



**North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources**  
**State Historic Preservation Office**

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper  
Secretary Susi H. Hamilton

Office of Archives and History  
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

November 2, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: Shelby Reap  
Office of Human Environment  
NCDOT Division of Highways

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley   
Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Revised Historic Structure Survey Report, Widening of NC 210 from US 17 to South of SR 1518 (Old Folkstone Road), U-5949, PA 17-11-0027, Onslow County, ER 18-2088

Thank you for your October 5, 2018 submittal of the revised Historic Architecture Eligibility Evaluation Report, prepared by JMT for the above-referenced project. The revised report presents the results of the evaluation of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility of the Dixon School (ON1106) that is located within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed widening of NC 210 from US 17 to South of SR 1518 (Old Folkstone Road) in Onslow County.

The revised report has incorporated most of comments detailed in our letter dated September 6, 2018. We concur that the Dixon School is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under National Register Criterion A, for its association with the consolidation school movement in Onslow County. We also concur with the proposed National Register boundary as delineated in the report.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-814-6579 or [environmental.review@ncdcr.gov](mailto:environmental.review@ncdcr.gov). In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT, [mfurr@ncdot.gov](mailto:mfurr@ncdot.gov)



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER  
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III  
SECRETARY

Renee Gledhill-Earley  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources  
4617 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4617

October 5, 2018

**ER 18-2088**

Due -- 10/31/18

H- ER letters  
10/30/18

Dear Gledhill-Earley:

RE: Historic Structure Survey Report, TIP# U-5949, PA# 17-11-0027, Widen NC 210  
from US 17 to SR 1518 (Old Folkstone Road) in Onslow County

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes Widen NC 210 in Onslow County. JMT prepared the attached Eligibility Report which was originally submitted on June 26, 2018. A letter received from you on September 6, 2018 detailed a number of mistakes and inaccuracies in the report. JMT has submitted a corrected version of that report for your review.

The report and survey materials are enclosed for your review and comment per 36CFR.800. Please let me know if you have any additional questions regarding this project. I can be reached at (919) 707-6088 or by email at [sreap@ncdot.gov](mailto:sreap@ncdot.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shelby Reap".

Shelby Reap  
Historic Architecture Section

Attachment

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Location:  
1020 BIRCH RIDGE RD  
RALEIGH NC 27610



July 2018

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## HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE ELIGIBILITY EVALUATION REPORT

### TIP# U-5949: WIDEN NC 210 FROM US 17 TO SOUTH OF SR 1518 (OLD FOLKSTONE RD), ONSLOW COUNTY

**WBS# 46896.3.1**

**Prepared for:**

North Carolina Department of Transportation

**Prepared by:**

JMT  
1130 Situs Court  
Suite 200  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27606

Sara B. McLaughlin  
Senior Architectural Historian



**HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE ELIGIBILITY EVALUATION REPORT**

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Sara B. McLaughlin  
Senior Architectural Historian

Sara B. McLaughlin, Senior Architectural Historian  
JMT

Date

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Mary Pope Furr, Supervisor  
North Carolina Department of Transportation

Date

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## Management Summary

Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson (JMT) conducted a historic architectural eligibility evaluation in July 2018 on behalf of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) in preparation for U-5949: the widening of NC 210 from US 17 to south of SR 1518 (Old Folkstone Rd), Onslow County, North Carolina. The North Carolina state project number is WBS# 46896.3.1. NCDOT recommended that one historic resource should be the subject of an intensive-level evaluation to determine National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility.

The scope of JMT’s investigation included an evaluation of the Dixon School (ON1106), located at 200 Dixon School Road, Holly Ridge, NC 28445 near the intersection of NC Highway 210 and US 17. The goals of this investigation were to: assess the National Register eligibility of the resource and provide a written report that presents photographs of the component buildings, structures, and landscapes, architectural and historical contexts, evaluation of National Register eligibility including comparison to similar properties in the region, and, if appropriate, carefully delineated and justified National Register boundaries.

This project is subject to review under the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects (NCDOT/NCHPO/FHWA/USFS 2015). An NCDOT Architectural Historian defined an Area of Potential Effects (APE) and conducted a site visit to identify and assess all resources of approximately fifty years of age or more within the APE. Only one resource warranted an intensive National Register eligibility evaluation and it is the subject of this report. NCDOT Architectural Historians determined that all other properties and districts are not worthy of further study and evaluation due to lack of historical significance and/or integrity. Investigations comply with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, other state and federal regulations, and NCDOT’s current “Historic Architecture Group Procedures and Work Products and the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office’s (HPO) Report Standards for Historic Structure Survey Reports/Determinations of Eligibility/Section 106/110 Compliance Reports in North Carolina”.

As a result of this investigation, it was determined that the school was constructed in 1927. This school and associated structures retain sufficient integrity of setting, location, feeling, design, workmanship, and material. The school and associated structures are located adjacent to a paved highway (US 17). The placement of the school was strategic and school officials favored locating the school near a surfaced highway as part of the school consolidation in Onslow County. It is **recommended that the Dixon School property is eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A** due to its association with the school consolidation movement seen throughout North Carolina after World War I. Additionally, the multiple additions are visible evidence of the evolution of public education in Onslow County and North Carolina and do not hide or obscure the building’s original form or Beaux Arts and Art Deco style elements. It is **recommended not eligible under Criterion B** due to the absence of an association with a notable individual. It is **recommended not eligible under Criterion C** due to the building’s lack of individual distinction. Although the additions are evidence of the school’s evolution and the material alterations do not obscure the building’s original form or style, the material alterations cause the school to lack sufficient integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. It is **recommended not eligible under Criterion D** for its potential to reveal data on area history.

Resource Name	NC SHPO Survey Number	NRHP Eligibility Recommendation	NRHP Criteria
Dixon School	ON1106	Eligible	A

## Table of Contents

<b>Management Summary</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>Table of Contents</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>Project Description and Methodology</b>	<b>1</b>
Project Location Maps	2
<b>Property Evaluation of Dixon School</b>	<b>5</b>
Property Description	5
Historical Background	25
Architectural Context	30
National Register of Historic Places Evaluation	32
<b>Proposed National Register Boundaries</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>References</b>	<b>35</b>



## Project Description and Methodology

JMT conducted a historic architectural eligibility evaluation in July 2018 on behalf of NCDOT in preparation for U-5949: Widen NC 210 from US 17 to south of SR 1518 (Old Folkstone Rd), Onslow County, North Carolina (Figures 1, 2, and 3). The North Carolina state project number is WBS# 46896.3.1. Architectural historians from NCDOT conducted a site visit and determined that one property, the Dixon School, warranted evaluation for NRHP eligibility. NCDOT contracted JMT to conduct the investigation and complete an evaluation of the unevaluated school property.

The scope of JMT's investigation included an evaluation of the Dixon School (LN1106), located at 200 Dixon School Road, Holly Ridge, NC 28445 near the intersection of NC Highway 210 and US 17. The goals of this investigation were to: assess the National Register eligibility of the resource and provide a written report that presents photographs of the component buildings, structures, and landscapes, architectural and historical contexts, evaluation of National Register eligibility including comparison to similar properties in the region, and, if appropriate, carefully delineated and justified National Register boundaries. Research and fieldwork on this project was conducted in accordance with relevant state and federal regulations as part of the compliance process established in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800).

