

“The History of Shakopee’s First High School”

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Cmgt 4193

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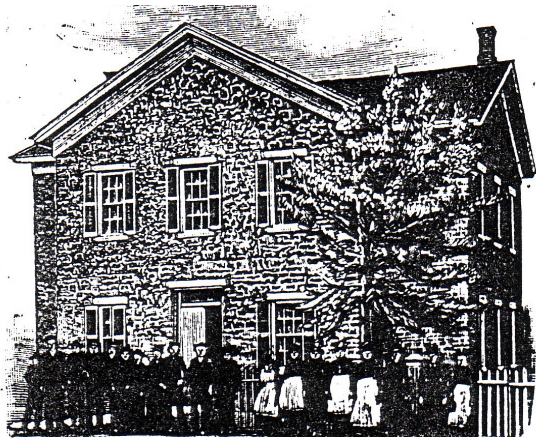
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I. Introduction

This paper will track the history of Shakopee's first High School from initial construction in 1881, through major renovations, up to its current status. Because the basis of the research is limited to paperwork and building plans currently held by the school district and newspaper archives, the scope is limited.

When the public educational system began in Shakopee in 1854, classes were held in various locations, including the Stemmer home and the second story of the old



“Old 41” School Building – 1870’s

post office building. Three schools served Shakopee residents during the 1870's: The District 1 stone building, the District 2 “White” school, and District 41 school building.ⁱ The No. 1 school burned in 1880, the No. 2 building became the residence of Herman Duede, and the No. 41

school house, located on fourth street, served the district until 1918 and was destroyed in 1935 after officials condemned the building as a hazard to life and limb.ⁱⁱ

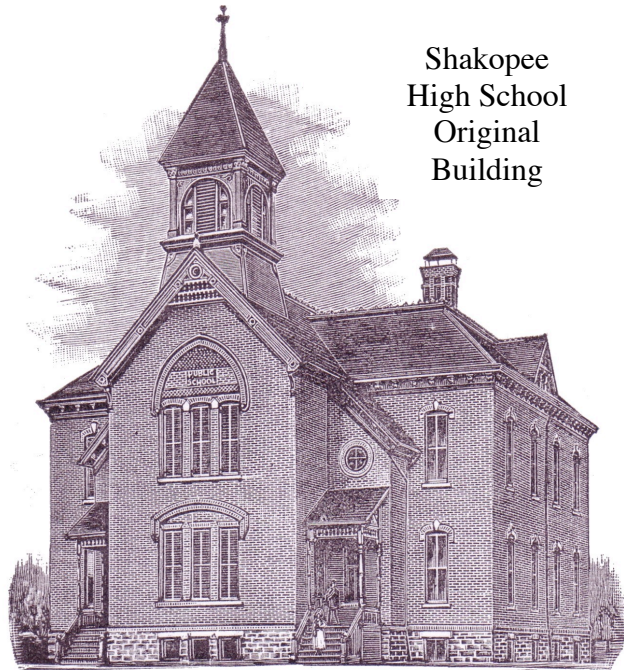
II. 1881 Building

In July of 1881, the County Commissioners consolidated Districts 1 and 2, and construction began on a new building located on a block of land bordered by Fifth and Sixth Avenues to the north and south, and Holmes and Lewis Streets to the west and east, respectively.ⁱⁱⁱ A published article in 1881 reads:

“The present school system of Shakopee is in the process of a change. A new school house is building, the cost of which will be \$10,000 and a well graded school will be inaugurated with the opening of the present building.”^{iv}

On January 10, 1882, the building officially opened for classes with Professor Giles serving as the principal. Ms. Fannie Barnes headed the grammar department and Mrs. Maybelle Patterson and Mrs.

Mary O’Brien taught the primary department. At the time, the building was considered elegant for many reasons, including the use of desks in place of the more typical benches of that time. Amenities such as laboratory space, auditoriums, and gymnasiums would have been considered too luxurious for a public school at that time.



Shakopee
High School
Original
Building

In 1894, the Moore Heating Company of Minneapolis was awarded the contract for installing a “modern steam heating plant” in the school at a price of \$1305. The system claimed to have produced 2,800 feet of direct radiation and was described as a “valuable and long needed improvement”.^v

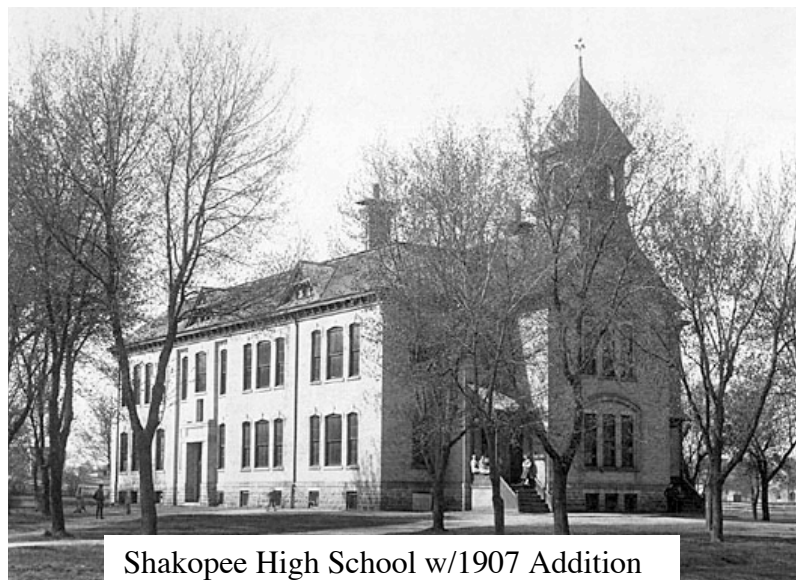
The 1897 academic year began with an enrollment of 55 students. New to the school were some interior modifications. Although the building housed grades 1 through 12, the entire second floor was now designated to the high school. Included in the high

school space were: An assembly room 25 x 61 feet in size, a recitation/laboratory space 25 x 30 feet, and a library 25 x 30 feet.^{vi} Although records do not exactly indicate when the school attained its high school status, the first official graduates, Ms. Ida Busse and Ms. Anna Pope, graduated on June 7, 1898.

III. 1907 Addition

By the time the 1906 graduating class of seven held graduation ceremonies, it was apparent to the community that that the school's quarters were crowded and inadequate. In fact the graduation ceremony included a speech by Governor John A. Johnson, a friend of Julius A. Collier, in which he stressed the importance of high school education and the community's responsibility for making it available. Apparently this speech was very compelling, as a school bond election, held in May of 1907, passed six to one. Although this election was held before women were allowed to vote legally, they were allowed to participate in this particular election; of the 264 votes cast, 123 were cast by women.^{vii}

This bond allowed for renovation of the existing structure and an addition to the south of the original building. The entire project cost \$12,000 and included a full basement for manual training,



Shakopee High School w/1907 Addition

inside sanitary facilities, two large classrooms on the first floor, and a large assembly room for the High School on the second floor.

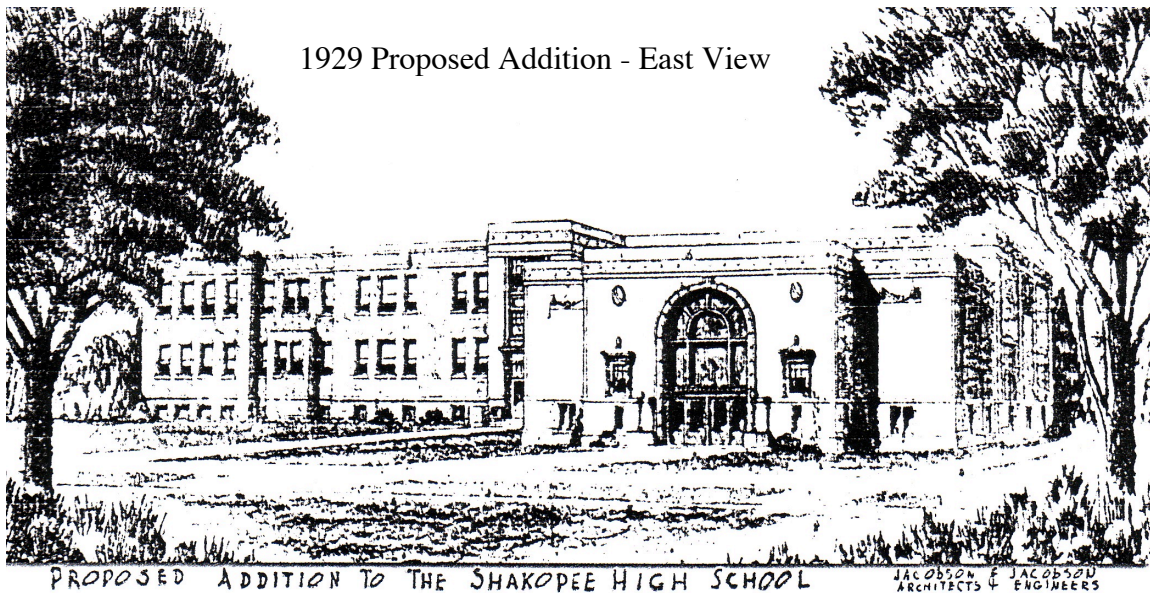
According to records, the building existed in this form until 1929.^{viii}



High School Assembly Room

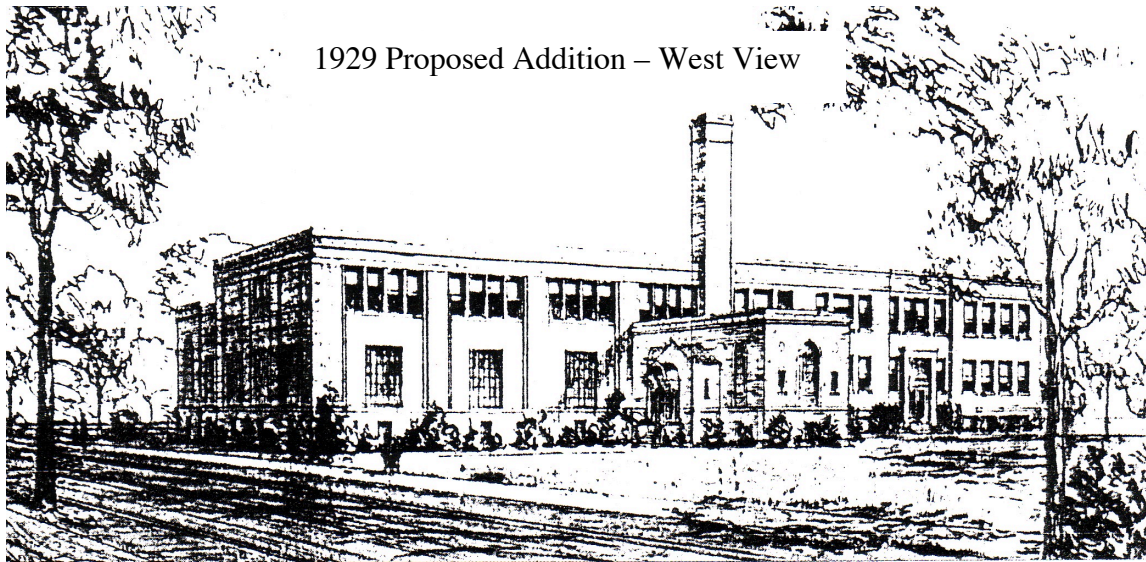
IV. 1929 Addition

The school district began considering the idea of remodeling and expanding the Union Building in December of 1928. Plans were drawn up and estimates were given and a \$70,000 bond issue was set for March.^{ix} A February 28, 1929 article in the



