

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NCRS use only

received

date entered

1. Name

historic High Hill School

and/or common High Hill Community Building

2. Location

street & number _____ not for publication _____

city, town High Hill _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 9th - Hon. Harold Volkmer

state Missouri code 029 county Montgomery code 139

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: community center

4. Owner of Property

name Town of High Hill

street & number _____

city, town High Hill _____ vicinity of _____ state Missouri 63350

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of Recorder of Deeds

street & number Montgomery County Courthouse

city, town Montgomery City _____ state Missouri 63361

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Missouri State Historical Survey has this property been determined eligible? _____ yes no

date 1980 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Department of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Program

city, town Jefferson City _____ state Missouri 65102

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site

moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The High Hill School is a frame, two-story Greek Revival building with medium pitched gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The school faces west and is sheathed with weatherboarding painted white. The primary facade, marked by a doubleleaf entry with six-light transom and a row of five 6-over-6 light windows on the second story, is surmounted by a six-sided belfry with ogee-arched louvered openings and hexagonal roof. Architectural details include pediment-shaped window heads, pilaster corner boards, a boxed cornice and frieze, and a blind lunette in the building's front gable. The school sits on wood sills resting on a foundation of coursed rubble.

Interior

The primary entrance opens onto a small anteroom containing to the left an enclosed, L-shaped stairway to the second floor. A large classroom occupies the remainder of the first floor, with four chamfered supporting posts in the center. Original handmade coatpegs are located on the stairwell wall. Upstairs, two classrooms open onto the lateral hallway. Original wainscoting and slate blackboards remain in all rooms. The rooms each contain handcrafted, built-in furniture; a glassed bookcase, cabinet and desk. The bell in the steeple is rung by a rope hanging in one of the upper rooms. Floors are of narrow white pine and upstairs walls are plastered and wallpapered.

Alterations

A small vestibule was added to the primary facade, obscuring the original entryway, but has recently been removed. A small porch is planned to replace it. In 1959, a kitchen was constructed on the north and in the process five windows were closed and a new interior doorway cut into the wall. Inside, the upper floors remain as constructed, but the walls of the first floor have been panelled and a new ceiling installed. A singleleaf door was cut in the south facade to provide a second exit, and restrooms were partitioned in the entryway. Electricity, gas and plumbing were added to the structure. In January 1980, the north and west sides of the building, which had settled, were raised and the sills replaced.

Site

The High Hill School is situated on a large lot in the center of the small town of High Hill, Missouri. A large playground area surrounds the building.

Present status

The school is structurally sound and in good condition. It is now used as a community center for the town and a library is being formed which will be located in the first floor classroom. The playground is planned as a city park.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1867 Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The High Hill School is significant as an example of Greek Revival architecture in Missouri and as an educational institution serving the citizens of the town of High Hill for almost a century. Most of the townspeople received their early education in the school.

The first building on the site was a girls school, constructed by popular subscription in 1864.¹ Shortly after its completion in 1866, it burned to the ground and an elementary school was planned to replace it. The present building was completed and classes began in 1867.²

The Greek Revival style structure reflected the era's prevalent taste in public edifices. It remains the dominant element in the streetscape of High Hill, its classical detailing providing a union of a popular architectural style with the educational and economic demands of the small town.

High Hill School was operated continuously until 1954 when the school was consolidated under District II of Montgomery County.³ In 1955, the school district conveyed the structure to the city of High Hill, for the sum of \$1600,⁴ which was raised by donations of the townspeople.⁵

FOOTNOTES

1. Mrs. Charles Steyens, personal interview with R. Kenneth Stone, April 1980. Mrs. Steyens is a former High Hill pupil and teacher.
2. History of St. Charles, Montgomery and Warren Counties (St. Louis, Mo.: Paul V. Cochrane, n.d.), p. 717.
3. Mrs. Ruth Snarr, personal interview with R. Kenneth Stone, April 1980. Mrs. Snarr is a retired Superintendent of Montgomery County Schools.
4. Quit Claim Deed, Montgomery County Reorganized School District Number R-II to the town of High Hill, Missouri, 28 November 1955.
5. Minutes of the High Hill Community Club, Fall of 1955.

9. Major Bibliographical References

1. History of St. Charles, Montgomery and Warren Counties. St. Louis, Mo.: Paul V. Cochrane, n.d.).
2. Minutes of the High Hill Community Club, Fall 1955.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 1.05 acres

Quadrangle name "New Florence, Mo."