Fieldwork was completed between July 9 and 10, 2018. JMT contacted the Onslow County School District and obtained permission to access the property and document the interior and exterior of the buildings. Background historical research was conducted at the Onslow County Public Library's Tucker Littleton Room in Jacksonville, the Onslow County Museum in Richlands, and the online Onslow County Register of Deeds. Additionally, the Onslow County online Land Records service and HPOWEB GIS service were consulted and revealed no other historic resources within the project area. JMT also reviewed National Register of Historic Places Registration Forms for other nearby properties similar to the subject property to provide further context.

Attempts to uncover exact dates for the material alterations to the school's interior and exterior through research and correspondence with Onslow County facilities staff were unsuccessful. Therefore, any discussion the date of material alterations to the interior and exterior of the school are based on field investigation and given in approximate dates.

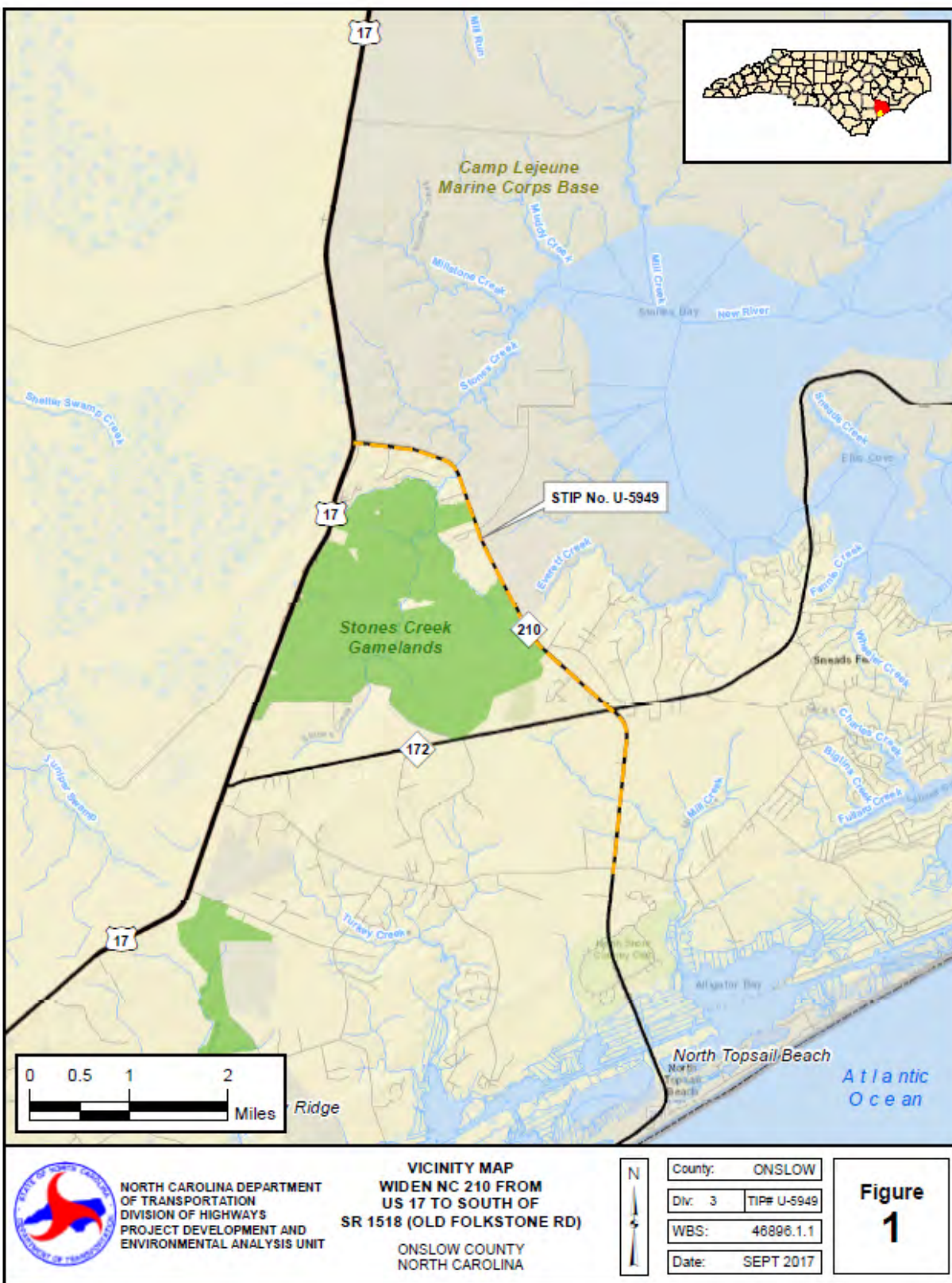


Figure 1: Project area (Source: NCDOT)





Figure 2: Project Area and APE with property to be evaluated (Source: ESRI, NCDOT, NCHPO)





Figure 3: Detail View of Project Area and APE with Property to be Evaluated (Source: ESRI, NCDOT)



## Property Evaluation

### Dixon School

#### *Site Description*

The Dixon School is located just east of a paved highway (US 17) in Holly Ridge, Onslow County, North Carolina (Photograph 1). The placement of the school was strategic as school officials favored locating the school near a surfaced highway as part of the consolidation and centralization of graded schools in Onslow County. It was constructed as the graded school for the Stump Sound Township. At the time it was located in the small, unincorporated community of Dixon, but is now considered part of the unincorporated town of Holly Ridge. Holly Ridge is located in Stump Sound Township, in the southern part of Onslow County. Onslow County features flat, gently rolling terrain made up of a number of sparsely populated agrarian and maritime communities. The community of Dixon was comprised of Dixon Station, Dixon Store, Dixon School, and a Post Office (Brown 1960: 355). Today, the Dixon School is considered part of the Holly Ridge community.

Resource Name	Dixon School
HPO Survey Site #	ON1106
Street Address	200 Dixon School Road
PIN	435002881276
Construction Date(s)	1927, 1933, 1945, 1953, 1958
NRHP Recommendation	Eligible

Constructed in 1927 (Figure 4), there are currently nine structures on the property: the original 1927 school, the c. 1927 old gymnasium, the c. 1933 library addition, c. 1945 back hall, the ca. 1946-1956 wing addition, the c. 1953 classroom and gymnasium addition, the ca. 1958 annex, a modern shed, and a modern structure associated with the athletic fields. The buildings are accessed by Dixon School Road, a frontage road located just east of US 17. The original one-story brick portion of Dixon School was named for Frank Dixon, the Onslow County resident who sold his land to the school district. Constructed off of the rear of the original school are later brick wings; beside it is a brick gymnasium.



Photograph 1: Façade Dixon School; looking northeast. (2018)

