

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Weston School

other names/site number Weston School District #19; Athena-Weston Middle School

2. Location

street & number 205 E. Wallace Street not for publication

city or town Weston vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Umatilla code 059 zip code 97886

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Oregon SHPO
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

 entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register

 determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register

 other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4	2	buildings
		district
		site
		structure
1		object
5	2	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION: school

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION: school

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: BRICK

roof: ASPHALT

other:

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

SUMMARY PARAGRAPH

Constructed between 1882 and 1964, the grounds of Weston School are located at 205 E. Wallace Street in Weston, Umatilla County, Oregon. With buildings dating from the late nineteenth through mid-twentieth centuries, the grounds of Weston School have served in an range of educational capacities, including a Methodist-run academy, a State of Oregon teacher's college, and later a public school for Weston and other nearby communities and settlements. Today, the property reflects the changing use of the grounds throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and includes five contributing resources, including the Weston School, shop, the Weston Methodist Academy/Old Gym, the New Gym, and the original school bell, and two non-contributing resources.¹

Narrative Description

LOCATION AND SETTING

The Weston School grounds are situated at the top of a steep hill in the city of Weston, located in north-central Umatilla County at the junction between the slope and highland areas of the Blue Mountains. Weston School is roughly bounded by E. Wallace Street to the south, S. Hill Street to the east, E. Main Street to the north, and S. Broad Street and S. Franklin Street to the west. The property sits on several taxlots and vacated right-of-ways totaling approximately 6.16 acres, which slope gradually to the west before ending at a steep terrace overlooking downtown Weston and Pine Creek. The school grounds are manicured and consist of large expanses of lawn, coniferous and evergreen trees, shrubs, and other vegetation, and also paved walkways, staircases, and other hard surfaces.

Upon accessing the Weston School grounds along E. High Street from the west boundary along S. Franklin Street, the 1882 Weston Methodist Academy/Old Gym is set to the right at the base of a steep terrace looking eastward up the hill toward the 1927 Weston School building. Continuing eastward up the hill, a shop building and tennis court are located to right and parallel to E. Wallace Street before reaching a long set of concrete steps placed central to the entrance of the Weston School building. This set of stairs extends straight up the hill to a concrete pedestal containing the original school bell to the Weston Methodist Academy/Old Gym building; the stairs then end onto a flattened surface on the hillside extending to the left and north of the bell pedestal, reaching another step of concrete stair steps leading to the top of the hill and a paved pathway leading to the front entrance of the Weston School. To the left and north of the Weston School building is the New Gym; to the right and south of the Weston School building is the Elementary Wing addition. To the rear and east of the school building is a modular classroom building, the school's playfield, and a utility shed.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

Weston School

The 1927 two-story brick school building is situated at the top of the hill on the Weston School grounds. The front entrance of the building faces west towards S. Franklin Street and overlooks downtown. The central block with projecting wings building has a flat roof and measures approximately 67x126 feet. A volume housing the building's auditorium extends to the rear of the building. The addition of an elementary wing in 1960 is attached to the south facade of the building. This addition has multiple shed roof pitches and measures approximately 77x175 feet. The original 1927 school volume is clad in brick, while the 1960 addition is constructed of poured concrete and concrete block.

Front Facade

The front facade of the Weston School building is a central portion with a formal entrance flanked by projecting wings. The school sits on a poured concrete foundation that extends a few feet up the wall to include the height of the basement level. From here, the walls are clad in brick laid in a common bond with six stretcher rows per header row. Near the top of the

¹ This description is based on site visits by Cara Kaser (Oregon SHPO Staff) in December 2010, May 2011, and September 2011, conversations with Sheldon Delph, nomination preparer, and historic photographs and documentation.

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wall, a concrete belt course is present and extends the length of the facade. Above the belt course, the parapet roof is topped with metal flashing with a slight decorative molding. In the central block above the entrance, the wall extends upwards to form a small stepped parapet. The words "1927, WESTON SCHOOL, DIST. NO. 8 - DIST. NO. 19" are present within a concrete panel lined with brick in a rowlock course set inside the area created by the parapet.

The front entrance is formally composed with an entablature resting on brick pilasters and a poured concrete porch. A set of poured concrete stairs leads to the front entrance. The architrave is modestly decorated with a simple geometric design and the brick pilasters have varying courses of brick laid in common, soldier, rowlock, and stretcher bond. The front entrance is inset within the entablature and pilasters and is composed of one-panel glass, metal, double-doors with wood-sash, four-lite sidelights and a wood-sash, twenty-lite segmented arch fanlight with two, wood-sash, four-lite sidelights. Above the fanlight are radiating voussoirs of brick. Above the entablature on the front entrance is a segmented arch window opening with a four-lite, metal-sash window. Two courses of radiating voussoirs of brick extend along the top of the window opening.

The fenestration of the front facade is symmetrically composed with its use of paired and single window openings on the basement, first, and second floors. On the basement level on either side of the central entry there is a single-panel glass door, two paired, one-over-one, vinyl-sash windows, and a single one-over-one, vinyl-sash window (the exception being a vent that replaced a window on the basement level on the south side). On the first and second floors of the central block flanking the entrance the fenestration is a single three-lite, metal-sash window, two, paired, three-lite, metal-sash windows, and another single three-lite, metal-sash window. The first and second windows have a plain concrete lintel spanning the width of all the windows and brick sills. The fenestration on the basement level of the north projecting wing is composed of two, paired, one-over-one, vinyl-sash windows. The basement level on the south wing is the same as the north except that the paired windows are the original six-over-one, wood-sash windows. The fenestration of the first and second floors of the projecting wings are composed of two, paired, three-lite, metal-sash windows. The window frames are slightly inset and have a plain concrete lintel and brick sills. There is decorative brickwork present between the first and second floor windows on the projecting wings consisting of a rectangular shape outline created by slightly protruding brick rows of rowlock coursing and protruding brick diamond pattern set inside the rectangle.

North and East Facades

The north facade of the north wing is clad in the same brick and coursing as the front facade. The fenestration and window lintels and sills are also the same. The fenestration is regular with the basement level consisting of four, one-over-one, vinyl-sash windows, and the first and second floors consisting of six, three-lite, metal-sash windows. The east facade of the north wing also mimics the fenestration on the front facade with the first and second floors composed of two, paired, three-lite, metal-sash windows followed by a single, smaller window opening (both now filled-in with mechanical equipment), followed by a paired, metal-sash window. Because the school building is situated on a grade, there are no windows in the basement level on this side.

The north, east, and south sides of the auditorium volume are composed of the same brick, coursing, and window lintel and sills as the front facade. This side has two large window openings that are now filled-in and a single five-panel wood door for outside access to the auditorium. A newer ADA-compliant, metal, double-door is also located on this side. The east facade of the auditorium volume contains two filled-in window openings. The south side of the auditorium contains a filled-in window opening, a five-panel wood door providing outside access to the auditorium, and a fire escape stairwell enclosed with concrete block. The fire escape stairwell contains a four-lite window and another filled in window opening. The stairwell exit is through a single-panel metal door.

The east facade of the central portion of the school building contains a filled-in window opening, and also two other window openings filled-in with mechanical equipment. On the first floor there is also a set of one-lite metal doors leading into the school. The rear facade of the south wing features the same fenestration as the front. The east concrete block wall of the 1960 elementary wing addition is also visible. An enclosed breezeway connecting the addition to the original portion of school building is also visible and features a glass and metal door and sidelight.

South Facade

The south facade of the Weston School building features one, paired, three-lite, metal-sash windows flanked by two single, three-lite, metal-sash windows on the second floor, and the 1960 elementary wing addition. The elementary wing addition encloses the original southern entrance of the school which is still intact. This entrance features a double-door

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opening (door removed) with four-lite, wood-sash sidelights. Above the door is a twelve-lite, wood-sash transom flanked by two, three-lite, wood-sash sidelights.

Elementary Wing Addition

The main front entrance to the elementary wing faces E. Wallace Street and is sheltered by a shed roof porch with two sets of paired, square porch columns. To the west of the entrance porch features a decorative multicolored brick wall laid in stretcher bond courses that projects vertically up through the roof. To the east of the entrance is a low wall constructed of roman brick laid in stretcher bond courses that provides support for a pair of porch columns. The entrance wall is clad in roman brick laid in stretcher bond courses and features paired, three-lite, metal-sash windows. The entrance is composed of a set of metal double-doors with three-lites flanked by three-lite sidelights, and a single-lite transom with single-lite sidelights above.

To the east of the entrance porch is a concrete block volume with exposed rafter beams underneath the eaves and a row of eight, single-lite windows placed near the top of the wall. To the west of the entrance porch, the hillside slopes steeply. This volume features regular fenestration with four ribbon windows composed of four, three-lite, metal-sash windows and two single-lite windows. The facade also has four smaller single-lite windows. In the center of the facade is a set of concrete stairs that lead to two metal doors providing access to the interior of the addition. The grade-level floor of the addition also features a small shed-roof addition at the southwest corner.

The west facade of the elementary wing features paired, three-lite, metal-sash windows at grade level and a single-lite, double-door that serves as access to the cafeteria recessed underneath a slight shed-roof porch supported by a concrete wall and post. The west portion of the north facade of the elementary wing contains three sets of paired, three-lite, metal-sash windows. The middle section of the north facade housing restrooms juts out and contains a ribbon of three, three-lite, metal-sash windows. Access to this portion is at grade-level through single-lite, double-doors contained underneath a shed-roof porch supported by two posts. Continuing east along the main volume are two sets of paired, three-lite, metal-sash windows and also another entrance into the elementary wing. A set of concrete stairs flanked on one side by a brick planter box leads up the entrance. The entrance doors are one-lite, double-doors, with a three-lite sidelight. A single-lite transom and sidelight are above.

Interior

The first floor of the Weston School building contains the office, library, three classrooms, and the auditorium. The second floor is accessed by a stairwell located near the northeast corner of the building and houses six classrooms, balcony of the auditorium, and fire escape access to the rear of the building. The basement floor contains three classrooms, the boiler room, and crawl space. The interior of the Weston School retains most of its original spaces and much of its original woodwork, including moldings, five-panel wood doors with divided light transoms, light fixtures, and some original blackboards. The auditorium is accessed on the first floor through two sets of five-panel wood double-doors with divided-lite wood transoms, and through the second floor through two, five-panel wood doors on either end of the balcony. The auditorium is a large space with a box-beam ceiling, original wood floor and wooden theatre seats. A balcony containing additional wooden theatre seats is supported over the main floor by a beam and two metal posts. An elevated wooden stage is located at the front of the auditorium with a formal wood surround featuring a full entablature supported by two wooden pilasters. Another wooden surround is enclosed within the larger surround and displays two wooden circles and triangular decorations. Two sets of wooden staircases leading up to two, five-panel wooden doors with wood surrounds are on either side of the stage.

