

# Oregon Historic Site Form

Marysville School  
7733 Raymond St  
Portland, Multnomah County

## LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

address: 7733 SE Raymond St  apprx. addr

historic name: Marysville School

Portland  vcnty Multnomah County

current/  
other names: Marysville Elementary School

Optional Information

assoc addresses:  
(former addresses, intersections, etc.)

location descr:  
(remote sites)

block nbr: \_\_\_\_\_ lot nbr: \_\_\_\_\_ tax lot nbr: \_\_\_\_\_

township: \_\_\_\_\_ range: \_\_\_\_\_ section: \_\_\_\_\_ 1/4: \_\_\_\_\_

zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

resource type: Building height (# stories): 1

total # eligible resources: 1 total # ineligible resources: 0

elig. evaluation: eligible/significant

NR status: \_\_\_\_\_

primary constr date: 1921 (c.)  secondary date: 1925 (c.)

NR date listed: \_\_\_\_\_ (indiv listed only; see Grouping for hist dist)

(optional--use for major addns)

primary orig use: School

orig use comments: \_\_\_\_\_

secondary orig use: \_\_\_\_\_

primary style: Colonial Revival

prim style comments: \_\_\_\_\_

secondary style: \_\_\_\_\_

sec style comments: \_\_\_\_\_

primary siding: Horizontal Board

siding comments: \_\_\_\_\_

secondary siding: Wood:Other/Undefined

architect: Jones, George

plan type: School (General)

builder: \_\_\_\_\_

comments/notes: The property contains one resource. The main school building (266A) is eligible for the NRHP. The building is listed as an HRI Rank II.

## GROUPINGS / ASSOCIATIONS

survey project name or other grouping name: PPS Historic Building Assessment 2009 Survey & Inventory Project

farmstead/cluster name: \_\_\_\_\_ external site #: 268

(ID# used in city/agency database)

## SHPO INFO FOR THIS PROPERTY

NR date listed: \_\_\_\_\_

ILS survey date: 6/26/2009

RLS survey date: 6/26/2009

Gen File date: \_\_\_\_\_

**106 Project(s)**



South elevation facing north

## ARCHITECTURAL / PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

(Include expanded description of the building/property, setting, significant landscape features, outbuildings, and alterations)

### Summary Description

Situated in the Foster-Powell neighborhood of southeast Portland, Marysville Elementary School is located at 7733 SE Raymond Street. The school facility, oriented on an east-west axis, consists of a U-shaped building (268A) that surrounds a central courtyard. The single story building rests on a poured concrete foundation. The wings that comprise the Colonial Revival style building are covered with hipped roofs. Cladding consists of horizontal vinyl siding. Fenestration consists primarily of groups of eight-over-twelve triple hung wood windows. The centrally located entry to the school is emphasized by an open bed pediment portico supported by four Tuscan columns. A cupola caps the south wing. Additional entries are located beneath more modest open bed pediment entries flanked by paired Tuscan columns.

### Architectural Description

Situated in the Foster-Powell neighborhood of southeast Portland, Marysville Elementary School is located at 7733 SE Raymond Street. The neighborhood is comprised of primarily single family residences built between 1900-1950 (Sanborn Maps 1924-1928, Sanborn Map updated to 1950). The primary entrance to the school is from the south on SE Raymond Street. Grass and asphalt covered play areas occupy the north portion of the 5.04-acre parcel.

The school facility, oriented on an east to west axis, consists of a U-shaped building that nearly surrounds a central courtyard. The single story building rests on a poured concrete foundation. The wings that comprise the Colonial Revival style building are covered with hipped roofs. A chimney clad in red brick marks the location of the boiler and other facilities in the basement. Cladding consists of horizontal vinyl siding. Fenestration consists primarily of groups of eight-over-twelve triple hung windows with wood surrounds.

Colonial Revival details are utilized to highlight the multiple entries on each elevation that were designed to provide fire safety for the one story school. The main entry to the school is centrally located and is sheltered by an open bed pedimented portico, supported by Tuscan columns. A cupola caps the south wing. Additional entries are located beneath pedimented frontpieces flanked by pairs of Tuscan columns. The corner eaves are framed in the Classical Revival style.

