

**Architectural/Historical Survey  
of  
Oklahoma City's Historic  
School Buildings**

**Prepared for the Criterion Group  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

**Funded by the Kirkpatrick Foundation**

**Submitted by  
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February 2001**

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# **The Criterion Group, Inc.**

## **Mission Statement**

To advance historic preservation efforts within Oklahoma City's historic Grand Boulevard Loop

In 1910, Oklahoma City developed a comprehensive plan to enhance the quality of life for its residents. A portion of that plan involved the construction of a grand boulevard to ring the city. Over time, this loop served as a significant landmark for construction and development of the city. Today, the remainder of this loop serves as a significant collector of Oklahoma City's historic resources. The Criterion Group, Inc. Was formed in response to the loss of significant resources and the inappropriate development of portions of the city within this historic loop.

The Criterion Group, Inc.

- Actively promotes through occasional projects, the architectural and urban resources within Oklahoma City's historic Grand Boulevard loop.
- Actively participates in researching public policy which enhances the protection and re-use of historic resources
- Provides tours, seminars, and information materials to educate its members and the citizens of Oklahoma City in matters relating to historic, architectural and urban resources.
- Recognizes its members and non-members for exemplary efforts in these matters.

The Architectural/Historical Survey of Oklahoma City's Historic School Buildings was commissioned and funded by the Criterion Group, Inc.

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## Abstract

An architectural/historical survey of the Oklahoma City's historic school buildings was conducted in 2000 and completed in February of 2001. The survey includes sixty-eight schools built in the Oklahoma City School District between 1909 and 1956. The project was initiated by the Criterion Group, an organization committed to preserving historic buildings and neighborhoods in Oklahoma City, and funded by the Kirkpatrick Foundation. The survey was conducted by Jo Meacham Associates.

The history of Oklahoma City's schools began shortly after the year of 1889. School was taught in the open and under tents until permanent structures could be erected. Later, students and teachers met in churches, homes, and other buildings. Bond elections were held during the early 1890s and the first school bond election that passed included \$45,000 to construct four ward schools. These four schools were built in 1894 and 1903 and served as Oklahoma City's first grade schools. Military Hill, located northeast of the downtown, was donated by the federal government in 1894 and was the site of Irving High School. In addition to these early ward schools, several other Oklahoma City schools were built prior to statehood. Designed with characteristics from the Queen Anne style of architecture and the Richardsonian Romanesque style, none of these schools have survived.

After statehood the school system grew in leaps and bounds and many schoolhouses built between 1909 and 1920 remain standing. Examples of early statehood schools include Putnam Heights Elementary, Lowell (later, old Douglas High School), Lee Elementary, Wheeler Elementary, Columbus Elementary, Shield Heights Elementary, Emerson (ca. 1911), Edgemere Elementary, Hawthorne Elementary, and Linwood Elementary. These schools were large and constructed of brick and cast stone. Built between 1909 and 1911, eight of these buildings are still used as elementary schools, one is an alternative school (Emerson) and one is vacant (Lowell/old Douglas H.S./Page Woodson).

The decade of the twenties was one of fast growth for Oklahoma City. Beginning in 1919, schools followed the new suburbs and were built in every sector of the city. The "junior high" was a new educational idea and four junior highs were built between 1920 and 1925 and two more, Jackson Junior High and Taft Junior High, were added in 1931. During this time, many elementary schools were built.

Seven schools remain in use that were built between 1934 and 1941 during the Depression. The last pre World War II high school built by Oklahoma City was Northeast High School at 3100 N. Kelly, built in 1936.

After World War II, Oklahoma City began building homes and new neighborhoods in all directions. Between 1948 and 1953, four high schools were built. These included John Marshall (1948), Douglas High School (1952-1957), Northwest Classen (1955-1957), and Grant High School (1953). A fifth high school, Star Spencer, which was not constructed by the Oklahoma City school district, was built in 1956. It is now part of the Oklahoma City school district. Elementary schools sprang up as subdivisions were beginning and completed. This period of growth ended in 1956.

Over 50 school buildings built between 1894 and 2001 have been demolished, sold to private entities, or are vacant. The survey identified 68 schools built between 1909 and 1956 owned by the Oklahoma City school district. Only a few are vacant. During the 1960s, approximately thirteen elementary schools and six middle schools were built and remain in use. The last elementary school built in the 1960s was Quail Creek, built in 1967. Seventeen years later, a new Eugene Fields Elementary School was completed in 1984. In 1997, Thelma Reece Park Elementary School was constructed.

The Oklahoma City school buildings constructed during the first half of the twentieth century represent the history of education in Oklahoma City. They also represent schoolhouse architecture popular during the period. These buildings have played an important role in the education of the citizens of Oklahoma City and remain handsome landmarks that punctuate the city's neighborhoods.

## **Introduction**

In 2000, the Oklahoma City Public Schools began evaluating existing school buildings to determine future needs of the Oklahoma City Public Schools. The Criterion Group, a local historic preservation organization dedicated to preserving historic Oklahoma City buildings and neighborhoods, initiated this architectural/historical survey of the Oklahoma City school buildings. The purpose of the report was to determine if any or all of these buildings are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. This information may be used to help in the evaluation of the Oklahoma City school buildings. School buildings have always been an important part of the neighborhood landscape and the role they have played in the history of the city is significant.

Jo Meacham Associates were hired to conduct an architectural/historical survey of the schools owned by the Oklahoma City school system that were over 45 years old. The survey included the preparation of a history of the school buildings. This project was made possible by a grant from the Kirkpatrick Foundation.

The National Register of Historic Places is a catalog of American culture and records the buildings, districts, structures and objects that, through their often imposing presence, keep us in touch with the achievements of our past. The Register provides an authoritative guide to help state and local governments, private groups and citizens to recognize the nation's cultural resources, enabling these groups to protect and sustain our heritage while planning for the future. The primary purpose of the National Register of Historic Places is to provide recognition of a property's significance in history, architecture, archaeology, or engineering.

The survey included 68 buildings built between 1909 and 1956. Each building included in the survey was determined to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Seventy-six buildings are currently eligible for listing and fifteen of the buildings will become 50 years old over the next five years.

# **Architectural/Historical Survey of Oklahoma City's Historic School Buildings**

## **Overview of Survey and Initial Research**

The architectural/historical survey of Oklahoma City's historic school buildings includes 68 schools built between 1909 and 1956. The schools included in the survey are limited to buildings owned by the Oklahoma City School District.

As a result of the survey, five distinct building periods emerged. The first period is Territorial Schools and includes buildings constructed before statehood. Although there are historical photographs of these buildings, none have survived. The second period represents the second period of economic growth in Oklahoma City that took place after Oklahoma became a state in 1907. This period lasted through the middle of the second decade. While the entire nation was booming during the 1920s, Oklahoma City was also experiencing tremendous growth. Between 1919 and 1931 many schools were built, including many that remain in use today. Few schools were built during the Great Depression, however, the architectural styles set this decade apart as does the funding. Many of these buildings were partially financed through the Public Works Administration (PWA) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA).

The greatest period of growth during the twentieth century were the years that followed the end of World War II. Twenty-seven schools were built during 1940s and 1950 that remain in use by the Oklahoma City School District.

<b>Early Statehood Schools</b>	<b>1909 - 1918</b>
<b>Schools from the Boom of the 1920's</b>	<b>1919 - 1931</b>
<b>Depression Era Schools</b>	<b>1932 - 1941</b>
<b>Post World War II Schools</b>	<b>1942 - 1956</b>

The survey was conducted according to regulations established by the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation (SHPO) Office<sup>1</sup>. Each school was photographed and two, black and white, glossy

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<sup>1</sup>Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society, 2704 Villa Prom, Shepherd Mall, Oklahoma City, OK 73107, (405) 521-6249.

photos and a Historic Preservation Resource Identification form was prepared for each site. The photographs, the negatives, and the historic context, have been deposited at the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office. This survey is the first step before determining if the school buildings are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.