Shakopee Argus Tribune highlighted “Nine Good and Sufficient Reasons Why the Bond Issue Should Carry the Contemplated Improvements Made Without Delay”. Some of these reasons included the need for more space to remain on the accredited list, a

reduction in state aid if additional space was not created, the need for an efficient heating system with automatic controls, and the need for the community to show pride in the local institutions.^x



On March 18, 1929, 636 of 672 votes were cast in favor of the bond issue and arrangements were made to get construction work underway at the earliest possible date. This addition, built on to the north face of the existing structure, was to include a library, gymnasium, auditorium, and classrooms for the high school located above the gymnasium. The new structure was designed by Jacobson & Jacobson, Architects and Engineers. Askov Construction Company served as the general contractor and the Frank Tustison Company provided the mechanical requirements. Materials were supplied locally by Schroeder Brick Manufacturing and Henry Simons Lumber Company. An article in the local paper described the construction process, including the finishing of the floors by the application of a modern substance known as Arm-A-Cote.^{xi}

The final cost of the addition and improvements totaled approximately \$90,000. The new building included 14 classrooms, a manual training room, an artistic library, a gymnasium measuring 50 feet x 75 feet, shower baths and dressing rooms “so essential in athletic activities”, and an auditorium with a seating capacity of 700. Large enough for a regulation basketball court, the gymnasium also was designed for use as the stage for the auditorium. The gymnasium and auditorium space served not only as a school space, but also as a community center to various civic organizations. The new classrooms located above the gymnasium included study rooms, an assembly room, and a laboratory for the junior and senior high school students. The original 1881 building was then remodeled to house the home economics, manual training, and commercial departments as well as the grade school students.^{xii}

Although the construction work was completed by the arrival of the fall 1929 academic year, the school wasn’t officially dedicated until spring of 1930, during the graduation ceremony. Before the 26 graduates received diplomas in the ceremony, a dedication program was conducted in which Shakopee residents recognized the great achievement of the community. At this ceremony, superintendent E. J. Sweeney and high school principal Ms. Marguerite Christie were recognized for their roles in the remarkable progress made in the local schools.^{xiii}

“Beauty in design, utility in space, systematic arrangement of rooms, and craftsmanship in construction,” were some of the descriptions used in the school dedication issue of the Shakopee Argus-Tribune (Page 22). The paper went on to praise, “A good school with ample educational facilities, such as the one we now enjoy, is one of the biggest and most important civic assets which any town may have claim to. We now

have in our present a well appointed school structure and its up-to-date equipment an educational institution which is second to none in this section”^{xiv}.

The oldest plans currently held by the school district are dated June 9, 1941 (Page 23). Created by Toltz, King and Day Engineers and Architects, these plans indicate that significant mechanical and electrical upgrades and some minor structural changes were made to the pre-1929 structure around this time. Ventilating units were installed in exterior walls in each classroom most likely to improve the indoor air quality by the introduction of fresh outside air. Other improvements included the replacement of worn out wood girders with steel beams, the improvement of the drainage in the basement locker rooms, the upgrading of the electrical system for kitchen and ventilation equipment, and an overall improvement in the interior finishes. No changes appear to have been made to any portion of the 1929 addition.

V. The 1950 Addition

A set of plans by Long and Thorshov Architects (Page 29) dated November 14, 1946, indicate that the school district began the process of planning for the next major addition in this year, although this project was not fully complete until the fall of 1951. The reason for the delay in construction seems to be a result of the community’s unwillingness to fund this major project.

In February of 1948, a meeting was held in which Hubert Swanson, of Long and Thorshov Architects, presented to the PTA the proposed addition estimated at \$347,000.^{xv} At this point the community had only approved \$294,000 in funds in a February 1947 bond election, the legal limit at that time. The community was aware that an addition

was badly needed due to the “overcrowded conditions, antiquated facilities, and the increases in enrollment”. In fact, it was printed that the school was crowded to the very limit of capacity and that classes were even being held in the lunchroom.^{xvi} The school board decided to give an invitation for formal bids, and when the bids came in high in late April, the plans were shelved for an entire year.^{xvii}

A law established by the State Legislature in 1949 allowed school boards to bond up to 50% (increased from 25%) the value of the district’s real estate and personal property, or \$462,000 in Shakopee’s situation.^{xviii} Because the school district had already approved the \$294,000 and saved additional funds, the board sought to increase the fund by holding a bond election for an additional \$140,000. The district again acquired a new set of bids totaling \$411,000 in June of 1949 and held an election on June 30, 1949. Of the 560 votes cast, 295 “no” votes were counted and the funding was refused. Because only one third of the eligible citizens voted and the margin was so close, the school board called for a second election on July 15. Unfortunately, the second election was downed by 107 votes.^{xix}

In August of 1949, the State of Minnesota released a statement in which the pre-1929 portion of the school was described as a “fire trap”^{xx}, and in September, the Fire Marshall condemned the school calling it “one of the worst in the area”.^{xxi} Most likely out of embarrassment from the state’s comments, a committee of local civic leaders and businessmen was established for the purpose of creating support in the community for the needed school improvements. In December of 1949, the committee released a report to the community outlining the reasons additional bond money was necessary.^{xxii} Another bond election was held in January 1950 in which the \$140,000 in funds was finally

approved by 702 votes to 211, and in late March, work began according to the 1946 building plans.^{xxiii}



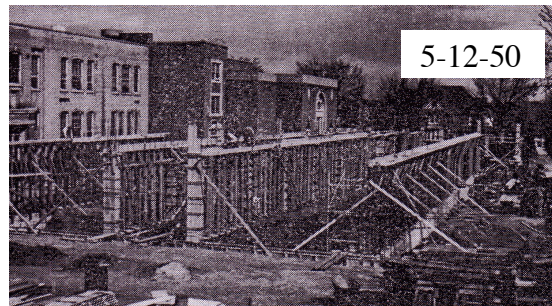
The plans created by Long and Thorshov called for the pre-1929 portion of the building to be demolished, and the 1929 addition of the auditorium, gymnasium and library to become the nucleus of the new school. Because school was in session in the old portion of the building, Kratochvil Construction Company, the general contractor, began by constructing the new wing along Lewis Street. This two-story wing would eventually



house grades one through nine, but would be used for temporary instruction of all grades throughout the construction process. The first floor of the Lewis Street wing included six classrooms, one each for grades one through

six. Lavatory space for both boys and girls was provided as well. The second floor included five classrooms primarily for the junior high, bathrooms, and the school office.

Once school was out for summer vacation, a portion of the old building was demolished to make room for the new high school addition located immediately south of the gymnasium and auditorium. This three-story structure provided locker room and shower space for both males and females on the first floor as well as access to the boiler room. Also new to the first floor was a

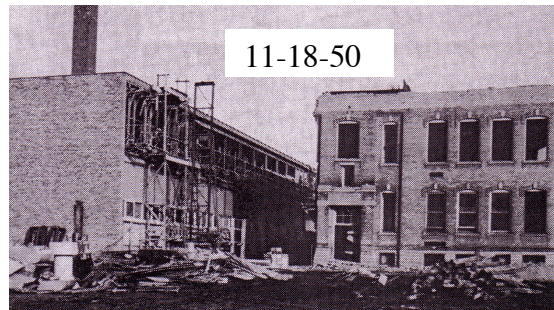


dining/activity room that was included into an addition built on to what was previously the exterior entrance to the auditorium. Directly above the dining room, on the second floor, was space for the new library and visual aids department. The second floor would house classroom space for metal and wood shop, and art and drafting instruction. The

old library would
and band room.
referred to as
home economics
located on the third
included faculty

The five classrooms
were to be used, as
instruction of general
such as mathematics

The
new addition caused
academic year to be
September to



become the music
Business, then
“commercial”, and
departments were
floor. This area also
offices and bathrooms.
above the gymnasium
they had been, for
high school subjects,
and science.

construction of the
the start of the 1950
moved from
October.

Construction continued throughout the fall and winter months and concluded in the spring with completion of the industrial arts and home economics areas, the remodeling of the old library, and the final razing of the 1881 and 1907 structure. Architects made the final checks in early July of 1951, and the school officially opened in a new and modern structure for the 1951 academic year.^{xxiv}

VI. The 1960 Addition

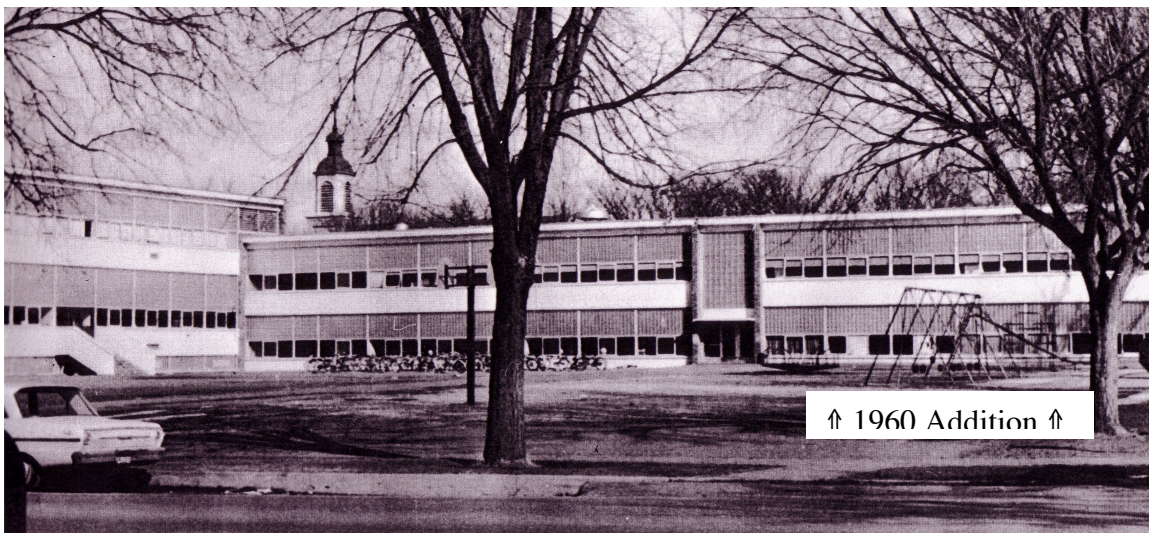
By the end of the 1950's, the High School again became crowded and the voters approved the purchase of 17 acres in April of 1958 for \$27,000.^{xxv} Although the land was not purchased with a definite plan in mind, the school board knew the high school property allowed for very limited possibilities for future expansion. This parcel of land, referred to as the Ploumen property, is located south of Tenth Avenue, east of Fuller Street, and west of Spencer Street, and is now the present High School property. Although a piece of land was secured, conditions expected at the school required immediate attention for the next academic year. In July the school board made a deal to rent out classroom space from the First Presbyterian Church and the offices of Dr. Paul Nevin.^{xxvi}

