

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

Property Name: North Salisbury Elementary School Inventory Number: WI-672

Address: 201 Union Avenue, N City: Salisbury Zip Code: 21801

County: Wicomico USGS Topographic Map: Delmar

Owner: Wicomico County Board of Education

Tax Parcel Number: 657 Tax Map Number: 105 Tax Account ID Number: 09-060731

Project: North Salisbury Elementary School Renovation Agency: Wicomico County Board of Education

Site visit by MHT Staff: no yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Eligibility recommended Eligibility **not** recommended

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

Is the property located within a historic district? no yes Name of district: N/A

Is district listed? no yes Determined eligible? no yes District Inventory Number: N/A

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: N/A

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The 1937 North Salisbury Elementary School is significant under National Register Criterion A (Events) and Criterion C (Design/Construction). It is important at the local level for its association with several historic themes, including architecture, social history and education.

With respect to Criterion A, the North Salisbury Elementary School was built utilizing funds provided by the Works Progress Administration. Initiated in 1935, this was the largest and most important of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal Programs. The Works Progress Administration initiative was a massive employment relief program designed to put the unemployed back to work in a manner that would serve the public good. Thousands of public buildings, including post offices, prisons and schools, were constructed under the auspices of this fund. Wicomico County likely experienced particular WPA favor as the engineer for the City of Salisbury, Francis H. Dryden, was given leave of absence to serve the Roosevelt administration as the assistant head of the WPA.¹

(see continuation sheet)

¹ George H. Corddry, Wicomico County History, Peninsula Press, Salisbury, Maryland, published by the Wicomico County Historical Society (1981). p. 42

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Eligibility recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____	
<u>Patricia M. Brick</u> ✓ Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>4-16-02</u> Date
<u>[Signature]</u> Reviewer, NR program	<u>4/16/02</u> Date

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Continuation Sheet No. 1

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Also under Criterion A, this building is important for its relation to important national trends in education. During the early 20th century small schools throughout the country were abandoned and new construction geared toward the building of large consolidated schools. Consolidated schools, made possible by improvements in transportation, were considered to be more cost-efficient and provide a better learning environment.

In Maryland, the consolidation of small schools started about 1920. The number of teachers in one-teacher elementary schools decreased from 1,171 in 1920 (39%) to 207 (7%) in 1941.² The North Salisbury Elementary School was Wicomico County's first consolidated elementary school. The 1932 Wicomico County Senior High School was the first consolidated high school in the County, and was designed by Edwin Wilson Booth, the same architect who designed the school examined in this study.

Finally, under Criterion A, this building represents the explosive growth occurring in Salisbury in the first part of the 20th century. With the dredging of its port enabling the accommodation of larger vessels, the presence of the railroad and growth of the automobile, Salisbury became one of Delmarva's preeminent commercial centers. Canning, lumber mills, the establishment of Salisbury Teachers College (later Salisbury State University) and the growth of the broiler industry, lead by the Perdue family³ contributed to the city's explosive growth. The city population in 1900 was 4,277. By 1932 the population had tripled. This triggered school construction. In 1900 Salisbury had two public schools with an enrollment of 600 students. By 1932 school population was 2,450. 1930s saw the construction of a new consolidated brick high school, black school and elementary school. The later is the subject of this report.

The North Salisbury Elementary School achieves significance under Criterion C as a good example of the Streamline Moderne Style. Streamline Moderne style buildings started to appear around 1930 as a more economical and simple expression of the then popular Art Deco idiom. Streamline Moderne lacked elaborate ornamentation and easily adapted to mass duplication. The style was used extensively in WPA buildings. Philosophically, it was thought to be symbolic of the dynamic 20th century. The style penetrated deep into the vernacular of American building and appeared in public and commercial buildings throughout the country.⁴

To be eligible for either the National or Maryland Register, a property must retain physical integrity as well as have significance. There are seven aspects of integrity: location, setting, feeling, association, design, materials and workmanship.

The building retains a very high degree of integrity of location, setting, feeling and association. The school 1) remains in its original location, 2) its physical environment remains largely unchanged. 3) the original building evokes the particular period in which it was construction 4) the building remains a school so its association remains unchanged.

The school retains a good level of design integrity and fair degree of material integrity. With respect to the former, while the building has been greatly and repeatedly expanded since the construction, these additions are not visible to the front. Furthermore, these later considerations are easily distinguished from the original structure and "read" as separate entities. Integrity of design is retained because they have little impact on the original structure.

