.²⁹⁸



Figure 145: Rear elevation, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

The two-teacher Great Branch School was completed in 1917-1918 and was among the first group of Rosenwald Schools constructed in South Carolina. While Tuskegee made available plans for teacher's homes at the time of the school's construction, support structures were not funded through the Rosenwald Schools program until 1920. The Great Branch School was enlarged with three additional classrooms in 1922-1923. The teaching staff was also increased at this time with the hiring of three new teachers, for a total of five at the school. The teacher's home was begun in 1924 and completed in 1925. The dwelling housed

298 National Register of Historic Places, Great Branch Teacherage, Orangeburg County, South Carolina, National Register #07001112.

the school's first principal, Prof. William M. Jennings, from 1922-1933.

The Great Branch School closed in 1954. From c. 1955 until the 1970s, the house was used as a rental residence by local families. Today, the property is owned by the Great Branch Community Center, and houses a museum, welcome center, and student research room.²⁹⁹

The Great Branch Teacherage is a one-story, frame dwelling with a brick foundation and side-gabled roof. The roof features wide eaves, exposed rafter tails, and a gabled front dormer. The main entrance is centered in the three-bay façade and opens onto a shed-roofed front porch. Fenestration consists of both single and paired six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash windows. The teacherage is the only building remaining from the complex, which in addition to the school and teacherage, included a cannery, shop, storage building, well house, and two outdoor privies. The building has undergone few alterations and has retained its original form, which consists of three bedrooms, a living room, dining room, kitchen, bathroom, and pantry. The house contains 1,297 square feet of living space.³⁰⁰

In 2007, when the NRHP documentation was compiled, the dwelling was abandoned and in poor condition. The Great Branch Teacherage was restored in phases by the community beginning in 2008. This work included the removal of asbestos roof shingles and the addition of two new bathrooms in what was previously the third bedroom. As of October 2019, the interior retained almost all of its original features, such as the original fireplaces, and had not undergone significant alterations.³⁰¹



Figure 146: Side elevation and handicapped ramp, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)



Figure 147: Foyer with original fireplace, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

The teacherage was listed in the National Register in 2007. It was found to be significant under

299 Ibid., Rosenwald Park Campaign, Checklist Table for Great Branch Teacherage, October 3, 2019.

300 Ibid.

301 Ibid.

Criterion A as an example of a Rosenwald funded teacherage which is relatively intact. The period of significance extends from 1925-1954, which extends from the completion of the dwelling to the closing of the Great Branch Rosenwald School.³⁰² The site forms part of the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor, administered by the National Park Service, and is also about 30 miles from Congaree National Park.³⁰³



Figure 148: Bedroom with original fireplace, 2019 (Dorothy Canter)

The Great Branch Teacherage was recommended, along with five Rosenwald Schools, for possible inclusion in the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park by the State of South Carolina in September 2017.³⁰⁴ A total of 481 Rosenwald Schools, eight teacher homes and 11 shops were constructed in South Carolina. More than 74,000 African American children attended these schools.³⁰⁵

Dorothy Canter, Stephanie Deutsch and Tracy Hayes visited the school on October 3, 2019, and met with Rosa Kennerly Dance and Barbara Johnson of the Great Branch Community Center.³⁰⁶

302 National Register of Historic Places, Great Branch Teacherage, Orangeburg County, South Carolina, National Register #07001112.

303 South Carolina National Heritage Corridor, "Communities," <https://scnhc.org/orangeburg-county/> (accessed April 13, 2021).

304 Brad Sauls, Supervisor of Survey, Registration & Grants, South Carolina Department of Archives & History, to Alan Spears, September 20, 2017.

305 Hoffschwelle, *The Rosenwald Schools of the American South*, Appendix 2.

306 Checklist Table for Great Branch Teacherage.

Summary of Preservation Issues and Observations

This analysis of preservation issues is based on data collected by the Campaign during site visits to 33 Rosenwald Schools and one teacherage between January 2018 and October 2019. The analysis is structured upon a consideration of five factors germane to the preservation of these school facilities; namely, location, designation status, building phase, construction materials, and current ownership and use. An analysis of physical condition is not included in this section, as insufficient quantitative data was collected to assess this metric, the site visits took place over a year and a half ago to more than three years ago, and the condition of a number of the facilities may have changed.