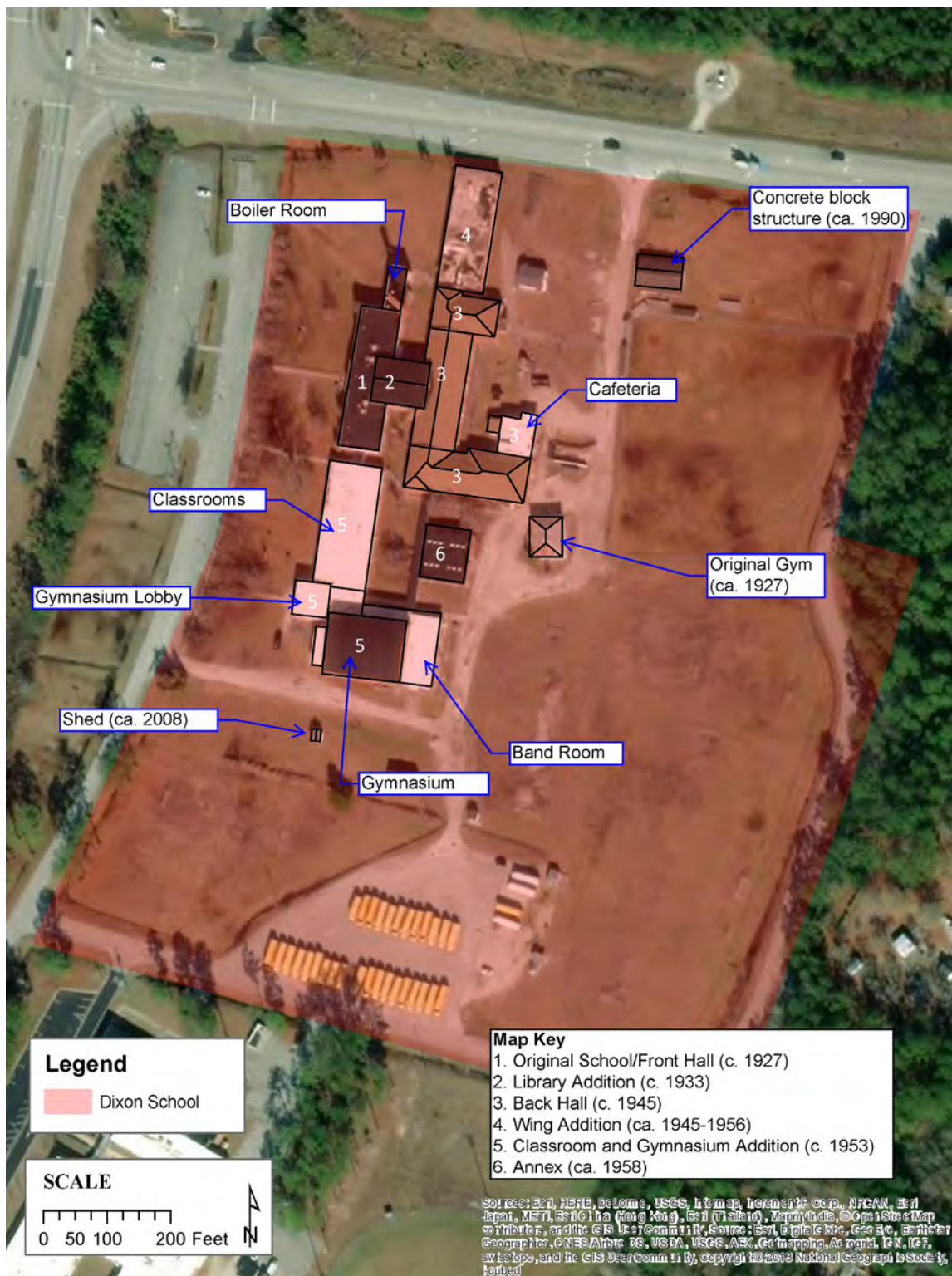


Figure 4: Dixon School parcel boundary and site plan (Source: ESRI)



The following description of Dixon School is organized by construction date.

Original School/Front Hall (ca. 1927)

The original, 1927 one-story brick school building was designed by Wilmington architectural firm, Boney & Boney and built by Wilmington construction firm Simon and Sons Construction Company (Pezzoni 1998: 149, 210). The rectilinear building is five bays wide and three bays deep. It originally consisted of nine classrooms and an office (Spring 1996: 83). Now referred to as the Front Hall, the building is capped by a flat roof with a stepped parapet that extends along the façade and north and south elevations. According to the description of the identical Tabernacle School (no longer extant), the two schools were/are “essentially Beaux Arts in design and layout with some Art Deco flourishes such as diamond-shaped concrete accent blocks in the stepped parapets” (NCHPO 1996: 5). These accent blocks are difficult to see as the parapets have been painted white (Photograph 2). The brick is laid in running bond. The school has a brick foundation with a water table comprised of a soldier course and honeycomb brickwork below, allowing for crawlspace ventilation (Photograph 3). The building’s fenestration is topped by soldier-brick jack arches with concrete keystones. Windows and doors on the building are ca. 1980s modern replacements. The window openings remain the original size however have been infilled at the top in order to accommodate modern one-over-one vinyl replacements (ca. 1980s).

The Front Hall’s west-facing façade features stepped bays with the centered entrance bay projecting further than the other four bays. The entrance bay is comprised of a central recessed doorway flanked on either side by a pair of windows. Descriptions of the similar Tabernacle School detail a “stoop with fluted Doric columns, dentil moldings, and decorative balustrade above the cornice shelters the principal entry with sidelights and transom” (NCHPO 1996: 5). Although no longer extant, photographs from the late 1930s show similar details on the Dixon School entrance (Photograph 4). Today, the stoop has been replaced by a set of concrete steps leading to the recessed front entrance. The original wooden front door, sidelights, and transom have been replaced by a set of metal doors with single light separated by a metal and glass sidelight and topped by a metal and glass transom. The central entrance bay is flanked on either side by two bays. Each bay features a band of three windows flanked on both sides by a single window (Photograph 5). No exact date was found



Photograph 2: Detail of window and cornice on Dixon School's Front Hall ; looking east. (2018)





Photograph 3: Detail of water table on Dixon School's Front Hall; looking east. (2018)

for these alterations through research or in-person interviews, however due to the materials used they likely occurred sometime in the 1980s.

The Front Hall's south elevation features a centered set of double metal doors (Photograph 1). The doors are flanked on either side by four, square concrete accent blocks; the top and bottom blocks are vertically aligned, and the east and west blocks are horizontally aligned. The top two blocks and bottom two blocks are connected by soldier courses of bricks, while



Photograph 4: Dixon School in the late 1930s; looking southeast. (Source: Onslow County Museum printed in Images of America, 2016)



Photograph 5: View of Front Hall façade; looking east. (2018)

the two blocks on the right and two blocks on the left are connected by a stack of bond course bricks. These blocks mimic the size and shape of the window openings seen on the façade.

The north elevation features a set of double metal doors and one set of concrete accent blocks, apiece with those seen on the south elevation. The eastern half of the elevation consists of a rectangular brick boiler room. The north elevation



Photograph 6: View of Front Hall and boiler room's north elevation; looking south. (2018)



Photograph 7: View of east elevation of Front Hall and boiler room; looking southwest. (2018)

of the boiler room features a concrete belt course and four, square concrete accent blocks apiece with those seen on the south elevation (Photograph 6).

The east (rear) elevation features a similar fenestration pattern as the façade, although it lacks the main entrance. A brick smoke stack is located at the northeast corner of the building and divides the main portion of the building from the boiler



Photograph 8: View of boiler room's east elevation; looking west. (2018)





Photograph 9: View of interior of Dixon School's Front Hall; looking northwest. (2018)

room (Photograph 7). The east elevation of the boiler room features a large, metal garage door and metal utility cabinet built into the wall north of center. A set of vented metal doors topped by a vented transom and a large rectangular six-light wood sash window are located south of center. The brick on this portion of the boiler room is laid in five-course Flemish Stretcher Bond (Photograph 8).

The interior of the front hall has undergone some material alterations, but the floorplan remains largely unchanged and still features nine classrooms and a front office. Drop ceilings, carpeting, and linoleum tile were added in the hallways



Photograph 10: View of the 1933 library addition; looking south. (2018)



Photograph 11: Interior view of library addition; looking northeast. (2018)

and classrooms ca.1980. Some doors have been replaced by wood or metal doors, and the front office features built-in desks that appear to be later additions (Photograph 9).

