UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY
NOMINATION FORM

Continuation Sheet | Item Number | Page

Name Historic: Old Batesburg Grade School Location: 306 East Columbia Avenue
Batesburg, South Carolina
Common: Batesburg Elementary School Classification: Building

Owner: Lexington County School District #3
West Church Street
Leesville, South Carolina 29070

Representation in Existing Surveys

Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

Description: The Old Batesburg Grade School is a two-story brick Neoclassical school building with a central tetrastyle portico and flanking pavilions. The building was built ca. 1912 as the town's first public school. The central portico has four colossal Tuscan columns on brick bases supporting a full entablature with a pediment. Brick pilaster responds with Tuscan capitals are located at the juncture of portico with facade. The main body of the building has five bays on the facade, with three beneath the portico. The central entrance is recessed beneath a segmental arch with cement keystone and impost blocks. The first-floor windows have flat lintels, while the second-floor windows have segmental heads with cement spandrels, keystones, and impost blocks. The projecting pavilions at either end of the facade are two bays wide, repeating the fenestration of the main block. An auditorium is located at the rear of the building. (Continued on Back)

Significance: The Batesburg Grade School was constructed ca. 1912 as the town's first public school. Housing grades 1-11, it succeeded and replaced two earlier schools, a Baptist school built ca. 1886 and a Methodist school built sometime thereafter. The two church schools merged in 1896 in the Baptist school building, which burned in 1911. The Old Batesburg Grade School is also significant architecturally as one of three Neoclassical public school buildings built in the county in the early twentieth century.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the Old Batesburg Grade School nomination is shown as a red line on the accompanying Lexington County Tax Map number 07025, drawn to scale of 100' to the inch.

UTM Reference Point

17/450105/3751700

Other Information

Description (Con't)

Ca. 1945, the building underwent certain renovations. The original windows were replaced with jalousie windows. A one-story cafeteria wing, of brick, was built at the left rear of the building, and two-story brick wings were added to the left and right elevations. These additions, while possessing minimal distinction, are appropriately subservient to the original building, and have little impact on the historic fabric. The new jalousie windows are placed within the original window openings.

12/27/82