Integrity of materials and workmanship are adversely affected by the replacement of the original window and doors. Fenestration patterns, however, remain intact. While the loss of original doors and windows is undesirable, the replacements are reasonably sympathetic to the character of the building. Otherwise the building's exterior remains intact.

Comparing the North Salisbury Elementary School with other schools that have been DOE reviewed, reaffirms its Maryland Register Eligibility. The North Salisbury Elementary School compares favorably with other schools that have been formally determined eligible for listing. In Maryland 53 schools have been evaluated, of which 26 are determined eligible. The North Salisbury Elementary School has undergone fewer changes than a number school buildings that have been determined eligible. Furthermore, other 1930s schools that have had large additions have been found eligible. These include the Park Street

²Ibid, p. 22

³Perdue Farms was established in Salisbury in the 1920s. Salisbury was the seat of the broiler industry.

⁴Marcus Whiffin and Frederick Koeper, American Architecture, Volume 2: 1860-1976, MIT Press, Cambridge, MA (1990) pp.332-334.

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NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 2

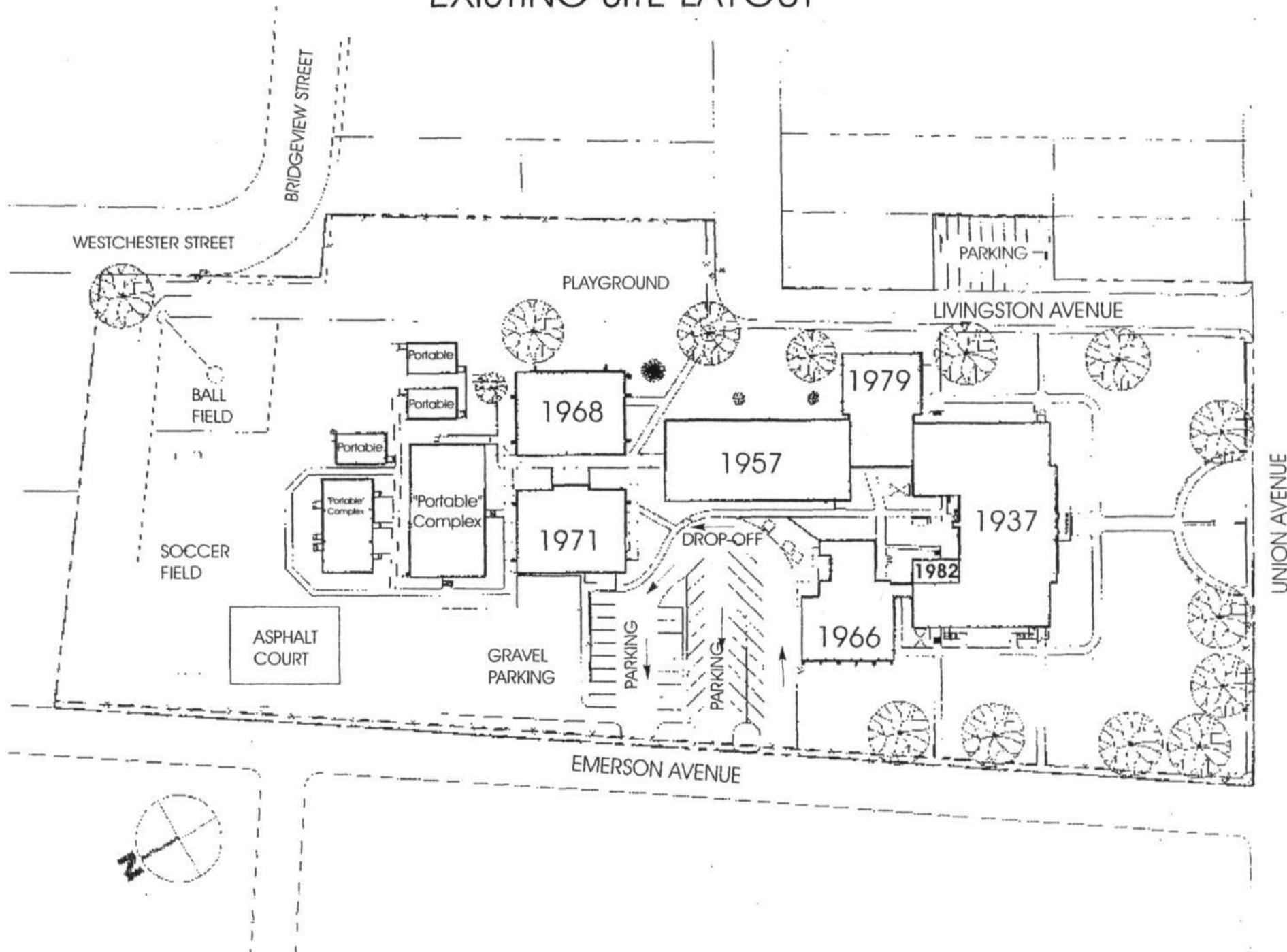
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elementary school in Montgomery County, the Church Hill Elementary School in Queen Anne'' County, Elkton High School in Cecil County and Center Street Elementary School in Garrett County.