Library Addition (1933)

The 1933 library addition forms an ell addition off of the original school's east elevation and connects the original school



Photograph 12: View of the Back Hall's east elevation; looking west-southwest. (2018)



to the 1945 addition (Spring 1996: 83-84). This one-story brick library is capped by a low-pitched gable roof. The north and south elevations of the library are identical and each feature four large six-light wood windows separated by brick and concrete pilasters. The windows are capped by soldier-brick jack arches with concrete keystones. Diamond-shaped concrete accent blocks adorn the walls between the windows and the roof (Photograph 10). The north and south elevations are not visible as they connect the original school to the 1945 addition.

The interior of the library addition underwent some material alterations (ca.1980) but retains its original floorplan. The library features drop ceilings and a linoleum floor that was later covered with carpet tiles. Many of the tiles have been removed for reuse in areas of the modern school. Door openings feature double metal replacement doors with a single light. Replacement built-in bookshelves line the walls beneath the windows, and a ramp was added in the northeast corner of the room to provide an ADA accessible entrance to the back hall (Photograph 11).

#### Back Hall (1945)

The Back Hall was constructed in 1945 and features eleven classrooms and a cafeteria. This large, one-story brick addition is located to the east of the original school and can be reached via the library. The entire addition is irregular in plan and is capped by a multi-level hipped roof. The main portion of the addition (the Back Hall) is rectangular in plan and runs parallel to the Front Hall. North and south wings project eastward from the north and south ends of the Back Hall. The cafeteria is located off the Back Hall's south wing. Many of the windows in the Back Hall are ca. 1980 replacements (Photograph 12).

The window fenestration on the Back Hall's east elevation consists of four bands of evenly spaced sets of five replacement, one-over-one, metal, double-hung sash windows. Similar to the fenestration on the façade of the Front Hall, these replacement windows are smaller than the originals resulting in some infill at the top of the opening. The west elevation to the north and south of the library addition are identical. Each feature a set of five windows identical to those on the east elevation and a small projecting bay with a set of double doors.



Photograph 13: View of Back Hall and the Back Hall's north wing; looking southeast. (2018)



Photograph 14: View of Back Hall's south wing; looking southwest. (2018)

The north wing of the Back Hall is irregular in plan and capped by a hipped roof with a wide, wood cornice. The east elevation features a set of doors located south of center and flanked on either side by a single replacement, one-over-one, double-hung metal sash window. The double doors can be reached by a set of two concrete steps and are sheltered by a flat roof overhang. The wing's north elevation features a band of six replacement, one-over-one, metal, double-hung windows similar to those located on the Back Hall's east elevation. A single original, six-over-six double-hung wood sash window is located west of the band of windows. A set of metal doors are topped by an original wood and glass transom. The doors are located west of the six-over-six window and are sheltered by a brick portico capped by a hipped roof and supported by square, brick columns. The west elevation features three groupings of windows. At the north end, is a single replacement, one-over-one double-hung metal window followed by a band of six replacement, one-over-one, double-hung, metal sash windows identical to those on the Back Hall's east elevation then a band of three replacement, one-over-one double-hung metal windows. The band of three windows are shorter than the individual window and band of six windows (Photograph 13).

The south wing of the Back Hall is irregular in plan and capped by a hipped roof with overhanging eaves and a wide, wood cornice. The western section of the wing houses the cafeteria, also constructed in 1945. The south wing's east elevation features two bands of three replacement, triple-hung metal windows. The south wing's south elevation features a set of five replacement, one-over-one, double-hung metal sash windows located west of center and a band of three replacement, triple-hung metal windows east of center. Further east is a door opening sheltered by a shallow, concrete block entry porch capped by a flat roof. This entry porch is a later addition. East of the porch is a pair of triple-hung vinyl replacement windows. The south wing's west elevation features three groupings of windows. At the north end, is a band of three replacement, one-over-one double-hung metal windows followed by a band of six replacement, one-over-one double hung metal sash windows identical to those on the Back Hall's east elevation then a single replacement, one-over-one, double-hung, metal window. The single window and band of three windows are smaller than the band of six windows (Photographs 14 & 15).



Photograph 15: View of Back Hall's south wing; looking north-northwest. (2018)

The interior of the Back Hall has undergone some material alterations dating to the 1980s, but the floorplan remains largely unchanged. Drop ceilings have been added throughout and metal lockers have been added in the hallways. Some doors have been replaced by wood or metal doors. The Back Hall retains its original wood floors, which are in good condition. Classrooms still feature original baseboards, moldings and built-in closets, cabinets, and chalkboards (Photograph 16). Original six-light wood windows located on the wall between the hallway and classrooms remain but are partially obscured by the drop ceilings (Photograph 17). Although the doorways leading outside have been replaced with double metal doors, they retain their original wood transoms (Photograph 18).



Photograph 16: Interior view of Back Hall. (2018)

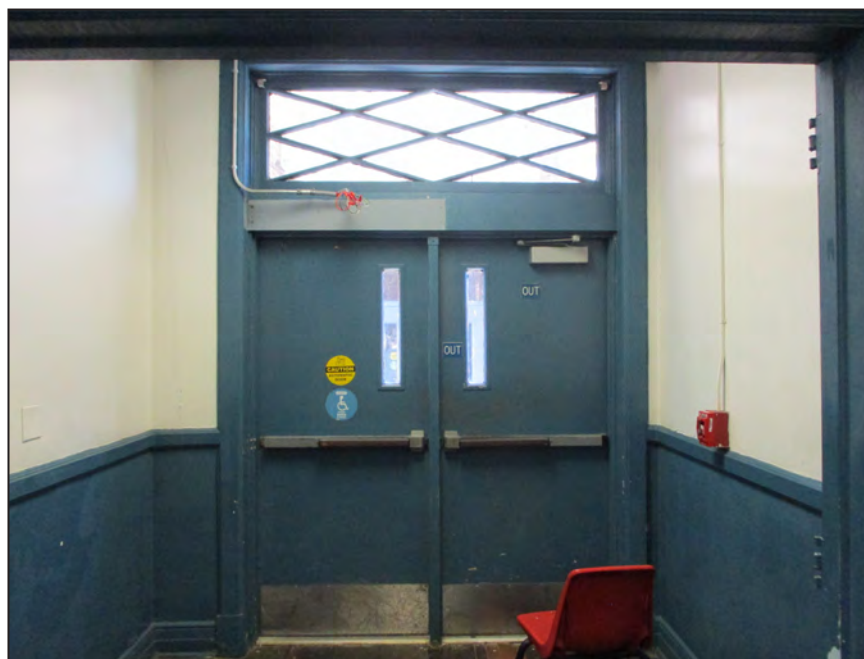




Photograph 17: Interior view of Back Hall. (2018)

Wing addition (ca. 1945-1956)

A one-story, brick addition was constructed just north of the Back Hall and is connected to the building via a covered breezeway. Due to the location of the addition, it was likely constructed after the 1945 back hall was constructed, but before 1956 according to historic aerials. The addition is rectangular in plan and features five-course English bond brick. It is capped by a flat roof with wide overhanging eaves. Fenestration on the east and west elevations is identical. Each include



Photograph 18: Interior view of Back Hall. (2018)