The elementary wing addition is accessed through an enclosed breezeway from the first floor of the original school building through the original south entrance (still extant). The addition is entered through a set three-lite double-doors original to the addition. The main floor of the elementary wing contains an office, mechanical room, and a four classroom spaces. The mechanical room is located in the eastern portion of the addition and the office and classroom spaces are located along the south wall. These spaces contain vaulted ceilings created by the shed roof and original linoleum floors. The north side of the addition houses restrooms and a centrally-placed round, metal sink for hand washing. The lower level of the addition contains the kitchen and cafeteria. The kitchen and cafeteria retain their original floor coverings and space configurations.

The original portion of the Weston School building has seen some alterations in the replacement of its original six-over-one, wood-sash windows, the replacement of some exterior doors, the alteration of a stairwell into an elevator, the enclosure of the second floor fire escape, and the addition of modern lighting and floor coverings. The elementary wing added to the south facade of the school building in 1960 is now considered historic in its own right and is virtually intact,

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with the exception of a change in the heating and cooling system with the retirement of the building's original boiler in 1999.

New Gym

The newest building on the Weston School campus is the low-pitch gable roof New Gym constructed of multicolored concrete block in 1964. The approximately 120x90-foot New Gym sits on a poured concrete foundation just north of the Weston School building on a significant grade that slopes east-west and south-north.

The front facade of the New Gym consists of a stacked-gable configuration, with a low-pitched gabled roof main volume which houses the gymnasium, and a slightly steeper low-pitched gabled roof volume in front that spans the length and width of the foyer, followed by a low-pitched gabled roof entryway porch. The gables are covered with a membrane roof and square or tapered rafter tails project from under the roof eaves. The main volume is clad in a multicolored concrete block with six concrete block pilasters evenly spaced across the facade. All courses in the main volume are in a running bond pattern except for one course of soldier bond approximately two-thirds up the facade. Within the running bond, every two courses have every other block slightly projecting to create a textured effect. The low-pitched gabled roof volume just in front of the main volume consists of multicolored concrete block approximately two-thirds the way up on the facade, and the upper one-third clad in wood sheet and glass. Where glass is present, it extends the full vertical height of the volume. All courses on this facade are regular, with every other block in the course approximately one-third the width of block next to it and slightly projecting. The concrete block facade is topped with narrow painted wood trim. Wood strips extend down from each rafter tail to the ground, mimicking the appearance of pilasters. A low-pitched gabled-roof porch constructed of wood is in front of this volume. Entry into the foyer is through two sets of single-lite double-doors.

The north and south facades are composed of the stacked porch, foyer, and main volumes, clad with the same concrete block coursework as the front facade. There are also three, small, flat-roofed, stacked volumes attached to the northwest corner of this facade that shelter concrete stairwells. These volumes consist of a poured concrete wall that extends approximately half-way up the wall of each volume. The top half of the volumes are composed of four, large, wood-sash windows with wood paneling above and beneath each pane. The sides of each window frame extend the height of the wood and glass portions. The first stacked volume also consists of a pair of single-lite double-doors.

The west facade is composed of the main volume clad with the same concrete block coursework as the front, north, and south facades, and also the north walls of the stacked, flat-roof volumes. The exception is that the poured concrete foundation and wall extends approximately one-fourth the way up the west wall. There are two single-panel doors on this facade.

The main floor of the interior consists of the foyer with original flooring, doors, and lighting fixtures, the gymnasium with its original wood floor, wood bleachers, and exposed roof structure. The lower floor consists of boys and girls locker rooms and mechanical room under the main volume.

School Bell

The original school bell for the Weston Methodist Academy is located at the top of the hill of the school grounds, directly in front of the Weston School building. The bell is made of bronze and attached to a yoke (model number 1001-A) and stands that allow the bell to swing freely. The stand is set into a concrete pedestal that is approximately 6 feet high. A plaque set part-way down the east side of the pedestal reads, "Location of First Eastern Oregon State Normal School, 1885-1909, Presented by the Alumni May 29, 1955."

The bell was cast in 1881 by the Van Duzen & Tift Company of Cincinnati, Ohio. The bell was originally placed in a bell tower on the Weston Methodist Academy/Old Gym building before being moved to another bell tower on the 1902 Eastern Oregon State Normal School building (demolished in 1925). After demolition of the Normal School building in 1925 to make room for the 1927 Weston School building, the bell was moved to a wooden tower near the northwest corner of the Weston School building. The bell was again moved in 1954 and set on a concrete pedestal to prevent theft of the bell. A plaque was attached to the concrete pedestal marking the location of the original Eastern Oregon State Normal School by the school's alumni in 1955.

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Shop

Built in 1944, the approximately 60x80-foot shop building is located down the hill from the Weston School building and immediately to the southeast of the Weston Methodist Academy/Old Gym building. The shop consists of a two-story gabled-roof central volume with one-story, low-pitched shed roof volumes on either side. The entire build is clad in stucco and gables are covered with rolled or asphalt shingle.

The north facade consists of a centrally-placed set of wooden double-doors. The doors are three-panel with the upper half of the door consisting of six-lites. On either side of the double-doors is a wood-sash ribbon window, consisting of three sashes with four-lites in each sash. There is also a single-panel door located in the western end of the north facade. The door is surrounded with T1-11 siding. Visible from the north facade are the wood sash ribbon windows, consisting of six sashes in the eastern ribbon and four sashes in the western ribbon, in the upper portion of the central gable volume. Each window is two-over-two, double-hung, wood-sash. The west facade is also composed of wood-frame and sash ribbon windows and a wood-panel door similar to the north facade. The central gable volume consists of a ribbon window with three, two-over-two, double-hung, wood-sash windows in the upper gable end. A metal staircase just under the ribbon window leads up to a three-panel wood door with a lite in the upper half. The south facade is more utilitarian in composition with a rolling metal overhead door centrally located in the facade flanked by the openings of two ribbon windows that consist of three windows. All the windows in the ribbons have been covered. The east facade contains one ribbon window of three, two-over-two, double-hung, wood-sash windows in the upper gable end of the main volume. A single-panel door is located on the lower level in the central volume as well.

The interior arrangement of the building consists of a wood shop and maintenance shop in the ground level and a large classroom that spans the upper level. The interior has had few changes with the exception of the upper level which originally housed two classrooms. These classrooms were converted into a single large classroom in 1968.

Weston Methodist Academy/Old Gym

The oldest building on the Weston School campus, the Weston Methodist Academy/Old Gym was first built in 1882 and heavily altered between 1923 and 1924. The building is located at the western edge of the Weston School grounds at the base of the hill. The approximately 60x120-foot building is composed of the original one and one-half-story 1882 main steep-pitched gabled-roof volume clad in stucco-over-brick and a one-story medium-pitch gambrel-roof rear addition clad in horizontal wood board constructed in 1924. The main volume houses classrooms while the rear addition houses a gymnasium.

The front facade fronts S. Franklin Street and is symmetrical in its fenestration. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles and has two steep-pitched cross gabled-roof dormers. Each dormer includes one window opening, although the window is now covered. A steep-pitched gabled-roof porch overhang with a round arch louvered opening in the gable end is centrally located on the front facade. Directly under this overhang are a set of single-lite, metal, double-doors. A small concrete stoop with steps leads up to the double-doors. On either side of the front entrance are three window openings consisting of one-over-one, vinyl-sash windows. The south facade consists of the south gable end of the original 1882 Weston Methodist Academy building and the south wall of the Old Gym. The fenestration on the south wall of the original volume consists of a round arch louvered vent in the top of the gable end, two, eight-lite, wood-sash windows in the upper story (covered), and a single-panel metal door in the lower level. The Old Gym volume consists of the same asphalt roof cladding as the main volume of the building, exposed rafter tails, and is clad in horizontal board siding. There are four, paired window openings although they have been covered. A wide wood watertable is located at the base of the wall and extends the length of the addition.

The fenestration on east facade shows the back of the Old Gym and includes a small square louvered vent in the top gambrel end, two, paired window openings that have been covered, and two single-door openings on either end. The door to the south is a single-panel, metal door, while the door to the north is a five-panel, wood door. The north facade of the building is almost identical to the south facade. The only exception is the fenestration on the original 1882 volume includes a round arch louvered vent in the top gable end, two eight-lite, wood-sash window openings (covered) in the upper level, a centrally placed five-panel wood door in the upper level, and two single-panel metal doors in the east and west sides of the lower level. Two small porches extend up to these doors. A small two-over-two window is located between the two lower level doors, and another small window it located to the east of the easternmost door.

The exterior of the original 1882 building was significantly altered between 1923 and 1924. The original building was two-story, gable-on-hip building, with a wide frieze, exposed brick and round arch, four-over-four windows. A two-story bell

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tower clad in horizontal wood siding was located on the rear of the building (where the old gym now stands). Few exterior elements of the building remain, save for the location of doors and windows on the north and south facades. The interior of the original 1882 building consists of classroom space on the lower level and an open room on the upper level. While the upper level has remained essentially unchanged, the lower level was significantly remodeled between 1923 and 1924 when the Old Gym addition was constructed, and also the addition of metal doors in recent years.

The interior of the Old Gym retains its original wood floor and the north wood bleachers. The space is relatively unchanged except for the covering of the windows and vertical supports that were added to the roof structure in 1995. Due to the addition of these supports, the south bleachers were removed.

NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

Modular Classroom

A 1997 modular classroom building measuring approximately 30x68 feet is located at the southeast rear of the Weston School building, directly east of the Elementary Wing. The gabled-roof building is clad in T1-11 siding.

Utility Shed

A c.2000 utility shed measuring approximately 16x24 feet is located in the northeast corner of playfield, sited perpendicular to S. Hill Street. The building is clad in corrugated metal siding and a gabled-roof clad in metal. An opening on the west side of the building allows access for storing and retrieving landscaping equipment.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION

Period of Significance

1882-1964

Significant Dates

1882, date of construction

1964, date of last major addition to grounds

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Henry Osterman, Harold Crawford, Charles Miller,
Haslip & Tuft

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in 1882 with the construction of the first building on the Weston School grounds and ends in 1963 with the construction of the New Gym.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Weston School is significant under Criterion A for its association with the educational system in the rural community of Weston, Oregon. Buildings on the grounds of Weston School date from as early as 1882 and have been home to the Weston Methodist Academy, the Eastern Oregon State Normal School, and also local public schools. The site has been used as a local public school since 1911, when the high school moved into the old Eastern Oregon State Normal School building. A "New School" constructed of brick between 1926-27 housed students of both Weston Grade School and Weston High School for many years before consolidation with nearby Athena in 1973. During the nineteenth century, additions to existing structures and new buildings were added to the grounds to accommodate growth in the school's student population. These multiple buildings are the best and only remaining in the community to convey the significant association with education in Weston. The period of significance begins in 1882 with the construction of the Weston Methodist Academy building and ends 1964 with the construction of the New Gym.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Weston School is significant under Criterion A for its association with the education in Weston between 1882 and 1964. Originally established as the Weston Methodist Academy, the school has been home to the Eastern Oregon State Normal School, Weston School District #19, and most recently Weston Middle School with the Athena-Weston School District #29RJ. Later additions to existing buildings and new construction during the nineteenth century demonstrate the growth of students in the Weston area during the period of significance and represent the school site's importance to the community of Weston and its historic function as a school.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

BRIEF HISTORY OF WESTON²

Among the oldest settlements in Umatilla County, Weston was founded at the junction of the stage and toll roads between 1862 and 1865. The town was incorporated in 1878 and in the 1890s reached a peak of prosperity and development which is reflected in the enclave of commercial buildings lining Main Street. The basis of Weston's economy in its heyday was agriculture and local industries such as a planing mill, Preston Steam Flouring Mills, and especially H. B. Nelson's brickyard, which supplied building material for Pendleton -- the county seat -- as well as Weston. Weston achieved status in educational affairs of the state in 1882 with the founding of Weston Methodist Academy, which was operated as a State Normal School officially from 1893 to 1909. The Great Depression of the 1930s marked the shut-down of the brickyard and end of growth in the downtown. Subsequent revival of local economy followed the introduction of peas -- a new staple crop -- and development of a modern food processing industry in 1944. In its heyday Weston had a population of 1,000.