## History of the Oklahoma City School Buildings

The history of Oklahoma City school buildings began under the shade of trees and, when the weather prevailed, tents were used to house students. Later, other buildings were used, including churches. It was only after a system for school bond elections was passed by the Oklahoma Territorial legislature that funds were approved by the citizens to construct public school buildings. Over the next one-hundred and seven years, over 100 school buildings were constructed in Oklahoma City. Today, many of Oklahoma City's earliest school buildings remain standing and almost 68 buildings currently in use are over 50 years old.

### Territorial School Buildings

Education began in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Territory, shortly after the land run and by the fall of 1889 there were several private schools. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur North of Boston are credited as establishing the first school under a tent with seventy students present. After the territorial government was established in May of 1890, a state school system was initiated. The first Oklahoma City school superintendent was R. A. Sullins and school began with fifteen teachers on March 1, 1891.

In 1893, the first school bond election was held and \$45,000.00 was approved by the voters to build four ward schools. These included Emerson (715 N. Walker, burned ca. 1910, rebuilt 1911), Washington (315 S. Walker, ca. 1902, demolished), Irving (410 N. Walnut, ca. 1902, demolished), and Webster (200 E. California, ca. 1900, demolished). Washington Grade School and Emerson Grade School were similar in design with Washington at South Third Street and Walker Avenue and Emerson at North Sixth Street and Walker Avenue. At the time, Emerson's site was considered "in the country." It was a race to see which school, Emerson or Washington, was completed first. Some reports suggest Washington was completed first, however, the Daily Oklahoman<sup>2</sup> reported that classes began at Emerson early in 1895. This was Oklahoma City's fifth school session.

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<sup>2</sup>Daily Oklahoman. August 7, 1896.

## Early Oklahoma City Ward Schools (Table)

Ward Schools	Location	Date Built	
Washington	315 S. Walker Avenue	1894	Demolished
Emerson (Rebuilt 1911)	715 N. Walker Avenue	1894	Burned ca. 1910
Irving	410 N. Walnut Avenue	Ca. 1903	Demolished
Webster (Douglas)	200 E. California	1903	Demolished

When the Run of 1889 was conducted, the federal government set up an area east of downtown and the railroad tracks, where the military was garrisoned for about ten years. Known as Military Hill, this land was later donated to the city to be used for school purposes. At Northeast Fourth Street and Walnut Avenue a small, four-room cottage was opened as the first high school. This site was later used to build Irving High School (demolished).<sup>3</sup> The fourth ward school was Webster, also known as Douglas, and later named Wheatley. Webster Grade School was the first permanent Oklahoma City school building constructed for black students.

Irving was the first high school and was a two-story Queen Anne style school with a raised basement and a hipped roof with large dormers. Two towers flanked the entry, each with pyramidal roofs. The door surrounds were elaborate arches and rows of arched windows were used on the second floor and on the front-facing gable end between the two towers. In 1902, Irving was used for several grades including high school, however, in 1903, the entire building was used as a high school with a population of 270 students.

The population of the city grew quickly and it was impossible to build schools fast enough. Several schools were built shortly after the turn of the century. None of these school buildings remains standing. The school population was 1,300 in 1898 and by 1900 it had grown to 2,400. In 1903, the school system spent \$125,000 to construct new buildings. Turn of the century schools included Bryant (demolished), Lincoln (demolished), Jefferson (demolished), McKinley (demolished), and Garfield (demolished).

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<sup>3</sup>Daily Oklahoman. January 3, 1943. Irving High School served as the site of state government after the capitol was moved from Guthrie to Oklahoma City. This building was demolished and Irving Junior High was built at the same site, ca. 1925. This building is currently owned by the State of Oklahoma.

## Schools for Black Students

The early Oklahoma City school system built separate schools for white and black students. The first public school building for African Americans was located on California Street. Originally named Webster, it was changed to Douglas after Frederick Douglas, a black statesman and leader. After Douglas moved from 200 East California Street in 1934, this building was known as Wheatley Junior High and was the black junior high.

**Partial List of Oklahoma City African American Schools (Table)**

Oklahoma City Black Schools	Address	Date Built	Additions
Douglas	South side of West California between Robinson and Harvey	1891 - 1903	Burned down in 1903
Douglas	200 East California S. Walnut and California	1903 - 1934	Changed to Wheatley in 1934
Wheatley Junior High		1934	Active in 1941
Choctaw	106 W. Choctaw also listed as 119 SW 7th (1941)		Active in 1920
Dunbar	1621 E. 4Th 1432 NE 7th		Active in 1920 Built 1932
Orchard Park	N. Peach and W. Grand also listed at Brauer and Grand		Active in 1920 1972 used as a school for handicapped students
Sandtown	3 North Brauer Also - Noble and Doffing 1/2 mi south of W. Reno		Active in 1920, active in 1941
Douglas High School	600 North High Street	1934	
Bryant (Page Inman)	317 N. Geary		Active in 1938, active in 1941
Douglas High School	Martin Luther King Blvd.	1951 - 1955	

## Early Statehood School Buildings

In 1909, the plans for Central High School (NR 1976)<sup>4</sup> were completed by architects Layton, Hawk and Smith. The school was "designed in the Collegian (Collegiate) Gothic style with a big tower at the Robinson Street entrance and a tower effect on the Seventh and Eighth Street entrances."<sup>5</sup> That same year there were twelve other school buildings in use, including Putnam Heights Elementary (remains standing), Willard, Jefferson, Eugene Field, McKinley, Lincoln, Emerson, Bryant, Riverside (remains standing, privately owned), Franklin, Washington, and Garfield. Walnut Grove, a two-room school, was almost complete.<sup>6</sup> Also reported in the newspaper several days later, annexes for Lincoln, Bryant, Douglas (Webster) and Riverside were not yet finished.<sup>7</sup> The Oklahoma City school population was 4,000 in 1909.

On September 11, 1910, the first students reported to Central High School. The Daily Oklahoman reported that there were approximately twenty-three schools in operation. These included six new schools: Lowell (remains standing), Culbertson (may still be standing), Whittier (still standing, privately owned), Wheeler (still standing), Lee (still standing), and the new high school - Central (still standing). Columbus<sup>8</sup> (still standing), located in Packing Town, was also under construction. Increasing enrollments had also demanded the need for additions to McKinley, Jefferson, Willard, Riverside, and Eugene Fields. Early photographs of Culbertson depict a large two-story brick or stone school with four, two-story columns on the front facade and a hipped

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<sup>4</sup>NR 1976 shows that Central High School was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976.

<sup>5</sup>Daily Oklahoma. February 2, 1909.

<sup>6</sup>Daily Oklahoma. September 5, 1909.

<sup>7</sup>Daily Oklahoma. September 12, 1909.

<sup>8</sup>Daily Oklahoman. September 9, 1910. Complete list of schools included Bryant, Culbertson (new), Emerson, Eugene Field, Franklin, Garfield, Harmony (now King), Jefferson, Junction, Lincoln, Lee (new), Lowell (new), McKinley, Putnam Heights, Riverside, Washington, Whittier (new), Willard, Wheeler (new), Walnut Grove, Longfellow, Columbus and Central High School (new).

roof. Most of these early schools were several stories, sheathed with brick and detailed with cast concrete.

The end of the first construction boom of Oklahoma City schools was over by the middle of the second decade. One of the last schools completed was Shield Heights Elementary, built in 1911. This building was three stories and was constructed of reinforced concrete, brick and stone and was fire proofed. Reported to be totally modern, it cost approximately \$40,000.00.

### Early Statehood Schools (Table)

Early Statehood Schools	Address	Date Built	Additions
Putnam Heights Elementary	1601 NW 36th	1909	1919
Lowell (later Douglas H.S.)	600 N. High	1910	1919
Lee Elementary	424 SW 29th	1910	1920
Wheeler Elementary	501 SE 25th	1910	1919
Columbus Elementary	2204 S. Penn	1909	
Shield Heights Elementary	301 SE 38th	1911	1920
Emerson (Alternative H.S.)	715 N. Walker	Ca. 1911	1894 School burned
Edgemere Elementary	3200 N. Walker	1912	
Hawthorne Elementary	2300 NW 15th	Ca. 1911	1919
Linwood Elementary	3416 NW 17th	Ca. 1911	1920

Riverside Elementary (415 W. Maple) and Central High School (One Bell Central), both constructed ca. 1909, remain standing and are privately owned. Whittier (1900 NW 10th), was constructed ca. 1910. It is privately owned. Culbertson, constructed ca. 1910, is also privately owned.