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	5	6	4	0	4	2	5	4	3	0	4	3	2	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Part of the East Half of the Southeast Quarter of Section Thirty-Two (32) Township Forty-Eight (48), North, Range Four (4) West bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at the Northwest corner of Lot No. Twenty-three (23) of the town of High Hill and running thence North

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title 1. Janice R. Cameron, Research Assistant

Department of Natural Resources

organization Historic Preservation Program

date June 26, 1980

street & number P.O. Box 176

telephone 314/751-4096

city or town Jefferson City

state Missouri 65102

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Director, Department of Natural Resources and
State Historic Preservation Officer

date

For information only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Chief of Registration

Address

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 1

3. Quit Claim Deed, Montgomery County Reorganized School District R-II to the town of High Hill, Missouri, 28 November 1955.
4. Snarr, Mrs. Ruth. Personal interview with R. Kenneth Stone, April 1980.
5. Stevens, Mrs. Charles. Personal interview with R. Kenneth Stone, April 1980.

ITEM NUMBER 10

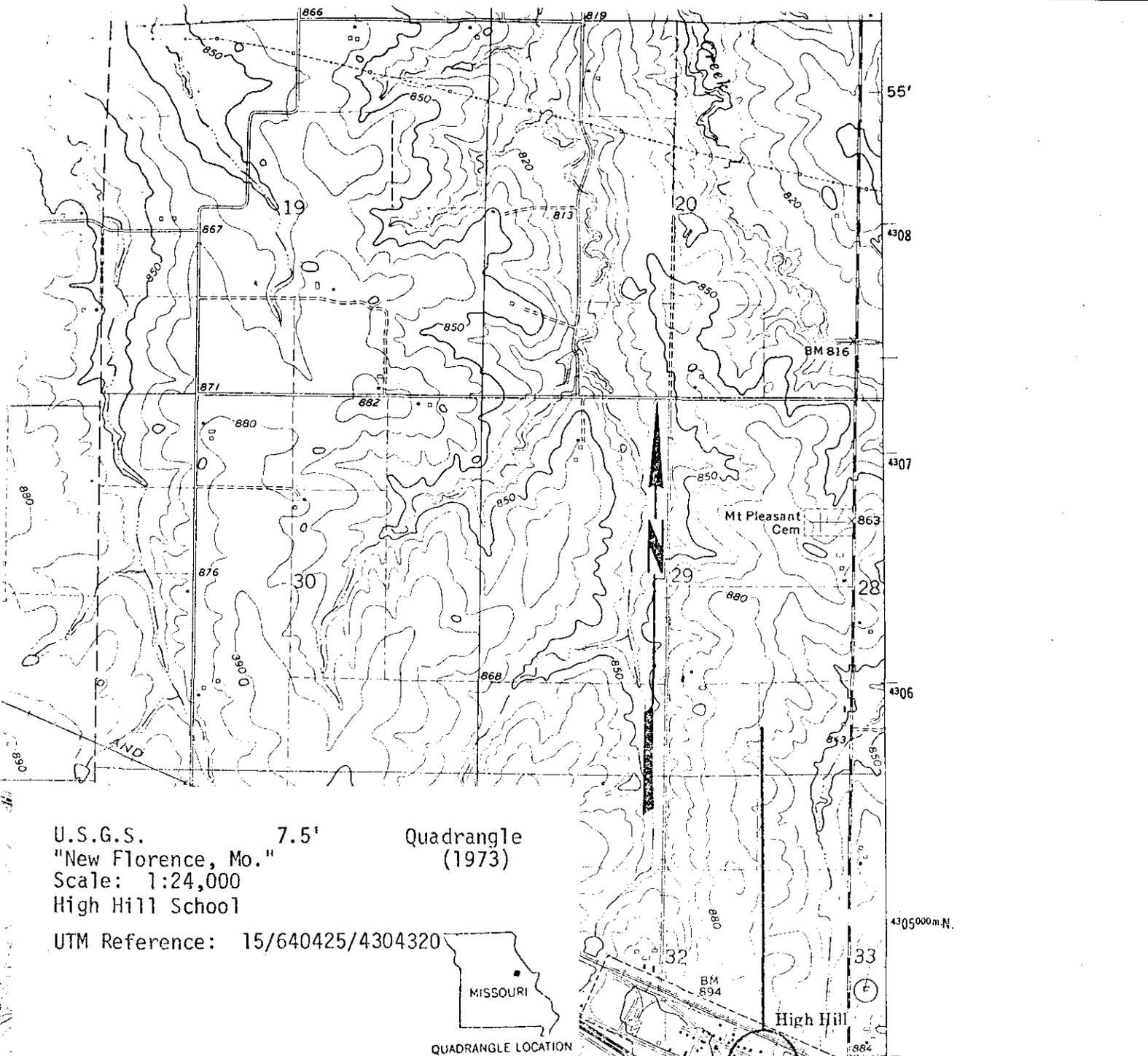
PAGE 1

16 degrees East 3 chains and 17 links to a rock, thence East 72 degrees South 3 chains and 29 links, thence South 16 degrees West 3 chains and 12 links to the North boundary line of High Hill, thence West 72-1/2 degrees North 3 chains and 27 links to the place of beginning and containing one and 5/100 acres.