Location and Setting

Figure 149 provides a breakdown of location of the facilities, classified as urban, semi-rural/suburban, rural and institutional. Properties in urban settings (five properties, 15%) typically face greater development pressures than do those located in other settings. This is especially relevant when considering facilities that are aged, abandoned, and in poor condition. Recent valuation trends in urban real estate pose the potential for sizable imbalances between property and improvement values in cases where maintenance work has been deferred for some time, which can result in the redevelopment of historic properties. Semi-rural/suburban properties (nine properties, 26%) can also face significant development pressure relating to sprawl growth patterns. Rural properties (18 properties, 53%) can be impacted by funding issues among local non-profits or government, and may be geographically isolated. Rosenwald Schools in institutional settings (two properties, 6%) often do not suffer from lack of funding, but may be subjected to inappropriate alterations if not guided by building preservation plans or historic structure reports.

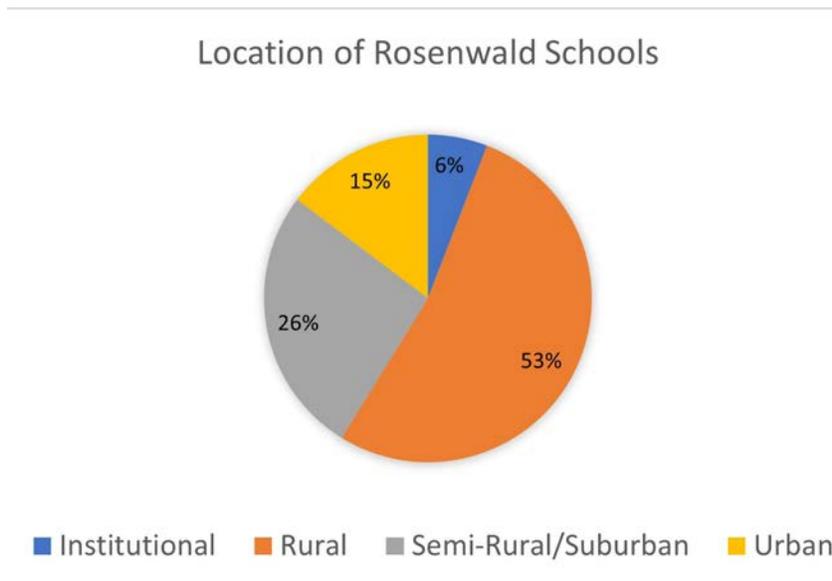


Figure 149: Location of Rosenwald School facilities visited by the Campaign by setting.

Rosenwald Schools in institutional settings (two properties, 6%) often do not suffer from lack of funding, but may be subjected to inappropriate alterations if not guided by building preservation plans or historic structure reports.

Name of school	Location	Size
Fort Valley High and Industrial School	institutional	7+ teacher
Lucy Moten Elementary School	institutional	7+ teacher
Bay Springs	rural	2 teacher

School Name	Location	Teacher Count
Canetuck School	rural	2 teacher
Cusseta Industrial High School	rural	2 teacher
Durham's Chapel School	rural	2 teacher
Great Branch Teacherage	rural	teacherage
Hope Rosenwald School	rural	2 teacher
Hopewell School	rural	1 teacher
Mt. Zion Rosenwald School	rural	3 teacher
Noble Hill School	rural	2 teacher
Prentiss Institute	rural	6+ teacher
Rosenwald Hall	rural	4 teacher
San Domingo Rosenwald School	rural	3 teacher
Second Union School	rural	2 teacher
Selma Rosenwald School	rural	2 teacher
Shady Grove School	rural	1 teacher
Shiloh Rosenwald School	rural	2 teacher
St. Paul's School	rural	1 teacher
Walthall County Training School	rural	4 teacher
Cairo Rosenwald School	semi-rural	1 teacher
Old Merritt School	semi-rural	2 teacher
Russell School	semi-rural	2 teacher
Scrabble School	semi-rural	2 teacher
Tankersley School	semi-rural	2 teacher
Old Galesville Elementary School	suburban	1 teacher
Pine Grove School	suburban	2 teacher
Ridgeley Rosenwald School	suburban	2 teacher
Williamston Colored School	suburban	7+ teacher
A. Quinn Jones Center for Excellence	urban	7+ teacher
Elmore County Training School	urban	6 teacher
Dunbar Junior High	urban	7+ teacher
Paul Laurence Dunbar School	urban	7+ teacher
Peake High School	urban	7+ teacher

