

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Highland School  
other names/site number Highland Graded School

### 2. Location

street & number 1017 10th Avenue NE  not for publication  
city, town Hickory  vicinity  
state North Carolina code NC county Catawba code 035 zip code 28601

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
n/a

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register -0-

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

William S. P... f. 4-19-90  
Signature of certifying official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

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

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. 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 the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school

WORK IN PROGRESS as multiple dwelling

RECREATION & CULTURE/sports facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival

foundation brick

walls brick

roof slate

other stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Highland School is a substantial landmark in Hickory. It is located in the 1000 block of 10th Avenue in one of Hickory's northeast residential neighborhoods and occupies the entire large block of over four acres with its playing field at the rear. Situated on a knoll and fronted by a generous lawn shaded by large oaks and white pines, it faces south overlooking homes and small businesses.

Behind the school is an asphalt parking lot with the playing field behind. West of the building is a brick "gymtorium" and lunchroom building which was built in 1950 to reduce crowded conditions at the school. Construction of the gym prompted a succession of changes to the main building, as we will see below.

Exterior

The 1921 school is a handsome two-story brick building with hipped slate roof. It is laid in common stretcher bond with refined ornamentation at focal points. The front facade is broken into a three-part massing by a projecting nine-bay central pavilion. At each end of the building is a two-story brick stair tower. To the west are a two-story brick bathroom addition and covered walkway leading to the adjacent gymtorium.

In the center of the school building a large round arch frames the recessed entrance porch. Above are paired 12-over-12 sash. An unusual element found throughout the Highland School building are these sash: rather than double-hung, both upper and lower sash pivot to allow ventilation inside.

Another interesting feature of Highland's windows is the sash pattern found in the building. On the front the windows of the projecting nine bays apparently were 12-over-1, with the exception of those above and flanking the entrance; the four outer bays were 12-over-12. On the rear the pattern reflects the original interior plan of the building: while the eight center bays on the second floor, which lit the original auditorium, were narrow 12-over-1 sash, the outer three sash were 12-over-2, and

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Highland School, Catawba Co., N.C.

Section number 7 Page 2

the fourth 12-over-12. On the first floor rear all sash appear to have been 12-over-12. Muntin profiles vary, probably due to replacement in the 1950s and 1960s.

On all elevations, the first floor windows rest on a brick soldier course water table. The windows and panels of brick between first- and second-floor windows are recessed to give the impression of pilasters defining the bays. This gives a verticality to the building which counteracts the horizontality of the deep eaves, water table, and continuing lintels. Both the main body of the building and the projecting front are beneath hipped slate roofs, and a hipped dormer is centered over the front door. Beneath the water table on the front is a marble cornerstone giving the name and date of the building, the names of the mayor, aldermen, and trustees, and listing L.R. Rink as architect (although he was in fact a civil engineer) and Elliott Building Company as builders. The round-arch entrances to the hipped-roof brick stair towers echo that of the front entrance.

The school's facade and handsome front grounds remain unaltered and in good condition. The only major alterations to the building are three: 1) the 1950 covered walkway leading to the gymnasium and the flat roofs over the rear entrances, 2) the 1953 stair towers which replaced the originals<sup>1</sup> (and which were designed to closely match the earlier building in material, color, and style), and 3) a two-story bathroom addition (1961) to the west side, recessed behind the front facade of the building, and the shed roof over the western stairs.

### Interior

The building has a central hall plan; the front (south) entrance hall meets the east-to-west corridor off of which are doors leading to classrooms. These rooms are flooded with light from the large windows. Classroom doors on the first floor and the four end rooms on the second floor have paned transoms. The building has hardwood floors throughout (those from the 1921 construction are maple<sup>2</sup>), with concrete in the stair towers and bathrooms; stairs have metal newels and balusters. Plaster walls and extensive woodwork typical of the 1920s is found in the halls and all classrooms, and most rooms retain their original beaded board ceilings.

Originally there was an auditorium on the second floor, and no east-west hall as exists today. Two classrooms were on each end, one on either side of the hall, with transomed doors. The auditorium extended from the front of the building to the back so that access from one side of the school to the other on the second floor was through the auditorium. A stage at the front had a small dressing room on each side; oral interviews indicate the floor was slanted and had theater seats.<sup>3</sup>

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet** Highland School, Catawba Co., N.C.