Prepared by: Sherri Marsh

Date Prepared: February 22, 2002

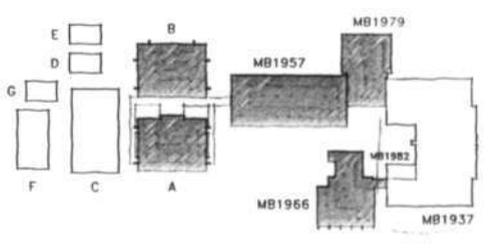
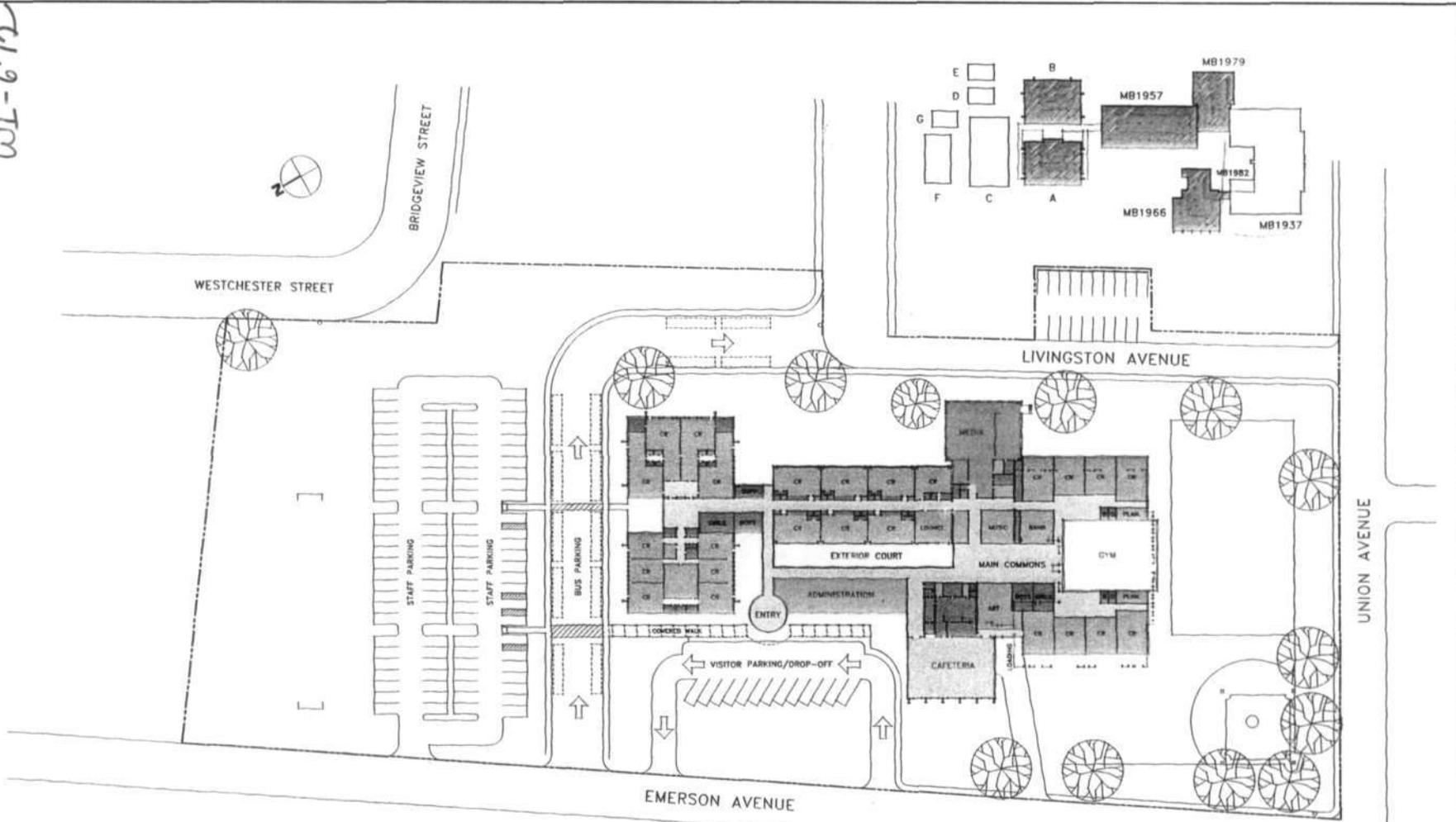
NORTH SALISBURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EXISTING SITE LAYOUT