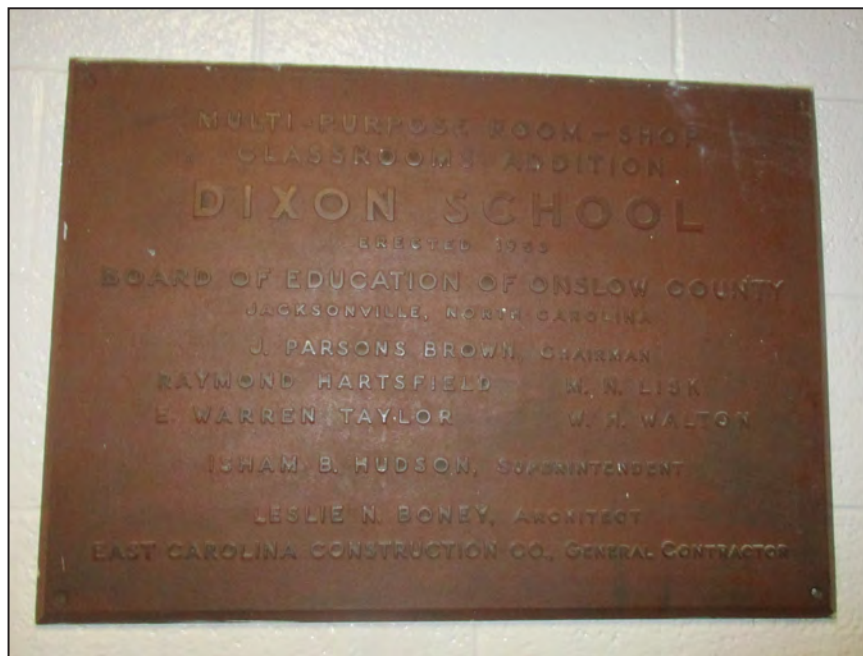


Photograph 19: View of wing addition (ca.1945-1956); looking west. (2018)

eight bands of three original, four-over-four, metal, double-hung windows. Each window is topped by a two-light transom. The north and south elevations lack window openings, but each feature a set of double metal replacement doors topped by original wood transoms. The addition houses additional classrooms (Photograph 19).

Classroom and Gymnasium Addition (ca. 1953)

In 1953 a one-story addition was constructed south of the front hall. The 1953 addition is connected to the c. 1927



Photograph 20: View of plaque in 1953 classroom and gymnasium addition. (2018)



Front Hall by an open breezeway. According to a dedication plaque, this concrete block addition originally featured a multi-purpose room (gymnasium) and shop classrooms (Photograph 20). The addition was designed by Leslie N. Boney and constructed by East Carolina Construction Company. The building is capped by a flat roof with wide, overhanging eaves, has prominent metal drain spouts and is clad in brick. The east and west elevations are identical. The brick on the bottom third of the building is laid in five-course Flemish Stretcher Bond brick, and the top two-thirds of the building is comprised of an almost uninterrupted wall of original, five-light horizontal pane, metal, awning windows. Originally uninterrupted, the window walls on the east and west elevations now feature concrete wall panels to accommodate large air-conditioning units. Based on images found on the Google Earth website, this alteration occurred sometime between December 2016 and July 2018 (Photograph 21).

This addition also included a new multi-purpose room (now gymnasium), which was constructed off the southeast corner of the 1953 addition. The spaces are connected via a lobby. The two-story gymnasium and one-story lobby are also clad in five-course Flemish Stretcher Bond brick. It is capped by an arched roof with wide, overhanging eaves and covered in tar paper. Brick clad wings are located off the north, east and west elevations. The description of the gymnasium as a two-story building is based solely on exterior features including the building's height and the major architectural division created by a row of upper windows versus the blank lower walls. No second floor exists on the interior.

A one-story gymnasium lobby and a two-story stepped wing all capped with flat roofs are located off the west side of the gymnasium. The gymnasium lobby is comprised of a one-story square block with a large entrance. The entrance features two single metal doors separated by a large, original six-light, metal fixed window. The entrance be reached by a set of six



Photograph 21: View of west elevation of 1953 classroom addition; looking east-northeast. (2018)



Photograph 22: View of gymnasium lobby and west wing; looking northeast. (2018)

concrete steps with a brick planter located off the north side and a concrete and brick ramp located off the south side. The two-story stepped wing contains the dressing rooms and backstage areas located behind the gymnasium stage. The west elevation of the wing features one small, original, six-light, metal awning window and two sets of original double, metal doors (Photograph 22).



Photograph 23: View of gymnasium and band room's south elevation; looking northwest. (2018)



Photograph 24: Oblique view of gymnasium and band room; looking southwest. (2018)

The south elevation of the gymnasium features six evenly-spaced bands of three original, six-light horizontal pane, metal, awning windows. The bands are separated by brick pilasters. Two sets of double, metal doors are located at the east end of the elevation. The doors can be reached by a set of concrete steps and are sheltered by a shallow, metal overhang (Photograph 23).

A one-story wing containing the band room is located off the east side of the gymnasium. The band room is clad in five-course Flemish Stretcher Bond brick and is capped by a flat roof with widely overhanging eaves. The south elevation



Photograph 25: View of gymnasium and north wing; looking south. (2018)





Photograph 26: Interior of 1953 classroom addition; looking east. (2018)

of the band room features a large garage opening that has been infilled and now holds a large air conditioning unit. An original, metal door is located east of the garage opening and sheltered by a shallow, metal overhang. A band of ten original, six-light horizontal pane, metal, awning windows are located along the southern half of the elevation. Two original, metal doors are located on the northern half of the elevation and are sheltered by shallow, metal overhangs. Between the doors are a band of two original, six-light horizontal pane, metal, awning windows. The second floor of the gymnasium is visible above the roof of the band room and features two metal vents that were previously window openings (Photograph 24).



Photograph 27: Interior view of gymnasium lobby; looking northwest. (2018)



Photograph 28: Interior of 1953 gymnasium addition; looking southeast. (2018)

The first floor of the gymnasium's north elevation is completely obscured by the one-story wing containing additional classrooms. The wing features three bands of three original, three-light horizontal pane, metal, awning windows. A set of original double metal doors are located on the east end of the elevation. The north elevation of the band room features a band of seven original, six-light horizontal pane, metal, awning windows. The second floor of the gymnasium is visible above the roof of the wing addition and features six bands of three original, six-light horizontal pane, metal, awning windows. Each band of windows is separated by a brick pilaster (Photograph 25).

The interior of the 1953 addition has undergone some material alterations, but the floorplan remains largely unchanged. Drop ceilings have been added throughout the space and some windows have been removed and replaced with dry wall and air conditioning units. These alterations occurred ca. 1980. The original windows and concrete block walls remain. The interior of the gymnasium features original floors and concrete block walls. Wood and metal bleachers line the north and south walls. The gym and lobby retain the original floorplan (Photographs 26-28).



Photograph 29: View of Annex's east elevation; looking west. (2018)

Annex (ca. 1958)

An annex was constructed circa 1958 in the space south of the back hall, west of the 1953 addition, and north of the gymnasium. The one-story brick building is connected to the gymnasium and Back Hall via a covered walkway. It features original, six-light horizontal pane, metal, awning windows on all elevations. It is currently used as the bus office, which coordinates bus routes for the schools in the area (Photographs 29 & 30).



Photograph 30: Interior view of Annex; looking east. (2018)



Outbuildings

Approximately 35 feet southeast of the back hall is a ca. 1927 frame building. The one-story frame building is capped by a hipped roof with exposed rafter ends and covered in standing seam metal. The building is situated on a brick pier foundation that has been covered by metal molded to look like stone. The west façade features a centered entrance sheltered by a porch capped by a hipped roof that is supported by square, wood posts. The porch is accessed by a set of wooden steps or a wooden ramp. The front entrance is flanked on either side by three original, six-over-six, wood, double-hung sash windows. The original windows are protected by storm windows. Secondary elevations also feature original, six-over-six, wood, double-hung sash windows. According to a previous survey of the site, the building was originally used as a gymnasium. The current use is unknown, and surveyors were not permitted to enter (Photograph 31).

Approximately 70 feet south of the gymnasium is a small frame shed. According to historic aerials, the shed was constructed ca. 2008.