Livestock ranchers and stockmen dominated the area by 1850, in response to markets being opened up in the gold mining areas of Eastern Oregon, Washington, and Central Idaho. Through the 1880s farming was only a marginal activity to the stockmen, usually carried out on the smooth valley floors for home usage. Farming on a cash basis occurred only near larger settlements such as Walla Walla, a main transshipment point at this time in the region. Due to poor shipping facilities, market outlets were either lacking or insufficient.

The area in which Weston is located opened to settlement in 1855, with the signing of the Treaty of 1855 between the United States and the tribes of the Cayuse, Walla Walla, and Umatilla Nations, today know as the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. In this treaty, the tribes ceded over 6 million acres to the United States, and the area was officially opened to Euro-American settlement under the Homestead Act of 1862. When settlement occurred in the Pendleton Plain, stagecoach stations arranged themselves in a linear pattern along fairly level terrain between Pendleton and Walla Walla. Today community distribution reflects this historic pattern. Every community in the northeastern portion of the Plain follows this pattern except two: Weston and Helix. Helix is too far north of this early transportation axis to be considered part of the system. Weston on the other hand appears to be an anomaly, a unique departure from the rule. It is

² This section is largely taken directly from Jeff M. Wallace, "Weston Commercial Historic District," nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Salem: Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, 1982.

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the only community located "off the main line." The reasons can be attributed to rather definite landscape preferences of the original settlers from the Midwest.

The precursor of Weston was a stage station and livery stable located north of present Weston at the junction of several Indian trails that had become important roads in the area by the 1860s. One of these roads served to connect Walla Walla and points north and west with the interior of eastern Oregon. This was known as the Elgin Toll Road as was reputed "...to be surpassed by no other road in the country." The other road forming this junction was a stage road from Walla Walla to Cayuse (near present day Pendleton). Also in the vicinity, just about a mile up Pine Creek Canyon from the stage station and livery stable, there laid the beginnings of a modest agricultural settlement. By 1865, these settlers decided to move the station and stage route. In the fall of that year a furrow was plowed from the settlement of Milton south to Blue Mountain Station and present Weston, ending on Wildhorse Creek, demarcating a new stage route, thus placing Weston and its unique canyon location on the major transportation axis of the larger region.

During this early period Weston's location was rich in resources relevant to the cattle economy that prevailed. This gave the early residents a slight economic and political advantage which enabled them to distort or alter the transportation network to suit their needs. As with many attempted settlements in early America, Weston was a gamble; but unlike most it succeeded in becoming a very successful town within a decade. In 1862, Weston consisted of several settler families, notably Thomas and Asbury Lieuallen, and a blacksmith shop. By 1870, Weston was able to boast having a post office, stage station, blacksmith shop, two stores, a hotel, livery stable, and a public school. In 1878, Weston incorporated and the antecedents to present day land use patterns had been established.

The majority of the commercial activity was centered on the two transportation routes that passed through Weston. The majority of the traffic business was located on Main Street between Washington Street on the west and Broad Street on the east. Other businesses, not so dependent on a regular traffic flow, were located either one block to the north or south of Main on Water Street. These two roads, Main and Water, were the two major routes of the region. Main and Water was a junction where the Walla Wall-Pendleton Road and the Elgin Toll Road came together as one. This was the place where the "out of towners" would necessarily have to pass.

The advent of the railroad, shortly after incorporation of the City, stimulated new land use patterns in its vicinity. The railroad was located north of town, with the station being located almost in the same site the earlier stage and livery station had occupied. This site tended to attract industrial functions. At various times this area has played host to a brick yard and kiln, a flour mill, a whiskey distillery, numerous grain storage and shipping facilities and presently food processing. Weston's post office was established in February, 1867, with W. H. Abel as acting postmaster. The community had been known as Mitchell's Station, and had chosen "Western" as the name. However, through an error in spelling in 1869, the community was established as Weston by postal authorities.

In July of 1874, the town was devastated by fire. Everything north of Main Street was destroyed except the brick building which housed the Saling and Reese Store. The store still stands, a primary feature in the historic district. Its walls are two feet thick, and originally, its openings were protected by heavy iron shutters. Saling and Reese's Store was regarded as a refuge in the event of an attack by Native Americans. This brick building that survived the fire was the topic of conversation. Nature had endowed Weston with local noncalcareous clays for brick making, and, by 1879, H. B. Nelson's brickyard was in operation, making bricks for Walla Walla as well as Pendleton. The common brick produced in Weston was handmade by the soft mud process, being struck in wooden molds and fired in wood-fired kilns. The natural color of the brick is orangish red.

Churches were organized, and along with religious instruction and worship came formal education. Prior to this time, Mrs. Noah Lieuallen taught pupils in her home, and, in the winter of 1870, William Pruett started a subscription school. The charges were \$6.00 a student for three month's tuition. As the churches and school progressed, so did the town. In 1878, capital stock was invested to build the Weston Steam Flouring Mills. The Proebstel Brothers began operation with two sets of millstones. A planing mill also was constructed in 1878. The saloons, livery stables, hotels and confectioneries all made a thriving business center.

No town was complete without its own newspaper. The *Weston Leader* was founded by D. C. Black, and the first edition was printed on December 7, 1878. The paper changed hands many times, but was finally purchase by Clark Wood, who at age thirteen had been hired as a printer's devil. Wood devoted his life to his newspaper and his community. In addition, the business district looked prosperous and the city even had a street sprinkler. A Chinese immigrant tramping back and forth throughout the day, with two square coal-oil cans with holes in the bottom kept the Main Street nicely wet down and free from dust.

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Weston is noted in educational annals as the home of the original Eastern Oregon State Normal School, from 1893 to 1911. The school evolved from Weston Academy, a Methodist enterprise established in 1882. One of the Academy's teachers was Walter M. Pierce, Governor of Oregon 1923-1927 and Congressman 1933-1943. The Normal School was not recognized as a bona fide institution of public instruction until 1893, when it was granted adequate facilities and funds for operation. The school closed in 1911, and eastern Oregon was without a State school of higher education until Eastern Oregon College was established in LaGrande in 1929.

The 1910 census figures show that Weston had a population of 900. The population was close to 1,000 in 1900. In addition to the Normal School, the town boasted the Farmers Bank of Weston, an 18-member volunteer fire department, an Opera House, several fraternal lodges, the Marshall House—Weston's finest brick hotel—and several other eating and lodging establishments.

During the First World War, a number of Weston citizens served their country overseas. To commemorate their service following the war, the Opera House, a large wooden structure was moved by teams of horses from Franklin Street to its present location on East Main Street adjacent to the Post Office, and renamed the Memorial Hall. Existing pictures of the Armistice Day Celebration show the streets crowded with celebrants hanging effigies of the Kaiser and listening to a rousing patriotic address.

Following the First World War, Weston's fortunes were largely tied to the agricultural economy. It took large crews of men to harvest the wheat and hay crops which were the main cash crops of the area. Weston's economy appears to have been relatively stable during the early to mid-1920's, with the local brickworks being a major employer. At the end of the decade, however, the Great Depression hid Weston hard, as it did the entire country. The brickworks closed in the early 1930's, and the Farmers Bank of Weston was also a casualty of the banking crisis. The Marshall House as well as several other local brick buildings were torn down by WPA workers after they had been taken over by the County for back taxes. Depressed agricultural prices also made farming a risky operation.

The mid-1930s saw the introduction of wheel tractors and other mechanized farm equipment. Almost overnight, this equipment replaced the teams of horses and steam engines which had been required to harvest local agricultural products. A second crop, green peas, was introduced during the late 1930s into the region, giving local farmers something to raise on wheat ground which had previously lain fallow every other year, in a "dry land farming" system.

The advent of pea agriculture began to have its economic impact on Weston. A decade after the introduction of this crop, it was realized as a major crop and its necessary support services began to appear on the landscape. In 1944, a cannery was established by Weston Farmer's Cooperative, but had financial difficulties, and was purchased by the Lamb family in 1950. This was the beginning of the Lamb-Weston Corporation, as well as the beginning of a major food processing economy in the community. This was the first adjunct to the all but disappearing economic base of the town. Its presence meant that once again Weston was able to occupy a functional role in the economic activity of the region. The pea industry expanded from a small pea-canning operation to one of the world's largest frozen pea operations encompassing Pendleton and the Walla Walla Valley.

One factor which had a negative impact on Weston as an economic center was the rapid growth of the automobile as a form of transportation following the Second World War. People could go to the nearby cities of Walla Walla, Milton-Freewater, and Pendleton to meet their shopping and recreational needs. This resulted in the drying up of some of Weston's commercial businesses. Another factor was the decision by the Oregon State Highway Department to construct a bypass to the west of Weston in 1963, thereby cutting Weston off the main travel corridor of the region. The bypass replaced Highway 11 to its original location on the Cayuse-to-Walla Walla route, thus undoing the re-routing by the founding fathers of Weston. The effect of the bypass was to even further isolate Weston from the major activity of the region.

Through the 1960's the food processing plants and local farming activity provided Weston with a relatively stable employment base. However, beginning in the late 1960's the green pea industry entered into a period of increased labor costs, which, when combined with generally decreasing demand, resulted in the closure or consolidation of many area canneries.

The year 1979 saw the installation of a new Farmers Home Administration Community Water System. This involved the replacement of the old wooden water mains as well as the drilling of a new city well. Following the November 1980 election, the City Council determined to embark upon a revitalization program aimed at the downtown business district containing ten historic brick structures constructed of Weston brick, along with the Weston Public Library and the Memorial Hall, both of wood construction. To this end, the Weston Commercial Historic District was listed in the National Register of

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Historic Places in 1982, joining the only other National Register property in Weston, the Ishram Saling House, listed in 1976.