Section number 7 Page 3

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The back of the auditorium was partitioned off into a library and a classroom in about 1929.<sup>4</sup> It was in 1950 and 1951 that major changes were made to the second floor. At that time the gymtorium and lunchroom building was built next door; the school building was modernized (fluorescent lights, "modern heating") and the auditorium was converted into four classrooms and a second floor hall. Four doorways were created to provide access from the new hall to the new classrooms; unlike the other doors at Highland, these doors have no transoms. The ceilings of these new classrooms do not have the beaded board of the older rooms.

In 1953 the boiler in the basement was "fireproofed"<sup>5</sup> with asbestos (this current rehab will remove it), the building was repainted inside and out, the concrete and steel fire towers added, and all exterior doors replaced with new wooden doors. Flat canopies also were added to the rear entrances. The architect for this work was Robert Clemmer of the firm Clemmer, Horton and Rudisill of Hickory.<sup>6</sup>

In the basement are the badly deteriorated original bathrooms, one on each end with access from the stairs. These were soon found unsatisfactory because of their distance from classrooms and access through unheated space, but continued to be used until construction of the bathroom wing in 1961. The boiler is at the back of the basement with its large brick chimney rising above the roof. The excavated room in the basement was used during the depression as a "soup room"<sup>7</sup> and for home economics classes and science labs.<sup>8</sup>

### Gymtorium and Lunchroom

To the west of the school building is the brick gymtorium and its lunchroom wing, built in 1950 to relieve overcrowding in the school. The gymtorium is common bond brick veneer with a barrel-vault style roof and no windows. A flat canopy covers the paired metal entrance doors at the front-facing gable end. The one-story brick lunchroom projects from the east side of the gymtorium. It has a flat tar and gravel roof.

### ENDNOTES

1. Oral interviews; 1931 Sanborn map; HDR 4/2/53. These sources indicate the school originally had two-story brick unheated stair towers similar to those present today.
2. Construction proposal and contract.
3. Oral interviews.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Highland School, Catawba Co., N.C.

Section number 7 Page 4

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4. Oral interviews.

5. HDR 2/3/55.

6. HDR 4/2/53.

7. HDR 4/4/72.

8. Oral interviews.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Education

1921-1940

1921

Architecture

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

n/a

Rink, L.R., civil engineer

Setzer, Milt, builder

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Highland School is significant both architecturally and for its role in the history of early twentieth century public education in Catawba County, North Carolina. Those years were a time characterized by rapid improvements in the quality of school systems and school facilities throughout the state. Highland School was built in 1921 by the Town of Highland (annexed by the City of Hickory in 1931) and called "the finest building in Catawba County." The two-story brick building with hipped slate roof is an example of school modernization in the state in the 1920s and 1930s. Ongoing efforts to update the school are evidenced by a number of additions; its facade and handsome front grounds remain unaltered and in good condition. The building was used continuously as a school for 59 years, from its opening in 1921 through a series of improvements and additions to its closing in 1980 when it was vacated. It soon will begin a new use as housing for the elderly. The property is now made up of two parcels, one containing the school and the other the gymtorium/lunchroom and playing field; both parcels are included in the nomination because of historic association and the physical link created between the parcels by the walkway; the Highland School building very likely would not remain standing today had the gymtorium and lunchroom not been built.

Education

Near the close of the 19th century the people of Catawba County and throughout the state began to take an interest in improvements in public education.<sup>1</sup> Catawba County figured prominently in state education circles during the 1880s and 1890s in that two of its citizens filled the post of state superintendent of public schools. Sidney M. Finger (1885-1892) was noted for his interest in higher education for women.<sup>2</sup> More celebrated was Charles H. Mebane, who held the position from 1896 to 1900; some credit Mebane's efforts with the ensuing revival in education which led to North Carolina's position as the leader of southern education in the 1900s.<sup>3</sup> It was Mebane who was first to appear before the state legislature for a statewide system of public schools,<sup>4</sup> and it was during Mebane's

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet** Highland School, Catawba Co., N.C.

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_

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administration that the first \$100,000 was appropriated for public schools. This was the beginning of the continuing and now regular appropriation from the legislature for public education.<sup>5</sup>

In 1900 a new governor was elected. Charles B. Aycock had campaigned on a democratic platform that proposed educational improvements. Although Aycock championed white supremacy, he also is remembered as the Education Governor, for he laid the foundations on which the state based its public education program.<sup>6</sup> Aycock advocated a uniform school system throughout the state with the use of state and local funds for its support. He asserted "the equal right of every child born on earth" to have an educational opportunity. He successfully argued that public education was good use of tax monies, an investment returned by an educated work force which would bring better industry to the state so all would benefit.<sup>7</sup>

Aycock's efforts produced swift results. A state appropriation in 1901 provided money to equalize local schools of the state and to bring those in the poorer counties up to the same standards as those of the richer.

