

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: Lakeview School

Other names/site number: Northside Middle School, Brookland-Lakeview Empowerment Center

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: 1218 Batchelor Street

City or town: West Columbia State: SC County: Lexington

Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

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 C D

Elizabeth M. Johnson

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Elizabeth M. Johnson, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

1/30/2023

Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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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.)

Private: ☒

Public – Local ☐

Public – State ☐

Public – Federal ☐

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s) ☒

District ☐

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Site ☐

Structure ☐

Object ☐

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u>2</u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Education/School

Recreation and Culture/Auditorium

Recreation and Culture/Gymnasium

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other/Community and Empowerment Center

Education

Social/Meeting Hall

Recreation and Culture

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Colonial Revival

Modern Movement

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Masonry, cast concrete, glass, steel

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.)

Summary Paragraph

Built in 1949 as a modern replacement for its antiquated, wood-frame predecessor, Lakeview School served African American students from primarily Lexington and Calhoun counties until it was closed in 1969 and renovated for use as an integrated middle school. During its operation in the historically Black, West Columbia community popularly referred to as “Happy Town” and “Sugar Town,” Lakeview grew beyond its original form and shape through additions funded under the state’s equalization school program that was designed to stave off integration efforts in the 1950s and 1960s.¹ Between 1952 and 1964, the school grew through enlargements to its 1949 administration and classroom building and through the construction of a free-standing gymnasium building in 1961—additions whose architectural austerity and masonry, steel, concrete, and glass composition reflected prevailing post-World War II interest in efficiency and durability. A cafeteria/kitchen building was constructed in 1970, and further additions were made to the school in 1969, 1975, and 1986. Despite some later additions and the loss of its original glass block and steel-framed ribbon windows, Lakeview School nonetheless retains much of its historic character.

¹ “South Carolina’s Equalization Schools 1951-1960,” <http://www.scequalizationschools.org/>, accessed February 7, 2022; “A Guide for School Architects and School Administrators Dealing with School Plants,” Education Finance Commission, Governor James F. Byrnes Papers, South Carolina Department of Archives and History. South Carolina’s school equalization program did not officially begin until 1951 (with the first schools erected in 1952). However, the philosophical foundation behind the state-sponsored segregation initiative had been laid years earlier and was a nationally debated topic at the time the all-white Lexington County school district board committed public funds to build a new Lakeview High School following a largely standard facility format for its Black and white students.

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Narrative Description

Site

Situated on a 9.12-acre campus, the Lakeview School campus is the product of nine building episodes (1949, 1952, 1956, 1959, 1961, 1964, 1969, 1975, 1986) that reflect the facility's growth from a segregated high school and elementary school for Black students into an integrated middle school.² The school is situated on a large rectangular lot, with an athletic field, on the north end and the three buildings to the south. Basketball and tennis courts were historically located in the northeast corner of the lot but were demolished between March 2021 and September 2022.³ There is also a parking lot to the east of the school along North Street and a semi-oval front drive with a connected parking lot to the south along Batchelor Street. The existing campus contains three buildings: the high school building (1949-1986), the gymnasium (1961), both contributing, and the non-contributing cafeteria & kitchen building (1970, c. 2012). The existing plan of the high school building is irregular but generally L-shaped, fronting both Batchelor and Senn streets. The gymnasium is oriented east toward North Street, while the cafeteria & kitchen building is located behind the high school building, to the northwest of the original 1949 section.

Integrity

Despite the infill of its historic windows and additions made to the campus after the period of significance, Lakeview School retains historic integrity and is able to convey its significance under Criterion A in the areas of Education and Ethnic Heritage: Black. The location of Lakeview School remains unchanged and no buildings have been moved to or from the campus. The setting is also largely intact, with small, one-story residential housing to the north, west, and southeast, and commercial and light industrial properties to the south and west along Jarvis Klapman Boulevard (SC Highway 12) and North 12th Street, respectively. A large apartment complex, present by 1955, stands a block away to the south off of Batchelor Street. The building which houses the Palmetto Grand Lodge (a Black fraternal organization) was constructed directly across the street from the school to the south between 1955 and 1971. Most of the residential development in the immediate vicinity was present by 1955, with an expanded commercial and light industrial presence in the area by 1971.⁴ While some buildings have been updated or newly constructed in the area after 1968, the overall setting remains intact. The school retains integrity of materials. Although the original windows are lost, the red brick which characterizes the exterior remains. Window infill is a very common alteration to equalization schools in South Carolina. Some interior materials have been replaced over time, most notably ceiling and floor finishes. However, the school retains original interior finishes and features in many spaces, including painted brick, painted concrete block, bathroom tile and fixtures, chalkboards, and doors. The extant original materials also demonstrate the school building's original mid-century workmanship.

² Lakeview School Construction History Schematic, Lakeview High School/BLEC Archive; Rebekah Dobrasko, "Equalization Schools in South Carolina, 1951-1959."

<http://nationalregister.sc.gov/SurveyReports/EqualizationSchoolsHistoricContext.pdf>

³ Based on Google Street View imagery, <https://goo.gl/maps/m3ZJafYETwqgiMPYA>.

⁴ Historicaerials.com

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The school's integrity of design is negatively impacted by changes to the fenestration and the post-1968 additions to the front of the main school at its southwest corner. However, many key design features of the school are still extant and evident. The original 1949 section of the main building has an altered fenestration pattern on the front façade, but retains its original red brick exterior, T-shaped plan, hipped roof with four gables, recessed front entry, and interior floorplan. Likewise, the additions to the main building made in 1952, 1956, 1959, and 1964, as well as the 1961 gym also retain their red brick exteriors, flat roofs, and interior floorplans. In many places the outline of window openings on the exteriors of the additions are still evident. The 1961 gym also retains its original design, as the building has undergone very little change since its construction, apart from the replacement of its windows with opaque panels. With the exception of two additions to the front of the 1952 addition, other additions outside the period of significance minimally impact the design of the campus. The 1986 addition to the northern end of the 1964 addition is of the same size, scale, and materials as the addition it is connected to and is at the rear of the school building. The one-story 1970 cafeteria is a separate building and was constructed in the courtyard created by the 1949 and 1952 building phases, obscuring it from view. The cafeteria building likewise matches the size, scale, and materials of the earlier construction phases. The impact of the 1969 entrance and 1975 library/media center (both one-story) should not be discounted, as it effectively obscured the front façade of the 1952 addition, though the consistent use of red brick provides some continuity of design with the older sections of the building.

Lakeview School retains integrity of both feeling and association. Despite the previously noted alterations, the campus is clearly recognizable when compared with historic images. The retention of the interior layouts, as well as some features and finishes, are indicative of the property's original use as a school. The gym building likewise is still a gymnasium and has changed very little since its construction. The campus continued to be used as a school until 1998, and its current use as a community center allows many spaces to continue to be used for education and recreational purposes, as they were historically. The low, horizontal profile of the building and its somewhat sprawling plan are typical of equalization schools in South Carolina and evoke the midcentury period in which Lakeview School developed.

Contributing Resources

1a – High School Building (1949)

Designed by West Columbia-based architect Jesse W. Wessinger, Lakeview School began as a one-story, "T"-shaped, solid masonry building featuring uniform-colored, smooth, red brick laid in a common bond. Eight classrooms (four on each side of a central hallway), an administrative office, one storage room, and two bathrooms formed the horizontal bar of the "T." An auditorium, which projected northward from the center of the horizontal section, formed the vertical bar of the "T."⁵ The building's floorplan reads as it did originally. Although each of the building's elevations has received varying degrees of infill to their window openings, the original

⁵ Lakeview School, Lexington County (SC), 1949, Jesse Wessinger, West Columbia, SC; South Carolina Aerial Photograph Indexes, 1937-1989, University of South Carolina, Columbia.
<https://digital.tcl.sc.edu/digital/collection/scai/id/1935/rec/3;>

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rhythm of the fenestration is discernible. As it was originally, the building's hipped roof is clad in composite shingles and retains triangular, louvered vents, although now clad in aluminum trim. The building's minor soffit features a metal gutter with tubular metal downspouts.

The south, or front, elevation of the building is comprised of thirteen bays. Reading from west to east, bays one, four, ten, and thirteen feature a slab door with a single-lite window set within a field of brick that has infilled the original window openings. The south elevation's original fenestration involved eight bays with bays two, three, six, and seven featuring double-hung, steel-framed, six-lite windows that provided ample daylight and ventilation to their respective classrooms. A corrugated metal canopy suspended by two diagonal supports hangs above the doors in bays one, four, and thirteen. Bays two, five, eight, and twelve each feature an anodized, metal-frame one-over-one window, surmounted by an opaque panel set within the same metal framework, all installed within a field of brick infill. Bays three, six, nine, and eleven each feature two rectangular, metal HVAC vents installed within a field of brick infill. The higher of the two vents is smaller and louvered, and is located underneath the roofline, below the soffit, whereas the larger vent is located above the soldier-coursed brick water table. Bay seven contains the building's main entrance and features slab double doors with a single, vertical lite window. A transom, composed of eighteen square windowpanes, is located above the entrance, which is slightly recessed from the façade of the building and features a concrete stoop.⁶

One half of the original west end of the 1949 school was concealed in 1952 with the construction of a masonry wing for the accommodation of Lakeview Elementary School. The remaining half was concealed in 1969 with the construction of a new office space. However, the longer west elevation, or the shaft of the "T" reads, from north to south, as follows: bays one and two both feature brick-infilled former vertical window openings; bay three features a single, metal slab door installed within a partially brick-infilled window opening that is protected by a corrugated metal canopy that replaced a former gabled canopy, whose removal left ghost marks; bays four through seven all feature double-hung, one-over-one-lite sashes, surmounted by an opaque panel, all within an anodized metal frame that is flanked by smooth brick infill which was the result of placing a modern window within a wider, historic window opening. Five tubular metal downspouts drain an extruded metal gutter.

The north, or rear, elevation of the building is comprised of three sections: the west horizontal arm of the "T"; the middle section, or the short end of the "T"'s vertical shaft; and the east horizontal arm of the "T." Combined, these sections feature four bays. The western section's bays, reading east to west, are as follows: bays one and three both feature an infilled brick window opening with two rectangular, metal HVAC vents. The higher of the two vents, which is smaller and louvered, is in the uppermost portion of the brick infill, whereas the larger vent is located below the brick infill, virtually contiguous to the ground. A one-over-one-lite sash, surmounted by an opaque panel, all within an anodized metal frame flanks the vents to the west. Bays two and four feature infilled masonry into which a slab door with a single-lite window protected by a corrugated metal canopy and suspended by two diagonal supports has been installed.

⁶ Lakeview School, Lexington County (SC), 1949, Jesse Wessinger, West Columbia, SC.

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The north elevation's middle section bays read as follows: bay one features a small square of infilled brick; bay two features a small, horizontal, metal louvered vent located contiguous to the frieze, and a single, metal slab door set within a former large window opening that has been infilled with brick; bay three features a brick-infilled former vertical window opening. An aluminum gutter is drained by two downspouts, which are located between bays one and two and in bay three.

The north elevation's eastern section bays, reading east to west, are as follows: bay one features a one-over-one-lite slab door placed within a brick-infilled window opening, protected by a corrugated metal canopy; bay two features a one-over-one-lite sash, surmounted by an opaque panel, all within an anodized metal frame that is flanked by smooth brick infill and field of brick infill pierced by a small HVAC vent near the soffit and a ground-mounted HVAC unit; bay three features a single, metal slab door installed within a partially brick-infilled window opening, protected by a corrugated metal canopy, and a one-over-one-lite sash, surmounted by an opaque panel, all within an anodized metal frame; and bay four features a brick-infilled window opening, a ground-mounted HVAC unit, and a large electrical breaker box.

The original east end of the 1949 school building was concealed in 1956 with the construction of a masonry wing addition containing spaces for home economics, vocational classes, and music. However, the long portion of the east elevation, or the shaft of the "T," reads, from south to north, as follows: bays one through three feature a one-over-one-lite sash, surmounted by an opaque panel, all within an anodized metal frame that is flanked by smooth brick infill and field of brick infill which was the result of placing a modern window within a wider, historic window opening. Bay four features a metal slab door installed within a partially brick-infilled window opening, protected by a corrugated metal canopied breezeway supported by rectangular posts and steel I-beams. The elevation's original, northernmost bays were obscured in 1956 with the addition of a four-bay-deep locker room on the northeast corner of the original 1949 building.

1b – Elementary School Addition (1952)⁷

In 1952, a Modern, one-story, L-shaped masonry wing was added to the 1949 building, engaging one half of the 1949 building's west end.⁸ Two later additions—a square-shaped media center on the façade's westernmost aspect from 1975 and a new entrance on its eastern section from 1969—obscured much of the 1952 addition's façade, or south elevation.⁹ With these later additions, the south elevation went from featuring a thirteen-bay layout to an eleven-bay configuration.

⁷ Identified in blueprints as Lakeview School (West Wing Addition) – see citation below.

