

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.

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Marshall High School (Additional Documentation and Boundary Increase)

Other names/site number: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing:  
N/A

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

### 2. Location

Street & number: 115 and 145 Blannahassett  
Island

City or town: Marshall State: NC County: Madison

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

### 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 X 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

Applicable National Register Criteria:

  X   A      B      C      D

<p>_____  <b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b>  <u>North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources</u>  <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>	<p>_____  <b>Date</b></p>
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Marshall High School (Additional Documentation  
and Boundary Increase)

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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

#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:

Public – Local

Public – State

Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

Building(s)

District

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Site

Structure

Object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing

Noncontributing

1

0

buildings

0

0

sites

0

0

structures

0

0

objects

1

0

Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION: school

RECREATION AND CULTURE: sports facility

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Work in Progress

COMMERCE/TRADE: Professional

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival  
MODERN MOVEMENT

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**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: brick, wood, asphalt, concrete

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

### Summary Paragraph

#### Summary

Marshall High School was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on August 13, 2008. At the time of the initial nomination, the gymnasium building was under separate ownership by Madison County, who objected to listing of the gymnasium, and the high school was listed on its own. The ownership of the gymnasium has now changed to private ownership and the current owner would like to include this property in the National Register of Historic Places. Additional research documenting the significance of the gymnasium building has been completed. The school and the gym are historically related and share historic significance. It therefore is logical to add the gymnasium to the boundary. This Boundary Increase adds one contributing property, the Marshall High School Gymnasium, built as part of the Modern Movement, designed by architect Lindsey M. Gudger, and completed in 1956, as shown on the accompanying boundary map.

The Additional Documentation updates the description of the high school building to reflect changes made during the 2007 rehabilitation project and extends the period of significance to 1974. Additionally, it provides more contextual information in the areas of education for the high school and gymnasium for the extended period.

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### Setting and Site

Marshall High School, completed in 1926 as part of the consolidation effort of Madison County schools, is located on a 2.28 acre parcel on the south side of Blannahassett Island, in Marshall, North Carolina, Madison County.<sup>1</sup> The 12.5-acre island is situated south of Main Street, downtown Marshall, and is reached by way of a bridge which leads from the center of downtown Marshall and spans over the French Broad River. The unique topography of the town of Marshall, with the river to the south and steep hillsides to the north, made large portions of available land hard to come by at the time the school was constructed in 1926. The school building, former athletic field, and 1956 gymnasium, all located on the island, occupy one of the few level pieces of land in the town aside from Main Street. Tree-lined river banks are located to the north and south of the school building, with the gymnasium and part of the former athletic field (now a public park) located across the courtyard from the main building, to the west. East of the school building is the bridge and approach road, with parking located in front of the building, in the former location of a ca. 1952 elementary school building which was demolished after the flood of 2004. Trees have been added on the west side of the parking area, as well as along the west side of the building. The current park wraps around the building on the north and east. The building is a good example of an early twentieth century school building in the Colonial Revival style. It underwent a sensitive rehabilitation in 2007 and was approved under the Investment Tax Credit program, utilizing the Secretary of Interior's Standards for all completed work.<sup>2</sup>

The Marshall High School Gymnasium, designed by Lindsey M. Gudger, is located on a .63 acre parcel on Blannahassett Island, across the river and to the south of downtown Marshall, North Carolina. It is located on property adjacent to and to the west of Marshall High School (NR 2008). The French Broad River surrounds the island and is visible to the north and south of the building. To the west of the building is an open grassy area and at the far west end of the island is a water treatment plant for the town of Marshall, built in 1986. To the north of the building is an area of the island that is designated as a public park and is owned separately by the Town of Marshall. Some of this park was previously in use as ball fields associated with the school and gymnasium, but none of these remain and the area no longer reads as a ball field.

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<sup>1</sup> In some sources, this island is spelled Blennerhassett. However, the spelling used here appears to be the most commonly used, in newspaper articles and by local citizens.

<sup>2</sup>Argintar, Sybil. "Marshall High School", National Register nomination, 2008, p. 7-1. Language from the original nomination is being used in this nomination, but is updated to reflect the nominated resources current condition in 2024 and expanded boundary.

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## Narrative Description

### **115 Blannahassett Island, Marshall High School. Contributing Building. 1926.**

Marshall High School is a symmetrical, two-story-plus-basement, U-shaped brick building with a low hip roof with exposed rafter ends and covered by asphalt shingles. The building as originally designed was to be a seventeen-room building with offices, two large library and reading rooms, a large basement, and an auditorium, all of which was to be of "...brick construction and modern in all details".<sup>3</sup> Originally, the gymnasium was located in the basement, complete with locker rooms (later housed in the 1956 gymnasium building located to the west of the building). The façade of Marshall High School, facing southeast, features two projecting bays with gabled parapets. Within each bay there is a single leaf nine-light-over-two-panel door with a single six-light-over-panel sidelight, replacements of the original six-light-over-three-panel double leaf doors, and an original ten-light transom. Next to these entry doors are openings without doors that lead to the stairwells leading to the second floor. Concrete steps lead up to the raised entries. The doors are approved changes from the tax credit project, along with approval of removal of double-leaf doors which had been added at a later time and were located at the top of the concrete steps. To the north and south of the main entry area are blind end bays with concrete squares forming the corners of a decorative brick square. It does not appear that there were ever windows in the openings above the main doorways, with the area behind the doorways serving as open stairwells between the floors of the building. Awnings have been added at the entry bays and windows on the façade. The north elevation consists of two floors plus the basement, with a brick chimney at the northwest corner. The building on the west elevation forms a U-shaped courtyard, with iron fire escapes on the two projecting wings and a wood deck added in the 2007 renovations to the building. The south elevation does not have an above-ground basement, and, like the north side, is relatively plain except for the window fenestration. Windows on the façade (east) and north and south elevations are the original triple six-over-six double hung wood sash flanked by single six-over-six sash, with original wood sash double four-over-four, double eight-over-eight, and single six-over-six windows on the west courtyard elevation. Doorways and the triple six-over-six windows on the façade and side elevations have concrete keystones, and all windows have concrete sills and flat brick arches.

Inside the open entry vestibules are the replacement doors with original ten-light transoms that lead into each of the side hallways. The stair halls consist of simple enclosed staircases with solid bead board balustrades and bead board runs beneath the staircase and simple square newel posts. Original wood floors remain throughout the first floor hallways, with some tile added in classrooms where flooring was damaged. The U-shaped first-floor hallway configuration, which did not change in the 2007 renovation, has ten classrooms (recitation rooms) located around the perimeter of the building, with the grand two-story auditorium space located in the center.<sup>4</sup> The auditorium is a large open space with a new painted large-panel wood floor that was added when the floor was leveled in the 2007 renovations after the damage from the 2004 flood severely

<sup>3</sup> County Superintendent Column, *The News-Record*, 5 March 1926.