As Oklahoma City continued to grow, the student population quickly expanded. New ideas about education were also introduced including the development of junior highs. As early as 1916, Oklahoma City began looking at building separate junior high buildings, however, the first bond issue to fund junior highs was defeated. At this time junior high schools were in the experimental stage in the United States.<sup>9</sup> In 1919, the board of education submitted a second bond for one million dollars to build three junior high schools for seventh, eighth and ninth grade boys and

<sup>9</sup>Opportunities for Junior High Schools for Boys and Girls. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. J.R. Barton, Superintendent. Board of Education. Ca. 1924.



Putnam Heights Elementary, 1909



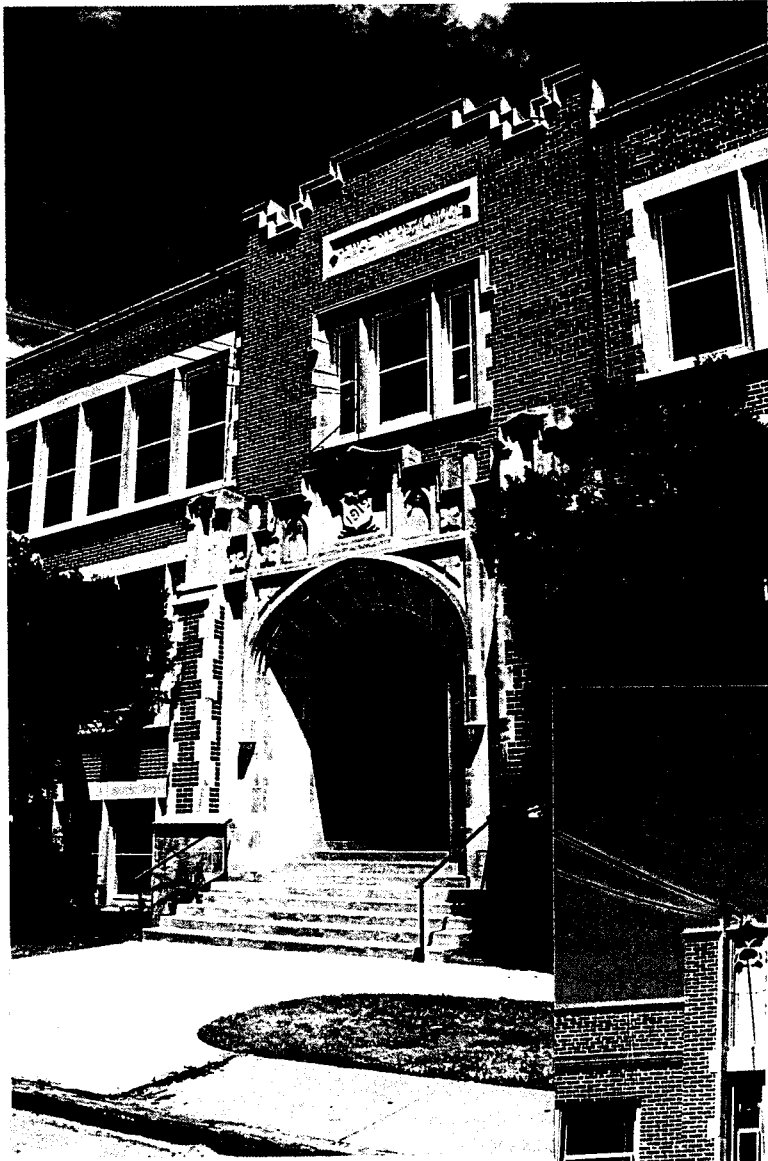
Lee Elementary, 1910

Wheeler Elementary, 1910



Emerson Alternative School, 1911-1912

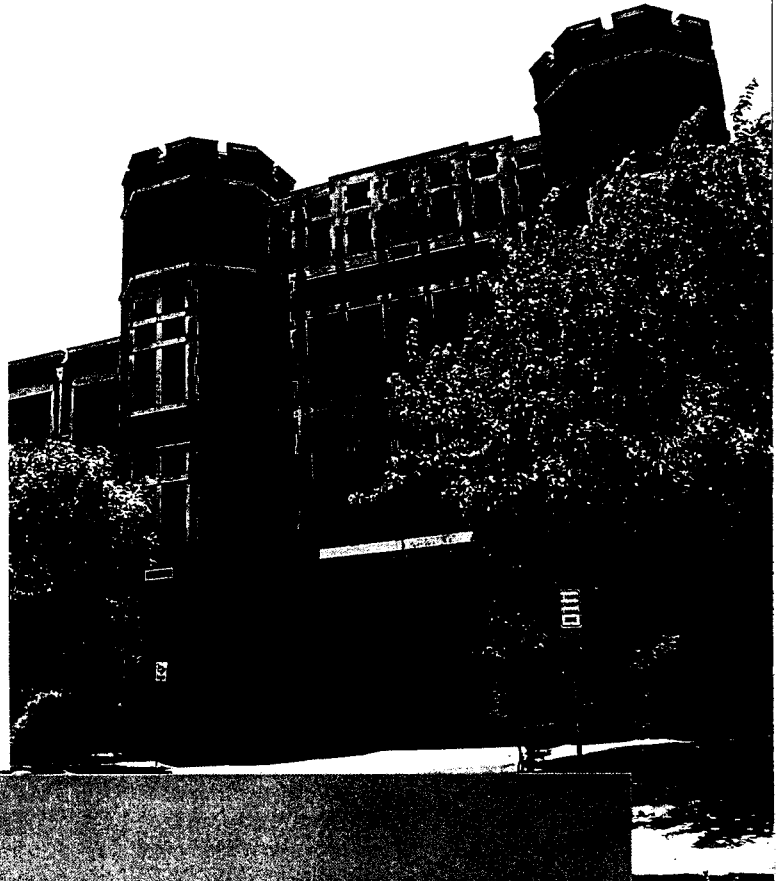
Edgemere Elementary  
1912



Wilson Elementary  
1919



Harding Junior High  
1923



Classen Junior High  
1919



Roosevelt Junior High  
1920

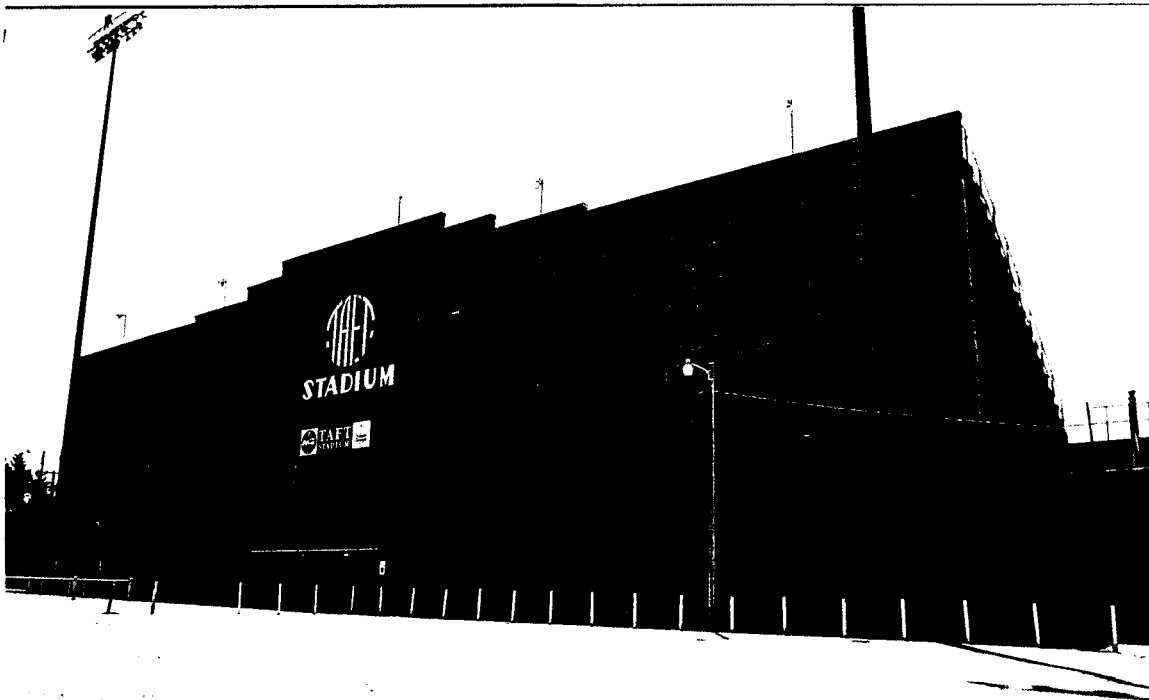


Jackson Junior High  
1930





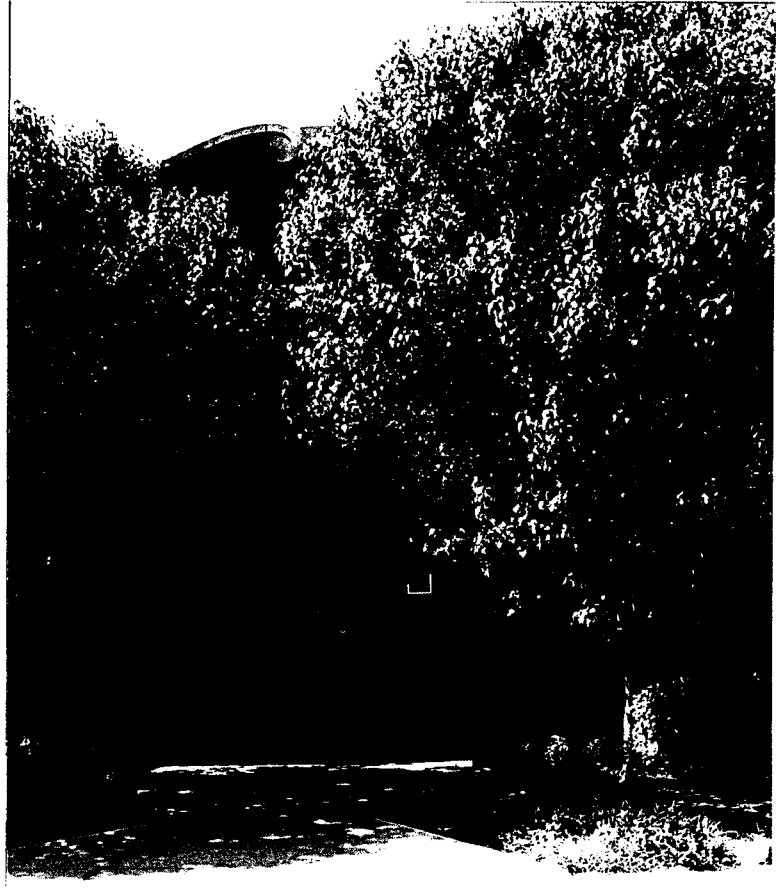
Taft Junior High, 1930



Taft Stadium, 1930

?  
WPA - c 1937-38

Creston Hills Elementary  
1934



Nichols Hills Elementary  
1937





Mark Twain Elementary, 1937



John Marshall High School, 1948



Rancho Village Elementary, 1949



Northwest Classen High School, 1955-1957

girls. The citizens supported the project and Webster (demolished), Capitol Hill Junior High (now Capitol Hill Elementary) and Classen (later a high school, now a magnet school) were first opened in September 1920. (Irving completed in 1919)

By 1925, the three, original junior high buildings were too small and another election secured funding for two additional junior highs - Harding and Roosevelt. When these two schools were completed, Classen Junior High was changed to Classen High School. These five schools represented a two million-dollar investment and were fully equipped with libraries, cafeterias, auditoriums, gymnasiums, swimming pools, clinics and special rooms for home economics, industrial arts, fine arts, and science.

In 1919, a second school building boom occurred with some schools receiving additions and new schools being constructed. Woodrow Wilson Elementary was built in 1919 and was one of the smaller elementary schools of the time. A new administration building was located on the grounds of Irving School at Northeast Fourth and Walnut Avenue. Large additions were made to Lincoln and Jefferson. Other additions were made to Willard (1919 addition remains standing), Lowell (later Douglas High School, then Page Woodson, 600 N. High.), Whittier (1900 SW 10th, privately owned), Wheeler Elementary, and Hawthorne Elementary. Walnut Grove was also constructed at a cost of \$19,200. Classrooms were over crowded by 1924 with 18,480 white students and 1,900 black students attending Oklahoma City schools.

During the 1920s, a number of schools were built, including schools for students with special needs. In 1926, William Jennings Bryan was built to accommodate physically disabled students and in 1937, the first class for mentally disabled students was established in Oklahoma City. In 1927, an administration building, designed by Layton, Smith, and Forsyth, was built across the street from Roosevelt Junior High.