⁸ Lakeview School (West Wing Addition), Brookland-Cayce School District No. 2, Jessie W. Wessinger, Architect, West Columbia, April 1952; Jimmy Price Photograph Collection, "Colonial Hites Company, West Columbia Aerial with Pond, November 22, 1959," Richland Library, Walker Local and Family History Center <https://localhistory.richlandlibrary.com/digital/collection/p16817coll2/id/187/rec/5>.

⁹ Northside Middle School (Office Addition), Lexington County School District No. 2, S.C., Wessinger & Drafts Architects, West Columbia, March 1969; Northside Middle School (Library Addition), Lexington County School District No. 2, S.C., Drafts & Jumper Architects, West Columbia, August 1975.

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Today, the south elevation reads from west to east as follows: bays one through three all feature one-over-one-lite, aluminum-framed windows set within recessed, slender, cast-concrete panels that punctuate the elevations' red brick walls. A heavy frieze made of cast concrete crowns the addition's flat roofline. Bays one through three project to the south from the remaining aspects of the addition. Bays four and five retain their original depth and a more delicate frieze from 1952; however, both bays have been modified with their former window openings infilled with nearly matching red brick. Bay four's opening features a large, rectangular HVAC vent at its foundation while bay five's opening features a slab door with a single lite and a corrugated metal canopy supported by two tubular bars. A large, aluminum conductor box and tubular downspout are located to the east of the doorway. Bays six through ten all feature two-over-two-lite, aluminum-framed windows set within recessed, slender, cast-concrete panels that punctuate the elevations' red brick walls. A frieze like that adorning bays one through three crowns the building's flat roofline above bays six through eleven. Bay eleven features a recessed entrance comprised of double, single-lite doors surrounded by seven fixed, storefront windows. The entrance is emphasized through a large cast-concrete panel that steps slightly from the frieze and hangs above the alcove.

Like the south elevation, the wing's west elevation has been modified primarily through the removal of its ribbon and glass-block windows. Reading north to south, the elevation's ten bays appear as follows: bays one, three, five, and seven all feature infilled brick window openings and two rectangular, metal HVAC vents. The higher of the two vents is smaller and louvered and is located within the center of the uppermost portion of the brick infill, whereas the larger vent is located below the brick infill, virtually contiguous to the ground. Bays two, four, six, and eight all feature partially infilled brick window openings that have received an anodized, metal-frame window with one-over-one lite, surmounted by an opaque panel set within the same metal framework and a single-lite, metal slab door protected by a corrugated metal awning, suspended with two tubular rods. Five metal conductor boxes and tubular downspouts drain the flat roof, which is concealed by low, cast-concrete coping partially covered by an aluminum cap. Bay nine features a recessed pedestrian entrance, accented by original pre-cast, concrete trim, and comprised of double, slab doors, both with a single, vertical lite, surmounted by a single, horizontal-paned transom. The remaining facet of the 1952 addition's east elevation was obscured by the 1975 library addition.¹⁰

The 1952 addition's east elevation features ten bays of unpainted red brick with pre-cast concrete flat coping that matches that of the west elevation. Reading south to north, bays one, three, five, six, seven, and ten feature a single one-over-one-lite vertically oriented window. Bay two features a double slab door pedestrian entrance with vertical lites that is connected to the 1949 building via a breezeway. Bay four features a one-lite, slab door protected by a flat, concrete canopy. Bays five and nine also feature a surface-mounted HVAC system. Bay eight features a vertical window opening modified with a one-lite, metal slab door protected by a concrete canopy. Three metal conductor boxes and tubular downspouts drain the flat roof, which is concealed by low, cast-concrete coping partially covered by an aluminum cap.

¹⁰ Lakeview School (West Wing Addition), Brookland-Cayce School District No. 2, Jessie W. Wessinger, Architect, West Columbia, April 1952.

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The smaller of the two north elevations of the 1952 addition was obscured with the construction of further classrooms in 1959. However, the larger of the two north elevations remains present, albeit with modifications to its original appearance. This aspect features seven bays of unpainted red brick with pre-cast concrete coping matching that of the east and west elevations. Reading east to west, bay one features a recessed pedestrian entrance comprised of double, slab doors. Bay two features a one-lite slab door, protected by a corrugated metal canopy, and a one-over-one-lite vertical window. Bay three features an HVAC unit, infilled HVAC grate opening, and infilled window opening. Bay four features an infilled window opening with an infilled HVAC grate opening, and a one-lite, slab door with a PVC-covered, pressure-treated four-by-four post with aluminum handrail (leading into what today is the Lakeview Museum Room). Bay five features an infilled window opening onto which a surface-mounted HVAC system has been installed. Bay six features a one-over-one-lite window and a one-lite, slab door with a corrugated aluminum canopy. Bay seven features an infilled window opening with double slab doors protected by a cast-concrete canopy. Four metal conductor boxes and tubular downspouts drain the flat roof, which is concealed by low, cast-concrete coping partially covered by an aluminum cap.

1c – High School Addition (1956)

In 1956, West Columbia architect Jessie W. Wessinger designed a Modern, one-story, L-shaped, masonry addition dedicated to arts-related classes.¹¹ Added to the east elevation of the original school building, the wing features striated red bricks laid in a common bond pattern.

The addition's front, or south, elevation features seven bays and pre-cast concrete flat coping that conceals a flat roofline. Reading west to east, bay one features a recessed pedestrian entrance, comprised of double slab doors both featuring a one-lite vertical pane, surmounted by a single, horizontal-paned transom. Bay two features a one-lite, metal slab door protected by a corrugated canopy suspended by two tubular supports, set within a field of brick infill that offers a ghost of the original window opening dimensions.¹² Bay three features an infilled brick window opening and two rectangular, metal HVAC vents. The higher of the two vents is smaller and louvered and is located within the center of the uppermost portion of the brick infill, whereas the larger vent is located below the brick infill, virtually contiguous to the ground. A surface-mounted HVAC system is located between the vents. Bay four features one anodized, metal-frame window with one-over-one lite, surmounted by an opaque panel set within a field of brick infill. Bay five features a completely infilled window opening with no other characteristics. Bay six features an infilled brick window opening and a rectangular, metal HVAC vent located within the center of

¹¹ Lakeview School (East Wing Addition), Brookland-Cayce School District No. 2, Jessie W. Wessinger, Architect, West Columbia, May 1956; Jimmy Price Photograph Collection, "Colonial Hites Company, West Columbia Aerial with Pond, November 22, 1959," Richland Library, Walker Local and Family History Center <https://localhistory.richlandlibrary.com/digital/collection/p16817coll2/id/187/rec/5>. The masonry arts wing included spaces dedicated to shop classes, music and band practice, two home economics classes, a science lab, and toilet facilities for boys and girls, in addition to offices and storage rooms.

¹² Lakeview School (East Wing Addition), Brookland-Cayce School District No. 2, Jessie W. Wessinger, Architect, West Columbia, May 1956. While masonry infill has replaced the building's original window treatment, the original dimensions of the building's window openings remain obvious due to the slight difference in brick color. This is applicable throughout all of the school's various erected during the period of significance.

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the uppermost portion of the brick infill. The location of a larger vent, once located below the brick infill like the arrangement found in bay three, has been covered with a brick-patterned board. A surface-mounted HVAC system is located between the vent and the board. Bay seven features one anodized, metal-frame window with one-over-one lite, surmounted by an opaque panel set within a field of brick infill and a metal, one-lite, slab door, accessed via a four-step concrete stoop with tubular steel handrail and protected by a corrugated metal canopy.

The addition's west elevation features five bays that read from north to south as follows: bays one and three contain a single one-over-one-lite horizontal windows; bay two features a brick-infilled square that once housed a fan vent; bay four features the remnants of a double-doored furnace room entrance protected by a flat, reinforced-concrete canopy; bay five, which is recessed from the other bays, features a double-door pedestrian entrance with vertical lites surmounted by a single-paned, horizontal transom, and protected by a flat, reinforced-concrete canopy that extends the width of the bay. Three tubular downspouts drain the extruded aluminum gutter.

The addition's east elevation features unpainted red brick with pre-cast concrete windowsills and pre-cast concrete flat coping matching that of the south elevation. Modifications to this elevation, including the infilling of window openings, have reduced the original number of bays from thirteen to seven. Reading south to north, bay one features a recessed double-slab door entrance; bays two and four contain a single one-over-one-lite horizontal window; bay three features a single, glazed slab door accessed via a concrete stoop with tubular steel handrails; bays five and seven feature a single one-over-one-lite horizontal window; and bay six features two HVAC vents.

The addition's north elevation reads, east to west, as follows: Bay one features double slab doors protected by a precast-concrete canopy. Bays two and six feature an anodized metal, one-over-one-lite horizontal window surmounted by an opaque panel. Bay three features an infilled vertical window opening. Bay four features a window opening that has been infilled with a panel into which a vent has been installed and over which a horizontal one-lite window is located. Bay five features a single, metal slab door protected by a canopy with a composite shingle shed roof, above which is ghosting from the infilling of a taller window opening. Bay seven features a square-shaped section of brick infill. Two tubular downspouts drain an extruded metal gutter.

1d – Locker Room Addition (1956)

In 1956, the school district erected a Wessinger-designed, one-story, predominantly rectangular-shaped, masonry locker room that engaged the northeast corner of the original school building.¹³ The addition features striated red bricks laid in a common bond pattern.

¹³ Lakeview School (East Wing Addition), Brookland-Cayce School District No. 2, Jessie W. Wessinger, Architect, West Columbia, May 1956; Jimmy Price Photograph Collection, "Colonial Hites Company, West Columbia Aerial with Pond, November 22, 1959," Richland Library, Walker Local and Family History Center <https://localhistory.richlandlibrary.com/digital/collection/p16817coll2/id/187/rec/5>. The masonry arts wing included spaces dedicated to shop classes, music and band practice, two home economics classes, a science lab, and toilet facilities for boys and girls, in addition to offices and storage rooms.

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The addition's south elevation features four bays that, from west to east, read as follows: bay one contains a single slab door, with three-horizontal-lite glazing, set within an alcove; bays two and four feature brick-infilled rectangular window openings, and bay three features the same type of infill but with a plywood patch, suggesting the infilled section may have contained an HVAC window unit. Three tubular downspouts drain an extruded metal gutter. The east elevation of the locker room addition features four bays, that read from south to north as follows: bays one, three, and four all feature brick-infilled rectangular window openings, and bay two features a metal slab door covered by a corrugated metal awning, suspended with two tubular rods. Two tubular downspouts drain an extruded metal gutter.

The addition's west elevation is comprised of one bay, which features a single two-over-two-lite horizontal window and an extruded aluminum gutter with no downspout. The addition's north elevation, from east to west, reads as follows: bay one features an infilled window; bay two features an infilled window with louvered metal vent; bay three features a recessed entrance with a single slab door and a large, circular fire alarm. Two tubular downspouts drain the metal gutter. The addition's east elevation, from south to north, reads as follows: bays one three, four, and five two feature masonry infilled window openings. Bay two features an infilled window opening into which an entry with a slab door has been located.

A hyphen, which connects the locker room addition to the gymnasium, features a south elevation consisting of brick infill in its first bay and double doors with square, single lites in its second bay. The hyphen's east elevation features a large, horizontal field of brick infill where a window opening originally was located. The south elevation of the hyphen, reading west to east, features a field of uninterrupted masonry in the first bay. The second bay, which is offset to the north by a depth of two bricks, features a single, louvered metal door.

1e – Classroom Addition (1959)

In September 1959, Wessinger and Drafts, Associate Architects, designed a four-classroom addition that was attached to the short northern section of the existing 1952 elementary school building.¹⁴

The addition's west elevation, from north to south, reads as follows: Bay one features a completely infilled, rectangular, window opening that originally provided daylight to a boys' restroom. All subsequent bays align with the western elevation of the 1952 elementary school addition. Bays two and four feature a completely infilled former rectangular window opening into which a rectangular, louvered HVAC intake vent has been installed. A large, rectangular HVAC exhaust vent, located beneath the infilled window opening. Bays three and five feature partially infilled brick window openings that have received an anodized, metal-frame window with one-over-one lite, surmounted by an opaque panel set within the same metal framework, and a single-lite, metal slab door protected by a corrugated metal awning, suspended with two tubular rods. Both classroom entries feature a concrete stoop. Four tubular downspouts drain the

¹⁴ Addition to Lakeview School, Brookland-Cayce Schools, Lexington County Dist. No. 2, S.C. Wessinger and Drafts, Associate Architects, West Columbia, S.C., September 1959.