<sup>4</sup> "Marshall Has Fine School Building". *The News-Record*. 31 December 1926. The classrooms were noted as "recitation rooms" in this article.

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damaged the original wood floor. The recessed stage area, located at the northwest side of the room, retains the original tongue-and-groove wood flooring. The projecting portion of the stage was removed in the 2007 renovations which leveled the floor. There is a circulation catwalk which runs the length of the auditorium on three sides which connects the two classroom corridors on the second floor. The catwalks converge on the southeast side of the auditorium, where there is a large room which has been enclosed and appears to have originally opened onto the auditorium space like a balcony. It is not clear where the school office was located, but it was probably in one of the classroom spaces near the entrance to the building, at the southeast corner. It also does not appear that there was a cafeteria in the building as there is no evidence of a kitchen or a large space which would have been suitable for this use.<sup>5</sup>

On the second floor, the original floor plan remains, with the classroom configuration the same as on the first floor, with ten classrooms (recitation rooms) and with the library being located behind the upper level of the stage. Walls throughout the building are plaster, with a flat chair rail along all corridors, and ceilings are homasote, a "repulped newsprint" product available since the first decade of the twentieth century, that was typically used as a substitute for plaster and lath.<sup>6</sup> Typical doors into the classrooms are six-light-over-panel with six-light transoms. Classrooms are plain with storage closets with panel doors on one end and chalkboards on the other. Wood floors on the second floor were not damaged in the flood. Bathrooms are located at the end of each long hallway, on both floors, on the north side of the building.<sup>7</sup>

Concrete stairs lead to the basement of the building, approximately forty feet by one hundred feet. The basement has a concrete slab floor, brick and hollow tile walls, exposed ceiling structure, and small square windows, in single and triple configurations, set high on the walls. There is evidence that some of these windows may have been larger at some point, as they have been filled in with concrete block. The original piping for the showers and bathrooms remains along one side. Some remnants of the original homasote ceiling as on the upper floors remains, but most was removed after flood damage. The large open space that once served as the gymnasium for the school was divided, likely in the late 1950s after the new gymnasium was

<sup>5</sup>Argintar, Sybil. "Marshall High School", National Register nomination, 2008, p. 7-1. Language from the original nomination is being used in this nomination, but is updated to reflect the nominated resources current condition in 2024 and expanded boundary.

<sup>6</sup> Jester's *20th Century Building Materials*. Various kinds of "wall board" products have been available as a substitute for plaster & lathe since the first decade of the 20th century. Homasote was first manufactured by the Agasote Millboard Company of Trenton, NJ in 1916, made of repulped newsprint. The book describes a number of other products with various trade names, made out of grass, reed, straw, paper, hulls, hops, and wood pulp.

<sup>7</sup>Argintar, Sybil. "Marshall High School", National Register nomination, 2008, p. 7-1. Language from the original nomination is being used in this nomination, but is updated to reflect the nominated resources current condition in 2024 and expanded boundary.

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completed, into two smaller classrooms, with concrete block partition walls added at this time. Also located in the basement is the original boiler room.<sup>8</sup>

The building was fully renovated in 2007, with all former classrooms converted into use as artist studios, and the auditorium remaining in use as one large space for community craft shows and other events. In the renovation, the hallway and classroom configurations remained intact and the auditorium remains as large space. Damaged wood floors from the 2004 flood on the first floor were selectively replaced in-kind or finished with tile. All wood flooring on the second floor was retained and refinished. Plaster walls, chair rail, and homasote ceilings were retained. Some original classroom doors on the first floor were taken from the building before renovation work began, and these were replaced with compatible new doors. Most of the original classroom doors remain on the second floor. All bathrooms remain in their original locations, with new fixtures added. New exterior doors at the entrance to the hallways from the vestibules on the first floor were added to meet fire regulation code. On the exterior, all original windows were repaired and retained, and the entry areas were brought back to their original design, with the modern exterior doors removed, the interior doors retained, and the entry vestibules restored. All brick detailing and decorative elements were retained, and a new wood deck and steel fire escape stairs were added in the central courtyard at the rear of the building. Awnings were added on the front of the building.

**145 Blannahassett Island. Marshall High School Gymnasium. Contributing Building.  
1956.**

The facade of the Modern, two-story, flat-roof, solid masonry, brick-faced gymnasium building, completed in 1956, faces west, denoted by a flat-roof concrete awning over the entrance which leads into a lobby on both levels. The façade (west elevation) consists of a shorter and narrower, two-story, projecting center section comprised of three double-leaf metal entry doors on the lower level and three, ten-horizontal-light metal-frame awning-style windows above. On the north and south elevations of the projecting block are five-horizontal-light metal-frame awning style windows, set in the center of each elevation at the level of the interior staircase. The main block of the building, recessed back from the entry, contains fifteen-horizontal-light windows on either end on the first level. The window on the north end is visible, but the one on the south end is boarded over. There is no fenestration on the upper level of the main block of the building above the entry bay.

The north elevation of the building, facing the river, consists of seven bays divided by full height brick pilasters capped by concrete. The lower level of the building on this elevation and throughout the building, is solid concrete with a stucco finish, with brick above. Windows on the north elevation are ten or fifteen-horizontal-light metal-frame awning style on the lower level, with nine-horizontal-light windows on the upper level. The fifth bay in from the east consists of a three-light-over-metal entry door and a small square window adjacent to the west.

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<sup>8</sup>The basement was locked and inaccessible during the 2024 site visit to update this nomination. No work was done during the tax credit project, and the basement is used for storage.



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The east elevation of the building, closest to the high school building, consists of seven bays on the lower level and two on the upper level. From the south end of this elevation, on the first level, the first bay is a fifteen-horizontal-light window as elsewhere, followed by a single-light-over-metal door. To the north of these bays are three additional fifteen-horizontal-light metal window bays, with a single-light-over-metal door at the north end. Staircases with metal stairs with pipe railing on either end of this elevation lead up to the two double-leaf solid metal door entries on the upper level which open directly into the gymnasium. Both entries have flat-roof concrete awnings.