By the 1920s North Carolina led the nation in building rural consolidated schools.<sup>8</sup> In the late 1920s and early 1930s there remained a number of one- and two-teacher schools being conducted in inadequate wooden buildings, but by the late 1930s most had been abandoned in favor of brick consolidated schools.<sup>9</sup>

The Highland School is representative of this emerging statewide effort to update schools and school buildings. Built in 1921, it was among the forerunners of this trend; in reporting the planned school the Hickory newspaper remarked "Highland is one of the most prosperous towns in this section, and its citizens are wide awake and progressive. The rest of the county will wake up when the new building is completed."<sup>10</sup>

When opened Highland served as both elementary and high school for most of the northwestern sector of Catawba County,<sup>11</sup> with a first-year enrollment of over 250 for the standard eleven grades.<sup>12</sup>

#### Architectural and Historical Background

The Hickory Daily Record on March 2, 1921, announced that "the Town of Highland is to have the handsomest school building in Catawba County. It will be a 12-room brick structure with slate roof, and a large auditorium..." When the school opened in September

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Highland School, Catawba Co., N.C.

Section number 8 Page 3

of that year, it was said that "Highland has the handsomest school building in Catawba County and the citizens of that progressive town are proud of it."<sup>13</sup>

One of the oldest schools in the Hickory system,<sup>14</sup> it was designed in 1921 by Loyd Ransom Rink, engineer from Hickory, and built that same year by Milt Setzer of Elliott Building Company, a prominent Hickory firm no longer in business. Construction was supervised by Rink,<sup>15</sup> who was a civil engineer despite the cornerstone's erroneous inscription "architect."<sup>16</sup> (It is possible the school was built from a stock plan with Rink's supervising the construction, though this premise has not been explored.)

The school was located in what was then the town of Highland, incorporated in 1905. It is probable that the name of the town was taken from Highland Academy, a boys' school founded in 1882<sup>17</sup> which stood on the grounds of the present Lenoir-Rhyne College.<sup>18</sup> Highland Academy is believed to have been named by one of its trustees for Sir Walter Scott's Scottish Highlands.<sup>19</sup>

The building embodies many of the characteristics of the new healthful approach to school facilities: brick, with an auditorium, central corridor, large classrooms and plentiful windows for light and ventilation, it was called commodious, with a well-lit, open atmosphere.<sup>20</sup> The two-story structure was built on a red rocky hill; former pupils can remember finding Indian arrowheads in the playground.<sup>21</sup> Initially, grammar-school classrooms were on the first floor and high school classrooms and the school auditorium upstairs.<sup>22</sup>

The minutes of the Town of Highland or of its School Trustees, which presumably include entries telling of the conception and development of the school, cannot be located in either the City of Hickory or the Hickory Board of Education offices. Despite this absence, ample record survives to chronicle the history of the school.

We know, for instance, from the Elliott Building Company's March 1, 1921, proposal and from contemporary newspaper articles that a \$35,000 bond issue had been passed to help finance construction of the school, and that individuals "guaranteed the necessary amount to insure a handsome and commodious building."<sup>23</sup> And we know that the "Trustees of Highland Graded School District" acquired land for the new school from C.C. and Emma S. Bost in August of 1920 for \$2,450.<sup>24</sup>

Elliott Building Co. was awarded the contract for \$47,300 on March 7, 1921. This amount reflects a deduction of \$2,200 for a slate roof instead of the asbestos roof stipulated in the base bid of \$49,500.<sup>25</sup> (Today we would expect the slate roof alternative to raise rather than lower a bid.) The process of erecting the school was swift; bids were let and the



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Highland School, Catawba Co., N.C.

Section number 8 Page 4

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school was completed within seven months, meeting the contract's completion deadline of September 1, 1921.

Highland School opened with about 250 students<sup>26</sup> and enrollment grew so rapidly that it was soon overcrowded. The school might not remain today were it not for what newspapers from the summer of 1930 called "a perplexing school problem."<sup>27</sup>

At that time the county school superintendent described "the present structure as absolutely inadequate to meet the requirements of the community," and a new school building was sought. County Commissioners on June 2 had authorized the issue of \$40,000 in bonds for a new school building. In view of this agreement, the board of trustees of the Highland school district had surrendered their charter to the county and the school was to have become a county institution.<sup>28</sup> This was found reasonable because pupils from another district as well as high school students from the surrounding rural area were attending Highland.

