

United States Department of the Interior  
 National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Calhoun County High School

Other names/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

### 2. Location

Street & number: 101-103 School Street

City or town: Grantsville State: WV County: Calhoun

Not For Publication:  N/A Vicinity:  N/A

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

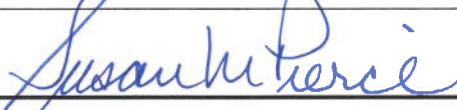

I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A \_\_\_ B X C \_\_\_ D

	
<p><b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b> _____ <b>Date</b></p> <p><u>West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office</u></p> <p><b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>	
<p>In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<p>_____  <b>Signature of commenting official:</b> _____ <b>Date</b></p>	
<p>_____  <b>Title :</b> _____ <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>	

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

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#### 4. 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
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION: School

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT: Not in use

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Collegiate Gothic  
MODERN MOVEMENT: Moderne

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**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: \_STONE (Sandstone)

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### Summary Paragraph

Calhoun County High School was built on a seven-acre parcel in remote Calhoun County along the southern floodplain of the Little Kanawha River with views north towards the Town of Grantsville, the county seat. The Collegiate Gothic style building served as the Calhoun County High School from its opening in 1923 until it permanently closed in 1998, when a new consolidated middle and high school was built. The imposing, two-story, rock-faced ashlar sandstone building displays a five-part, symmetrical 12 bay façade on an English basement with twin stone turrets accenting the central arched opening. The roof is flat with stone parapet walls. The double-hung sash windows are wood with 6/1 lights. The roof and interior of the building was rebuilt after a 1942 fire, but no additions and only minor alterations have occurred to the exterior. A concrete/terra cotta block gymnasium was built to the east side of the high school in 1952/53. The two-story in height, square-massed building had large one-story, flat-roofed wings on all sides that had served as classrooms and public space but had fallen into disrepair and were removed in 2022. The school property has remained vacant since it closed. The setting remains intact; no formal landscaping or parking lots existed, and no further development has occurred. The nominated two-acre tax parcel (Calhoun County Tax Map #039-1-31, 5-4.1) includes only the 1920-23 high school (contributing) and the 1952/53 school gymnasium (contributing). The high school is in good condition with a high level of integrity, and although altered the gymnasium retains its historic exterior that reflects its historic design and use.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

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## Narrative Description

### Setting

The 1920-23 Calhoun County High School was built in the west-central Mid-Ohio Valley region of West Virginia, 75 miles northeast of Charleston, the state capital. The school is situated on the flat bottom land of the Little Kanawha River across from downtown Grantsville, the seat of Calhoun County. Calhoun is among the more remote, less accessible, and least developed counties in West Virginia, with an earlier agricultural and farming economy. The oil and gas industry was a close second, followed by timbering.<sup>1</sup> Calhoun is the third least populated county in the state, with an overall 2020 population of 6,229, down from 7,627 in 2010. The height of its population remained steady from 1900 to 1950 averaging between 10,000 and 12,000 but has continued a downward trajectory since. Likewise, the population of Grantsville has also declined; in 2020, Grantsville had 482 residents, down from 561 in 2010. Prior to World War II, the roads were often narrow and ill-kept, and a railroad has never gone in or near the county.<sup>2</sup>

The county was created from Gilmer County in 1856 and was named for John C. Calhoun, a strong southern states' rights proponent. Grantsville was laid out in 1866, and named for the northern General, Ulysses S. Grant.<sup>3</sup> The town is bisected from north to south by the Little Kanawha River, the county's historic transportation, migration, and hunting route. The current ca. 1940 courthouse and the 1920s-1930s commercial square were established on the higher north bank of the Little Kanawha River. In 1963, the town was permanently altered by the relocation of the original north/south route - where present-day Main Street and Little Kanawha Parkway intersect at the courthouse - to the east edge of town and the west side of the school property, with the creation of WV-16.<sup>4</sup>

The building stands at 101-103 School Street, a short access road that encircles the school and gymnasium from Elm Street. Elm Street leads off WV-16 to the "South Side" neighborhood, a hilly 1920s -1930s residential neighborhood overlooking the rear of the school property from Elm and Pell streets. Pell Street is most likely named for Florence Pell who in 1880 purchased the 53-acre property known as the "old John Ball Farm" on which the school stands today. The school faces north over the open setting of the historic athletic fields (not included).

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<sup>1</sup> Bonar, Robert G. e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia, Calhoun County. May 31, 2013. Accessed June 25, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> Don McGlothlin, Thesis "A Guidance Program for Calhoun County (W. Va.) High School, 1940, p. 27.

<sup>3</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grantsville,\\_West\\_Virginia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grantsville,_West_Virginia). Accessed June 25, 2022.

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.wvencyclopedia.org/articles/809>; Bonar, Robert G. e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia, Grantsville. October 19, 2020. Accessed June 25, 2022. <https://www.wvencyclopedia.org/articles/2149>.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

### 1920-23 Calhoun County High School

Built in the Collegiate Gothic style, the imposing, two-story solid stone structure displays a five-part, symmetrical façade spanning 12 bays on an English basement with a stone water table. All facades are laid with irregular-coursed, rock-faced ashlar sandstone with thin, lightly stained beaded mortar joints. The front façade has five alternating projecting sections with the middle entrance section featuring a wide half-round stone arched opening accented by twin turrets with elongated 4/1 wood sash windows. The turrets have flat roofs, and the rectilinear building also has a flat roof with a new rubber membrane and parapet walls. These stepped parapet walls with corner crenellations accent the center projecting entrance bays of the front and side elevations. A flight of concrete steps with concrete knee walls leads to the deeply recessed main entrance, which has paired, double-leaf, 12-light wood doors with twin 14-light wood transoms. The double-hung sash windows are wood with 6/1 lights and dressed stone sills and lintels. The two side elevations span nine symmetrical bays with a projecting center three-bay section. The tall half-round arched opening on the prominent west side elevation, which faces towards WV-16, has recessed double-leaf, divided-light wood doors, sidelights, and transom. The similar east elevation side entrance was modified when a detached gymnasium was built close to the east side of the school in 1952/53. A corridor was built that attached the gymnasium to the school's east side entrance (removed in 2022).

The rear of the school has an original one-story stone wing on a raised basement with a water table. Prior to the 1942 fire, the main floor of the wing was used as the auditorium with the gym in the basement beneath it. This rear wing is six bays deep and eight bays wide and is only accessed from the interior of the main building. Flanking half-round stone-arched entrances provide access to the main building from each side of the wing. Due to building codes that required adequate lighting, the rear wing was built with light wells between the rear facade of the school and the rear façade of the wing to light the classrooms of the main building and the wing. The facades of the light-wells are clad with glazed ceramic bricks. After the 1942 fire, the wing was converted into seven classrooms, and one section of the light well was enclosed with a one-story flat roof for a boiler room (removed 2022). Currently, only the exterior stone walls and a center interior brick wall remain standing, with steel I-beams spanning the open roof area.

### Interior

In February 1942, a fire gutted the interior of the school, the 6/1 wood sash windows, and the roof, leaving only the exterior stone walls standing. All current interior finishes and windows were replaced the same year, and the school re-opened in January 1943. The wide, double-loaded corridors have enclosed stairwells towards either end. The dog-leg staircases are simply

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

constructed with wood risers, bull-nosed treads of solid wood planks, and solid knee walls. The finishes throughout the school include tongue-and-groove pine flooring, plaster-coated brick-lined interiors of the exterior stone walls, plaster-coated solid brick interior walls, and tall plaster-coated, wire-meshed wood joist ceilings. The entrance foyer and main hall had plaster-coated wainscoting.

The classrooms have typical wood baseboards and window sills, but no other framing or wall or ceiling molding. While most interior finishes remain intact, some features were sold off after the school's closing, including most of the slate chalkboards and wood framing, and the brass stairwell handrails.<sup>5</sup> All interior doors and hardware remain and are typical two-paneled wood doors. The administrative office doors are half-wood with upper glazing of nine divided lights. A few doors have been replaced with flush, hollow-core wood doors in various administration offices. The wood sash windows remain in remarkably good condition and have added interior storm windows. The large girls' bathroom, located on the second floor, was modified with the removal of the wall-mounted sinks. The room was divided with a lateral wood wall addition where a large, half-round metal community sink was mounted. The bathroom floors are ceramic mosaic tile, and the walls appear to be architectural terra cotta block tile, identical to that used on the adjacent 1953 gymnasium. The English basement was also used for classrooms, as well as for a utility area, but has a lower ceiling with encased steel I-beams. The boys' bathroom is on the basement level and is similar in design material to the girls' bathroom located above. All bathroom fixtures have been removed. The central corridor on the third floor has three linear-shaped skylights still visible in the ceiling; but they have been covered on the outside, possibly with the addition of the new roof membrane.

### 1953 Gymnasium

A concrete block gymnasium faced with architectural terra cotta block was built to the east side of the high school in 1952/53 (graduation was held there for the first time in 1953).<sup>6</sup> The two-story in height, square-massed building had one-story, flat-roofed wings on all four sides. These wings held the cafeteria and kitchen along with numerous classrooms and various other rooms. Some of the flat roofs on the wings had collapsed and the wings were in poor-to-ruinous condition and had to be removed by the current owner. The core of the gym itself survived intact, and the exterior façade walls show where the wings were once attached. The front and rear elevations of the gym have tall gabled parapet walls that flank the barrel-vaulted, membrane roof. The façade windows on the gym and entrance wing are made up of glass blocks, and the upper side elevations of the gym have four large bays of metal hopper windows. The terra cotta

<sup>5</sup> Interview with the owner Cheryl Mersh on-site, July 14, 2022.

