

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Michigan	
COUNTY: Tuscola	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
MAR 24 1972	

1. NAME

COMMON:
McKinley School

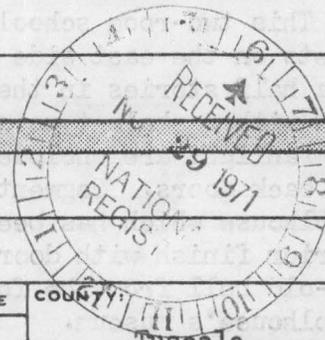
AND/OR HISTORIC:
McKinley School

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
510 Butler Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Vassar

STATE: Michigan CODE: 26 COUNTY: Tuscola CODE: 157



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both 	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress 	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment 	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mr. & Mrs. George Frye

STREET AND NUMBER:
221 West St.

CITY OR TOWN: Vassar STATE: Michigan CODE: 26

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Registry of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:
Tuscola County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Vassar STATE: Michigan CODE: 26

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Michigan Historical Commission, Registered Local Site # 150

DATE OF SURVEY: Oct. 1, 1971 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
History Division, Michigan Department of State

STREET AND NUMBER:
208 N. Capitol

CITY OR TOWN: Lansing STATE: Michigan CODE: 26

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

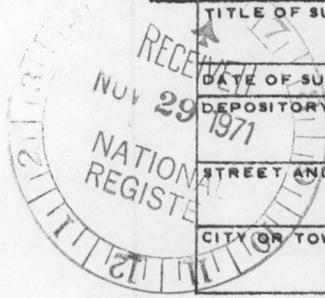
STATE: Michigan

COUNTY: Tuscola

ENTRY NUMBER: MAR 24 1972

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY



7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two-room schoolhouse located at Butler and Sheridan streets on the east side of town was built in 1886. It is one and a half stories in the Greek Cross shape constructed of plain brick with a shale type stone foundation. Its double doors with fanlight are enclosed in an arched opening as are the two side back doors. Segmented arched windows complete this small schoolhouse which has been recently restored to its red brick exterior finish with door and trim painted buff. An eighty-five-year-old bell from the forty-foot tower is now displayed in the schoolhouse's museum.

The east room measuring 27'x33' serves as the community rental room. Its decor includes red carpeting, antique designed wallpaper, and an antique chandelier. The west room, measuring the same size, is still under restoration, with plans for it to house the museum. The walls in this room are not wallpapered, but have been stripped and painted their original color. There are plans to add new plumbing and heating. The small kitchenette in the rear of the school is for use by the various clubs and organizations. Much of the high wainscoting will be painted and left intact, along with some of the original lighting fixtures, particularly in the coatroom and bathrooms.

A large parking lot will border the east side of the building, and a playground will dominate the back and west side. There is a wrought iron fence along the front and one of split rail in the back. Gas lamps line either side of the walk.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1886

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
Local History |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

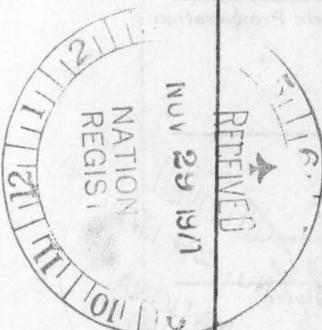
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Originally known as the East Primary Building when first constructed in 1886, it became known as the McKinley School shortly after the assassination of the former president. Up until 1964 the school district served the east side of the town of Vassar, once a well developed lumbering community.

McKinley school has been used for the past seven years by the school system as a storage place for discarded desks, and for anything else not in current use. It was purchased in the spring of 1971 by Mr. & Mrs. George Frye, who are now in the process of converting the former schoolhouse into a museum and community rental complex. Up until its purchase by the Fries it was an eyesore to the neighborhood since its closing several years ago. Now it will provide a spot of historic beauty for the east side of town. Everything possible will be original with a few exceptions; they want to retain the school in the manner in which it was originally built.