The school board initially intended to build a 12-room elementary school on the new property, but voters rejected a proposed \$425,000 for this very purpose on November 17, 1958 (584-220). A bond issue for same amount to build the elementary school was again placed in the hands of the voters on January 15, 1959, and was once again rejected (548-293). The bond issue, lowered to \$400,000, was rejected a third time on July 9 (593-386).^{xxvii}

Frustration prompted the formation of a 40 person advisory committee to determine what type of school improvements the community would be willing to vote in favor of. The committee determined that citizens showed interest in the building a new high school instead of an elementary school on the new 17-acre property.^{xxviii} A new plan was drawn up in which a new high school would be constructed for \$1,100,000 and the old high school would receive \$200,000 in funds to construct an addition on to the

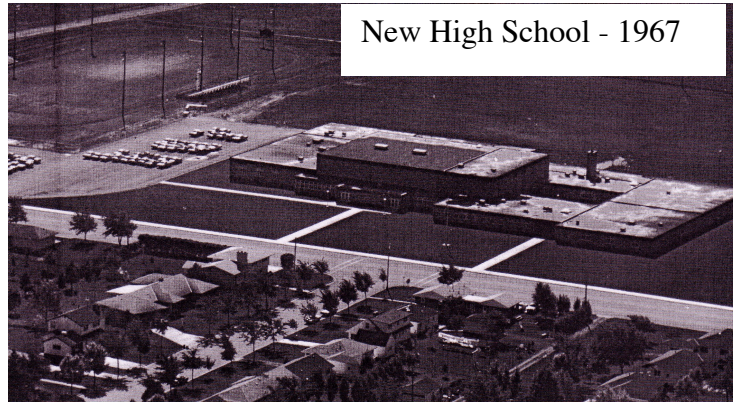
elementary wing. The old high school space would become the Junior High and the elementary wing would continue to be used for the instruction of grades 1 through 6.^{xxix} On August 6, 1959, citizens voted on the \$1.3 million bond issue, and chose to reject the funds (569-146).^{xxx}

Recognizing the decision as the last of options, the school board choose to set an election for \$200,000 to add the badly needed addition onto the elementary wing of the school. The board discussed the limitations of the current building even with the added space and also pointed out that the school would be filled to capacity within a year of completing the addition, but with all other options exhausted, the election was set for September 17.^{xxxi} Voters finally approved the bond money (280-108), and school officials began the planning for the addition with Armstrong and Schlicting Architects. The addition was designed to replicate the glass block theme of the 1950 addition and included three classrooms and lavatory space on each of the two floors.^{xxxii} Construction was to be completed for the start of the 1960 academic year.



VII. Post 1960 Addition

Although the 1960 addition was the last major structural change to the High School, the building would experience many changes in the upcoming years. Eventually voters did approve the construction of the new high school, and the original school produced its last graduating class in 1965. In fall of 1965, the school would become the



Junior High with the completion of the new High School. The old school would still serve an important role in the community as the only public school with an auditorium, and much of the High School's programs were still held in the 1929 auditorium.

Even with construction of Sweeney Elementary School in the late 1960's, the school board determined that the 1968 district enrollment of 1,776 students was expected to increase to 2,850 students by 1972, and additional space would be needed.^{xxxiii} With that future problem in mind, a bond election for \$2.1 million was set for February 11, 1969. Of the \$2.1 million, \$160,000 would be used to remodel the old school, the other funds would be used to construct what is now Pearson Elementary and to provide a significant addition to the High School, including a second floor of classrooms, added industrial arts facilities, and a 600 seat auditorium.^{xxxiv}

With the approval of the \$2.1 million in funding, the school board began planning for the improvements to the old High School, now the Junior High School. The improvements included the renovation of the auditorium space into an expanded



gymnasium space, the remodeling of the science and home economics areas, and the replacement of the old lighting system with modern fixtures throughout the building.^{xxxv} As soon as school was out in June of 1969, the remodeling was immediately underway with the project to be completed before school was again in session that fall.

The energy crisis of the mid 1970's brought about some changes to the school in various ways. Probably the

most unfortunate change was the boarding up of the large windows in the gymnasium to prevent excessive heat loss, a change to the aesthetics of the building that would last almost 30 years. With the energy improvements, electrical and mechanical systems received updates to increase efficiency. At this time the school district was again experiencing a shortage of space which caused the Junior High to be move to the new High School building and the schedule to be changed to a split shift, in which the high school students would attend class in the morning and the junior high in the afternoon. During this time, the old high school building became Central Elementary School and eventually the crowded quarters were relieved with the opening of the current Junior High School in 1976.

The Central Elementary building has likely received smaller improvements throughout the 1980's and 1990's, such as the installation of an elevator in the mid 1990's, and various technological updates, but nothing structurally significant. During the summer of 2002 the building received a \$1,000,000 facelift. Included in this project were the installation of insulation and stuccowork over the deteriorating glass block exterior walls of the 1950 and 1960 additions. Many windows were replaced in the structure including all windows in the 1929 addition. Plywood and fiberglass insulation was removed from the gymnasium windows, and the old windows were replaced with high quality aluminum windows, exposing new generations to the aesthetic beauty of the 1929 addition. The classrooms located above the gymnasium were updated with new mechanical and electrical systems, as well as finishes such as false ceilings and carpet.

New Windows in 1929 Addition – Winter 2003

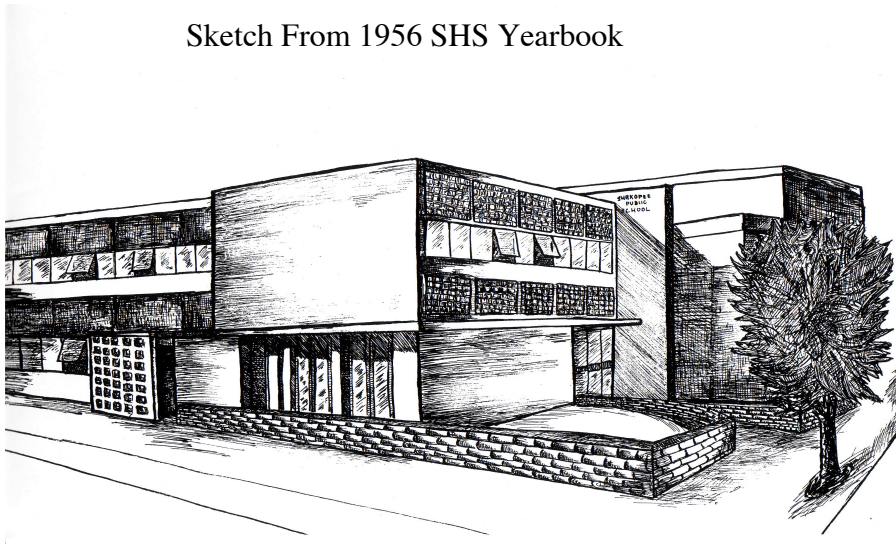


The school is currently home to the school district offices and the community education programs. Early childhood programs are held in classrooms in the old elementary wing. Although the building is not currently used for K-12 instruction, the structure serves as a valuable asset to the district in the event of future classroom shortage, which is a real possibility in the quickly growing community of Shakopee.

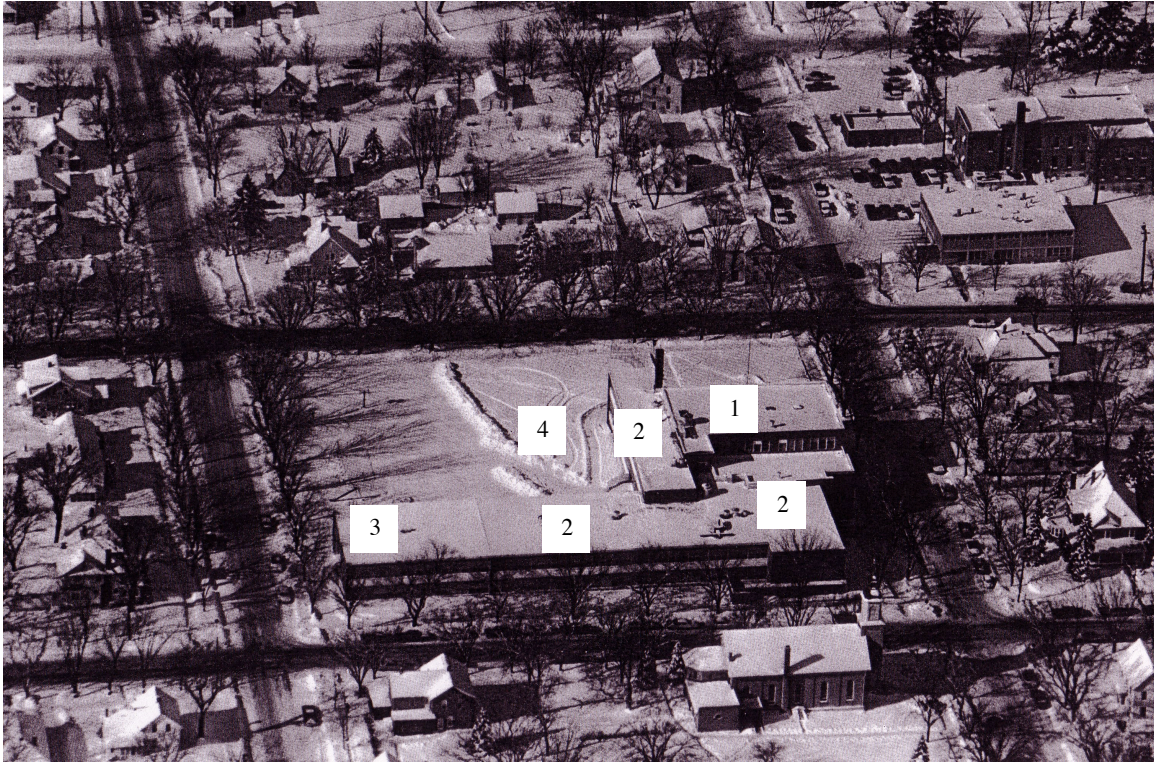
VIII. Conclusion

Throughout the research of this project, I have gained a great respect for Shakopee's original High School. I believe it is fair to say that this building has likely affected more people than any other building in the history of the community. The original focus of this paper was to research the major structural changes the building has experienced since 1881, but I quickly realized these structural changes are only a small part of a much larger picture, which involves the struggles of a community to acquire the funds necessary to provide adequate educational facilities. I have also realized, that the school board is often put in the position of making reactive decisions as opposed to proactive decisions due to inadequate funding. The school has provided educational services since 1881 and continues to be the location where all important school district decisions are made that eventually are implemented in the many various modern school buildings in the city of Shakopee. I hope this document will provide future generations with a brief history and appreciation for the Shakopee Public School system.