Constructed at the end of the 1920s and the beginning of the 1930s was Stonewall Jackson Junior High School. This building was under construction in February 1931 at the southwest corner of South 28th Street and Agnew Avenue. This school is distinguished by a set of five cast stone friezes designed by Central High School students. The stones were cast in Wichita and supervised by the Central High School art teacher, Grace Chadwick.

### Schools from the 1920s (Table)

Schools from the 1920s	Address	Date Built	Additions
Willard Elementary	1400 NW 3rd	Ca. 1919	1902 portion demolished in 1985
Westwood Elementary	1701 Exchange Ave.	1919	1920
Wilson Elementary	2215 N. Walker	1919	1920
<b>Classen Junior High</b>	1901 N. Ellison	1919	
Capitol Hill Elementary	2727 S. Robinson	1920	
Rockwood Elementary	3101 SW 24th	1920	
Dunbar Elementary	1432 NE 7th	1922	
Horace Mann Elementary.	1105 NE 42	1923	
<b>Harding Junior High</b>	3333 N. Shartel	1925	Opened 1925
Truman (Bath) Elementary	1324 Kelham	1924	1928
Gatewood Elementary	1812 NW 21	1930	Temp bldg. 1925 - 1930
King Elementary (Harmony Elementary)	1527 NE 42	1930	Temp bldg 1925 - 1930
Heronville Elementary	1240 SW 29th	1925	
Dewey Elementary	3500 N. Lindsay	1928	
Cleveland Elementary	2727 NW 23rd	1928	
Lafayette Elementary	500 SW 44th	1928	
Spencer Elementary	8900 NE 50th	1928	
<b>Roosevelt Junior High</b> Current Admin Building	912 N. Klein	1925	Was Admin since 1955
<b>Capitol Hill High School</b>	500 SW 36th	1928	
Sequoyah Elementary	2400 NW 36th	1930	
Shidler Elementary	1415 S. Byers	1930	
Stand Watie Elementary	3517 S. Linn	1930	4 metal buildings added in 1952
<b>Jackson Junior High</b>	2601 S. Villa	1931	
<b>Taft Junior High and Stadium</b>	2901 NW 23rd	1931	
Britton Elementary	1215 NW 95th	1931	



The schools that existed in 1920 and have since been demolished or replaced include Bryant (317 N. Geary), Crooked Oak (E. Ash and South East Avenue), Eugene Field (North Klein and NW 14th Street), Franklin (824 W. California), Garfield (524 S. Robinson), Jefferson (North Western and NW 23rd), McKinley (1120 North Harvey), Opportunity (1210 N. Geary), Washington (315 S. Walker), and Willard (N. McKinley and West Second Street). In 1984, Eugene Fields Elementary was demolished and a new building was constructed at the same site.

### **Depression Era Schools**

Seven schools remain standing built between 1934 and 1941 during the Depression. These include Creston Hills Elementary, Star Elementary, Nichols Hills Elementary, Mark Twain Elementary, Arcadia Elementary (not originally part of the Oklahoma City schools), West Nichols Hills Elementary, and Northeast High School.

Oklahoma City was still booming through the late 1920s and early 1930s due to a discovery of oil on the south side of the city. The Great Depression caught up with the city during the mid 1930s and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County, and the state submitted applications for federally supported public projects. Many of these projects were schools. PWA (Public Works Administration) funds were meant to put the construction industry back to business and the federal government partnered with local governments to build government and education-related buildings. Local school districts and state universities benefitted from the Public Works Administration program.

