

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 How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Carr School

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1419 Carr Street not for publication N/A
city or town St. Louis vicinity N/A
state Missouri code MO county St. Louis [Independent City] code 510
zip code 63106

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

 
Signature of certifying official (Claire Blackwell, Deputy SHPO) Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register _____
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register _____
 See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register _____
 removed from the National Register _____
 other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

- 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.)

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

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance 1908

Significant Dates 1908

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Ittner, William Butts

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

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 # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone Easting	Northing	Zone Easting	Northing
1	<u>15 743 860</u>	<u>4280 240</u>	3	_____
2	_____	_____	4	_____

____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cynthia Hill Longwisch and Lynn Josse

organization Landmarks Association of St. Louis date September 25, 2000

street & number 917 Locust 7th Floor telephone (314) 421-6474

city or town St. Louis state MO zip code 63101-1413

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

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.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

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

name St. Louis Board of Education

street & number 911 Locust Street telephone (314) 231-3720

city or town St. Louis state MO zip code 63101

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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

Carr School
St. Louis [Independent City], Missouri
The St. Louis, Missouri, Public Schools of William B. Ittner

Summary

Carr School, 1419 Carr Street (St. Louis), is a two-story brick Craftsman style elementary school. The building is nominated as part of "The St. Louis, Missouri Public Schools of William B. Ittner" multiple property nomination and relates to the context "The Refining of the "Open Plan" in St. Louis Public Schools, 1902 - 1910." It is an example of the "U-Plan Elementary Schools" property type defined in the cover document. A modified version of the U-plan, which is bent to resemble an L-shape, the school is sited at the lot lines along the eastern and northern boundaries of the property. The rest of the site is asphalted. A sign on the site identifying the school is considered a noncontributing object. Exterior brickwork is primarily variegated Flemish garden wall bond, using more red bricks at the raised basement level and primarily brown hues at the upper stories. Colorful tiles are used for contrast at doors and in figural panels. The gabled roof is of red clay tile with exposed rafter tails, a characteristic of the Craftsman style. Secondary elevations at the north and east lot lines are unornamented brick. The interior plan retains integrity, showing the characteristic classroom arrangement of the Ittner U-shaped plan, but interior finishes are in poor condition due to neglect and vandalism. Nonetheless, the building retains overall integrity and is an interesting example of Ittner's work.

Carr School is located at the eastern edge of a residential neighborhood on St. Louis' near north side and is adjacent to both the Carr Square Village housing development of the Saint Louis Housing Authority and a small park. It is diagonally sited on its proportionately small square lot, necessitating the "bent" form of the U-shaped floor plan which serves to define a courtyardlike playground. The center bay of the school is situated on the diagonal in the northeast corner of the parcel, facing southwest; two L-shaped wings meet at the center bay at right angles. The roof is covered with red clay tiles and features projecting wood rafter ends; it is punctuated by six dormers. Lower course of the tile roof are deteriorated or missing, and the rafters show evidence of weathering.

Of fireproof concrete construction, the school's exterior brickwork is Flemish garden wall bond in an unusually beautiful variety of colors. Mostly reddish brick was used in the raised basement; above a stone water table, the first story employs a mix of yellow-brown and red-brown brick while the second story is yellow and brown brick with a basketweave lintel course. In the upper two stories, flat-arched windows (boarded sometime between 1987 and 1990), were originally paired six-over-twelve double-hung wood sash, separated by pilasters. Smaller windows each featured eight panes. The gabled center bay features a projecting one-story, flat-roofed five-sided

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(kindergarten) bay flanked by round-arched entrance openings (boarded); at the second story, three windows are topped by a tripartite blind arcade. The kindergarten bay rests on a square foundation; a wrought-iron railing forms a narrow balcony above the raised basement. The upper and lower portions of the center kindergarten window openings have been filled in with concrete block, faced with compatible brick on the exterior.

Projecting end bays face into the courtyard, elaborated with tapered vergeboards on three knee brace brackets. At the first floor (considered a raised basement), each central door (boarded) is set within a slightly projecting brick frame which extends up above the high water table and has a shallow red tile roof. Above each door, a blind arch is elaborated with colorful tile. Windows on either side of each door are boarded. The upper two stories of these elevations are blind, ornamented by rectangular polychrome tile insets depicting active figures. According to *Public Art in St. Louis*, the mosaics were designed by Michael Lippmann.

