

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register Listed
January 8, 2014**

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. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Clearfield School, District #58

other names/site number KHRI # 045-0000-00313

2. Location

street & number 2162 N 600 Road not for publication

city or town Baldwin City Vicinity

state Kansas code KS county Douglas code 045 zip code 66006

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

SEE FILE
Signature of certifying official

_____ Date

_____ Title

_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

_____ Signature of commenting official

_____ Date

_____ Title

_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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:) _____

_____ Signature of the Keeper

_____ Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	1	buildings
		District
		Site
0		structure
		Object
3	1	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Historic Public Schools of Kansas MPS

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Education: School

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Social: clubhouse / meeting hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Rural Vernacular One-Room School

Late Victorian: Stick

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: Stone

walls: Wood: Clapboard

roof: Wood shingle covered by tin

other: _____

Narrative Description

Summary

Clearfield School, built in 1900, is located northeast of Baldwin City in Palmyra Township. The half-acre site is situated one-quarter mile west of the intersection of East 2200 Avenue and North 600 Road, which is in the southeast corner of Section 17 (Figures 1, 2, and 6). The site includes three contributing buildings (the school and two outhouses) and one non-contributing building (a shed). This building was at least the second schoolhouse to serve school district 58, and was originally built in a location one mile east, but it was moved to its current location in 1908.

Elaboration

Site

The school is located on a half-acre site along a gravel road (North 600 Road) in a rural, but populated area. A farm surrounds the property, with a house to the northeast, a pond to the north, and farm outbuildings to the northwest and south. The school building faces south toward the road. The two wood-frame outhouses and the shed are behind the school at the northwest corner of the property.

Exterior

Clearfield School is a wood-frame, rectangular building with wood clapboard siding. It features a front gable roof and is built on a stone foundation. The building has one interior brick end chimney at the peak of the north end gable. The corners of the building feature corner boards and the roofline is finished with a simple cornice. All of the windows have matching exterior trim.

The front, south-facing elevation includes two separate entrances; former students said one entrance was for the boys and the other for the girls. A concrete pad extends the width of this front elevation. Each entrance is comprised of a concrete stoop with a single, paneled wood door topped by a curved shed roof porch supported by brackets. Between the two entrances are two double-hung wood windows, each with a decorative upper sash containing a surrounding band of 20 three-inch square panes. Centered above these windows within the gable is a flush triangular panel below which is a now-covered opening where two fixed decorative windows were installed.¹ Fishscale shingle siding clads the area within the gable.

The east (side) elevation features five 2-over-2, double-hung wood sash windows. The southernmost window is smaller than the others and measures 3'x3', and the others measure 4'x6'. This elevation includes a rain water runoff well and pump at the north end.

The north (rear) elevation includes two 2-over-2, double-hung wood sash windows, which flank an interior brick chimney. A rectangular metal vent at the roof peak denotes the location of the chimney, which remains brick below the roofline. Just above the foundation and west of the center of the wall, is an opening that has been sealed shut that it is believed this may have been used to deliver coal or wood into the building. Nearer the west corner and set within the stone foundation is an opening with a wood door allowing access to the crawlspace.

The west (side) elevation mirrors the east side, with five 2-over-2, double-hung wood sash windows.

¹ At the time of this writing, the windows have been removed for off-site restoration. They mimic the upper sashes of the windows below, with a band of several square panes encircling a larger clear pane.

Interior

The interior is accessed through one of two doors on the south (front) elevation. These two front doors open into small vestibules once used as coatrooms – one for the boys and the other for the girls. The north wall of each vestibule is set on a slight angle and includes one paneled door leading into the classroom. The vestibules have plaster walls with wood wainscot that covers the bottom portion of the walls. The east vestibule has an exterior window on the east wall and an interior window looking into the classroom on the west wall. The west vestibule has an exterior window on the west wall and an interior window looking into the classroom on the east wall.

The classroom space takes up the majority of the interior space, which retains the plaster walls, wainscoting (which extends two feet up the wall), chalkboards, wood trim around the doors and windows, and parts of the original tin ceiling. The portions of the ceiling closest to the east and west side walls conform to the angle of the roofline, but the center two-thirds is flat. This flat section is missing the pieces of tin ceiling, and this area would have included the glass light globes, which are temporarily removed until the ceiling can be restored and electricity installed. The wood floor, which appears to be a later second layer, is in excellent condition.

According to the recollections of former students, the classroom was oriented to face south, and the teacher's desk sat atop the small platform between the two vestibules. Blackboards and chalk trays remain affixed to the south, east, and west walls.

Outhouses (date unknown, contributing buildings)

There are two one-seat outhouses northwest of the schoolhouse. The small, wood-frame buildings each feature horizontal drop siding and shed roof. They each have a concrete foundation and a wood door on the east elevation.

Shed (date unknown, non-contributing building)

The shed has a side-gable roof, a concrete foundation, and is clad with board-and-batten siding. There is a single wood door on the east elevation. The building's age and function is not known.

Repairs and Alternations

There have been minor modifications to the school building over time, but it retains a high degree of integrity. The primary modification to the exterior involves the building's cupola, which was removed due to deterioration. The brick chimney above the roofline has been modified. Electrical service was established and then disconnected during the period the Grange owned the building. Since 1990, the owners have repointed the foundation, repainted all the window trim and exterior siding, covered the roof with tin until recently when the roof was replaced with composition shingles.