Entry to the building is through a central lobby flanked by the administrative offices. A U-shaped double loaded corridor connects the various wings of the building. The auditorium is directly opposite the entry. Two gymnasiums occupy the west and east corners of the central portion of the U-shaped building. Linoleum tiles cover the floors of the corridors. The walls are plaster. Tubular fluorescent light fixtures are suspended from the acoustic tile ceiling. Wood doors with 6 lights provide access to classrooms.

The classrooms are rectangular or L-shaped with an interior cloakroom for storage. The corner classrooms project from the main mass of the building to create a larger space. Many classrooms feature original built-in cabinetry, original wood window surrounds, and base and ceiling moldings. Steam heating is provided to interior spaces from the boilers in the basement of the central wing by a variety of units including cast iron radiators and metal wall units.

### Alterations/Integrity

The original school building consisted of a rectangular wood frame structure was constructed in 1921. In 1925, L-shaped wings were added to the east and west sides of the school to create the current U-shaped plan. In 1950 a rectangular wing was added to provide a kitchen that served the adjacent cafeteria/auditorium. More modest changes to the interior have occurred including changes to the lighting (1952), the addition of acoustical tile in 1952, floor tile replacement in 1983, 1984, window replacement in 1998, and alterations to individual classrooms and spaces including the office in 1987 and the library/media center in 1989 (Marysville Facility Profile).

Marysville School retains its integrity. Much of the original fabric and Colonial Revival details are intact. The 1920s additions followed the original unit plan design, providing a good example of the single story school unit design utilized by the Portland Public Schools in the early twentieth century.

## HISTORY

(Chronological, descriptive history of the property from its construction through at least the historic period [preferably to the present])

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## Statement of Significance

Built in 1921, Marysville Elementary School was constructed during a period of Progressive Era growth that responded to changing city demographics and ideas concerning safety, sanitation, and child centered instruction (Rippa, 1997: passim; Cremin 1961: 135-153; Cubberley 1915: 283-290). By 1905, it became increasingly clear that dramatic increases in school-age children outstripped the district's existing classroom capacity and existing schools could not effectively serve areas of the city where new residential development was occurring (Cubberley 1915: 283-285, 288-290).

Portland Public Schools (PPS) District Architect, George Jones with assistance from George Edmonstone, designed Marysville Middle School. George Jones was one of the most influential district architects. Jones along with Floyd Naramore designed a large majority of the schools between 1908 and 1932. Beginning in 1908, with the emergence of the Bureau of Properties, PPS district architects took on a more formalized role in the design and maintenance of school facilities. The Bureau of Properties was created by PPS to centralize management of the district's properties (Powers and Corning 1937: 182).

George Jones, was well versed in the design of school facilities through his role as Superintendent of Building for the district. The son of Thomas J. Jones, who had also served as district architect for many years, George Jones was born in Portland in 1887. After attending Oregon State College for two years, George Jones obtained a degree in architecture in 1913. Jones worked in New York for several years before serving with the U.S. Army Combat Engineers during World War I. Following his return to Portland in 1920, Jones obtained his architecture license. He quickly assumed the position of school architect after his predecessor Floyd A. Naramore became district architect for the Seattle School District.

In his role as district architect, George Jones designed about 25 new schools and supervised the construction of additions for many existing buildings. Following his tenure with the Portland Schools, Jones went into private practice in Portland. With architect Harold Marsh, he established the firm of Jones & Marsh. Throughout his career Jones continued to specialize in school design, with projects in Pendleton, Klamath Falls and Oregon City. The firm of Jones & Marsh also designed additions to Roosevelt High School in Portland, buildings at Concordia Academy, and the Engineering wing and coliseum at Oregon State College in Corvallis (Ritz 2003: 217).

For Marysville Elementary School, Jones adopted the building program and principles that dominated the discourse for school design during the first half of the twentieth century. After several well-publicized school fires in U.S. cities, calls for a more fundamental change in the building construction began as early as 1906 (Oregonian, 10-31-1906). By August 16, 1910, the Portland City Council enacted a requirement that all schools constructed after January 1, 1911 would have to be of fire proof construction (Powers and Corning 1937: 183). Many of Portland's new "fire proof" buildings were constructed of brick and concrete; however, Marysville Elementary School, constructed of wood and metal, adopted a different approach to economical schools that still ensured its students' safety. The school, not unlike the Kennedy School, typified the single-story U-shaped school plans that were seen as an exemplar of school design that facilitated rapid building egress (The Evening Telegram, 11-03-1915). These new buildings were often constructed in units (sometimes referred to as extensible schools) and contained more differentiated and increasingly specialized uses (Powers and Corning 1937: 182).