The presence of Rosenwald Schools in communities with a Certified Local Government (CLG) is advantageous to their long-term stewardship and preservation. The CLG program was created through a 1980 amendment to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. To be eligible for CLG status, communities must have an established historic preservation review board and the ability to conduct resource surveys. CLGs are designated by state governments, and act as close partners in administering preservation programs. CLG grants can help communities fund the preparation of exhibits, brochures, and special events, as well as the restoration of historic

buildings owned by local governments.³⁰⁷ Of the schools visited by the Campaign, nine are located in CLG communities, as shown in Table 6.

School	State	City/Town	CLG Certification
Dunbar Junior High, Senior High and Junior College	Arkansas	Little Rock	1986
A. Quinn Jones Center	Florida	Gainesville	1986
Lucy Moten Elementary School	Florida	Tallahassee	1987
Paul Lawrence Dunbar School	Florida	Fort Myers	1995
Fort Valley High and Industrial School	Georgia	Fort Valley	1995
Bay Springs Rosenwald School	Mississippi	Hattiesburg	1988
Russell School	North Carolina	Hillsborough	1991
Pine Grove School	South Carolina	Columbia	1989
Mt. Zion Rosenwald School	South Carolina	Florence	2011

Designation Status

Listing in the National Register of Historic Places allows resources to become eligible for economic incentives that can provide funding for restoration work and capital improvement projects. These incentives include grants, tax credits, and easements. The vast majority of the facilities visited by the Campaign have been listed in the National Register. Only four of the 34 school facilities - the A. Quinn Jones Center (Gainesville, Florida, 1924), Elmore County Training School (Wetumpka, Alabama, 1924), Bay Springs Rosenwald School (Hattiesburg, Mississippi, 1926), and Old Galesville School (Galesville, Maryland, 1929) have not been listed. These schools are still in use and exhibit high integrity and retain their historic character. The Elmore County Training School was listed as a state landmark in the Alabama Register in 2002. The Bay Springs Rosenwald School is particularly significant for its association with the Civil Rights Movement.

Building Phase

As discussed throughout this report, Rosenwald Schools were constructed in two phases: the Tuskegee Phase (1912-1920) and the Nashville Phase (1920-1932). Of the 34 facilities visited by the Campaign, the majority (32 buildings, 94%) were built in 1920 or later. Much rarer are schools constructed prior to 1920 (two buildings, 6%).³⁰⁸ The two pre-1920 visited schools are the Second Union School (Goochland, Virginia, 1918) and the San Domingo School (San Domingo, Maryland, 1919). Not only are these schools older, but they were also built prior to the stricter building standards implemented by the Rosenwald Fund after 1920 under director Samuel L. Smith. A review of Rosenwald schools built during the Tuskegee phase, conducted in 1920 by Nashville architect Fletcher B. Dresslar, found that many of the buildings had been constructed using

³⁰⁷ Norman Tyler, Ted J. Ligibel, and Ilene R. Tyler, *Historic Preservation: An Introduction to Its History, Principles, and Practice*, 2nd ed. (New York: W.W. Norton, 2009), 62, 187-88.