UNION AVENUE

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AREA LEGEND	
	CLASSROOM SPACE
	GYM
	CAFETERIA
	MEDIA CENTER
	SUPPORT SPACE: STORAGE/GENERAL
	SUPPORT SPACE: STAFF
	BATHROOMS
	CIRCULATION

AREA SUMMARY			
RENOVATED	AREA (GSF)	NEW	AREA (GSF)
Building A	5890		30750
Building B	5780		
MB1957	9400		
MB1966	5562		
MB1979	5125		
TOTAL:	31757	TOTAL:	30750
Existing Parking	18 SPACES	New Parking	116 SPACES

AREA TOTALS	
Renovated:	31757
New:	30750
TOTAL BUILDING:	62507 GSF
TOTAL PARKING:	134 SPACES

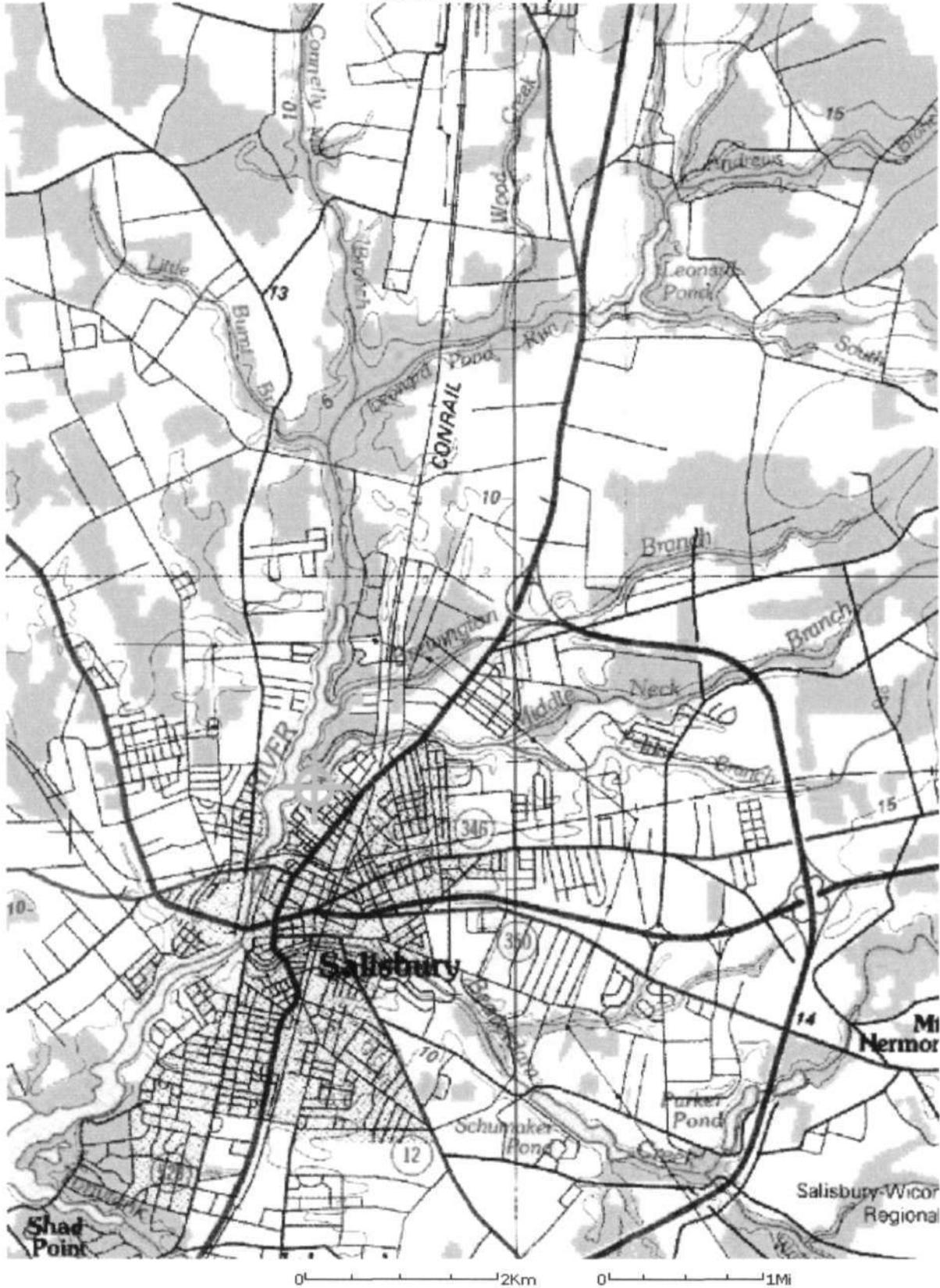
Professional Seal and Registration Information for the Architectural Engineer.