The south elevation of the building, also facing the river, consists of seven bays on the upper and lower levels, separated by brick pilasters that match those on the north elevation. Set slightly off-center is a full height brick chimney which extends above the roofline. On the lower level, beginning at the west end, are two window bays which are boarded over, followed by a metal door. To the east of the chimney are two bays consisting of fifteen-light metal windows. To the east of this is a metal roll-up door with a flat-roof concrete awning followed by a ten-horizontal-light window. On the upper level there are seven, nine-horizontal-light windows.

On the interior, the first level of the building, on the west side, consists of an entry lobby with concrete stairs with metal pipe railing located on either end which lead up to the gymnasium on the upper level. Doors on the east side of the entry lobby lead to two shower rooms and two bathrooms and a small closet. Concrete block shower dividers still exist. Accessible from exterior doors only, on the east side of the building there are what appear to be as many as five classrooms. What appears to be an original bathroom is located on the north side of the large L-shaped classroom at the southeast corner. An added bathroom is located on the west side of the northeast classroom.<sup>9</sup> In the center of the north side of the building is a storage/utility room which is accessible from the exterior only. Floors on the first level of the building are concrete, walls are painted concrete block, and ceilings are exposed concrete beams.

The second floor of the building consists of the same entry lobby as on the lower level, with the gymnasium taking up the remainder of this level. The lobby entry level is the same materials as on the lower level. The gymnasium floor is narrow board wood, with metal bleachers located on the north and south sides of the room. Due to a previous roof leak, a small portion of the floor on the east side of the gym has buckled, but the remainder of the floor is in good condition. Ceilings are exposed metal trusses and all walls are painted concrete block.

The gym was vacated in 1965 when it was discovered that the building, due to extensive flooding, needed work on the foundation. Plans for this work took several years, and it was not until February 5, 1968 that bids were opened to address the structural needs of the building. Work was begun, with foundation work including eight-inch steel pipes run in and out of the building, set two feet below the floor level, and pilings installed down to bedrock fifteen to

<sup>9</sup>A detailed search was conducted with Madison County Schools to locate the original plans prepared by Lindsey M. Gudger, but these plans are no longer in the possession of the school board. It is possible that there were five classrooms, but two of these rooms, as shown on the current floor plan, have no windows.

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twenty feet below ground. This work necessitated the re-pouring of concrete floors in the first level of the building.<sup>10</sup>

### Integrity Statement

In terms of location and setting, both the high school and the associated gymnasium building are in their original locations, with the only change being that the original ball field associated with the properties has been converted to a public park. This does not diminish the setting however, as it remains as an open area to the north of the buildings and does not significantly alter the overall setting. The design and materials of the buildings are very much intact as they were originally, with the school having closely followed the Secretary of the Interior's guidelines in its 2007 renovation, keeping the original floor plan and exterior and interior design intact. The only material changes were the removal of exterior doors at the façade of the school and the necessary replacement of the floor in the auditorium space. Original materials and design are highly intact within the gymnasium building including all interior and exterior features. The only material change to the gym, which took place within the period of significance, is the reworking of the foundation of the building and the repouring of concrete floors on the first level. Both buildings exhibit details of the original skilled workmanship utilized in construction. Together, the high school building and its historically associated gymnasium create an intact feeling of place, association and history since the two were closely connected in the early and later developmental years of the high school from until a new high school building was constructed elsewhere in Marshall in 1974.

<sup>10</sup> "Steel Piling on Rock Will Make Building Safe", *The News-Record*, June 20, 1968.

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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.)

- 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

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Education (Additional Documentation and Boundary Increase)

Architecture (Original Listing)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1926 - 1974

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1926, 1956

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Simpson, Frank B., architect (high school)

Sprinkle, Mack, builder (high school)

Gudger, Lindsey M., architect (gymnasium)

Robinson, Z. B., Construction and Engineering Corporation (gymnasium)

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Marshall High School was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2008, with a period of significance beginning in 1926 when the school was built, and continuing through 1957, the fifty-year cut-off for when the nomination was completed. This Additional Documentation and Boundary Increase extends the period of significance through 1974 when a consolidated Madison County High School building was built and Marshall High School closed. It adds into the boundary the adjacent Marshall High School Gymnasium, completed in 1956 to the west of the school building, and which was not included in the original nomination due to a separate owner objection at the time. The gymnasium is historically related to the school building and the inclusion of the additional building expands upon the school's educational significance. It is locally significant under Criterion A for its contributions to the educational history of Marshall, North Carolina through the early 1970s. Marshall High School and the associated gymnasium continued to be significant for education in Marshall from the late 1950s to 1974, when the consolidated Madison County High School was completed. Not only was the school one of the main high schools in the county at this time, offering both general and college preparatory diplomas, but it continued to offer and expand its extracurricular clubs and activities along with offering a variety of sports for both boys and girls. The 1956 gymnasium was an integral part of the high school, not only used for athletics, but also enabling the high school to expand upon its curricula offerings by providing additional classroom space. The building also served as a community gathering space for events important to local residents. Included within this Additional Documentation and Boundary Increase is an updated description of the high school building, taking into account the renovation work completed under the Secretary of the Interior's Standards in 2008.

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

**Historic Background and Education Context**

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Additional historic background and education context for the high school building can be found in the original nomination form. Deed records indicate that the land on Blannahasset Island for the construction of the high school building was granted to the Madison County Board of education from the Town of Marshall on February 11, 1926.<sup>11</sup> The high school was built in 1926, following the design of architect Frank B. Simpson.<sup>12</sup>

While the Madison County School Board discussed almost immediately upon completion of the high school in 1926 the need for additional classroom space and a gymnasium, it was not until 1950 that the Board approved the selection of an architect to move forward with the design of the gymnasium building.<sup>13</sup> A gymnasium was greatly needed in Marshall to accommodate the local basketball and other athletic teams which had to travel to Walnut for all of their games.<sup>14</sup>

Lindsey Madison Gudger (1904 – 1964) was selected as the architect for the gymnasium building in 1950, ordered by the School Board to prepare plans not only for the gymnasium but for an additional primary classroom building on the island in Marshall. Gudger was also engaged at the time to prepare plans for other school facilities in the county, including Mars Hill, Ebbs Chapel, Spring Creek, Hot Springs, White Rock, and Walnut.<sup>15</sup>

Once plans were complete for the gymnasium building, the Board of Education put to vote a bond issue for the construction of the building on March 27, 1954. The bond passed by a large margin, with 567 voting for and 273 voting against the project. But then a legal technicality discovered by the Local Government Commission required that a second vote take place, further delaying construction.<sup>16</sup> Legal notices were placed once again in the newspaper in January and February 1955 for a vote to take place on May 14, 1955 on a bond issue in the amount of \$50,090.00 to build the gymnasium.<sup>17</sup> The superintendent noted that upon approval of the bond, construction could get underway as early as June.<sup>18</sup> The bond passed overwhelmingly once again the second time around, with the goal set that at least a portion of the building could be in use by the start of the next school term, in the fall of 1955.<sup>19</sup> In order to meet this approved budget, however, plans were altered from an original proposal that included wings on the building that would have housed classrooms and locker rooms, to a more compact, consolidated

<sup>11</sup> Madison County Deed Book 49, p. 162.