HISTORY OF WESTON SCHOOL

Weston Methodist Academy and Eastern Oregon State Normal School

The Weston Methodist Academy was the beginning of Weston's prominence as an educational center in the Pacific Northwest. According to several local historians and archival documentation, the Weston Methodist Academy was established prior to 1880 in order to provide a training school for teachers.³ In 1882, a brick building along S. Franklin Street was constructed by the Weston Methodist Academy and was referred to as the Weston Normal School. Little is known of the architect or builder of the building, but the building was used as a dormitory and classroom facility. The Weston Methodist Academy evolved into Weston Normal School in order to attract a broader base of students and to promote a greater sense of ecumenism.⁴ This strategy worked well, as is evident in the grade records and students' and teachers' church affiliations noted in the 1882 through 1890s Weston Normal School records. The Weston Methodist Academy brought in students from around the United States, and many of them later became teachers in the schools in Weston and the surrounding communities after graduation.⁵

Eastern Oregon State Normal School, variously known as Weston Normal School, Eastern Oregon Normal School, and locally as The Normal School, operated officially as a state-sponsored school for training of teachers from 1893 until 1909, when a major political battle in the Legislature between politicians in favor of public funding for teacher training and those against it sounded the death knell for all state-operated teacher training schools except for the Oregon Normal School (now known as Western Oregon University) on the west side of the Cascade Mountains in Monmouth, Oregon.⁶ The newspaper editorial fight between *The Oregonian*, *The East Oregonian*, and *The Weston Leader* are particularly informative on this political battle.

As stated above, the western brick portion of the original Weston Normal School facing S. Franklin Street was built as the Weston Methodist Academy in about 1882, later serving as the Eastern Oregon State Normal School in 1893. The building has been in almost constant use for education since that time. The only exception for when the building was not used for educational purposes was in 1906, when the State Legislature failed to fund the State Normal School budget. The building has been used for public school use from about 1912, when the Eastern Oregon State Normal School site was signed over to the local school district, to the present.

Three of the four buildings used as part of the Eastern Oregon State Normal School campus no longer exist. These buildings included an 1893 building used as a Women's Dormitory and dining hall, and originally stood where the current shop building is now located. The newest building on the Normal School campus was a 1902 building that stood immediately west of the current main Weston School building. Both the Women's Dormitory building and the 1902 building had major problems with building materials and were later condemned for occupation and torn down. The 1902 building was demolished in approximately 1925, but the exact date of demolition of the 1893 Women's Dormitory building is unknown. It is possible that the building was demolished at the same time as the 1902 building in 1925, but it also may have been demolished by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) during the mid-1930s, as were other condemned buildings in the community. The original school bell, however, has been part of the school site since its inception, shortly after 1882 and remains intact on the school grounds.

At its highest enrollment Eastern Oregon State Normal School had over 500 students and 30 faculty members. In addition, the Normal School was a tremendous source of pride to the Weston community. The chapel in the non-extant 1902 building seated 600 people, and public concerts, student recitals, dramatic presentations, public speeches, and other public educational events were held here.

³ Mildred Searcey, *Way Back When* (Athena, OR: 1972), 42; Francis R. Rinehart, *History of Eastern Oregon State Normal School 1885-1990 at Weston, Oregon* (LaGrande, OR: Eastern Oregon College, 1962), 8; Umatilla County Historical Society, *Umatilla County: A Backward Glance* (Pendleton, OR: Umatilla County Historic Society, 1980), 11.

⁴ Rinehart, 12.

⁵ Unfortunately, the Weston Methodist Academy has very few existing records, as the local Methodist Church records were moved to nearby Milton-Freewater, Oregon during the 1970s. These early records are not currently in their archives, and the current minister believes the records may be in the archives of the Oregon-Idaho District Conference.

⁶ Western Oregon University has gone through several names since its inception in 1856 including Oregon Normal School, Oregon College of Education, and Western Oregon State College.

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At various times throughout the history of the Eastern Oregon State Normal School the school offerings included an Elementary Education course of one or two years duration, a Normal course (high school teacher education) of two to four years duration, a business course of one year, and an ongoing music course which was repeatable. The tuition for the courses ranged from \$2.50 per month to \$12.00 per three month session. For at least four years there was also a manual training course. One story regarding the Normal School students is related in the September 15, 1904 *Weston Leader*. The article speaks about a large group of students, both male and female, attending an illicit dance on a threshing floor at the edge of town, and being placed on probation for violation of the pledge to uphold the rules of personal conduct which each student had been required to sign as a condition of enrollment.

One notable teacher at the Eastern Oregon State Normal School was Walter M. Pierce, who moved to Umatilla County, Oregon with his family from Franklin County, Kansas in 1883 and later became the Governor of Oregon during the 1920s. Upon his arrival in Oregon, Pierce worked as both a ranch hand and school teacher for several years, and taught at both Weston and in nearby Milton between 1883 and 1890. In addition, he served as superintendent of schools in Umatilla County between 1886 and 1890. Pierce earned his law degree from Northwestern University in 1896 and began practicing law in Pendleton. Pierce also managed the Grande Ronde Electric Company, became a well-respected cattle breeder, and also served as the county clerk of Umatilla County.⁷ Historian Cain Allen explains Pierce's later career in the Oregon Senate United States House of Representatives, and also as Oregon's 17th Governor:

A progressive Democrat, Pierce won a seat in the state senate in 1902, but lost it four years later; he also lost a 1912 race for U.S. Senator and a 1918 bid for governor. Undaunted, he finally won the governor's seat in 1922, beating incumbent Ben Olcott. Pierce's victory was due in part to the assistance of the Ku Klux Klan, though Pierce's relationship to the Klan is unclear; he was probably not a member, but he did court their support. Pierce lost his bid for reelection in 1926, but was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1932 to represent Oregon's second congressional district. Running as a populist, his slogan was "Living Wages for the Unemployed Rather than Doles for Big Business." He was a loyal New Dealer, supporting President Franklin Roosevelt's policies, especially public power. He remained in the House until 1942, when he lost his seat to Republican Lowell Stockman.⁸

Eastern Oregon State Normal School was closed in 1911, and the buildings and grounds were signed over to Weston Public Schools by the State of Oregon in 1912, thus ending over thirty-years of post-high school training in Weston. Eastern Oregon would be without a State-funded school of higher education until the establishment of Eastern Oregon College (now known as Eastern Oregon University) in LaGrande, Oregon seventeen years later in 1929.

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According to Malinda Saling in her 1925 memoir, the first public school in Weston was located in a log house near the Saling's store on Main Street. The next building used as a public school was on S. Washington and W. Main Streets, next to the Staggs House, the site of which later became the Baptist Church. In 1892, a new two-story, brick building was built at the corner of W. College and S. Water Streets for \$14,000. This building was used for high school students in Weston until 1911 and for elementary students until 1924. During these years, and, indeed, through the late 1940s, several one-room grade school buildings also existed in the areas adjacent to Weston and fed into the high school. These schools included White Fir School and Fairview School on Reed and Hawley Mountain, Rawhide School on Wildhorse Creek, Weston Mountain School and Basket Mountain School on those mountains, respectively, Dry Creek School on Dry Creek, and Thorn Hollow School at Thorn Hollow on the Umatilla River. In all, more than twenty school districts were consolidated eventually in order to make up the Weston School District.

The current site of Weston School has been in use as a public school since 1912, when the high school moved into the former Eastern Oregon State Normal School building, leaving the 1892 Public School building on W. College and S. Water Streets for elementary and grammar school use. When the 1892 Public School was later condemned, the former Normal School building was the first structure on the site to be renovated in order to accommodate the influx of students with the addition of a gym, now known as the Old Gym, to the rear of building in 1924. Unfortunately, no school board records have been found to date regarding the builder of the gym or costs associated with construction, although a bond was passed to bring the building to modern standards. In its day, the Old Gym was considered one of the finest athletic facilities in

⁷ Cain Allen, "Walter Pierce," Oregon Historical Society Oregon History Project, http://www.ohs.org/education/oregonhistory/historical_records/dspDocument.cfm?doc_ID=28131C90-DBB4-A4B2-E4849BFBC38D886A (accessed August 8, 2011); William Robbins, "Walter Pierce," *The Oregon Encyclopedia*, http://www.oregonencyclopedia.org/entry/view/pierce_walter_1861_1954_/; United States Congress, "Biographical Directory of the United States Congress," Office of the Clerk's Office of History and Preservation and Office of the Historian of the United States Senate, <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=P000339> (accessed August 8, 2011).

⁸ Allen, "Walter Pierce."

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Oregon, and was the site of the state basketball tournament for at least four years. The Old Gym addition featured many modern conveniences, including two rows of wide bleachers on both the north and south sides that could seat about 200 people, with a 30-inch solid railing in front of the front row. The score clock in the Old Gym was new in 1947 (and still in use today) and features an 8-minute sweep hand clock, with step-switches to control the score and the quarter. The Old Gym was completed in time for the 1924-25 basketball season and was host to at least four state basketball tournaments in the late 1920s, and is still used today for sports, Physical Education, band, choir, and Home Economics classes.

In addition to the 1882 Normal School building, the 1902 building originally constructed as part of the Normal School campus continued to be used as part of Weston School until its condemnation in 1925. With condemnation of two public school buildings in Weston, additional space was needed to accommodate the growing student population. Prior to completion of construction of a new school building, classes in Weston were held in area churches, the Old Gym, lodges, and the Weston Memorial Hall.

The "New School" to replace the loss of other buildings used for education on and near the school grounds was designed by Henry Osterman of Walla Walla, Washington and constructed between 1926 and 1927 at a cost of \$80,000. Bid documents submitted by Osterman of Walla Walla contain specific architectural details that the "New School" would contain. These included the type of mix of concrete for the footings, foundations and basement floor, the bricks for the upper two stories, the lintels and caps, and the doors, which were oak with large single glass lights and side lights for the south entrance and an imposing main entrance on the west, with many small lights on the sides of the double doors, as well as above them. The New School was a three-story brick building with sixteen classrooms spread out on three levels, and featured wide hallways, fir floors, a large and spacious auditorium (including a balcony), open staircases with oak banisters, and a steam heat system. All in all, the construction of both the Old Gym in 1924 and the New School in 1926-27 was thought of as major accomplishments for the Weston community.