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education _____

Architecture _____

Period of Significance

c.1900-1946 _____

Significant Dates

1900, 1908, 1946, 1951 _____

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A _____

Cultural Affiliation

N/A _____

Architect/Builder

Unknown _____

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- 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.

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins with the construction of the schoolhouse in 1900 and ends in 1946 when the school consolidated. This period includes the relocation of the building to its current location in 1908.

Criteria Considerations (justification)

Clearfield School meets the registration requirements for Criteria Consideration B: Moved Properties because it was moved early in the period of significance (1908) and functioned as a school for many more years in its new location. Additionally, it derives much of its significance from its architecture, which in this instance is not dependent upon its original location, and otherwise retains excellent integrity of materials, design, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary

Clearfield School (built 1900) is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its local significance in the area of education and its association with public education in early 20th century Kansas. It also is nominated under Criterion C for its local significance in the area of architecture as an excellent example of an early 20th century vernacular one-room schoolhouse with Queen Anne stylistic references. It is nominated as part of the *Historic Public Schools of Kansas* multiple property nomination as an example of the Country Schools/One-Room School property type.

Elaboration

Clearfield is an unincorporated community in southeast Douglas County located approximately nine miles northeast of Baldwin City, eight miles south of Eudora, and four miles east of Vinland – the nearest railroad town. The settlement was situated around the present-day intersection of East 2200 Avenue and North 600 Road. The Clearfield community traces its roots to early German-speaking settlers, such as Frederick Breithaupt, Peter Brecheisen, William Brecheisen, George Meeder, Ben Kramer, and George Hausman, who arrived in this area in the late 1850s and 1860s.² This group was instrumental in founding a church at Clearfield. The community organized in 1885, and eventually included a post office, blacksmith shop, church, cemetery, creamery, barber shop, and machine shop. (Figure 5) It had a post office from 1885 until 1900, but by 1910, according to author Frank Blackmar, Clearfield had a population of less than 20 residents.³ Nevertheless, the outlying community persisted and apparently had enough population to sustain a school until 1946.

The nominated schoolhouse was preceded by a building erected circa 1877 in the southern part of Section 16 (Figure 4). Despite the loss of businesses and the post office in the early 1900s, the student enrollment at Clearfield School between 1877 and 1897 reached 100 more than once, raising concerns about classroom space. This contributed to the need for a new Clearfield school building, which was built in 1900.⁴ Daniels notes the school records for the 1897-98 school year included the names of 64 students enrolled in school, with just five over 16 years of age.⁵ In 1907, Pleasant Oak School (District #45) was built one mile east of Clearfield School, eliminating the need for children to walk two or more miles to Clearfield. Twenty-eight students attended Pleasant Oak School the first year.⁶ In 1908, the Clearfield school leaders and community members decided to relocate the building one mile west to better serve the shifting population of students. It was around this period that the school was renamed from Union to Clearfield. Gideon and Paulina Breithaupt deeded a parcel of land in Section 17 that, if the school discontinued, would revert to the original estate in consideration of \$50.00.⁷ Using teams of horses, the school was moved (Figure 8) and readied for classes in the fall of 1908. The building hosted classes for the next 38 years, until closing in 1946.

The Clearfield Grange met in the schoolhouse from the 1920s until the 1990s. After the school's closure, the Baldwin School District and Roy Breithaupt transferred the property to the Grange in 1951. In 1972, the Belleview Grange merged with Clearfield, sustaining the membership until the 1990s. In 1997, the Grange sold

² Eudora Area Historical Society, *Clearfield: the History of an American Crossroad Settlement* (Eudora, KS: Eudora Area Historical Society, 1999), 4.

³ Frank Blackmar, *Kansas: A Cyclopedia of State History, Vol. 1* (Chicago: Standard Publishing Co., 1912), 366.

⁴ Goldie Piper Daniels, *Rural Schools and Schoolhouses of Douglas County, Kansas* (n.p., 1976), 51

⁵ Daniels, 52.

⁶ Daniels, 134.

⁷ Daniels, 50-52.

it to the Clearfield Historical Society, which now owns and maintains the building. Clearfield School is available to the community for meetings and private social functions.⁸

Architecture: Country Schools / One-Room Schools

Clearfield School is an example of the One-room Schoolhouse property type outlined in the *Historic Public Schools of Kansas* multiple property document, which provides the following related context about one-room schools:⁹

A common, universal form emerged; the earliest buildings were typically a rectangular plan with one open room. The wood-frame schoolhouse with wood clapboard siding and stone foundation is most common, although in areas blessed with native stone, early schools were built of local limestone and sandstone. The schoolhouses typically had a simple gable roof with wood shingles and a brick or stone chimney located at the center or rear of the gable peak. The majority had a cupola or bell tower on the front gable. The common schoolhouse had three windows on each side and a single central door on the front, sometimes flanked by two windows. The interior of the schoolhouse was utilitarian with wood floors, plaster walls (sometimes wood wainscoting), and plaster or wood ceilings. The schools were heated with a wood or coal stove and furnishings were limited to students' desks, the teacher's desk, and typically a slate chalkboard.

The traditional country school evolved, primarily as a result of two factors – population growth and the standardization movement that emerged in the Progressive Era. Both factors resulted in the expansion of existing schoolhouses to include features like libraries and teacher workrooms. The standardization movement not only resulted in an attempt to “equalize” educational opportunities and teacher qualifications in rural areas and cities but also led to a focus on safety and sanitation. Designs were distributed for “sanitary” out houses, cloak rooms were recommended, and standards were developed for adequate ventilation and proper lighting. The prevailing theory that windows should be located on only one side of the classroom (the left side of students) to prevent eye strain, resulted in modification of many schoolhouses. Some early schoolhouses were built with gable enclosures at the entry. The most common alterations were the addition of a gable or hip enclosure on the front or side of [the] original schoolhouse. These additions provided for an enclosed entry foyer and typically included a cloak room(s) and library and/or teacher work room.