<sup>6</sup> Interview with the former Calhoun County High School Principal Robert G. Bonar at the Calhoun County Historical Society, Grantsville, West Virginia, July 15, 2022.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

block on the front façade was previously painted during its occupation. The interior of the gym remains intact with exposed metal trusses and the wood-framed barrel-vaulted roof. The walls are painted concrete block and the floor is finished concrete. A basement level area was used for locker rooms and is in poor condition.

**List of Nominated Resources:**

- 1) 1923 Calhoun County High School (contributing building)
- 2) 1953 Gymnasium (contributing building)

**Integrity Statement**

The 1920-23 Calhoun County High School building retains much of its integrity of location, setting, form, materials, and workmanship. Built and used as a county high school, the 1920-1923 stone building contains its original sandstone foundations, walls, and parapet roof (the flat roof has a new membrane); and all material used since the 1942 fire remains intact including the exterior 6/1 wood sash windows, divided light wood entrance doors and transoms, roof skylights, and the entire interior floors, walls, ceilings, doors, and most of the trim. Although, about ten years ago, most of the black boards were salvaged for a fundraising event; the lockers had been previously removed. Some of the windows have been boarded up, and the rear wing has fallen into disrepair. Some of the original sections of the ca. 1932 wrought iron fencing along Pell Street remains, and the ca. 1943 iron railing along School Street remains in front of the school. No additions or other modifications have been made to the high school building. Overlooking the Little Kanawha River, the imposing Calhoun County High School sandstone building stands out as a rare and extant surviving example of Collegiate Gothic style architecture in the environs of Calhoun County, a remote and undeveloped area of the Mid-Ohio Valley region of West Virginia.



Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. 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, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

EDUCATION

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1920-1973

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1920-1923

1942

1953

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Ford, Stephen Wardner (Ford, S.W.) (Architect)

Holmes, William (Construction foreman)

Shrake, P.Q. (Brick mason and Contractor)

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The 1920-23 Calhoun County High School in Calhoun County, West Virginia is eligible under Criterion A in the area of Education. Calhoun County High School as an excellent example of an early 20-century high school that reflected the changing architectural style and emphasis on educational buildings in the United States during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The design and construction of the high school property also reflects the prevailing trends in early 20<sup>th</sup>-century institutional architecture. Calhoun County High School also is eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. Designed by Clarksburg, West Virginia architect S.W. Ford in the Collegiate Gothic style, the Calhoun County High School is a rare surviving example in west-central West Virginia of this popular style that was used nationally from the late 19<sup>th</sup> to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century in collegiate and other institutional-type buildings. The 1920-1923 building and a contributing 1953 gymnasium are the only two resources on the nominated two-acre parcel and are from the period of significance. The Calhoun County High School is eligible on a local level with a Period of Significance extending from 1920, the beginning of construction, to 1973, the 50-year mark for a building that had continued to function in its original capacity and retains its architectural and historical significance into the recent past.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

**Justification of Criteria**

*Criterion A: Education*

The Calhoun County High School is significant at the local level under Criterion A in the area of Education for its important role in the early development of formal education in a remote portion of west-central West Virginia. After years of feuding between northern and southern Calhoun County on where the school should be built, court battles on why it should be built, and outright opposition to its creation, the approval of the location and building of a county high school finally succeeded in 1916. The school opened in 1923 in the county seat of Grantsville as the first and only high school in Calhoun County. Constructed by local "Calhouners," the large stone building has beamed as a source of pride for Calhoun County its entire lifespan. Although, after peaking in the 1940s and 1950s, the Calhoun County population has continued to decline. And even though the high school continued to be well attended, maintained, and updated over the years, it could not keep up with mandatory regulations. With the opening of a new consolidated middle and high school nearby, the high school permanently closed in 1998, leaving Calhoun County with a total of four schools, including a career center.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

### *Criterion C: Architecture*

The 1920-23 Calhoun County High School is eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture as an intact, two-story Collegiate Gothic style solid stone structure built with irregular-coursed, rock-faced ashlar Arnoldsburg formation sandstone designed by architect S.W. Ford (1875-1944) of Clarksburg, West Virginia. The Collegiate Gothic style is a sub-genre of the Gothic Revival style that was popular on college and high school campuses during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The beginning of Collegiate Gothic style in North America dates to the 1894 construction of Pembroke Hall on the campus of Bryn Mawr College, in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. The college had previously hired the Philadelphia architectural firm of Cope and Stewardson in 1887 for other commissions, and for the Pembroke Hall dormitory, they based their design on the Gothic architecture of Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Many other commissions soon followed for Cope and Stewardson, and the Collegiate Gothic movement transformed many college campuses nationwide, becoming the prevailing architectural style across campuses for decades.<sup>7</sup> The main defining characteristics of the Collegiate Gothic style are its use of a rectangular plan, arched and recessed entryways, and spaced or stepped parapet roofs, all of which are captured in the high school building, which is further accented by the vertical lines of the twin entrance towers and the rock-faced texture of the facade stone and pointed mortar lines. The Calhoun County High School is well-preserved, although the interior, roof, and windows were gutted by fire in 1942 and were rebuilt in 1943. The 1943 fabric, including the current 6/1 wood sash windows, remains markedly intact. There have been no additions to the school, nor any new buildings constructed on the property. The setting remains intact with a 1920s-30s neighborhood behind the school and the Little Kanawha River and downtown Grantsville towards the front. Built by skilled “Calhouners” with locally sourced lumber, labor, brick, and stone in one of the poorest and most remote regions of West Virginia, the high school remains one of the best designed and most striking extant building in the environs of Calhoun County, West Virginia.

### **Historical Background**

Calhoun County was created by an act of the Virginia General Assembly on March 5, 1856, from Gilmer County, at which time, the county had less than 2,500 residents. Calhoun County was named for John Caldwell Calhoun (1782-1850), a South Carolina statesman who championed state's rights. His political career spanned from 1808 to 1850 when he served as a Senator, Secretary of War, and as Vice-President under two different administrations.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Anne Stuart Beckett, *HABS-Level Documentation of Holden Hall* for Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 2018, p.6.

<sup>8</sup> Dr. Robert Jay Dilger, Calhoun County History, <http://www.polsci.wvu.edu/wv/Calhoun/calhistory.html>.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

### Early Inhabitants and Settlement

The first native people in central West Virginia were the Mound Builders, also known as the Adena people. During the late 1500s and early 1600s, several thousand Hurons which had occupied present-day West Virginia were driven from the state by the Iroquois Confederacy. And by the early 1700s, the Shawnee, Mingo, Delaware, and other Indian tribes were also present. But by mid-century, after numerous wars, escalations, and treaties, the Iroquois Confederacy and the Cherokee relinquished their claims on the territory between the Ohio River and the Alleghenies to the British. And at the end of the American Revolutionary War (1776-1783), the Mingo and Shawnee retreated to their homeland in Ohio, and as the number of settlers in the region grew, they moved further inland, leaving western Virginia to the white settlers.<sup>9</sup>

Early accounts of English settlers, Native Americans hunters, and explorers along the rivers in present-day Calhoun County were first recorded in the 1770s and 1780s. Abraham Thomas was perhaps the first permanent settler in present-day Calhoun County. In 1774, he was granted 400 acres and built a cabin along the Little Kanawha River. Other early settlers included Michael Stump (1804), Phillip Starcher, Sr. (1810), and James Mayse (1814).<sup>10</sup>

During the Civil War, the county was evenly divided; however, many prominent citizens and office holders sided with the Confederacy. When Union forces entered the county in 1861, many of the residents joined the Moccasin Rangers, a para-military organization led by several men and a notorious spy named Nancy Hart, the "Lady Guerilla." The Rangers engaged in several skirmishes with the Union forces, including battles in 1861 and 1862 in the northern part of the county and on May 6, 1862, at Arnoldsburg, south of what would become Grantsville.<sup>11</sup>

### Grantsville - Calhoun County Seat

The creation and location of the county seat was entangled, contentious, and hard fought from the start to the bitter end. Although Calhoun County was created in March 1856, by that summer, the first members of the court had created two separate factions: one met in the current site of Brooksville, known as the Little Kanawha faction, and the other in Arnoldsburg, the Arnoldsburg faction. By September 1857, a unified county court had been established at Brooksville, and a frame courthouse constructed. However, the following year, the county seat was moved back to Arnoldsburg, and a one-story frame courthouse was constructed there. During the Civil War, the county government ceased to function, and records were hidden by the Arnoldsburg faction.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Dr. Robert Jay Dilger.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> Personal correspondence from Robert G. Bonar.