In Oklahoma City, several schools received partial funding from the PWA for new schools and for additions and improvements. In 1938, the PWA approved over \$500,000 to be used for improvements and additions to thirty Oklahoma City schools. This money had to be matched by the city and a bond election was later held to secure the necessary funds.<sup>10</sup>

Northeast High School, clearly a design from the popular streamlined architecture of the 1930s, is an excellent example of a PWA school project. Designed by Layton and Forsyth, Oklahoma City architects, early drawings show a more elaborate building than the one constructed. Apparently,

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<sup>10</sup>Daily Oklahoman. September 3, 1938.

the design was later simplified, resulting in an Art Deco, rather than a Collegiate Gothic style building.<sup>11</sup>

High school football stadiums were also commonly funded by the WPA (Works Progress Administration). The football stadium at Taft Junior High is an excellent example of the vernacular style of architecture that was popular for WPA projects. This style generally incorporated local building materials, such as the sandstone used for Taft Stadium. The stadium was dedicated in September 1938. Over \$21,000 was raised by the Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce and the remaining \$67,000 was supplied by the WPA.

### Depression Era Schools (Table)

Depression Era Schools	Address	Date Built	Additions
Creston Hills Elementary	2240 NE 19th	1934	
Star Elementary	8917 NE 23	1936	
<b>Northeast High School</b>	3100 N. Kelly	1936	
Nichols Hills Elementary	1301 W. Wilshire Blvd.	1937	Closed in 1982, later reopened Addition in 1955
Mark Twain Elementary	2451 West main	1937	Listed at 2231 W. Main in 1938, see Old Mark Twain
Arcadia Elementary	312 E. 5th	1941	Considered for closing in 1976
West Nichols Hills Elementary	8400 N. Greystone	1941	Noftsgen and Lawrence, arch Opened in 1942

### Post World War II Schools

After World War II, the population of Oklahoma City grew and schools were overcrowded throughout the period. In 1943, there were over sixty public schools in Oklahoma City and it was estimated that more than 45,000 pupils would be enrolling in 1944. John Marshal High School was built in 1948 and more than thirty other schools were built over the next eight years. Of those still in operation, five were built before 1950, sixteen were built between 1950 and 1955, and two were built in 1956.

<sup>11</sup>daily Oklahoman. September 4, 1935.

administration. Jefferson was eventually sold and those offices also moved to the Roosevelt Junior High School building.

Additions and new buildings were also being added in 1956. John Marshall, just finished in 1948, was already undergoing a 34-classroom addition. Nineteen rooms were added at US Grant High School; and Southeast High School received a new addition and six classrooms. Additions for many existing elementary schools were also complete or underway.

In January 1957, Northwest Classen High School was dedicated. The building had been in use since September 1955. Designed by Hudgins, Thompson and Ball Associates (HTB), the building was constructed by Builders Construction Company and built to hold 2,500 to 3,000 students. Built for \$12 a square foot, the materials included aluminum trim, pylons of synthetic granite, and light, gray brick.

During the 1950s, some Oklahoma City schools became integrated. Integrated in 1959, Edison Elementary was the ninth public school to desegregate and Harmony (King Elementary) was the tenth. During this period Creston Hills Elementary became an entirely black school and Franklin Junior High, located in northeast Oklahoma City, was closed.

**Post World War II Schools (Table)**

<b>Post World War II</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Date Built</b>	<b>Additions</b>
<b>John Marshall High School</b>	9017 N. University	1948	34 classrooms added in 1956
Adams Elementary	3416 SW 37th	1949	five room addition in 1956
Filmore Elementary	5200 S. Blackwelder	1949	Planned as a six room, in 1952 seven rooms added 3rd addition in 1956
Rancho Village Elementary	1401 S. Johnston	1949	
<b>Southeast High School</b>	5201 S. Shields	1949	New addition and six rooms in 1956
Edwards Elementary	1123 NE Grand	1950	
Monroe Elementary	4810 N. Linn	1950	
Polk Elementary	3806 N. Prospect	1950	

Buchanan Elementary	4126 NW 18th	1951	Originally 10 rooms Opened in 1952 Addition in 1956
Johnson Elementary	1810 Sheffield	1951	
Kaiser Elementary	3101 Lyon	1951	Addition in 1956
Harrison Elementary Alternative School	701 W. Britton	1951	Originally Harrison
Hayes Elementary	6900 S. Byers	1952	Originally a four-room school, opened in 1952
<b>Douglas High School</b>	900 N. ML King	1952	Dedication 5-1-55
<b>Northwest Classen High School</b>	2801 NW 27th	1955 - 1957	Hudgins, Thompson and Ball, Architects (HTB)
Arthur Elementary	SW 49th and Independence	1953	Opened circa 1952 Seven room addition in 1956
Coolidge Elementary	5212 S. Villa	1953	Addition in 1956
Prairie Queen Elementary	6609 S. Blackwelder	1953	Opened in Sept of 1952 Addition in 1956
<b>Grant High School</b>	5016 S. Penn	1953	19 classrooms added in 1956
Garden Oaks Elementary	3401 NE 16th	1954	
Green Pastures Elementary	4300 N. Post, Spencer	1954	Considered for closing in 1976
Longfellow Elementary	1201 NE 48th	1955	Reynolds and Morrison Arch
Parker Elementary	12700 NE 42	1955	
Ridgeview Elementary	10010 N. Ridgeview	1955	
Willow Brook Elementary	8105 NE 10th	1955	
Pierce Elementary	2601 S. Tulsa	1956	
Belle Isle Elementary	5904 N. Villa	1956	

### **New Schools in the 1960s**

The Daily Oklahoman reported in 1962 that during the last ten years the Oklahoma City school population had increased 58 percent, with 39,988 students in 1952 and 68,500 students in 1962. During the next ten years, twenty permanent buildings were constructed. Toward the end of this period, the construction of Hoover Junior High was completed.

## **Architectural Significance**

The Oklahoma City Public School buildings include a wide range of architectural styles and illustrate the Classical Revival style, the Collegiate Gothic style, Art Deco, the Spanish Mission Revival style, WPA architecture and the International Style associated with Post World War II architecture. The city's earliest schools, built between 1894 and 1909, are no longer standing. These included some one and two-story frame buildings and several, large three story Queen Anne and Richardsonian Romanesque style buildings. The 68 remaining buildings owned by the public schools built between 1909 and 1956 are indicative of twentieth century schoolhouse architecture and each is potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

## **History of School Architecture in Oklahoma City**

### **Territorial Schoolhouses**

During the 1830s the form of the "schoolhouse" was established by William A. Alcott and included the importance of fresh air, space and light. Alcott promoted the need for large windows, classrooms that provided separate desks for each student, and areas for recreation. The basic classroom size of 25 by 35 feet was established and this size, combined with large windows, high ceilings, and open settings, was the pattern for school design until after World War II.<sup>13</sup>

The exterior design of early, turn-of-the-century school buildings often mimicked other religious or government buildings and bell towers were frequently incorporated into the design. There were a few large frame school buildings constructed in Oklahoma City, but none have survived.

Early school buildings, built before statehood, followed a pattern set by the Victorians with little variation. Two styles, the Queen Anne and the Richardsonian Romanesque style, were common. Characteristics of the Queen Anne style included hipped or hipped and gable roofs, bell towers and corner towers, and cast stone or cut stone arches with round columns. Sandstone was used for the foundation and was visible when the buildings had a raised basement. Patterned brickwork

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<sup>13</sup>Built in the USA: American Buildings from Airports to Zoos, National Trust for Historic Preservation. 1985. Preservation Press.

or stonework was also incorporated into the design. Emerson Grade School and Washington Grade School were Queen Anne designs. This style was popular between 1880 and 1910.

Emerson Grade School and Washington Grade Schools, the first large, brick school buildings built by Oklahoma City were almost identical. Both were two stories in height with large, central bell towers and two story bay windows on each corner of the building. Emerson had a square, four-story bell tower with a four-sided conical roof. Washington had an identical tower with a four-sided bell-shaped roof. Emerson had three-sided corner bays with six-sided, conical roofs and Washington had round corner bays with conical roofs. Both were sheathed with brick with sandstone belt courses and window sills, and sandstone foundations. A small portion of the original sandstone foundation is visible on the rear of the 1911 Emerson school building. The original Washington and Emerson school buildings have been demolished.