Sketch From 1956 SHS Yearbook

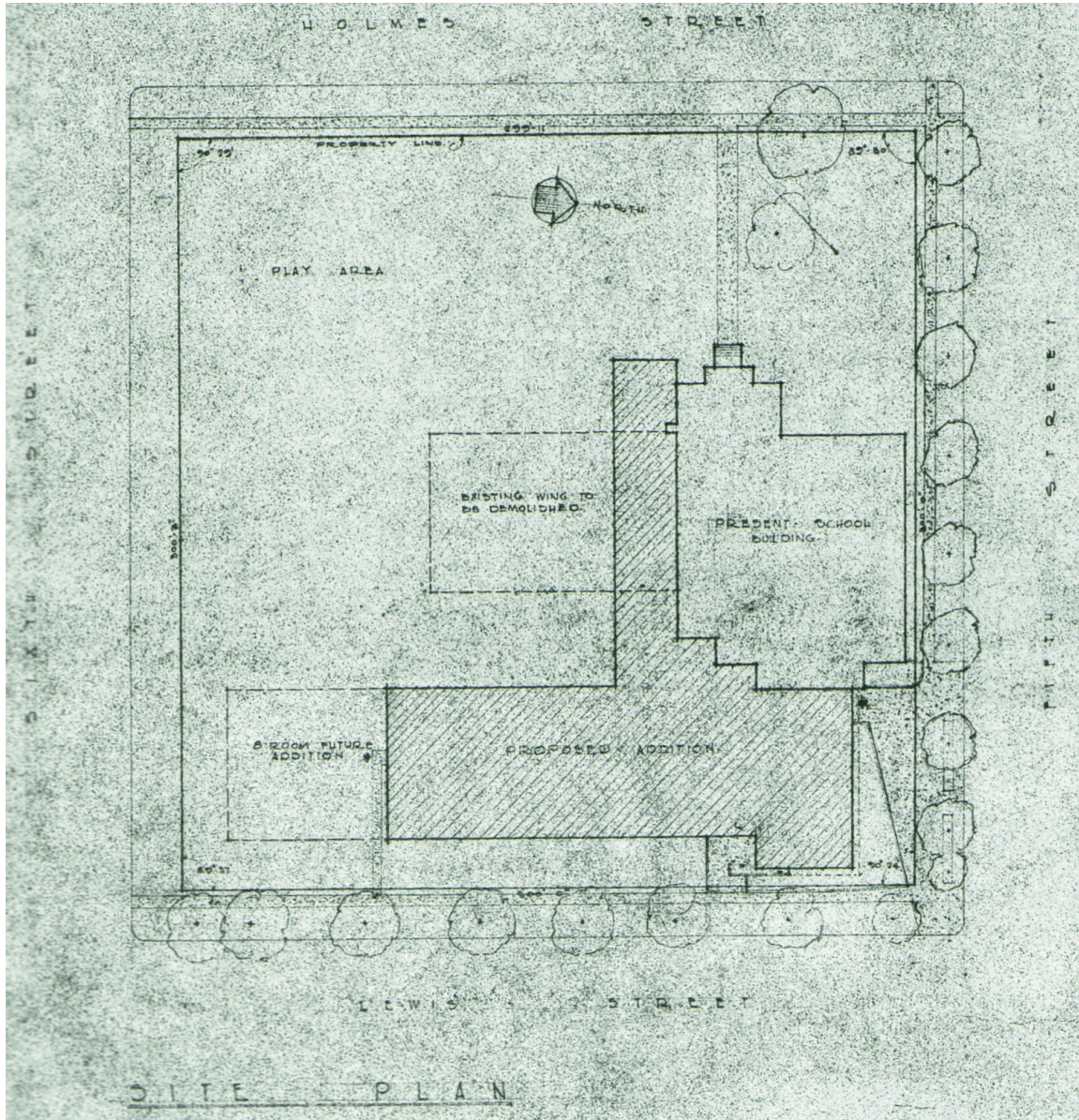


Aerial Photo From 1965 SHS Yearbook



1. The 1929 addition of the auditorium, gymnasium, library, and classrooms above the gymnasium.
2. The 1950 addition of the commercial, industrial arts, home economics, junior high and elementary classrooms. This addition also included a dining hall, a library, locker rooms, and showers.
3. The 1960 addition of lavatory space and 6 additional classrooms to the elementary wing.
4. Approximately the location of the pre-1929 structure, which was demolished during the construction of the 1950 structure.

1946 Proposed Addition Plans by Long and Thorshov Architects

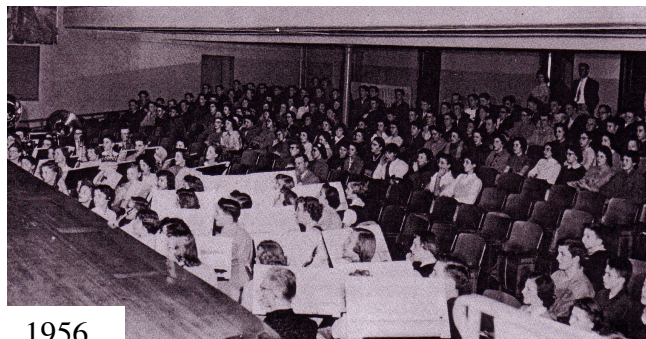


This drawing appeared in a set of preliminary drawings dated November 14, 1946. The proposed addition eventually became reality in 1950 with the procurement of the necessary funds.

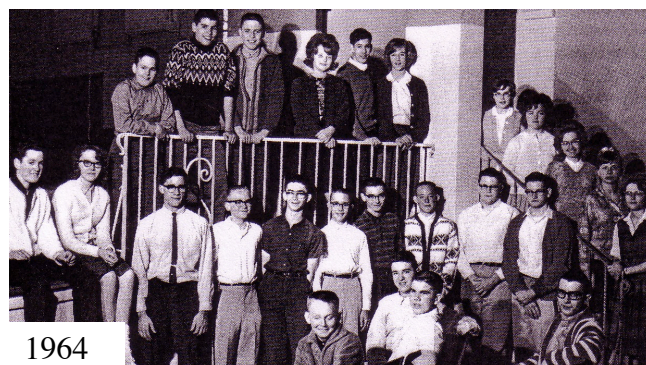
Pictures of the First Shakopee High School Auditorium 1929-1969



1956



1956



1964



1965

Then and Now Pictures



Cafeteria - 1955



Cafeteria - Present



2nd Floor Hallway - 1957



2nd Floor Hallway - Present



Library - 1965



Library - Present

SHAKOPEE ARCS-TRIBUNE

Tribune—Established 1896
Arcs—Established 1941

Consolidated April 1, 1926

SHAKOPEE, SCOTT COUNTY, MINNESOTA, THURSDAY, MAY 29, 1930

VOL. 63, No. 31

SHAKOPEE DEDICATES NEW HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING



E. J. SENEY
Supt. of Shakopee High School

Construction of School Outlined

Engineers, Manufacturers, Builders, Dealers, Merit Credit for Deauty.

Beauty in design, utility in space, systematic arrangement of rooms, skill and craftsmanship in construction, perfection and quality in material have all been combined in producing Shakopee's new public school building.

The original conception of the plan and design of the structure was in the studio of Jacobson & Jacobson, architects and engineers, and there on the drafting tables was the first sketch of the building program. Mechanical requirements and programs were in the hands of the Franz Testison Co., the skill of the latter a student throughout the new building.

Brick upon brick from the kilns of the Schroeder Brick, Mfg. & Paving Co. rose in substantial walls, were strengthened by iron rods, became a magnificent structure.

Ornamental stone, supplied by Babcock and Wilcox, from the Kasota quarries were set in artistic arrangement to shape the windows, arches and decorative pieces. Huge sections of odd angular design were matched like mammoth mosaics.

While the heavy construction was in process the plumbing progressed in the wake of the hammer and trowel. This complicated phase was in the hands of Peter A. Rademacher, plumbing contractor. Water and sewer connections, leads and pipes stretched throughout the building. Fixtures were set and installed in a race with the finishing crew.

Parade with the plunger the gas line heating and ventilating system. Caddy of Mankato was here employed. A haze below in the boiler room, obnoxious, extended a myriad of hollow towers to every floor, room and wall. Like the other ends of the work a satisfactory completion crowned the last of the labor.

Plaster, insulation and cement used throughout the school were furnished by a reputable and long-established firm. The materials, specified by the architects, passed the quality inspection by the people from whence they came. This was provided by the Henry Simons Lumber Co.

Then came the finishing of the floors. This was accomplished by the application of a modern substance known as Arm-A-Cote, supplied by the Churchill Manufacturing Co. of Sioux City, Iowa. The floors, more used and abused than any portion of a public building, have been armed against the ravages of millions of careless feet.

In the artistic library, comfort for the students as well as the guest readers has been assured by providing library furniture of conventional style. This room of rooms was furnished by A. H. Philipp & Son and has won the praise of many critics.

The spacious stage, that once ranged like a limitless canyon, was transformed into a veritable parlor. Warm velvet curtains, scenery and stage

equipment provided by the Universal Studio, Inc. of Milwaukee, accomplished the transformation.

Advertisements of the various companies and contractors appear in this issue as follows:

Akron Construction Co.—page 3; Babcock & Wilcox—page 9; Church Hill Mfg. Co.—page 10; Caddy Plumbing & Heating Co.—page 9; Jacobson & Jacobson—page 10; A. H. Philipp & Son—page 4; Peter A. Rademacher—page 4; Schroeder Brick Mfg. & Paving Co.—page 10; Henry Simons Lbr. Co.—page 9; Universal Studio, Inc.—page 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Lauer, daughter Mildred, and Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Schesso and children attended a surprise party in Chaska Friday evening, given in honor of the 26th birthday anniversary of John Werner. The father is the father of Menek, Lauer and Sijessa. About sixty guests were in attendance.

Mrs. Chas. Steger of St. Paul visited Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Lishoff Saturday.

Miss Frances Davy of St. Catherine's College spent Sunday at the Mrs. James Mastala home. Mrs. J. Davy arrived Monday evening from Olivia, for a two weeks' visit here.

Mrs. John Nickowash of Nantico, Ill. is the guest of the Misses Mary Thornton and Anna McKown this week. She arrived here last Saturday.

Accession services will be held on Thursday evening at St. John's Lutheran church at 8 o'clock. The services will be conducted in the German language.

Arthur Pass will arrive home from Kankakee, Ill., to spend Memorial day and the weekend with his wife and little daughter at the Alois Hinrichs home.

Visitors at the Hotel Cassida home Sunday were returned raised, even Grandstrom, and Misses Ethel Burdick and Evelyn Lund of Minneapolis.

Herman and Miss Cecilia Jaspers of St. Paul spent Sunday at home.

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Arthamb and Miss Agnes Bank of Minneapolis visited at the Wm. Jaspers home Sunday.

Ed Haugh of Credit River was a guest at the James Doyle home last week, while attending the mission at St. Mary's church.

Large Class of Graduates Receives Diplomas at Event

Dedication Ceremonies Occupies Portion of an Unusually Interesting Program. Was Gala Occasion. Large Auditorium Crowded to Capacity.