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extruded aluminum gutter.¹⁵ The north elevation of the 1959 classroom building addition was obscured following the construction of the four-classroom addition in 1964.¹⁶

The 1959 classroom addition's east elevation consists of five bays, which, when reading south to north, are as follows: bays one and three feature a partially brick-infilled window opening onto which a surface-mounted HVAC system has been installed. Below the HVAC system is a rectangular wood-infilled area where an earlier HVAC exhaust fan was located after the original window opening was initially infilled and before the existing HVAC system was installed. Above the HVAC system is a rectangular, louvered HVAC intake vent. Bays two and four feature partially infilled brick window openings that have received an anodized, metal-frame window with one-over-one lite, surmounted by an opaque panel set within the same metal framework, and a single-lite, metal slab door protected by a corrugated metal awning, suspended with two tubular rods. Both classroom entries feature a concrete stoop. Bay five features a completely infilled, rectangular window opening that originally provided daylight to a girls' restroom. Four tubular downspouts drain the extruded aluminum gutter.¹⁷

1f – Classroom Addition (1964)

In February 1964, Wessinger and Drafts, Associate Architects, designed a four-classroom addition of red, striated brick that was added to the northern elevation of the 1959 classroom building as part of a \$100,000 improvement project for Lakeview's existing facilities.¹⁸

The addition's west elevation reads, from north to south, as follows: bays one and four feature a one-over-one-lite, metal-framed window surmounted by an opaque, rectangular panel that has been inserted into a partially brick-infilled window opening. Bay two features a partially brick-infilled window opening onto which a surface-mounted HVAC system has been installed. Below the HVAC system is a rectangular wood-infilled area where an earlier HVAC exhaust fan was located after the original window opening was initially infilled and before the existing HVAC system was installed. Above the HVAC system is a rectangular, louvered HVAC intake vent. Bays three and six feature a partially infilled window opening into which a metal slab door with a single-paned window has been installed. Both classroom entries feature a corrugated metal canopy and a concrete stoop. Bay five features a fully infilled window opening into which a louvered HVAC intake vent identical to that found in bay two. However, unlike bay two, bay five retains its large, rectangular HVAC exhaust vent, located beneath the infilled window opening. Bay six steps back, to the east, by several feet and features an entryway consisting of double doors featuring a single, inset panel surmounted by two, stacked former windows whose glass has been placed with a solid panel. A small, square louvered vent is located above the

¹⁵ The west elevation of the 1959 one-story masonry addition originally featured unpainted red brick with brick windowsills and a gutter system in lieu of the cast-concrete coping-topped roofline.

¹⁶ Before it was obscured through the construction of the 1964 classroom building addition, the 1959 one-story masonry addition originally featured a rear, or north, elevation comprised of five bays.

¹⁷ The east elevation of the 1959 one-story masonry addition originally featured unpainted red brick with brick windowsills and a gutter system in lieu of the cast-concrete coping-topped roofline.

¹⁸ Addition to Lakeview School, Brookland-Cayce Schools, Lexington County Dist. No. 2, S.C. Wessinger and Drafts, Associate Architects, West Columbia, S.C., February 1964.

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doors. Bay seven features a completely infilled window opening that originally provided daylight to a boys' restroom. Four tubular downspouts drain the extruded aluminum gutter.

The north elevation of the 1964 classroom building addition was obscured following the construction of another four-classroom addition in 1986. The addition's east elevation reads, from south to north, as follows: Bay one features a completely infilled window opening that originally provided daylight to a girls' restroom. Bay two features a recessed doorway comprised of a single-pane transom surmounting two slab doors with single, vertical lites. Bays three and six feature a one-over-one-lite, metal framed window surmounted by an opaque, rectangular panel that has been inserted into a partially brick-infilled window opening. Bays four and seven feature a partially brick-infilled window opening onto which a surface-mounted HVAC system has been installed. Below the HVAC system is a rectangular wood-infilled area where an earlier HVAC exhaust fan was located after the original window opening was initially infilled and before the existing HVAC system was installed. Above the HVAC system is a rectangular, louvered HVAC intake vent. Bays five and eight feature a partially infilled window opening into which a metal slab door with a single-paned window has been installed. Both classroom entries feature a corrugated metal canopy and a concrete stoop. Four tubular downspouts drain the extruded aluminum gutter.

1g – Classroom Addition (1986)

In 1986, Lakeview, then known as Northside Middle School, received a one-story, flat-roof, masonry, four-classroom addition to the 1964 classroom addition's north elevation, following plans by Drafts and Jumper Architects of West Columbia.¹⁹

The 1986 addition's west elevation reads, from north to south, as follows: bays one, three, four, and six feature anodized metal sash, one-over-one-lite windows. Bays two and five feature a large, rectangular HVAC exhaust vent located close to the slab foundation. Two downspouts drain the elevation's aluminum gutter. The addition's north elevation features a recessed entry, comprised double-doors with rectangular, single lites, surmounted by a single-lite transom. Two downspouts drain the elevation's aluminum gutter. The east elevation of the addition reads, from south to north, as follows: bays one, three, four, and six feature anodized metal sash, one-over-one-lite windows. Bays two and five feature a large, rectangular wood patch where an HVAC exhaust vent was formerly located very close to the slab foundation. A surface-mounted HVAC system partially obscures the rectangular patches. Two downspouts drain the elevation's aluminum gutter.

1h – Entrance Addition (1969)

The 1969 entrance was constructed along the south elevation of the 1952 addition, obscuring a large portion of the front of the earlier addition.²⁰ It projects slightly from the main plane of the

¹⁹ "Invitation to Bid," *The State*, May 4, 1986, p. 24H; Site Development Plans for Northside Middle School, Lexington School District No. 2, West Columbia, S.C., Drafts and Jumper Architects, West Columbia, S.C. November 1978. This addition replaced three portable units that were on site from at least November 1978.

²⁰ Northside Middle School (Office Addition), Lexington County School District No. 2, S.C., Wessinger & Drafts Architects, West Columbia, March 1969; Northside Middle School (Library Addition), Lexington County School District No. 2, S.C., Drafts & Jumper Architects, West Columbia, August 1975.

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original 1949 building, which it intersects with at the addition's east end. The addition is constructed of red brick with a cast-concrete frieze and features five bays of two-over-two, aluminum-framed windows set high within recessed, slender, cast-concrete panels. The sixth bay, at the far east end, features a deeply recessed entrance. The entrance features a modern storefront system, with double-doors surrounded by large plate-glass windows.

1i – Media Center (Library) Addition (1975)

The 1975 addition was constructed for a new media center/library. The design of this addition closely follows that of the new entrance added just to its east in 1969. The façade, or south elevation, is comprised of three bays that all feature one-over-one-lite, aluminum-framed windows set low within recessed, slender, cast-concrete panels that punctuate the elevations' red brick walls. A heavy, cast-concrete frieze adorns the addition's flat roofline. The addition's east elevation features a single slab door set within an otherwise uninterrupted brick wall. The addition's west elevation features a single one-over-one-lite, aluminum-framed window set within a recessed, slender, cast-concrete panel.

2 – Gymnasium Building (1961)

In late 1961, Wessinger designed a free-standing, 11,700-square-foot, masonry-veneered gymnasium that the general contracting firm of J.A. Metze and Sons completed by June 1962.²¹

The east, or front, elevation features two sections. The first is a one-story, three-bay-wide, entrance section that projects from the main body of the gym to the west. Bays one and three of the entrance are made of fields of uninterrupted red brick. Bay two is comprised of a large, horizontal entrance, accessed via a wide staircase made up of six concrete stairs with tubular metal handrails. A large, retracting garage-style, metal door provides security to the entrance when not in use. Rainwater is managed through a square, extruded aluminum gutter system that runs the length of the elevation and is drained by three downspouts of the same shape. The second section of the elevation—that of the main body of the gym, features three bays created by the placement of four downspouts that frame the section. Reading from south to north, bay one features a vertically oriented vent with horizontal louvers. On each of the three bays, plates and bolts from the ends of seismic rods are present.

The gymnasium's south elevation features eight bays, which, reading from west to east, appear as follows: bay one features a vertically oriented louvered vent in its second story, as its first story features the engaged hyphen, which also engages the first stories of bays two and three. Bay two's second story is comprised of a bank of opaque panels: two vertically oriented rectangles surmounted by square panels of the same width suggesting these replaced original windows.²² Bay three's second story features a bank of four of the same squares and rectangles,

²¹ J.W. Wessinger to W.B. Southerlin, letter, June 7, 1962, Department of Education Project Files – S152053 – Box 2, South Carolina Department of Archives and History; "Gymnasium Bids Being Received by B-C Trustees," *The Columbia Record*, August 18, 1961, p. 2B; "Columbia Day-By-Day," *The State*, September 21, 1961, p. 4C.

²² *Lakeview High School Tiger*, 1963 & 1968. The Walker Local and Family History Center, Digital Collections, Richland Library. <https://localhistory.richlandlibrary.com/digital/collection/p16817coll18/id/17483>
<https://localhistory.richlandlibrary.com/digital/collection/p16817coll18/id/18317> Yearbook pictures of basketball games illustrate the gymnasium's original appearance.

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again suggesting these replaced original windows. Bays four through seven share the same fenestration as bay three, however, bays four, five and seven all feature a two-story-tall, metal HVAC supply duct the width of two vertical panels. Bay six is devoid of any ductwork. Bay eight features the same vertically oriented louvered vent in its second story as that found in bay one. Rainwater is managed through a square, extruded aluminum gutter system that runs the length of the elevation and is drained by six downspouts of the same shape.

The gymnasium's west elevation features two distinct aspects: the two-story body of the main gymnasium and an irregular, first story whose elevation is more complex. Reading north to south, the first story reads as follows: bay one features a single, metal slab door, slightly recessed. Bay two, stepped back, to the east, features a completely infilled rectangular window opening resulting in an uninterrupted expanse of masonry onto which a single gutter downspout has been mounted. Bay three protrudes to the west and features a solitary gutter downspout that bisects its otherwise uninterrupted masonry expanse. Bay four features a one-over-one, horizontal-lite window that has been placed into a formerly larger rectangular window opening. Bay five features a completely infilled window opening of the same proportions as that of bay four. Reading north to south, the two-story aspect of the gymnasium features five bays that appear as follows: bay one features a large, cast-concrete coped chimney. Bays two through five feature bays plates and bolts from the ends of seismic rods. Bay two also features a vertically oriented louvered vent. Rainwater is managed through a square, extruded aluminum gutter system that runs the length of the elevation and is drained by six downspouts of the same shape.

The north elevation of the gymnasium features eight bays. Reading east to west, the bays read as follows: bays one and seven feature are two-stories tall with a vertically oriented louvered vent located in their second story. The first story of bay one is devoid of any opening; however, bay seven's features a single slab door entrance accessed by a ramp and covered by a shed-roof canopy. Bays two through six all feature first stories devoid of openings or ornamentation and second stories comprised of banks of four rectangles surmounted by squares of the same widths, suggesting these replaced original windows. Bay eight is one story and features a single, metal, louvered door with a flat, metal canopy. Rainwater is managed through a square, extruded aluminum gutter system that runs the length of the elevation and is drained by five downspouts of the same shape for bays one through seven and two tubular downspouts for bay eight.

Building Interiors

Each respective construction episode retains its original interior partitions so that the historic functions of spaces, from central hallways to classrooms, read as they did historically. This is particularly apparent in the buildings erected during the period of significance, from 1949 through 1968.

The 1949 building retains original or historic character-defining features such as its "T"-shaped hallway configuration, painted brick and plaster walls, and six-lite-over-double-vertical-panel doors, and vinyl composition tile floors. Some rooms retain original chalkboards and intercom speakers. Some restrooms retain historic tile floors and walls and original sinks. While the 1952-era Lakeview Elementary School addition was remodeled for use as the integrated Northside Middle School through the construction of a new entrance and main office space, the majority of

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the equalization-period building's interior remains intact. The 1956-era high school addition's interior still conveys its original layout, as does the footprints of later, equalization-era additions to the elementary school wing. The gymnasium interior reads as it did historically.

Modern upgrades throughout some classrooms, hallways, and common spaces throughout the contributing buildings include such things as drop Celotex ceilings, later-twentieth-century dry erase boards, carpeting, fire doors, and exit signs.

Non-contributing Resources

3 – Cafeteria & Kitchen Building (1970, c. 2012)

Erected in early 1970, the cafeteria/kitchen building replaced an earlier building that stood immediately to the west of the northern wing of the 1949 high school. The extant building historically featured a rectangular footprint, oriented south to north.²³ However, the c. 2012 construction of a small, short "L"-shaped addition on the west elevation of the building resulted in a largely "T"-shape configuration, with the bottom of the "T" oriented west to east. The entire building features red brick walls laid in common bond and a flat roof capped with metal coping.

The south elevation, or front, of the cafeteria building is comprised of three bays. Bays one and three feature uninterrupted fields of brick. Bay two, or the center bay, connects to the north elevation of the original, 1949-era building via a flat-roofed breezeway, which is supported by eight tubular steel columns and provides sheltered access to a pedestrian entrance comprised of double slab doors that each feature a vertical windowpane.

The east elevation of the cafeteria building is comprised of eight bays, at which point the building's roofline steps down by approximately ten brick courses to engage the flat roofline of the contiguous kitchen building, whose east elevation features three bays. Bays one and two of the kitchen building both feature a fixed, metal-framed, single-lite vertical window. Bay three contains a service entrance comprised of double louvered doors accessed via five concrete stairs, flanked by tubular metal railings, that terminate with a concrete stoop covered by a flat, corrugated metal canopy.