The five-bay sides of these end blocks at the west and south elevations are treated in a relatively plain manner. Each features a door at the outermost bay elaborated in a similar manner to those described above. The projection surrounding the western door is extended out several feet to form its own shed-roofed vestibule. Also, from the school's western elevation to the western end of the property, a low brick wall defines the northern lot line. This wall has a damaged lion-head font in the center. Its brick construction matches the school and is attached to the school; it is therefore not counted as a separate object.

The northern and eastern elevations were never meant to be seen from a distance; with the school's location in the corner of its relatively small lot, these elevations would have been directly across the alley from residential or other buildings. Both sides currently face vacant lots, allowing a better view of the unornamented secondary elevations. The end bays are blind and terminate in a shallow gable reflecting the roof plan of the end blocks. Large four-over-two sash windows are placed regularly at each of the classrooms at the upper two stories; windows at the raised basement level and some above are boarded. The chimney is placed at the northern end of the east elevation. The northeast corner of the building is cut away on the diagonal, with a large central window lighting the main stair, flanked by boarded windows at the first and second stories and another in the gable end. The basement level actually extends beyond the upper stories almost to the corner of the property, cut away to leave a small triangle of the lot which is open ground.

The interior of the school is without working electricity or plumbing, and many of the openings are boarded. The plan is nearly intact (see p.8); however, there are signs of physical deterioration

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Carr School
St. Louis [Independent City], Missouri
The St. Louis, Missouri, Public Schools of William B. Ittner

and vandalism in every room. Plaster is falling from walls and ceilings; windows are frequently broken and missing; most fixtures are missing; and wood floors are buckling. Such significant spaces as the kindergarten and the grand central stair still convey their original configuration (although the kindergarten windows have been partially blocked), but it would take a great deal of work to bring these spaces to a usable state.

The site is asphalted, defined by sections of the original low iron fence. Originally the fence enclosed the entire lot, with a set of gates built out from brick piers at the southwest corner of the property. Today the piers are missing, as is more than half of the fence. Near the center of the southern lot line, an iron sign with raised letters reads "Carr School." A photograph from the St. Louis Public Schools' 1910 Annual Report indicates the sign was not present at that time. No other image is on file at the St. Louis Public Schools Archives until 1938, when the sign was clearly visible.¹ The pre-1938 sign is considered a non-contributing object since it does not date from the period of significance.

Despite damage to the roof, windows and interior finishes, the building retains a high degree of integrity. Significant interior plan elements are still intact, as is the exterior (with the exception of the roof and some doors and windows).

¹Telephone conversation with Sharon Huffman, St. Louis Public Schools Archivist, 6/7/2000. She examined the original documents for evidence of the sign.

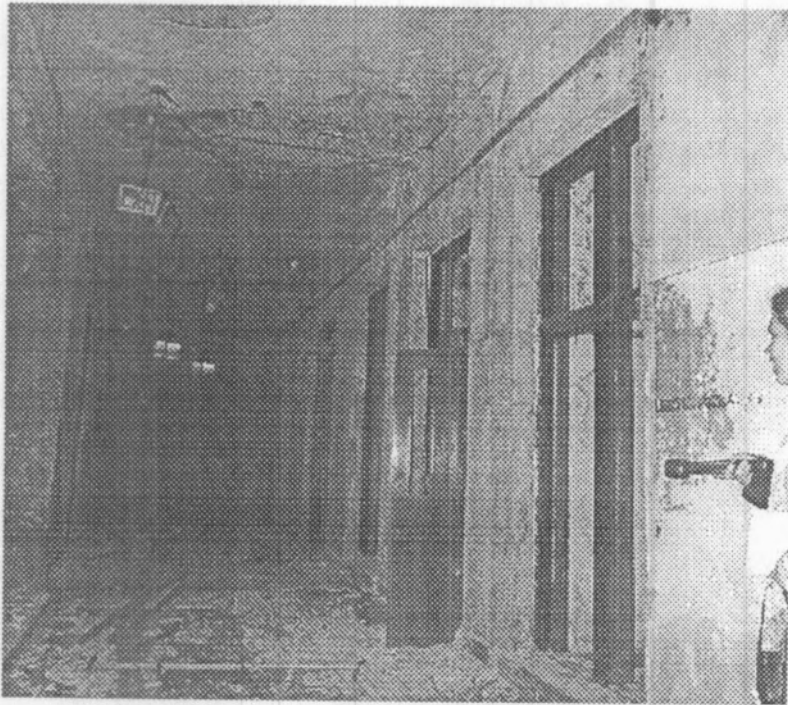
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Carr School
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Figure 1: Representative interior hall in Carr School



