

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Bramwell Additions Historic District
Name of Property
Mercer County WV
County and State
95000877
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this additional documentation move removal

name change (additional documentation) other

meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

Susan M. Perce

August 29, 2022

Signature of Certifying Official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Date of Action

National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

additional documentation accepted

other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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The purpose of this Additional Documentation submission is to correct erroneous information about the Bluestone School that was included in Sections 7, 8, of the National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Bramwell Additions Historic District (Boundary Increase) listed in the National Register on May 5, 2005. The school is mentioned in Pages 2, 9, 13, 17-21. The correction to the Bramwell Additions Historic District boundary increase has been deemed necessary due to the recent discovery of additional information about this specific building that was not known at the time of the nomination.

The following documentation is offered to correct the description in Sections 7 and 8:

Bluestone School, designated as Building #153, was a Works Project Administration project (#665-41-2-129) for the Mercer County Board of Education. The project was approved on March 28, 1939, for \$70,140 with a total project cost of \$103,820.

The school is listed in the nomination as having been built in 1948, but the construction actually began in 1940. Work was paused during World War II and resumed in 1948. The structure is also incorrectly listed as a two-story building, when it is actually four stories, with all floors open to the outside on the back of the building (east side, facing the river) and only two floors visible to the public from the road on the west side.

The building was designed by master architect Alexander Blount Mahood (1888-1970) as indicated by blueprints signed and dated November 1, 1939. Mahood was a prolific designer whose career spanned over 50 years with many of his works listed on the National Register.

The project started immediately after the Works Project Administration (WPA) Division of Operations received the blueprints on March 16th, 1940. A *Bluefield Daily Telegraph* article from May 2, 1948, describing the opening of the new school, noted "Cost of the building will be approximately \$130,000. Which is almost double the estimated cost when work on it first started in 1940. The construction work was stopped during the war by government order it was said."

Bibliography:

"Ceremony Held at New Bluestone High School," *Bluefield Daily Telegraph*, May 2, 1948.

"Edward W. Watkins Bluefield, W.Va.," *Saline Reporter*, January 16, 2003.

Mahood, Alexander. Bluefield School Blueprints, Design No. 3312. November 1, 1939. Bluestone Barony Veterans in Partnership, LLC, Bramwell, WV.

Master Architects Historical Context: Alexander B. Mahood. GAI Consultants, Inc. February 11, 2019.