A·ES .LLC
 Architectural Engineering Services
 Don E. Spicer, AIA
 James S. McDonald, AIA
 Thomas D. Platts, PE
 116 West Church Street
 Salisbury, MD 21801-0801
 Phone: (410) 543-4888
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Showing the
Proposed Site Plan
 N. Salisbury Feasibility Study
 North Salisbury Elementary School
 Salisbury, Maryland 21801

Date: 12.18.01
 Scale: 1"=40'-0"
 Drawn By: EAM
 SK-A

Locational Map



North Salisbury Elementary School
 201 N. Union Street, Salisbury, Maryland
 Quad: Delmar, MD-DE
 38.37983 / -75.593739

APPENDIX 7 PHOTOGRAPHS

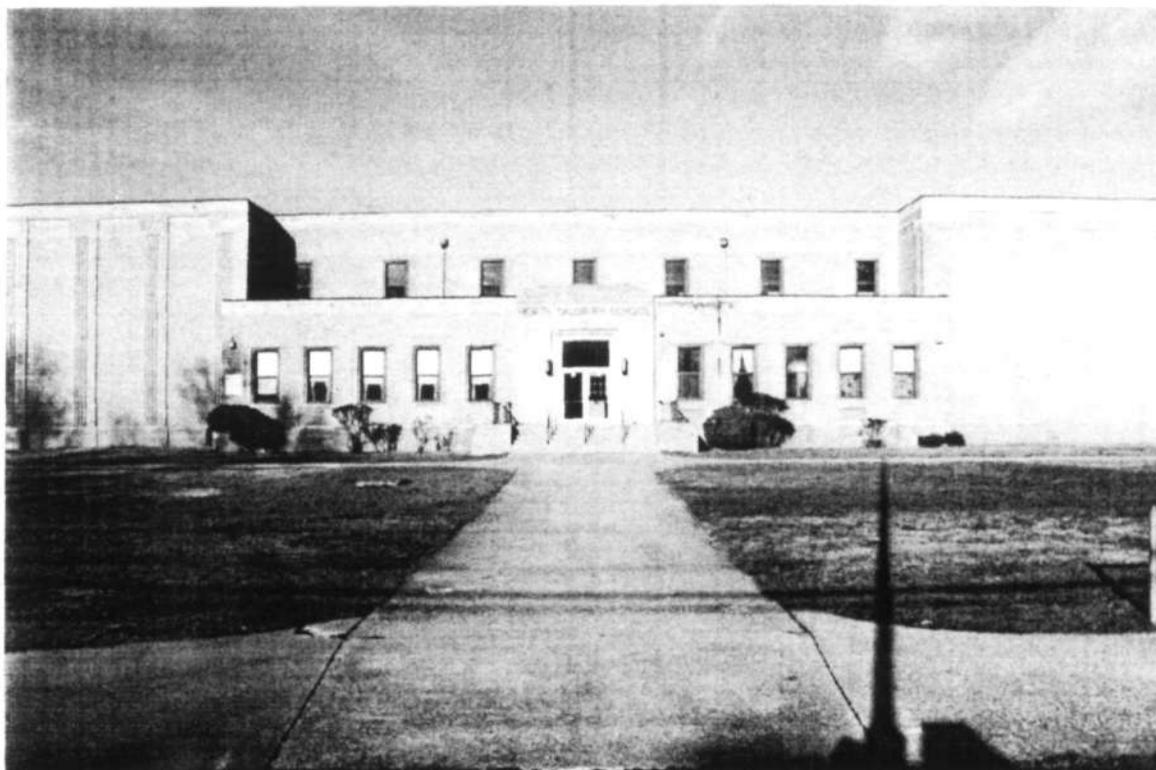


Photo 1: View of the front entrance facing northeast from Union Avenue



Photo 2: View of the front lettering and trim above entrance facing northeast

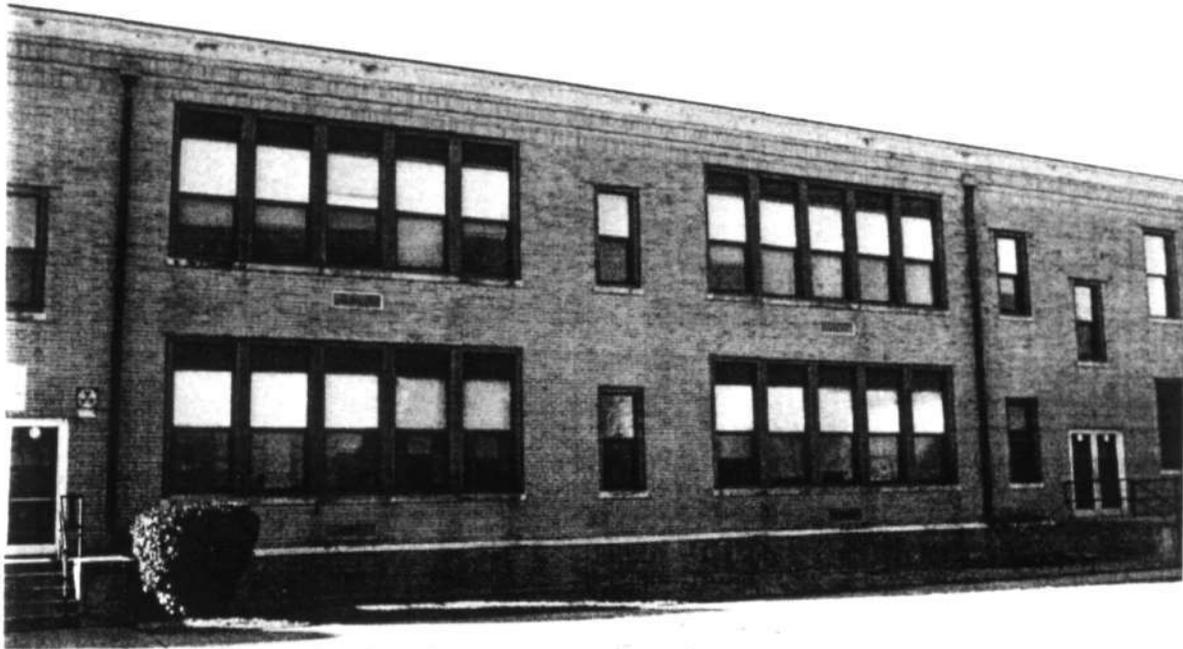


Photo 3: View of the east side of the school facing northwest from Livingston Avenue