The kitchen building's north, or rear, elevation is four bays wide. Reading from east to west, bay one features a service entrance comprised of double solid slab doors contiguous to a low concrete stoop covered by a flat, corrugated metal canopy. The upper half of bay two is dominated by a tripartite, vertically oriented, louvered metal grill. Bay three features a single pedestrian entrance with a slab door, accessed by a short, concrete two-step stoop and protected by a flat, corrugated metal canopy. Bay four is predominantly comprised of a solid masonry wall except for a low HVAC grate located a little above its foundation line.

²³ "B-C Board Okays Bond Sales for Improvements at Schools," *The Columbia Record*, March 22, 1969, p. 3C. Part of the \$130,200 in renovations at Northside Middle School involved "a new cafeteria." Comparisons of aerial photographs taken in 1966 and 1970, respectively, show two buildings with different footprints were located to the west of the original 1949 high school's northern wing, suggesting the new cafeteria was not a renovation of the existing building seen in 1966.

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The kitchen building's original west elevation is comprised of two bays. Reading from north to south, bay one features a service entrance comprised of double louvered doors. Bay two involves a portion of the c. 2012 addition that projects westward from the plane in which bay one is located.²⁴ Bay two features a recessed entrance with a concrete floor.

The remaining aspect of the addition involves two bays, both of which engage and obscure the first two of the cafeteria building's eight bays on its west elevation. The second bay of the addition features a storefront window comprised of two fixed, vertically oriented windows set within a metal frame. The third bay of the addition steps back, to the east, by one-quarter of the depth of the addition and features a field of uninterrupted brick. The remaining bays on the cafeteria building's west elevation, reading north to south, are as follows: Bay three has had its original vertical window opening infilled with the installation of an HVAC system. Bays four through eight are identical, all featuring a single, vertically oriented, metal-framed window with four, horizontally oriented windows. Two tubular downspouts service the extruded aluminum gutter that runs the full length of the flat roofline.

4. Parking Lot (1970s)

To the east of the school adjacent to North Street is a long, rectangular parking lot paved in asphalt. The lot features orthogonal parking spaces on the east and west sides. The parking lot was constructed between 1971 and 1981.²⁵

5. Front Drive and Parking Lot (1970s)

A semi-oval front drive and parking lot are located along Batchelor Street to the south of the school. The drive and parking lot are paved in asphalt and the parking spaces are oriented diagonally, between the drive and Batchelor Street. The front drive and parking lot were constructed between 1971 and 1981.²⁶

²⁴ The addition does not appear on a 2011 aerial of the property, but does appear on the 2013 aerial. Historic Aerials, 2011, 2013, accessed August 23, 2022, historicaerials.com.

²⁵ Historic Aerials, 1971, 1981, historicaerials.com, accessed January 27, 2023.

²⁶ Ibid.

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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

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION

ETHNIC HERITAGE/Black

Period of Significance

1949-1968

Significant Dates

1949

1952

1956

1961

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Architect – Wessinger, Jesse W.

Architects - Wessinger & Drafts Architects

Builder - Spong Construction Company

Builder - Metze Construction Company

Architect - Drafts and Jumper Architects

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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.)

Lakeview School is eligible for the National Register at the local level under Criterion A for its association with African American education and the South Carolina equalization program, a state-led effort in the 1950s and 1960s to forestall racial integration by upgrading segregated Black schools. Built in 1949 and subsequently enlarged and updated between 1952 and 1961 with funds from the equalization program, the nominated property is locally significant as the only public school from the period of significance serving Black residents of West Columbia, a Columbia suburb that was originally known as Brookland or New Brookland. It is also the only extant campus used by what was historically known as Lakeview School or New Brookland Colored School, which operated at several local sites beginning in the 1920s before establishing itself at its final location on Batchelor Street, where the nominated property was built. The Lakeview campus being nominated is the only remaining segregated Black school in West Columbia.²⁷ The period of significance begins with the construction of the original school building in 1949 and ends in 1968, the last year the school operated as a racially segregated educational facility. Despite some alterations and additions outside the period of significance, Lakeview School retains comparable integrity to that of other extant equalization schools in Lexington County and effectively conveys its historical associations in the areas of Education and Ethnic Heritage: Black.²⁸

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

Criterion A: Education and Ethnic Heritage/Black

African Americans in the Early West Columbia Area

The Lakeview campus at 1218 Batchelor Street was the center of African American education in post-World War II West Columbia and is eligible primarily for its distinction as the city's only extant equalization school. However, Lakeview School is also the only segregated Black school that remains from any era of West Columbia's more than 130 years of existence, and was the town's only Black school during the period of significance. Platted in the 1880s and first chartered in 1894, West Columbia is a suburban community located on the western banks of the Congaree River across from the state capital of Columbia. Though historically home to a

²⁷ The Brookland-Cayce School District is now known as Lexington School District Two.

²⁸ Other examples of equalization program schools remain in Lexington County, including Ida Bull Elementary (the successor to Cayce Negro School), Monroe Pinckney Elementary School and High School in Swansea. Like Lakeview, these facilities have been comparably altered.

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brickyard and other small industry, the town's development was most closely connected to the Columbia Mills textile plant, which opened across the river in Columbia the same year that West Columbia incorporated. Though based in Columbia, mill leaders chose to develop the company village in West Columbia near the riverfront. The town was originally chartered as "Brookland" but was also known as "New Brookland," supposedly after the local post office devised the name in response to the prior existence of a "Brookland" or "Brooklyn" elsewhere in South Carolina; city leaders re-incorporated as "West Columbia" in 1938. A 1905 fire destroyed many of the town's earliest buildings, after which a brick commercial core consolidated along State and Meeting streets. Over the next several decades the town continued to develop west away from the river with new residential properties as well as community institutions like churches and schools.²⁹

African Americans lived in the vicinity of West Columbia from its creation, and local Blacks early on worked to meet the educational needs of their children despite a lack of support from local white leaders. As early as 1900-01, a Brookland school for local African Americans operated in the area, with one teacher in that year instructing thirty-seven students over a sixteen-week term. That school's location is unknown, but it was undoubtedly housed in the sort of modest, repurposed facility that typified turn of the century one-room Black schoolhouses. It was also almost certainly not located within the West Columbia town limits. For much of its early history, West Columbia proper was almost entirely white, with one 1937 newspaper story claiming the town had a single long-term Black resident, who had recently died.³⁰ Ultimately, many West Columbia-area Black families settled in what came to be known as the Sugar Town or Happy Town community. Located west of West Columbia proper, this community was predominantly home to working-class Black families who had settled there after the area had failed to develop in the late-nineteenth and early twentieth centuries as an affluent white suburb called Lake Park. Reaching about two blocks beyond South Holland Street, "old" Lacy Street, "old" Lexington Street, and South Leaphart Street, Sugar Town/Happy Town at that time reflected more of a rural character than the small downtown setting at State and Meeting in West Columbia, and certainly more than Columbia further east across the river.³¹

²⁹ For the sake of clarity, the town will be referred to as "West Columbia" from this point on. Sidney Hare, "History of New Brookland Told from Earliest Days," *The State*, July 5, 1933, p. 10. John H. Moore, "West Columbia," *South Carolina Encyclopedia*, July 7, 2016 (updated August 26, 2022), <https://www.sccyclopedia.org/sce/entries/west-columbia/>. For many years "Brookland" and "New Brookland" were used somewhat interchangeably, and references to "New Brookland" can be found even before the town's official incorporation as "Brookland." See for example, "Barbecue," *Lexington Dispatch*, August 22, 1888, p. 3. See Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps for New Brookland, S.C. (1912), sheets 1-3 and Columbia, S.C. (1919), sheets 62-63. Robert P. Stockton, "New Brookland Historic District," National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, October 10, 1978, South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

³⁰ *Thirty-Third Annual Report of the State Superintendent of Education of the State of South Carolina* (Columbia, S.C.: The State Company, 1902), p. 199-200. "Negro Population of New Brookland Increases to Two," *The State*, November 6, 1937, p. 14; "New Brookland Now All White in Population," *The State*, March 24, 1938, p. 1. Purportedly Tena Putnam was the only person of color who lived within the incorporated town of Brookland (New Brookland) from about 1907 until her death in 1937. By the spring of 1938, after her son who had inherited the property had sold it, not a single Black person owned property within the city limits.

³¹ Sulton, Bennie. "Happy Town/Sugar Town History." Received by John Sherrer, June 17, 2022.

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Early efforts to educate West Columbia-area African Americans seem to have been sporadic, and Lakeview School's founding is traditionally accepted as having occurred around 1925 with the establishment of the New Brookland Colored School in the Sugar Town/Happy Town community. The New Brookland Colored School was part of the Brookland-Cayce School District, which also included students from the nearby town of Cayce south of West Columbia. New Brookland Colored School initially enrolled grades 1-8, and like many other Black schools of the time it opened in facilities already being used by other community institutions. Classes initially were held at Odd Fellows Hall, a two-story, wood frame facility on Augusta Road destroyed in a hailstorm.³² Classes resumed temporarily to the north at Double Branch AME Church (later known as Turner Memorial) until a three-room, purpose-built wood frame building could be constructed in 1925 on Lacy Street, located immediately south of present-day Jarvis Klapman Boulevard.³³ In 1938, a more substantial wood frame building was erected beside the earlier school building to accommodate growing numbers of students.³⁴ Neither of these structures are extant. At this time administrators enhanced the New Brookland Colored School to include the eleventh grade thus establishing the first Black high school in the New Brookland and Cayce area.³⁵ Perhaps related to the town's adoption of the name "West Columbia" the year before, in 1939 staff and families at New Brookland Colored School were "pleasantly surprised" to receive a request from school district officials to propose a new name for their school. They ultimately chose the name "Lakeview" after a now-dry pond that was located two blocks to the

³² "Many Have to Repair Homes," *The Sunday Record*, May 4, 1924, p. 3A; "We Are Lakeview," Documentary Video, Lakeview High School/BLEC Archive. While the reference to the Odd Fellows Hall building being destroyed in a storm is drawn from the Lakeview/BLEC archives' documentary, this reference in *The Columbia Record's* Sunday edition, which involves local damage from a hailstorm, may, due to its proximal date, speak to that very event and substantiate the claim.

³³ "We Are Lakeview," Documentary Video, Lakeview High School/BLEC Archive; "News of Colored People," *The Columbia Record*, May 18, 1925, p. 9; "Lakeview Grads Want Name Back," *The State*, May 28, 1992, p. 1, Neighbors Section. New Brookland Colored School held its closing exercises at Double Branch A.M.E. Church in 1925 with Principal Hattie White of Columbia presiding. The modern Lakeview High School was erected north of its former Lacy Street location. Today, those areas are bisected by Jarvis Klapman Boulevard. "All Vote Alike," *The State*, September 19, 1924, p. 1A; "Around West Columbia and Cayce," *The Palmetto Leader*, May 8, 1943, p. 4; The exact date that Brookland or New Brookland Colored School opened remains uncertain, however, *The State* newspaper's September 19, 1924, article, which details a bond issue for "a new school at Cayce, repairs to the New Brookland school, and . . . the erection of a school for Negro pupils" reinforces popular understanding of it being in operation in 1925. *The Palmetto Leader's* article from 1943 referenced how board of trustee chair Reverend L.B. Golden, a bricklayer, carpenter, painter, preacher" had served for 16 years in his position with the school, thus further corroborating the date of founding as 1925.

³⁴ "New Brookland Colored School," "New Brookland Colored School," Insurance Photographs of Schools in South Carolina, 1935-1950, South Carolina Department of Archives and History
<http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/schools/S112113000002663000/pages/S11211301459.htm>

³⁵ "Brookland Colored School Opens Session," *The Palmetto Leader*, September 24, 1938, p. 4; James H. Hope, State Superintendent of Education, "School Directory of South Carolina," 1939-1940, Columbia, S.C., p. 141. Lexington County's listing under "Negro High Schools" for the academic year 1939-1940 ran the name "Brookland" as opposed to "Lakeview," suggesting the institution's new naming convention had not been officially adopted as of the directory's printing. The "Lakeview" name would not be reflected in the State Superintendent of Education's directory until the 1944-1945 academic year.

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south and known by many as “Horseshoe Lake.”³⁶ The school continued on Lacy Street for another decade before moving into its final location on Batchelor Street in 1949.

Construction of Lakeview’s Batchelor Street Campus

Commencement exercises at Lakeview High School on June 9, 1949, marked a milestone for African American education in Lexington County, South Carolina. That Thursday evening, thirty-four graduates enjoyed the distinction of being the largest class to earn diplomas since their school had become the county’s first Black high school to be accredited by the South Carolina Department of Education four years earlier.³⁷ They also were among the first Lakeview students to have benefited from the county’s program to improve its educational facilities in the immediate post-World War II period, as commencement was conducted not in the old Lacy Street school, but in the brand new Lakeview High School on Batchelor Street.³⁸ In doing so, they vacated an antiquated, wood-framed facility on Lacy Street and moved to its replacement, a “modern high school plant consisting of eight rooms and an audio-gym,” on Batchelor Street a few blocks to the north. County administrators touted the \$250,000 “new and modern Negro high school”—paid for through a bond approved by Lexington County citizens to replace obsolete, substandard educational facilities—as offering “more adequate space” for Lakeview’s elementary and high school divisions.³⁹ Completion of the new school marked a notable first step

³⁶ “Lakeview High School (New Brookland), Jas. W. Shaw, Principal, Commencement Program,” *The Palmetto Leader*, May 20, 1939, p. 3; “Map of Columbia, S.C. and Vicinity,” Tomlinson Engineering Company, Columbia, S.C., 1928.