The east room, already completed, is used as a community rental meeting room -- available for meetings, classes, reunions, and similar activities. The Vassar Historical Museum will be centered in the west room. This room will be fashioned after a schoolroom, and will house historical memorabilia donated by interested citizens who have items of yesteryear pertaining to Vassar and Tuscola County in general. On the south wall of the museum area will be a raised platform on which a replica of an old-fashioned schoolroom will be featured, complete with desks, maps, pictures and furniture from the original furnishings in the school. Other features in the museum will include a library and reading area for those desiring to read about the local history and the early pioneers who made it. In the west room will also be a corks pine gallery shop where there will be antiques, paintings -- all symbolic of the local history.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview with Mrs. George Frye, September 1, 1971.
The Flint Journal, March 9, 1971.
Tuscola County Advertiser, April 29, 1971.
Tuscola County Pioneer-Times, July 29, 1949, July 28, 1971.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		43 22 05	83 34 35	
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Linda Contreras, assistant historian

ORGANIZATION: History Division, Michigan Department of State DATE: Oct. 18, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: 208 N. Capital

CITY OR TOWN: Lansing STATE: Michigan CODE: 26

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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 National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Samuel K. Milsten
 Title: Deputy Director and SLO
 Dept. of Natural Resources
 Date: 11/22/71

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest A. Connolly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 MAR 24 1972
 Date: _____

ATTEST:
William J. Huntley
 Keeper of The National Register
 MAR 9 1972
 Date: _____



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

17/991240/4804 200
 DM PTF
 4-15-77

Tuscola 7200655 Mich.

McKinley School

STATE

Mich.

DATE 11/29/71 YES NO NUMBER

REGISTER NUMBER: MAR 24 1972

PHOTO (S) 2
PHOTO DESCRIPTION (S) 1
MAP (S) 2
MAP DESCRIPTION (S)



LOGGED
ACKNOWLEDGE 11/29/71
SENT Tech jlj OK 1/24/72

ADVISER

HISTORIAN *Okay for local history.* Sles 1/27/72

ARCHAEOLOGIST

ARCHITECT

Chambers
OK 1-27-72

LIBRARY KEEPER

KEEPER

OK *John* 3/9
OK *Manuel* 2/4/72

WRITER/EDITOR

CHIEF, OAHF

ell 3-24
OK CDA 3/2/72

EDITORIAL PROCESSING, EDITOR

Federal Register Entry 5-2-72

Annual Edition Entry

Logged MAR 24 1972 Card MAR 24 1972

COMMENTS:

WORKING NUMBER: 11-29-71-2



McKINLEY
SCHOOL
1886-1971
MASSAR
HISTORICAL
MUSEUM

McKinley School

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

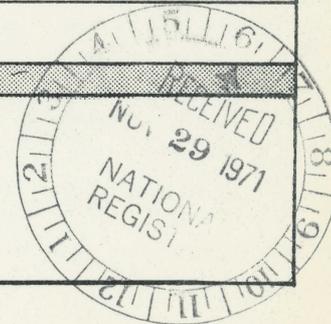
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