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Carr School
St. Louis [Independent City], Missouri
The St. Louis, Missouri, Public Schools of William B. Ittner

Figure 2: Representative interior detail: interior window

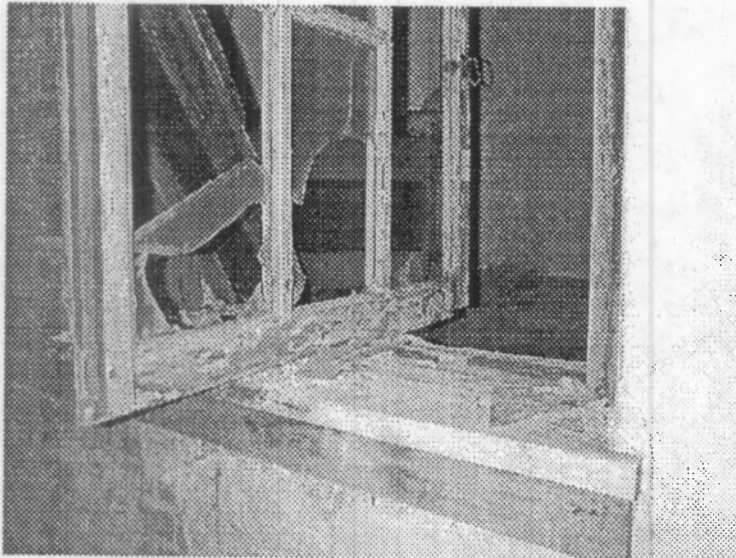
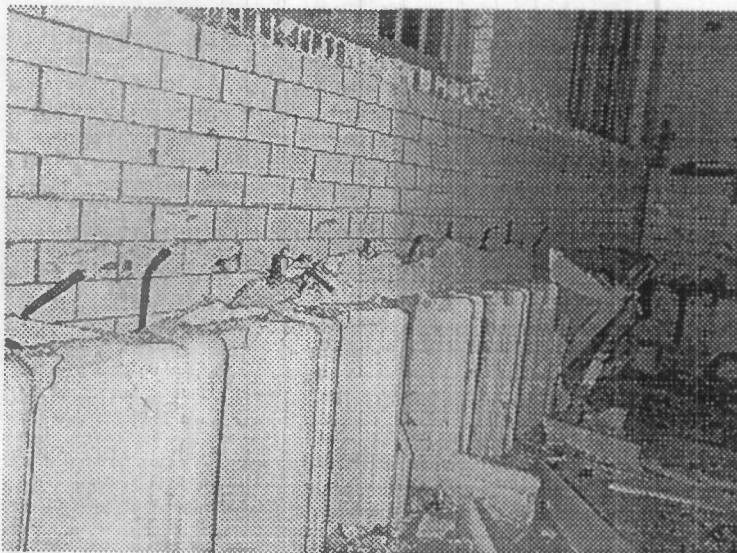


Figure 3: Representative interior detail: boys' bathroom (basement)



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Carr School
St. Louis [Independent City], Missouri
The St. Louis, Missouri, Public Schools of William B. Ittner

Summary

The Carr School in St. Louis, Missouri is locally significant under National Register Criterion C for its architecture and association with master architect William B. Ittner. It is an example of the U-shaped plan property type defined in the multiple property submission "The St. Louis, Missouri Public Schools of William B. Ittner," and is associated with the context 'The Refining of the "Open Plan" in St. Louis Public Schools, 1902 - 1910.' St. Louisan William B. Ittner, FAIA, designed the relatively low-budget Craftsman style school in late 1908; it opened in 1909 and remained in use as a public elementary school until the 1980s. Its plan is a variation of the U-plan elementary school, the design Ittner crafted immediately upon return to the United States after his first European school-study reconnaissance trip some ten years before. Ittner made continual adjustments to all his basic school plans through the years, often with the purpose of suiting building to site and budget; this was the case with Carr School, in which a very tight budget and small lot dictated the "bending" of either side of the center block to join at the center at right angles. The building retains integrity, although its roof and interior finishes are not in good condition.