³⁰⁸ Of the 56 Rosenwald School facilities recommended by the SHPO's, only four schools were constructed during the Tuskegee phase. They are the Emory School (AL, c. 1915), Second Union School (VA, c. 1918), Jacob School (KY, 1918), and the San Domingo School (MD, 1918-1919)

School Construction Phase

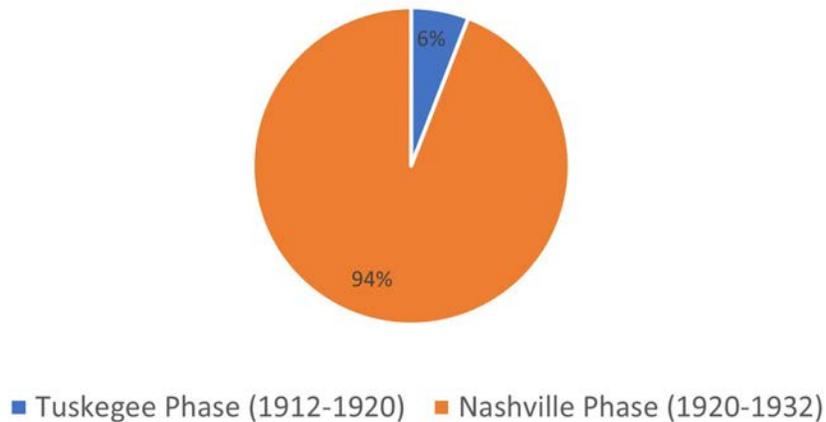


Figure 150: Rosenwald School facilities by construction phase.

cheap materials to stretch construction budgets, or had been built by unskilled local citizens.³⁰⁹ Tuskegee Phase schools are especially significant within the historic context as they represent the earliest phase of the Rosenwald Schools Building Program.

Materials

Of the 34 Rosenwald School facilities visited by the Campaign, 24 (71%) were of frame construction, while 10 (29%) were of masonry construction. Exterior cladding of frame schools typically consisted of wood siding. Masonry schools were typically built later in the program's history, and were primarily of brick construction. While masonry building envelopes are more resistant to weathering, properly maintained frame buildings can have a very long lifespan. The building foundation materials included stone, brick, or brick piers. Traditional wood sash windows were typically used for both

Construction Materials

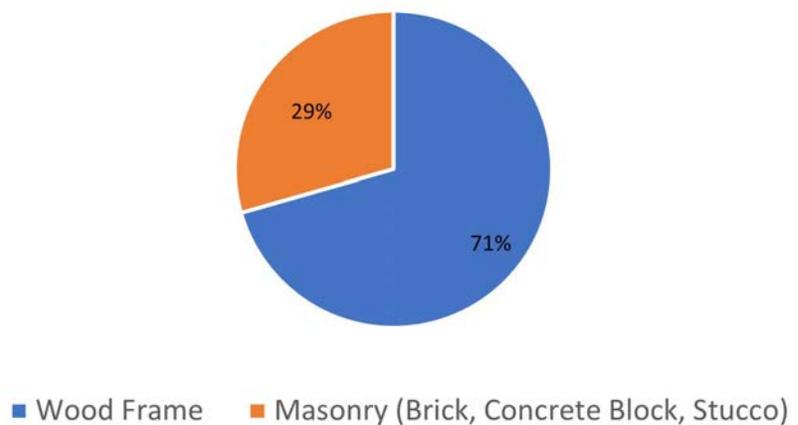


Figure 151: Construction materials of school facilities visited by the Campaign.

309 Mary S. Hoffschwelle, *Preserving Rosenwald Schools* (Washington, D.C.: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 2012), 4.

frame and masonry schools. Roofing materials ranged from wood shake and asphalt shingles to metal. Interior materials included wood and plaster. Wood rot and insect damage are issues that affect historic frame buildings and building components such as siding and window sashes. Condition issues associated with brick buildings include mortar decay, spalling, and staining. Most damage to brickwork is caused by repairs using cement-based mortar that is incompatible with the historic brick. One of the biggest physical preservation issues affecting both frame and masonry buildings is water infiltration from leaking roofs and plumbing, which can cause costly damage to interior plastered surfaces and wood components.

