

Site Inventory Form

State Historical Society of Iowa

(December 1, 1999)

State Inventory No. 77-03955

New Supplemental

Part of a district with known boundaries (enter inventory no.) _____

Relationship: Contributing Noncontributing

Contributes to a potential district with yet unknown boundaries

National Register Status:(any that apply) Listed De-listed NHL DOE

ELIGIBLE

9-Digit SHPO Review & Compliance Number _____

Non-Extant (enter year) _____

1. Name of Property

historic name Phineas McRay Casady Elementary School

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1801 West 16th Street

city or town Des Moines

vicinity, county Polk

Legal Description: (If Rural) Township Name _____

Township No. _____ Range No. _____ Section _____ Quarter of Quarter _____

(If Urban) Subdivision _____

Block(s) _____

Lot(s) _____

3. State/Federal Agency Certification [*Skip this Section*]

4. National Park Service Certification [*Skip this Section*]

5. Classification

Category of Property (Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

If Non-Eligible Property

Enter number of:

<u>1</u>	buildings
—	sites
—	structures
—	objects
<u>1</u>	Total

If Eligible Property, enter number of:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
—	—	sites
—	—	structures
—	—	objects
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Name of related project report or multiple property study (Enter "N/A" if the property is not part of a multiple property examination).

Title

An Architectural and Historical Survey of the King-Irving and Mondamin

Historical Architectural Data Base Number _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

05-Education/05A-School/05A05-elementary school

05-Education/school administration

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & Early 20th Century Revivals/06C-Classical

foundation 03-brick

Revival

walls 02-Wood

roof 08-Asphalt

other _____

Narrative Description (SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" representing your opinion of eligibility after applying relevant National Register criteria)

- Yes No More Research Recommended
- Yes No More Research Recommended
- Yes No More Research Recommended
- Yes No More Research Recommended

- A Property is associated with significant events.
- B Property is associated with the lives of significant persons.
- C Property has distinctive architectural characteristics.
- D Property yields significant information in archaeology or history.

County Polk
City Des Moines

Address 1801 West 16th Street

Site Number 77-03955
District Number

Criteria Considerations

- 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Education

Significant Person

(Complete if National Register Criterion B is marked above)

Significant Dates

Construction date

1905-6 check if circa or estimated date

Other dates

1932, 1946, 1952

Architect/Builder

Architect

Hallet & Rawson

Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance (SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS, WHICH MUST BE COMPLETED)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography See continuation sheet for citations of the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form

10. Geographic Data

UTM References (OPTIONAL)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	_____	_____	2	_____	_____
3	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

See continuation sheet for additional UTM references or comments

11. Form Prepared By

name/title James E. Jacobsen

organization History Pays!

date February 22, 2010

street & number 4411 Ingersoll Avenue

telephone 515-274-3625

city or town Des Moines

state IA

zip code 50312

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION (Submit the following items with the completed form)

FOR ALL PROPERTIES

- Map:** showing the property's location in a town/city or township.
- Site plan:** showing position of buildings and structures on the site in relation to public road(s).
- Photographs:** representative black and white photos. If the photos are taken as part of a survey for which the Society is to be curator of the negatives or color slides, a photo/catalog sheet needs to be included with the negatives/slides and the following needs to be provided below on this particular inventory site:

Roll/slide sheet #	<u>7482</u>	Frame/slot #	<u>12-17</u>	Date Taken	<u>6-9-04</u>
Roll/slide sheet #	_____	Frame/slot #	_____	Date Taken	_____
Roll/slide sheet #	_____	Frame/slot #	_____	Date Taken	_____

- See continuation sheet or attached *photo & slide catalog sheet* for list of photo roll or slide entries.
 Photos/illustrations without negatives are also in this site inventory file.

FOR CERTAIN KINDS OF PROPERTIES, INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING AS WELL

- Farmstead & District:** (List of structures and buildings, known or estimated year built, and contributing or non-contributing status)
- Barn:**
 - A sketch of the frame/truss configuration in the form of drawing a typical middle bent of the barn.
 - A photograph of the loft showing the frame configuration along one side.
 - A sketch floor plan of the interior space arrangements along with the barn's exterior dimensions in feet.

State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Use Only Below This Line

Concur with above survey opinion on National Register eligibility: Yes No More Research Recommended
 This is a locally designated property or part of a locally designated district.

Comments: _____

Evaluated by (name/title):

Jerry A. Architecture Inc.