In 1921 Portland Public Schools acquired the site at 7773 SE Raymond Street for \$9,950.00. The school takes its name from the surrounding subdivision, platted in 1881 by William Kern (Snyder 1979: 240). The first building unit was constructed in 1921 for \$62, 216.00. In 1925, the 2nd and 3rd building units were added to the school for \$ 111, 305.00. These L-shaped wings were added to the east and west sides of the school to create the current U-shaped plan (Portland Chronology Binder).

In 1950 a rectangular wing was added to provide a kitchen that served the adjacent cafeteria/auditorium. More modest changes to the interior have occurred including changes to the lighting (1952), the addition of acoustical tile in 1952, floor tile replacement in 1983 and 1984, and window replacement in 1998. Individual classrooms, offices (1987), and the library (1989) have also been altered over time to accommodate growth and new teaching practices (Facility Profile).

Marysville Elementary School was constructed in the Colonial Revival style that was popular for educational buildings during the first half of the twentieth-century in Portland and throughout the United States. The Colonial Revival style architectural details, along with Classical Revival, Collegiate Gothic, and Beaux Arts style, were viewed as inspirational and appropriate for educational settings (Betelle 1919: 28; Sibley 1923: 66; Patton 1967: 1-8).

Marysville Elementary School retains excellent integrity (of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association) with its plan and exterior and interior finishes. The 1922 Colonial Revival school building is recommended as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) for its association with Progressive Era public school construction in Portland (Criterion A). The school complex was built during the PPS program of progressive era construction and is a strong example of the principles that characterized the design of schools during this era; therefore, it is eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A. Marysville Elementary School is also an excellent example of the single-story Colonial Revival school buildings that were constructed during the early-twentieth century and a good example of the work of George Jones for the Portland Public Schools and is eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

## RESEARCH INFORMATION

(Check all of the basic sources consulted and cite specific important sources)

- |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Title Records           | <input type="checkbox"/> Census Records                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input type="checkbox"/> Interviews                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Obituaries              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers           | <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Directories        | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits                | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library         |  |

# Oregon Historic Site Form

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7733 Raymond St  
Portland, Multnomah County

Local Library: Multnomah County Library University Library: Portland State University Library  
Historical Society: Oregon Historical Society Other Repository: PPS Archives

## Bibliography: Bibliography

Betelle, James O. "Architectural Styles as Applied to School Buildings." American School Board Journal. Vol. 58 (April 1919).

Cremin, Lawrence. The Transformation of the School: Progressivism in American Education, 1876-1957. New York: A. Knopf, 1961.

Cubberley, Ellwood Patterson. The Portland Survey: A Textbook on City School Administration Based on a Concrete Study. Yonkers-on-Hudson, NY: World Book Co., 1915.

Oregonian. "Mayor Lane and the Schools." 10-31-1906.

Patton, Glenn. "American Collegiate Gothic: A Phase of University Architectural Development." Journal of Higher Education. Vol. 38, No. 1 (January, 1967).

Portland Public Schools. School Chronology Binder. PPS Archives, Portland, Oregon.

\_\_\_\_\_. Marysville Elementary School. Facility Profile.

Powers, Alfred and Howard McKinley Corning, History of Education in Portland. [Portland]: Work Projects Administration, 1937.

Rippa, Alexander. Education in a Free Society: An American History. New York: Longman, 1997.

Sanborn Map Company

1924-1928, 1908-Dec. 1950 Sanborn Maps, Multnomah County Public Library, Portland, Oregon. Available at:  
<https://catalog.multcolib.org/validate?url=http%3A%2F%2F0-sanborn.umi.com.catalog.multcolib.org%3A80%2F>. Accessed June 16, 2009.

Sibley, Ernest. "Why I Prefer the Colonial Style." School Board Journal: Vol. 66 (January 1923).