During the mid-1940s, manual arts training in wood and auto shop become more and more important. To this end, a multiple-purpose shop building with an adjacent tennis court was constructed in 1944 on the site of the former 1893 Normal School Women's Dormitory. The shop building, along with two classrooms upstairs for the seventh and eighth grades, was very up-to-date and proudly outfitted with help from farmers and tradesmen in the areas. The cost and builder is not known, although the first shop teacher was Jack Delp, who lived in the house next door, and who was the husband of the local pharmacist.⁹

Memories of many local residents include the school custodian, Vernie O'Harra, ringing the original 1882 school bell each day for over 30 years to call students to class. The large brass bell originally hung in the belfry of the 1882 Weston Methodist Academy building and then in the 1902 Normal School building before being relocated within a wooden tower that was located to the northwest of the main entrance of the New School building after the demolition of the 1902 Normal School building in 1925. This wooden tower was demolished when it became too rickety for safety and the bell relocated in 1954 to a concrete pedestal to the west of the New School building. This pedestal was built in order to protect the bell from "the hoodlums of Eastern Oregon College" (*East Oregonian*, 1951), who had tried to steal the bell and take it to its "rightful" place on the state college campus in LaGrande.¹⁰

For many years, the New School building and the former Normal School and Old Gym building were large enough to house the students of Weston Grade School and Weston High School. As the outlying one room schools began to close, as well as the increased population needed to support the growth of the food processing industry in the late 1950s, the buildings on the school grounds were too small and the need for additional classrooms became evident. To this end, a bond was passed to build a new elementary wing addition to the south end of the 1927 New School building. Designed by Charles Miller of nearby Pendleton, who won awards for several design innovations, and constructed in 1960, the building with its wide overhangs and concrete floors, was a marvel of design and energy efficiency. The elementary wing housed the cafeteria, second through fifth grade classrooms, as well as a music room and the elementary office. With the completion of the elementary wing, Weston students had new classrooms, lots of room, and restrooms adjacent to each classroom so that students did not have to go down the hall. Dances were held in the cafeteria, so that the wood floors of the Old Gym were protected.

With the increased school population, as well as larger spectator crowds for sports events, the need for an additional gym was evident by early 1961. To this end, the school district hired the architectural firm of Haslip & Tufts of Portland, who specialized in school design, to design and oversee the construction of the New Gym.¹¹ Completed in 1964, the classy

⁹ Presently, the building houses the school district's Maintenance Department office and shop, as well as the Food Services office.

¹⁰ *East Oregonian*, "Around the County Tidbits," December 1951, 8.

¹¹ Richard Ellison Ritz, *Architects of Oregon: A Biographical Dictionary of Architects Deceased - 19th and 20th Centuries* (Portland,

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foyer, with its panels of bright color against the concrete block, as well as the exposed beams, made Weston's New Gym a place to look forward to visiting. The basement locker rooms, with lots of storage rooms and outside doorways for fall and spring sports, along with a classroom area, and the spacious gymnasium itself all showed the sense of pride in the community.

In 1973, the Weston School District consolidated with nearby Athena to form the Athena-Weston School District #29R, thus ending an athletic rivalry between Weston and Athena of nearly a century's duration. Today, with the consolidation of the schools with Athena, the Weston School complex currently houses grades four through eight, along with Maintenance Shops and the district's Food Service Office. Students in these grades come from Weston Mountain, Reed and Hawley Mountain, Wildhorse Creek, Dry Creek, the Umatilla River, part of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Athena, and other areas north of Weston and west of Athena.

CONCLUSION

Situated at the top of the hill in Weston with a grand staircase leading down the terraces to other campus buildings, the Weston School has been a major part of the community since the construction of the first building in 1882. Weston School has been the core of the Weston community since its inception and is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A for its importance role in the educational history of Weston from the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. In addition to its use as an educational facility, the school has been a meeting place for sports, a place to come to celebrate graduations and Christmas programs, to watch students perform in music and drama, and also as a place to come to together in times of National crisis and celebration. Weston is proud of the place of education in the history of its community and in the lives of its children, and expects those children to receive the best possible education to equip them for the challenges of life.

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Weston Complex mechanical update blueprints, circa 1995, Pioneer Development, R Carey, Architect, Walla Walla, WA

Weston Elementary wing blueprints, 1960, Charles Miller, Architect, Pendleton, OR

Weston Leader. Weston, Oregon, various articles from 1884 through 1946.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: Athena-Weston School District

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approx. 7.57
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary for Weston School occupies approximately 7.57 acres on lots 1-2 and 7-12 of Block 10 of the Original Town of Weston plat and lots 7-18 and A-B of Block 1, and lots 9-17, a portion of lot 18, and lots C-D of Block 2 of Hartman's Addition to the City of Weston, Umatilla County, Oregon, and approximately 1.93 acres of unplatted area (tax lots 5200, 5800, 6200, 6300 and 8100 as shown on Umatilla County tax lot map 4N 35 22AC).

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes the several resources that have been historically part of Weston School and that maintain historic integrity.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sheldon G. Delph, MEd
organization Weston Historic Landmarks Commission date Aug. 2011
street & number PO Box 248 telephone (541) 566-3327
city or town Weston state Oregon zip code 97886
e-mail s_delph@hotmail.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Weston School
City or Vicinity: Weston
County: Umatilla **State:** Oregon
Photographer: Eric Bradfield and Sheldon Delph, as noted.
Date Photographed: December 2010 and Summer 2011, as noted.

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1 of 20. (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0001.tif)
Exterior View: Looking southeast at the front and north facades of the Weston Methodist Academy/Old Gym building. Photo by Sheldon Delph, Summer 2011.

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- 2 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0002.tif)
Exterior View: Looking southwest at the east and north facades of the Old Gym addition. Photo by Sheldon Delph, Summer 2011.
- 3 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0003.tif)
Exterior View: Looking south at front facade of the shop building. Photo by Sheldon Delph, Summer 2011.
- 4 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0004.tif)
Exterior View: Looking southwest at the front and east facades of the shop building. Photo by Sheldon Delph, Summer 2011.
- 5 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0005.tif)
Exterior View: Looking east at the Weston School and grounds. Photo by Eric Bradfield, December 2010.
- 6 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0006.tif)
Exterior View: Looking west at original school bell towards the Weston Methodist Academy/Old Gym building and downtown Weston. Photo by Eric Bradfield, December 2010.
- 7 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0007.tif)
Exterior View: Looking east at the front facade of Weston School. Photo by Eric Bradfield, December 2010.
- 8 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0008.tif)
Exterior View: Detail of the front entrance of Weston School, looking east. Photo by Eric Bradfield, December 2010.
- 9 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0009.tif)
Exterior View: Looking southwest at the north and east facades of Weston School. Photo by Eric Bradfield, December 2010.
- 10 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0010.tif)
Exterior View: Looking northwest at the east facade and south facades of Weston School. Photo by Eric Bradfield, December 2010.
- 11 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0011.tif)
Exterior View: Looking northwest at the south facade of Weston School and the elementary wing addition. Photo by Sheldon Delph, Summer 2011.
- 12 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0012.tif)
Exterior View: Looking northwest at the south facade of the Weston School 's elementary wing. Photo by Sheldon Delph, Summer 2011.
- 13 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0013.tif)
Interior View: View of first floor main hallway and entrance to elementary wing of Weston School. Photo by Eric Bradfield, December 2010.
- 14 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0014.tif)
Interior View: View of original classroom door and blackboard in the Weston School building. Photo by Eric Bradfield, December 2010.
- 15 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0015.tif)
Interior View: View of the Weston School auditorium. Photo by Eric Bradfield, December 2010.
- 16 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0016.tif)
Interior View: View of the Weston School auditorium and balcony. Photo by Eric Bradfield, December 2010.

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- 17 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0017.tif)
Interior View: View of the main hallway in the Weston School elementary wing. Photo by Sheldon Delph, Summer 2011.
- 18 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0018.tif)
Interior View: View of a classroom in the Weston School elementary wing. Photo by Eric Bradfield, December 2010.
- 19 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0019.tif)
Exterior View: Looking west at the front facade of the New Gym. Photo by Eric Bradfield, December 2010.
- 20 of 20.** (OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0020.tif)
Exterior View: Looking north at the south facade of the New Gym. Photo by Sheldon Delph, Summer 2011.

Property Owner: (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Athena-Weston School District #29RJ

street & number 375 S. 5th Street telephone (541) 566-3551

city or town Athena state Oregon zip code 97813

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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LIST OF FIGURES

1. General location map of Weston showing location of Weston School at 205 E. Wallace Street, Weston (Courtesy of Google Maps).
2. Tax lot map #4N 35 22AC, showing nominated boundaries, tax lots 5200, 5800, 6200, 6300 and 8100.
3. Current site plan, Weston School.
4. Current first floor plan of the Weston Methodist Academy/Old Gym building.
5. Current first and second floor plan of the shop building.
6. Current first floor plan of the Weston School building.
7. Current second floor plan of the Weston School building.
8. Current basement plan of the Weston School building.
9. Current upper and lower floor plans of the New Gym.
10. Historic photograph of the Eastern Oregon State Normal School grounds in early 1900s (Courtesy of Weston Public Library).
11. Historic photograph of the Weston School Building in 1927 (Courtesy of Weston Public Library).

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Figure 1. General location map of Weston showing location of Weston School at 205 E. Wallace Street, Weston (Courtesy of Google Maps).



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Figure 2. Tax lot map #4N 35 22AC, showing nominated boundaries, tax lots 5200, 5800, 6200, 6300 and 8100.



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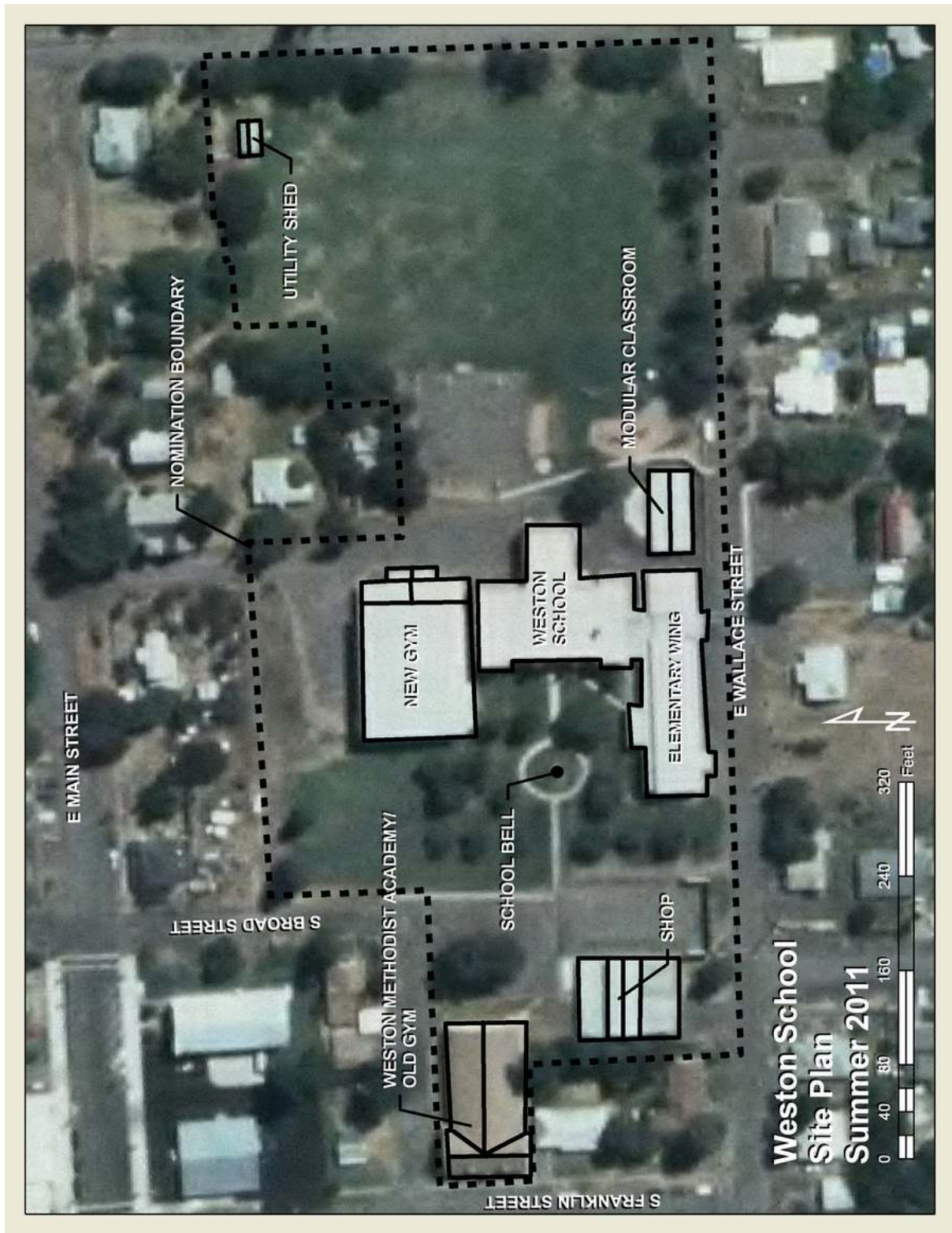
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Figure 3. Current site plan, Weston School.