School	Size
A. Quinn Jones Center for Excellence	7+ teacher
Dunbar Junior High	7+ teacher
Elmore County Training School	6 teacher
Fort Valley High and Industrial School	7+ teacher
Lucy Moten Elementary School	7+ teacher
Paul Laurence Dunbar School	7+ teacher
Peake High School	7+ teacher
Prentiss Institute	6 teacher
Rosenwald Hall	4 teacher
Williamston Colored School	7+ teacher

Current Use and Ownership

Current use and ownership of the school properties is another important consideration in understanding the preservation issues and challenges associated with Rosenwald Schools. Vacancy and abandonment are pervasive problems facing historic architectural resources across the United States. It is critical that resources remain in use in some capacity to ensure that they are maintained to at least minimal levels. At the same time, certain uses that differ from the original function pose risks relating to the potential for inappropriate alterations or conversions that affect integrity. Of the 34 school facilities visited by the Campaign, 12 (35%) are currently being used as community centers, ten (29%) are museums, six (18%) are schools, and six (18%) are vacant. It should be noted that two of the vacant schools, the Hopewell and Shady Grove Schools, were undergoing

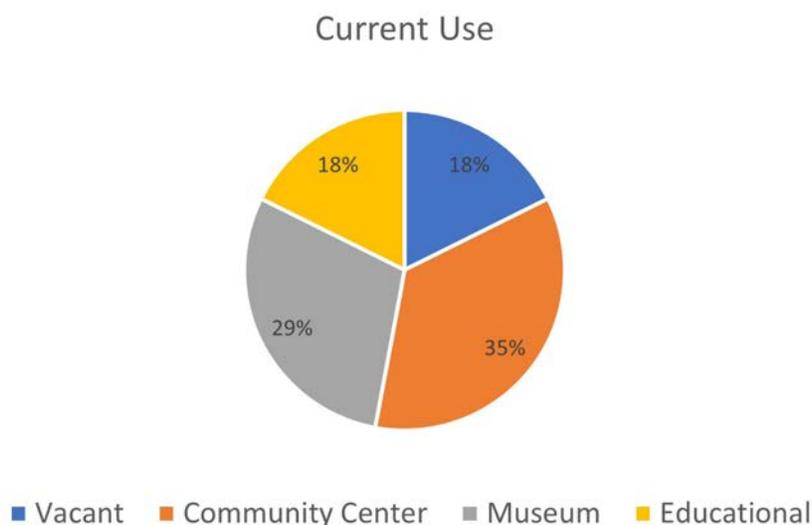


Figure 152: Current use of school facilities visited by the Campaign.

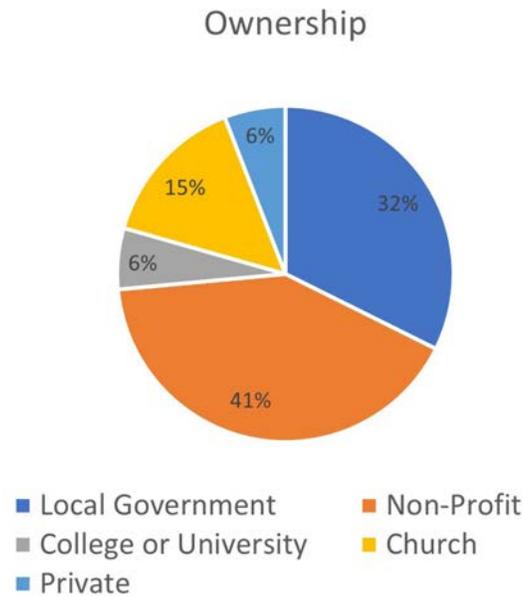


Figure 153: Current ownership of school facilities visited by the Campaign.

restoration at the time of the site visits.

Local governments and non-profit organizations own the majority of the school buildings. Of the schools visited by the Campaign, local governments own 11 (32%), non-profits own 14 (41%), churches own five (15%), colleges or universities own two (6%), and private individuals own two (6%). The buildings owned by non-profits vary in function from community centers to museums. The local government-owned buildings function as schools and museums. Churches are using the buildings exclusively as community centers. Of the vacant buildings, one is owned by local government, two by non-profits, and two are owned by churches, and one is privately owned.