³⁷ School Directories of South Carolina 1941/42 – 1949/50, Columbia, S.C.: State Superintendent of Education; <https://dc.statelibrary.sc.gov/handle/10827/4021>; High School Accreditation Applications, Department of Education Project Files – S152045 – Box 8, South Carolina Department of Archives and History; “1st Diplomas in Lexington County,” *The State*, June 10, 1949, p. 10A. The commencement program marked the first time that Lakeview’s auditorium was placed in official use. According to the article, the diplomas issued the previous night were “the first recognized state diplomas ever issued Negro high school graduates in Lexington County.” “Lakeview High School Finals Slated Tonight,” *The Columbia Record*, June 9, 1949, p. 9A; “Today: Lakeview, The Story of the Schools in the Columbia Area,” *The Columbia Record*, June 9, 1949, p. 11. Prior to WWII, only 33 of the state’s Black schools were state accredited, according to the State Superintendent’s directory of schools. In 1945, Lakeview became the first Black high school in Lexington County to achieve accreditation. By 1946, Lakeview was noted as being among only 55 Black high schools throughout the Palmetto State accredited by the South Carolina Department of Education.

³⁸ “‘Hallowed Hall of Lakeview’ - Former Segregated School in West Columbia Gets Marker,” *The State*, December 13, 2020; to physically build and maintain schools for their children in the absence of financial support from the district.

³⁹ “Today Lakeview: The Story of the Schools in the Columbia Area,” *The Columbia Record*, June 9, 1949, p. 11A; “Extensive Renovation Program Will Provide B-C District with Practically All New Schools,” *The State*, March 31, 1952, p. 6A. Other improvements included under the bond involved a new junior high school, renovations to Brooklyn grammar school, renovations to Cayce grammar school (including the addition of six new classrooms) and bricking veneering an existing “four-classroom unit of the Cayce Negro elementary school.” The term “audiogym” essentially meant a dual-purpose space used as both an auditorium and a gymnasium, much the same as a “gymnatorium.” “All abandoned B-C Land Has Been Sold,” *The State*, August 21, 1953, p. 2C. With the decision to relocate Lakeview High School from its original site to a larger campus, the earlier building was later sold at public auction on August 31, 1953, with the buyer having to “remove the building from the site in a reasonable amount of time.” “New Brookland Colored, Lexington County,” Insurance Photographs of Schools in South Carolina, 1935-1950, South Carolina Department of Archives and History,

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in what would be a host of building campaigns on its nearly 9.5-acre campus. At the opening of the new Lakeview High School facility in 1949, Lexington County had five other Black high schools. However, Lakeview was the county's largest, with a total of 452 students across 9th-12th grades, and it was the only one accredited. Batesburg High School with 302 students stood as the county's second largest Black high school, and it would not be accredited until the following year.⁴⁰

When the Brookland-Cayce school system's board of trustees conducted its annual visit to district facilities the following October, they made sure to "examin[e] in detail" the most recent addition of "Lakewood (sic) Negro high school."⁴¹ What the trustees found was a school whose physical plant was in line with other district schools being erected at the time. Despite the vast improvement over their earlier school, Lakeview students nonetheless for some time would not receive the same level of monetary or programmatic support as that enjoyed by their white counterparts. In its position on the matter of improving the lot for South Carolina's Black students, one local newspaper noted that "of the 3,494 public schools in [the state], 2096 were schools for Negroes. And 1,717 of the 2,096 Negro schools were one, two, or three-teacher schools. . . the investment in school plants for white [was] \$221 per pupil enrolled; for Negroes it [was] \$45 per pupil." While Black students comprised 45% of the total number of the state's 456,955 students, investment in education was lopsided in every aspect, from facilities to numbers of teachers to supplies. The disparities were only worse for funding in higher education where Black students received only 6% of the money spent each year.⁴²

One example of needs not being met lay in extracurricular activities, such as sports, an area in which Lakeview School came to develop a history of excellence.⁴³ When male students at Lakeview High School wanted to field a football team, the district refused to provide new uniforms, prompting Lakeview's principal and coaches to source clothing in several ways. At first, Lakeview fielded teams wearing second-hand uniforms from Brookland-Cayce High School's white players. As one former Lakeview player remembered, "It was no coincidence that [Brookland-Cayce] high school and Lakeview colors were exactly the same." However, when Lakeview's "hand-me-down" uniforms from Brookland Cayce were too tattered to use, the Tigers dressed out in second-hand, off-white training jerseys and pants—dyed maroon—that they had procured from other Black high schools and from the University of South Carolina. Apparently, Lakeview football players did not receive new uniforms until 1961.⁴⁴

<http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/schools/S112113000002663000/pages/S11211301459.htm>, Accessed January 14, 2022.

⁴⁰ School Directory of South Carolina 1949/50, Columbia, S.C.: State Superintendent of Education.

⁴¹ "B-C Trustees Visit All Schools in District," *The State*, October 5, 1949, p. 9A; "Courts Asked to Make Georgia Equalize Education Facilities," *The State*, August 10, 1949, p. 1A.

⁴² "South Carolina's Task in Equalizing Schools," *The Columbia Record*, February 12, 1949, p. 4A.

⁴³ "Lakeview of West Columbia Remains Unbeaten," *The State*, November 8, 1945, p. 9. Lakeview often played games against other Black high schools at Benedict College's field in downtown Columbia.

⁴⁴ Sulton, Bennie. "Football uniform question." Received by John Sherrer, June 20, 2022; "Two-Time Grad Remembers Lakeview," *The State*, January 12, 1995, p. 5A. Sam Corley holds the distinction of having graduated from Lakeview twice, once in 1947, when the high school only went up to 11th grade and again in 1949, after it began offering 12-grade instruction. Beyond the academic benefits Corley experienced by returning to his alma

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Another example of the school district failing to adequately support students attending Lakeview involved Bennie Williams, who walked seven miles to school after being turned away from a school bus because he lived just outside the district lines.⁴⁵ Faced with the continuing inequities of segregated schooling, Lakeview administrators, faculty, and students overcame daily and generational obstacles to not only survive but to thrive in an era in which obtaining an education came with greater life lessons than those learned from textbooks or chalkboards. “Our teachers would not let the adversarial circumstances surrounding us be an excuse to not do well,” recalled Charles Benjamin Jackson, “If there was a spirit of excellence in you, they were certainly going to bring it out of you . . . you would have thought that each of us was the only student in the class, because they gave us that individualized attention to us as students. That was major for us.”⁴⁶

The S.C. Equalization Program and Lakeview School

Like other schools in the district and elsewhere throughout South Carolina, the Lakeview campus evolved dramatically in the fifteen years after its 1949 relocation to Batchelor Street. However, the underlying motivation for those changes had less to do with commitment to improving public education, and much more with perpetuating state-supported racism. In 1950, the NAACP filed *Briggs v. Elliot*, a suit based in South Carolina’s Clarendon County that initially called for school equalization. By 1951, the NAACP had adopted the more ambitious argument that segregation was inherently unequal and sought to overturn the “separate but equal” doctrine established in the U.S. Supreme Court’s 1896 *Plessy v. Ferguson* ruling. While a U.S. District Court three-judge panel denied the suit’s request for an end to segregated schools (and the NAACP appealed the ruling ultimately to the Supreme Court), it did instruct the district to initiate a program of equalizing school facilities to ensure conditions for Black students were on par with those of their white peers. Hoping to thwart additional legal challenges to the constitutionality of segregation, South Carolina Governor James Byrnes stumped for approval of a school equalization plan which he argued would achieve genuine educational improvements for Black students and thus better economic conditions for all citizens. Byrnes’ plan quickly gained traction with white South Carolinians who feared the specter of integrated schools.⁴⁷

mater for further education was his opportunity to play on its earliest football teams, whose earliest years on the gridiron required students to creatively fund themselves.

⁴⁵ Sulton, Bennie. “Lakeview History.” Received by John Sherrer, June 23, 2022; “Education Worth Walking For,” *The State*, May 24, 1971, p. 32. Principal M.D. Bogan’s recollection of Bennie Williams offers another illustration of Lakeview students overcoming adversity in the pursuit of improvement—a character trait honed by the school’s faculty. After moving to West Columbia, Williams went on to complete his education at Lakeview, ultimately graduating from Benedict College and Marshall University and to later work as the head of psychology at the South Carolina Department of Mental Health’s Crafts-Farrow Hospital, joining the ranks of alumni with careers in healthcare and science.

⁴⁶ Reverend Charles Benjamin Jackson, Interview by Dr. Rudy Wise and Bennie Sulton, February 7, 2019, Conducted at Lakeview High School Museum. Transcription by Trish James, Brookland Lakeview Empowerment Center, West Columbia, South Carolina.

⁴⁷ “Negroes to Seek End of School Segregation,” *The Columbia Record*, November 17, 1950, p. 1A; “First \$12,500,000 Obtained for SC School Expansion,” *The State*, September 27, 1951, p. 5C; “Byrnes Urges Go-Ahead with School Plan,” *The State*, October 17, 1951, p. 1A; “South Carolina’s Equalization Schools 1951-1960,”

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Under what would become an \$80 million-dollar school equalization program, Byrnes and his supporters sought to prove that segregated schools did not mean inferior facilities, erecting new schools and upgrading existing facilities for both races that reflected modern characteristics of more efficient and effective learning environments.⁴⁸ These included buildings typically of a one-story design with ample windows for daylight and fresh air. For high schools whose curriculum offered more specialized training involving equipment particular to vocational pursuits and home economics, equalization schools often adopted a campus-like plan comprised of separate, unique use spaces housed in buildings dedicated to those disciplines. Also, schools would be constructed of modern materials such as concrete, glass block, and masonry veneer following modern techniques. Ultimately, the impact of the equalization program extended beyond the 1954 landmark case of *Brown v. Board*, in which the Supreme Court ruled that “separate educational facilities are inherently unequal,” and ordered that desegregation occur “with all deliberate speed.” Despite this ruling, school districts throughout South Carolina continued to operate segregated public schools—often expanding the capacity of those schools through additions and upgrades—until at least the mid-1960s. It was under Byrnes’ school equalization program that Lakeview evolved from its 1949 facility with substantial expansions between 1952 and 1961.⁴⁹

Plans to expand Lakeview’s campus under the equalization program came relatively quickly after the South Carolina State Legislature authorized \$82,500,000 for the enhancement of existing and construction of new Black schools in September 1951. By December, the Brookland-Cayce School District’s board of trustees “approved preliminary sketches providing for the addition of 11 classrooms and a library for the Lakeview school.”⁵⁰ Later, in March 1952, the district provided further details of its modernization program, which involved the virtually simultaneous construction of three grammar schools each featuring “12 classrooms, a cafetorium and adequate auxiliary rooms” designed by architect Jesse W. Wessinger to accommodate 420 students.⁵¹ Except for their foundations, the schools would follow the standards observed in the school district’s then-present building program and would be “built to identical plans and specifications,” which called for red masonry and glass block exteriors; “outside doors to each classroom . . . radiant oil-fired heating and concentric circle incandescent lighting [and] floors . . . of asphalt tile on concrete . . . [and] ceilings . . . of panel Celotex.”⁵²

<http://www.scequalizationschools.org/desegregation-at-last.html>, accessed January 21, 2022; “Brown v. Board of Education,” National Park Service, <https://www.nps.gov/brvb/learn/historyculture/socarolina.htm>, accessed January 21, 2022; “Brown Case – Briggs v. Elliott,” Brown Foundation, <https://brownvboard.org/content/brown-case-briggs-v-elliott>, accessed January 21, 2022; Walter Edgar, *South Carolina: A History*, University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, SC, 1998, pp. 521-528.

⁴⁸ “South Carolina’s Equalization Schools 1951-1960,” www.scequalizationschools.org/after-equalization.html, accessed July 20, 2022; “Modjeska Simkins: An Advocate of the People,” Historic Columbia, 2021; “Brown v. Board of Education,” National Park Service, <https://www.nps.gov/brvb/learn/historyculture/socarolina.htm>, accessed January 21, 2022.

⁴⁹ <http://www.scequalizationschools.org/education-after-wwii.html>, accessed February 8, 2022.

⁵⁰ “Work to Begin on New Cayce School in January,” *The State*, December 27, 1951, p. 7A.

⁵¹ “Brooklyn-Cayce School Modernization Nears Completion,” *The State*, March 31, 1952, p. 6A.