The Richardsonian Romanesque style was popular between 1880 and 1910 and characteristics of this style included round-topped arches over windows, porch supports or entrances; masonry walls, with rough-faced, squared stonework; towers and asymmetrical facades. Irving, the first high school, Lincoln (1138 N. Geary), Willard, and Jefferson had features common to this style. None have survived.

The schools that followed were similar but lacking bell towers. Early school buildings constructed when Oklahoma was a territory included Irving, Willard, and Lincoln. These schools were large, three story brick buildings with hipped roofs or combination hipped and gable roofs. McKinley, built in 1907 at 1120 North Harvey, had a slightly different exterior appearance. A wide, set of steps led to a recessed central entrance with an arched opening. Arches with paired arched windows flanked the entry and a row of identical arches and paired windows were above the entry at the second floor level. Two, large, three-story gabled wings were on either side of the steps. At the ground floor was an arched entry to the lower level. Above the ground entry were two, cast concrete pilasters that supported triangular pediments. These pediments were flanked by triangular stone or brick insets. Cast concrete belt courses surrounded the building at every level with additional courses at the middle sashes of the ground level and the third floor level windows. McKinley school was similar in appearance to a church building, rather than a school or government building. None of these schools have survived.

After statehood some of the early architectural characteristics used for schoolhouses remained. Significant alterations included flat roofs, rather than hipped or gabled roofs and the elimination of elaborate bell towers and other decorative features. The entrances remained well defined and occasionally rows of columns or tall, decorative parapets were used to mark the main entry of the school.

### **Territorial Schoolhouses (Table)**

<b>Early Day Schools</b>		<b>Date Built</b>	
Washington Grade School	315 S. Walker Avenue	1894	Demolished
Irving/Irving High School	410 N. Walnut Avenue	1902	Demolished
Webster Grade School	200 E. California	Ca. 1900	Demolished
Bryant Grade School	317 N. Geary	Ca. 1900	Demolished
Jefferson Grade School	N. Western and Second	Ca. 1900	Demolished
McKinley Grade School	1120 N. Harvey	Ca	Demolished
Garfield Grade School	524 S. Robinson	Ca. 1900	Demolished

### **Early Day Schoolhouses, Demolished or Privately Owned (Table)**

Junction	East of old fairgrounds	Ca. 1909	Unknown
Whittier	1900 NW 10th Street	Ca. 1910	Privately owned
Culbertson	1200 NE 13th Street	Ca. 1909	Medical Center
Old Eugene Fields	1515 N. Klein	Ca 1909	Demolished Replaced, 1984
Franklin Jr. High	824 W. California	Ca. 1909	Unknown
Lincoln	E. Park Place and N. Durland	Ca. 1909	Demolished
Central High School	220 W. 8th Street	1910	One Bell Central

### **Early Statehood Schools**

Examples of early day school architecture that remain standing include Putnam Heights Elementary, Lowell (later incorporated into old Douglas High School, but still clearly visible), Lee Elementary, Wheeler Elementary, Columbus Elementary, Shield Heights Elementary, Emerson

(ca. 1911), and Edgemere Elementary. Each of these schools are two or three stories in height. Hawthorne and Linwood elementary schools were also built during this early period and each of these schools are two-stories.

This style lasted until the beginning of World War II and was characterized by one and two-story brick buildings with flat roofs. The entry was generally marked with cast stone and several architectural styles were used to delineate the details. Many fall into the category "Collegiate Gothic." This style uses decorative cast stone at the entry's doors and parapet to define the building. Arches are sometimes used at the entry - some with a flattened arch others with the pointed Gothic arch. Quoins are sometimes used at the building corners and typically all window sills and door sills and surrounds are cast stone. Other characteristics included denticulated battlements, oriel windows, and semi-hexagonal one- and two-story bays.

### **Schools from the Boom of the 1920s**

As Oklahoma City continued to grow, the student population quickly expanded. New ideas about education were introduced including the development of junior highs. As early as 1916, Oklahoma City began looking at building separate junior high buildings, however, the first bond issue to fund junior highs was defeated. At this time junior high schools were in the experimental stage in the United States.<sup>14</sup> In 1919, the board of education submitted a second bond for one million dollars to build three junior high schools for seventh, eighth, and ninth grade boys and girls. The citizens supported the project and Webster, Capitol Hills and Classen were first opened in September 1920. By 1922, the original three buildings were too small and another election secured funding for two additional junior highs - Harding and Roosevelt. When these two schools were completed in 1925, Classen Junior High was changed to Classen High School.

These five junior highs were similar in appearance. Harding and Roosevelt were designed by Layton, Smith and Forsyth. The junior high buildings were large, two or three story buildings, sheathed with brick with cast stone detailing. The entrances were prominent and identified with large, two story cast stone columns or paired towers with arched, multiple entrances. Capitol Hill and Classen are almost identical. These schools are three stories in height with bands of windows

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<sup>14</sup>Opportunities for Junior High Schools for Boys and Girls. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. J.R. Barton, Superintendent. Board of Education. Ca. 1924.



surrounding the first floor and a one story entry marked with side columns and a triangular pediment. Above the entry are six, two-story columns capped with a wide, flat entablature. The front facade is divided with a central bay flanked by three bays on either side. Webster (demolished) was similar, however, there were only two stories and the two-story columns at the entry began on the ground floor on either side of the entry and rose to the roofline.

Harding and Roosevelt junior highs are typical examples of the Collegiate Gothic style. These two buildings are almost identical with three story towers on either side of arched entries. The towers rise above the third floor and mark the entrance to the building. Two, large bays are located on either side of the towers. The first bay has four sets of triple windows and the outside bay is a flat brick wall with decorative brick work. Each of these schools has inset, cast stone panels at ground level inscribed with quotes from presidents' Harding and Roosevelt.

Many other elementary schools were built in the 1920s and all were similar in shape and design. Most of the elementary schools are two stories, sheathed in brick, with cast stone used for belt courses, window sills and parapets. The few elaborate design elements incorporated into the building are limited to the front entrance. Most entries are slightly recessed with arched or square openings outlined with cast stone. Often, the name of the school is inscribed in cast stone and set above the front doorway. Some have a semi-hexagon room on the end. Originally, all of the schools had large, wooden, double-hung windows with large, single panes. Most of these windows have been replaced with metal windows with single panes of glass. Perforated grills are on the outside to deter vandalism and to shade the rooms from direct sunlight.

Over the years some schools had additions to one or both ends of the original building. In almost every instance, these additions were sensitively designed and are compatible in color, material, and size to the original building. Classrooms were often added and later, gymnasiums and/or cafeterias were built. Some schools are twice or three times the original size of the first school building.

### **Depression Era Schools**

Architecture in the 1930s was similar to the previous decade, however, features were simplified and Art Deco began more popular. Some of these changes were synonymous with the changing economy, the need to simplify, the increasing use of local materials, and the decrease in the availability of craftsman. For these reasons, and perhaps others, the schools built during the

1930s are different in appearance than their predecessors. Only five Mission Revival style school buildings were constructed in Oklahoma City; two in 1928, two in 1930 and one in 1934. These include Dewey Elementary at 3500 N. Lindsay, ca. 1928; Lafayette Elementary, 500 NW 44th, ca. 1928; Sequoyah Elementary, ca. 1930, Stand Watie Elementary, ca. 1930, and Creston Hills Elementary, 2240 NE 19th, ca. 1934. Only one school, Creston Hills, has a stucco exterior. The other four have (buff brick) exteriors. Each have mission style parapets.

The Art Deco style was also used during the 1930s and was popular from 1925 until 1940. The first "moderne" school in Oklahoma City was Taft Junior High, which was built in 1930. Typical of the style, architectural features include geometric and stylized motifs and smooth wall surfaces. Verticality, rather than horizontality, is emphasized. Ornament is spare and abstract. Britton Elementary, ca. 1931, and Rockwood Elementary, ca. 1937, are smaller examples. Both of these buildings are red brick with identifying features limited to glass block and the elimination of most ornament. Northeast High School, built in 1936, is also an example of the Art Deco or "Moderne" style of architecture. The walls of the exterior are sheathed with gray, flat stone and the joints are de-emphasized.