Summary

This analysis of the Rosenwald School facilities visited by the Campaign reveals that most are well-maintained, frame, Nashville-Phase buildings in rural settings that have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places and continue to function as important community resources. The majority (27 properties, 79%) of the facilities visited by the Campaign are located in rural to semi-rural areas. Of the 34 resources, 30 are listed in the National Register and nine are located in Certified Local Government communities. The overwhelming majority of facilities (32 properties, 94%) were built after 1920. Most are of frame construction (24 properties, 71%). As discussed in the introduction to this section, more quantitative data is needed in order to assess the current condition of the 34 school facilities. They are primarily owned by non-profit organizations or local governments and are mostly being used as community centers (12 properties, 35%) and museums (ten properties, 29%).

Conclusions

Rosenwald Schools tell a story of national significance – a positive story of African American determination and resilience in the face of prejudice and hostility, a story of interracial cooperation, a story of philanthropic generosity. They played a key role in educating African American children in 15 Southern states during the first half of the twentieth century.

Renowned African American educator Booker T. Washington had already been working to build schools for African American children in rural Alabama before he met Julius Rosenwald. It was his vision and passion that led to the Rosenwald Schools. He stirred in Rosenwald the passion to respond to the dire need for educating African-American children in the South. In 1912 they started small with a pilot project to build six rural schools in Alabama. In 1914 Rosenwald committed to helping build up to 100 more schools through challenge grants. Deeply saddened by Washington's death in November 1915, Rosenwald nevertheless committed in 1916 to further challenge grants to help build 200 more schools. Rosenwald ultimately helped to build 4,977 schools by 1932 when the program ended.

But none of this would have been possible without the nearly 5,000 African American communities that thirsted for education for their children. Already paying taxes for little or even no education, they still wanted Rosenwald Schools for their communities and dug deep to get them. It was a true partnership that brought about the schools. More than 663,000 pupils in 15 states attended these schools, accounting for one third of African American students in public schools in the South during the Jim Crow era. A significant number of those students attended college, had successful careers and participated in the Civil Rights Movement.

From the very beginning an important goal of the Rosenwald Schools Building Program was to include these schools for black children in the South's public education systems by requiring public ownership, using grants and African American self-help to leverage public funding. The Program's emphasis on raising design and construction standards from 1920 onward helped assure increasing public investment in the schools. Eventually, tax revenues accounted for 63.7 percent of the overall cost of Rosenwald School construction, compared to 16.6 percent contributed by African Americans, 15.4 contributed by Rosenwald and 4.3 percent given by white donors.

Rosenwald Schools enabled more children to attend school for longer terms and to complete higher grade levels. This increased African American literacy and led to a decline in child labor.

In addition to being important educational institutions the schools served as community centers that were sources of pride and cohesiveness. Even today alumni recall with great fondness their time at the schools and the positive effects the schools had on their lives.

As exemplified by the 34 Rosenwald Schools visited by the Campaign, a number of the schools that still exist have been restored in recent years. These activities have primarily been the result of community fundraising by non-profit groups in partnership with corporate and/or institutional sponsors. Restoration, however, would benefit if accompanied by long-term management plans and sufficient funding to ensure proper maintenance and to prevent the buildings from slipping back into disrepair. Funds are also needed to support their continued use as viable parts of their communities. Continued community involvement and funding are critical to the long-term preservation and productive use of these facilities, particularly as existing alumni and members of support groups age.

A number of Rosenwald Schools still serve as community/cultural centers and museums and are highly valued. In some instances, generations of individual families are represented in a given school's history, and have been actively involved in that school's preservation and interpretation. Examples among the 34 schools visited by the Campaign include the Dahmer family (Bay Springs School), the Wheeler and Coleman families (Noble Hill School), the Ridgley-Gray family (Ridgeley School) and the Quinton Family (San Domingo School).