Snyder, Eugene E. Portland Names and Neighborhoods. Their Historic Origins. Portland: Binford & Mort Publishing; 1st edition 1979.



South elevation facing north



West elevation facing east



North elevation



Facing south showing additions on north side



East elevation



Corridor facing west showing original doors



Entry facing south showing newer wood paneling



Auditorium facing north



Classroom built-ins

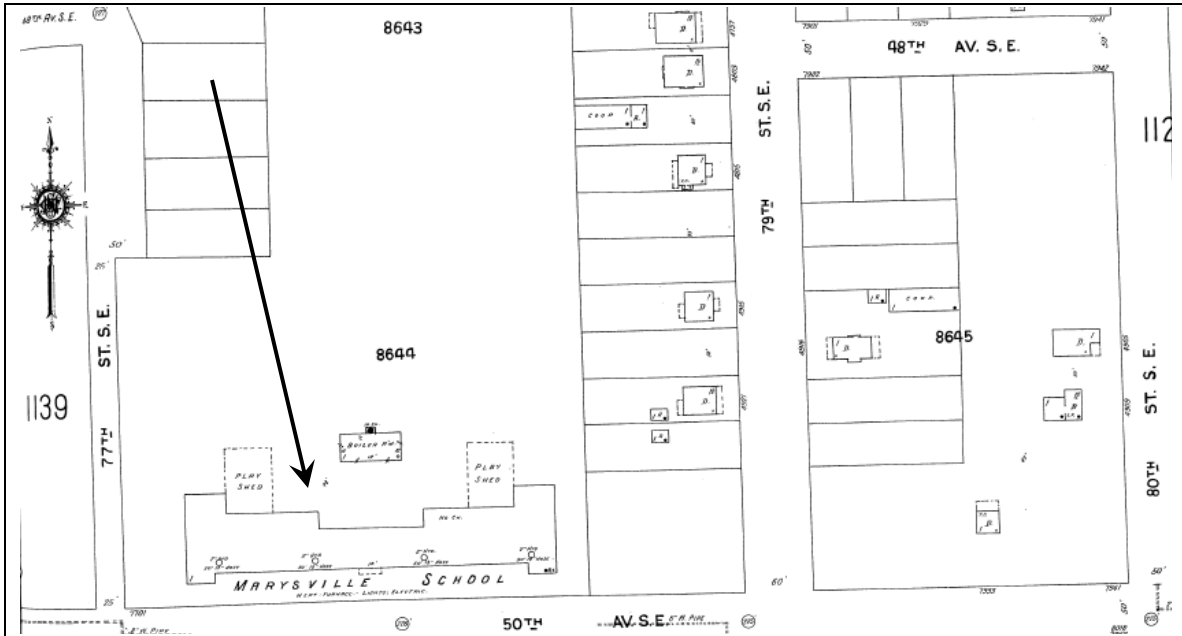


Gymnasium facing north



ENTRIX