Ittner had a budget of \$113,005 for Carr School, some \$70,000 less than the amount allotted for the next elementary school he designed. While other elementary schools designed during this period were reflecting some of the elements of the public high schools Ittner had designed (see associated context), Carr School is more modest. It never had an auditorium (St. Louis' first elementary school auditorium would not be designed until the next year), and the basement rooms were indicated to be playrooms rather than gymnasiums. Despite the small budget, Ittner managed to design a lovely and functional school that does not give the appearance of being too cramped for its lot. The muted yet glorious colors of brick and tile used on the exterior of the building give it a radiant look while small touches like tile insets add charm to the whole.

In the Carr School, Ittner altered his familiar U-shaped plan in which a long, straight center block is flanked by two wings projecting forward at right angles to the block. Had that plan been used on this site, a much smaller building would have resulted. Instead, the long center block is broken into two segments at right angles, joined at the diagonal center bay. The projecting wings of this design serve to "wrap" around the lot to form a courtyard of sorts. The plan still functions the same, with corridors along one side and classrooms along the other, allowing in plenty of light and air. This is the only instance of this plan variation in the St. Louis Public Schools system, causing the design to stand out among Ittner's work.

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Carr School
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Ittner designed Carr School's exterior in the Craftsman style. Although he frequently employed elements from the Craftsman vocabulary, this is one of only a few schools which employs the Craftsman idiom as the dominant decorative scheme.² However, the intricate use of brick and the red tile roof are characteristic of his designs in other styles. Aside from the unusual plan shape, it is not dissimilar to the other elementary schools he designed for St. Louis.

Unusual for a St. Louis school built as late as 1908, landscaping for Carr School is nonexistent. The school and paved playground fill the entire lot, which is at grade. Sections of the original low wrought-iron fence and the ornamental sign identifying the school (non-original but in place by 1938) are the only other elements on the lot.

Carr School retains integrity despite the poor condition of the roof and many doors, windows, and interior finishes. Ittner was primarily significant for his revolutionary plans and his exterior design, both of which are intact in this example. Carr School is unusual among Ittner's work for its "bent" plan and the uncharacteristic use of the Craftsman style, providing a significant and interesting comparison with his other work of this period as well as a record of the creativity and flexibility which Ittner brought to his position as Commissioner of School Buildings.

² The colorful tile mosaics adorning the Carr School reflect the Craftsman aesthetic. Ittner often employed Arts & Crafts-inspired art on the interior of his schools, particularly in murals painted for the kindergartens. The exterior use of representative artwork is more unusual. Carr School's two figural panels by Michael Lippmann represent children at play. The St. Louis Public Library publication "Public Art in St. Louis" (1925) refers to the panels as "interesting in color and composition."