The multiple property document, citing author Fred Schroeder, outlines four general stylistic categories for the country school: folk vernacular, mass vernacular, architect-designed through plan books, and the rare commissioned design. Clearfield School is of the mass vernacular variety, which is “identified by the use of commercial machine made materials such as dimensional lumber or brick and likely to ‘look more like a schoolhouse’, resembling rural civic buildings such as a town hall or church.”¹⁰ By the time this building was constructed in 1900, the community had access to mass-produced materials needed to erect a small school building.

Stylistic references on one-room schoolhouses were generally limited, particularly with the folk and mass vernacular varieties. Nevertheless, “early stylistic influences included Greek Revival, Gothic Revival and Queen Anne,” and “ornamentation was generally limited to window hoods and door openings.”¹¹ Clearfield School includes features of the Stick and Queen Anne styles. The Stick style was found more commonly in residential architecture, and it grew out of the Gothic Revival era and transitioned quickly into the more popular Queen Anne style. Stick-style references include the flush triangular panel in the front gable, ornamental

⁸ Eudora Area Historical Society, “Clearfield: The History of an American Crossroad Settlement” (Eudora Area Historical Society, Eudora, Kansas, 1999).

⁹ This information on one-room schools is taken from: Brenda Spencer, “Historic Public Schools of Kansas” National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form (Topeka: Kansas Historical Society, 2005), F29-30.

¹⁰ Andrew Gulliford, *America’s Country Schools* (Washington, DC: The Preservation Press, 1984), 164. As cited by Spencer, E16.

¹¹ Spencer, F-30.

windows with a band of several square panes encircling a larger clear pane, and carved wooded shed stoops on ornamental brackets. The fishscale shingle siding in the front gable is more commonly found in Queen Anne architecture.

Clearfield School has two primary entrances, which harkens back to a double-entry school plan designed by architects John Haskell and Louis M. H. Wood of Topeka, who produced one of the earliest catalogues of simple, standardized schoolhouse plans endorsed by state education officials.¹² References to an architect or builder for Clearfield School have not been uncovered, and it is likely those from the Clearfield community collaborated to build the school using a standard plan.

Summary

Clearfield School District #58 is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of education for its association with local public education in the early 20th century. It also is nominated under Criterion C for its local significance in the area of architecture as an excellent example of an early 20th century vernacular one-room schoolhouse with Stick and Queen Anne stylistic references. It is nominated as part of the *Historic Public Schools of Kansas* multiple property nomination as an example of the Country Schools/One-Room School property type.

¹² Extant examples of the late 1870s double-entry plan by Haskell and Wood include Sunnyside School in Jefferson County (NRHP) and White Chapel in Pottawatomie County.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Blackmar, Frank. *Kansas: A Cyclopedia of State History, Vol. 1*. Chicago: Standard Publishing Co., 1912.

Daniels, Goldie Piper. "Rural Schools and Schoolhouses of Douglas County, Kansas", 1976. Publisher unknown.

Eudora Area Historical Society. *Clearfield: the History of an American Crossroad Settlement*. Eudora, KS: Eudora Area Historical Society, 1999.

Spencer, Brenda. "Historic Public Schools of Kansas" National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form. Topeka: Kansas State Historical Society, 2005.

Edward's Map of Douglas County, Kansas. Philadelphia, PA: John P. Edwards, 1887.

Standard Atlas of Douglas County, Kansas. Chicago, IL: Geo. A. Ogle & Co., 1921.

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: **Kansas Historical Society**

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.5 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u> 38.826167 </u>	<u> -95.100598 </u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Latitude:	Longitude:		Latitude:	Longitude:

2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Latitude:	Longitude:		Latitude:	Longitude:

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

The Clearfield School #58 is located at: 2162 N 600 Road on a .5 acre tract of land in Douglas County, Kansas, described as follows: 17-14-21 BEG 33 N & 511.5 E OF SW C OR SE/4 FOR POB: N 132, E 132, S 13 2, W 132 TO POB 132 X 132. The tract's legal description is: .5A 17-14-21 BEG 31 RDS E OF SW COR SE 1/4 TH E 8 RDS N 10 RDS W 8 RDS S 10 RDS TO PT BEG D 173/218

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The nominated property includes the parcel historically associated with the Clearfield School.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John More
organization Clearfield Historical Society date July 2013
street & number 2045 N 600 Rd telephone 785-542-1193
city or town Baldwin City state Kansas zip code 66006
e-mail clearfieldkansas@gmail.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Historic images, maps, etc.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Clearfield School #58
City or Vicinity: Baldwin City, Palmyra Township
County/State: Douglas County, Kansas
Photographer: Sarah Martin
Date of Photos: 6 September 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 12 Front (south) elevation, facing N
- 2 of 12 Side (west) elevation, facing NE
- 3 of 12 Rear (north) elevation, facing S
- 4 of 12 Rear (north) and side (east) elevations, facing SW
- 5 of 12 Front (south) and side (east) elevations, facing NW
- 6 of 12 South outhouse and shed, facing SW
- 7 of 12 North outhouse, facing W
- 8 of 12 Interior, east cloakroom/vestibule, facing NW
- 9 of 12 Interior, west cloakroom/vestibule, facing NE
- 10 of 12 Interior, entrances into classroom at south end of building, facing SW
- 11 of 12 Interior, overall classroom space, facing SW
- 12 of 12 Interior, overall classroom space, facing N