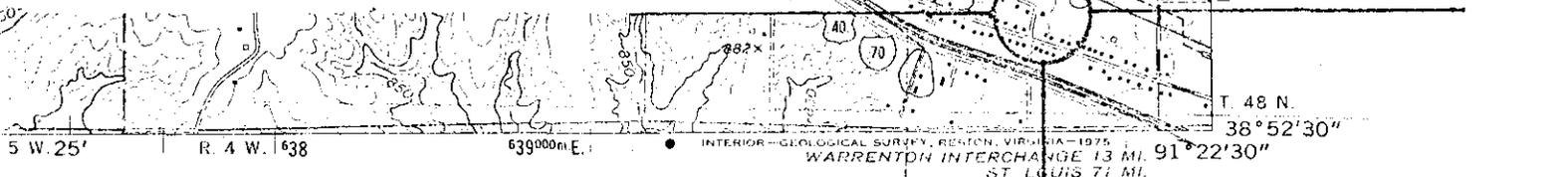
ITEM NUMBER 11

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2. R. Kenneth Stone
High Hill Community Club
High Hill
April 1980
314/585-2539
Missouri 63350
3. James M. Denny, Section Chief, Nominations-Survey
and State Contact Person
Department of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Program
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City
June 26, 1980
314/751-4096
Missouri 65102



U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle
 "New Florence, Mo." (1973)
 Scale: 1:24,000
 High Hill School
 UTM Reference: 15/640425/4304320



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Primary highway, hard surface ————
- Secondary highway, hard surface - - - - -
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface - · - · - ·
- Unimproved road · · · · ·
- Interstate Route (circle with 'I')
- U. S. Route (circle with 'U.S.')
- State Route (circle with 'S')



NEW FLORENCE, MO.
 NW 1/4 NEW FLORENCE 15' QUADRANGLE
 N3852.5—W9122.5/7.5

1973

HIGH HILL SCHOOL

#465

COUNTY:

Montgomery

LOCATION:

High Hill, Mo.

OWNER:
ADDRESS:

Town of High Hill
High Hill, Mo. 63350

DATE APPROVED BY A.C.:

July 25, 1980

DATE SENT TO D.C.:

September 11, 1980

DATE OF REC. IN D.C.:

September 17, 1980

DATE PLACED ON NATIONAL REGISTER:

November 14, 1980

DATE AWARDED CERTIFICATE
(AND PRESENTOR):

February 23, 1982
Orval L. Henderson, Jr.

DATE FILE REVIEWED:

The High Hill School is significant as an example of Greek Revival architecture in Missouri and as an educational institution serving the citizens of the town of High Hill for almost a century. Most of the townspeople received their early education in the school.

HIGH HILL SCHOOL #1 of 7
High Hill, Missouri

Photographer: Janice R. Cameron
 May 21, 1980

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources
 P.O. Box 176
 Jefferson City, MO 65102

General view of primary facade.



#2 of 7

HIGH HILL SCHOOL
High Hill, Missouri

Photographer: Janice R. Cameron
May 21, 1980

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

General view of south facade.



HIGH HILL SCHOOL #3 of 7
High Hill, Missouri

Photographer: Janice R. Cameron
May 21, 1980

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

General view of north facade.



HIGH HILL SCHOOL #4 of 7
High Hill, Missouri

Photographer: Janice R. Cameron
May 21, 1980

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

General view of east facade.



HIGH HILL SCHOOL #5 of 7
High Hill, Missouri

Photographer: Janice R. Cameron
May 21, 1980

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

View of second floor classroom, showing
built-in, handcrafted cabinet.



HIGH HILL SCHOOL #6 of 7
High Hill, Missouri

Photographer: Janice R. Cameron
 May 21, 1980

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources
 P.O. Box 176
 Jefferson City, MO 65102

View of second floor classroom on the east,
showing handcrafted bookcase.



HIGH HILL SCHOOL #7 of 7
High Hill, Missouri

Photographer: Janice R. Cameron
May 21, 1980

Neg. Loc.: Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Early view of the school from the southwest.

