National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word process, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property		
historic name Grand View School other names		
2. Location		
street & number Putnam Street		n at
city or town Harpers Ferry, West Virginia		. i
	erson code 037	zip code 25425
3. State/Federal Agency Certification		
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standard Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property is See continuation sheet for additional comments). Signature of certifying office/Title Date State or Federal agency and bureau In my opinion, the property meets does not recent the National Register of certifying office/Title Date State or Federal agency and bureau Signature of certifying office/Title Date	s for registering properties in the National in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the perconsidered significant nationally ister criteria. (See continuation sheet	Register of Historic property meets does statewide locally. (
4. State/Federal Agency Certification I hereby, certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
other (explain):		

Grand View S	chool	Jefferson County,	WV
Name of Property		County and State	
5. Classification			<u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the cour	nt)
□ private□ public-local□ public-State⊠ public-Federal	building(s) district site structure object	Contributing Noncontributing 1 1	buildings sites structures objects Total
Name of related multiple prop	erty listing	number of contributing resource previ	iously
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a	multiple property listing)	listed in the National Register	
Historic Properties of Harpers F Park	erry National Historical		
6. Function of Use			
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	
Education/school		Government/government office	
7. Description			
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categories from instructions)	
Art Deco (influenced)		foundation Poured concrete	
		walls Brick	
		roof Unknown (probably asphalt)	
		other	

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

National Register of Historic Places	Grand View School	
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Physical Description:

The Grand View School is a one-story brick school building in the Art-Deco style, with cast stone decorative highlights. It is located on six town lots within the municipality of Bolivar. It is situated near the wooded cliff above the Potomac River, on the west half of the one-acre lot. The rest of the lot is in grass and gravel parking area. Several small trees have been planted on the lot. The front elevation of the school is 9 bays and includes a central, panel and glass, double door entrance within a vestibule, with a 12 light transom. The brick central vestibule is embellished with a layer of cast stone surrounding it, and cast stone stylized shield above, with the 1930 inscription. Immediately on either side of the cast stone facade of the vestibule are two stylized brick pilasters which rise several feet higher than the height of the building to form a parapet with several courses of brick filling the area between, capped with a layer of cast stone. There are 4 sets of large, 16 light windows on each side of the center vestibule, which correspond with two interior classrooms. Each window has a small 4 light section, which opens. A horizontal line of cast stone runs the length of each wing below the line of windows. The flat roofline of the front facade is also capped with a layer of cast stone. The poured concrete foundation is exposed several feet above ground level forming a third horizontal line on the building. There are no windows on the sides of this front section of the building. The rear brick 4 bay section of the building forms a T with the front section. None of the embellishments present on the front section are found on the rear section of the building. A brick exterior chimney is located on the northeast corner of the rear section. A ca.1940 cement block addition, two bays wide, with shed roof is attached to the rear of the building. There is a modern (1990s) handicapped accessible ramp leading to a rear door on block addition. A small frame storage shed is attached to the east elevation of the T section of the building.

The interior of the Grand View School building has not been changed since its use as a school. From the central entrance to the school a central hall runs south to north with two large classrooms on either side, then two smaller classrooms on either side, then leading to the block addition with two bathrooms, a janitors closet, and an additional classroom. All interior woodwork, flooring, and slate blackboards remain in tact.

Nan	ne of	Property	County and State
8. \$	Stat	ement of Significance	
		able National Register Criteria	Area of Significance
(Ma	rk "x"	in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for	(Enter categories from instructions)
Nati	onai	Register listing)	Pak wie bewiese Alteria
_			Ethnic heritage/black Education
X	Α	Property is associated with events that have made a	Architecture
		significant contribution to the broad pattern of our	Arciniecture
		history.	
\neg	В	Property associated with the lives of persons	
	_	significant in our past.	
		algimount in our past.	
\boxtimes	С	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a	
		type, period, or method of construction or represents	
		the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values,	Period of Significance
		or represents a significant and distinguishable entity	1020 1054
		entity whose components lack individual distinction.	1930-1954
_	_		
	D	Property as yielded, or is likely to yield, information	
		important in prehistory or history.	Significant Dates
Crit	teris	a Considerations	Significant Dates
		' in all the boxes that apply)	1930
Pro	pert	y is:	
	Α	owned by a religious institution or used for religious	Significant Person
		purposes.	(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
_	_		27/4
Ш	В	removed from its original location.	N/A
	С	a birthplace or grave.	Cultural Affiliation
	D	a cemetery.	N/A
_	_		
	Ε	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	
	F	a commemorative property.	Architect/Builder
	G	less than 50 years of age or achieved significance	Frampton and Bowers, Architects
		within the past 50 years.	
		ve Statement of Significance	
Exp	olain f	the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)	
). I	Vlajo	or Bibliographical References	
		graphy	
		books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one	or more continuation sheets)
>re	vio	us documentation on files (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:
	7	preliminary determination of individual listing (36	☐ State Historic Preservation Office
	_	CFR 67) has been requested	Other State agency
[previously listed in the National Register	Federal agency
[previously determined eligible by the National Register	Local government
į	╡	designated a National Historic Landmark	University
L	_	recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey	Other
		#	Name of repository:

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Statement of Significance:

The Grand View School building is significant under National Register Criterion A for its association with the development of African American education in the Harpers Ferry/Bolivar area. The building is also significant under National Register Criterion C for Architecture, as an example of a 1930 Art Deco influenced African American school. The construction of the Grand View School building in 1930 as a separate educational facility for black children, served as a statement of the Harpers Ferry School District's commitment to segregated education. The simple building design, and the decision to construct the building without indoor bathrooms, was a testament to the Board's consideration of the black children of the District as 'second-class' citizens. However, the Grand View School's strong association with Storer College, as a teacher training facility for the college, and the presence of local postgraduates from the college as faculty in the Grand View School, attests to the determination of the local African American population to overcome the limitations given them. The school retains a high level of architectural integrity with the classrooms and interior and exterior features intact. It is also architecturally significant as a modest interpretation of the Art Deco styling prominent among school and institutional designs in the 1930s. While the school remained in use until 1965, the predominant significance was more than 50 years ago.

Resource History

Following the Civil War, in 1866, an official system for educating blacks in West Virginia was established when the State Legislature required schools for "colored" children in sub-districts with at least 30 eligible 6 to 21 year olds. This system was not heeded in the Harpers Ferry Education District of Jefferson County, where sentiment toward black education was not positively received. For several decades after the end of the war, northern missionaries associated with the American Missionary Association ran the schools for black children in the eastern panhandle of West Virginia. In Harpers Ferry, Storer College, run by the Freewill Baptist Church of Maine provided elementary education for blacks in the region.

It is unclear how long the elementary program at Storer College continued from its inception in 1865. By 1887, however, there was apparently no elementary education available for black children in Harpers Ferry. An editorial in the <u>Harpers Ferry Sentinel</u>, Oct. 8, 1887, "endorses the petition circulating requesting the Board of Education to furnish a school at Harpers Ferry for 42 'colored' children who have no school or teacher." Apparently acceding to their constitutional responsibility, the Harpers Ferry District Board of Education began construction of a school. An 1888 issue of the <u>Spirit of Jefferson</u> announced the completion of the new "colored" school. The 1907 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map for the Harpers Ferry District, shows the little school as a frame, one story building with a shingle roof, on Ridge St., next to the A.M.E. Church and the "Colored" Baptist Church. Although Storer College no longer provided the elementary education for local black children, the ties between the College and the "Harpers Ferry Colored School" would remain close. The school's first Principal, William B. Evans, was an 1878

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graduate of Storer College. Other teachers at the school were also Storer graduates, as well as student teachers. The Storer College Catalogue of 1921-1922 lists as one of the Normal School courses "Observation and Practice Teaching" and states, "The Public School furnishes an excellent opportunity for all normal students to do practice teaching. Here the everyday problems of teaching are discussed." The college also continued to provide post-elementary education in their "Prep" (later referred to as "Secondary," and "Junior High School") Course, the only high school for black children in the Harpers Ferry District until 1942.

The little frame school on Ridge St. in Harpers Ferry operated for almost 40 years. Serving as the only elementary school for blacks in the Harpers Ferry District, it was apparently immediately successful. By 1890, the Board of Education reported "this school had become so large and unwieldy for one Teacher . . ." that they authorized an Assistant Teacher for two months of the 1889-1890 school year. In 1892 a decision was made by the Board to build an addition on the little schoolhouse, rather than build another school at Halltown. A 1926 enumeration of District students listed 157 black students and 652 white students. Although the schoolhouse at Halltown had by this time been constructed, the large population of black students had outgrown the tiny two room school on Ridge St. The Board therefore rented, for \$10 a month, a third room for the school in the basement of "the (Colord) [sic] Baptist Church," and called it the "3rd Room School." ⁵

It is clear that by 1926, the Harpers Ferry District Board of Education was facing a problem with the "Harpers Ferry Colored School." Not only was the existing frame building more than 30 years old, but it was far too small for its growing student population. At the November 1926 Board meeting, the members decided to purchase "the 8 lots of M. M. Arter on Putnam Street Harpers Ferry W Va. for the sum of \$1,000."