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Figure 4. Current first floor plan of the Weston Methodist Academy/Old Gym building.

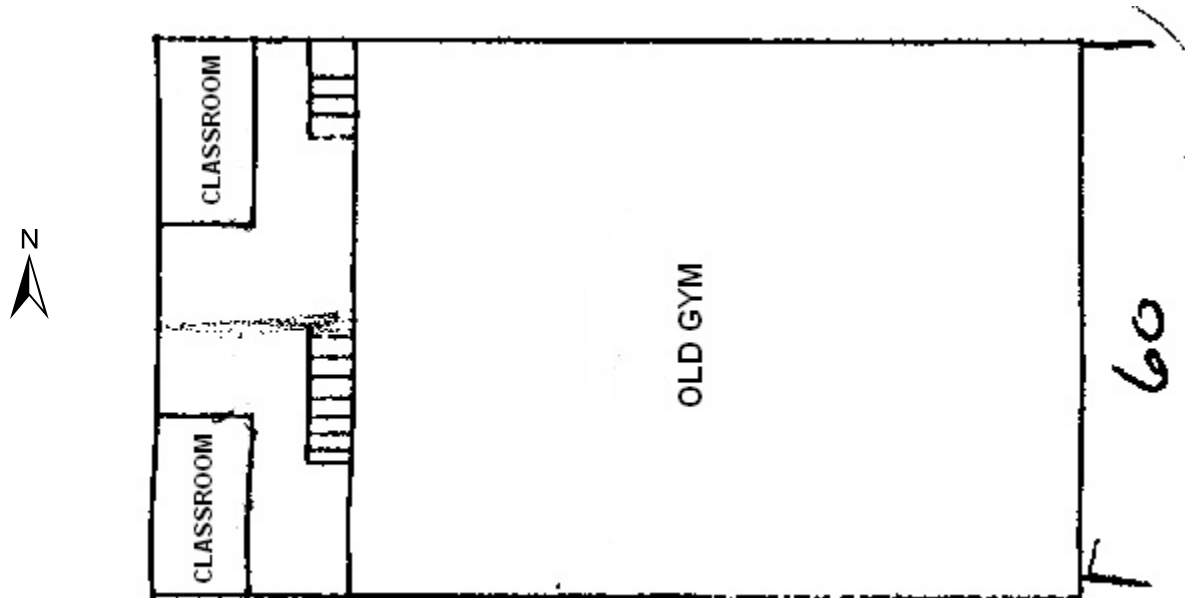
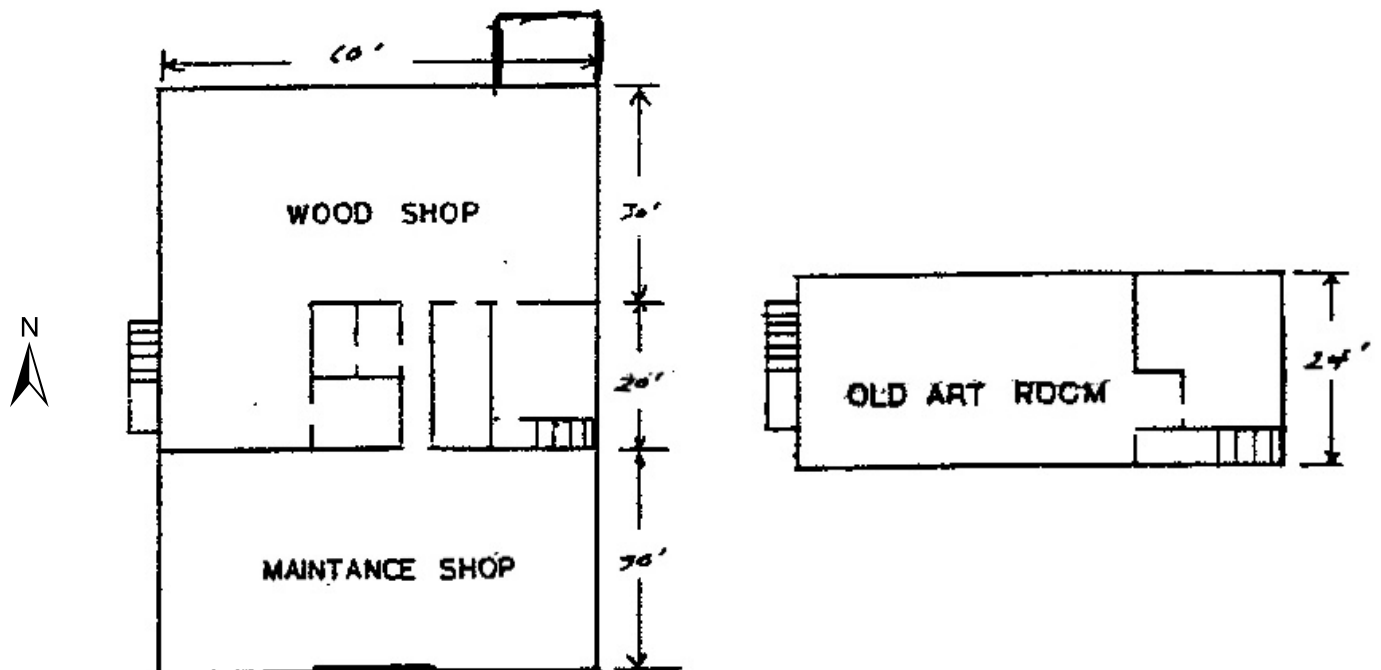


Figure 5. Current first and second floor plan of the shop building.



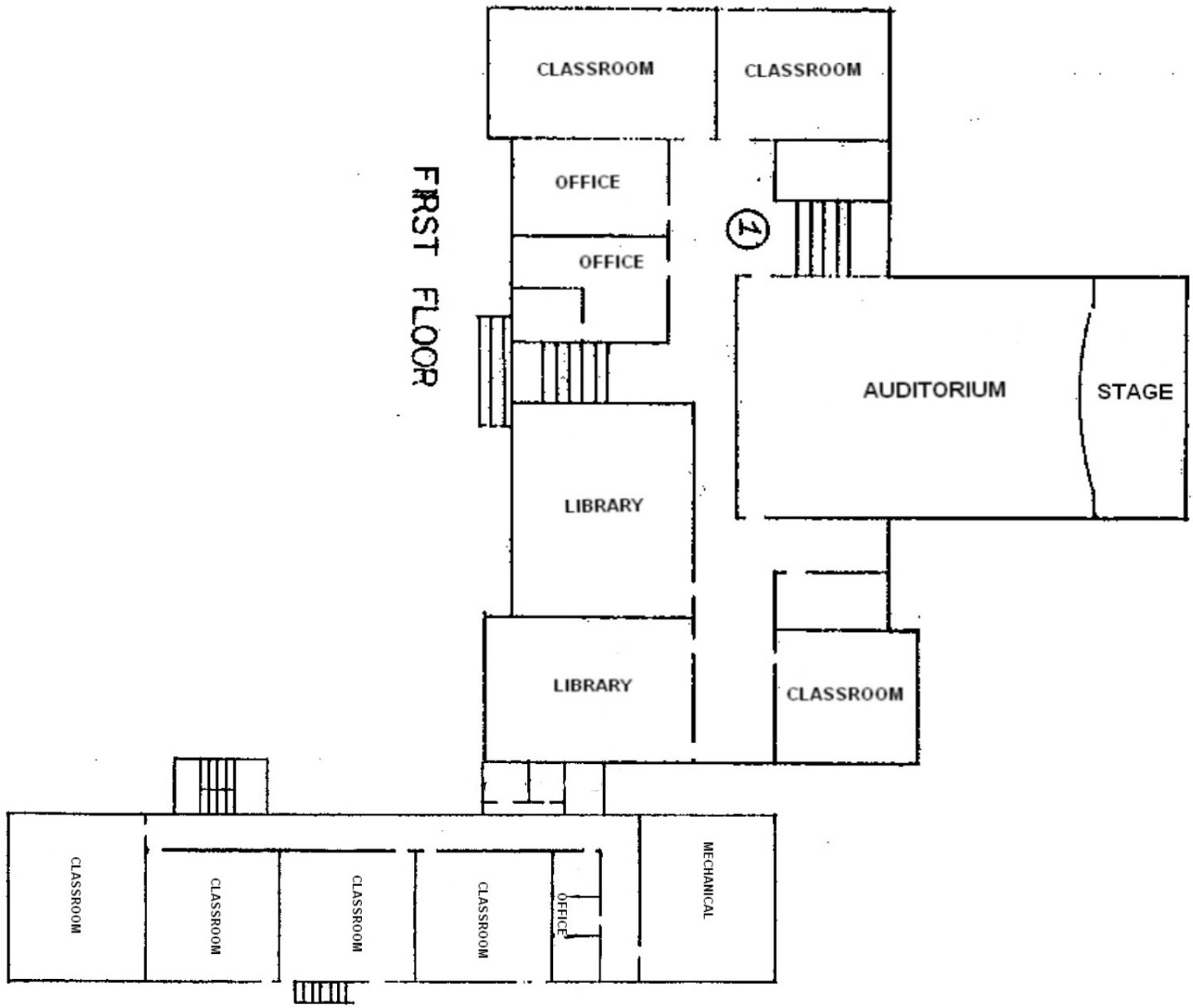
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Figure 6. Current first floor plan of the Weston School building.