<sup>12</sup> Argintar, Sybil. *Marshall High School*. National Register nomination, 2008, pp. 7-1 and 8-10).

<sup>13</sup> "Marshall and Hot Springs Gymnasiums; Other Plans", *The News-Record*, March 9, 1950.

<sup>14</sup> "Marshall and Hot Springs Gymnasiums; Other Plans", *The News-Record*, March 9, 1950.

<sup>15</sup> "Marshall and Hot Springs Gymnasiums; Other Plans", *The News-Record*, March 9, 1950.

<sup>16</sup> "We'll Get It Next Time!" and "Marshall School Gymnasium Is Delayed 60 to 90 Days", *The News-Record*, January 27, 1955.

<sup>17</sup> Community Notices. *The News-Record*, February 24, 1955.

<sup>18</sup> "Vote Saturday!", *The News-Record*, May 12, 1955.

<sup>19</sup> "Marshall Gymnasium Bond Issue to be voted on Here Saturday", *The News-Record*, May 12, 1955.

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plan where vocational classrooms, locker rooms, and baths could all fit beneath the large gymnasium room, as was built and still exists today.<sup>20</sup>

Construction contracts for the gymnasium were awarded in July 1955, with general construction granted to Z. B. Robinson Construction and Engineering Corporation of Asheville; heating and plumbing to Dover Plumbing and Heating Company, of Asheville; and electrical work to Burnsville Electric Shop, of Burnsville.<sup>21</sup> Construction of the building began soon after the awarding of construction contracts with an expected completion date of February 1956.<sup>22</sup> The building construction continued, however, into March, with a new completion date projected to be late spring.<sup>23</sup> By the opening of the school year in August 1956, the building was finally nearing completion, with classrooms for vocational education, home economics, brick laying, agriculture, and physical education.<sup>24</sup> By November of 1956 the gymnasium was in use not only for athletic events and classes, but the Marshall High school student council was also making plans for conducting chapel services in the building. The basketball team kicked off their season in December "...in Marshall's new gymnasium before a large crowd...".<sup>25</sup>

In April of 1957, barely five months after the new gymnasium opened, extensive rain leading to flooding and high water on Blannahasset Island tested the building's durability. Newspaper accounts noted that "...the Island resembled a huge body of water with the three buildings having the appearance of huge ships afloat [the high school, the elementary school, and the new gymnasium being the three buildings noted]. The "impounding" wall again saved the buildings from considerable damage...".<sup>26</sup> The building withstood floodwaters, with the only known damage to have been the influx of mud into the classrooms, shower rooms, and baths on the lower level.

The Marshall community was enthralled with the new gymnasium building, not only as a home for local school athletics and tournaments, but as a place where other events important to the community could be held. Some of these community events included meetings of The French Broad Electric Membership Corporation, graduation ceremonies, Thanksgiving services, and gatherings of the Madison County Democratic Party.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>20</sup> "Gymnasium Plans Are altered at Raleigh Meeting", *The News-Record*, June 9, 1955.

<sup>21</sup> "Our Gymnasium", *The News-Record*, July 14, 1955.

<sup>22</sup> "A Sight for Sore Eyes", *The News-Record*, July 21, 1955 and "Harvey Haynes", *Asheville Citizen-Times*, July 24, 1955).

<sup>23</sup> "4,552 Pupils in Madison", *The News-Record*, March 29, 1956.

<sup>24</sup> "Steel Piling on Rock Will Make Building Safe", *The News-Record*, June 20, 1968.

<sup>25</sup> "MHS Student council Elects Officers Nov. 8", *The News-Record*, November 15, 1956 and "MHS Splits Twin Bill with Laurel Here Tuesday Night", December 6, 1956.

<sup>26</sup> "High Waters Threaten Marshall on Thursday Night; Island Covered", *The News-Record*, April 11, 1957.

<sup>27</sup> Notices. *The News-Record*, April 25, 1957; "Diplomas and Awards Given Seniors Here", June 6, 1957; "Marshall School to Hold Service for

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In the late 1950s, the Madison County School Board consisted of B. K. Meadows, Chair, Jeff Whitt, and Zeno Ponder. In addition to Marshall High School there were five other high schools for white children in the county, including White Rock, Mars Hill, Walnut, Hot Springs, and Spring Creek. Each school had its own committee, with Marshall High School's committee including James Baldwin, Pearson Ball, Vernon Runnion, Kermit Cody, and Hardy Clark.<sup>28</sup> Upon completion of the gymnasium in 1956, Marshall High School was able to expand upon its educational offerings to students due to the additional classroom space available in the lower level of the gym, but Board member Zeno Ponder, in 1959, brought up the fact that Marshall High School students were not qualified for college upon graduation. The State curriculum required additional course work, which, Ponder was told, often could not be offered due to minimal enrollment. Ponder suggested that two diplomas be awarded to graduate, one as a general degree and one as a college preparatory degree.<sup>29</sup> No action was taken on Ponder's concerns, but the next meeting of the Board included a resolution to build an eight-classroom building on the school site to "...eliminate five sub-standard classrooms and to permit the consolidation of Walnut High School with Marshall High School..."<sup>30</sup> Again, no action was taken, but continued discussion of consolidation of Walnut and Marshall High Schools took place in June, with the Board noting that there was "...evidence overwhelmingly in favor of the large consolidated school as a more efficient institution for learning...". The Board then approved a proposal that beginning in the 1959 - 1960 school year, all who attended Walnut High School, along with the eighth-grade class attending Walnut elementary school, be assigned to Marshall High School. Both elementary schools in Walnut and Marshall would continue (with the exception of the eighth grade at Walnut attending school in Marshall).<sup>31</sup> Apparently this consolidation did not happen, since in 1960 Marshall and Walnut remained as two separate districts with two operating high schools.<sup>32</sup> All of the county high schools remained separate, and in 1961 twenty-nine high school teachers were approved by the Board of Education. This same year, an eight-hour day was approved for all teachers, with students attending six hours.<sup>33</sup>

For the 1962 -1963 school year, thirty-seven teachers were approved for the Marshall school district, including the elementary and high schools.<sup>34</sup> Consolidation efforts for the Walnut and

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Thanksgiving", November 21, 1957; "Basketball Tourney to Get Underway Tonight", February 27, 1958 and "Madison Cage Finals Tonight", *Asheville Citizen-Times* March 1, 1963; "Taylor to Speak", November 13, 1971.