<sup>12</sup> Dilger; Personal correspondence from Robert Bonar.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

In June 1865, county officials voted to move the county seat to the Simon Stump farm (now Grantsville), and in August 1866, county officials purchased a  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre site from Simon Stump for \$1.00, and construction of the new Grantsville frame courthouse began. But the citizens of Arnoldsburg demanded that the county seat be returned to them, and after their appeal failed, a mysterious fire in 1867 destroyed the Grantsville courthouse that was under construction. Soon after, the state legislature ordered the county to move the county seat back to Arnoldsburg. After the county court had moved back and forth between Arnoldsburg and Grantsville, an election was finally held in October 1869 to settle the issue. Grantsville was selected as the county seat, but the leading citizens of Arnoldsburg contested the election, which failed. Holding on to bitter and divisive feelings nearly 30 years later, in 1898, the citizens of Arnoldsburg claimed that the now third and brick-constructed courthouse at Grantsville was unsafe and attempted to move the county seat again. Another election was held, and by a slim margin of 935-925, the county's voters kept the county seat in Grantsville. The town was incorporated in 1896.<sup>13</sup>

The main building in downtown Grantsville is the ca. 1940 Calhoun County Courthouse poised high on the courthouse square. Being the county's fourth courthouse, it was constructed with the same Arnoldsburg Formation Sandstone as the high school. The raised two-story building overlooks a row of 1920s two-and-three-story commercial block buildings along Main Street, with other stone and brick commercial and governmental buildings anchored by a ca. 1930 brick corner gas station with original canopy. Fires, floods, and the relocation of WV-16 have resulted in the alteration and loss of some buildings in downtown Grantsville.

#### Early Education in West Virginia and Calhoun County

Prior to any laws regarding education in either Virginia or West Virginia, there were no legal provisions made for schools. The first organized schools were known as Common Primary Schools where respective communities erected schoolhouses at their own expense and employed teachers. Schools were open to all children of all parents who were able to pay tuition. Thousands of these schools were established and continued under the name of "Old Field Schools."<sup>14</sup> School terms lasted about two months, and tuition ranged from \$2.00-3.00 per pupil per term. Some teachers were very competent while others were barely literate. Although records were not kept, it is estimated that perhaps half the children in West Virginia attended these schools.<sup>15</sup> It was not until the Virginia School Law in 1846, that the General Assembly created an act establishing a primary school system. Counties were to divide into districts and appoint school commissioners with the creation of a Board of School Commissioners. Schools were for children between the ages of five and sixteen years.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> Dilger; Personal correspondence from Robert Bonar.

<sup>14</sup> Clendenin Historic Narrative, p. 17.

<sup>15</sup> Otis K. Rice and Stephen W. Brown, West Virginia: A History, p. 69.

<sup>16</sup> Clendenin Historic Narrative, p. 17.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

West Virginia was delineated from the Commonwealth of Virginia and admitted to the Union on June 20, 1863. The Senate Committee on Education wrote the first school law of the State in 1863, entitled "An Act providing for the Establishment of a System of Free Schools," which provided for the election of a State Superintendent. Changes in education occurred rapidly in West Virginia between 1872 and World War I. The responsibility of the schools was placed with the governor, superintendent of schools, school boards, auditor, and treasurer. County sheriffs were required to collect all levies and make annual settlements to the counties. The school year was kept to a minimum four-month term, and frame school buildings began to shift from one- and two-room structures to larger, more centralized, multi-room facilities. The 1872 constitution clarified that "White and colored persons shall not be taught in the same school."<sup>17</sup>

The black population, or any other minority of Calhoun County, has always been low. The 1860 census of Calhoun County's black population noted three households of nine slaves and one free black, while the 1920 census noted four households of 35 black, and one mulatto for the county. The former Sherman School District (Calhoun County) Board of Education Minutes revealed that in 1891 there were a total of 647 students, including 24 "colored," and that in 1894/95 there were 16 white schools and one colored school.

In 1929, the State Board of Education recommended the appointment of a school superintendent for each county, and the creation of county school boards that would follow the "county unit" for purposes of taxation and administration. The "county unit plan" consolidated hundreds of small school districts into 55 county systems. Supported by Governor Kump, in 1934, the law abolished 398 school districts and created one school district per county. This consolidation caused the closure of many smaller schools.<sup>18</sup>

### Calhoun County High School

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the concept of creating high schools became popular nationally. But for the students in Calhoun County who wanted to continue their education past the 8th grade, they had to travel to adjoining counties or to the Glenville State Normal School in adjacent Gilmer County. But similar to choosing the courthouse site earlier, the decision to build a county high school and where to locate it proved equally contentious and lengthy. While some proponents favored a secondary school to keep the students within the county, others, many who were poor, were opposed to having their taxes pay for a high school that they thought unnecessary.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> Ibid, p.19.

<sup>18</sup> Clendenin, pp. 19-20.

<sup>19</sup> Don McGlothlin, from "Inland Retreat", the Story of Calhoun County, no page given, provided by the owner.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

Despite the political battle within Calhoun County, downright opposition, and “a campaign of dirtiness...,” on June 10, 1915, a vast majority of voters (599-300) approved a bill to levy a new high school. Grantsville Attorney Bruce Ferrell wrote the bill and Delegate Howard Waldo got legislative approval for the incorporation of Calhoun County High School. But a month later, an injunction was filed against the Board ceasing all activities until the legal matter was settled. The circuit court dissolved the injunction on March 22, 1916, and planning began again.<sup>20</sup> The first High School Board of Directors included J.M. Hamilton, William Webb, G.W. Hardman, C.M. Eisman, and W.J. Sharps. In August 1916, the Board of Directors of the Calhoun County High School agreed to a proposed levying of an additional property tax of 15 cents per \$100.00 of property for that current fiscal year. This tax was to be applied as part payment for the site and building of the school, which was then estimated to be \$40,000.<sup>21</sup> The actual cost was \$150,000.

Once the decision was made to build the new school, the choice of locating it in either Mt. Zion, Arnoldsburg, or Grantsville had to be made. Once again contentions arose, and each locality fought over whose was best for the new school. Mainly because most students had to provide their own transportation and most of them lived in Grantsville, the county seat was selected. Over the next two years several sites in Grantsville were considered and even bought and sold before The Board of Education purchased a seven-acre tract from Florence Pell and her husband J. W. along the Little Kanawha River at the mouth of Phillips Run. This tract was taken from their 53-acre parcel, and included a small house known as the “Ball log cabin.”<sup>22</sup> Most likely vacant at the time, the house stood near the floodplain of the river.

The original owners of the 53-acres were McFarland and Ann Ball who sold “the old John Ball home place” to Lemuel Stump on February 18, 1880 (CCDB:5/254). On May 26, 1880, Lemuel Stump conveyed the 53 acres to Florence Pell for \$1.00 (CCDB:5/289). Neither Ball nor Stump lived on the farm as they both resided in Gilmer County. Florence Pell continued to live on the farm and later married. The deed noted that “Florence Pell & Husband” sold “the seven acre and 81.48 square rods parcel” to the Board of Directors of the Calhoun County High School for \$2,377.38 (CCDB:207/23).<sup>23</sup> The purchase of the school property occurred on June 15, 1918, notably after the Board of Education had already hired an architect to design the school.

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<sup>20</sup> Ota May Marshall, Member of Historical Committee, “Creation of Calhoun County High School,” Calhoun County Centennial Committee, 1956, p. 6. Reprinted in the online publication *The Hur Herald* 6/21/2021. The original information was transcribed by Norma Knotts Shaffer from microfilm of the *Calhoun Chronicle* dated 6/17/1915; *Lines and Links, The Calhoun County Historical & Genealogical Society Newsletter*, Summer 2021, “Calhoun County High School Centennial,” p. 6. Grantsville, West Virginia.

<sup>21</sup> Don McGlothlin, from “*Inland Retreat*,” the Story of Calhoun County.

<sup>22</sup> *Lines and Links, The Calhoun County Historical & Genealogical Society Newsletter*, Summer 2021. “Calhoun County High School Centennial, p. 6.

<sup>23</sup> Calhoun County Courthouse, Clerk of the Court, Grantsville, WV. July 15, 2022.



Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

Architect S.W. Ford of Clarksburg, West Virginia was hired in 1917. Based on a subgenre of Gothic Revival architecture, the Collegiate Gothic style, which Ford used, was popular on North American college campuses during the first half of the 20th century. Stephen Wardner Ford (1875-1944) was a self-taught architect from Harrison County in north central West Virginia.<sup>24</sup> In 1900, he married Ina Vista Heavener in Lewis County, West Virginia, and practiced in the City of Salem (Harrison County). The family permanently settled in the City of Clarksburg, the county seat of Harrison County in 1908, where Ford practiced architecture out of the Harrison Building for his entire career until his unexpected death in 1944. He left behind six living children and his widow Ina, who lived to be 92.<sup>25</sup>

Ford designed many distinguished residences, municipal buildings, and some churches in north central West Virginia. Ford mostly called for frame or brick, or a combination thereof, for his designs, but stone construction was not mentioned. Perhaps the use of Arnoldsburg Sandstone on the high school was the town's preference over the more commonly used brick since they had also used it on the town's Masonic Lodge, that faces towards the courthouse on a corner lot. The Eureka Lodge No. 40 (dating to 1882) was constructed in 1921 and used the same method of construction with the sandstone as with the school, suggesting a connection between the two.

In February 1920, Ford presented his plans for the new school, and on June 20, 1920, Scott Peninger, one of the county's pioneering educators, broke ground. However, World War I may have delayed supplies as the *Calhoun Chronicle* noted on April 21, 1921, that "...of last week, active work of the big building on the South Side was commenced." The 1923 building was typical of high schools built during that time, with classrooms, offices, and hallways surrounding a central core with the gym in the basement, and the auditorium on the second floor.<sup>26</sup>

Construction stayed on schedule, and an all-day event was held for the laying of the cornerstone on Monday, July 4, 1921. With over 3,500 attendees throughout the day, the celebration began with speeches on the lawn of the courthouse in the morning and a delegation of the West Virginia Grand Lodge of Masons leading the procession to the school site in the afternoon. After more fanfare, the President of the High School Board, Gay Stalnaker, invited the Grand Master to lay the cornerstone, which was laid according to the ritualistic ceremony of the Masons.<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>24</sup> "Ford, Stephen W. (1875-1944)." On file at the West Virginia Division of History and Culture, Charleston, WV.