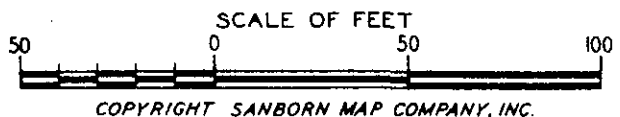
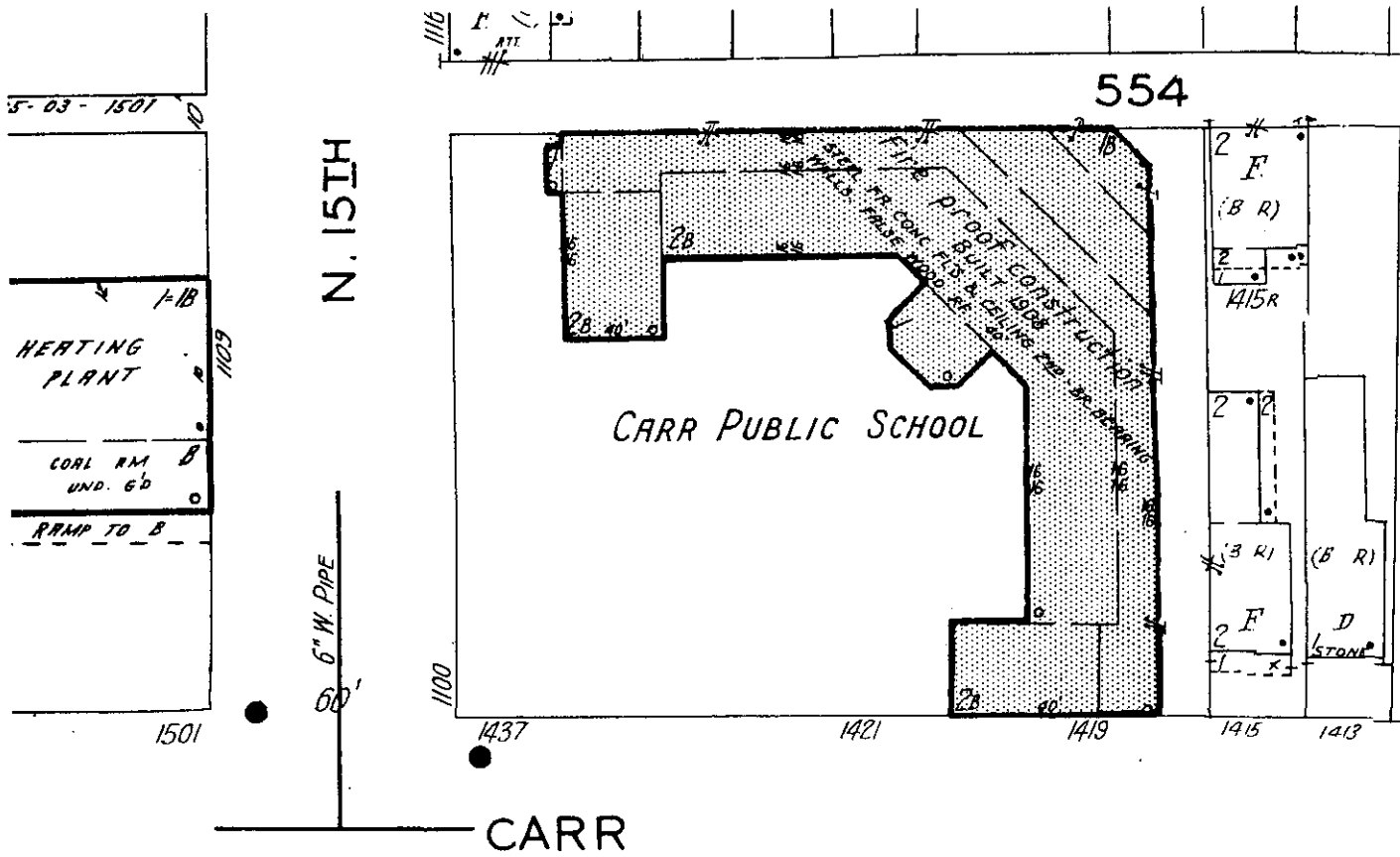
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Carr School
St. Louis [Independent City], Missouri
The St. Louis, Missouri, Public Schools of William B. Ittner

Site Plan
Carr School
Source: Sanborn Map Company, 1968



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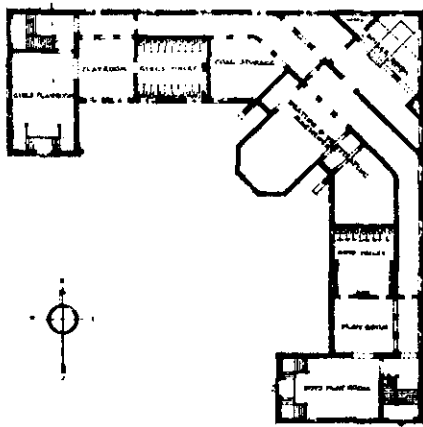
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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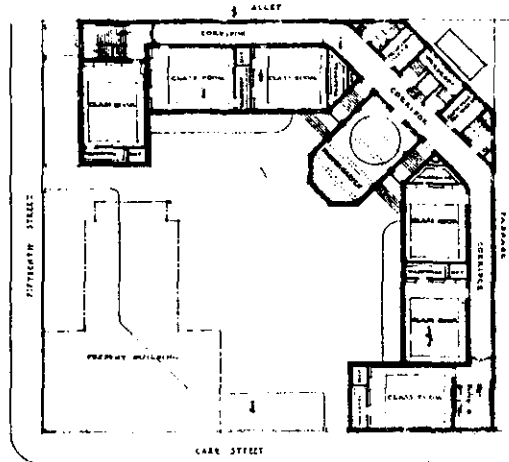
Carr School
St. Louis [Independent City], Missouri
The St. Louis, Missouri, Public Schools of William B. Ittner