Approximately 200 feet east of the ca. 1945-1956 addition is a ca. 1990, one-story concrete block structure that is associated with the athletic fields.



Photograph 31: View of original gymnasium (ca. 1927 frame building); looking east. (2018)

### *Historical Background*

Onslow County is located in the Coastal Plain region of southeastern North Carolina and was formed in 1734 from New Hanover County. Named for Arthur Onslow, Speaker of the House of Commons in the British Parliament, the county is bordered on the east by the Atlantic Ocean. Early European settlers included those of English, Welsh, French, Swiss, Scottish and German origin who were likely attracted by the abundant forest and marine resources.

Onslow County was historically rural with has a rich agricultural and maritime heritage. The county relied heavily on the production of tobacco, fruits and vegetables, cattle, swine, and poultry. Fishing and forestry also contributed to the county's economy.

The Camp Lejeune Marine Base, established around World War II, now serves as the main source of population and economy in Onslow County. However, the county also draws economic strength from its extensive coastline by bringing in thousands of vacationers and tourists each year (Mazzocchi 2006).

### School Consolidation in North Carolina

Prior to World War I, children in rural areas were taught in small, one- and two-teacher schools. Immediately following the war, parents of these children began to demand the educational advantages and resources available in towns and cities. State and local leaders listened to these demands and worked to improve the quality of public education in rural areas. This was often accomplished by consolidating several small, rural districts into one large district financed by a special school tax voted on by tax payers. This trend became known as the school consolidation movement. Consolidating schools was not always easy as residents of rural communities were often opposed to closing their small neighborhood schools in exchange for a larger and better-equipped facility. Residents resisted the idea of higher taxes and worried that giving into consolidation would mean losing their local autonomy as well as the close personal relationships currently held between teachers and students. Due to these concerns, the local taxes necessary to finance consolidated schools were often voted down multiple times before being passed (Johnson 2006). According to historian K. Todd Johnson,

Proponents of the consolidation movement were successful in convincing voters of the benefits of home economics, agriculture, and other vocational courses not found in the smaller schools. Larger facilities also allowed rural communities to have high schools for the first time, as well as teachers with specialized training in academic subjects such as English, history, mathematics, science, and foreign languages. Moreover, larger schools meant more competitive athletic teams, which had an undeniable influence on school and community spirit. North Carolina's good roads were paramount to the success of consolidation, since students had to be bused several miles to larger facilities. The purchase and maintenance of school "trucks," and keeping a driver behind each steering wheel, became major expenses in school system budgets (Johnson 2006).

As late as the 1960s, half of North Carolina's counties still had some one- and two-teacher schools. However, a majority of rural areas felt the benefits of the school consolidation movement. "In 1900 there were 7,166 schools in the state, serving a population of 1.9 million, with buildings and equipment valued at \$1.7 million. By 1930, when North Carolina's population had reached 3.2 million, there were only 6,340 schools, with buildings and equipment valued at \$110 million" (Johnson 2006).

### Educational History of Onslow County

The educational history of Onslow County reflects many of the trends and changes seen throughout North Carolina. In

1749, John Starkey of Onslow County introduced the first bill to provide free public schools in North Carolina. This bill did not pass, and a free school system was not established until 1824. The first two schools in Onslow County were located in Richlands and Swansboro. Prior to the establishment of free public schools, Onslow County's education occurred in "old field schools" maintained by several planters or landowners who would employ a teacher to teach their children (Onslow County Historical Society 1983: 27). Classes were often held in an outhouse on the plantation, hence the name "Old Field School." Other times classes were held in nearby chapels. Sometimes multiple planters cooperated and shared the cost of maintaining a school for their own children and charging tuition to outsiders. According to historian Joseph Parsons Brown,

To other children of the community this became a subscription school, which they were usually allowed to attend upon payment of five cents per day. In this way primary educational advantages were had by most people able and willing to pay for its service (Brown 1960: 145).

After completing their education in a "field school" students could continue their education in an academy. These academies prepared students for college entrance. Tuition fees were charged and sometimes room and board were also available either at the school or in nearby homes (Brown 1960: 145). Local academies included Swansboro Academy (chartered in 1810) and Richlands Academy (chartered 1849), which both charged a small tuition fee (Onslow County Historical Society 1983: 27).

In 1839, Onslow County native, Governor Edward B. Dudley began to establish an educational system of free public schools in North Carolina. The move to organize a public school system was due in part to the nearly \$1.5 million the State of North Carolina had received from the U.S. Government, which had accumulated a surplus of money in the Treasury. Dudley's plan stated that each county would have between five and ten "Superintendents of Common Schools" whose duty was to hold a vote as to whether the county would adopt the public education system. The same vote would determine if the county was willing to raise taxes to supplement funding from the state. The superintendents would also divide their county into districts, appoint committees, employ teachers, and provide suitable sites for the schools (Brown 1960: 146).

Onslow County was divided into 23 districts and school terms usually lasted three or four months. A few permanent buildings were constructed, "but most of the schools met in one house this year and another next year, wherever one could be secured" (Brown 1960: 146). Securing teachers proved to be the most difficult task for schools in Onslow as there were only a small number of qualified teachers in the area. Most schools operated on a schedule that was convenient for those working on farms. A short term was scheduled before the busy season, with a second term following the farm's busy season. By 1853 Onslow County operated 16 schools with 439 students enrolled (Onslow County Historical Society 1983: 27).

During the Reconstruction Period, public schools were disbanded. From 1865 to 1868 people were allowed to move into the school houses in order to keep them from deteriorating from disuse. The public school system was reinstated in North Carolina and Onslow County as a result of the Convention of 1868, which along with the Radical Congressional Reconstruction Acts passed in 1867 overturned post-Civil War Presidential Reconstruction (Faulkner 2006). According to Brown,

Under the law, as worked out by the convention of 1868, the County Commissioners took over the duties of a Board of Education. They elected a County Examiner, who received \$2.00 per day while actually employed in the performance of his duties. It was his duty to examine teachers and issue certificates...The only resources open to the schools now were returns from taxation (Brown 1960: 150).



The legislature of 1885 provided for a Board of Education separate from the County Commissioners. Despite the continued growth and organization of the public education system, it was still fairly undeveloped in 1885. According to Brown at the time,

There were 37 white schools in the county; 22 of them frame and 5 built of logs. Ten districts had no building but taught wherever a place could be secured for the purpose. The frame buildings were heated by stoves but the five log houses were heated by fireplaces only. Among the colored of the nineteen districts, only ten had houses of any kind (Brown 1960: 151).

In 1889 the State Legislature turned its attentions to making appropriations to a fund aimed at equalizing school terms throughout the state (Brown 1960: 155). A strategy focused on consolidating the state's rural public schools began to gain momentum throughout the state. According to NCPedia,

The one- and two-teacher schools serving rural districts were incapable of competing economically with the larger facilities of towns and cities, and rural children were suffering the consequences. Consolidating several small districts into one pooled available resources and afforded less-populated areas the advantages of better-funded urban schools. The initiative saw many positive results, as school curricula expanded to include several new subjects and vocational opportunities, and many rural districts began offering high school courses for the first time. An ever-increasing number of students would come to be served more effectively by new facilities born of the consolidation movement (Justesen and Matthews 2006).