<sup>28</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 3, 1939 - June 27, 1959, March 16, 1959 minutes.

<sup>29</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 3, 1939 - June 27, 1959, April 6, 1959 minutes.

<sup>30</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 3, 1939 - June 27, 1959, May 4, 1959 minutes.

<sup>31</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 3, 1939 - June 27, 1959, June 27, 1959 minutes.

<sup>32</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 - March 27, 1969, May 2, 1960 minutes.

<sup>33</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 - March 27, 1969, June 16, 1961 and August 21, 1961 minutes.

<sup>34</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 - March 27,



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Marshall school districts continued in 1962, again with the idea of blending the high schools into one entity. The elementary schools would change again, with Marshall Elementary school including grades one through six, and Walnut Elementary including grades one through eight, with Walnut being the only junior high school in Madison County.<sup>35</sup> In August of 1962 the State Board of Education agreed to this plan, with many community members opposed to this change. But plans went through despite some opposition and a single Marshall school district was created, with an advisory committee from Walnut appointed to serve with the Marshall school committee.<sup>36</sup> Educational standards for the Madison County high schools continued to improve, with new accreditation standards for teachers beginning in the 1963 – 1964 school year required to be “A” certificates or higher to be hired by the Board.<sup>37</sup> Under the consolidated Marshall/Walnut school district, in 1963, Clive Whitt was hired as principal of Marshall High School, with fourteen teachers hired for the high school and eighteen for the elementary school.<sup>38</sup>

In 1964, the Madison County School Board began discussing the concept of school integration. There were very few Black families living in Madison County, with most of them located in Mars Hill and not Marshall. The population of Black students in the county in 1920 was 319.<sup>39</sup> In the 1950s and 1960s, the overall Black population in Madison County was less than one percent.<sup>40</sup> Previous to this, the Madison County School Board, in 1956, supported the Pearsall Plan which would have provided amendments to the State constitution to allow parents to avoid sending their children to desegregated schools.<sup>41</sup> In 1964, several schools for Black students remained in Madison County, including those in Little Pine, Hot Springs, Marshall, and Mars Hill.<sup>42</sup> The Mars Hill school, Anderson Elementary School was a Rosenwald school built in 1928 as the Mars Hill School and renamed the Anderson Elementary School in 1959. Beginning

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1969, June 4, 1962 minutes.

<sup>35</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 – March 27, 1969, July 18, 1962 minutes.

<sup>36</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 – March 27, 1969, August 8, 1962.

<sup>37</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 – March 27, 1969, March 4, 1963.

<sup>38</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 – March 27, 1969, May 18, 1963.

<sup>39</sup> <https://andersonrosenwaldschool.com/african-american-public-education-in-madison-county/>, “Mars Hill Anderson Rosenwald School”, Accessed July 30, 2024 and <https://usafacts.org/data/topics/people-society/population-and-demographics/our-changing-population/state/north-carolina/county/madison-county/?endDate=2022-01-01&startDate=1970-01-01>, “How Has the Racial Make-up of Madison County Changed?”, Accessed July 30, 2024.

<sup>40</sup> <https://www2.census.gov/library/publications/decennial/1960/pc-s1-supplementary-reports/pc-s1-52.pdf>, “Negro Population by County, 1960 and 1950”, Accessed July 30, 2024. The exact population of Black students in Marshall is not known.

<sup>41</sup> Slane, Heather M. “Mars Hill School”, National Register Nomination, 2018, p. 8-14.

<sup>42</sup> <https://andersonrosenwaldschool.com/african-american-public-education-in-madison-county/>, “African-American Public Education in Madison County”, Accessed August 12, 2024.

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in 1956 the school was open for African American students from Yancey County to attend, as long as the county paid all expenses.<sup>43</sup>

At the April 6, 1964 meeting of the school board a Black attorney from Asheville, Reuben Day, and a Black businessman from Asheville, a Mr. Roland (no first name), approached the Board, stating that schools needed to be de-segregated as soon as possible.<sup>44</sup> Formal integration of the schools was delayed, but a compromise was reached in June 1964 that allowed six Black students to be assigned to the "...Mars Hill White School...". There was no formal integration agreement reached and schools continued to operate as racially segregated entities.<sup>45</sup>

School administration continued as always, and in the fall of 1964, the School Board approved industrial education at Marshall and Mars Hill high schools, with two teachers to be hired.<sup>46</sup> However, under increasing pressure to address school integration concerns, School Board chair Zeno Ponder, in 1965, asked the superintendent of Madison County schools to contact the City of Asheville Board of Education to see if "...they will take the colored students from Madison County next year...".<sup>47</sup> By April of 1965, a school board meeting was held where discussion about consolidating the Black schools in the county was noted. Board members, Zeno Ponder, chair, Virginia Anderson, J. G. Gardner, and Eugene Reese issued a statement that the "...County Commissioners and Board of Education jointly agree on the consolidation of the Colored Schools at Marshall and Mars Hill...". Until this could happen, at this same Board meeting members discussed the expenses involved in operating the Anderson Colored School in Mars Hill versus transporting Black students to Asheville schools, with tuition paid to Asheville City Schools. At this same meeting, the Board discussed consolidation of all Madison County high schools, as well as the addition of Distributive Education classes to the two largest high schools at Marshall and Mars Hill.<sup>48</sup> However, in 1965, Civil Rights and school integration was the law and the Madison County Board of Education was required to meet this law, not just consolidate the Black schools. The Madison County Board of Education approved, for the 1965 – 1966 school year, full integration of all Madison County schools, with the Anderson

<sup>43</sup> "Mars Hill School", National Register Nomination, 2018, p. 8-14.

<sup>44</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 – March 27, 1969, April 6, 1964 minutes.

<sup>45</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 – March 27, 1969, June 1, 1964 minutes.

<sup>46</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 – March 27, 1969, November 9, 1964 minutes.

<sup>47</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 – March 27, 1969, February 1, 1965 minutes. There were no Black high schools in Madison County at the time. Stephens Lee and the Allen School, both Black high schools in Asheville, took high school-age students from many western counties, but the schools in Asheville were not integrated in 1965 either. It is likely that the Madison County School Board was trying to delay integrating the high school with this additional request to the Asheville City Schools Board of Education.