The county agreed that the increased enrollment of the school made it absolutely necessary to provide additional room for the pupils.<sup>29</sup> However, in those opening years of the Depression, county commissioners rescinded promised funds for a new school or addition to Highland because of the need for strict economy at the time.<sup>30</sup> There had also been political friction over the selection of the architect for the new building.<sup>31</sup>

The following year, the Town of Highland was annexed to the City of Hickory<sup>32</sup> and the school became the responsibility of the city. Soon thereafter, the Hickory City Administrative School Unit was established on August 21, 1933, by the North Carolina State School Commission<sup>33</sup> and took over administration of the school until its closing in 1980.

Throughout its history, ongoing efforts were made to update the school and create adequate space. In about 1929 the back of the auditorium was partitioned to create a classroom and library.<sup>34</sup> There was no lunchroom in the building; during the Depression a women's club began serving hot soup in the basement for five cents a bowl, and in the early 1940s a kitchen and dining area with long benches were situated in the two west front classrooms on the first floor.<sup>35</sup>

The need for expansion continued (by 1949 enrollment had reached 340 pupils in only nine classrooms), and was met in several stages by adapting rooms for new uses, expanding into the basement where science labs and home economics classes were held, and finally, in 1950 and 1951, by building the new gymnasium and lunchroom. It was at that time that

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Highland School, Catawba Co., N.C.

Section number 8 Page 5

the remainder of the school's second-floor auditorium was converted into classrooms and the lunchrooms on the first floor returned to classroom use.<sup>36</sup> The cost of this work was \$102,307.<sup>37</sup> The basement bathrooms had early been found unsatisfactory due to their distance from classrooms and access through unheated space. In 1961 the two-story bathroom addition was made.

By 1975 there were suggestions of the school's pending closing: "The Hickory school system is caught in a vise of increasing costs and decreasing funds. Officials fear this is threatening the quality of education." Sharp drops in pupil enrollment in the 1970s were untimely; since enrollment was the basis for county and state funding, Hickory schools were receiving a smaller slice of the funding pie. At the same time, the cost of operation had spiraled upwards due to the increased costs of supplies, utilities, and salaries.<sup>38</sup>

Highland School closed at the end of the 1979-1980 school year.<sup>39</sup> Because "we have to economize, it would be best for the whole system to have 6 elementary schools instead of 8." At the same time the Board of Education decided that all ninth graders in Hickory would attend Hickory High School.<sup>40</sup> Sorrow associated with the closing included this from a Highland student: "When you grow up, you can't drive by and show your kids where your old school is, 'cause it's gone."<sup>41</sup>

The school was sold to the City by the Board of Education in October of 1980 for \$45,000 with the following provision in the deed: "This conveyance is made subject to the condition that the Grantee shall preserve on the described premises the cornerstone and bell from the school building, which are currently located thereon."<sup>42</sup> The bell was housed on the second-floor porch of the eastern stair tower, but, despite the deed, has disappeared; some say the bell on the grounds of Hickory High School is Highland's bell. A few years ago, after the vacant school had suffered seven years of neglect and vandalism, the City proposed to demolish the historic school and build a parking lot on its site, but postponed the demolition when residents maintained that the school could be preserved.<sup>43</sup>

In 1989 the City sold the building and 1.175 acres of land to Highland School Associates. The school building is currently undergoing a sensitive rehabilitation and adaptive use as housing for the elderly. The gymnasium, lunchroom and playing field remain in city ownership and are used for city recreation programs. The attached survey plat map shows the current property delineation. Both parcels are included in the nomination because of historic association and the physical link created between the two parcels by the walkway; the Highland School building very likely would not remain standing today had the gymnasium and lunchroom not been built.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet Highland School, Catawba Co., N.C.