The eight lots on Putnam Street, Lots 1-3 and 14-16 in Block X, and Lots 10 and 11 in Block W, were originally owned by the United States War Department, as was most of the rest of Harpers Ferry. When the U. S. Government decided to abandon the Rifle Factory and Arsenal in 1868, following the devastation of the Civil War, the property was sold in a series of auctions, held in 1868, 1872, 1880 and 1884. The 1869 S. Howell Brown Map of Harpers Ferry (based on his 1852 map of Harpers Ferry), was commissioned to be the official survey of governments lots for reference at the property sales. Speculators bought many of the vacant lots. These investors later sold the lots to individuals who would build on the properties.

²Storer College Catalogue 1921-1922, Storer College Collection, Harpers Ferry NHP Library, Harpers Ferry, WV

³Storer College Catalogues, 1898-99, 1921-22, 1942-43.

⁴Harpers Ferry District. Board of Education meeting notes. Nov. 1889 and 1892; records located at Jefferson Co. Board of Education. Superintendents Office. 5lbid., April and July, 1926.

⁶lbid., November, 1926; see also Jefferson Co. Land Record, Liber 131, Folio 384, Maggie W. Arter to Board of Education, Jefferson Co. Court House, Charles Town, WVA.

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In this particular case, the six lots in Block X were purchased by James Burton at the 1868 auction. The lots were then sold as a block through several owners, J. Garland Hurst in 1886, Mary J. Tearney in 1902, and Jared M. Arter in 1919, all of whom were active in the speculation of land in the Harpers Ferry area. The two lots located in Block W were purchased by Mary D. Price in the January 1872 government auction, and, like the Block X lots, moved through a series of owners who were active in the real estate market, including Edmund Chambers in April 1872, Lura B. Lightner in 1887, and Jared M. Arter in 1891. The 1926 purchase of the eight lots on Putnam Street by the Harpers Ferry District Board was remarkably farsighted, for it was not until 1929 that construction began for a new school building.

A bond proposal for new school buildings in the Harper Ferry School District in 1929 included \$15,000 for a brick, four-room building with auditorium for black children, as well as \$60,000 for a whites-only District High School, and \$22,000 for a white elementary school at Millville. The bond, overwhelmingly passed by the voters in June 1929, actually only allowed \$10,000 for the black school, eliminating the auditorium and modern bathrooms. By comparison the new whites-only high school at Bolivar, also approved in the 1929 bond, was provided with \$80,500 for construction, and included not only modern bathrooms but also an auditorium and a gymnasium. As construction was underway on all three schools, in the summer of 1930, the Board of Education accepted contracts for septic systems to be installed at the Millville School and the Harpers Ferry High School. No mention is made of such arrangements for the "Harpers Ferry Colored School." However, at the same meeting, the Board appointed a janitor, by the name of Butler Burrell, to the new "colored" school for the school year 1930-31.9

Despite the paltry sum provided for the new black school, an attempt was made at using the modern, Art-Deco architectural style of the period. The new school, eventually called Grand View School by the Board in 1931, was located on the Putnam Street lots purchased in 1926, and did indeed command a "grand view" of the Potomac River. Designed by the architectural firm of Frampton & Bowers, of Huntington, West Virginia, Grand View School was a much simplified version of the new high school at Bolivar designed by the same firm. However, if the Harpers Ferry District Board of Education thought they were providing "separate but equal" education to the African American students in their charge, they were sadly mistaken. The issue of sanitary facilities, or the lack thereof at the Grand View School, would haunt the Board for years.

At the December 1931 Board meeting, "R. E. McDaniel Principal of Grand View School appeared before Board and asked that new toilets be installed and if possible an auditorium be added to Building." The recording Secretary's notation "not much possibility of . . ." because of recent large expenditures was probably not surprising. It was not until July 1932, that the Board "authorized . . . to have two sanitary closets built outside on Grand View School." In August that year, the Board records

⁸Sheila Crane and Bruce J. Noble, Jr., "Grand View School," unpublished report, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, Harpers Ferry, WV, p.1.

⁹Harpers Ferry District, Board of Education, meeting notes, August 1930. 10Ibid., December 1931.