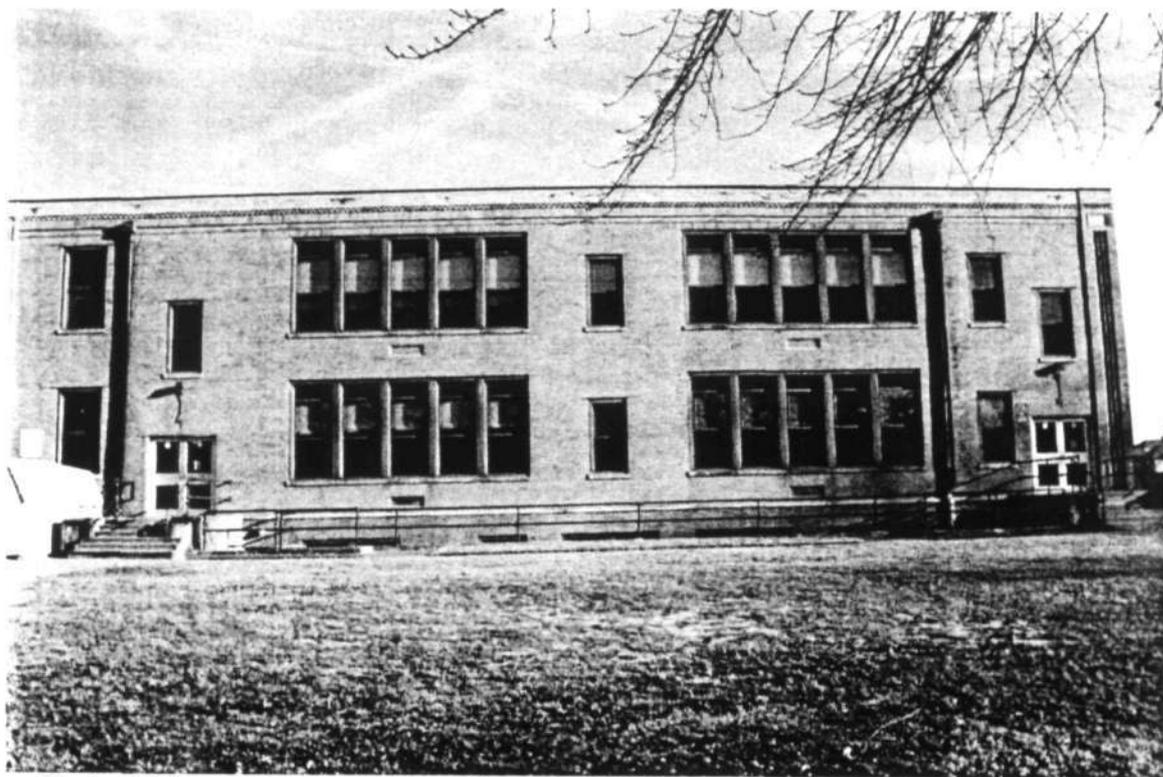


Photo 4: View of the west side of the school facing northeast from Emerson Avenue