<sup>25</sup> <https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/LVGP-3V3/stephen-wardner-ford-1875-1944>; [https://www.doddridgecountyroots.com/bk6html/82832\\_FORD\\_StephenWardner\\_1875-1944\\_Obit.jpg](https://www.doddridgecountyroots.com/bk6html/82832_FORD_StephenWardner_1875-1944_Obit.jpg). Accessed October 25, 2022.

<sup>26</sup> *Lines and Links, The Calhoun County Historical & Genealogical Society Newsletter*, Spring 2022. "Calhoun County High School Centennial," p. 10; *Calhoun Chronicle* article "Brick High School Planned in 1921," dated 4/21/1921, transcribed by Norma Knotts Shaffer from microfilm 12/09/2001.

<sup>27</sup> "High School Cornerstone Laid in 1921." Transcribed by Norma Knotts Shaffer from microfilm of the *Calhoun Chronicle* dated 7/7/1921 and republished *The Hur Herald* 10/11/2001.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

Construction of the high school used Arnoldsburg Formation Sandstone, a high-quality building stone that was quarried at various sites in the county for the exterior walls. The interior was brick and plaster, and M.A.C. Board provided 100,000 feet of framing lumber from his local mill. In 1921, the School Board of Directors employed William Holmes from Xenia, Ohio to be construction foreman. Most of the workers were proud “Calhouners.” It was also noted that “P.Q. Shrake, who was in charge of the work last year, will bring the machinery for moulding and burning brick here and set up on the high school grounds for the manufacture of brick for the high school...” And that the brick would be considered for the construction of the upper two floors instead of stone as was planned.<sup>28</sup> Fortunately, it was not.

The school opened its doors on Monday September 17, 1923, and Marvin Cooper was hired as the principal with over 100 students enrolled. A graduate of the Glenville State Normal School (in Gilmer County), Cooper was described as a “forty-five-year-old, firm, energetic...thickset firmly built man ...with a driving personality ...that left no room for a student to talk back.” During his tenure that lasted until 1930, he was responsible for much orderliness and progress, including helping the student body create a school paper, “Who’s Who and What’s What in Calhoun County High School.” A news column from it was published each week in *The Calhoun Chronicle* and *The Grantsville News*. Cooper was also known for his successful coaching of the football team that he created in the fall of 1923 (with baseball started that spring).<sup>29</sup> Sports remained popular at the school, and the teams’ name, The Red Devils, continues today with the new school in Mt. Zion.

The first class of 19 students graduated in the spring of 1925. The following year, 1925-26, enrollment jumped to 127 students. Typical classes included Civics, English, Latin, History, Math, Geography, Science, Commerce, Sociology, Chemistry, and Agriculture. And that same year, Home Economics, Business, Music, and Normal classes were added. The 1928-29 academic year had 173 enrolled students.<sup>30</sup> By the 1929-30 academic year, the first yearbook was published, “The Calhounian.” Band classes had been added, and enrollment had more than doubled from the opening of the school to 200. In 1930, Cooper was followed by D. M. McKown, “an eccentric professor” from Marshall College who only lasted one year but was remembered for introducing bus service for out-of-town students.<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> *Lines and Links, The Calhoun County Historical & Genealogical Society Newsletter*, Spring 2022. “Calhoun County High School Centennial,” p. 10; “Brick High School Planned in 1921.” Transcribed by Norma Knotts Shaffer from microfilm of the *Calhoun Chronicle* dated 4/21/1921.

<sup>29</sup> *Calhoun Chronicle* newspaper article “Fine High School in Progress” and “III. Calhoun High Under Marvin Cooper,” dated 10/12/1922 provided by the owner.

<sup>30</sup> *Calhoun Chronicle* newspaper article “III. Calhoun High Under Marvin Cooper” and “IV. McKown and High School Bus Service,” dated 10/12/1922 provided by the owner.

<sup>31</sup> Don McGlothlin, Thesis “A Guidance Program for Calhoun County (W. Va.) High School, 1940,” p. 40.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

Before 1930, there had not been any publicly supported transportation for the students and most of them walked in from the surrounding areas. Others boarded during the week with friends or relatives or stayed at one of several apartments or rooming houses near the school. The school had used an REO Speed Wagon, and later a Dodge bus, to pick up local students.<sup>32</sup> But the population of Grantsville had more than doubled from 450 in 1920 to over 1,000 in 1930. By 1932, a record number of students had enrolled in the school, 410; of these, 298 were rural students who were transported in by four new buses along State Routes 16 and 33/119. By 1940, enrollment had soared to almost 600 students and overcrowding became an issue.<sup>33</sup>

### 1942 Fire

At 12:30 a.m. Sunday morning, January 21, 1942, a fire that started in the basement electrical control room spread throughout the building and destroyed everything except the stone-and-brick lined exterior walls and the steel I-beams that held them up. The town did not have a fire department or trained firefighters, and the hoses that were used that night had frozen after being put away wet earlier. Classes for the 500 students resumed within a week and met at various churches and civic locations. When the school was being rebuilt in 1942, overcrowding was addressed, and the gym and auditorium were replaced with seven classrooms and a boiler room. The school reopened on January 18, 1943, just 11 months after the fire.<sup>34</sup>

### Mid-Century to Present

With the passage of *Brown vs Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas* in 1954, the citizens of West Virginia accepted the new standard of desegregation in public schools. However, there never was a large black population in the state.<sup>35</sup> Robert Bonar, former Calhoun County High School Principal from the 1970s into the 1990s, stated that there were black students, and at least a dozen Hispanics and Asian students, but there never was an issue with racism.<sup>36</sup>

During the early 1950s, the School Board made major building improvements county-wide, and Calhoun County had enough funding, among other projects, to build a new auditorium and gymnasium at the high school. The 1953 building was a combination gym and auditorium called a “gymnatorium.” Its side wings held a kitchen/café, a music room, and Home Economic classes, and were popular gathering places for students. Also in 1953, the high school received a first-class rating from the Department of Education for the first time.

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<sup>32</sup> *Lines and Links*, Spring 2022. “Calhoun County High School Centennial,” p. 10.

<sup>33</sup> Unnamed article from the Calhoun Chronicle provided by the owner, no date or author given.

<sup>34</sup> “Calhoun County High School Destroyed by Fire 1942.” Transcribed by Norma Knotts Shaffer from microfilm of the *Calhoun Chronicle* dates 2/29/1942 and 3/5/1942 republished in *The Hur Herald* 10/11/2001.

<sup>35</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grantsville,\\_West\\_Virginia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grantsville,_West_Virginia). Accessed October 22, 2022.

<sup>36</sup> Personal Interview with Robert G. Bonar, July 15, 2022.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

With federal and state funding in 1972, the Board of Education planned many new improvements in Grantsville, including renovations for the high school. But the voters defeated the proposal in 1975. Although the high school continued to be improved and updated in the 1980s and 1990s, it could not keep up with mandatory regulations such as handicap accessibility. With the opening of the new Calhoun County Middle/High School in Mt. Zion in the mid-1990s, the last class graduated from Calhoun County High School in 1998.<sup>37</sup> In 1948, Calhoun County had 73 elementary schools, with only two existing today, Arnoldsburg and Pleasant Hill.<sup>38</sup>

During a 2002 tour of the school, alumni Bob Weaver (Class of 1958) summed up his school experience this way: “Calhoun High was the center of the universe for most Calhoun kids before television came to the county in the 1950s and the ownership of cars to drive to more exciting activities...It was a time of connection between students, teachers, and the structure itself.”<sup>39</sup> After the closing of the school, its ownership changed several times, until August 2021, when a 501c3 nonprofit organization, The 1982 Foundation, purchased the high school and gymnasium (CCDB:292/417) with plans to convert them into the future Calhoun County Community Center. When completed, the center will offer retail and office space as well as Airbnb rentals for travelers. Built with Calhoun pride, the stone high school building will serve Calhoun County once again with a renewed source of hope for the county and the surrounding west-central region of West Virginia.

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<sup>37</sup> History of Calhoun County High School Presentation, October 2021, provided by the owner.

<sup>38</sup> <https://www.univstats.com/k-12/west-virginia/mt-zion/calhoun-middle-high-school/>.

<sup>39</sup> Bob Weaver, *The Hur Herald*, The Ghosts of Calhoun High – “It was the Center of the Universe.” Reprinted 6/22/2021.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Mersh, Cheryl, Miscellaneous documents provided by the owner: "High School Cornerstone Laid in 1921," transcribed by Norma Knotts Shaffer from microfilm of the Calhoun Chronicle dated 7/7/1921 and republished in *The Hur Herald* 10/11/2001; "Calhoun County High School Destroyed by Fire 1942," transcribed by Norma Knotts Shaffer from microfilm of the Calhoun Chronicle dated 2/29/1942 and 3/5/1942 and republished in *The Hur Herald* 10/11/2001; and "History of CCHS Presentation October 2021."

Rice, Otis K. Rice and Stephen W. Brown, West Virginia: A History, p. 69. Second Edition 1993, The University Press of Kentucky.