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showed, "W. B. Harris' bid for building two modern toilets for Grand View School accepted, his price to be \$50 each. Toilets to be 4 ½ x 8 with 4 seats each, concrete pits 4 feet deep, asphalt shingle roofs, German siding outside, pipe ventilators and separate [seat?] for teachers." It is probable that the outhouses, here described as "modern toilets," were not what Principal McDaniel had in mind. Not until ca. 1940 would a concrete block addition on the rear of the school be constructed with real modern toilet facilities included. 12

Regardless of the sanitary facilities at the new school, the Storer College trustees, of which Principal Robert McDaniel was one, were clearly proud of the stylish brick building. The 1932-1933 college catalogue included a photograph of the Grand View School with the caption "Grand View School Where Teacher Training Work Is Done." Under the Normal School Department course list, a notice read: "Important-The work in Practice Teaching is done at 'Grand View' public school, where opportunity for such educational laboratory work is modern and excellent." The Grand View School continued to play a large role in the elementary education program at Storer College, especially beginning in 1942, as Storer College began offering full, four year, college degrees, including the "Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education" as well as "Elementary Certificates." The college catalogue for 1942-43 lists under the college Faculty, the principal of Grand View School, Clarence T. Napper, a graduate of Storer College, and the three other teachers at the school, two of them also Storer graduates, as "Critic Teachers" also part of the education program. The 1945-1946 catalogue adds teachers from the new Page-Jackson High School for African Americans, located in Charles Town as part of the new Jefferson County Education District, to the list of Critic Teachers, expanding the college ties to local black public schools. ¹⁴

The Grand View School, and the other segregated black schools in the Jefferson County District, Page-Jackson High School and Eagle Avenue Elementary in Charles Town, were all affected by the 1954 Supreme Court decision making segregated education based on race illegal. From 1954 to 1965 Jefferson County schools were opened to all students using a "freedom of choice" plan. According to Millard Bushong this plan, while having the appearance of being nondiscriminatory, allowed some schools to continue as all black schools, including Grand View and Page-Jackson, since no whites "chose" to enter those schools. In 1965 the Federal Government insisted the county comply, the Grand View Elementary School and Page-Jackson High School were closed and the students integrated into the local white schools. For several years following, the Grand View School was used as an integrated school for the 5th and 6th grades of the Harpers Ferry/Bolivar area. In 1971 the new C. W. Shipley Elementary School opened just west of Harpers Ferry and Bolivar, and the Grand View School was permanently closed.

¹¹Harpers Ferry District, Board of Education, meeting records, July and August 1932.

¹²Crane and Noble, p. 4.

¹³Storer College Catalogue 1932-1933, Storer College Collection, Harpers Ferry NHP Library, Harpers Ferry, WV.

¹⁴Ibid., 1942-1943 and 1945-1946.

¹⁵Millard K. Bushong, <u>Historic Jefferson County</u>, Boyce, VA: Carr Publishing Co., Inc., 1972, p. 385.

¹⁶Crane and Noble, p. 4.

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The development of black education in the Harpers Ferry area was a difficult road in prosecessionist Jefferson County. Because of the strong convictions and tenacity of the white missionaries who established Storer College in Harpers Ferry, that road was made easier for the fairly large local black population. Despite the less than cooperative Board of Education, the Grand View School and its predecessor provided the education needed for African American children to advance through the Storer College curriculum and acquire an education.

Resource Evaluation:

The Grand View School building is part of the Multiple Property Documentation Form entitled "Historic Properties of the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park." Within the context of "Black Education in Harpers Ferry," it is significant as an African American Schools Property Type. The integrity of the Grand View School building both on the interior and the exterior remains intact, as does as setting. The exterior of the school building has not been changed since its use as school with the exception of the addition of the handicapped accessible ramp on the rear. The school grounds are grassy with occasional small and medium ornamental trees. Some new home development has occurred nearby but is screened by trees. Many homes that would have been present during the operation of the Grand View School are still intact. The location of the school building remains isolated from the center of Bolivar and Camp Hill. The interior of the building, while being used by the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park as offices, is unchanged from its original appearance. Original woodwork, flooring, and blackboards all remain in place giving the sense of the school atmosphere immediately upon entering.

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Major Bibliographical References:

Brown, S. Howell, Map of Harpers Ferry, 1869, Jefferson Co. Court House, Charles Town, WV.

Bushong, Millard K., Historic Jefferson County, Boyce, VA: Carr Publishing Co., Inc., 1972.

Crane, Sheila and Bruce J. Noble, Jr., "Grand View School," unpublished report, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, Harpers Ferry, WV.

Harpers Ferry District, Board of Education meeting notes, 1889-1912 and 1913-1933, records located at Jefferson Co. Board of Education, Superintendents Office.