Down to Earth. Down to Business.™

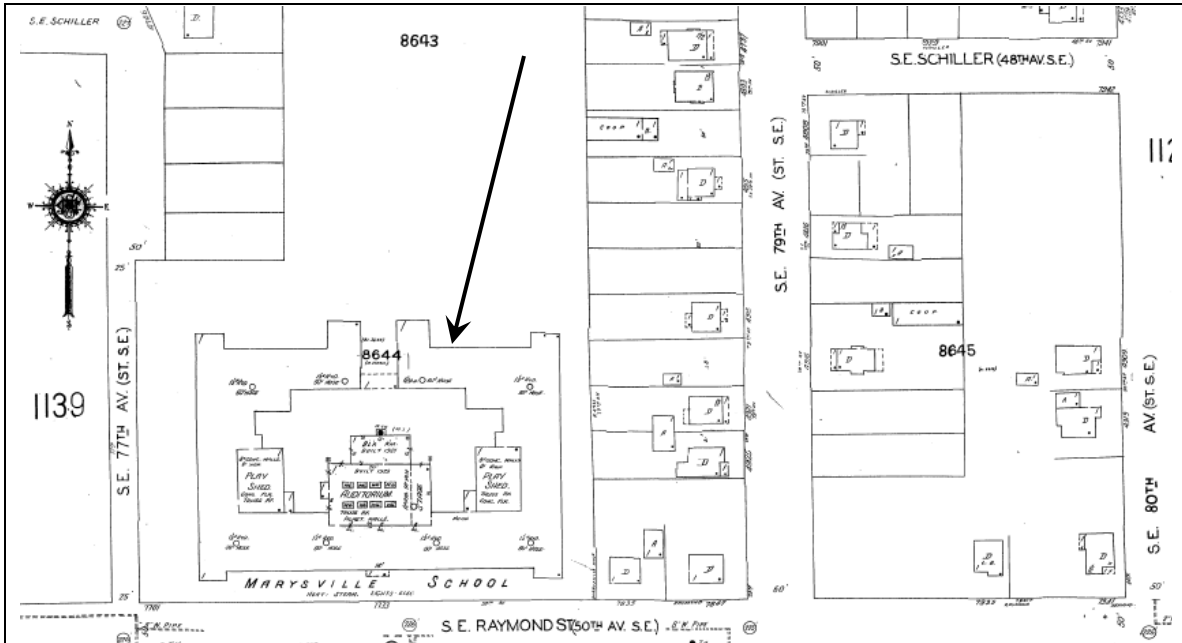


1924-1928, Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Map, Portland, Oregon, Map 1140. Arrow points to Marysville School.



# ENTRIX

Down to Earth. Down to Business.™



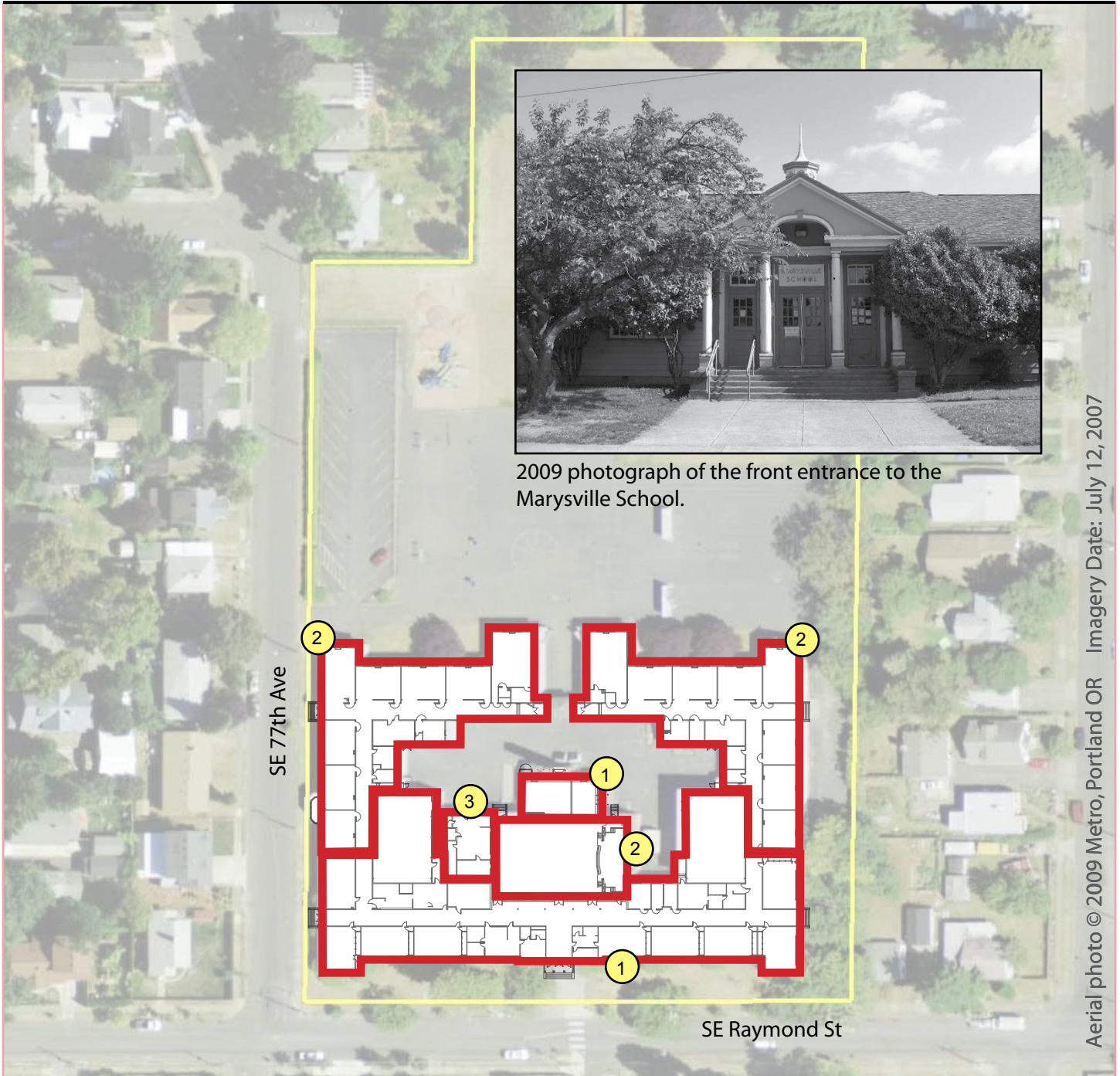
Updated to 1950 Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Map, Portland, Oregon, Map 1140. Arrow points to Marysville School. Note street name changes and extent of school expansion.