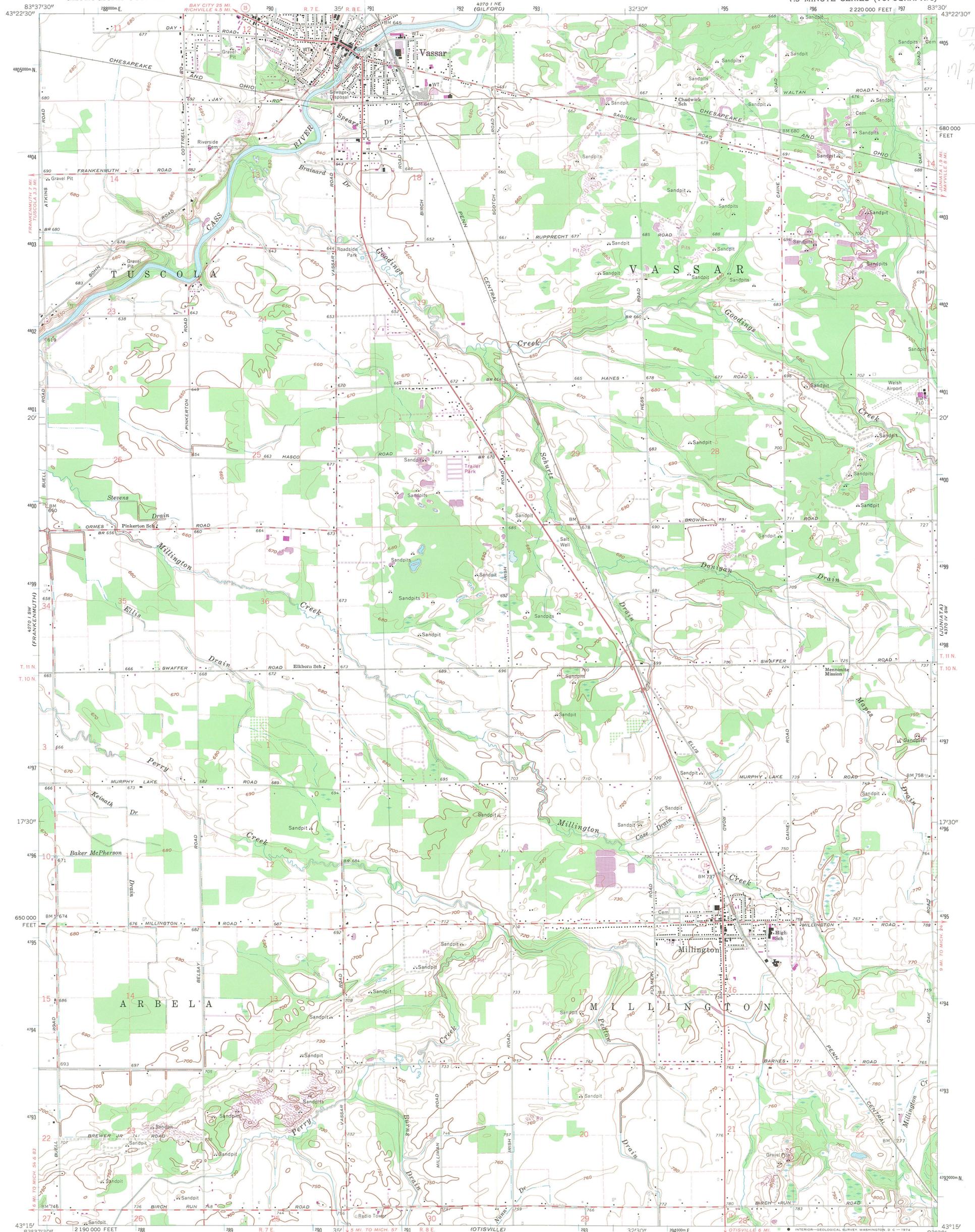
STATE Michigan	
COUNTY Tuscola	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER MAR 24 1972	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

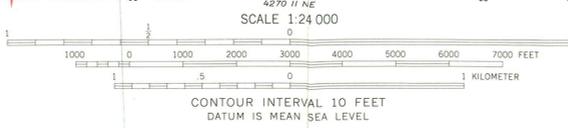
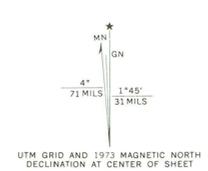
1. NAME			
COMMON:		McKinley School	
AND/OR HISTORIC:		McKinley School	
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 510 Butler Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Vassar			
STATE: Michigan	CODE 26	COUNTY: Tuscola	CODE 157
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: History Division, Dept. of State			
DATE OF PHOTO: October, 1971			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: History Division, Dept. of State			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. School faces north			



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1959. Field checked 1963
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Michigan coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 17, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs
This information is unchecked
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1973. This information not field checked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
State Route	