Jefferson County Land Records, Jefferson Co. Court House, Charles Town, WV.

Newspaper collection, microfilm, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park Library, Harpers Ferry, WV.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1907, 1922, 1933, West Virginia University Archives, Morgantown, WV.

Storer College Catalogues, Storer College Collection, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park Library, Harpers Ferry, WV.

Grand View School	Jefferson County, WV
Name of Property	County and State
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property 1.09 acres	
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)	
1 Zone Easting Northing Zo	ne Easting Northing
2 4 4	
Verbal Boundary Description	See continuation sheet
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)	
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)	
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Edith B. Wallace, Research Associate	
Organization Paula S. Reed and Associates, Inc.	date 6/99, rev. 11/00
Street & number 105 N. Potomac Street	telephone <u>301-739-2070</u>
city or town Hagerstown state Maryland	zip code
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets	
Maps	
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location	1.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage	or numerous resources.
Photographs	
Representative black and white photographs of the property.	
Additional Items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)	
Property Owner	
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)	
Name Harpers Ferry NHP	
Name Harpers Ferry NHP street & number P.O. Box 65	telephone 304-535-6298
	telephone 304-535-6298 zip code 25425

Paperwork Reduction Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et. seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

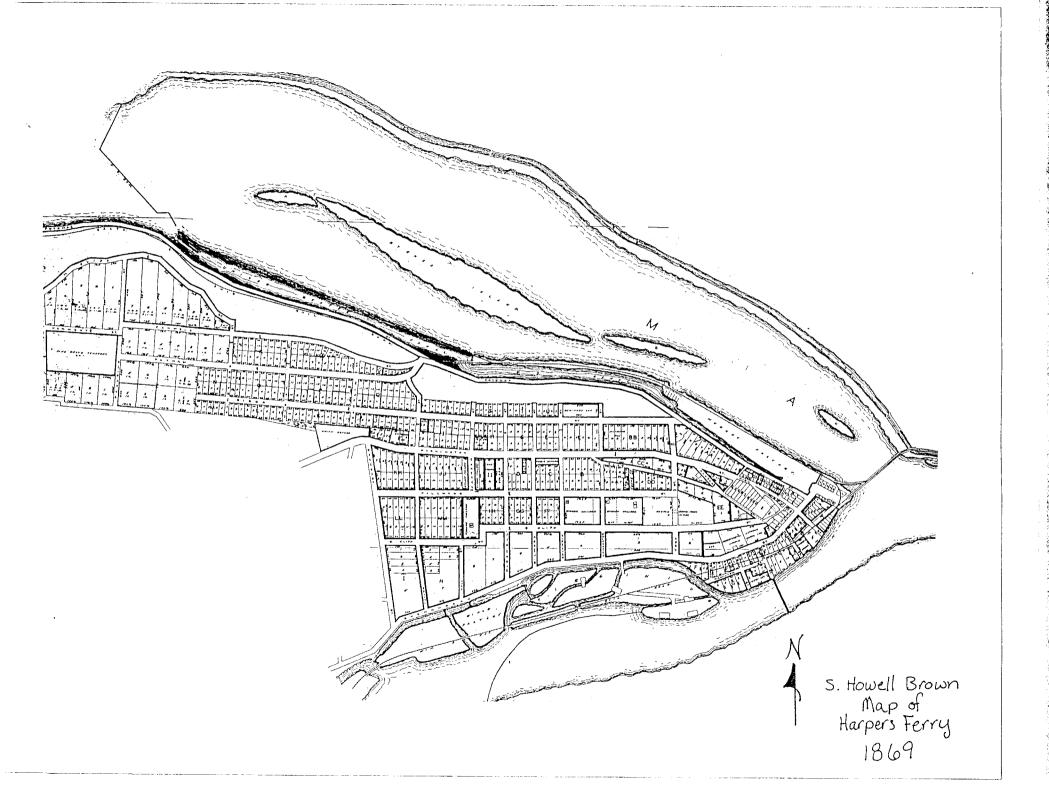
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Verbal Boundary Description:

All of the property shown as parcel #9, Tax Map #1, for Harpers Ferry Corporation, containing six lots at the northwest corner of Putnam and Marion Streets.

Boundary Justification:

The acreage included is the entire amount of land currently associated with the school. It accommodates the school building, parking lot and surrounding grounds.



1

GRAND VIEW SCHOOL Sketch Map of Property Potomac River or Attach Copy of USGS Map

wooded

Putnam Street dead

1 ramp