Five of the 34 school facilities that the Campaign visited have known Civil Rights associations. Two of the Quinton sisters went to Morgan State University after attending San Domingo School in San Domingo, Maryland. While there they participated in protests to desegregate a local business and were jailed briefly. A number of the Little Rock Nine attended Dunbar Junior High, Senior High and Junior College in Little Rock, Arkansas, before integrating Little Rock Central High School in 1957. Vernon Dahmer, who attended Bay Springs School in Forrest County, Mississippi, and later owned the property, used it after its closure as a school for voter registration purposes. The Ku Klux Klan firebombed his nearby home in 1966. Dahmer was able to get his family safely out of the home, but died of burns suffered while protecting them. Dr. Susie Weems Wheeler, the wife of a grandson of Webster Wheeler, the builder of the Noble Hill School in Cassville, Georgia, attended the school before becoming a distinguished educator. She played a key role in integrating the schools of Bartow County, Georgia. She also was instrumental in restoring the school to become the Noble Hill-Wheeler Memorial Center, a heritage museum. The Prentiss Institute in Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi, hosted voter registration drives in the 1950s. The rich Civil Rights history associated with these resources adds another dimension to their significance, and could be incorporated into existing interpretive programming being undertaken by NPS or at the state level.

In addition, most of the schools are within relatively close proximity to existing NPS units. This is a consideration in terms of management within the National Park System.

Of the nearly 5,000 Rosenwald Schools built in 15 Southern states it is estimated that about 500 facilities still remain. Very few still function as schools. As mentioned above a sizable number of the restored facilities serve as museums and/or community centers. Some are residences. Support groups for various unrestored Rosenwald Schools are working to restore them in order to preserve their history and serve the communities in which they are located. Other schools are deteriorating, and some may not be in a condition in which they can be saved.

Support groups for seven Rosenwald Schools that were not among the 56 facilities recommended by the 14 states for possible inclusion in the planned National Historical Park have contacted the Rosenwald Park Campaign over the last few years. They have requested that the Campaign ask the NPS to consider those schools in the creation of any national park. The groups support the following Rosenwald Schools: Ada Hanna School in Hamilton, Alabama; Cape Charles School in Cape Charles, Virginia; Eleanor Roosevelt School in Warm Springs, GA; Milan Industrial Training School in Milan, Tennessee; Mobile County Training School in Plateau, Alabama; Peck High School in Fernandina Beach, Florida; and the Woodville School in Gloucester County, Virginia.

It is anticipated that the NPS will select only a small number of Rosenwald Schools to be added to the planned Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park. If that is the case, a significant number of facilities identified to the Campaign by the states, as well as those brought to the attention of the Campaign by support groups, will not be included in the park.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation held three conferences on Rosenwald Schools after it included Rosenwald Schools on its 2002 list of 11 most endangered historic places. A number of support groups have noted that those conferences were helpful in their efforts to restore schools

and in sharing their experiences, maintaining the schools and educating the public.

The 2018 historic context study performed for the Rosenwald Park Campaign concluded that Julius Rosenwald and the Rosenwald Schools were of national historic significance and that a Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park would be an important enhancement to the National Park System. The information developed by the Campaign on the 55 Rosenwald Schools and one teacher home recommended for possible inclusion in the park, through its visits to 34 of those facilities and from contacts with support groups for still other Rosenwald Schools, provide additional evidence for those two conclusions. Establishment of the National Historical Park would help ensure the continued preservation of these important cultural resources and highlight the positive, but little known, story of a partnership that helped shape American history in the twentieth century and beyond.

Acknowledgments

Sincere thanks and admiration go to Aviva Kempner for her inspiring documentary *Rosenwald*, that directly led to the Campaign to Create the Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park. Through the succeeding years Aviva has continued to share and publicize throughout the nation the story of Julius Rosenwald and the Rosenwald Schools. She serves on the Advisory Council of the Rosenwald Park Campaign.

Many thanks go to Stephanie Deutsch, author of *You Need A Schoolhouse: Booker T. Washington, Julius Rosenwald and the Building of Schools for the Segregated South*, a committed and highly productive member of the Board of the Rosenwald Park Campaign. Without her knowledge and insights this report would not have been possible.

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The Campaign also thanks Andrew Feiler for allowing the use in this report of photographs from his book *A Better Life for Their Children: Julius Rosenwald, Booker T. Washington and the 4,978 Schools That Changed America*. The book tells in photographs and essays the story of these schools and what the schools meant, and still mean, to the African American families who partnered with Booker T. Washington and Julius Rosenwald to make the schools a reality. We also appreciate Andrew's joining the Campaign Advisory Council and working to help create the Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Park.