Section number 8 Page 6

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ENDNOTES

1. Preslar, p. 154.
2. Ibid, p. 149.
3. Ibid, p. 150.
4. Ibid, p. 149.
5. Preslar on page 150 cites "State School Facts," published monthly by the State Department of Public Instruction.
6. Powell, p. 183.
7. Ibid.
8. Ibid, p. 184.
9. Ibid, p. 185.
10. HDR 3/2/21.
11. Ibid 4/4/72 and 1/16/80. Highland admitted pupils from other districts.
12. Ibid 9/2/21. A twelfth grade was not added to the state system until after World War II.
13. Ibid 9/2/21.
14. Ibid 2/3/55 and 11/15/80.
15. 1921 construction contract.
16. Several sources confirm this: the City Directory of 1920-1921, the contractor's 1921 contract with the Town of Highland for construction of the school, Rink's December, 1966, death certificate and obituary, and conversations with his niece, Mrs. Margaret Baucom. Rink was 45 when he designed Highland School; later in his career he designed water and sewer projects.
17. Clinard, p. 40.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places

## Continuation Sheet Highland School, Catawba Co., N.C.

Section number 8 Page 7

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18. Preslar, also HDR 6/12/80. (Lenoir-Rhyne was opened in 1891 and first known as Highland College. Highland School shares no association or history with these schools other than the name.)

19. Preslar.

20. HDR 1/16/80.

21. Ibid, 4/4/72.

22. Ibid.

23. Ibid, 3/2/21.

24. Deed book 156, p. 573.

25. Construction proposal and contract.

26. HDR 9/2/21.

27. Ibid, 7/8/30.

28. Ibid, 7/8/30 and 7/9/30.

29. Ibid, 6/30/30.

30. Ibid.

31. Ibid, 7/8/30.

32. Preslar and Mrs. Baucom.

33. Deed book 1091, p. 268. (The State of North Carolina assumed control of public school finances and administration in 1933.)

34. Oral interviews.

35. HDR 4/4/72.

36. Ibid, 2/3/55, schools survey, and oral interviews.

37. Ibid, 9/6/50.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet Highland School, Catawba Co., N.C.

Section number 8 Page 8

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38. Ibid, 10/28/75.

39. Ibid, 6/6/80, 10/8/80, 11/15/80 and Charlotte Observer 2/55/89.

40. Ibid, 11/15/80.

41. Ibid, 1/16/80.

42. Deed book 1246, page 766.

43. Charlotte Observer 2/5/89.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Books

Clinard, J. Weston, Clinard Looks Back. Hickory: Hickory Printing Co., 1962.

Lefler, Hugh Talmage, and Albert Ray Newsome. North Carolina: The History of a Southern State. Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press, second edition, 1963.

Phillips, Laura A.W., ed. From Tavern to Town, the Architectural History of Hickory, North Carolina. Hickory: Historic Hickory, 1988.

Powell, William S. North Carolina, A History. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., and Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1977.

See continuation sheet

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

Specify repository:  
Ivey Mem. Library, Hickory  
Catawba Co. Library, Newton

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 4.235 acres

UTM References

A 17 471380 3955240  
 Zone Easting Northing

C         

B           
 Zone Easting Northing

D         

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The property is outlined in bold on the attached survey map from Catawba County Plat Book 26, page 68. Its southern border is 10th Avenue NE, western is 10th Street NE, northern is property line, and eastern is 11th Street NE.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The property consists of the two lots 1 & 2 (lots 10 and 10A on Tax Map No. 57H-1), which are historically and physically associated with Highland School and which today remain the entire acreage associated with the Highland School building (1.175 a) and its gymtorium, lunchroom and playing field (3.060 a).

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Langdon Edmunds Oppermann date 2/2/90  
 organization Preservation & Planning Consultant telephone 919/721-1949  
 street & number 1500 Overbrook Avenue state NC zip code 27104  
 city or town Winston-Salem

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet** Highland School, Catawba Co., N.C.

Section number 9 Page 2

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Preslar, Charles J., Jr., ed. A History of Catawba County. Compiled and Published by Catawba County Historical Association, inc., 1954.

Wellman, Manly Wade, and Larry Edward Tise. Winston-Salem in History, Volume 3: Education. Winston-Salem: Historic Winston, 1976.

Whitener, C.L., compiler. Hickory, N.C., City Directory, Vol. II, 1920-21. Statesville, N.C.: Brady Printing Company.

Whitener, Russell W. "The Growth and Development of Education in Catawba County." A thesis submitted to the faculty of the University of North Carolina in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in the Department of Education. Unpublished manuscript. Chapel Hill, 1924.

#### Maps and Plats

Catawba County Plat Book 26, page 68, 1980.  
Catawba County Tax Map No. 57H-1-10 and 57H-1-10A, 1989.  
Sanborn Map Company. Hickory, N.C. New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1931.