Floor Plans
Carr School

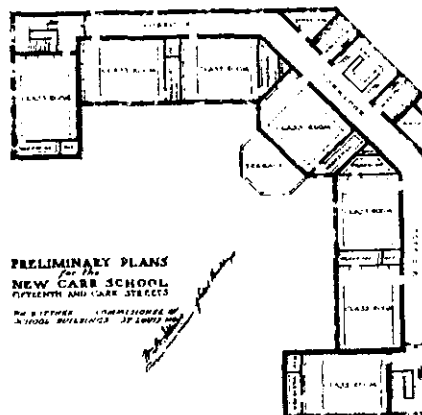
Source: Annual Report of the Board of Education of St. Louis, Missouri, 1910



" BASEMENT PLAN "



" FIRST FLOOR PLAN "



" SECOND FLOOR PLAN "

CARR SCHOOL PLANS.

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St. Louis [Independent City], Missouri
The St. Louis, Missouri, Public Schools of William B. Ittner

section 9

Landmarks Association of St. Louis. "St. Louis Public Schools Survey" Phase I (the schools of William B. Ittner). 1987.

Powell, Mary. "Public Art in St. Louis," St. Louis Public Library Monthly Bulletin, (July-August 1925).

St. Louis Board of Education. Annual Report. Printed yearly from 1896-97 to 1930-31.

St. Louis Board of Education. *Printed Record* (Also called *Official Proceedings*). Printed biannually and annually from 1897 to 1916.

Huffman, Sharon (St. Louis Public Schools Archivist). Telephone conversation with Lynn Josse, 6/7/2000.

section 10

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property consists of lots 8-15 of William Carr's First Addition in the City of St. Louis, Missouri, measuring a total of 201 feet by 155 feet.

Boundary Justification

The selected boundaries are those historically associated with Carr School, including the school itself and its fenced lot.

CARR SCHOOL
 "ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
 PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 OF WILLIAM B.
 ITTNER" MPS

720 000 FEET
 (ILL.)

ST. LOUIS
 [INDEPENDENT
 CITY], MO

ZONE 15 4280

EASTING
 743 860
 NORTHING
 4280 240

38°37' 30" 90°15' 00"

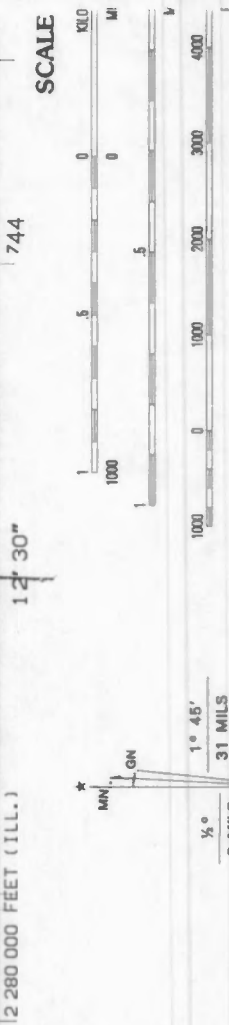


Produced by the United States Geological Survey
 in cooperation with U.S. Corps of Engineers

Compiled by planetable surveys 1930 and 1933. Revised from
 imagery dated 1952. Field checked 1954. Revised from
 imagery dated 1993. PLSS and survey control current as
 of 1954. Map edited 1996. Contours not revised.
 Contours that conflict with revised planimetry are dashed
 North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83). Projection and
 blue 1000-meter ticks: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 15
 10 000-foot ticks: Illinois (west zone) and Missouri (east zone)
 Coordinate Systems of 1983

North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27) is shown by dashed
 corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 83 and NAD 27
 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic
 Survey NADCON software

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
 the National or State reservations shown on this map



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FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER
 ILLINOIS GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 AND DIVISION OF GEOI
 MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAP