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

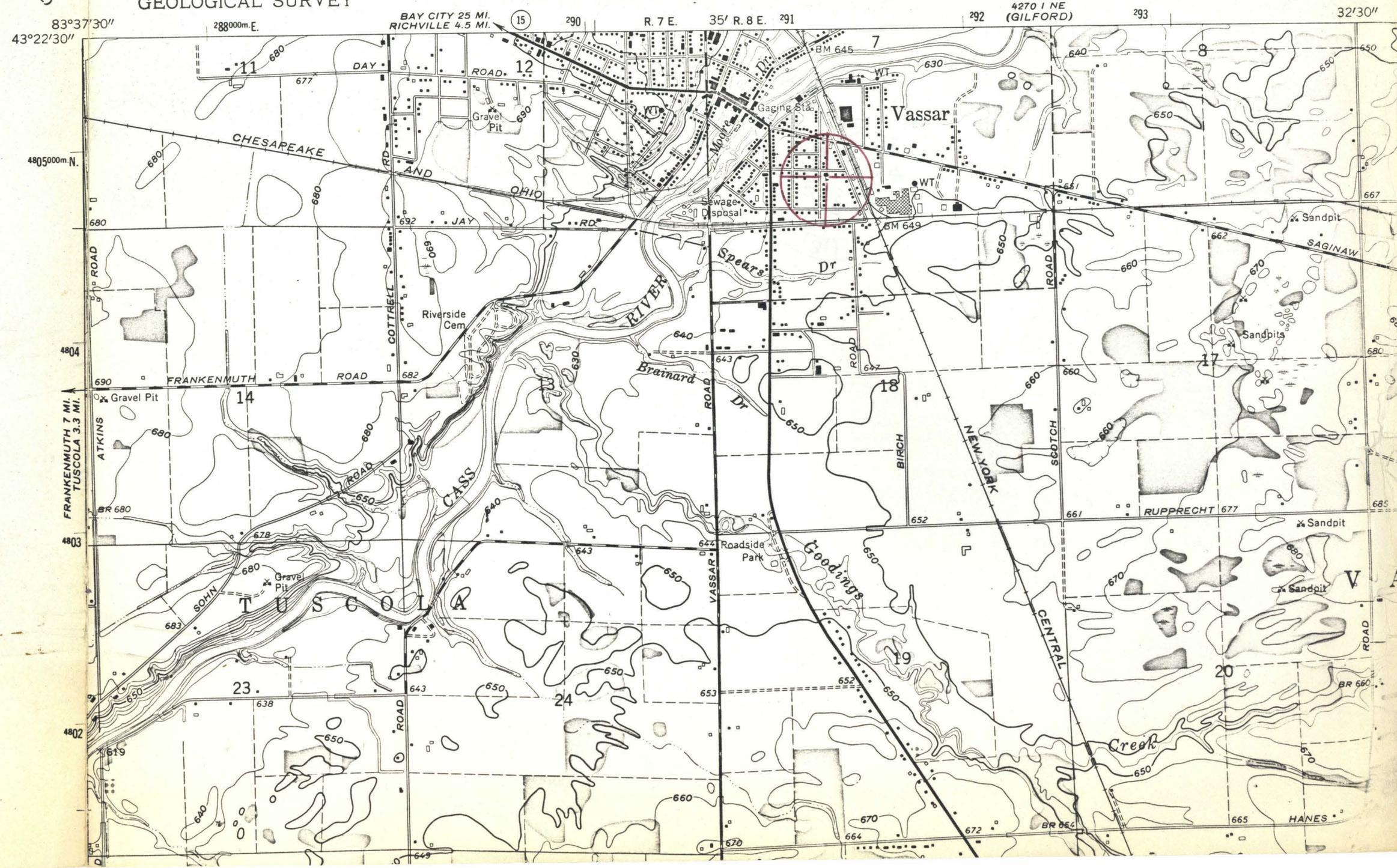
VASSAR, MICH.
N4315-W8330/7.5
1963
PHOTOREVISED 1973
AMS 4270 1 SE-SERIES V862

*Mckinley School
P14017108*
UTM Ref. 49
4-14-77
171 291240
4804960

43° 22' 05"
83° 34' 35"

4270 I NW
(REESE)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



22

Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Michigan	
COUNTY Tuscola	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER MAR 24 1972	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: McKinley School			
AND/OR HISTORIC: McKinley School			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 510 Butler Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Vassar			
STATE: Michigan	CODE 26	COUNTY: Tuscola	CODE 157
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: USGS, Vassar, Michigan			
SCALE: 1:24000			
DATE: 1963			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