#### Newspapers

Articles from the Hickory Daily Record of the following dates:

March 2, 1921  
August 26, 1921  
September 2, 1921  
September 5, 1921  
June 3, 1930  
July 8, 1930  
July 9, 1930  
September 6, 1950  
April 2, 1953  
February 3, 1955  
March 9, 1955  
April 2, 1958  
Spring 1962, Special Historical Edition  
October 6, 1964

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet** Highland School, Catawba Co., N.C.

Section number 9 Page 3

---

September 11, 1965  
December 9, 1966  
July 22, 1968  
April 4, 1972  
October 25, 1975  
January 16, 1980  
June 6, 1980  
October 8, 1980  
November 15, 1980

The Hickory News, June 12, 1980  
The Charlotte Observer, February 5, 1989

**Deeds**

(All are Catawba County deeds located at Office of the Register of Deeds, Catawba County Hall of Justice, Newton, N.C.)

Deed book 156, page 573. Lot 10, C.C. Bost and Emma S. Bost to Trustees of Highland Graded School District, August 5, 1920.

Deed book 1091, page 268. Quitclaim Deed, Catawba County Board of Education to the Board of Education of the Hickory City Administrative School Unit, November 3, 1975.

Deed book 1246, page 766. Special Warranty Deed, Lot 10, Board of Education of the Hickory Administrative School Unit to the City of Hickory, October 14, 1980.

Deed book 1633, page 206. Warranty Deed, Lot 10A, City of Hickory to Highland School Associates Limited Partnership, October 9, 1989.

**Miscellaneous Documents**

Proposal of Elliott Building Company to school trustees, Highland, March 1, 1921.

Contract between the Elliott Building Company and the Town of Highland, March 7, 1921.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet** Highland School, Catawba Co., N.C.

Section number 9 Page 4

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Contractor's Bond between the Maryland Casualty Company and Elliott Building Company, March 8, 1921.

Division of School Planning, State Department of Public Instruction, Raleigh, N.C., "Survey, Catawba County, Hickory City, and Newton-Conover City Schools," 1969.

National Register nomination, Roanoke Rapids High School, 1988.

North Carolina State Board of Health, Certificate of Death No. 52-432, Loyd Ransom Rink, December 9, 1966.

Subject files at North Carolina Room, Catawba County Library, Newton, N.C.

Subject files at North Carolina Room, Elbert Ivey Memorial Library, Hickory, N.C.

Transcript, "Catawba in Education," radio program on the history of education in Catawba County, by Clyde Campbell, 1949.

**Interviews, mostly by telephone**

Ms. Margaret Baucom, niece of L.R. Rink.

Miss Emma Bolch, former student 1923-1931.

Mr. Vance Hefner, former student 1921-1927, teacher 1931-1932, and principal 1933-1940.

Mrs. Myra McFall, local historian.

Ms. Ann Eckerd Poovey, former student 1941-1948 and daughter of former students and school board member.

Mrs. Neil (Helen) Wike, former student 1920-1928 and teacher ca. 1943-1952.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet** Highland School, Catawba Co., N.C.

Section number 12 Page 1 Highland School, Catawba Co., NC  
Photographic Index

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Photographs

With the nomination are six photographs as identified below.  
Each photograph is numbered on the back and keyed to this list.

Highland School  
Hickory, NC (Catawba County)  
Langdon E. Oppermann, photographer  
Date of photos: September 1989  
Negatives in files of N.C. Div. of Archives & History, Raleigh

- 8 x 10 (#1) Looking North (front elevation)
- 5 x 7 (#2) Looking North (overall front elevation showing school, lawn and gymtorium)
- 5 x 7 (#3) Looking North (front and east side elevation of gymtorium)
- 5 x 7 (#4) Looking South (rear facade)
- 5 x 7 (#5) Looking South (rear showing portion of school, rear elevation of gymtorium and front portion of recreation area)
- 5 x 7 (#6) Looking North (interior, door to principal's office)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

LENOIR 15 MI.  
GRANITE FALLS 4.5 MI.

Highland School  
Hickory, Catawba Co, NC

Hickory USGS Quad

UTMs: 17E:471380 N:3955240

STATE OF NC  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL  
RESOURCES  
RALEIGH, NC



Highland School  
Hickory  
Catawba County

(1931 Sanborn Map)

HICKORY, N.C.  
MAY 1931

27

HIGHLAND

311

312

313

BURNET

VALLEY

RIDGE

CHURCH

212

CHESTNUT

MAIN

220

VALLEY

218

YEAGER

219

LENTZ