Carr School

St. Louis, Missouri Public Schools of William B. Ittner MPS

St. Louis [Independent City], MO

Lynn Josse

7/2000

Landmarks Associations of St. Louis

Camera facing NE

#1 of 3



Carr School

St. Louis, Missouri Public Schools of William B. Ittner MPS

St. Louis [Independent City], Mo

Lynn Josse

7/2000

Landmarks Association of St. Louis

Camera facing SE

#2 of 3



Carr School

St. Louis, Missouri Public Schools of William B. Iffner MPS

St Louis [Independent City], MO

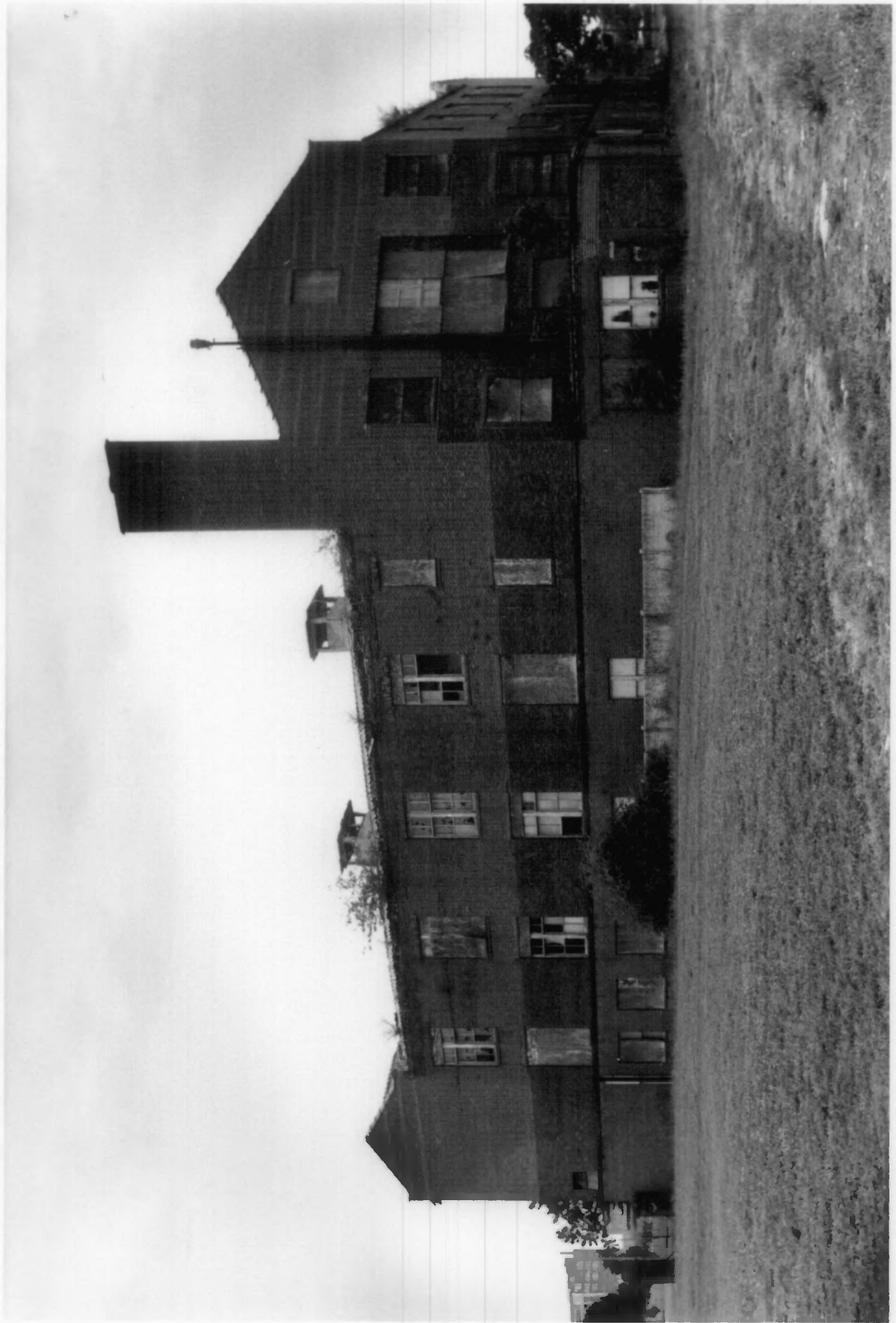
Lynn Josse

7/2000

Landmarks Assoc. of St. Louis

E elevation

383



EXTRA
PHOTOS