Property Owner:

(complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

Name Clearfield Historical Society (Attention Ronald and Linda Wright)

street & number 2045 N 600 Rd telephone 785-542-1193

city or town Baldwin City state Kansas zip code 66006

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications 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.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Figure 1: Contextual Aerial Image – Google Earth

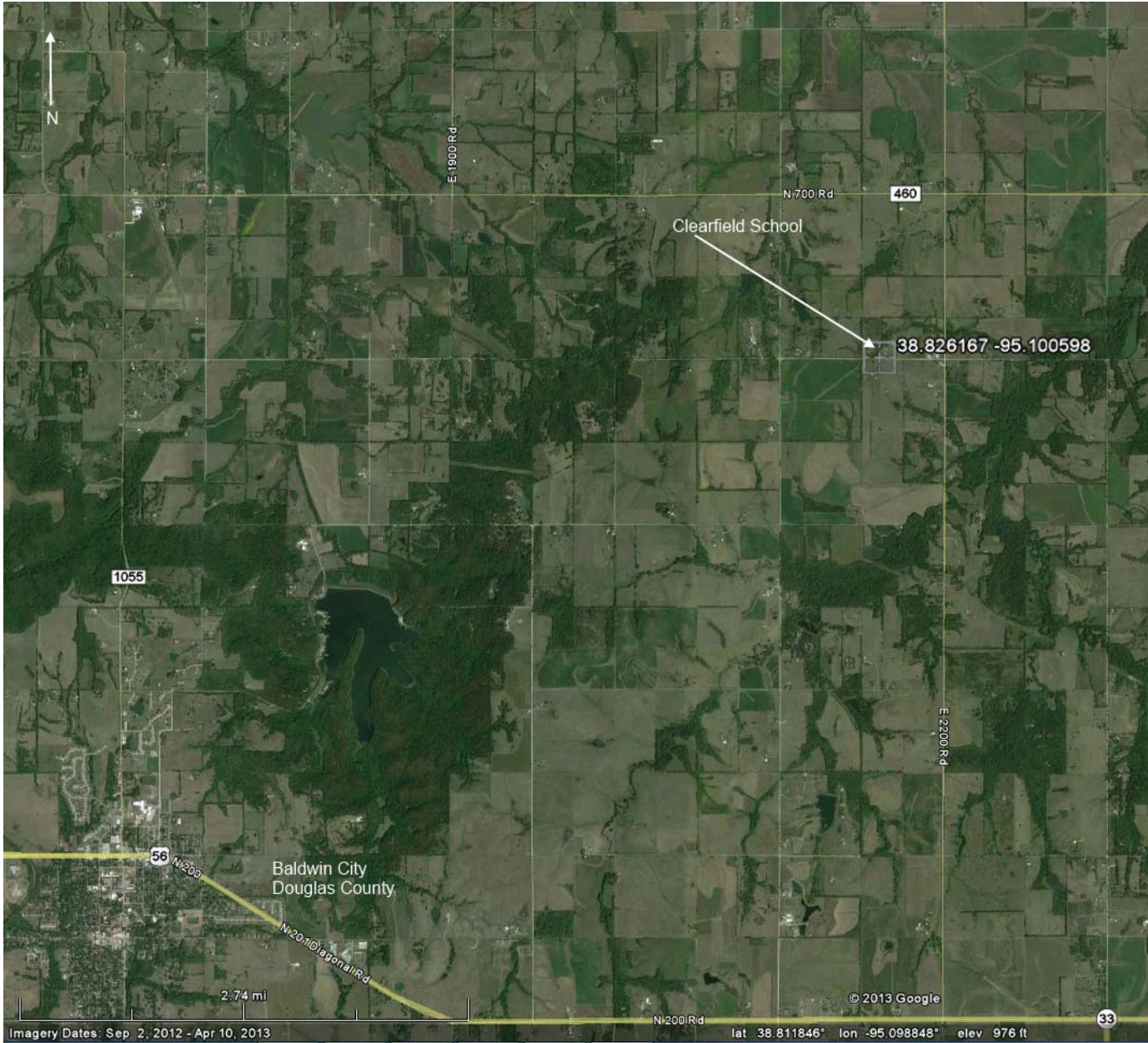


Figure 2: Close-up Aerial Image – Google Earth

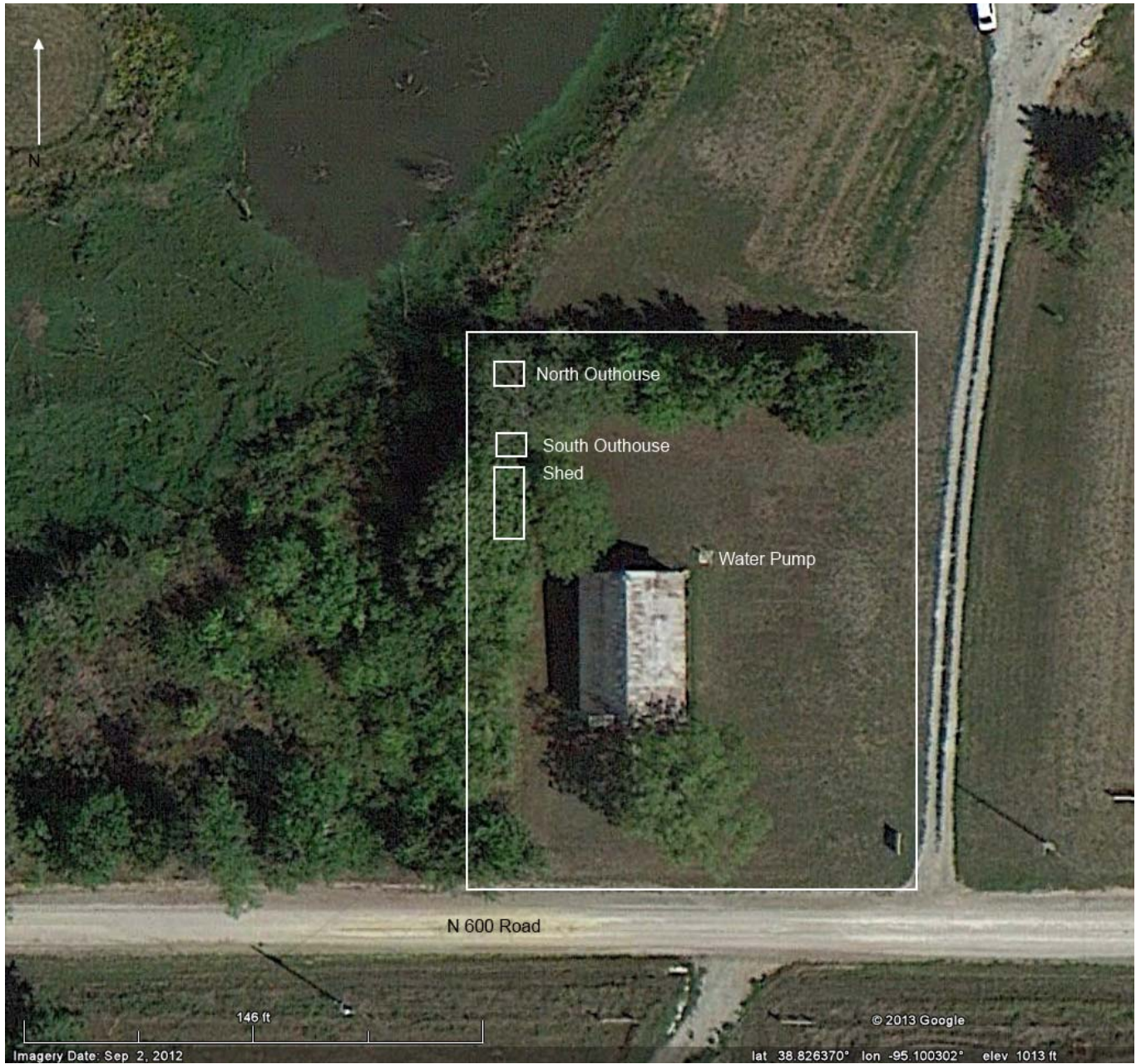


Figure 3: Site Plan and Exterior Photograph Directions.