<sup>48</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 – March 27, 1969, April 5, 1965 minutes.

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Elementary School in Mars Hill to close.<sup>49</sup> While there were a handful of Black students that may have attended Marshall High School after integration, it is likely this did not have a major impact on the school.

The years 1965 – 1966 proved to be challenging ones for the Board of Education, with major work needed for both the main school building and the gymnasium. In the fall of 1965, health hazards related to sewage and water for Marshall High School was an issue the Board needed to address. \$20,000 was earmarked to meet the safe water requirements of the State Health Department at the high school, and a well drilling company was hired.<sup>50</sup> A new sewerage system was installed at the school on the island in March 1966.<sup>51</sup> Also in the fall of 1965 a meeting was called by the Madison County Board of Education, held at the gymnasium, to address the fact that there were some structural issues with the foundation of the building. Board members Zeno Ponder, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Gardner, and Mr. Meadows attended, along with architects from Lindsey Gudger's former firm, Gudger, Baber, and Wood (Lindsey Gudger had passed away in 1964). The architects noted that new shorings were needed at the building and it must be vacated until this work was completed. The Board agreed to vacate the building by October 25, 1965.<sup>52</sup> In August 1966 the School Board approved engineering studies and plans to be completed under the guidance of Gudger, Baber, and Wood, along with construction engineer Ray Wadell. These plans were delayed for a long time, including a visit by Dr. Pierce, Head of Schoolhouse Planning in Raleigh, to determine how much the gym had settled and what the best engineering solutions would be. By June 1967, there were still no definitive plans, and the Madison County school superintendent, along with the School Board, visited the gym again to see how to correct cracks in the walls and examine the foundation of the building. County Commissioners were contacted.<sup>53</sup> On November 16, 1967 the Board accepted a report from Meirs and Associates of Raleigh for the structural needs of the gym. On February 5, 1968, after nearly a two-and-a-half-year delay, bids were opened for the renovation work on the gym. D. C. Linn Inc. of Landis, North Carolina, Evans and Associates of Statesville, North Carolina, and W. F. Brinkley Granite Quarry were the low bidders, with a renovation cost for the foundation work and fixing of cracked walls totaling \$247,850.00.<sup>54</sup> Some additional costs were requested by Meirs and Associates for materials for additional foundation pilings in the amount of \$1,734.00.<sup>55</sup> Foundation work included eight-inch steel pipes run in and out of the building, set two feet

<sup>49</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 – March 27, 1969, April 27, 1965 minutes.

<sup>50</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 – March 27, 1969, August 19, 1965 and September 15, 1965 minutes.

<sup>51</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 – March 27, 1969, March 7, 1966 and July 5, 1966 minutes.

<sup>52</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 – March 27, 1969, October 1, 1965 minutes.

<sup>53</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 – March 27, 1969, August 1, 1966, December 5, 1966, January 3, 1967, June 29, 1967, and July 10, 1967 minutes.

<sup>54</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 – March 27, 1969, November 16, 1967 and February 5, 1968 minutes.

<sup>55</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 – March 27, 1969, June 4, 1968 minutes.

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below the floor level, and pilings installed down to bedrock fifteen to twenty feet below ground. This work necessitated the re-pouring of concrete floors in the first level of the building.<sup>56</sup>

In August 1968, the School Board again brought up the idea of consolidating all five county high schools into one, and began looking at five possible locations.<sup>57</sup> On May 5, 1969 the School Board, consisting of Dr. Bruce Sams, Mr. Bill Roberts, Mr. Joe Henderson, Dr William A. Whitson, and Emery Wallin, passed a motion to consolidate all county high schools into one county high school.<sup>58</sup> A formal resolution took place on August 4, 1969, with Marshall, Mars Hill, Laurel, Hot Springs, and Spring Creek High Schools to be combined and to continue in operation until a new high school was completed. On May 18, 1970 Burt King, architect, of Asheville, was selected to design the new building.<sup>59</sup> Plans were to be completed as soon as possible, with bids let in March 1971 and a completion date of May 1973. Perry Alexander Construction Company was awarded the bid for clearing and grading of the site on October 6, 1971 at a cost of \$69,201.00.<sup>60</sup> Bids for construction of the new high school were opened on April 19, 1972, with C. J. Kern Construction Company awarded as general contractor at a cost of \$1,181,500; Ray C. Davis Plumbing Company at a cost of \$120,350; Moser Plumbing Company at a cost of \$299,700; and M. B. Haynes Electric Company at a cost of \$220,740. On September 5, 1972, consolidation of all athletic programs of the five high schools was approved by the Board, and on November 6, 1972 a motion passed to name the new high school Madison County High School.<sup>61</sup> A separate bid was awarded on November 16, 1972 for the athletic stadium, with C. J. Kern as general contractor and Bryant Electric Corporation for electrical work.<sup>62</sup> The new high school was not completed until July 1974, including within its walls a cafeteria, library, offices, gymnasium, and athletic stadium, along with science, band, art, drama, cosmetology and homemaking facilities.<sup>63</sup>

Marshall High School continued to play an important educational role in Marshall from the late 1950s to 1974, when the consolidated Madison County High School was completed. Not only was the school one of the main high schools in the county at this time, offering both general and college preparatory diplomas, but it continued to offer and expand upon many athletic and social

<sup>56</sup> "Steel Piling on Rock Will Make Building Safe", *The News-Record*, June 20, 1968.

<sup>57</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 - March 27, 1969, August 5, 1968 minutes.

<sup>58</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book May 5, 1969 - March 5, 1979, May 5, 1969 minutes.

<sup>59</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 - March 27, 1969, August 4, 1969 and May 18, 1970 minutes.

<sup>60</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 - March 27, 1969, October 12, 1970 and October 6, 1971 minutes.

<sup>61</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 - March 27, 1969, April 19, 1972, September 5, 1972, and November 6, 1972.

<sup>62</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 - March 27, 1969, November 16, 1972.

<sup>63</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book July 6, 1959 - March 27, 1969, April 3, 1974 and July 1, 1974 minutes and "Thousands Tour New High School Sunday", *The News-Record*, October 31, 1974.