It was with this goal in mind that Walter M. Thompson took up the position of Superintendent of Public Schools in Onslow County. Although he was elected in 1903, he was not employed full time until 1907. Thompson focused on equality of education and he attempted to consolidate financial resources and buildings during his time in the position. As late as 1921 there were 68 school houses, 36 of which were one-room schools (Onslow County Historical Society 1983: 29). On October 29, 1925 a joint meeting of the Boards of County Commissioners and Education took place. They were joined by teachers and supporters of public education. The meeting resulted in a plan to construct a central high school in each township in the county (Spring 1996: 1). That same year, Thompson approved the purchase of the first school trucks, which was the first practical step towards consolidating schools. These trucks (precursors to school buses) would transport students from around the county to the central high schools located in their township. The plan for consolidation called for the construction of a central high school in each township (besides those already operating in Richlands and Jacksonville). Dixon School was located in Stump Sound Township. According to Brown,

The adoption of the County-wide plan was the culmination of years of planning and the greatest step taken in modernizing the County school system. The central high schools were centers around which a complete unit was planned. Each school also included an elementary department for nearby pupils and received from distant communities only grades above the seventh. This partial action was necessary as a first step to full consolidation, first because public sentiment would not permit destruction of the little old school buildings scattered throughout the county. Lack of transportation for pupils and finally lack of funds necessary for a sudden changeover into complete consolidation (Brown 1960: 163).

At this time, schools were segregated with one system in place for white students and one in place for black students. The Georgetown School was for black students. It was originally founded as the Trent River-Oakey Grove Collegiate and Industrial Training School in 1902. It became known as Georgetown High School in 1930. It served as the only black high school in the county until desegregation in 1966 (Onslow County Historical Society 1983: 29).

The effects of the Great Depression reached public school systems throughout the country including Onslow County. Local governments were unable to meet the financial obligations necessary to run the schools. Teachers were paid in script, which could be redeemed through special arrangements with local grocers, landlords, and other local business owners. Eventually the state was forced to step in and underwrite an increasing proportion of the county's education system (Onslow County Historical Society 1983: 29).

During the 1940s the federal government bought 22 percent of Onslow County to construct a Marine Corps base. Camp Lejeune resulted in a large population boom and brought additional students to the county, but in 1943 the military base opened its own school for those civilian and military personnel living on the federal property. This move alleviated pressure on county school resources. However, during World War II, a shortage of gasoline to power school buses, a lack of teachers, and a general scarcity of supplies brought hardship to the schools (Watson 1995: 126).

Onslow County saw its greatest period of growth and expansion during the 1950s and 1960s. After the war, military men moved with their families to Onslow County, and at the same time there was a general population boom. This in turn caused tremendous growth for the Onslow County school system (Onslow County Historical Society 1983: 30).

In addition to the great population growth during the 1950s and 1960s, Onslow County schools, underwent the process of desegregation. According to historian Alan D. Watson,

Following the 1954 Brown decision by the Supreme Court and the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964, the school system began the process of desegregation. The task was accomplished in the mid- to late sixties with minimum friction under the leadership of Superintendent J. Paul Tyndall (Watson 1995: 126).

Georgetown High School was closed as a public school in 1967 and its students were integrated into the county's other high schools, including Dixon School.

The county's population growth slowed during the 1970s and administrators began to focus on providing students with the highest quality education possible. According to Watson,

By 1980 Onslow boasted a far better record in the field of educational accomplishment than it had displayed in the 1920s. The county exceeded the state average in virtually all significant categories: percentage of high school graduates among the adult populace, percentage of residents having four or more years of college education, and average median years of school completed. Still Onslow ranked ninety-first among the state's counties in per-pupil expenditures in 1982. The state supplied 69 percent of the funding; local and federal contributions amounted to 19 and 12 percent respectively (Watson 1995: 127).

In 2018, Onslow County had a student population of approximately 26,000 attending 38 schools including 20 elementary schools, eight middle schools, seven high schools, one (1) early college high school, one (1) early childhood development center, and one (1) alternative learning program (Onslow County Schools Website).

### The Dixon School

The origins of the Dixon School can be traced back to the October 19, 1925 meeting of the Onslow Board of County Commissioners and Board of Education. This meeting resulted in the plan to consolidate county schools and construct a central high school in each township. School officials decided to locate the Stump Sound Township school in Dixon along US 17. This choice was met with dissent from many Stump Sound residents. Those living in Sneads Ferry and other areas

believed the school should be located at Sneads Ferry, however school officials wanted to locate the school near a surfaced highway, and therefore the location at Dixon stood (Spring 1996: 1).

Prior to the construction of Dixon School in 1927, children in the Stump Sound Township attended one of eleven one-room schools located within walking distance of their homes. At the time, the school year lasted an average of six months (from November to April) and the school day was typically between six and eight hours, however there was no standardized schedule. These one-room schools were poorly equipped, and one teacher often taught between 10 and 50 students ranging in age from 6 to 20 years old (Spring 1996: 1).

Construction on the original portion of Dixon School (also known as the Front Hall) began in 1926 and was completed in 1927. It cost approximately \$27,000 and was named for Frank Dixon, the Onslow County resident who sold his land to the school district. The original, 1927 one-story brick school building was designed by Wilmington architectural firm, Boney & Boney and built by Wilmington construction firm Simon & Simon (Pezzoni 1998: 149, 210). It originally consisted of nine classrooms and an office. A separate frame gymnasium constructed in 1927 to the east of the Front Hall (Louis Berger 1992: 42). Dixon School was originally run as a graded school, meaning it included both primary and secondary grades. The first high school class graduated on May 17, 1927 with 11 students (Spring 1996: 1).

In 1933 the grounds around the school were drained and filled, and a library was constructed off the rear of the school. That same year the school began to run a lunchroom for children on welfare. In 1945 the Back Hall was added onto the school, connected to the Front Hall via the library. The Back Hall included 11 classrooms and a large lunchroom. In 1946, the second gymnasium was constructed along with an agricultural workshop. The gymnasium and agricultural workshop are no longer extant, but there is no record of when they were demolished. The school consisted of 11 grades until 1947, when a 12th grade was added (Spring 1996: 1-4). According to the current fire plan and a plaque located on site, another addition was constructed in 1953 which housed a multi-purpose room (now called the gymnasium) and shop classrooms. Between 1956 and 1960 multiple improvements were made to the school including the addition of new equipment like a PA system and the construction of an annex for additional classrooms. The school also added various classes and activities like a journalism class, a high school band, and glee club. In 1966, the first black students enrolled at Dixon. In 1976, the Onslow County School Board purchased an additional ten acres of land to construct athletic fields (Spring 1996: 4).

The new high school campus was constructed in 1968 just south of the historic Dixon School (Spring 1996: 4). Kindergarten through 8th grade remained housed in the old Dixon School until 1990. By the fall of 1992 kindergarten through fifth grade students had transitioned to the newly constructed Dixon Elementary School. Middle School students (6th-8th graders) remained in the old Dixon School until the Fall of 2017 when they moved into the newly constructed Dixon Middle School (Dixon Elementary School 2015: 7). As of July 2018, the historic Dixon School was largely unoccupied, but was occasionally used for active shooter training. The Onslow County School District still uses the gymnasium and is currently renovating some of the classrooms in the 1953 addition for use by Dixon High School.



*Architectural Context*

School Architecture

Education has changed drastically in Onslow County since the county's formation. Many of these changes mirror those that occurred throughout North Carolina. As the free public education system developed schools transitioned from small one or two-room frame buildings to big, brick consolidated schools with added amenities such as gymnasiums and auditoriums. According to architectural historians Catherine Bishir and Michael Southern,

The early 20th c. saw a boom in schoolhouse building that produced hundreds of small 1- or 2-room schools. This was followed by a movement to improve and consolidate schools, resulting in larger masonry buildings with auditoriums and other facilities. The N.C. Department of Public Instruction provided standardized designs for schoolhouses by type and size, and each community took pride in building a modern and progressive schoolhouse (Bishir et al. 1996: 59).