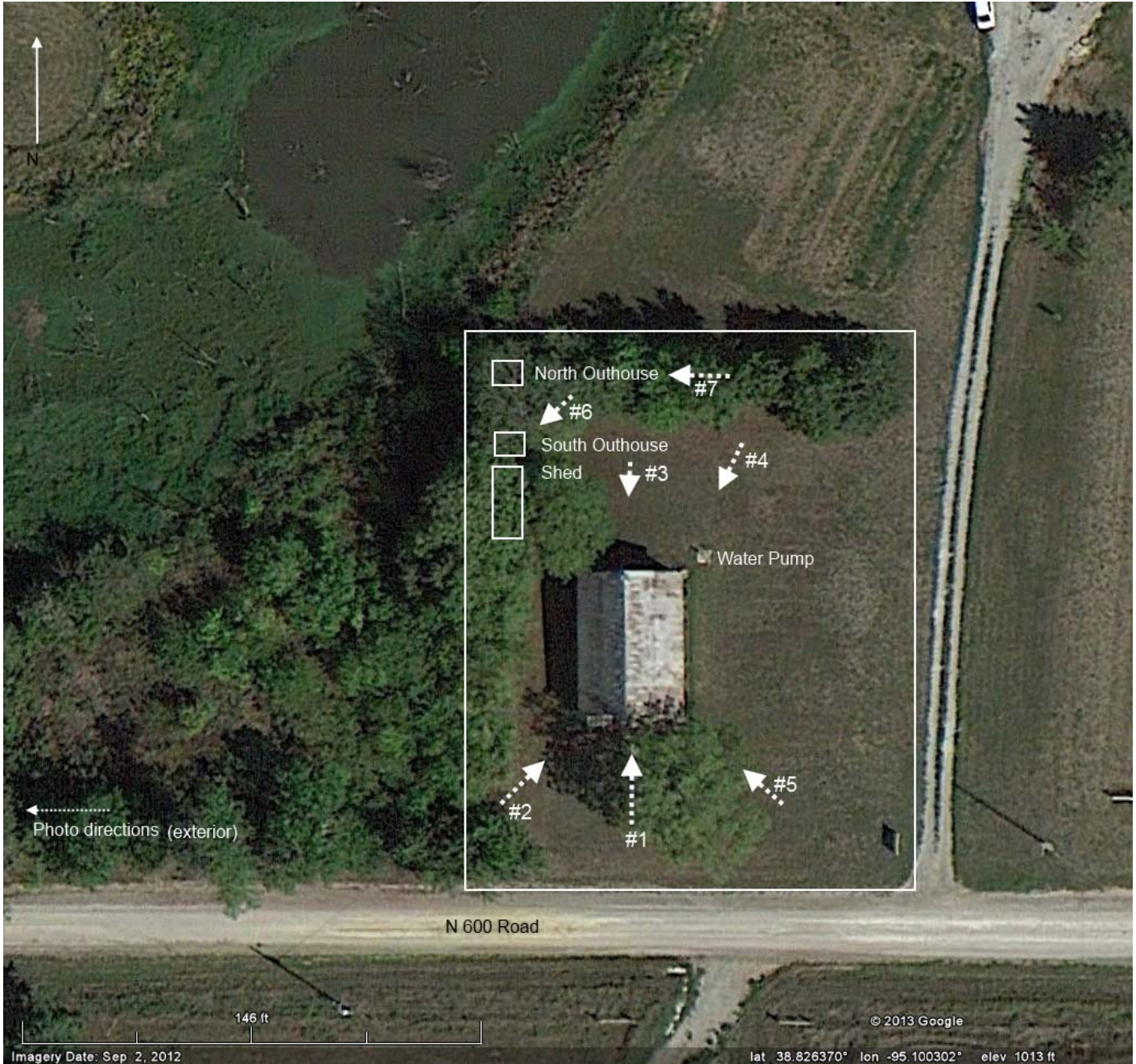


Figure 5: Clearfield Community (at East 2200 Road and North 600 Road) Douglas County, KS, circa 1900. This depicts the school in its original location before it was moved in 1908.

Source: Eudora Area Historical Society, *Clearfield: the History of an American Crossroad Settlement* (Eudora, KS: Eudora Area Historical Society, 1999), 3.

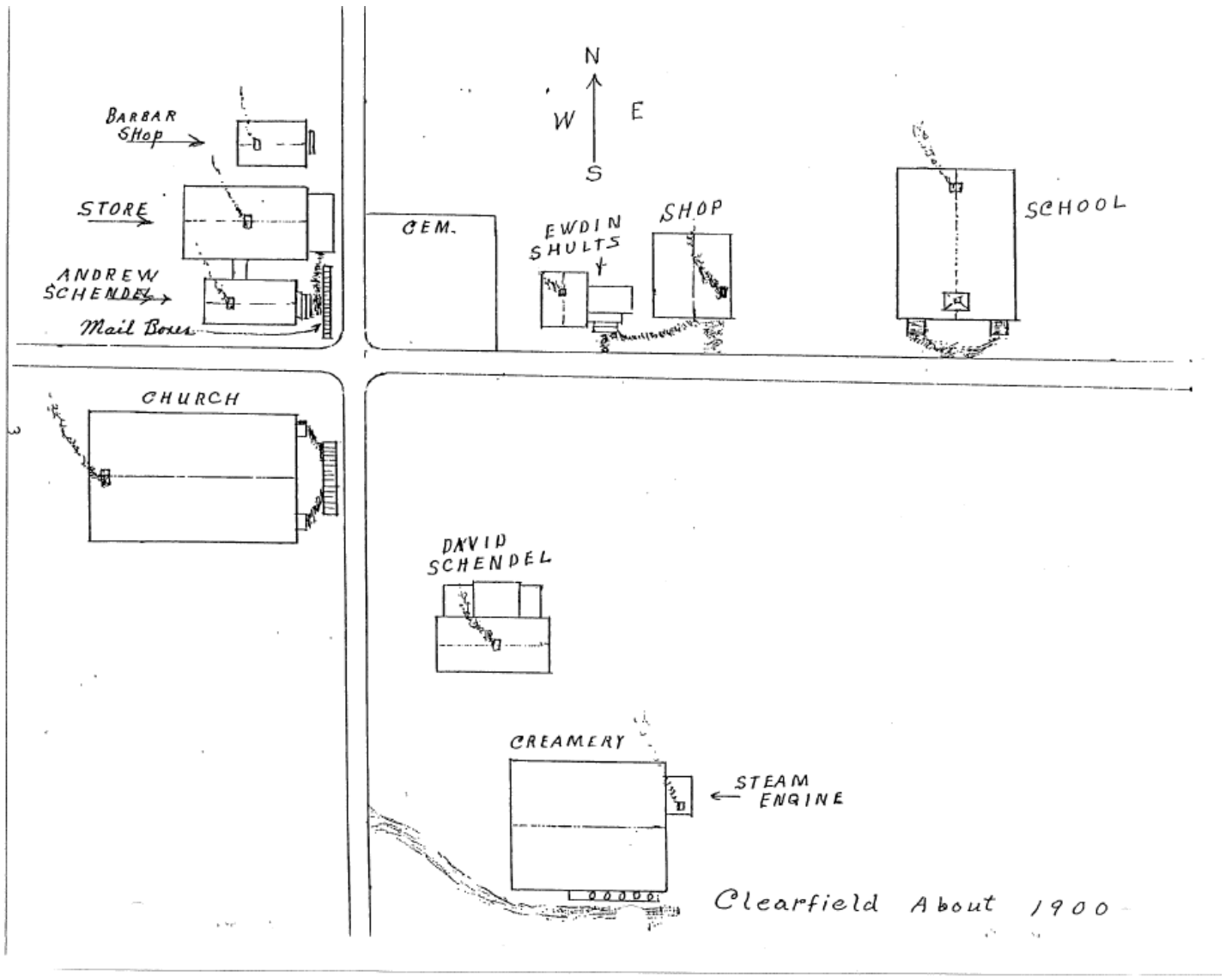


Figure 6: Standard Atlas of Douglas County, Kansas. George A. Ogle Publishing Co, 1921. The Clearfield School building is noted in its current location in Section 17. Accessed online at: <http://www.kansasmemory.org/item/208347/page/15>