Upon life's summer sea with youth and hope on the prow and high resolution at the helm the well barked of the twenty-six graduates of the class of 1930 of the Shakopee High School, the largest in the history of the school, is launched Wednesday evening. The class, including 11 boys and 15 girls, the first to receive high school commencement honors in the new school building, were given an occasion last evening by as many of their relatives and friends as could be crowded into the commodious auditorium. The 25 graduates with pretty ceremony took their places upon the spacious stage decorated for the occasion while the procession of march was played by Paula Mathias.

The first feature of the double program was the dedication of the new high school. This feature was of importance to all the people of Shakopee and vicinity in that the completion and official presentation of the new school building was the realization of a hope long cherished by all. A good school provided with ample educational facilities, such as we now enjoy, is one of the highest and most important civic assets which any town may lay claim to. We now have in our present well-appointed school building and its up-to-date equipment an educational institution which is second to none in this section, and naturally the people of Shakopee appreciate it heartily, recognizing that the cost means an increase in taxes.

An uncanny address was delivered by D. L. Brainerd, who represented the State Board of Education. Mr. Brainerd dwelled on the great importance of a well-grounded education, and a good school as one of the essentials to that end. His address was well received. Donald Childs, president of the school board, on behalf of the board, in a few well-chosen words, formally presented the building and its school facilities to the district.

The opening day of commencement week was Sunday when baccalaureate services, the first had here in many years, were held in St. Mary's church in the evening and Rev. Father McGrath in a brief sermon spoke to the graduates sitting around in appreciation in his pleasing and interesting way to pursue faithfully and earnestly the motto chosen by the

school a beautiful flag in a neatly worded speech, was conveyed by Mrs. R. T. Schumacher, unit president of the Auxiliary, on behalf of the school. Supt. E. J. Sweeney in a few words, gracefully accepted the flag. The national anthem was then sung. In a well-rounded oration, Agnes Weintraub then delivered the salutatory in which she cordially welcomed the large audience gathered for the happy occasion. Following the salutatory address, which was roundly applauded, the High School Glee Club delighted the audience with a song: "I Love a Little Cottage," and "The Gypsy Love Song" sung by the High School Glee Club, added much to the enjoyment of the evening's program.

The address of Miss Florence Monahan commencement speaker, was a splendid effort. Her address was earnest and clothed in a simplicity of language that could not fail of understanding. Miss Monahan is a woman of culture and keen intellect and her inspiring address abounded in practical suggestions and noble sentiments which held the audience in rapt attention. Following Miss Monahan, Evelyn Drake as Valedictorian of the class of 1930, delivered her address in a manner that was both pleasing and inspiring.

Miss Monahan, who is well known to the school as Valedictorian of the class of 1930, delivered her address in a manner that was both pleasing and inspiring. Her address was earnest and clothed in a simplicity of language that could not fail of understanding. Miss Monahan is a woman of culture and keen intellect and her inspiring address abounded in practical suggestions and noble sentiments which held the audience in rapt attention. Following Miss Monahan, Evelyn Drake as Valedictorian of the class of 1930, delivered her address in a manner that was both pleasing and inspiring.

The school in the district bearing that number. Then there was No. 2 school, a stone building, now the residence of Herman Dreyer. No. 11, which still stands, was erected in 1905-1910 and opened May 16, 1910. In that year No. 1 and No. 41 ranked as grammar schools, having three departments: grammar, intermediate and primary. When No. 11 was opened, Chas. W. Smith was the principal; Mrs. Farrington, intermediate teacher, and

in Shakopee, the teacher being Miss Mary Jane Turner. Prior to that date a school had been taught, for Indian children, in Eagle Creek, near the townsite, by a Miss Cunningham, under the direction of Rev. Samuel W. Poole.

The history quoted refers to the one-story school conducted by the wife of Dr. Lord, in the home of a Mr. Stenmer. This school also was opened in 1854 and served what later became District No. 2, the district being organized the following year. District No. 1 was organized in 1854, but the first school was not opened until 1855, with J. H. Brown, later a district judge at Wilmart, conducting classes in the second story of the old postoffice building. The following paragraph from the history, published in 1891, is of especial interest:

"The present school system of Shakopee is in process of change. A new school house is building, the cost of which will be \$10,000, and a well-graded school will be inaugurated with the opening of the elegant building."

But the printed record reveals no more concerning Shakopee's early schools, except what may be gleaned from the school records, which are necessarily brief and limited in scope. The rest of the article's information is based on reminiscence.

The late C. Jos. Strunk recalled in an article published in the Argus-Tribune a few years ago that the first school he attended here, about 72 years ago, was located at the rear of the Phillip shop. His first teacher was a man named Teutschert. Later he was a pupil of a school situated on the site of Dr. H. W. Reiter's office, and still later in the old Reiter home, opposite the P. J. Schwarz home. This building is still standing. Mr. Strunk's last teacher, by the way, was Sister Scholastica, for whom Scholastica Villa at Duluth was named.

But the schools remembered most clearly by older Shakopee residents are the one "white school," known as No. 1 for the district, and old No. 11, the school in the district bearing that number. Then there was No. 2 school, a stone building, now the residence of Herman Dreyer. No. 11, which still stands, was erected in 1905-1910 and opened May 16, 1910. In that year No. 1 and No. 41 ranked as grammar schools, having three departments: grammar, intermediate and primary. When No. 11 was opened, Chas. W. Smith was the principal; Mrs. Farrington, intermediate teacher, and



DONALD CHILDS
President of the School Board

St. Mark's School Program Sunday

Class of 19 Graduates To Receive Diplomas; 16 to Get Writing Awards

St. Mark's eighth grade graduates 19 in all, will receive their diplomas in the high school auditorium, Sunday evening, June 1, at 8 o'clock.

The class of 1930 completed the Mankato Provincial Examinations last week. According to these examinations the class roll is as follows: Elizabeth Abell, Elaine Vogel, Mary Ballinger, Florence McCarty, Dorothy Hauer, Bernadette Jaspers, Melvin Geis, John Corman, Dorothy Heitmann, Robert Notermann, Geo. Kurvers, Irene Marshall, Mary Cavanaugh, Frances Holland, Jerome Jaspers, Esther Lebes, Robert Reilly, Leon Lebes and Harold Thole.

Class Patron: Sacred Heart
Class Flower: Red Carnation
Class Motto: Push, Pull or Get Out of the Way.

The following pupils will be awarded Palmer Penmanship Diplomas: Robert Ballinger, John Corman, Janet Helms, Evelyn Huth, Jerome Jaspers, George Kurvers, Grace Lebes, Robert Notermann, Frances Ring, Rosella Ruetten, Valentina Schmitz, Harold Thole, Veronika Lisa Marie Vierling, Joseph Volz and Lucretia Wartmann.

Sunday morning at eight o'clock mass the graduates will receive Holy Communion in a body.

Jos. J. Moriarty To Be Heard in Radio Talks

Joe J. Moriarty, Democratic candidate for Congress in the Third District, will be heard over broadcasting station KSTP next week. His first appearance before the microphone will occur Monday night, June 24, from 9:45 to 10 o'clock. His subject will be "Prohibition."

He will again be heard Wednesday night, June 26, from 9 o'clock to 9:15. This time he will discuss "Tari and Farm Relief."

Mr. Moriarty's ability as a public speaker is well known throughout the state; his voice and delivery, coupled with his knowledge of state and national affairs, should afford listeners an exceptional medium of enlightenment.

Anna Mergens To Travel Abroad This Summer

Starting on June 25, Miss Anna Mergens will make a tour of Europe as one of a large travel party conducted by Waugh's Travel Bureau of Minneapolis, under the leadership of Rev. J. H. Prendergast, Spiritual Director of St. Paul Seminary. Leaving Quebec by way of the St. Lawrence river two days will be required before reaching the open sea. The steamer will then turn its prow toward Europe. In Europe the trip will take the party into France, Italy, Germany, Holland, England and Ireland.

The points visited will include Lisieux, Paris, Lourdes, Arignon, Nice, Rome, Florence, Oberammergau, where the Passion Play will be witnessed, Munich, Nuremberg, Amsterdam, London and Ireland. Returning on August 9 the trip will occupy 46 days.

Primary Election, Monday, June 18



Class of 1930
Standing from left to right, A. Evelyn Drake, Carol C. Gross, Harriet I. Hokanson, Myrtle G. Gessler, Orris A. Peterson, Ernest H. Stein, John A. Thels, Harold A. Petsch, Ruth B. Berens, Edith D. Chapman, Margaret A. Conroy, Marion E. Kopp; seated from left to right, Harlan N. Vierling, Francis T. Schaefer, Carl J. Kurvers, Kathryn E. Kelly, Edna C. Lesmeier, D. Elizabeth Marr, Dolores O. Engel, Elizabeth S. Kopp, Agnes E. Weintraub, Nicholas E. McCann, Leander F. Flischer, Clifford W. Kutz. Graduates not appearing in the above picture are Marion K. Ploumen and John J. Lynch.

HISTORY MARKS PROGRESS OF SHAKOPEE'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Now Thoroughly Up-to-date Educational Institution Wholly Adequate for Needs of Community. Has Especially Capable Staff of Teachers.

Service associated with the dedication of Shakopee's new high school building will eloquently epitomize the story of progress in the Shakopee community since the city was founded back in 1851.