Photograph 32: Tabernacle Elementary School (Source: Onslow County Museum printed in Images of America, 2016)

Tabernacle Elementary School (no longer extant) was determined eligible for the listing in the National Register of Historic Places in 1996 under Criterion A and C (Photograph 32). Located along SR 1434 in the Morton Fork vicinity, Onslow County, North Carolina, approximately 30 miles northwest of the Dixon School, photos and descriptions of the building show that it was almost identical in design and plan to the Dixon School. Like the Dixon School, it was also constructed in 1927 by Simon and Sons Construction Company as part of the consolidation process. According to the eligibility evaluation,

The building is essentially Beaux Arts in design and layout with some Art Deco flourishes such as diamond-shaped concrete accent blocks in the stepped parapets. A stoop with fluted Doric columns, dentil moldings, and decorative balustrade above the cornice shelters the principal entry with sidelights and transom. This entry and the building's numerous windows are topped by jack arches with concrete keystones and impost blocks. Behind the school are later brick wings; beside it is a brick gymnasium (NCHPO 1996: 5).

Tabernacle Elementary School retained much of its original materials including windows, doors, and entryway but featured multiple additions. The building burned in a fire in the late 1990s. Comparatively, the Dixon School also reflects the one-story brick form commonly used for consolidated schools in the 1920s. Like Tabernacle Elementary School, multiple additions have been made to Dixon School. However, Dixon School does not retain as many original materials as the Tabernacle School and material alterations have been made including replacement doors and windows and the alteration of the main entryway. Prior to the destruction of the Tabernacle Elementary School, it was the best remaining example of a consolidated school building in Onslow County. However, Dixon School is now the oldest remaining example of a consolidated school dating to 1920s.

The former Jacksonville Senior High School (now New Bridge Middle School), constructed ca. 1935, is another example of an early to mid-twentieth century brick school building (Photograph 33). The school is located at 401 New Bridge Street, Jacksonville, Onslow County, North Carolina, approximately 14 miles north of the Dixon School. This building replaced an earlier Jacksonville High School that existed prior to consolidation. The earlier Jacksonville High School was used as a consolidated school during the beginning of the movement. The large two-story school is capped by a flat

roof and features a central entrance on the west-facing façade. The school was designed with Beaux Arts style elements and a single-loaded corridor plan (Pezzoni 1987: 2). A large brick chimney and boiler room are located on the southeast corner of the school. A gymnasium addition is located south of the building's main block. The school features multiple additions, changes to fenestration pattern, and some material alterations including replacement windows and doors and an altered front entrance. Comparatively, the Dixon School has not seen changes to its original fenestration pattern and it retains more original material.



Photograph 33 : Former Jacksonville Senior High School. (2018)

According to the Onslow County School District Website, Richlands Elementary School was constructed around 1926 (Photograph 34). However, the original use of the building is unknown and historic research did not uncover any mention

of the construction of Richlands Elementary school. Historic resources about the consolidation movement mention that Richlands had an adequate school building prior to consolidation. The students of Richlands Elementary School will move into a newly constructed building in Fall 2018. The historic school is located at 110 East Foy Street, Richlands, Onslow County, North Carolina, approximately 25 miles northwest of the Dixon School. The two-story brick building is irregular in plan and capped by a flat roof with stepped parapets. The building features a large brick cornice and arched window openings on the south elevation. The building appears to have undergone multiple additions that partially obscure the original school building. Additionally, the fenestration pattern has been altered on multiple elevations and the school has undergone material alterations including replacement windows and doors. Comparatively, the Dixon School has not seen changes to its original fenestration pattern and it retains more original material.

The Dixon School is characteristic of many brick school buildings constructed during the early to mid-twentieth century, especially during the county school consolidation plan of the 1920s. Although it has multiple additions, these were constructed to address changes in the evolving public school system and similar additions were made to the National Register eligible Tabernacle School prior to its destruction. The Dixon School lacks some material integrity including the replacement of original windows and doors. However, the original fenestration pattern and floor plans remain largely unaltered. Additionally, it is the last remaining example of the consolidated schools and is still identifiable as such.



Photograph 34: Richlands Elementary School. (2018)

*National Register of Historic Places Evaluation*

Based on research and fieldwork completed for this report, JMT recommends the Dixon School as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The resource maintains a sufficient level of integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association, but lacks integrity of materials, workmanship, and design. The building remains intact however, material alterations on the interior and exterior of the building have been made including the replacement of some windows, doors, and flooring, and the addition of drop ceilings. The school also features multiple additions, which are visible evidence of the evolution of education in Onslow County and North Carolina and do not completely hide or obscure the building's original Beaux Arts and Art Deco style elements. The school is associated with the consolidation and centralization of graded schools in Onslow County which began in 1925. Constructed in 1927, the Dixon School was one of the first consolidated schools built in Onslow County and remained in constant use as a school until 2017. The school's period of significance extends from 1927, the date of construction, to 1968 which represents the 50-year mark. The current Onslow County Public School system evolved from the school consolidation movement. The Dixon School represents this evolution and the important role the consolidation movement had on modern public schools in Onslow County. Today, it is the oldest and best remaining example of one of these schools in Onslow County. Therefore, it does warrant inclusion in the National Register for its association with the school consolidation movement in Onslow County.

Dixon School is **eligible** for the National Register under Criterion A (event). *To be eligible under Criterion A, a resource must be associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.* The Dixon School was constructed as part of the school consolidation process that began in Onslow County in 1925. The building served as a graded school, elementary school, and eventually as a middle school for the Stump Sound Township and was in continuous operation from 1927 until 2017. Throughout the years, additions were constructed to keep up with growing student populations and educational trends. The multiple additions do not hide or obscure the building's original form or Beaux Arts and Art Deco style elements. The Dixon School, including its additions reflect the history of the Onslow County Public School system, and it is the oldest and most intact example of an original consolidated school left in the county. It is for this reason that the Dixon School is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A.

Dixon School is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion B (person). *To be eligible under Criterion B, a resource must be associated with the lives of significant persons in our past.* Little detail was found about the people involved with the Dixon School beyond the names of previous principals and Frank Dixon, who sold the land to the school district. None of these individuals were found to be significant enough to warrant inclusion in the National Register. The resource is not associated with the lives of significant persons in our past therefore the school is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria B.

Dixon School is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion C (design/construction). *To be eligible under Criterion C, a resource must embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.* The architecture and design of the Dixon School is characteristic of educational buildings of its time and is a representative example of those schools built during the Onslow County's school consolidation movement. Prior to its demolition, the Tabernacle Elementary School was determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register under Criterion C. While it was still extant, the Tabernacle School retained more material integrity than Dixon School, however both school's featured similar additions. These additions tell/told the evolution of both schools. The fenestration pattern of the original Front Hall is intact, which stands in contrast to the former Jacksonville Senior High School and Richlands Elementary School. The building remains intact however, it lacks a sufficient level of integrity of materials, workmanship, and design. The Dixon School features both interior and exterior material alterations including



modern windows, doors, flooring, and drop ceilings. Additionally, the original front entrance of the Dixon School has been altered, including the removal of Doric columns, dentil moldings, and decorative balustrade. However, despite the Dixon School being the oldest and most intact example of a consolidated school left in the county, the number of interior and exterior material alterations have stripped the school of the level of individual distinction necessary for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria C.

Dixon School is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion D (potential to yield information). *To be eligible under Criterion D, a resource must yield or be likely to yield information important in history or prehistory.* The early twentieth century school is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.



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