West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office, "Ford, Stephen W. (1875-1944)," undated manuscript. Charleston, West Virginia. October 2022.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested  
 previously listed in the National Register  
 previously determined eligible by the National Register  
 designated a National Historic Landmark  
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other  
Name of repository: The Calhoun County Historical & Genealogical Society

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** WV SHPO Site # CH-0003-0029 (Rev01)

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 2.0

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 38.919680 | Longitude: -81.093542 |
| 2. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 3. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 4. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |          |          |           |
|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nominated boundary includes the one tax parcel (#039-1-31, 5-4.1) of 2.0-acres as indicated on the attached Figure 1. "Tax Parcel Map of Calhoun County High School." This information was obtained from the Calhoun County Website <https://www.mapwv.gov/parcel>. Accessed July 2022.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated boundary includes the one tax parcel (039-1-31, 5-4.1) of the current owner that includes the 1920-23 Calhoun County High School and the adjacent 1952-53 Calhoun County High School gymnasium.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Mark McConnel, AIA and Anne Stuart Beckett, architectural historian  
organization: \_Summit Studio, LLC  
street & number: 4353 Windy Gap Drive  
city or town: Roanoke state: VA zip code: 24014  
e-mail: mm@thesummitstudio.com  
telephone: 540-915-1233  
date: November 6, 2022 | Revised April 4, 2023

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

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### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### Figure Log:

1 of 12. Tax Parcel Map #5-4.1 accessed from the WV Property Viewer at <https://www.mapwv.gov/parcel> 06/25/2022.

2 of 12. Tax Map.

3 of 12. Google Earth Image of location.

4 of 12. 1925 Arnoldsburg, WV USGS Topographic Map

5 of 12. 1966 Grantsville, WV USGS Topographic Map

6 of 12. 2019 Grantsville, WV USGS Topographic Map

7 of 12. 1921 Image of the high school under construction.

8 of 12. Ca. 1923 image of completion of the high school.

9 of 12. Historic Image of Calhoun County's first bus.

10 of 12. Ca. 1953 Image of the main floor hallway.

11 of 12. Site Plan denoting contributing and non-contributing with Photo Keys.

12 of 12. Main Floor and Second Floor Plan with Photo Keys.



Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

## Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered, and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

## Photo Log

Name of Property: Calhoun County High School  
City or Vicinity: Town of Grantsville  
County: Calhoun State: West Virginia  
Photographer: Anne Stuart Beckett  
Date Photographed: July 14 and 15, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 20: Main Façade, North Elevation, View South  
WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0001

2 of 20: West and Front Elevations from Elm Street, View East  
WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0002

3 of 20: Main Façade, North Elevation, Facing Southeast  
WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0003

4 of 20: Front Entrance, North Elevation, View South  
WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0004

5 of 20: West Elevation from Elm Street, View East  
WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0005

6 of 20: South Elevation, View North  
WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0006

7 of 20: South and East Elevations, View Northwest  
WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0007

8 of 20: Rear Exterior Light wells, View upwards  
WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0008

9 of 20: Gymnasium, South and West Elevations, View Southeast  
WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0009

10 of 20: Historic Athletic Fields (not included), View North

Calhoun County High School

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

Name of Property

WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0010

11 of 20: Interior, Entrance steps/foyer

WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0011

12 of 20: Interior, Entrance Foyer and Front Doors

WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0012

13 of 20: Interior, Entrance Foyer and Main Hall

WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0013

14 of 20: Interior, Second Floor, Main Hall

WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0014

15 of 20: Interior, Second Floor Classroom

WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0015

16 of 20: Interior, Basement Level Classroom

WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0016

17 of 20: Interior, Staircase to Third Floor

WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0017

18 of 20: Interior, Third Floor Classroom

WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0018

19 of 20: Interior, Third Floor Hallway, View East

WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0019

20 of 20: Interior, Third Floor Hallway and Entrance into Library

WV\_CalhounCounty\_CalhounHighSchool\_0020

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations 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.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

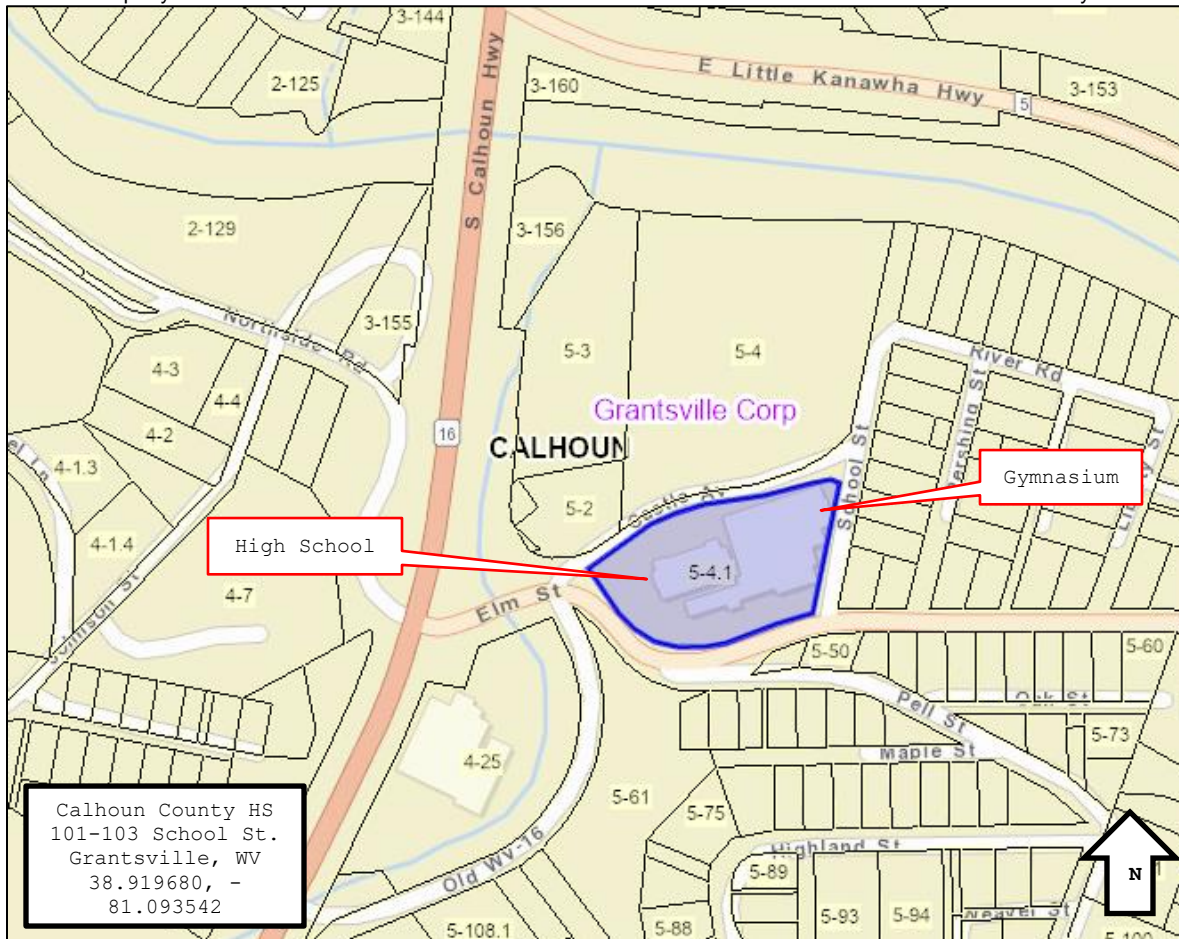


Figure 1. Tax Parcel Map of Calhoun County High School #5-4.1. Accessed at <https://www.mapwv.gov/parcel>, October 25, 2022. Coordinates: 38.919680, -81.093542.

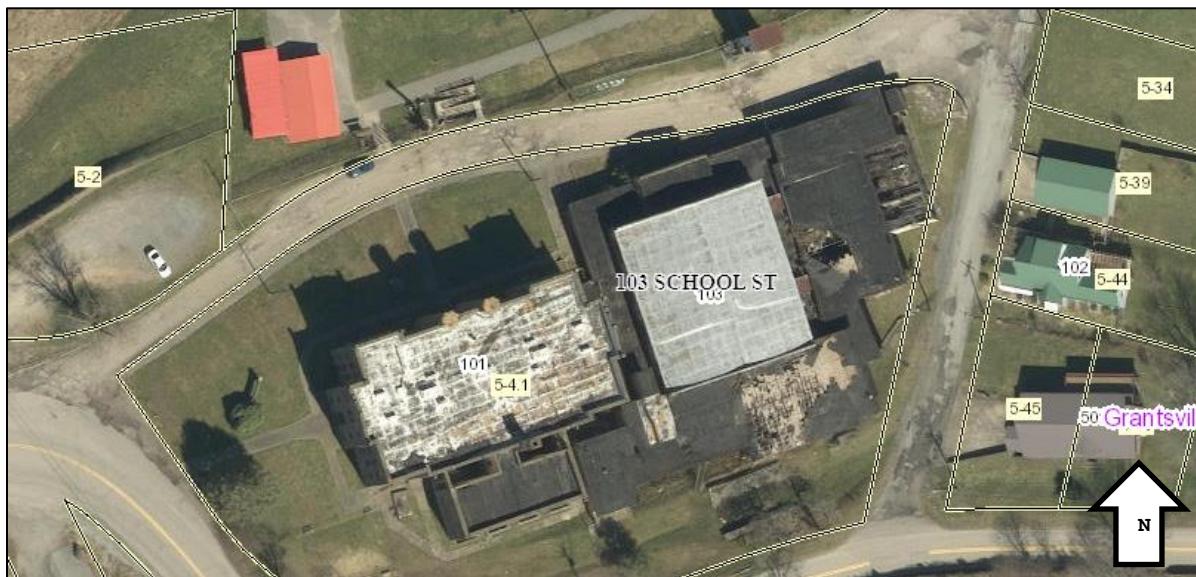


Figure 2. Tax Map denoting the school and the gymnasium and the prior wings.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