# Marysville School

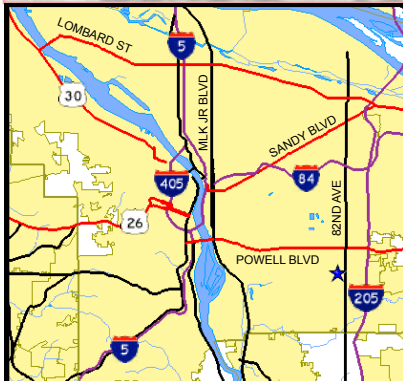
7733 SE Raymond St, Portland OR, 97206

[View Site in Google Maps](#)






2009 photograph of the front entrance to the Marysville School.

Aerial photo © 2009 Metro, Portland OR Imagery Date: July 12, 2007



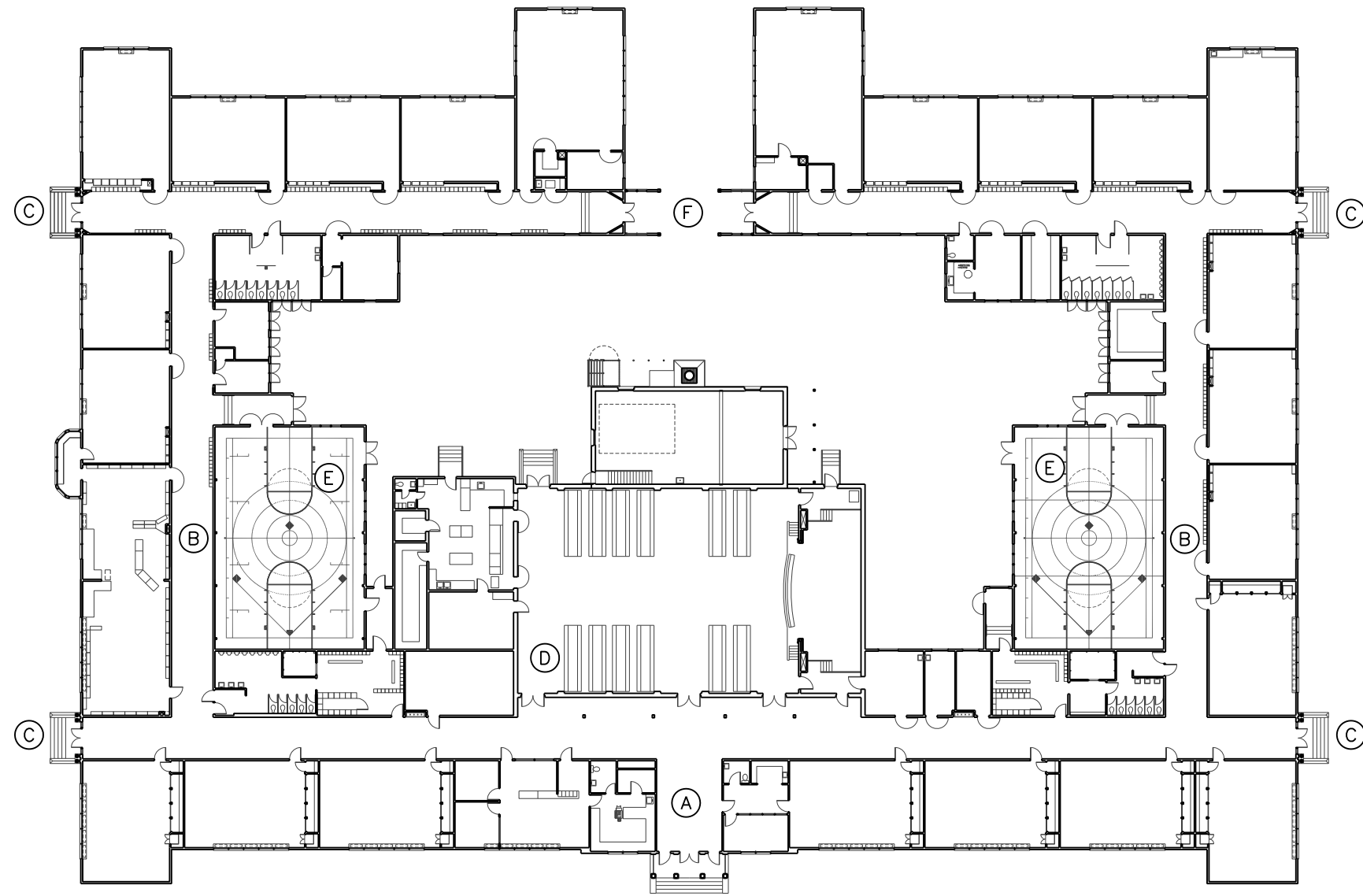
## Historical Significance and Building Integrity