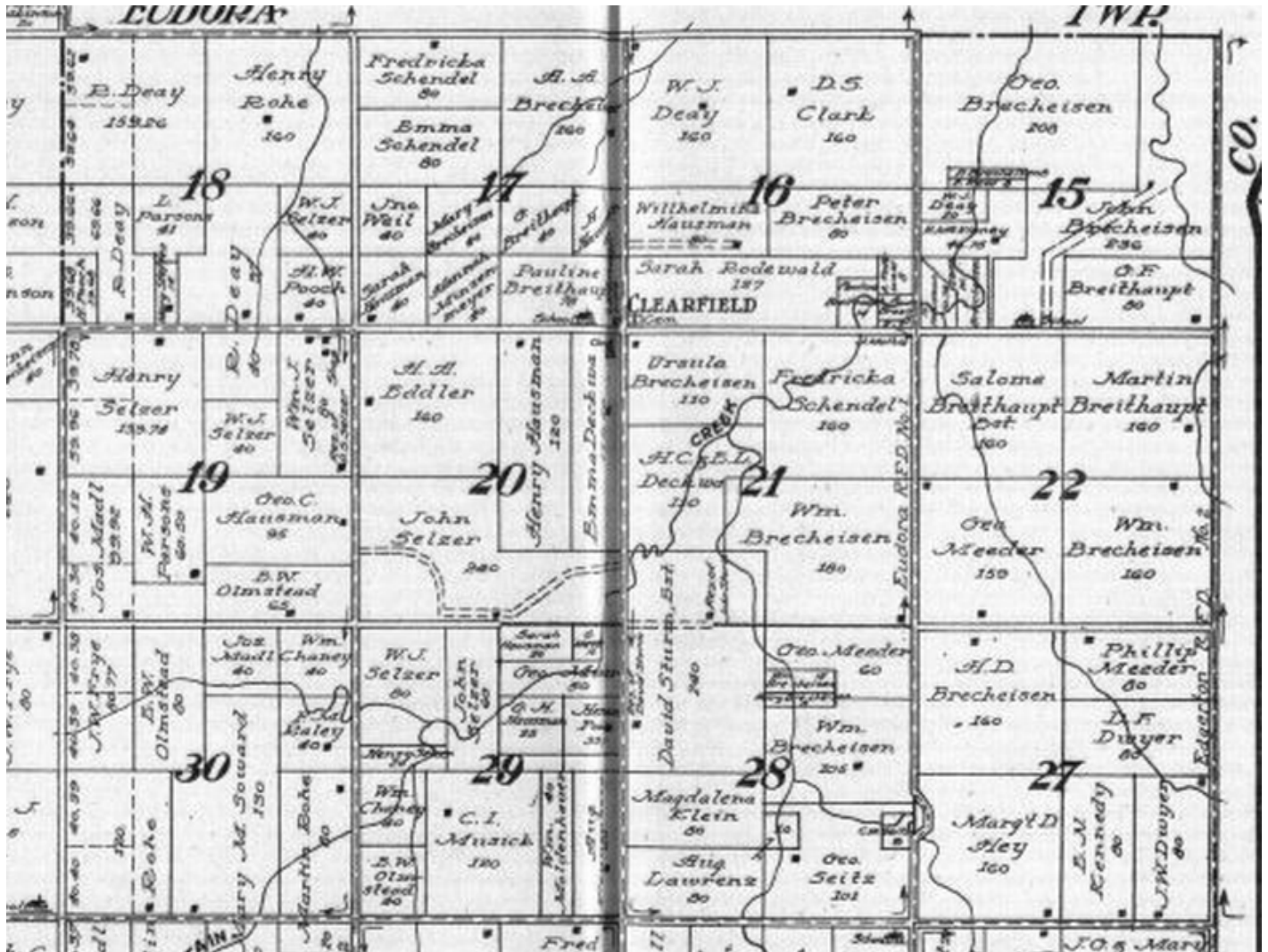


Figure 7: Historic Photograph, front elevation, approximately 1903.