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programs. The school was not only a place for education, but a social gathering place for students and families who took part in clubs and athletics. A perusal of the school's *Islander* yearbook from 1960 noted English, History, French, Science, Math, Spanish, Home Economics, Agriculture, Band and Driver's Education as some of the curriculum offerings. Clubs included The Blannahassett Tribune; Junior and Senior Science Clubs; Beta Club; Glee Club; Future Homemakers of America; Future Farmers of America; Junior 4H; French; and Spanish. Athletic offerings included football, baseball, basketball, and cheerleading.<sup>64</sup> By 1969, as noted in the *Islander*, additional clubs included Beta Club; Debate; DECA; Business; and Library Science. Athletics had expanded to include both boys' and girls' teams at the junior varsity and varsity levels.<sup>65</sup> Curriculum also continued to expand, including, by 1971, classes in English, French, United States History, Social Studies, Physical Education, Journalism, World History, Civics, Geometry, Algebra, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Business, and Vocational Education classes in agriculture, home economics, family living, bricklaying and wood shop.<sup>66</sup>

The gym operated successfully from 1956 – 1965 when it closed temporarily due to foundation issues, and again from 1968 – 1974, when the new consolidated Madison County High School was completed on the county by-pass road in 1974.<sup>67</sup> The Marshall High School building remained in continuous operation from 1926 to 1974. It has since been converted into artist studios, and plans are underway to bring the gymnasium back to its original use as a community center and gym, with offices and additional artist studios on the lower level. Research is not definitive, but it appears that the high school building primarily stood vacant after the school closed in 1973. There are some references in newspaper articles about classes holding reunions in the home economics classrooms and the "old gym", but there does not appear to have been any other major use for the buildings until the high school was purchased in 2006 and converted to artist studios.<sup>68</sup> The school property, including the high school building and the gymnasium, remained with the Board of Education until January 27, 2003. The buildings were not in use as school facilities from 1974 until 2003, after the new high school was built. In 2003, the property was deeded to Madison County, including the land where the gymnasium now stands.<sup>69</sup> A portion of this property, where the former high school building is located, was sold by Madison County to a private developer in 2007, and another portion, where the gymnasium building is located, was sold in 2023 to the current owner.

### **Additional Architectural History for the Gymnasium Building**

Modernism was a trend which began in earnest in North Carolina post-World War II, with North Carolina State University's School of Design leading the way. Architects and engineers began to follow the modern trends, using "...materials such as masonry, glass, and steel to break with

<sup>64</sup> *Islander* yearbook, 1960, p. 4.

<sup>65</sup> *Islander* yearbook, 1969, p. 7.

<sup>66</sup> *Islander* yearbook, 1971, p. 7.

<sup>67</sup> Madison County Board of Education Minute Book May 5, 1969 – March 5, 1979, March 6, 1974, April 3, 1974, and July 1, 1974 minutes.

<sup>68</sup> "Marshall High Class of 1969 Reunion", The News-Record and Sentinel, July 9, 2014 and "The Marshall High School Class of 1955", The News-Record and Sentinel, October 10, 2012.

<sup>69</sup> Madison County Deed Book 289, p. 792.

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tradition and reflect the period's seemingly progressive post-World War II mindset. Modernism's ideals of simplicity, efficiency, practicality, and use of honest materials found widespread use in educational buildings...".<sup>70</sup> Horizontal form and massing, flat roofs, minimal ornamentation, bands of steel frame windows to allow for good cross ventilation, and placement of these windows related to interior spaces rather than to symmetry were typical features of modernist school buildings. Solid masonry construction, often with exposed painted concrete block for the interiors of classroom walls, was also typical of these mid-twentieth-century buildings, along with concrete structural systems that allowed for large open expanses for cafeterias and auditoriums.<sup>71</sup>

This description of Modern mid-twentieth-century educational buildings could easily be a description of the Marshall High School Gymnasium. It incorporates many of the elements noted, including simplicity of form with little ornamentation, flat roof, solid masonry construction, painted concrete block interior walls, concrete structural elements in the floors and ceilings, and the use of bands of metal windows.

Lindsey Madison Gudger (1904 – 1964), architect for the Marshall High School Gymnasium, was born in Buncombe County, and received his higher education at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and at the Georgia Institute of Technology.<sup>72</sup> Gudger began his career in western North Carolina in 1929 as the manager for the Asheville office of Atwood and Nash, based in Chapel Hill. The Asheville office was short-lived, opening only a few days before the stock market crash of October 22, 1929. Gudger went on at that point to open his own firm.<sup>73</sup>

Lindsey Gudger, in the late 1930s through the 1940s, designed public buildings for the city of Asheville, along with the design of many residences, two schools in Buncombe County and a student union for Western Carolina University. His practice quickly evolved, however, beginning in the late 1940s, into a focus upon school architecture. He was one of the most prolific school architects in western North Carolina in the 1940s and 1950s. In 1953 Gudger went into partnership with Jack Baber and John T. Wood.<sup>74</sup>

In the 1950s, the time period when the Marshall High School Gymnasium was built, Gudger designed two schools in Burnsville, Yancey County, the Bee Log School and the South Toe River School, and several in Buncombe County, as part of the county's large school building project, including South Hominy School (1950); Candler Primary School (1953); East Buncombe High School (1953-1956); Enka High school (1954 – 1955); and A. C. Reynolds High School (1956). Additional known school work of Gudger in the 1950s included the Hill Street School in Asheville, an African American school, William Randolph School in Asheville,

<sup>70</sup> "Cedar Grove School". National Register nomination, 2020, p. 8-25.

<sup>71</sup> "Cedar Grove School". National Register nomination, 2020, p. 8-25.

<sup>72</sup> Argintar, Sybil. *Pigeon Street School*. National Register nomination, 2021, p. 8-28.

<sup>73</sup>Argintar, Sybil. *Pigeon Street School*. National Register nomination, 2021, p. 8-28.

<sup>74</sup>Argintar, Sybil. *Pigeon Street School*. National Register nomination, 2021, p. 8-28.