Date: 4/16/10

Iowa Site Inventory Form Continuation Sheet

Related District Number

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Phineas McRay Casady Elementary School

Polk

Name of Property

County

1801 West 16th Street

Des Moines

Address

City

Physical Description:

The original two-story 12-classroom brick school with raised basement, fronted south onto Jefferson Street. Architects were Hallet & Rawson. The design featured an ornamental ground level main entry with carved stone surround, and symmetrical fenestration that flanked a central north/south interior hall and stairway arrangement. Windows, cut narrowly, filled most of the exterior wall planes. The third level window arches incorporated stone spring stones and key stones into brick arches. There was a stone foundation that was continued to just above the ground level, a stone belt course that separated the basement and first floor, and a second stone belt course that defined the base of the parapet.

Two classrooms were lost in 1932 to the settlement of the southwest corner. These were demolished and an unusual angled and recessed corner entryway was built, a new exterior wall tracing the lines of the original interior walls.

Historical Summary:

P. M. Casady School is the last built and one of two surviving school edifices that were constructed by the West Des Moines School District. All of the Des Moines area independent school districts were consolidated just after this building was constructed. This is also the last surviving of a number of neighborhood school buildings and its construction reflected the population explosion that marked the northward advancement of the city's west side residential area during the pre-World War I years. While no longer used as a school, this is most likely the oldest school building still used by the school district. The loss of two corner classrooms is marked by an unusual void in the southwest corner today, an unusual example of function follows failure. This change did not eliminate the original south main entry of the school building otherwise retains sufficient integrity and significance to warrant its recommendation as being individually eligible for National Register of Historic Places listing, on the local level under Criteria C, architecture and Criteria A, education.

P. M. Casady (1818-1908) was a Des Moines pioneer and it is of interest that this school was named for a local personage while others tended to be awarded nationally popular names. He was the city's first postmaster and served as a state senator. During 1932 two southwest corner classrooms were removed due to settlement. A new replacement addition was built (a 1948 account said 20 years earlier?). In 1948 a fire damaged the south end and all but four of the 10 remaining classrooms. The students used the hallways and basement areas for temporary classrooms and two grades were removed to nearby Nash and Kirkwood. Architects Wetherell and Harrison planed a \$90,000 78x150 north addition in 1946. The addition contained a gymnasium and two classrooms, auditorium, kitchen storage room and an office. The school boundaries were adjusted northward to just three blocks south of the school to reduce congestion. It is possible that the addition was not actually built. Plans by the same architects for a single-story north addition were published in early 1952 and a completion photo was published in late August of that year.

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Phineas McRay Casady Elementary School