⁵² “Brooklyn-Cayce School Modernization Nears Completion,” *The State*, March 31, 1952, p. 6A.

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For Lakeview, this push for further construction included the addition of a new Lakeview Elementary School. However, Lakeview's new facility deviated from the district's other buildings by featuring eleven as opposed to twelve classrooms. Of these spaces two were earmarked for high school use.⁵³ By the early summer of 1952, Spong Construction Company began work on the new Lakeview Negro Elementary School, which would be attached to the then-three-year-old Lakeview High School via an arcade.⁵⁴ Heralded at its debut in March 1953 as "one of the newest and most modern elementary schools in the state," the \$120,000-facility stood as a symbol of promise, albeit a promise from two very different perspectives. For Black students and those who instructed them, Lakeview Elementary School was another step toward better conditions in which to learn. For the majority of South Carolina politicians, the school was the physical manifestation of their resolve to ease federal pressure to move toward an integrated school system.⁵⁵ Shortly after the new elementary school's debut, the school district became one of the first districts in South Carolina to provide all of its students with modern facilities.⁵⁶ Now with dedicated space for her library, Lakeview librarian Louise Bogan greatly expanded the school's holdings, including volumes for the school's elementary age students, by procuring thousands of books, a color slide projector, and two film projectors—one for silent films, and one with sound.⁵⁷

Although *Brown* declared segregation in schools unconstitutional, the Court declined to offer any specific enforcement provisions, and white public officials continued to undermine the long-term promise of integrated education. Accordingly, South Carolina's equalization program continued unabated, with the state taxing its people to ensure a duality of educational facilities. More construction at Lakeview and other schools would follow. On February 1, 1956, the Brookland-Cayce School District board of trustees approved a projected \$100,000 in improvements to Lakeview High School that would include "a complete new home economics department, an additional laboratory-classroom for the sciences, a music room, vocational shop facilities and dressing rooms for physical education and interscholastic athletics" for the school's 379 students.⁵⁸ The new construction, "of red brick on concrete block construction with blass [sic]

⁵³ "Brooklyn-Cayce School Modernization Nears Completion," *The State*, March 31, 1952, p. 6A. Cayce Elementary School, which came to stand at the intersection of Dunbar Road and Wilkinson Street in Cayce, was the second of the two modern elementary schools erected for the county's Black children.

⁵⁴ "Work is Begun on Lakeview Negro School," *The Columbia Record*, July 1, 1952, p. 9B.

⁵⁵ "Negro Students Move into New Lakeview School," *The State*, March 1, 1953, p. 4D; "New Lakeview Elementary is Dedicated," *The State*, March 6, 1953, p. 10D; "Momentous Decision May Face 1954 SC General Assembly," *The State*, January 3, 1954, p. 1E.

⁵⁶ "B-C Schools Complete \$1,100,000 Improvement Plan; One of the First Districts to Give Pupils Modern Rooms," *The State*, April 12, 1953, p. 8A; "Brooklyn-Cayce School Modernization Nears Completion," *The State*, March 31, 1952, p. 6A; "Extensive Renovation Program Will Provide B-C District with Practically All New Schools," *The State*, March 31, 1952, p. 6A. Before March 1, 1950, the Brooklyn-Cayce school district covered an area of 6 3/8-square miles, which encompassed the two towns. Thereafter, the district expanded, though county-wide referendum, to include the adjacent districts of Oakdale, Sand Mountain, Congaree, Long Branch, and Pineview. The referendum also reduced the number of districts operating in the county from 59 to nine. A subsequent further reorganization resulted in the number of districts reduced to five at the time of the article's publication in 1953.

⁵⁷ Lakeview High School/BLEC Archive notes.

⁵⁸ "Lakeview School Improvements OK'd," *The Columbia Record*, February 1, 1956, p. 6A.

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block and ventilator type windows . . . and floors . . . of asphalt tile” would add another 10,202 square feet to the school’s existing footprint.⁵⁹ Within its first full decade of operation at its Bachelor Street campus, Lakeview High School grew to achieve further and further milestones. During their homecoming ceremonies in mid-October of 1957, students welcomed the debut of Luther B. Golden Field, named after Reverend Golden for his thirty-one years of service on the Lakeview’s advisory committee.⁶⁰ A few weeks later, in December, Lakeview became “an approved school of the Southern association of Colleges and Secondary School,” a distinction that bested the previous accolades given the facility after being accredited by the State Department of Education in 1949.⁶¹

As it had in prior iterations of Lakeview’s evolution, the West Columbia architectural firm of Wessinger and Drafts drew up plans for further additions. In September 1959, the firm submitted plans for a four-classroom addition that would be attached to the short northern section of the existing 1952 elementary school building.⁶² The firm’s next commission, submitted two years later, addressed pressing extracurricular needs. Since 1949, Lakeview’s basketball team had held its games in the school gymnasium, where other athletic competitions and events, such as school assemblies, also took place.⁶³ Affectionately called the “matchbox” for its diminutive proportions, the multifunction space featured a low roofline that often thwarted the attempts of visiting basketball teams to pass to one another for any significant distance. “You had to remember to keep your arc low,” one alumnus recalled, “otherwise, the ball would hit the lights.”⁶⁴ Following its debut in 1962, Lakeview’s new gym allowed the Tigers (and occasionally their competitors) to attain new heights, as the modern, \$16,372-facility erected by the Columbia firm of J.A. Metze and Sons, Inc., provided ample space for players and the 1961-1962 school term. Excitement over Lakeview’s athletic facilities and programs intensified the following year, when the 12-0 Tigers (which had defeated its opponents by a 496 to 18 points ratio) vied for the lower state AA football championship and defeated W.G. Meggett of Charleston 14 to 7 to clinch the title.⁶⁵ In reflecting on their gridiron glory days, many alumni noted that the spectacle of Lakeview football helped ease race relations somewhat during segregation, as white people

⁵⁹ “Lakeview School Plans New Wing,” *The State*, May 17, 1956, p. 2D.

⁶⁰ “New Lakeview Athletic Field Named for Golden,” *The State*, September 26, 1957, p. 6A; “Lakeview High Has Homecoming Tonight,” *The State*, October 11, 1957, p. 7B; “B-C Briefs: Field Dedicated,” *The Columbia Record*, October 17, 1957, p. 1D.

⁶¹ “Lakeview School on Approved List,” *The Columbia Record*, December 12, 1957, p. 4B.

⁶² Addition to Lakeview School, Brookland-Cayce Schools, Lexington County Dist. No. 2, S.C. Wessinger and Drafts, Associate Architects, West Columbia, S.C., September 1959.

⁶³ “Gymnasium Bids Being Received by B-C Trustees,” *The Columbia Record*, August 18, 1961, p. 2B;

“Lakeview’s ‘Gym,’” *The State*, August 27, 1961, 8C; “S.C. School Building Allocations Approved,” *The State*, November 10, 1961, p. 7B; “Columbia Day-By-Day,” *The State*, September 21, 1961, p. 4C.

⁶⁴ BLEC site visit by authors with alumni members Bennie Sulton and Rudy Wise, January 14, 2019.

⁶⁵ “Lakeview Plays for AA Title,” *The State*, November 22, 1963, 4C; *The 1964 Tiger*, Lakeview High School Yearbook, Lakeview High School/BLEC archives; W. Gresham Meggett High and Elementary School, National Register of Historic Places Listing, February 20, 2018. W. Gresham Meggett High and Elementary School was another of the state’s African American schools that grew out of the state’s equalization program. Constructed in 1951, Meggett shared similar equalization program experiences with Lakeview.

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would pay Black residents to watch games from the vantage point of their rooftops, which offered unimpeded views of Golden Field.⁶⁶

Two short months after Lakeview brought home a cherished state football title in November 1963, the Brookland-Cayce school district board solicited the Lexington legislative delegation to fund further improvements to the school's existing facilities. The requested \$100,000 included line items for four additional classrooms at Lakeview, the construction of which was deemed "urgent."⁶⁷ Work began shortly thereafter with the trustees informed of construction "progressing as scheduled" by late March.⁶⁸

Despite this last enhancement, just a few years later in 1968 the Brookland-Cayce School District opted to close Lakeview High School and Lakeview Elementary School as part of district-wide desegregation efforts. The decision had come as part of an initial submission to the Federal Department of Health, Education, and Welfare that involved a "complicated switching of students from schools [that] would create a totally integrated system for the term of 1969-1970." In November 1968, members of the Brookland-Cayce school system cited administrative issues in working with the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare's Washington and regional offices over ensuring the maintenance of federal funding during the process of eliminating the system's dual school structure through desegregation. At that time, it was reported that Black high school students formerly enrolled at Lakeview High School had been integrated into either Brookland-Cayce or Airport high schools.⁶⁹

Following the construction of a new cafeteria and "complete renovations," the Lakeview—campus reopened as the integrated Northside Middle School for sixth, seventh, and eighth grades as of the 1969-1970 school year.⁷⁰ In August 1998, after nearly 30 years on Batchelor Street, Northside Middle School relocated to a new facility off Sunset Boulevard. Afterward, Lakeview High School Alumni successfully petitioned the school district to reinstate the school's original name for what would become a multipurpose center for educational advancement, thus

⁶⁶ BLEC site visit by authors with alumni members Bennie Sulton and Dr. Rudy Wise, January 14, 2019.

⁶⁷ "B-C Schools Seek Improvement Loan," *The Columbia Record*, January 29, 1964, p. 5A.

⁶⁸ "B-C Schools Change Title of Two Jobs," *The Columbia Record*, March 23, 1964, p. 6A.

⁶⁹ "Brookland-Cayce Mix Plan Rejected," *The State*, July 18, 1968, p. 1B.

⁷⁰ "B-C School Desegregation Questioned by Department," *The Columbia Record*, November 14, 1968, p. B1; "B-C Board Okays Bond Sale for Improvements at Schools," *The State*, March 22, 1969, p. 3C; "Architects Seeking Bids for School Construction," *The State*, April 23, 1969, p. 3B. Following its repurposing as Northside Middle School, the former Lakeview site received a new cafeteria and new administrative offices as part of a \$1 million-dollar bond issue for capital renovations and new construction at district schools. School Attendance Zones Adopted for Brooklyn-Cayce by Trustees," *The Columbia Record*, February 21, 1969, p. D1. The school's renaming did not sit well with Lakeview alumni, and the new moniker's origin remained somewhat debated until 1993. Initially, many thought the name reflect the school's geographic placement, "because of its location in the northern end of the district and it's [sic] proximity to the established name of 'Northside' of other nearby community edifices." However, a letter to district officials written by Lonnie H. Shull, Jr., the pastor of Northside Baptist Church at the time of the renaming, promoted the use of "Northside," as "the name change of the school would be of the utmost importance since a break with the past image is necessary." What exactly Shull meant by what the "past image" of Lakeview was—the legacy of segregation or the historical association with African Americans—remains uncertain. However, Lakeview alumni argued that the name change hindered improved race relations in the community, as their history had been erased without their having a voice in the decision-making process.

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continuing the school complex's tradition of educational service to the Sugar Town community.⁸⁴

Thanks to the advocacy of the community that it served for generations, Lakeview has been preserved as a tangible link between the history of West Columbia and a watershed era in South Carolina's education and civil rights past. It stands as a physical testament to the lengths that public officials went to deny African Americans their basic constitutional rights, as well as the determination of Black residents of the West Columbia area to pursue a life of dignity and achievement in spite of those intentions, bettering themselves and their families through the promise of public education. Though modified over the years, the facility still retains integrity to the equalization era and clearly conveys its original associations with segregated Black schooling and the S.C. equalization program.

Developmental history/additional historical context

Pre-1949 Developmental History

During its earlier years of operations, New Brookland Colored School/Lakeview School operated under the leadership of two different principals—Reverend Percy P. McFarland, Sr. (1925-1927) and Reverend James W. Shaw (1927-1942). But leadership permeated throughout the school community, much of it fueled with a missionary zeal of local church members who sought to improve their community's future through activism. Indeed, many of the school's faculty then and throughout later years, carried degrees from local faith-based institutions, like Allen University and Benedict College, and other historically Black colleges and universities. Beyond these influential educators, the school benefited from the services of a Jeanes teacher, whose work was partially underwritten by the Negro Rural School Fund, which offered aid to Black schools from the early 1900s through the later 1940s. For New Brookland Colored School, this meant instruction from one of 37 such teachers in South Carolina and of 426 such teachers throughout the South who, in 1937, taught lessons of self-sufficiency, trades such as carpentry, home economics, and better healthcare practices.⁷¹ It also meant support in the form of advocacy, as Jeanes teachers often served as unofficial county superintendents for Black schools, what with white superintendents typically more concerned with education for Caucasian students. Aside from featuring a Jeanes teacher by 1937, the New Brookland Colored School

⁷¹"New Brookland School Briefs," *The Palmetto Leader*, September 25, 1937, p. 2; "First Grade is Well Populated," *The State*, September 14, 1937, p. 5A; <https://education.stateuniversity.com/pages/2135/Jeanes-Teachers.html>, accessed January 25, 2022; "Singing in Lexington," *The State*, December 11, 1938, p. 7D; "Paving the Way for Black Education," *The State*, February 3, 2002, p. 1A; <https://www.scencyclopedia.org/sce/entries/jeanes-teachers>, accessed January 25, 2022; In his report from 1936, the South Carolina Superintendent of Education noted that schools with Jeanes teachers among their faculty performed better than schools without such trained personnel. By 1938, Martha P. Wright, Jeanes teacher for Lexington County, oversaw programs educational and extracurricular, including white-attended musical performances featuring "Negro spirituals [and] Christmas carols." Jeanes teachers officially operated in South Carolina from 1909 until 1964. According to historian Valinda Littlefield, these educators were considered "the first school supervisors in the South."