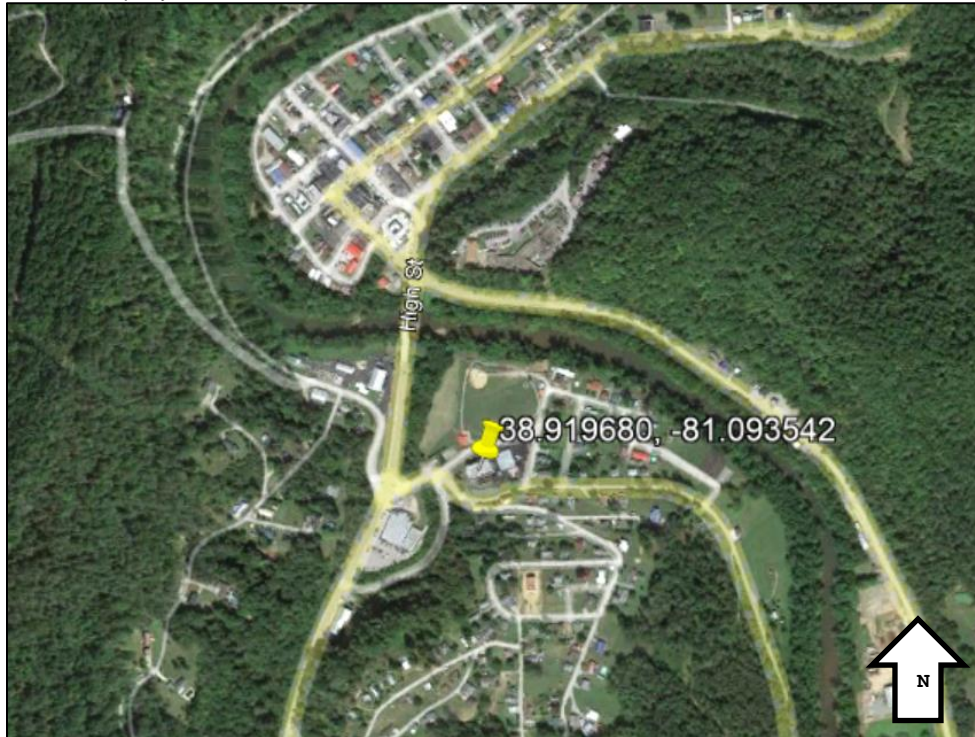


Figure 3. Current Google Earth depicting Grantsville and the school.

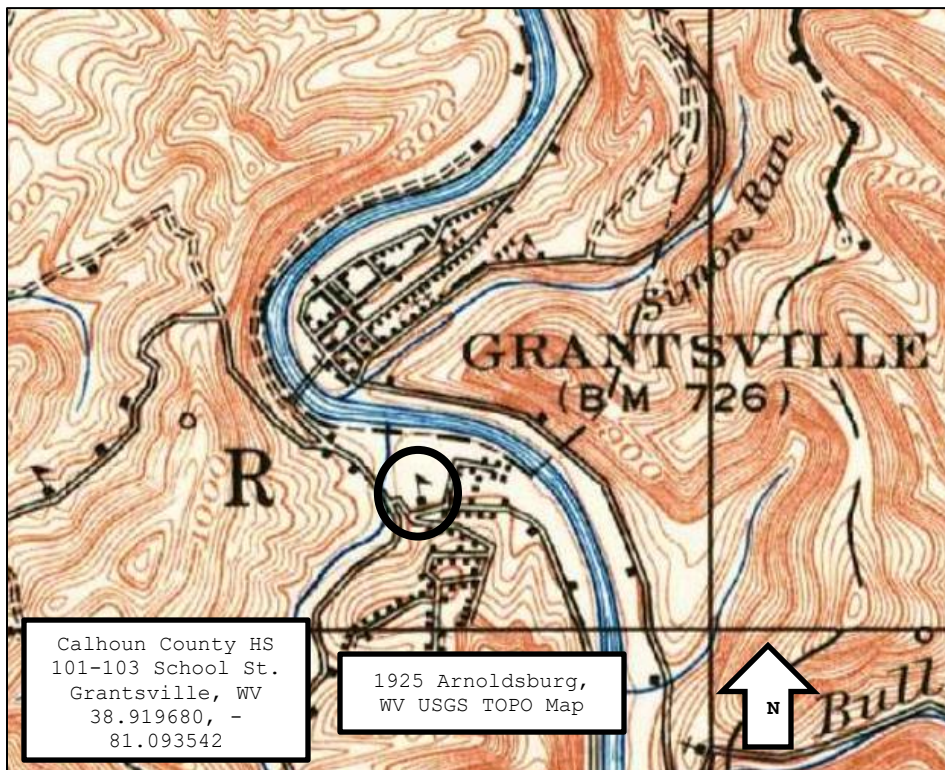


Figure 4. 1925 Arnoldsburg, WV USGS Topographic Map depicting Grantsville and the school (black circle). Note original location of the bridge going through downtown Grantsville. All USGS Topographic maps accessed from <https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview>.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

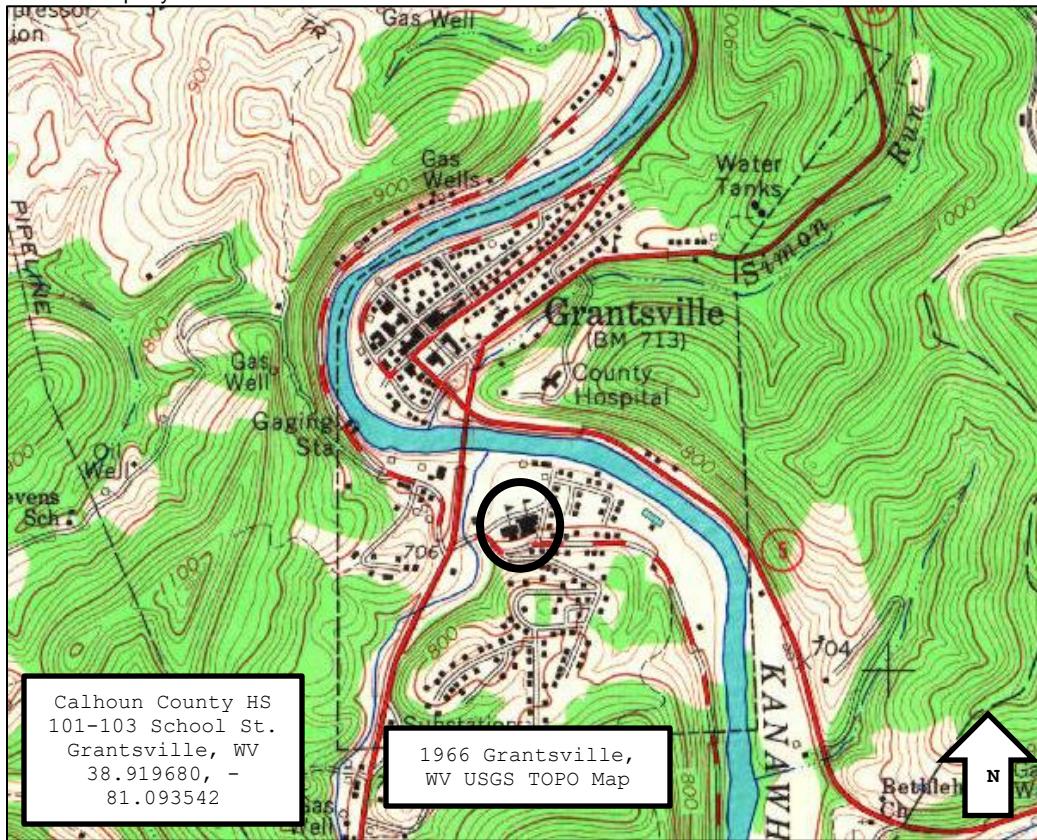


Figure 5. 1966 Grantsville WV USGS Topographic Map depicting Grantsville and the school (black circle). Note the addition of WV-16, and the new location of the bridge from downtown Main Street to east side of downtown. Also note the addition of the gym.