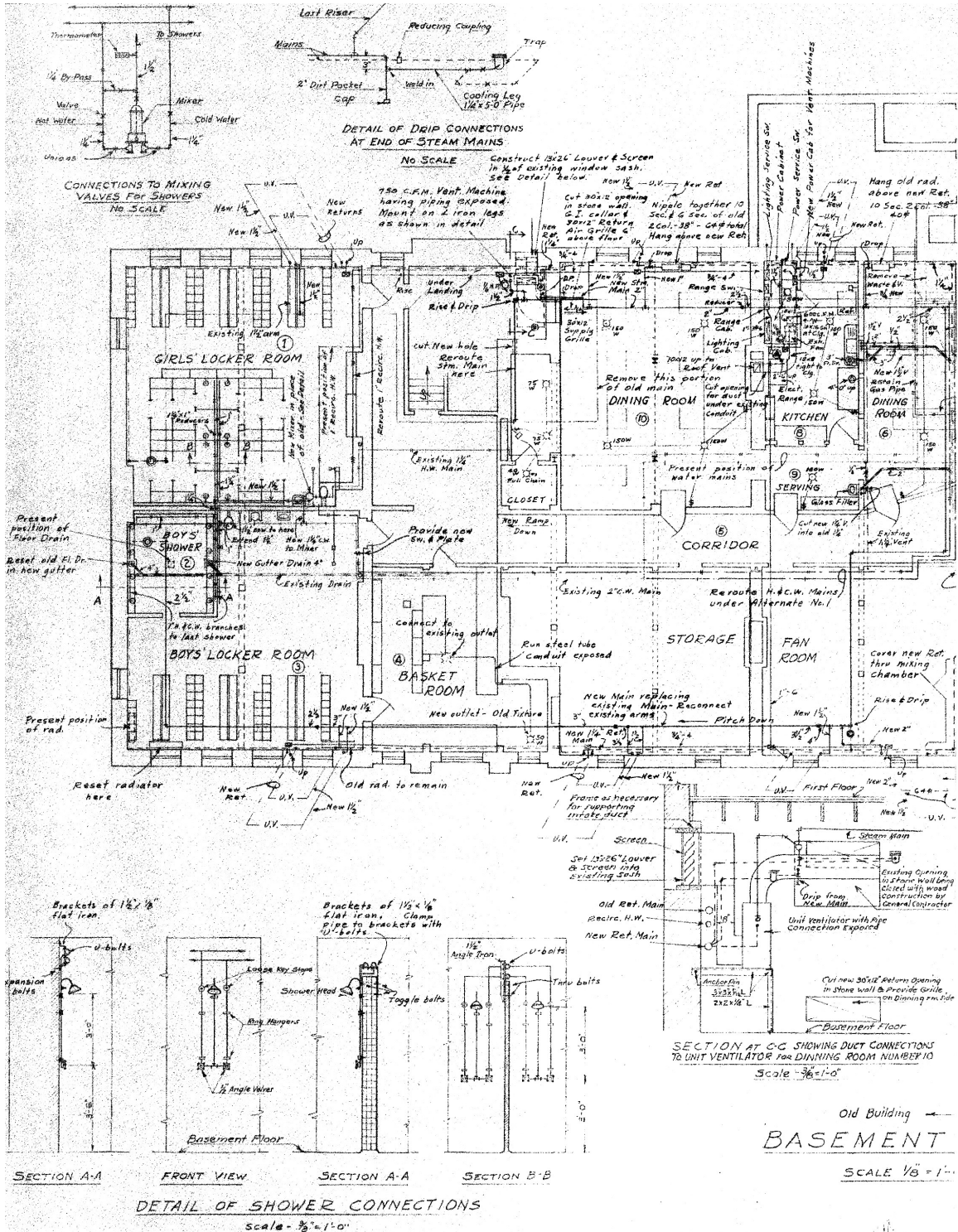
Stout threads of educational progress form one of the most colorful patterns in the fabric of a community's history, and into the variegated pattern representing the educational development here are woven numerous incidents intimately linked with the community's life and with the careers of its outstanding citizens.

Laura Shipley, primary teacher, Mr. Smith later became county superintendent of schools in Hennepin county. No. 1 and No. 2 were consolidated at an early date and for a time No. 3 was also included in the single district known as No. 1, but withdrew about 15 years ago.

The school in District No. 1 was the principal public school building of the community in the 70's and was destroyed by fire in 1890. One of the pictures shows the \$10,000 school erected in 1882. The structure burned in 1889 stood on the present site of the Julius Collier home. It was a frame building of two stories. The structure built in 1882, on the present high school site, was the first high school. The tower, or cupola, was removed when the first addition was built in 1907. This first high school was opened January 4, 1882.

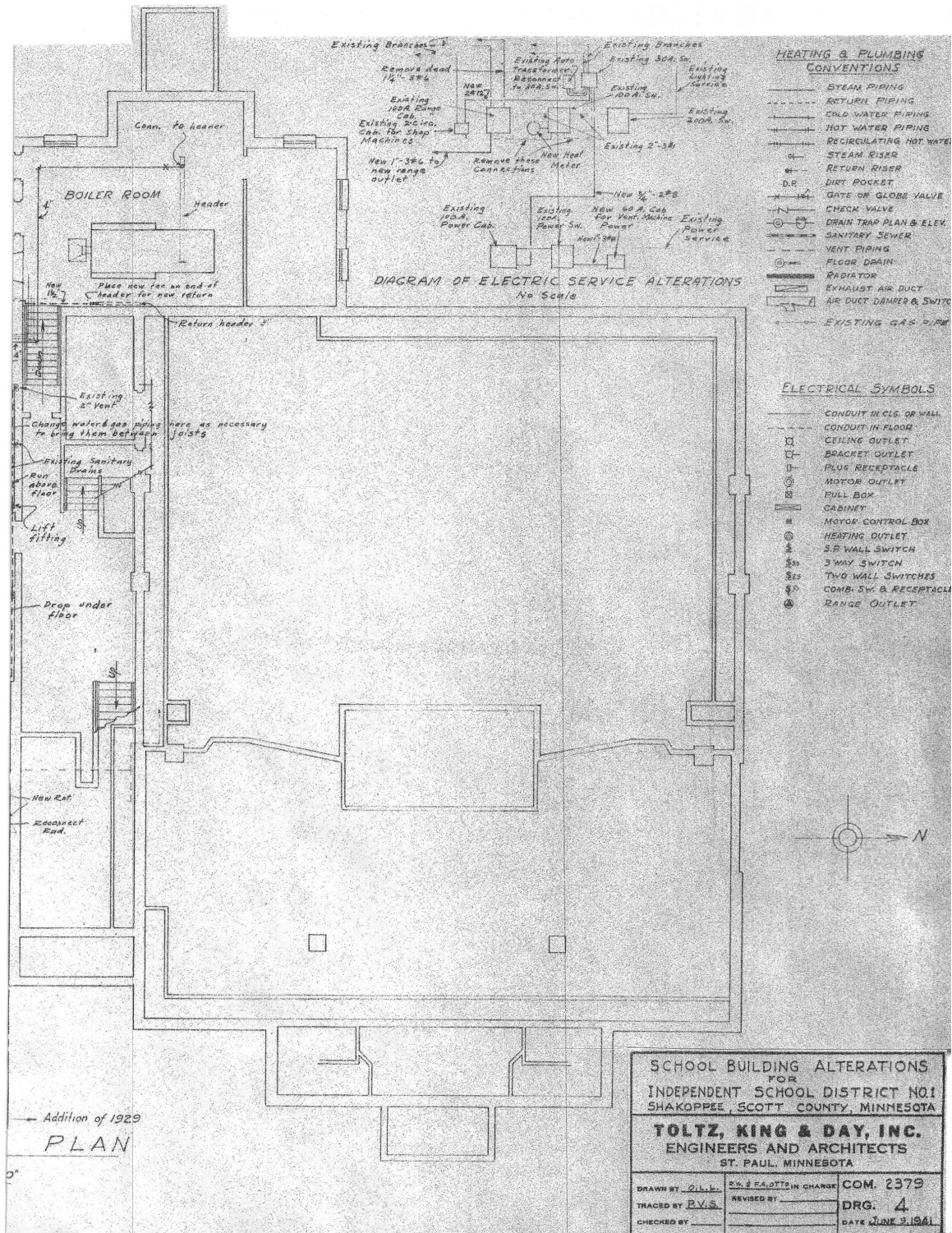
The writer has been unable to determine just when the school attained its original high school status, but (Continued on page three)

1941 Building Alteration Plans By Toltz, King, & Day Engineers and Architects



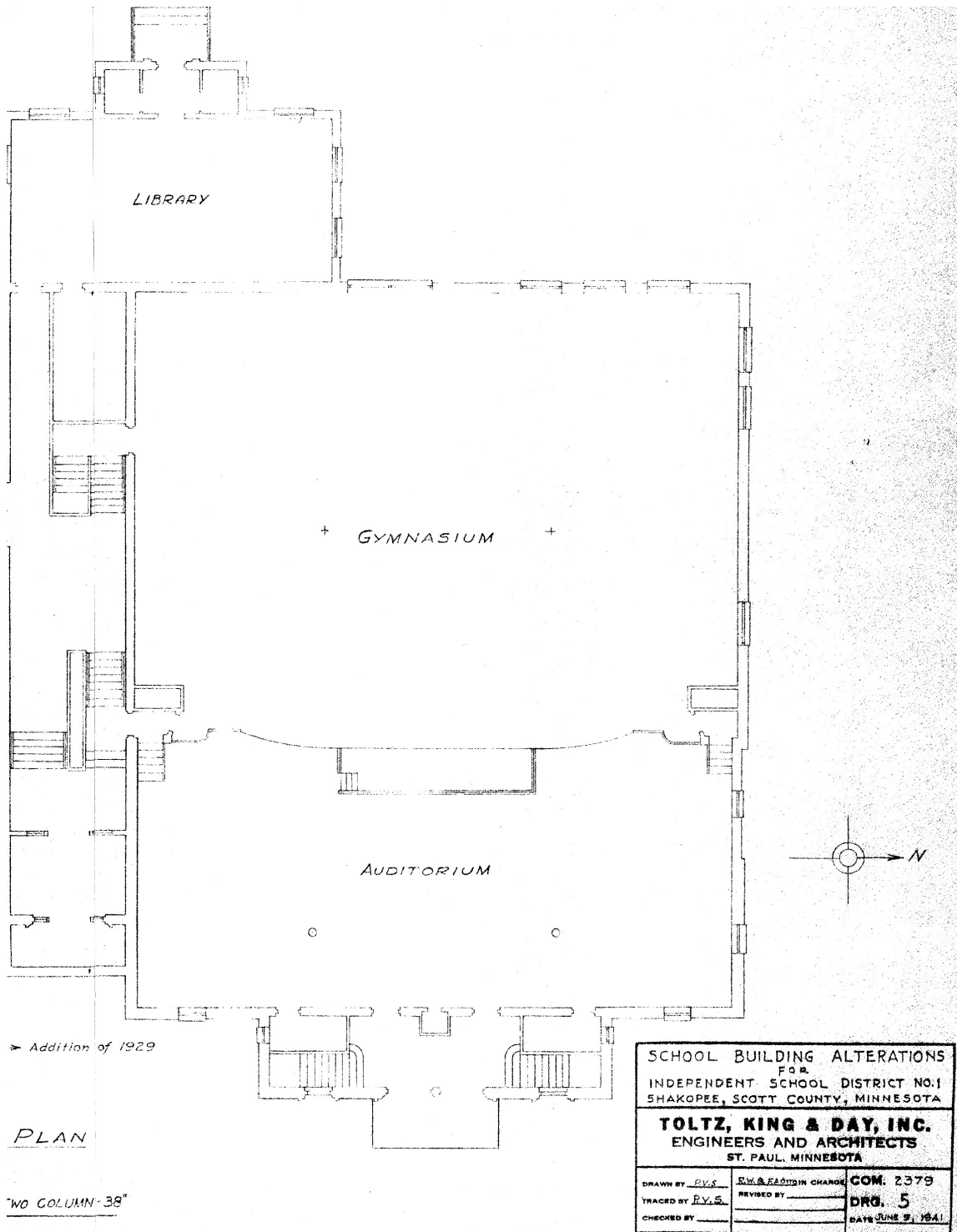
Basement Alterations – Pre-1929 Building