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boasted seven faculty members, two of whom were dedicated to adult education, and a student body of 200. Among the school's 10th graders were students from Cayce, which offered no high school education for Black students.⁷² Later, in 1938, a more substantial wood frame building was erected beside the earlier school building to accommodate growing numbers of students.⁷³ At this time administrators enhanced the New Brookland Colored School to include the eleventh grade thus establishing the first Black high school in the New Brookland and Cayce area.⁷⁴

Students beyond Lexington County benefited from Lakeview High School instruction, as students in communities within Calhoun County and parts of Richland County traveled to the West Columbia-area school to attend classes.⁷⁵ In fact, at the time of Lakeview's accreditation, its high school student body numbered 135 pupils. Of those, fifty lived outside of the district and thirty were considered commuter students. This trend would continue over the next twenty years, as a remarkable number of students continued to seek out a Lakeview education in lieu of what their home districts offered. Described by alumni as "an island of learning, a center of life in segregated South Carolina," Lakeview High School was believed to have had among its ranks some students who traveled from as far as the small town of Pelion, some twenty miles to the southwest in the opposite end of Lexington County.⁷⁶

Improvements at Lakeview's Lacy Street Campus

In the years immediately following World War II, discussion over improving conditions for Black citizens in public education (as well as in many other ways) raged at the highest levels throughout the South.⁷⁷ Addressing critical capital improvements to Lakeview, as well as other schools in the Brookland-Cayce school district began to take shape in 1947. In some cases, solving issues plaguing their physical plants granted hands-on training for students enrolled in the districts' schools. For instance, R.O. Walker, district carpentry instructor with Brookland-Cayce schools, led students in the enlargement of several schools including Lakeview, which

⁷² "New Brookland School Briefs," *The Palmetto Leader*, September 25, 1937, p. 2.

⁷³ "New Brookland Colored School," "New Brookland Colored School," Insurance Photographs of Schools in South Carolina, 1935-1950, South Carolina Department of Archives and History
<http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/schools/S112113000002663000/pages/S11211301459.htm>

⁷⁴ "Brookland Colored School Opens Session," *The Palmetto Leader*, September 24, 1938, p. 4; James H. Hope, State Superintendent of Education, "School Directory of South Carolina," 1939-1940, Columbia, S.C., p. 141. Lexington County's listing under "Negro High Schools" for the academic year 1939-1940 ran the name "Brookland" as opposed to "Lakeview," suggesting the institution's new naming convention had not been officially adopted as of the directory's printing. At that time, Brookland Colored School, headed by Principal G.W. Shaw, featured four elementary teachers and three high school teachers instructing 186 and 70 students in their respective area. The same convention was run in the directory for the following year. The "Lakeview" name would not be reflected in the State Superintendent of Education's directory until the 1944-1945 academic year.

⁷⁵ Carl Van Williams, Interview by Dr. Rudy Wise and Bennie Sulton, February 7, 2019. Among the feeder schools for Lakeview were Chalk Hill, Cayce, Edmunds Colored School, Oakdale, and Long Branch elementary schools.

⁷⁶ James H. Hope, State Superintendent of Education, "School Directory of South Carolina," 1946-1947, Columbia, S.C., p. 124. The directory lists enrollment statistics from the previous school year.

⁷⁷ Virginia B. Bartels, ed. "History of South Carolina Schools," Columbia: Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement 2004.

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received the addition of two frame rooms.⁷⁸ This relatively small step, which occurred in February 1947, presaged far more elaborate improvements throughout Lexington County's schools.⁷⁹

A little more than six months later, on September 5, 1947, Lakeview High School and Lakeview Elementary School held their first day of classes for the 1947-1948 school year. Instructed by a full complement of returning high school teachers from the previous year, students entered the new academic year at an institution that had "improved very greatly" under the leadership of Principal M.[iles] D. Bogan, who had served as principal of Lakeview High School since 1942.⁸⁰ Changes at the school announced at the time involved new teaching personnel at the grammar school level and further improvements to the physical plant that included a shop and a lunchroom, "constructed by the class of the G.I carpenters at Lakeview."⁸¹ While these enhancements marked further growth for Lakeview's students, faculty, and administrators, a cross burning by white supremacists next to the school the following March illustrated the racial climate in which the educational system had been and continued to be shaped.⁸² For Principal Bogan, his wife, Louise B. Bogan, who served as Lakeview's librarian, and other administrators and faculty, the task of preparing students for life after school involved matters beyond academics. By necessity it involved preparing young adults to negotiate and overcome obstacles

⁷⁸ "Students In Carpentry Building Additional Rooms for School," *The State*, February 17, 1947, p. 10A.

⁷⁹ "Progressive Lakeview High Hoping for a New Building," *The Columbia Record*, May 1, 1947, p. 13. In 1942, the school featured "eight poorly equipped rooms and two classes for each teacher from the second grade through the seventh grade." It fielded its first football team in 1944, enjoying no victories. However, the next year, Lakeview won all but one of its games, which it lost by two points. By 1947, the school featured ten teachers and a library, including a "motion picture machine," and a "running water toilet system [which] was the senior class project of 1947."

⁸⁰ James H. Hope, State Superintendent of Education, "School Directory of South Carolina," 1942-1943, Columbia, S.C., p. 134; "Around West Columbia and Cayce," *The Palmetto Leader*, May 8, 1943, p. 4; Jessie T. Anderson, State Superintendent of Education, "School Directory of South Carolina," 1947-1948, Columbia, S.C., p. 126. Miles Bogan would continue to serve as Lakeview School's principal until 1969. During Bogan's years as principal, the student body's size grew considerably. According to *The Palmetto Leader*, Bogan raised more money in his first year as principal than anyone had over the previous twenty years. School directories reviewed for the years in which Bogan worked at Lakeview illustrate the institution's significant growth under his guidance. For the 1942-43 academic year, the number of elementary students to high school students numbered 139/105; for the 1944-1945 year: 177/114; for the 1944-1945 year: 187/106; for the 1946-1947 year: 202/135; for the 1947-1948 year: 188/163; for the 1948-1949 year: 200/183; for the 1949-1950 year: 182/244; for the 1950-1951 year: 204/248; for the 1951-1952 year: 304/169; for the 1952-1953 year: 315/168; for the 1953-1954 year: 441/197; for the 1954-1955 year: 253/339; for the 1955-1956 year: 233/370; for the 1956-1957 year: 233/370; for the 1957-1958 year: 258/399; for the 1958-1959 year: 282/416; for the 1959-1960 year: 294/421; for the 1960-1961 year: 325/423; for the 1961-1962 year: 389/437; for the 1962-1963 year: 403/434; for the 1963-1964 year: 403/449; for the 1964-1965 year: 416/532; for the 1965-1966 year: 446/565. For the 1965-1966 academic year, Bogan was joined by Bernie J. Dingle, who served as principal for Lakeview Elementary School.

⁸¹ "Annex to Be in Use Soon," *The State*, December 15, 1947, p. 16; "Lakeview School Registration to Open Thursday," *The Columbia Record*, September 2, 1947, p. 7A.

⁸² "Cross-Burning at Sugar Town Investigated," *The Columbia Record*, March 5, 1948, p. 1A; "White-Robed Men Burn Cross in Negro Residential Area," *The Columbia Record*, July 30, 1948, p. 1A. This incident and another cross burning four months later, on July 31, 1948, at Columbia's Booker Washington Heights School, were among a series of events illustrative of the ongoing racial strife that shaped life for Black citizens living in the greater Columbia area in the years after World War II during the later era of Jim Crow.

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of racial strife and inequality. It was amid this backdrop of racial tension and division that Brookland-Cayce school system trustees initiated a strategic plan to apply modern architecture, construction materials, and methodologies in the improvement of schools under their authority—albeit within the same framework of de jure racial segregation.⁸³

That same year, the state's General Assembly of 1947 commissioned a comprehensive analysis of South Carolina's public schools which was performed by Nashville, Tennessee's George Peabody College for Teachers.⁸⁴ The findings revealed great shortcomings in education and educational facilities for both white and Black students, but many of the statistics illustrated the vast disparities between the races. For instance, one out of every thirty Black male youth who enrolled in the first grade went on to graduate from high school. For white male youth it was one out of every four. In general, many of the state's existing public schools were in poor physical shape, and the reviewing committee felt that "an extensive program of schoolhouse construction and rehabilitation [was] needed in order to make South Carolina's schools serve a modern program of education. Present buildings [were] overcrowded, needed special facilities [were] lacking, and many obsolete and temporary buildings [were] used."⁸⁵ Moreover, the reviewers explicitly noted that "the disparity in the educational opportunities between the Negro and white children should be discontinued."⁸⁶ Despite the survey's findings and recommendations, support for improved educational opportunities and facilities nonetheless remained a point of debate on all levels of government, even at the presidential level, with Truman's Commission on Higher Education seeking support to abolish school segregation where it was ensured by law in seventeen states and the District of Columbia. Despite logic, some members of the commission voiced opposition, declaring they "recognize[d] the high purpose and the theoretical idealism of the commission's recommendations. But a doctrinaire position which ignored the facts of history and the realities of the present [was] not one that [would] contribute constructively to the solution of difficult problems of human relationships."⁸⁷ The Peabody report's findings, coupled with increasing pressure from Black South Carolinians to address educational disparities

⁸³ "Schools Over the River," *The State*, May 19, 1948, p. 4; "Crow at USC Finals, Sees Revolution," *The State*, August 14, 1951, p. 1A. In his commencement message to University of South Carolina graduates in August 1951, Dr. Eugene R. Crow, director of South Carolina's educational finance commission, opined that the state's equalization program, "constitute[d] nothing less than an education revolution" and that it [would] be costly but "its contribution to the future progress of the state [would] be immeasurable." Crow's speech went on to include his perspective that the school equalization program was the penance for the state's (and the South's) history, essentially "pay[ing] for the stately mansions built by the labor of slaves . . . pay[ing] double for . . . years of neglect."

⁸⁴ Public Schools of South Carolina: A Report of the South Carolina Education Survey Committee, (Nashville, TN: Division of Survey and Field Services, George Peabody College for Teachers), 1948.
<https://dc.statelibrary.sc.gov/handle/10827/6731> accessed July 19, 2022.

⁸⁵ Public Schools of South Carolina: A Report of the South Carolina Education Survey Committee, (Nashville, TN: Division of Survey and Field Services, George Peabody College for Teachers), 1948, p. 66.

⁸⁶ Public Schools of South Carolina: A Report of the South Carolina Education Survey Committee, (Nashville, TN: Division of Survey and Field Services, George Peabody College for Teachers), 1948, pp. 81, 86. The reviewers noted "a marked difference in the educational opportunities available to Negro children and white children in the state" based on "current expense per pupil in average daily attendance" being \$66 for Black students versus \$88 for white students.

⁸⁷ "Truman's Educational Advisors Urge Federal Laws to Prohibit Racial Segregation in Colleges," *The State*, December 22, 1947, p. 5A.

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between Black and white schools, prompted Governor James Byrnes to petition the state's legislature to implement the three-cent sales tax whose proceeds came to fund improvements at Lakeview and the construction of new separate but "equal" schools throughout the Palmetto State—the state equalization program.⁸⁸

A Legacy of Community Activism and Service

A recurring theme throughout the evolution of Lakeview is that of community activism. Arduous and persistent work of Black church and community leaders to overcome obstacles of white supremacy led to Lakeview School's founding during Jim Crow and to its sustenance through the end of segregation. Early activism involved fundraising for basic necessities when the school was in its infancy. For instance, in 1931, parents, led by Principal Shaw, raised \$200 to buy the land on which the community's "spacious" two-room school stood, in addition to the funds necessary to purchase a piano, lights, and stoves, as these items were not provided by the district. As *The Palmetto Leader* reported, by establishing 'improvement clubs' parents were able to successfully raise the necessary money during a time very "dark and discouraging."⁸⁹ Later that year during commencement exercises, which included a picnic with a baseball game, plays, recitations, and a dinner for teachers, community members gave thanks to the support that patrons, black and white, had made toward the school's achievements.⁹⁰ Less than a decade later, further work on the part of the community led to ground being broken on a two-story building for home economics and shop, to be built by men of the school and financed by pledges from family members and school leaders.⁹¹ The parcel of property on which the current facility stands is the legacy of Black community leaders who yearned for improved high school education beyond what they had initially achieved for their youth (and for adults in the community) in the 1920s through early 1940s.⁹² This quest resulted in Black community leaders petitioning the all-white school board in the late 1940s to acquire the property for the purpose of expanding the high school for the growing population of Black youth in the area and in surrounding communities. This message of service to one's community served as the basis for Principal M.D. Bogan's message, which ran in Lakeview's yearbook in 1959, "It is our sincere hope that each student of the Lakeview High School is gaining information that will help guided him into the path of service. You will not find that the world is not waiting to welcome you unless you can help solve some of the problems that will make you one of the persons the world can use in its upward move."⁹³

⁸⁸ W. Gresham Meggett High and Elementary School, National Register of Historic Places Listing, February 20, 2018, Section 8, pages 11-12.