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National Register of Historic Places Nomination Forms

Cairo Rosenwald School, Sumner County, Tennessee, National Register #96001359.

Canetuck School, Pender County, North Carolina, National Register #100002520.

Cusseta Industrial High School, Chattahoochee County, Georgia, National Register #11000184.

Dunbar Junior and Senior High School and Junior College, Pulaski County, Arkansas, National Register #80000782.

Dunbar, Paul Lawrence, School, Lee County, Florida, National Register #92000025.

Durham's Chapel Baptist Church, Cemetery, and School, Sumner County, Tennessee, National Register #06000652.

Educational Resources Associated with All-Black Towns in Oklahoma, National Register #84003427.

Florida Agricultural & Mechanical College Historic District, Leon County, Florida, National Register #96000530.

Fort Valley State College Historic District, Peach County, Georgia, National Register #00000390.

Great Branch Teacherage, Orangeburg County, South Carolina, National Register #07001112.

Hope Rosenwald School, Newberry County, South Carolina, National Register #07001045.

Hopewell School, Bastrop County, Texas, National Register #15000334.

Jones A Quinn House, Alachua County, Florida, National Register #09001278.

Merritt School, Bullock County, Alabama, National Register #98000110.

Mt. Zion Rosenwald School, Florence County, South Carolina, National Register #01001098.

Noble Hill School, Bartow County, Georgia, National Register #87001103.

Peake High School, Clark County, Arkansas, National Register #04001499.

Pine Grove Rosenwald School, Richland County, South Carolina, National Register #08001397.

Prentiss Normal and industrial Institute Historic District, Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi, National Register #16000282.

Ridgeley School, Prince George's County, Maryland, National Register #14001093.

Russell School, Durham County, North Carolina, National Register # 09000601.

St. Paul's School, Brunswick County, Virginia, National Register #04000037.

San Domingo School, Wicomico County, Maryland, National Register #07000044.

Scrabble School, Rappahannock County, Virginia, National Register # 07001143.

Second Union School, Goochland County, Virginia, National Register # 05001583.

Selma Rosenwald School, Drew County, Arkansas, National Register #06000069.

Shady Grove School, Louisa County, Virginia, National Register #09000416.

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church and Rosenwald School, Macon County, Alabama, National Register #10000522.

Tankersley Rosenwald School, Montgomery County, Alabama, National Register #08001332.

Walthall Training School, Walthall County, Mississippi, National Register #100001032.

Williamston Colored School, Martin County, North Carolina, National Register #14000445.

Rosenwald Park Campaign Checklist Tables for Visited School Facilities

Cairo Rosenwald School, May 16, 2018.

Canetuck School, May 2, 2019.

Cusseta Industrial High School, April 18, 2019.

Durham's Chapel School, May 16, 2018.

Elmore County Training School, May 14, 2019.

Fort Valley High and Industrial School, April 17, 2019.

Great Branch Teacherage, October 3, 2019.

Hope Rosenwald School, October 3, 2019.

Hopewell School, April 17, 2019.

Lucy Moten Elementary School, February 14, 2019.

Noble Hill School, April 16, 2019.

Mt. Zion Rosenwald School, October 4, 2019.

Old Galesville School, May 4, 2018.

Old Merritt School, May 13, 2019.

Paul Laurence Dunbar School, January 18, 2018.

Peake High School, May 14, 2018.

Pine Grove Rosenwald School, October 3, 2019.

Prentiss Institute, April 17, 2019.

Ridgeley School, compiled 2016-2020.

Rosenwald Hall, undated.

Russell School, May 1, 2019.

Scrabble School, January 25, 2018.

Second Union School, February 1, 2019.

Selma Rosenwald School, May 15, 2018.

St. Paul's School, January 31, 2018.

San Domingo Rosenwald School, January 18, 2018.

Shady Grove School, February 1, 2019.

Shiloh Rosenwald School, April 19, 2019.

Tankersley Rosenwald School, May 13, 2019.

Walthall County Training School, April 17, 2019.

Williamston Colored School, May 3, 2019.

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JULIUS ROSENWALD FUND

SCHOOLHOUSE CONSTRUCTION MAP

5295 COMPLETED BUILDINGS

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