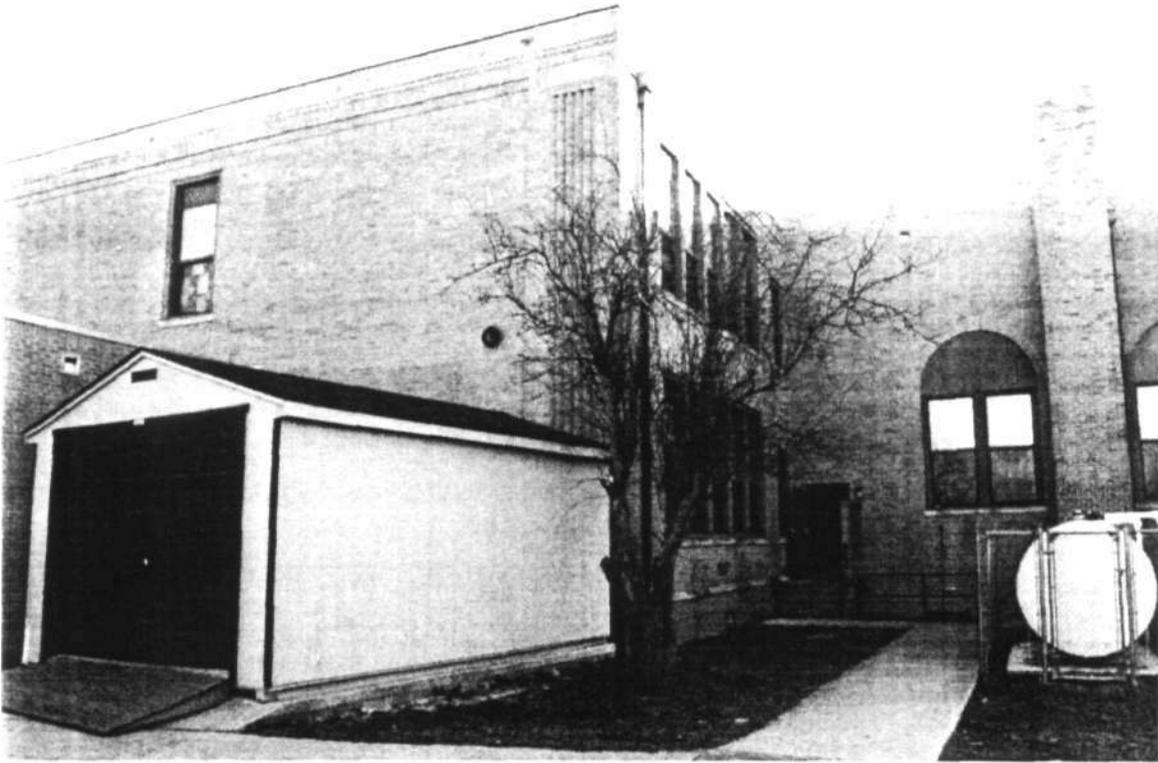


Photo 5: View of the east side of the back of the main school facing southwest



Photo 6: View of the west side of the back of the main school facing southwest

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Photo 7: View of the gymnasium located in building MB 1937 facing south

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Photo 8: View of a hallway within building MB 1937 facing southwest from building MB 1979