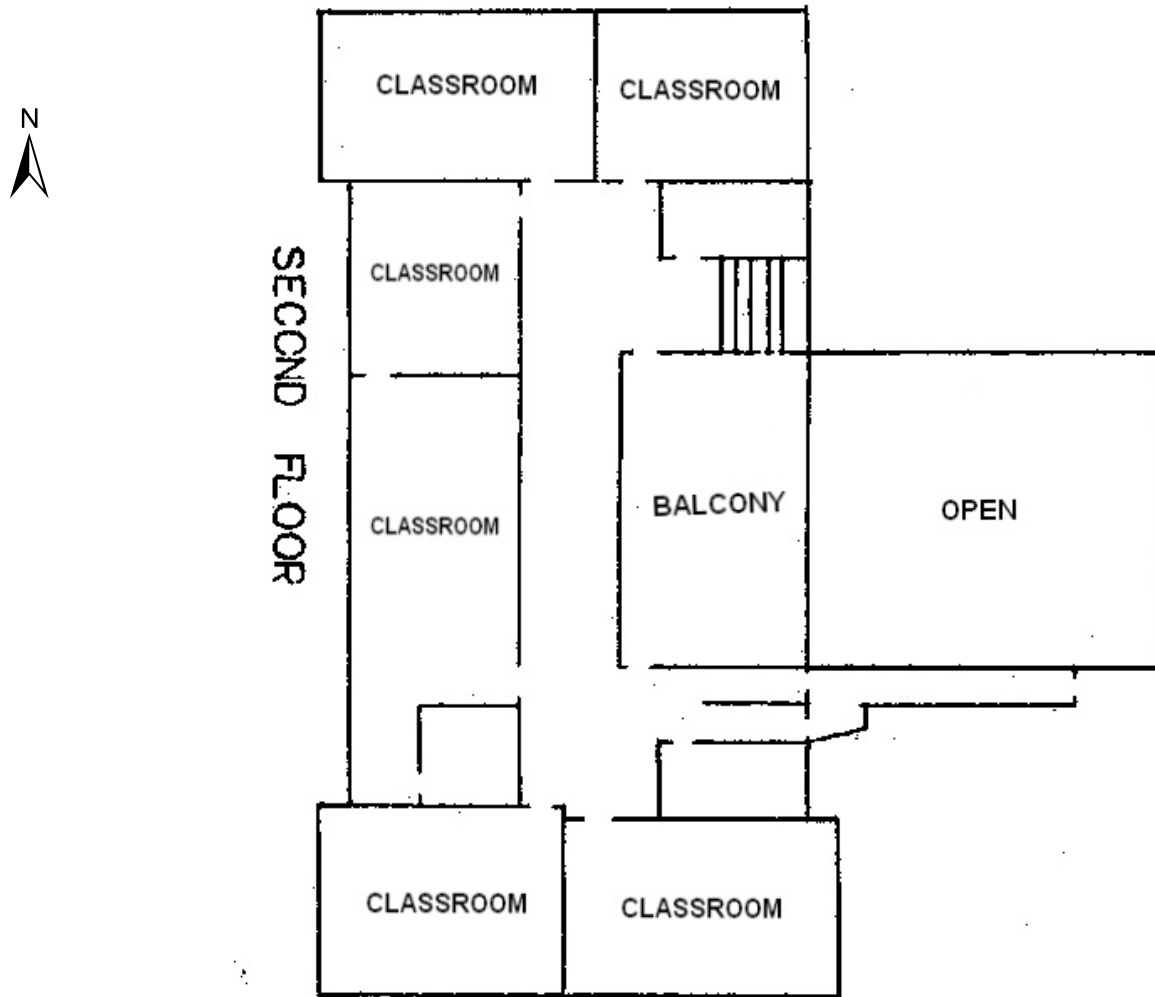
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Figure 7. Current second floor plan of the Weston School building.



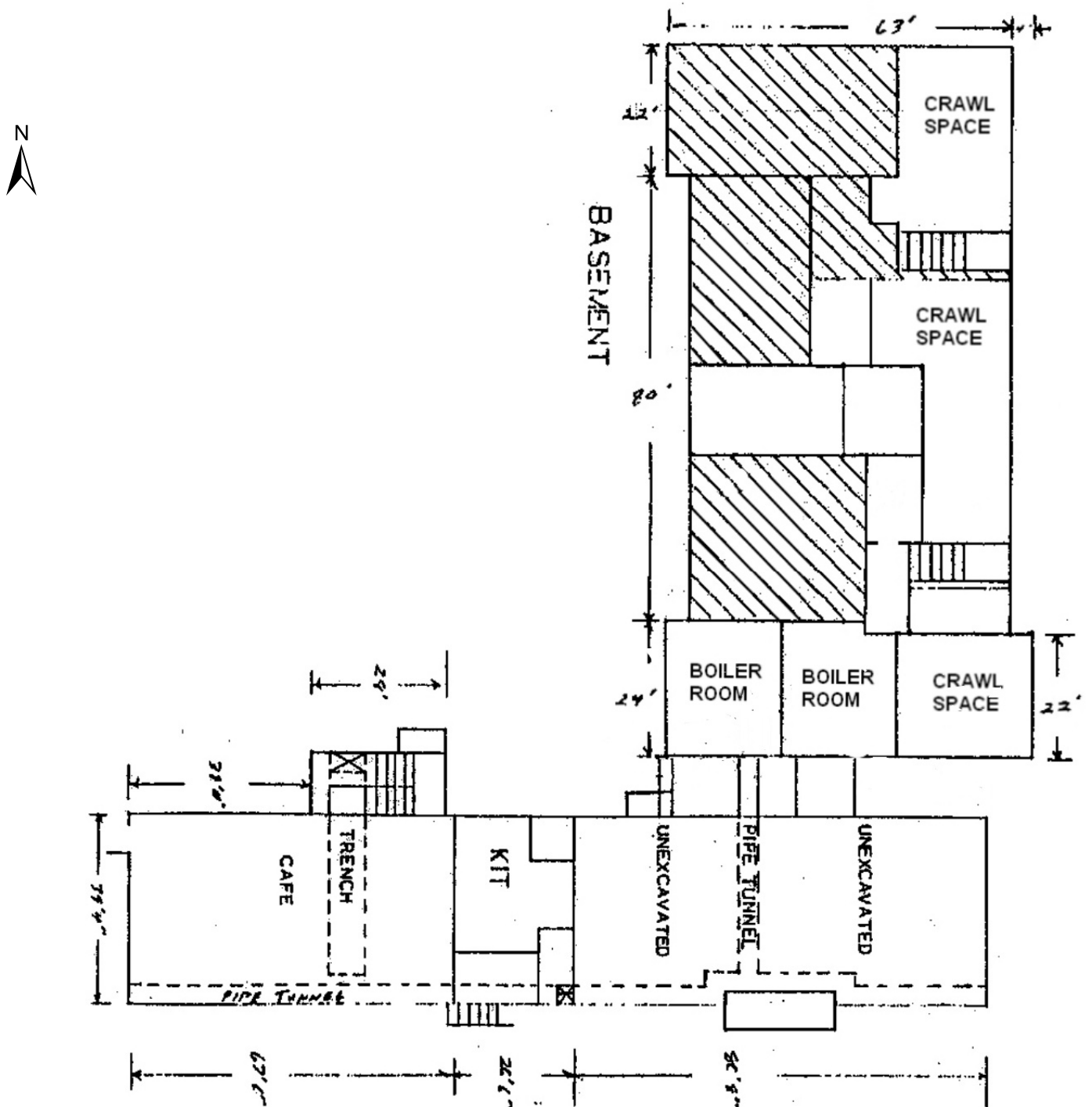
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Figure 8. Current basement plan of the Weston School building.



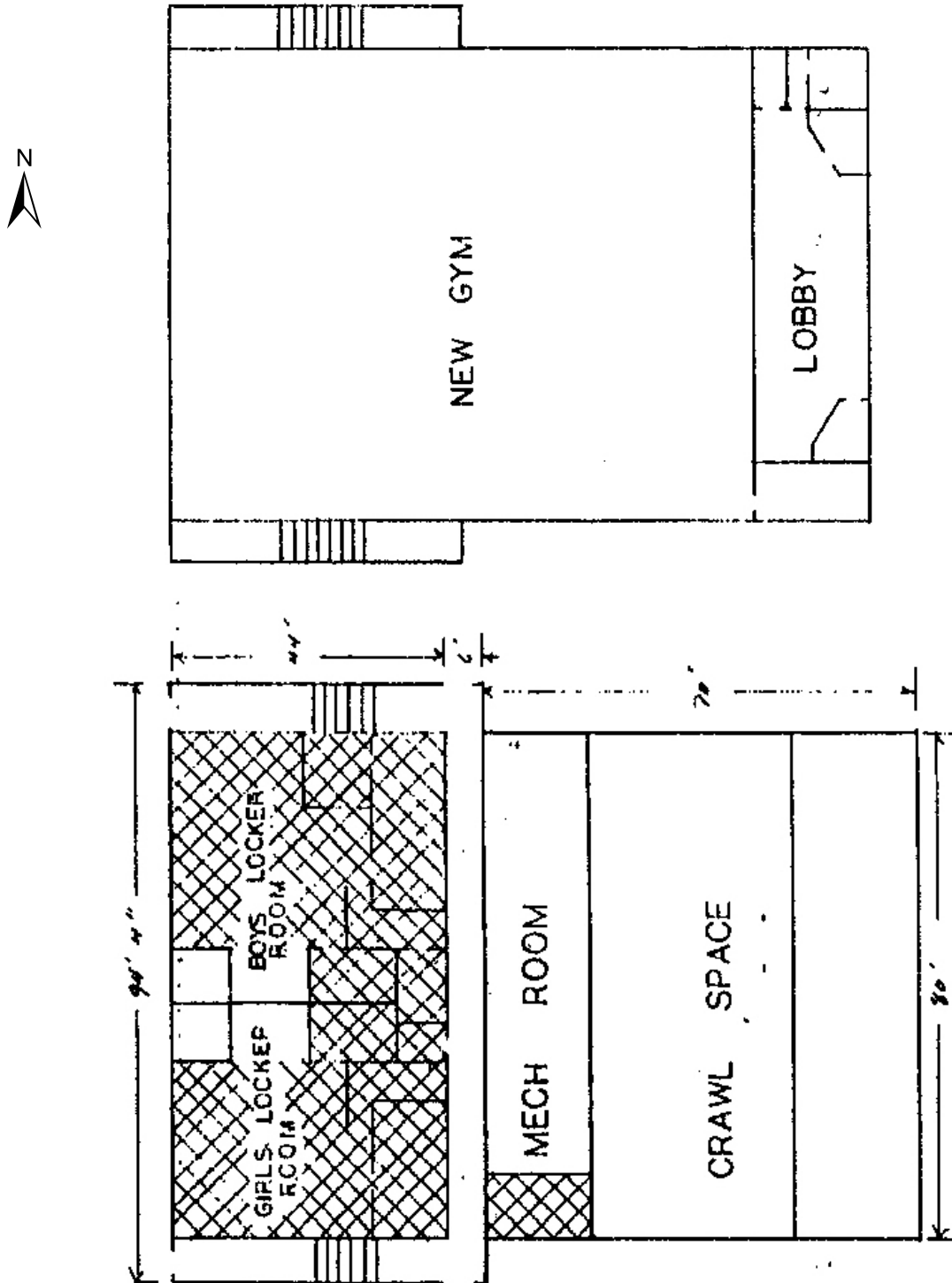
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Figure 9. Current upper and lower floor plans of the New Gym.