The last school built during the depression years was Nichols Hills Elementary School, built in 1937. This school is the only Colonial Revival style school in Oklahoma City.

### **Post World War II Schools**

After World War II, the International style of architecture was used to design school buildings. This style was "streamlined" and used "new" materials. Instead of the dark red brick popular during the past two centuries, light, colored brick became popular. The most popular color was a light orange-yellow or buff color. Occasionally, roof lines remained flat, although shed roofs were commonly used. The slope of the shed roof was often accentuated with brick end walls and wing walls that followed the slope of the roof. Metal trim and doors were used, rather than wood. Flat or corrugated metal was used as fascia and metal panels were often used under windows.

This style initiated in Europe during the 1920s and was championed by architects such as Le Corbusier and Mies van der Rohe. These architects tried to exploit the materials and technology of the day. The most basic concept was the use of a structural skeleton - made of steel- and covered

with a thin, non-structural skin. Windows were set flush with the exterior wall. The decorative parapet was replaced with nothing at all or a wide, boxed overhang. The front entrance of the building was de-emphasized. Ribbons of metal windows at regular height or high clerestory windows replaced the "old fashioned wood window." Sunlight was frequently controlled by metal overhangs supported by metal brackets or by concrete overhangs. Venetian blinds and pull-down shades were out of favor.

Many of these schools were built with only one story and were built over a period a several years. It was common for elementary schools during the 1950s in Oklahoma City to be built with four rooms and several years later, more classrooms added. Even later, metal buildings were brought in to supplement the growing school population.

The smaller, elementary schools that were built during the 1950s are very similar in design. These one story schools are simply designed with low roof lines, brick and metal exteriors, and long, bands of metal and glass windows. The design of classrooms strung together and linked by a common hallway remained similar to earlier schoolhouses. It was only the exterior that changed. The elaborate front door entry virtually disappeared and, in many cases, the front door is best found by following the sidewalk. The plan is generally U-shaped or L-shaped and there is often a larger building, with few if any windows, that can be identified as the all purpose room or the cafeteria or the gymnasium.

The high schools that were built in the 1950s are two-stories and are similar in design to the one-story elementary buildings. The entry is identifiable and in some cases is a two-story, glass affair with exposed steel structural elements. Geometric shaped wing walls are also used to direct students to the front door. Long, bands of aluminum windows line the building wings where the classrooms are located and a variety of "modern" louvers and overhangs protect the interior from the sun.

## **Summary**

The Oklahoma City school buildings represent a wide variety of the architectural styles that were popular during the twentieth century. From the classical Beaux Arts and Collegiate Gothic of the 1920s, to the International style of the 1950s, each building claims a place in the history of the city.

### Architectural Styles (Table)

School	Address	Date Built	Architectural Style Architect
<b>Early Statehood Schools</b>			
Putnam Heights Elementary	1601 NW 36th	1909	Beaux Arts
Columbus Elementary	2204 S. Penn	1910	Beaux Arts
Lee Elementary	424 SW 29th (418 Ave. G)	1910	Beaux Arts
Shields Heights	301 SE 38th	1910	Collegiate Gothic
Wheeler Elementary	501 SE 25th	1910	Collegiate Gothic
Emerson Alternative High School	715 N. Walker	1911	Queen Anne, Richardsonian Romanesque
Edgemere Elementary	3200 N. Walker	1911-1912	Collegiate Gothic
Hawthorne Elementary	2300 NW 15th	1911	Collegiate Gothic
Linwood Elementary	3416 NW 17th	1911	Collegiate Gothic
Willard Elementary	1400 NW 3rd	1911, 1919	Beaux Arts
Lowell Douglas High School FD Moon Jr. High Page Woodson 5th Grade	610 N. High 600 N. High, 1957 600 N. High, 1919 600 N. High, 1957	Ca. 1909	Beaux Arts
<b>Schools from the Boom of the 1920's</b>			
Westwood Elementary	1701 Exchange Ave.	1919	Collegiate Gothic
Wilson Elementary	2215 N. Walker	1919	Collegiate Gothic
Classen Junior High Classen High School Classen School for the Advanced	1901 N. Ellison	1919	Beaux Arts
Capitol Hill Junior High	2727 S. Robinson	1920	Beaux Arts
Dunbar Elementary	1432 NE 7th	1922	Collegiate Gothic
Horace Mann Elementary.	1105 NE 42	1923	Collegiate Gothic
Harding Middle School	3333 N. Shartel	1923	Collegiate Gothic
Truman or Bath Elementary	1324 Kelham	Ca. 1925	Collegiate Gothic
Gatewood Elementary	1812 NW 21	1927	Collegiate Gothic

King Elementary (Harmony Elementary)	1527 NE 42	1927	Collegiate Gothic
Heronville Elementary	1240 SW 29th	1928	Collegiate Gothic
Dewey Elementary	3500 N. Lindsay	1928	Mission Revival Style
Cleveland Elementary	2727 NW 23rd	1928	Collegiate Gothic
Lafayette Elementary	500 SW 44th	1928	Mission Revival
Spencer Elementary 4 buildings	8900 NE 50th	1928	WPA, Bungalow, International
Roosevelt Junior High Now Admin Building	912 N. Klein	1920-1931	Collegiate Gothic
Capitol Hill High School	500 SW 36th	1928	Collegiate Gothic
Sequoyah Elementary	2400 NW 36th	1930	Mission
Shidler Elementary	1415 S. Byers	1930	Collegiate Gothic
Stand Watie Elementary	3517 S. Linn	1930	Mission Revival
Jackson Junior High School	2601 S. Villa	1930	Beaux Arts
Taft Jr. High and Stadium	2901 NW 23rd	1930	Art Deco
Britton Elementary	1215 NW 95th	1931	Art Deco
<b>Depression Era Schools</b>			
Creston Hills	2240 NE 19th	1934	Mission Revival
Star Elementary	8917 NE 23	1936	Art Deco
Northeast High School	3100 N. Kelly	1936	Art Deco
Nichols Hills Elementary	1301 W. Wilshire Blvd.	1937	Colonial Revival
Mark Twain Elementary	2451 West main	1937	Art Deco
Rockwood Elementary	3101 SW 24th	1937	Art Deco
Arcadia Elementary	312 E. 5th	1941	International Style
West Nichols Hills Elementary	8400 N. Greystone	1941	Art Deco
<b>Post World War II Schools</b>			
John Marshall High School	9017 N. University	1948	International Style
Adams Elementary	3416 SW 37th	1949	International Style
Filmore Elementary	5200 S. Blackwelder	1949	International Style
Rancho Village Elementary	1401 S. Johnston	1949	International Style

Southeast High School	5201 S. Shields	1949	International Style
Edwards Elementary	1123 NE Grand	1950	International Style
Monroe Elementary	4810 N. Linn	1950	International Style
Polk Elementary	3806 N. Prospect	1950	International Style
Buchanan Elementary	4126 NW 18th	1951	International Style
Johnson Elementary	1810 Sheffield	1951	International Style
Kaiser Elementary	3101 Lyon	1951	International Style
Alternative School Harrison Elementary	701 W. Britton	1951	International Style
Hayes Elementary	6900 S. Byers	1952	International Style
Douglas High School	900 N. ML Kink	1952 1955	- International Style Sorey, Hill and Sorey Architects
Northwest Classen High School	2801 NW 27th	1955 1957	- International Style
Arthur Elementary	SW 49th and Independence	1953	International Style
Coolidge Elementary	5212 S. Villa	1953	International Style
Prairie Queen Elementary	6609 S. Blackwelder	1953	International Style
Grant High School	5016 S. Penn	1953	International Style
Garden Oaks Elementary	3401 NE 16th	1954	International Style
Green Pastures Elementary	4300 N. Post, Spencer	1954	International Style
Longfellow Elementary	1201 NE 48th	1955	International Style
Parker Elementary	12700 NE 42	1955	International Style
Ridgeview Elementary	10010 N. Ridgeview	1955	International Style
Willow Brook Elementary	8105 NE 10th	1955	International Style
Pierce Elementary	2601 S. Tulsa	1956	International Style
Belle Isle Elementary	5904 N. Villa	1956	International Style

## Conclusion

Most of the schools included in the survey were built by the Oklahoma City School System, however, there are a few that were built by other districts and were later annexed. The majority of

the schools are clad with brick and stone and have survived with very few changes to the exteriors. Early additions and annexes were built with similar materials and with few design changes.