Polk

Name of Property

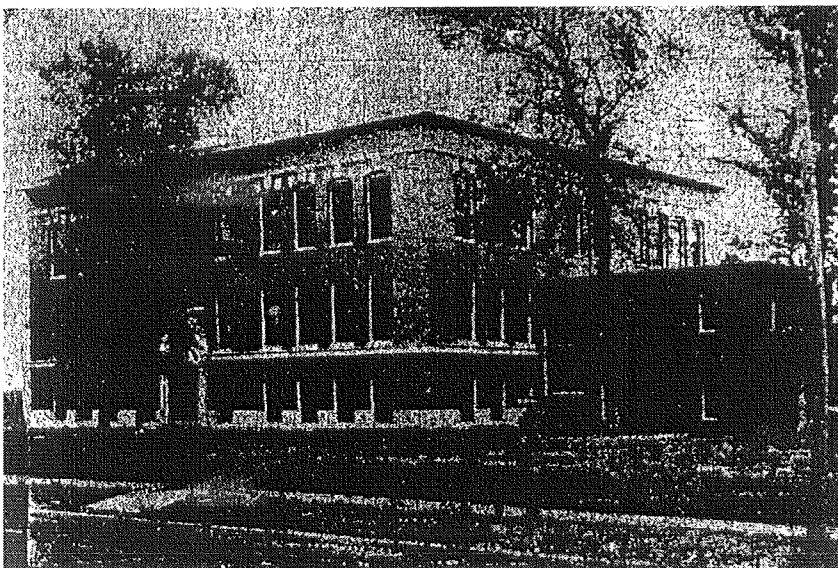
County

1801 West 16th Street

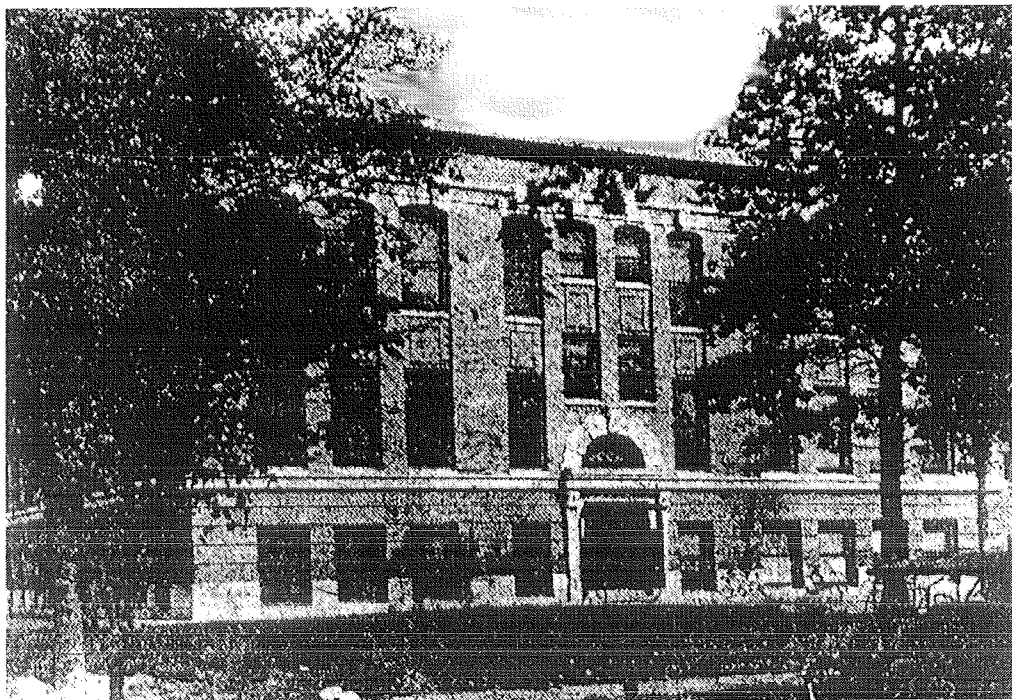
Des Moines

Address

City



Completion photo, Casady School, view northwest from Jefferson Street
(*Register & Leader*, September 2, 1906)



Celebrating the 100th anniversary of P. M. Casady's birth, December 3, 1918
View northeast
(*Des Moines Register*, November 24, 1918)

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Phineas McRay Casady Elementary School

Polk

Name of Property

County

1801 West 16th Street

Des Moines

Address

City



In 1911 the students elected their own municipal officials and these six students, including one African-American were the winners, photographed in the south main entrance on Jefferson Street (*Tribune*, November 7, 1911),

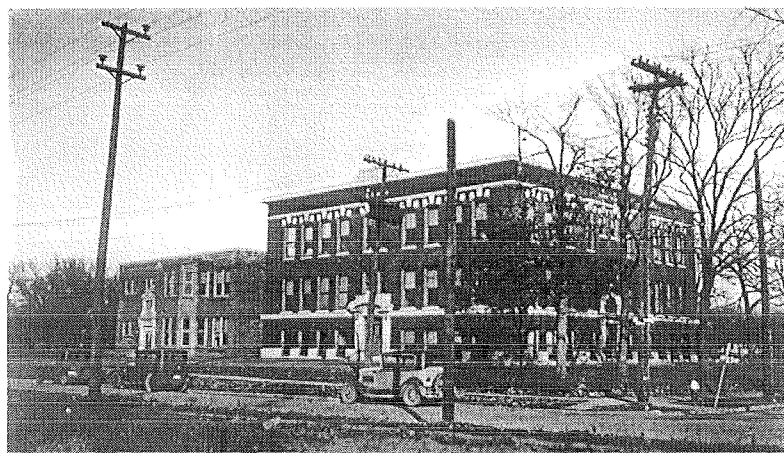


Photo showing 1926 two-story addition, view northwest, West 16th Street in foreground (Iowa Insurance Service Bureau Report, 1932)