⁸⁹ "New Brookland School News," *The Palmetto Leader*, February 21, 1931, p. 6.

⁹⁰ "New Brookland School Dots," *The Palmetto Leader*, May 30, 1931, p. 6.

⁹¹ *The Palmetto Leader*, May 22, 1939, p. 3. This reference to a "two-story" building seems to be a typographical error, in that the description should have read as a "two-room" building, given the historic photographs that exist of the school at the time of its enlargement and increase in capacity to become a high school.

⁹² "New Brookland School Briefs," *The Palmetto Leader*, September 25, 1937, p. 2. Among the seven regular faculty members for the 1937-1938 school year were two teachers for adult education.

⁹³ *The 1959 Tiger*, Lakeview High School Yearbook, Lakeview High School/BLEC archives.

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The Lakeview legacy of determination, resiliency, and the pursuit of excellence in all endeavors, as championed by its dedicated alumni who have represented five generations of Black people, resulted in victories that would ensure the school's memory not be forgotten. In August 1998, after nearly 30 years at its Batchelor Street campus, Northside Middle School relocated to a new facility off Sunset Boulevard. Following the relocation, a hard-fought campaign by the Lakeview High School Alumni Council, which had begun years earlier, found greater purchase.⁹⁴ The council's efforts ultimately resulted in the Lexington 2 school district board voting to reinstate the name "Lakeview" for what would soon become a multipurpose center for educational advancement, thus continuing in the tradition of educational service to the Sugar Town community.⁹⁵ Lakeview alumni advocacy continues today as manifested in sponsoring historical markers, pursuing National Register of Historic Places status, and securing grants for future interpretive initiatives such as the Lakeview High School Museum.

A Center of Cultural, Social and Recreational Activities

Lakeview students of all grade levels participated in various academic, artistic, social, and athletic events during the entire time the school operated.⁹⁶ Such activities provided financially struggling families living during the Jim Crow era exposure to affordable or free cultural events such as May Day Festivities, operettas, plays, choral and band concerts, talent shows, club meetings, athletic contests, and holiday observances. Constant offerings of such programs throughout the lifespan of the school, resulted in Lakeview becoming vitally important in the social and cultural development of students and the community well beyond the scholastic development it afforded children and young adults. Lakeview provided cultural enrichment and social outlets for grown-ups, too. In 1931, during the early years of the Depression, *The Palmetto Leader*, offered one such example, "The high spots in New Brookland's social life was [sic] reached last Friday evening when the friends and patrons of the New Brookland School gave a reception in honor of Prof. J.W. Shaw and his corps of teachers."⁹⁷ Years later, in April and June 1938, the school (called both New Brookland Negro High School and the New Brookland School) served as the venue for two of five federally sponsored forums presented by Dr. Williams Pickens, a former field secretary of the NAACP. The first was "The Story of Negro Labor," and the second, titled "The Negro in Our History" drew a gathering of about 450

⁹⁴ "Lakeview Alumni Push to Get Name Back," *The State*, August 5, 1993, Neighbors Section, p. 4.

⁹⁵ "B-C, Chapin and Richland Schools Will Begin 1968-1969 Year Tuesday," *The State*, P. 11A; "Lakeview Grads Want Name Back," *The State*, May 28, 1992, p. 1, Neighbors Section; "Lakeview Seeking Alumni," *The State*, November 12, 1998, p. 1, Neighbors Section.

⁹⁶ "1,476 Lexingtonians X-rayed," *The State*, April 1, 1944, p. 2; "Rabies Clinics Scheduled in Lexington Area," *The State*, March 28, 1957, p. 14B; "Sunday is 'Go' Day in Stop Polio Program," *The State*, December 7, 1963, p. 7A; "Magic Show to Stress Safety Rules," *The State*, January 7, 1964, p. 7. Lakeview, like other schools, also served as the venue for health-related and public safety events. One such event involved a mobile X-ray screening program put on by the Lexington County Tuberculosis Association in April 1944 in which students, teachers, and lunchroom workers received free services. Another event involved a mobile vaccination clinic for dogs and other pets to curb rabies. Lakeview served as one of 65 school sites where polio vaccines were administered in December 1963. In January 1964, Lakeview was among a handful of schools at which the South Carolina Department of Education partnered with the South Carolina Law Enforcement, Association, the Motor Transportation Association of South Carolina, and the South Carolina Highway Department to educate students about traffic safety.

⁹⁷ "New Brookland News," *The Palmetto Leader*, June 20, 1931, p. 3.

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attendees.⁹⁸ As one alumna emphasized in considering the importance of his alma mater—Lakeview was the “heart and soul of the community.”⁹⁹ From its inception, New Brookland Colored School, and later Lakeview, formed partnerships with local churches, with the latter, particularly Double Branch and Mt. Zion AME and Brookland Baptist churches, frequently participating in school-related events, occasionally having their choir members perform at graduation ceremonies.¹⁰⁰

Sugar Town/Happy Town

The earliest reference in *The State* newspaper to this area, which lies west of the original New Brookland city limits, being called “Sugar Town” ran in February 1935. However, the origin of the name and the point at which it was popularly coined remains uncertain. Based on real estate opportunities advertised in *The Columbia Record* and *The State* from 1905 through 1907, the area initially was called Lake Park for a white subdivision planned there during the first decade of the twentieth century. By September 1907, developers championed the land as “a good investment for young men” who would “double their money . . . in two years” by buying into “one of the finest suburbs around Columbia on the sand hills” with “no fever known” and “the finest tourist hotel site in the South.” Another name, that of “Happy Town,” apparently was popular enough by the mid-1940s for it to be included in the United States Geological Survey map for 1944.¹⁰¹

⁹⁸ “Federal Forum Project Begun,” *The Columbia Record*, April 12, 1938, p. 16; “Five County Forum,” *The Palmetto Leader*, June 4, 1938, p. 4.

⁹⁹ Reverend Charles Benjamin Jackson, Interview by Dr. Rudy Wise and Bennie Sulton, February 7, 2019, Conducted at Lakeview High School Museum. Transcription by Trish James, Brookland Lakeview Empowerment Center, West Columbia, South Carolina.

¹⁰⁰ “New Brookland School News,” *The Palmetto Leader*, May 9, 1931, p. 6.

¹⁰¹ “For Sale,” *The State*, September 16, 1907, p. 8; Sulton, Bennie. “Happy Town/Sugar Town question.” Received by John Sherrer, June 17, 2022. Sulton recalled the impact that construction of Jarvis Klapman Boulevard and the enlargement of Lexington Street into 12th Street had on Sugar Town/Happy Town, essentially dividing the community in two twice.

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January 25, 2022.

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: Richland County and Lexington County Libraries

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 1049

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 9.12 acres

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: 33.991693	Longitude: -81.077521
2. Latitude: 33.993377	Longitude: -81.078375
3. Latitude: 33.993989	Longitude: -81.076528

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4. Latitude: 33.992302

Longitude: -81.075721

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

The proposed boundaries for the Lakeview School listing are as follows: Batchelor Street to the east, Senn Street to the south, and North Street to the north, and seven privately owned parcels to the west, as documented in TMS 004643-08-014.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary follows surveyed property lines established by Collingwood Surveying, Inc. on April 5, 2008, for The Brookland Foundation and encompasses the entire historic property, including all contributing and non-contributing resources associated with Lakeview School.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: John Sherrer, Director of Preservation

organization: Historic Columbia

street & number: 1601 Richland Street

city or town: Columbia state: South Carolina zip code: 29201

e-mail: jsherrer@historiccolumbia.org

telephone: 803.252.1770, ext. 28

date: February 28, 2022

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.)

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.

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Photo Log

Name of Property: Lakeview School

City or Vicinity: West Columbia

County: Lexington

State: South Carolina

Photographer: Cindye Richburg Cotton; John M. Sherrer III

Date Photographed: January 21, 2021; February 3, 2022

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

- 1 of 25 South façade of 1949 building, looking north
- 2 of 25 South façade of 1952 building, looking north
- 3 of 25 South façade of 1956 building, looking north
- 4 of 25 East façade of 1961 gymnasium, looking west
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Lakeview School

Name of Property

Lexington, SC

County and State

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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

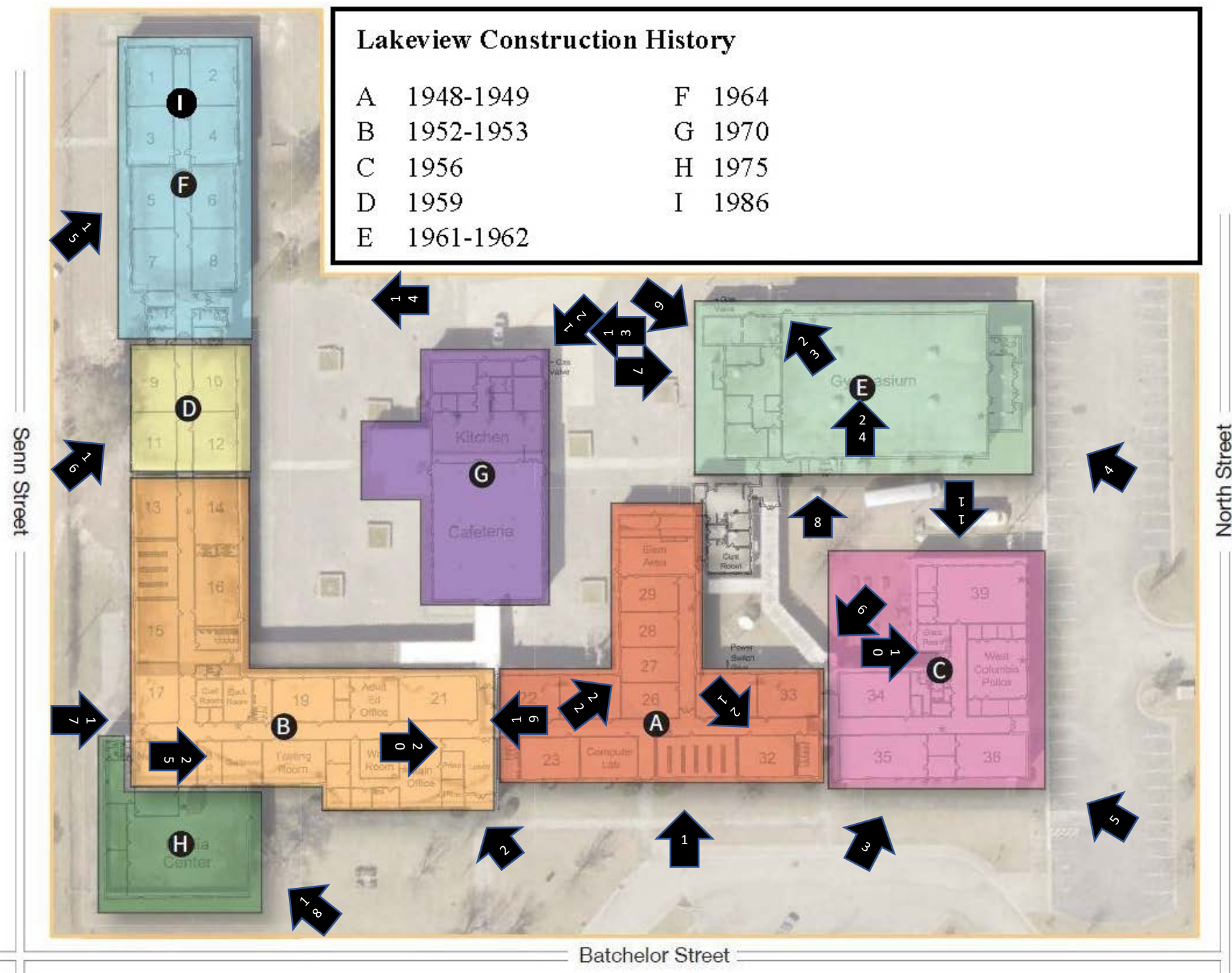
The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering, and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201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

Photo Map

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Lakeview Construction History

A	1948-1949	F	1964
B	1952-1953	G	1970
C	1956	H	1975
D	1959	I	1986
E	1961-1962		



Lakeview School Site Plan with Construction Phases



* = Non-contributing resource

■ = Constructed outside the period of significance (1949-1968)



Lakeview School
West Columbia, Richland County