-  Contrib: High Significance
-  Contrib: Moderate Signif.
-  Non-Contributing



## Building Periods

1. Original Building (266A), 1921
2. Classroom Addition (266A), 1925
3. Addition (266A), 1950



**KEYNOTES:**

- (A) ENTRY TO THE COLONIAL REVIVAL SCHOOL IS BENEATH A PEDIMENTED PORTICO. THE ENTRY HALL IS paneled IN NEWER BLOND WOOD.
- (B) THE EAST AND WEST WINGS WERE ADDED IN 1925 TO CREATE THE CURRENT BOX-SHAPED SHAPED PLAN.
- (C) THE SINGLE STORY PLAN AND PEDIMENTED ENTRIES ON THE EAST AND WEST ELEVATIONS WERE INTENDED TO PROVIDE AN INEXPENSIVE SOLUTION TO THE GROWING CONCERNS ABOUT FIRE SAFETY IN SCHOOLS BUILDINGS.
- (D) IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO THE ENTRY LOBBY, THE DOUBLE HEIGHT AUDITORIUM FEATURES ITS ORIGINAL STAGE AND WOOD TRUSSES. FOLDING TABLES AND BENCHES RECESS INTO THE WALL TO FACILITATE THE USE OF THE SPACE AS A CAFETERIA.
- (E) THE SCHOOL FACILITIES INCLUDE TWO MATCHING GYMNASIUMS WITH EXPOSED TRUSSES, VERTICAL BOARD SIDING, AND WOOD FLOORING.
- (F) THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE TWO WINGS IS COVERED BY A HIPPED ROOF.

**GENERAL NOTES:**

- (1) CLASSROOMS ARE TYPICALLY RECTANGULAR WITH ORIGINAL BUILT-IN CABINETS ON THE INTERIOR WALLS.
- (2) MANY OF THE ORIGINAL 8-OVER-12 WOOD FRAME WINDOWS ARE INTACT.
- (3) CLADDING ON THE SCHOOL CONSISTS OF HORIZONTAL VINYL SIDING. THE AUDITORIUM/CAFETERIA, BUILT AS PART OF THE 1925 ADDITION, IS CLAD IN RED BRICK.



MARYSVILLE ELEMENTARY - 268

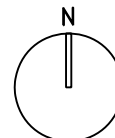
7733 SE RAYMOND ST 97206

PPS HISTORIC ASSESSMENT

1

**MARYSVILLE ELEMENTARY - 1ST FLOOR**

SCALE: 1" = 40'-0"



DRAWING: ANNOTATED PLAN

DATE: Sept. 4, 2009