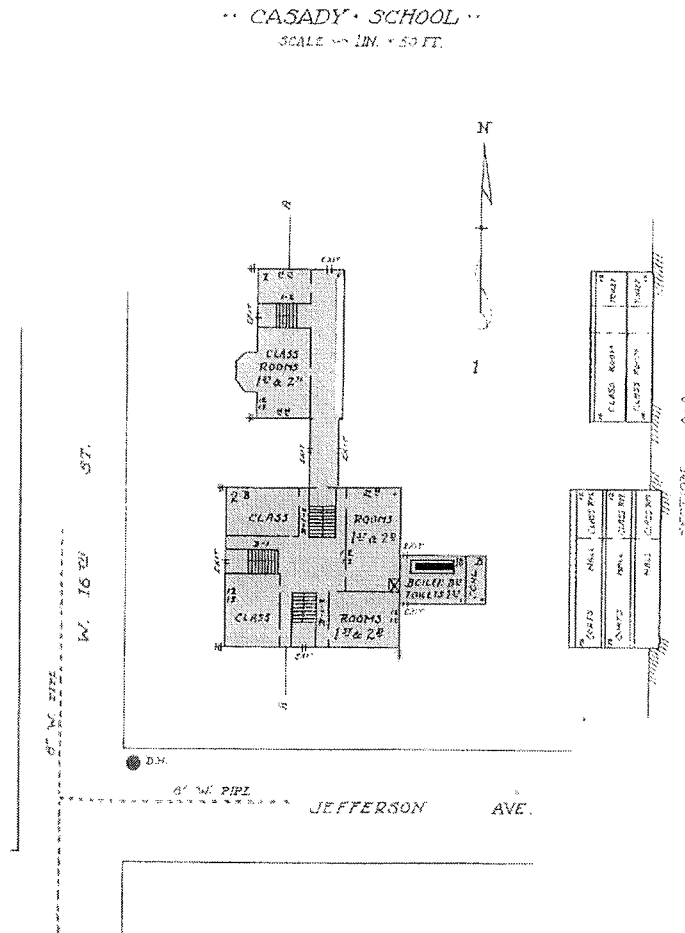
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Phineas McRay Casady Elementary School
Name of Property
1801 West 16th Street
Address

Polk
County
Des Moines
City



Building layout and elevation profile (to right), 1931
(Iowa Insurance Service Bureau Report)

While the school was of an early construction date, its interior plan utilized an open airy layout as can be seen in the high ratio of hall and stairway space to classroom space on each floor. The year 1932 was a busy one for the school. The 1931 evaluation of the school building dated the first rear addition to 1926. There were a total of 13 classrooms and a total enrollment of 345 students.

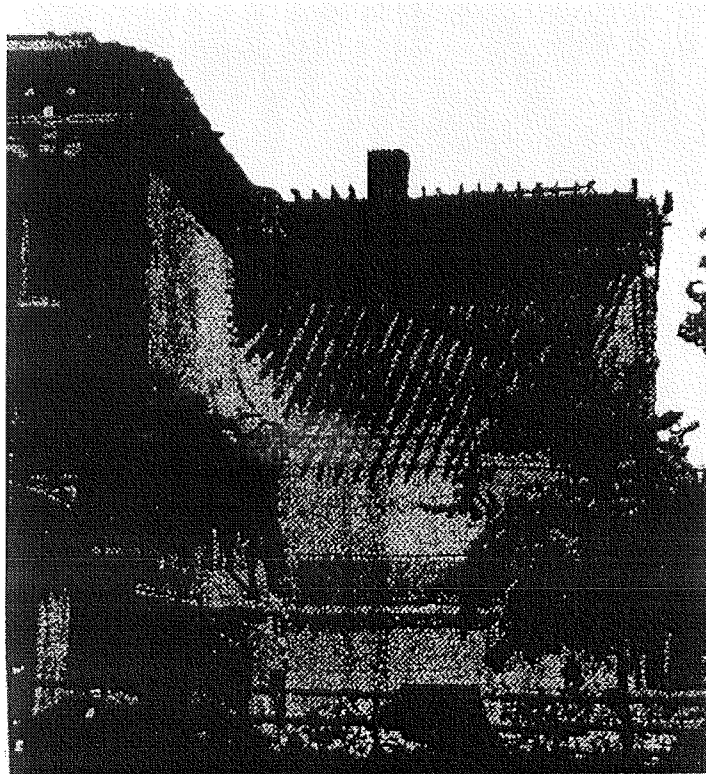
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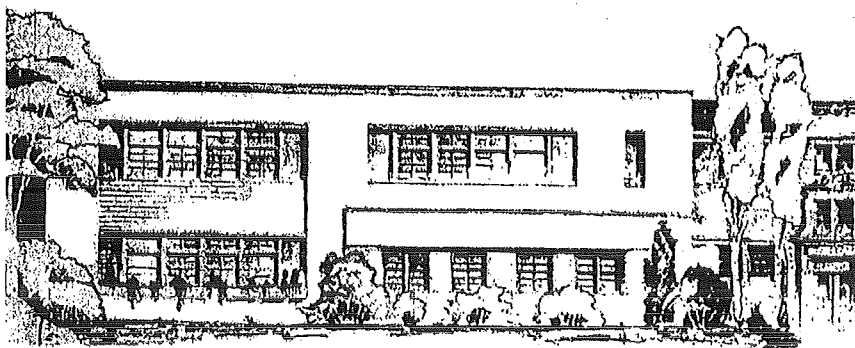
Phineas McRay Casady Elementary School
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Polk
County
Des Moines
City