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Figure 10. Historic photograph of the Eastern Oregon State Normal School grounds in early 1900s (Courtesy of Weston Public Library).

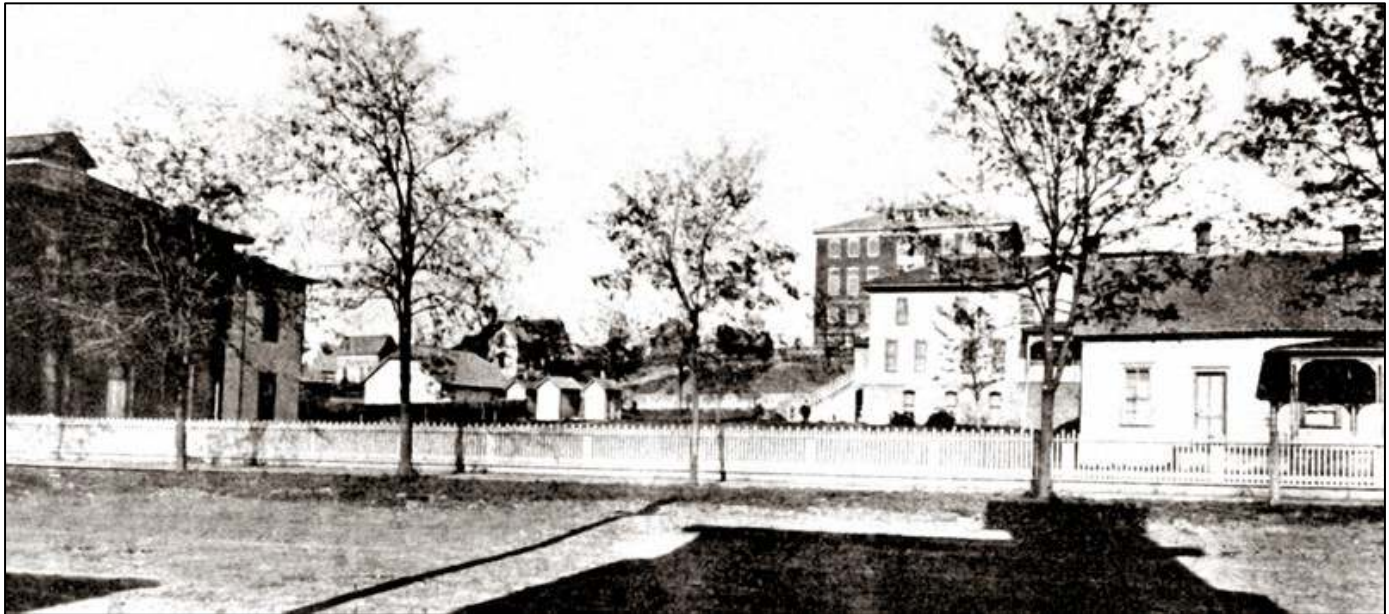


Figure 11. Historic photograph of the Weston School Building in 1927 (Courtesy of Weston Public Library).





OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0001



OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0002



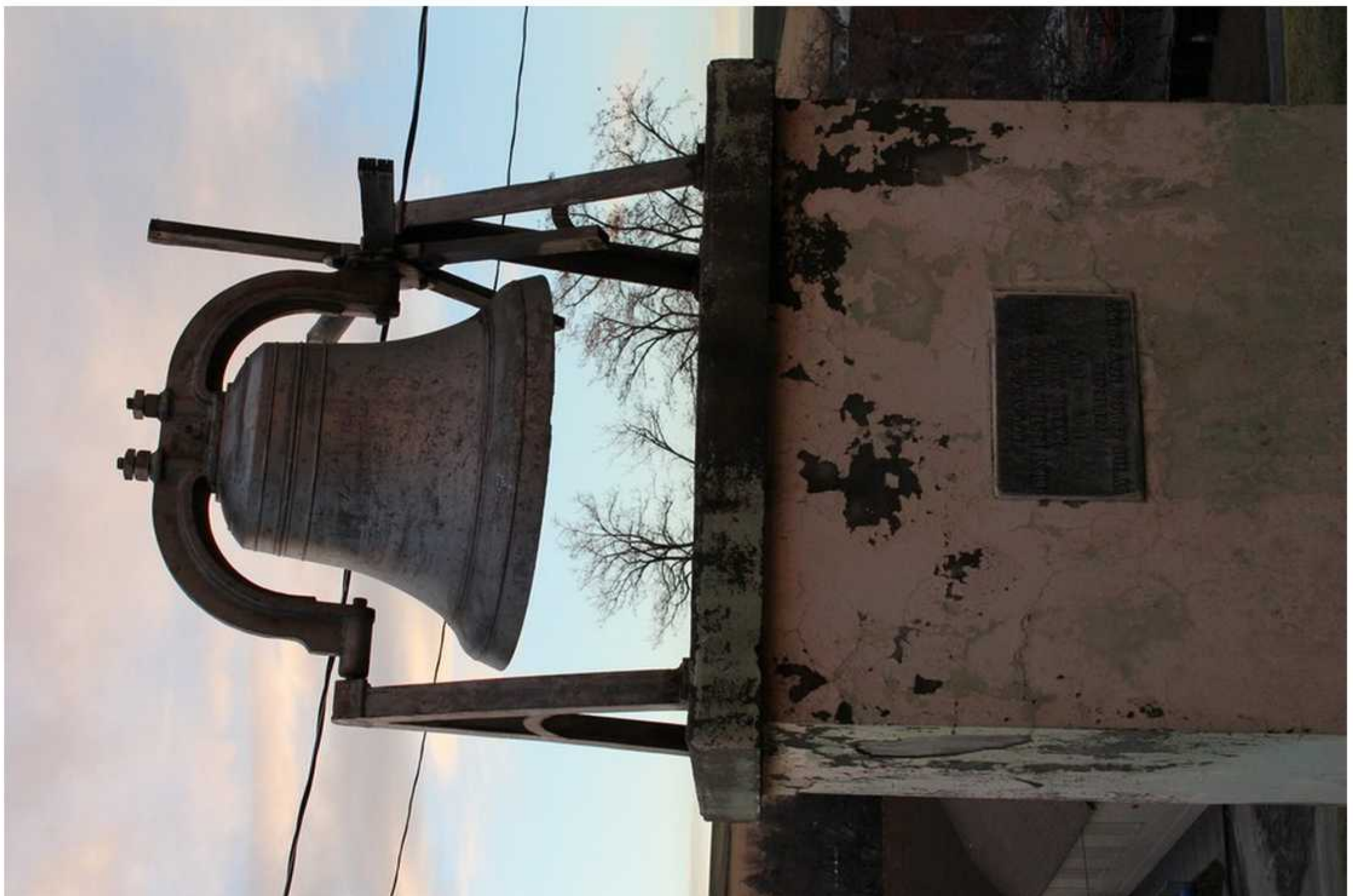
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OR_UmatillaCounty_WestonSchool_0004



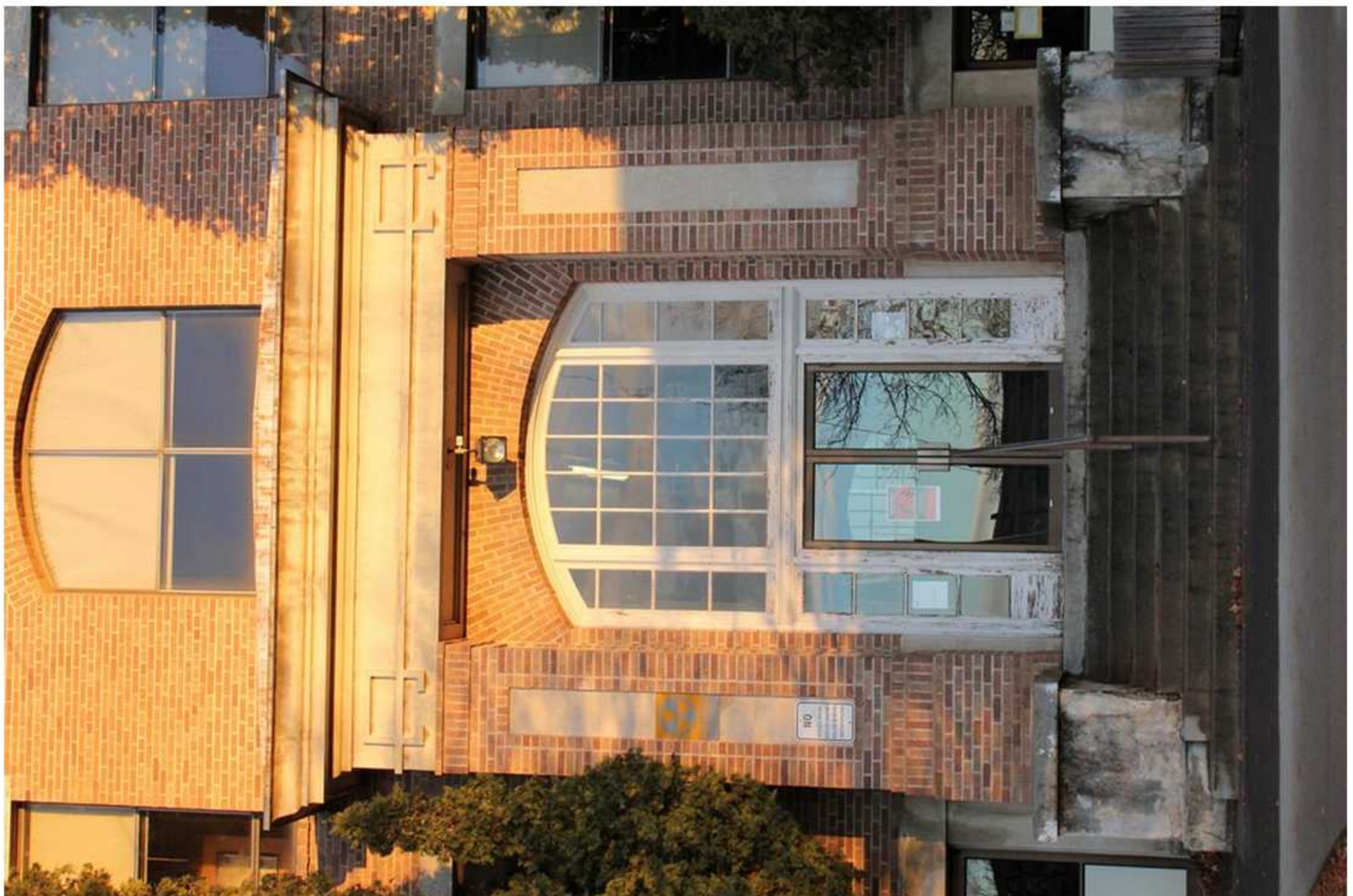
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