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Photo 9: View of an interior archway facing northwest on the first floor of building MB 1937 from the front entranceway

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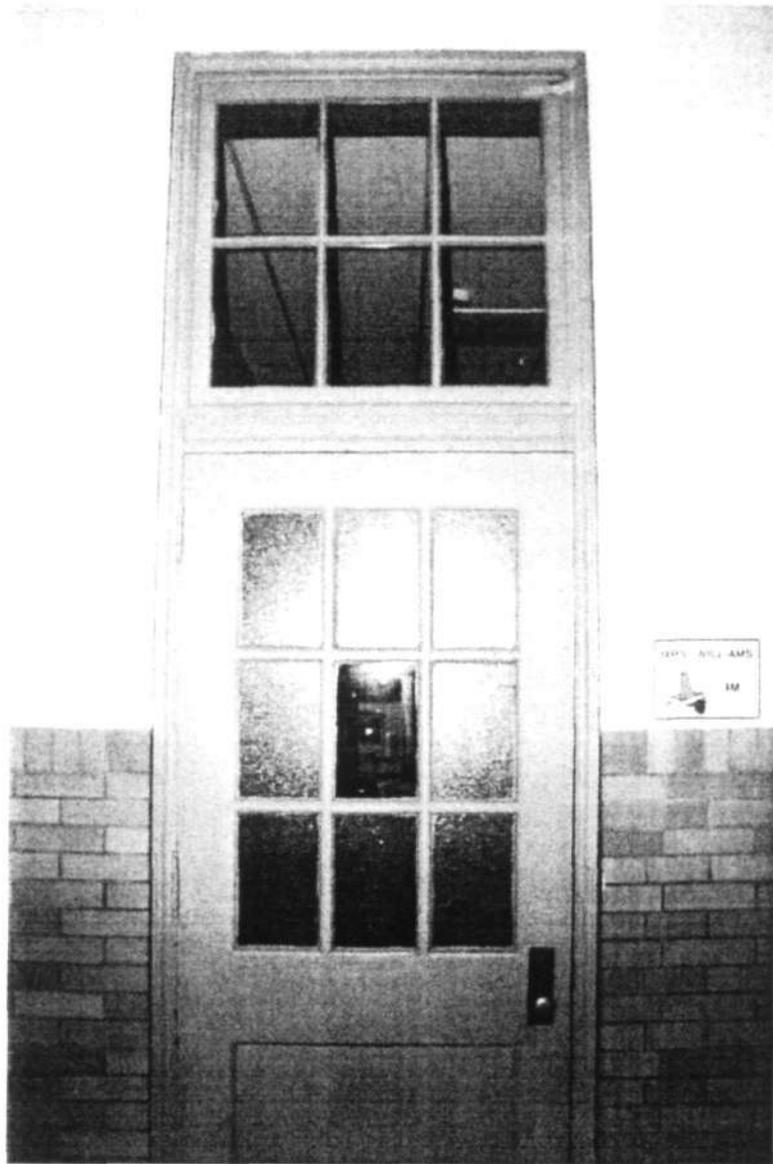


Photo 10: View an interior classroom door located on the first floor of building MB 1937, facing southeast



Photo 11: facing northwest from the front entrance towards neighboring residences along Emerson Avenue



Photo 12: Facing southeast from the front entrance towards neighboring residences along Livingston Avenue