1941 Building Alteration Plans By Toltz, King, & Day Engineers and Architects



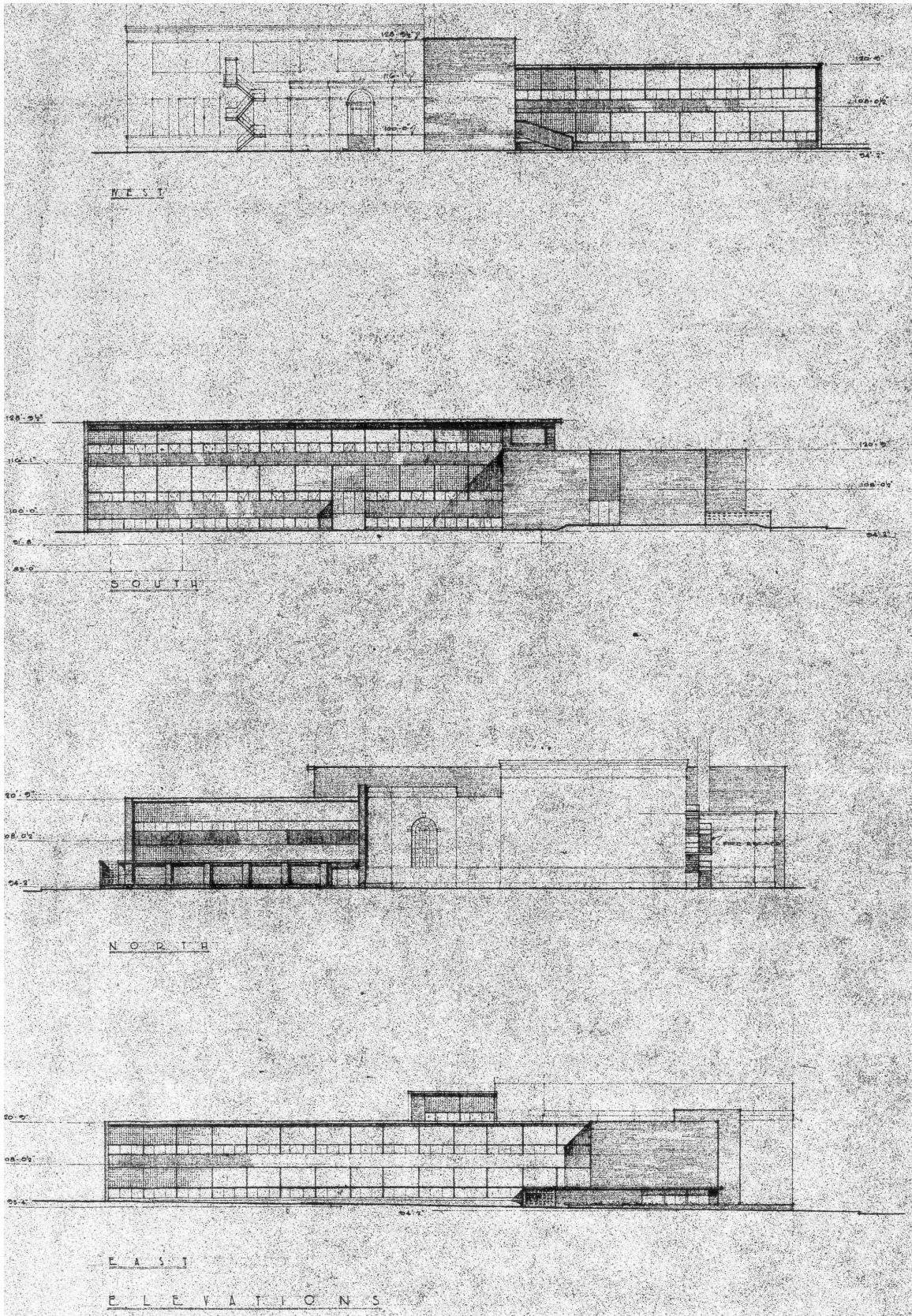
Basement Alterations – 1929 Addition

1941 Building Alteration Plans By Toltz, King, & Day Engineers and Architects

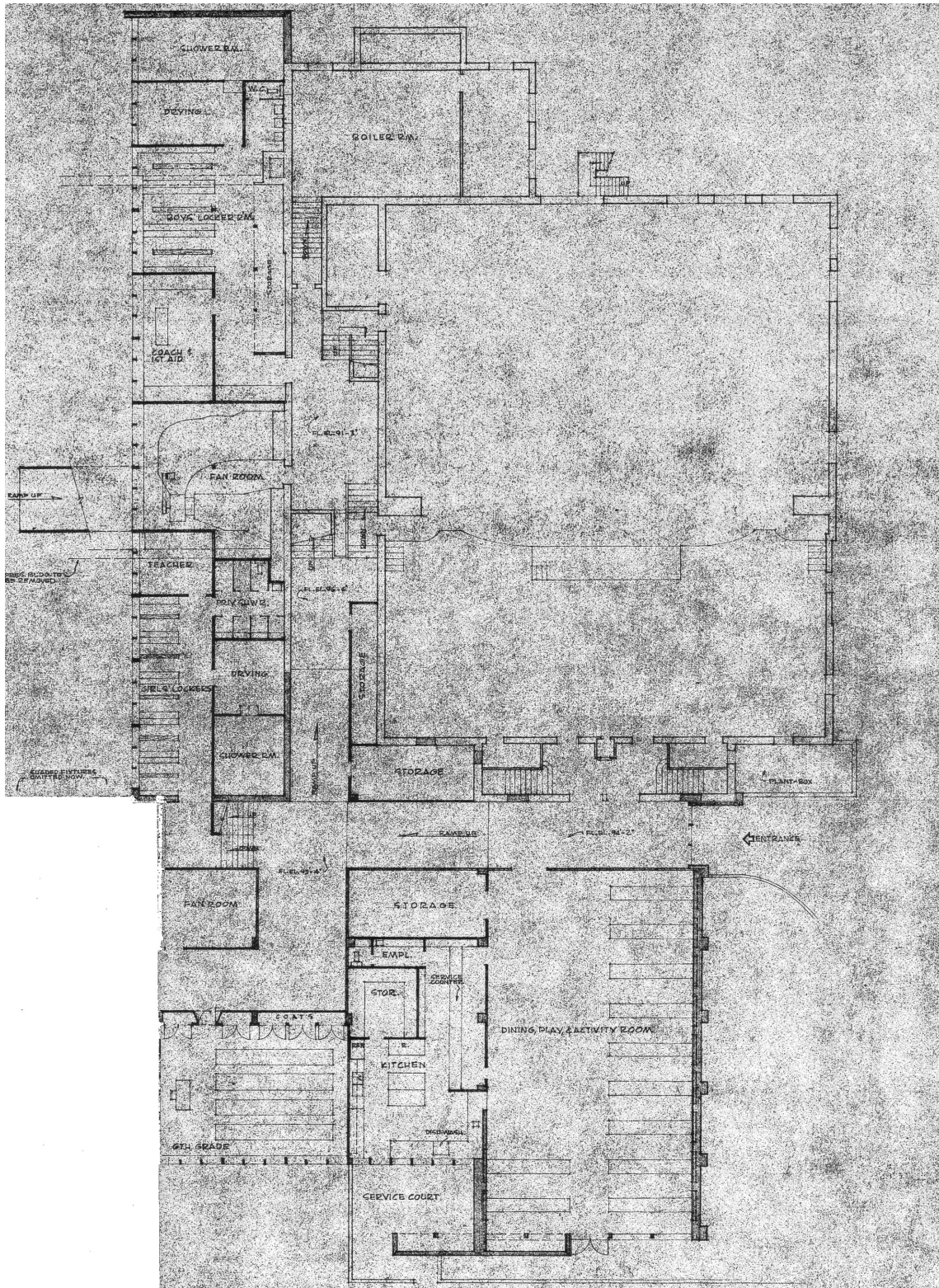


First Floor Alterations – 1929 Addition

1946 Proposed Addition Plans by Long and Thorshov Architects

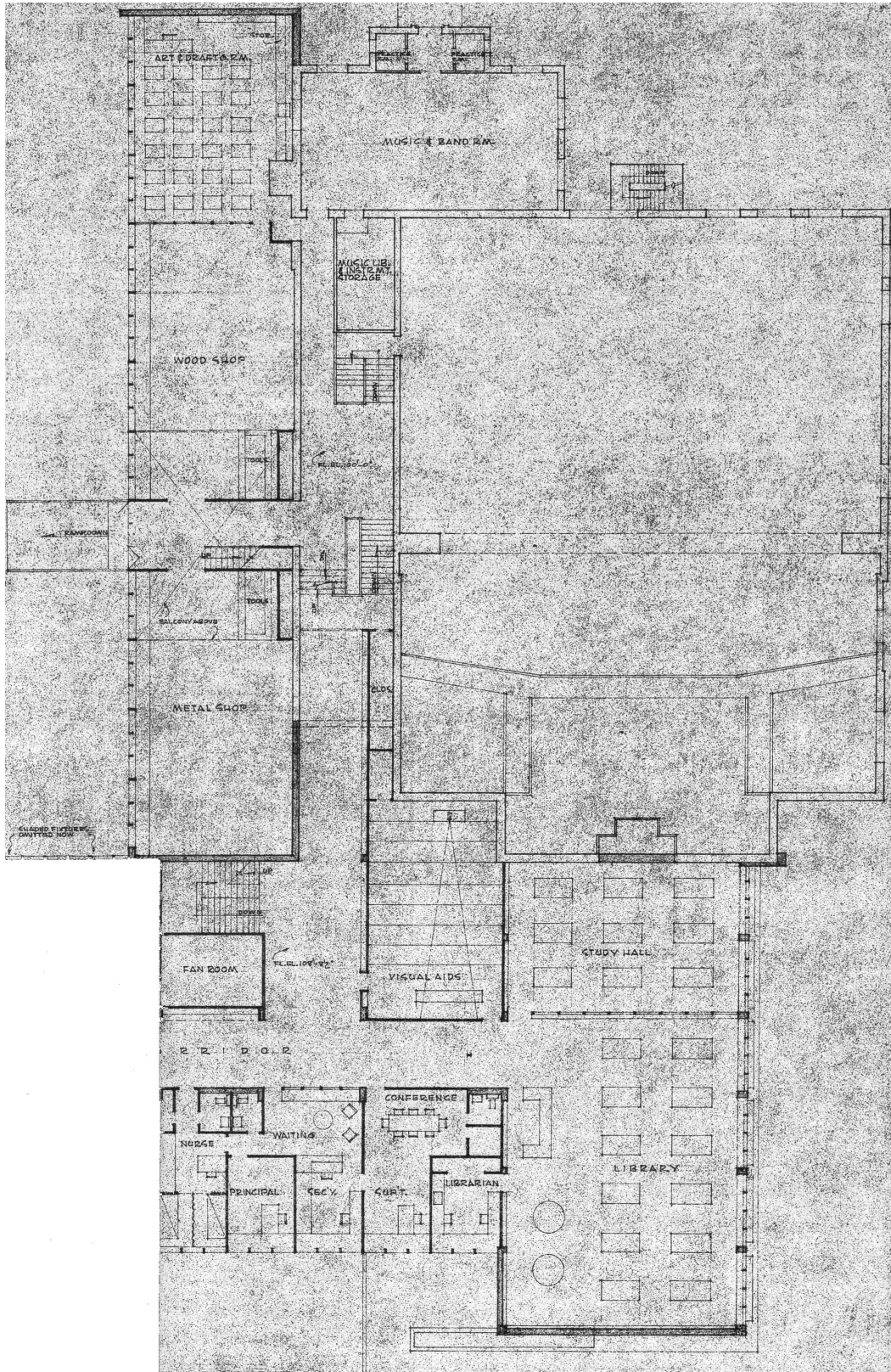


1946 Proposed Addition Plans by Long and Thorshov Architects



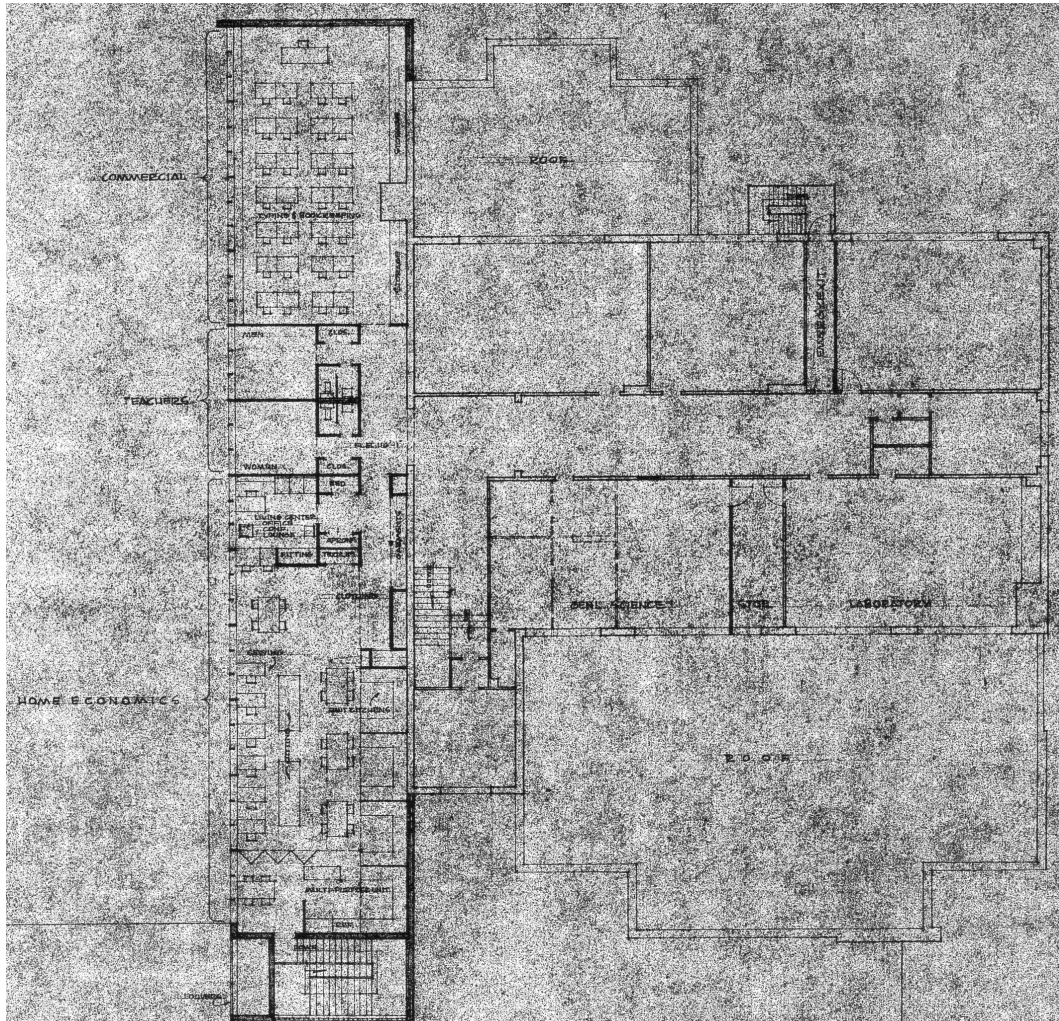
First Floor – High School Area

1946 Proposed Addition Plans By Long and Thorshov Architects



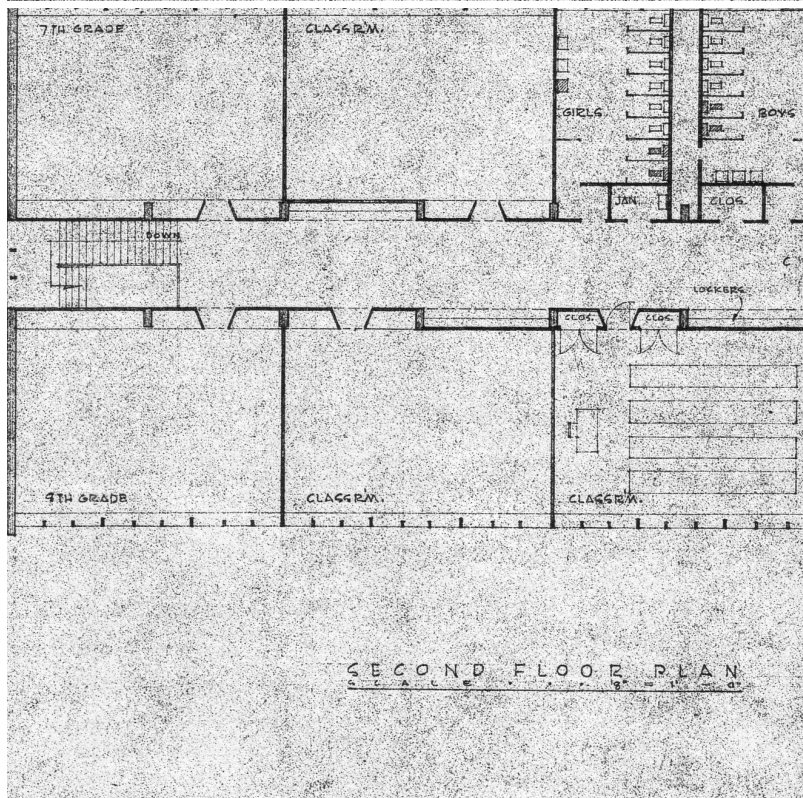
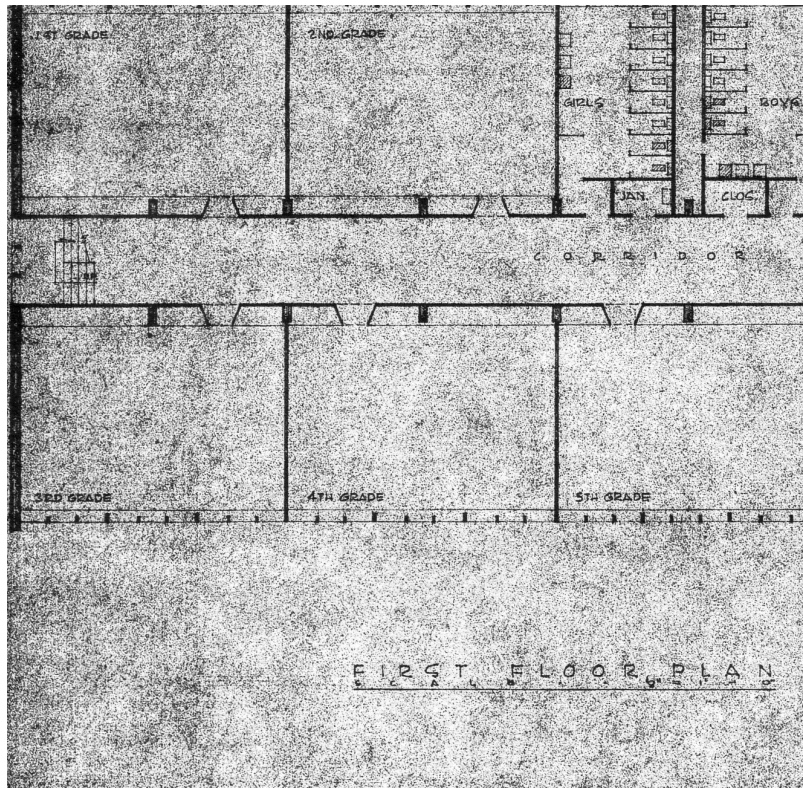
Second Floor – High School Area

1946 Proposed Addition Plans By Long and Thorshov Architects



Third Floor – High School Area

1946 Proposed Addition Plans By Long and Thorshov Architects



First and Second Floor – Junior High and Elementary Wing

ENDNOTES

- ⁱ Shakopee Argus-Tribune, May 29, 1930. Page 1.
- ⁱⁱ Shakopee Argus-Tribune, January 10, 1935. Page 1.
- ⁱⁱⁱ The Shakopee Story. Page 130.
- ^{iv} Shakopee Argus-Tribune, March 14, 1929. Page 1.
- ^v Scott County Argus, August 26, 1894. Page 1.
- ^{vi} Scott County Argus, September 16, 1897. Page 1.
- ^{vii} The Shakopee Story. Page 214.
- ^{viii} The Shakopee Story. Page 215.
- ^{ix} The Shakopee Story. Page 327.
- ^x Shakopee Argus-Tribune, February 28, 1929. Page 1.
- ^{xi} Shakopee Argus-Tribune, May 29, 1930. Page 1.
- ^{xii} Shakopee Argus-Tribune, May 29, 1930. Page 3.
- ^{xiii} Shakopee Argus-Tribune, May 29, 1930. Page 3.