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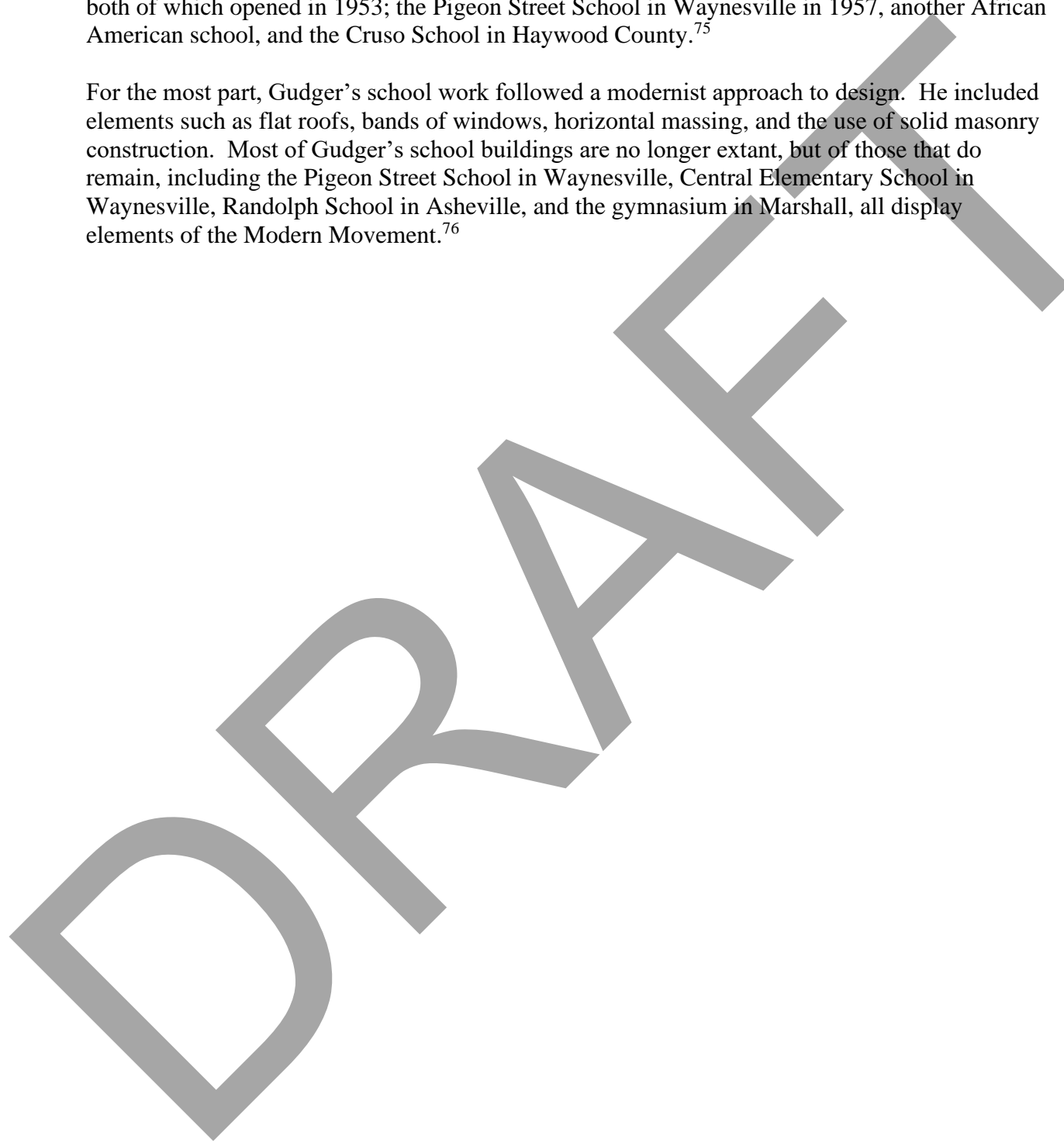
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both of which opened in 1953; the Pigeon Street School in Waynesville in 1957, another African American school, and the Cruso School in Haywood County.<sup>75</sup>

For the most part, Gudger's school work followed a modernist approach to design. He included elements such as flat roofs, bands of windows, horizontal massing, and the use of solid masonry construction. Most of Gudger's school buildings are no longer extant, but of those that do remain, including the Pigeon Street School in Waynesville, Central Elementary School in Waynesville, Randolph School in Asheville, and the gymnasium in Marshall, all display elements of the Modern Movement.<sup>76</sup>



<sup>75</sup>Argintar, Sybil. *Pigeon Street School*. National Register nomination, 2021, p. 8-29.

<sup>76</sup>Argintar, Sybil. *Pigeon Street School*. National Register nomination, 2021, p. 8-30.

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### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested  
 previously listed in the National Register



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- 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: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** MD0323

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acree of Property** 2.91 acres  
Acree previously listed in the National Register 2.28 acres  
Acree of boundary increase 0.63 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 35.795974 | Longitude: -82.687279 |
| 2. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 3. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 4. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |

Marshall High School (Additional Documentation  
and Boundary Increase)  
Name of Property

Madison, North Carolina  
County and State

**Or**  
**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |          |           |           |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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

The expanded boundary of the Marshall High School nomination includes the .63 acre tax parcel (PIN 9706647994) that contains the gymnasium building and immediately surrounding property as shown on the boundary map submitted as part of this nomination.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The expansion of the boundary of the Marshall High School nomination, along with the original boundary, includes a portion of the original property that was part of the school property, encompassing only the high school and gymnasium buildings. Originally this included ball fields to the northwest of the gymnasium building and an elementary school to the east of the high school building. The ball fields currently are part of a public park owned by the Town of Marshall, having undergone changes such as the removal of bleachers, boundaries of any athletic fields, and the additional of walking trails. The fields no longer retain integrity to the historic period and are therefore excluded from the boundary. The elementary school building is no longer extant and is currently the parking lot to the east of the school.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Sybil H. Argintar

Marshall High School (Additional Documentation  
and Boundary Increase)

Madison, North Carolina

Name of Property

County and State

organization: Southeastern Preservation Services

street & number: 166 Pearson Drive

city or town: Asheville state: NC zip code: 28801

e-mail sybil.argintar@yahoo.com

telephone: (828) 230-3773

date: August 19, 2024

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Marshall High School (Additional Documentation  
and Boundary Increase)

Madison, North Carolina

Name of Property

County and State

### Photo Log

Name of Property: Marshall High School Additional Documentation and Boundary Increase

City or Vicinity: Marshall

County: Madison

State: North Carolina

Photographer: Sybil H. Argintar

Date Photographed: July 2023 (gymnasium) and June 2024 (high school)

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 13. Gymnasium, west elevation, view southeast.
- 2 of 13. Gymnasium, north elevation, view south.
- 3 of 13. Gymnasium, east elevation, view northwest.
- 4 of 13. Gymnasium, south elevation, view northwest
- 5 of 13. Gymnasium, gym, view northeast.
- 6 of 13. Gymnasium, entry hall, second floor, view north.
- 7 of 13. Gymnasium, entry hall, first floor, view north.
- 8 of 13. Gymnasium, first floor classroom, view southeast.
- 9 of 13. High School, east elevation/entry, view southwest.
- 10 of 13. High School, west elevation, view southeast.
- 11 of 13. High School, typical hallway, view east.
- 12 of 13. High School, auditorium, view southwest.
- 13 of 13. High School, typical art studio (former classroom), view northeast.

Marshall High School (Additional Documentation  
and Boundary Increase)  
Name of Property

Madison, North Carolina  
County and State

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations 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.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.