PH0017108

JAMES HARVEY
8TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

2352 RAYBURN OFFICE BUILDING
TELEPHONE: 225-2806

COMMITTEES:
HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

May 24, 1971

DISTRICT OFFICES:
10-11 JEFFERSON-BAUM COURT
SAGINAW, MICHIGAN 48607
783-6565
409 FORT
PORT HURON, MICHIGAN 48060
982-0591

MAY 25 1971

Mr. George B. Hartzog, Jr.
Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

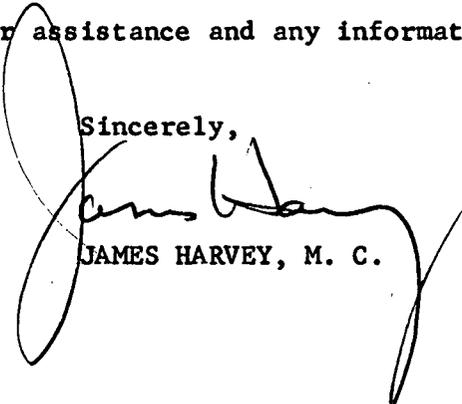
Dear Mr. Hartzog:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I received from Mr. George R. Frye in regard to Federal funds to restore historical buildings.

As you will note, Mr. Frye has purchased the old McKinley School building in Vassar, Michigan and would like to obtain Federal funds to help restore it. While I have contacted the Department of Housing and Urban Development, because of the enclosed article, I would also appreciate knowing if any assistance is available through the National Park Service.

Thank you for your assistance and any information you can provide.

Sincerely,


JAMES HARVEY, M. C.

JH:hl

Enclosures

EATON YALE & TOWNE INC.

EATON FOUNDRY DIVISION

700 EAST HURON AVENUE

VASSAR, MICHIGAN 48768

G. R. FRYE
General Manager

May 19, 1971

Congressman James Harvey - Michigan
House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

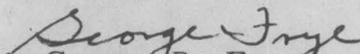
Dear Jim:

Mrs. Frye and I have recently purchased from the Vassar Public Schools the old McKinley School building. This school was built in 1885 and we think it should be preserved as an historical building. Our plan is to establish the Vassar Historical Museum in it.

A recent article in the Detroit Free Press (copy enclosed) tells of a building in Detroit being restored with the help of funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. My question is, do you think we might obtain help from this government agency? We have already begun the restoration using our own funds. We are finding this type of work is far more costly than we anticipated, and if we could get some matching fund support it would help greatly.

If you think there is a possibility of our obtaining help would you please let us know whom we should contact or how we should go about seeking assistance?

Very truly yours,


George R. Frye

meh

Historic Home Will Get Its Facelift

BY TOM NUGENT
Free Press Staff Writer

After four years of red tape and frustrating delay, Detroit's oldest brick house is finally getting a facelifting.

"We'll be swinging hammers within two weeks," said Jack Manahan, chairman of the Detroit Builders Exchange Committee to Restore the Moross Mansion, 1460 E. Jefferson.

"We've had our problems lining up free labor and materials, because of the economy. But we're ready to go now, as soon as we get the necessary work permits," he said Wednesday.

THE CAMPAIGN to save the Moross Mansion, built in 1832 on an original land grant from King Louis XIV of France, began with an application for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds in 1967.

HUD contributed \$67,000 in a matching grant to the Detroit Historical Commission, which was ordered to purchase the two-story home and restore it.

The other \$67,000 came from the Detroit Garden Center, which donated \$17,000 on the condition that it be allowed to open an office in the house, and from the Detroit Builders Exchange, which pledged \$50,000 in free labor and materials.

Turn to Page 5A, Column 1



Free Press Photo by ED HAUN

Detroit's oldest brick house waits for repairs

BY

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MAY 25 1971

Hon. James Harvey
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Harvey:

We are pleased to acknowledge your inquiry in behalf of
Mr. George R. Frye concerning the old McKinley School
building.

We appreciate your interest in this matter and will provide
you a reply at our earliest opportunity.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

Director

FNP: TGWood: ljp: 5-25-71

MAY 27 1971

Tuscola
MIC

S. BRADFORD 2/6/7
W. MURTAGH 6/7
E. CONWAY 4/9
T. WOOD 2/15
JUN 6-16

H34-HR

JUN 22 1971

Utley 6/7
Acting for H
Thompson 6/17
J. STOWAN 6/18

Hon. James Harvey
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Harvey:

We are pleased to acknowledge your inquiry in behalf of Mr. George R. Frye concerning the old McKinley School building.