There are twenty-seven Post World War II schools buildings constructed between 1948 and 1956. Fifteen of these schools built after 1951 are not fifty years old and will be eligible for listing on the National Register over the next five years.

It is the initial determination of this survey that each school included in the project is potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. It is recommended that a multiple property submission be prepared for the Oklahoma City schools and that the individual schools be nominated to the National Register.

### Number of Schools in Survey

Period	Dates of Significance	Number of Schools
Early Statehood Schools	1907 - 1918	9 Schools
Schools from the 1920s Boom	1919 - 1931	23 Schools
Depression Era Schools	1932 - 1941	7 Schools
Post World War II Schools	1942 - 1951	12 Schools
	1952 - 1956 (less than 50 years of age)	15 Schools
		51 schools over 50 years old 15 eligible within the next five years - 2002 - 2006 <b>Total = 68</b>

## Appendix

### Historic Oklahoma City Public School Buildings (Alphabetical List)

- Adams Elementary, 3416 SW 37th. Built 1949
- Arcadia Elementary, 312 E. 5Th. Built 1941
- Arthur Elementary, SW 49th and Independence, built 1953
- Belle Isle Elementary, 5904 N. Villa. Built 1956.
- Britton Elementary. 1215 NW 95th. Built 1931.
- Buchanan Elementary. 4126 NW 18th. Built 1951, addition in 1956
- Capitol Hill High School. 500 SW 36th. Built 1928.
- Capitol Hill Junior High/Capitol Hill Elementary. 2727 S. Robinson. Built 1920.
- Classen Jr. High/Classen H.S./Classen School for the Advanced. 1901 N. Ellison. Built 1919
- Cleveland Elementary. 2727 NW 23rd. Built 1928.
- Columbus Elementary. 2204 S. Pennsylvania. Built 1910.
- Coolidge Elementary. 5212 S. Villa. Built 1953, addition in 1956
- Creston Hills. 2240 NE 19th. Built 1934.
- Dewey Elementary. 3500 N. Lindsay. Built 1928.
- Douglas High School. 900 N. ML King. Built 1952.
- Dunbar Elementary. 1432 NE 7th. Built 1922.
- Edgemere Elementary. 3200 N. Walker. Built 1911.
- Edwards Elementary. 1123 NE Grand. Built 1950.
- Emerson Grade School/Emerson Alternative High School. 715 N. Walker. Built 1911.
- Filmore Elementary. 5200 S. Blackwelder. Built 1949, additions in 1952 and 1956.
- Garden Oaks Elementary. 3401 NE 16th. Built 1954.
- Gatewood Elementary . 1812 NW 21. Built 1927
- Grant High School. 5016 S. Penn Built 1953, additions in 1956
- Green Pastures Elementary. 4300 N. Post, Spencer. Built 1954.
- Harding Jr. High/Harding Middle School. 3333 N. Shartel. Built 1923, additions 1926, 1930, 1940
- Harrison Elementary. 701 W. Britton. Built 1951.
- Hawthorne Elementary. 2300 NW 15th. Built 1911, addition, 1919.
- Hayes Elementary. 6900 S. Byers. Built 1952. Originally a four room school
- Heronville Elementary. 1240 SW 29th. Built 1928.



Horace Mann Elementary. 1105 NE 42. Built 1923.  
 Jackson Junior High. 2601 S. Villa. Built 1930.  
 John Marshall High School. 9017 N. University. Built 1948, 34 classrooms added in 1956  
 Johnson Elementary. 1810 Sheffield. Built 1951.  
 Kaiser Elementary. 3101 Lyon. Built 1951. Addition in 1956  
 King Elementary/Harmony. 1527 NE 42. Built 1927. Originally Harmony, Changed 1974  
     Harmony also listed in 1909 paper  
 Lafayette Elementary. 500 SW 44th. Built 1928.  
 Lee Elementary. 424 SW 29th. Built 1910.  
 Linwood Elementary. 3416 NW 17th. Built 1911.  
 Longfellow Elementary. 1201 NE 48th. Built 1955.  
 Lowell/Douglas High School/FD Moon Jr. High/Page Woodson 5th Grade. 60 N. High. Layton,  
     Smith, Hawk Addition, 1919  
 Mark Twain Elementary. 2451 West Main. Built 1937. Listed at 2231 W. Main in 1938, see Old  
     Mark Twain  
 Monroe Elementary. 4810 N. Linn. Built 1950.  
 Nichols Hills Elementary. 1301 W. Wilshire Blvd. Built 1937, addition in 1956  
 Northeast High School. 3100 N. Kelly. Built 1936.  
 Northwest Classen High School. 2801 NW 27th. Built 1955-1957. Hudgins, Thompson  
     and Ball, Arch  
 Parker Elementary. 12700 NE 42. Built 1955.  
 Pierce Elementary. 2601 S. Tulsa. Built 1956  
 Polk Elementary. 3806 N. Prospect. Built 1950.  
 Prairie Queen Elementary. 6609 S. Blackwelder. Built 1953. Opened in Sept of 1952  
     Addition in 1956  
 Putnam Heights Elementary. 1601 NW 36th. Built 1909.  
 Rancho Village Elementary. 1401 S. Johnston. Built 1949.  
 Ridgeview Elementary. 10010 N. Ridgeview. Built 1955.  
 Rockwood Elementary. 3101 SW 24th. Built 1937.  
 Roosevelt Junior High/BOE Administration Building. 912 N. Klein. Built 1920.  
 Sequoyah Elementary. 2400 NW 36th. Built 1930.  
 Shidler Elementary. 1415 S. Byers. Built 1930.  
 Shields Heights. 301 SE 38th. Built 1910.  
 Southeast High School. 5201 S. Shields. Built 1949, addition in 1956

Spencer Elementary. 8900 NE 50th. Built 1928.  
Stand Watie Elementary. 3517 S. Linn. Built 1930. 4 metal buildings added in 1952  
Star Elementary. 8917 NE 23 Built 1936.  
Star Spencer High School. Built 1956.  
Taft Junior High and Stadium. 2901 NW 23rd. Built 1930.  
Truman Elementary/Bath Elementary. 1324 Kelham. Ca. 1925. Vacant.  
West Nichols Hills Elementary. 8400 N. Greystone. Built 1941. Noftsgger and Lawrence, arch  
Opened in 1942  
Westwood Elementary. 1701 Exchange Avenue. Built 1919. 2Nd Westwood listed in 1931 at  
1115 Westwood Blvd (Ca. 1925)  
Wheeler Elementary. 501 SE 25th. Built 1910.  
Willard Elementary. 1400 NW 3rd. Built 1911 or 1919. 1902 building demolished in 1985.  
Listed at 313 N. McKinley in 1931  
Willow Brook Elementary. 8105 NE 10th. Built 1955.  
Wilson Elementary. 2215 N. Walker. Built 1919.

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Volume 20. Page 319. Jasper Sipes, 1860-1941.  
Volume 27. Page 367. First Schools in Oklahoma Territory.  
Volume 37. Page 395. Judge Edgar S. Vaught.  
Volume 37. Page 473. Military Hill.  
Volume 27. Page 172. Williams Jennings Bryan School.

Vertical files. Oklahoma City Public Library. The downtown library has a collection of newspaper articles that are filed under "Oklahoma City Schools." There are other items related to Oklahoma City schools that have also been collected and are a part of this file.

Vertical files. Oklahoma City Public Library. Oklahoma City Schools Personnel Directory. 1963-64. Oklahoma City Schools, publisher. Jack Parke, Superintendent.

Vertical files. Oklahoma City Public Library. Northwest Classen High School. Dedication booklet. January 27, 1957.

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Collection of city directories. Available at the Oklahoma Historical Society library and at the Oklahoma City downtown public library.

- 1920 Oklahoma City Polk Directory. Dallas. List of schools and addresses.  
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