Figure 8: East of current location during move in 1908

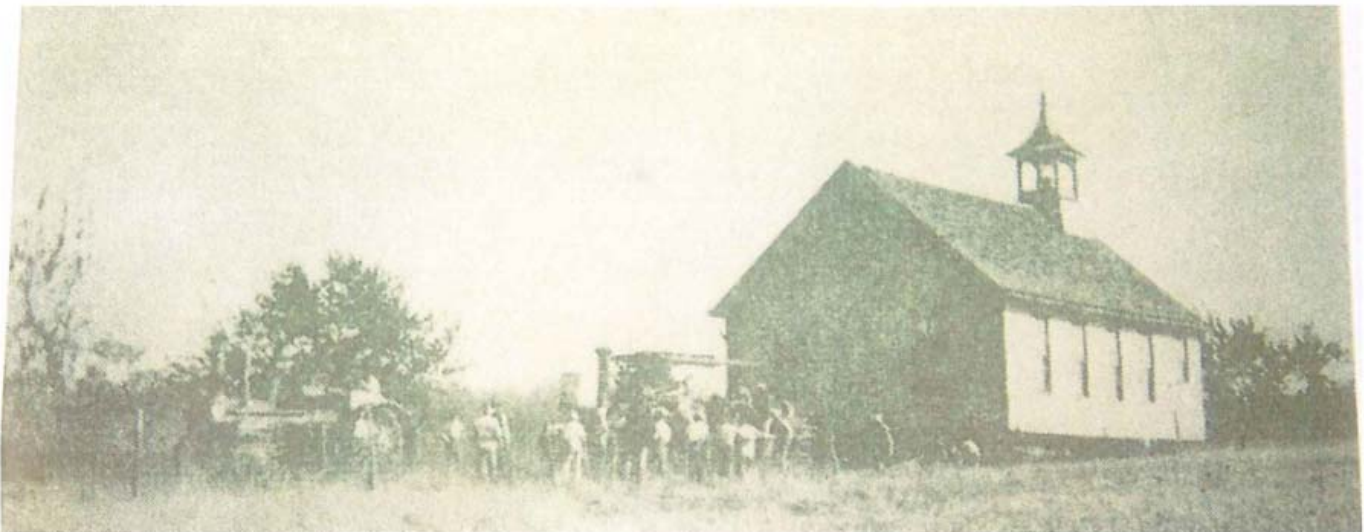


Figure 9: East elevation looking West shortly after move 1908.

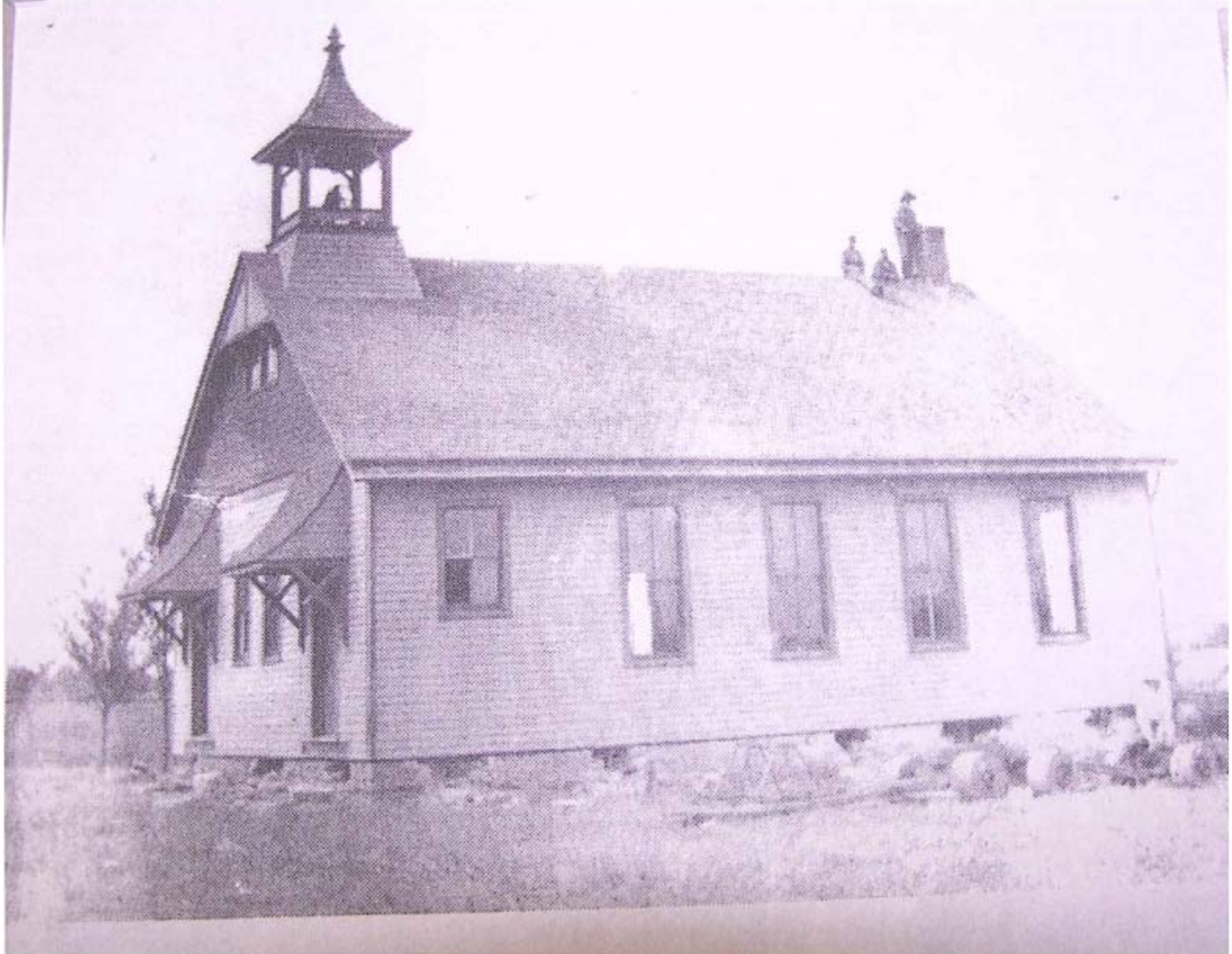


Figure 10: Sketch by Goldie Daniels Piper, 1976. p50.