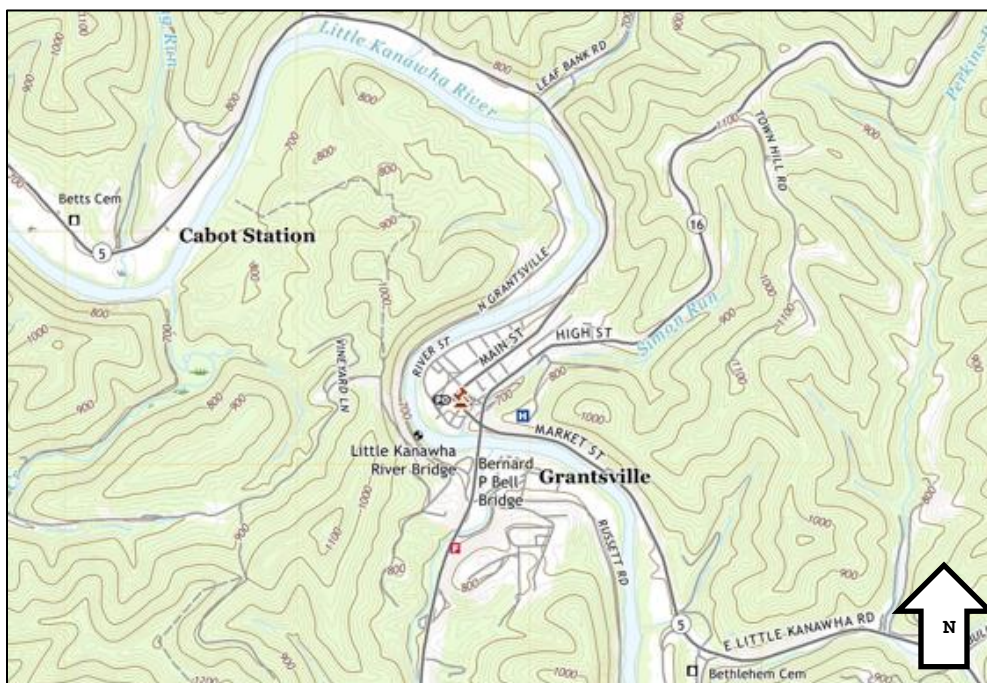


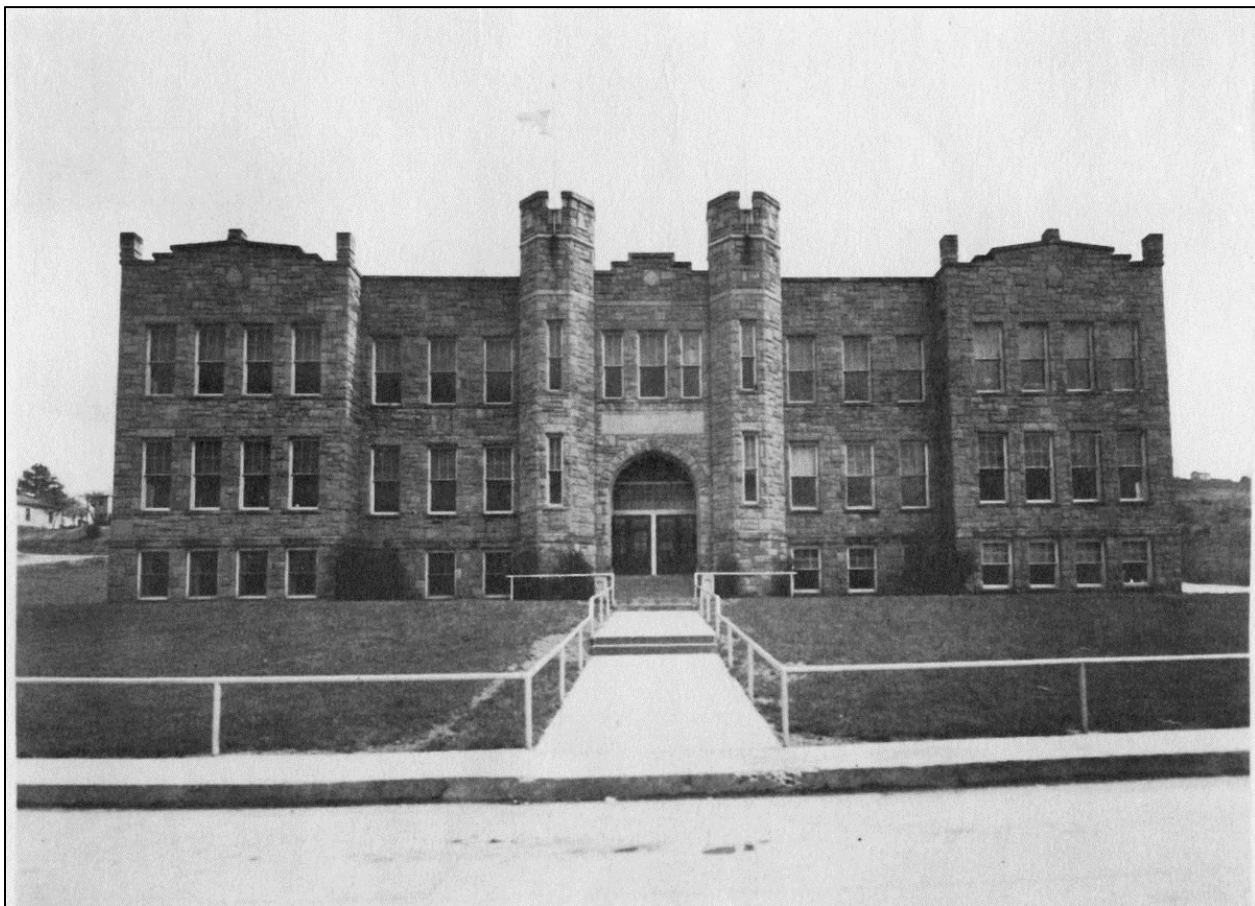
Figure 6. 2019 Grantsville WV USGS Topographic Map depicting environs of Grantsville.

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State



*Figure 7. 1921 Image of Calhoun County High School under construction.*



*Figure 8. Image of Calhoun County High School at completion, ca. 1923.*

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

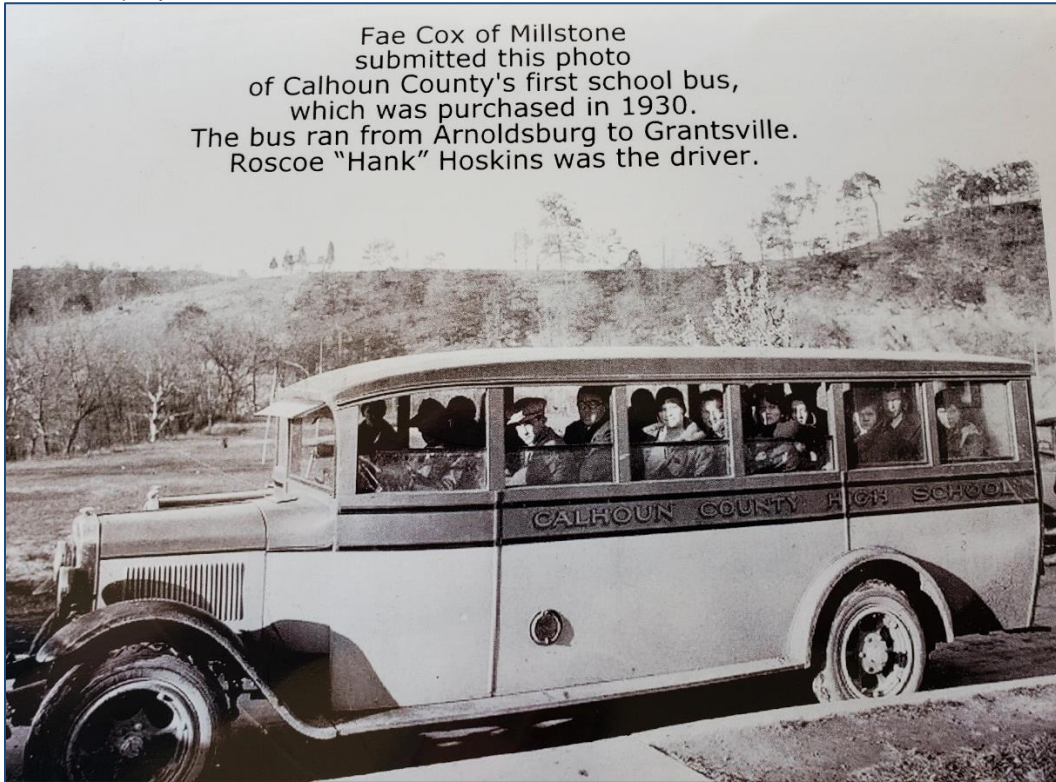


Figure 9. Historic Image of Calhoun County's first bus (Calhoun County Historical Society files).

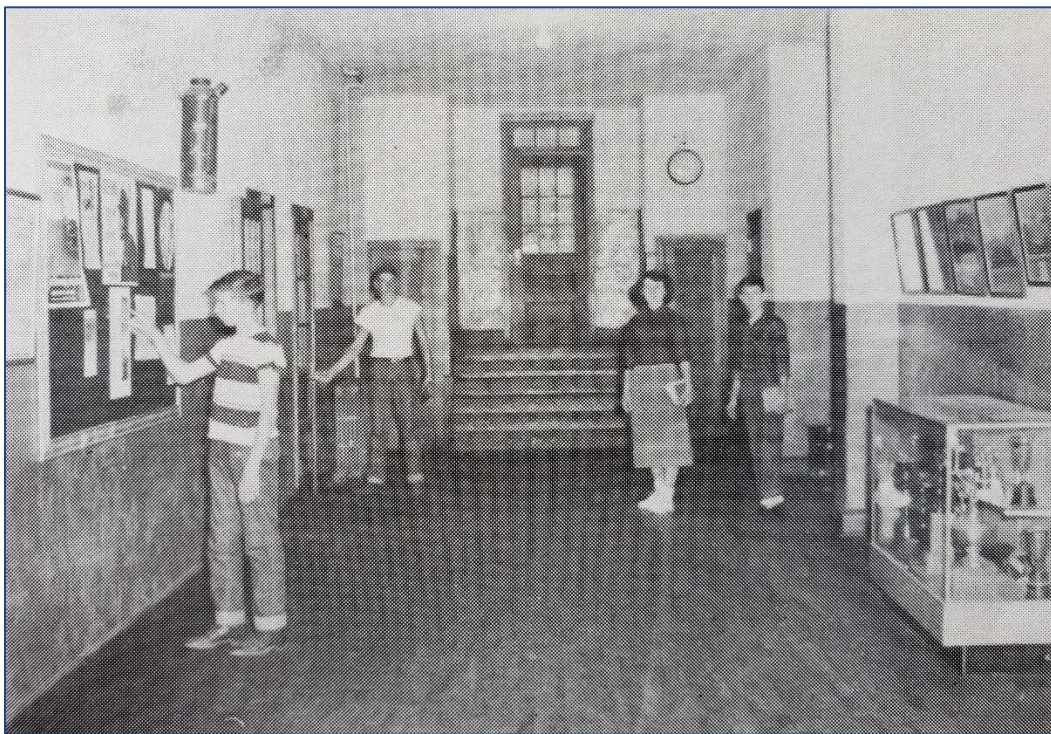


Figure 10. Ca. 1953 Image of the main floor hallway (1953 Calhounian Yearbook, Calhoun County Historical Society).

Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

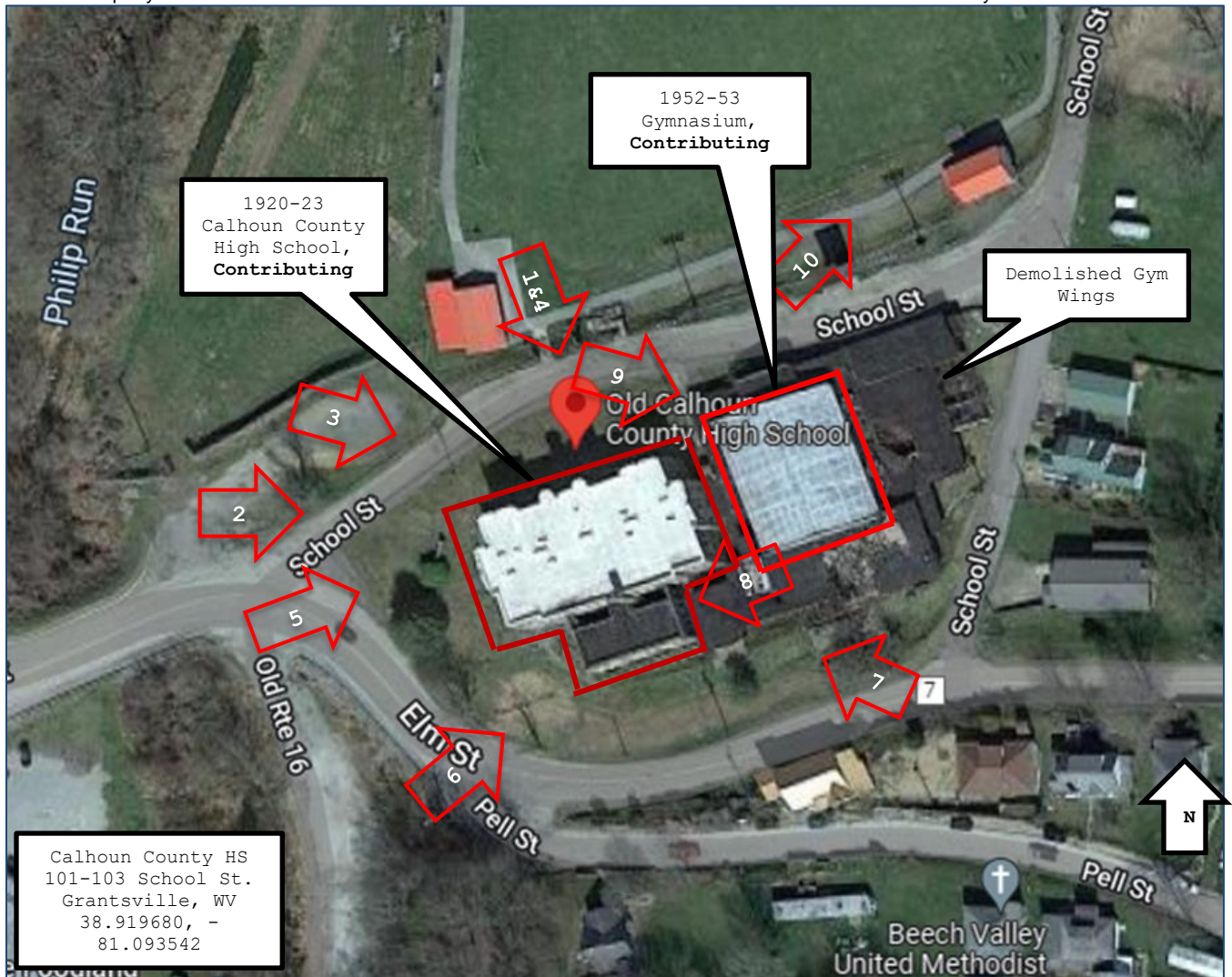


Figure 11. Site Plan and Photo Key of exterior photographs of Calhoun County High School (Google Earth), denoting Contributing high school and Contributing gymnasium.



Calhoun County High School  
Name of Property

Calhoun County, WV  
County and State

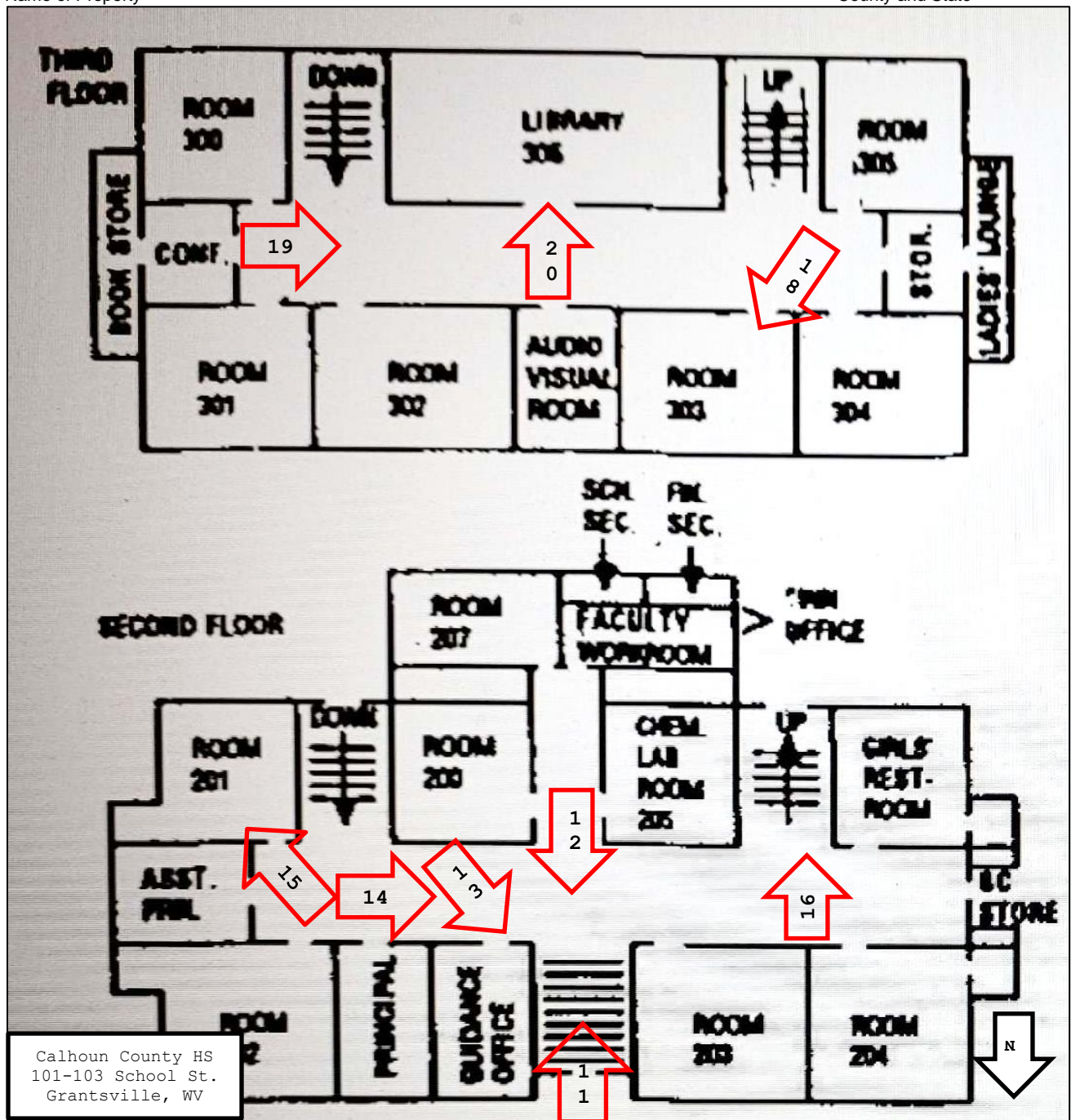


Figure 12. Photo Key of interior photographs of Calhoun County High School. Floorplans of Second Floor (main level) and Third Floor (Calhoun County Historical Society). Drawn to scale, but scale unknown.