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (80 Stat. 915), as amended, authorizes matching grants-in-aid to the States and to the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The enclosed fact sheet summarizes the grants-in-aid program and should be helpful to Mr. Frye.

Your interest in the National Park Service and its programs is most deeply appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) J. E. N. Jensen

Associate Director

Enclosures

cc:

Mr. Ralph A. MacMullan
Director, Department of Natural
Resources

Stevens T. Mason Building
Lansing, Michigan 48926)w/c of inc.
Director, NIE. Region) LL-Mr. Melvin)
HR)w/c of inc. (2) (1. SOL File - 2. Dr. Bradford File)

FNP:S.Bradford:maj:6/14/71

MC
6-15

(BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Matching Grants-In-Aid for Historic Preservation

FACT SHEET

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (80 Stat. 915) as amended authorizes matching grants-in-aid to the States and to the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Matching grants are to assist historic survey and planning programs and acquisition and development projects. The term "project" means programs of States, local governments, and other public bodies, as well as private organizations and individuals, that are for the acquisition of title or interests in any district, site, building, structure, or object that is significant in American history, architecture, archeology and culture, or property used in connection therewith, and for its development in order to assure its preservation for the public benefit.

The National Park Service administers the program in each State through the cooperation of a State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor (see current data below). The Liaison Officer nominates historic properties to the National Register, prepares the State Historic Preservation Plan, and submits grant applications. All applications for grant assistance are made through him.

Historic resources are eligible for assistance if they are on the National Register of Historic Places (see current data below) and accord with an approved State Historic Preservation Plan (see current data below). The National Park Service encourages private organizations and individuals, as well as public bodies, to participate in the program.

Every State submits an annual work program on April 1 of each year. All grant applications must be included in that program. We urge you to confer with your State Liaison Officer as far in advance of this deadline as possible.

The Budget of the United States for 1972 (pages 350-351 and page 599 in the appendix) requests \$5,980,000 for the grants program for fiscal 1972, the amount appropriated in fiscal 1971. In fiscal 1971 the Secretary of the Interior apportioned \$2.1 million to 41 States for survey and planning, \$1 million to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and \$2.3 million to 40 States for acquisition and development projects. Your State Liaison Officer works under a stringent funding limitation which falls short of the need. This should be understood by anyone seeking Federal matching assistance.

Current Data

1. THE OLD MCKINLEY SCHOOL

- a. Was registered on _____.
- b. Was nominated on _____ and is under review.
- ✓ c. Has not been proposed.

2. MICHIGAN'S _____ State Historic Preservation Plan.

- ✓ a. Was approved on DECEMBER 31, 1970.
- b. Is expected to be approved shortly.
- c. Has not been submitted.

3. MICHIGAN'S _____ State Liaison Officer is

Mr. Ralph A. MacMullan, Director, Department of Natural Resources,
Stevens T. Mason Building, Lansing, Michigan 48926

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MICHIGAN

Date Entered MAR 24 1972

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Greenmead Farms	Livonia Wayne County
✓ McKinley School	Vassar Tuscola County
Kelsey (Francis W.) Museum of Archaeology	Ann Arbor Washtenaw County
Indian Village Historic District	Detroit Wayne County
Clinton - Kalamazoo Canal	Avon Township/Shelby Township Oakland/Macomb Counties
Skegemog Point Site	Whitewater Township Grand Traverse County

Also Notified

Hon. Philip A. Hart
Hon. Robert P. Griffin
Hon. Jack H. McDonald
Hon. James Harvey
Hon. Marvin L. Esch
Hon. Charles C. Diggs, Jr.
Hon. Guy Vander Jagt

State Liaison Officer
Mr. Samuel Milstein
Deputy Director-Recreation
Department of Natural Resources
Mason Building
Lansing, Michigan 48926

Director, Northeast Region

3/23/72

HR

NRowland:mm