- ^{xiv} Shakopee Argus-Tribune, May 29, 1930. Page 1.
- ^{xv} Shakopee Argus-Tribune, February 19, 1948. Page 1.
- ^{xvi} Shakopee Valley News, June 30, 1949. Page 1.
- ^{xvii} Shakopee Argus-Tribune, April 29, 1948. Page 1.
- ^{xviii} Shakopee Valley News, April 28, 1949. Page 4.
- ^{xix} Shakopee Argus-Tribune, July 21, 1949. Page 1.
- ^{xx} Shakopee Argus-Tribune, August 4, 1949. Page 1.
- ^{xxi} Shakopee Argus-Tribune, September 22, 1949. Page 1.
- ^{xxii} Shakopee Argus-Tribune, December 22, 1949. Page 1.
- ^{xxiii} The Shakopee Story. Page 411.
- ^{xxiv} Shakopee Valley News, July 5, 1951. Page 1.
- ^{xxv} Shakopee Valley News, April 10, 1958. Page 1.
- ^{xxvi} Shakopee Valley News, April 17, 1958. Page 1.
- ^{xxvii} Shakopee Valley News, July 16, 1959. Page 1.
- ^{xxviii} Shakopee Valley News, March 12, 1959. Page 1.
- ^{xxix} Shakopee Valley News, August 6, 1959. Page 1.
- ^{xxx} Shakopee Valley News, August 13, 1959. Page 1.
- ^{xxxi} Shakopee Valley News, September 10, 1959. Page 1.
- ^{xxxii} Shakopee Valley News, September 24, 1959. Page 1.
- ^{xxxiii} Shakopee Valley News, January 30, 1969. Page 1.
- ^{xxxiv} Shakopee Valley News, January 30, 1969. Page 2.
- ^{xxxv} Shakopee Valley News, February 27, 1969. Page 1.

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The following were used as resources in this project:

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Shakopee Argus-Tribune, 1929, 1930, 1948, 1949.

Shakopee Valley News, 1949, 1958, 1959, 1969.

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