Demolition of two southwest corner classrooms, view northwest
(*Tribune*, August 7, 1932)

The threatened collapse of two southwest corner classrooms resulted in the expenditure of \$8,000 (building permit issued July 29, 1932) to remove the two rooms and to build a new exterior wall.



The Addition That Wasn't Built (Wetherell & Harrison, Architects)
(*Tribune*, January 18, 1946)

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Phineas McRay Casady Elementary School

Polk

Name of Property

County

1801 West 16th Street

Des Moines

Address

City



The addition that was built, viewed southeast across West 16th Street
(Wetherell & Harrison, Architects)
(*Register*, December 6, 1951)

Bibliography:

City Directories

Sanborn Maps, 1901, 1920, 1920/50

Polk County Assessor

Iowa Insurance Service Bureau Report on Des Moines Public Schools, 1931 (Walling & McLain, Publishers)

Newspapers:

Register & Leader, September 2, 1906, p. 10.

Register & Leader, August 18, 1907, p. 5, Section 4

Register, February 19, 1948

Register, November 24, 1918, Magazine, p. 7

Register, January 16, 1952

Register, August 31, 1952, p. 5L

Tribune, November 7, 1911, p. 1.

Tribune, August 7, 1932, p. 7

Tribune, January 18, 1946, p. 11

Tribune, December 6, 1951, Magazine, p. 25

Legal Description:

Lots A and D, Block D, Chautauqua Park

LOTS 68 THRU 72 INCL & VAC ALLEY ADJ ON N INGLE-WOLD

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Phineas McRay Casady Elementary School

Polk

Name of Property

County

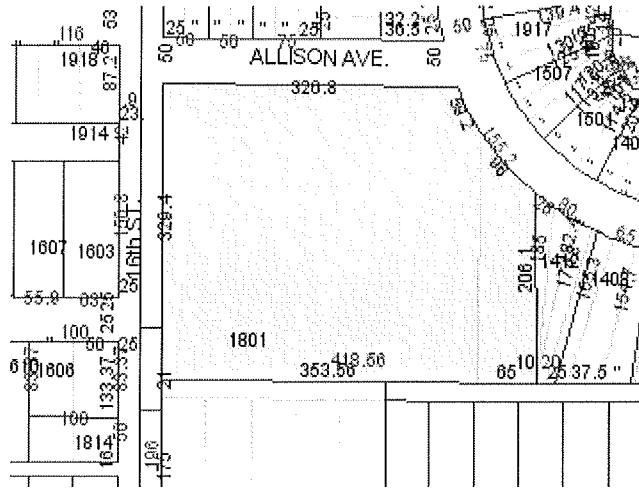
1801 West 16th Street

Des Moines

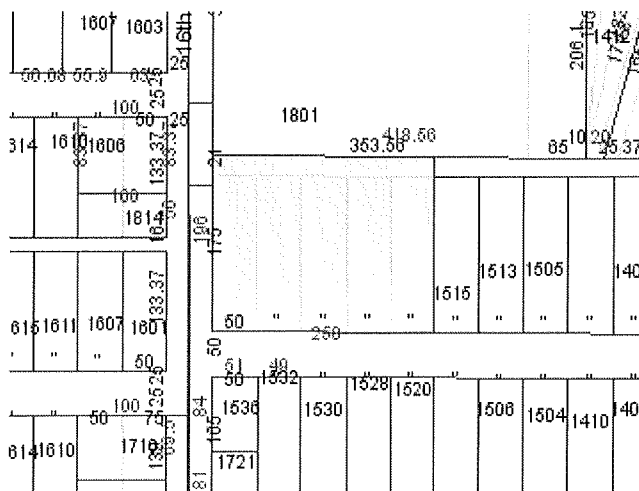
Address

City

Site Location Map:



Polk County Assessor Parcel Map



Polk County Assessor Parcel Map
Jefferson Street runs south of the school

Photographs:

1. Original school building, view northeast
2. West façade of larger complex, view northeast