

NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
Office of Archives and History
Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Westside High School

Chadbourn, Columbus County, CB1366, Listed 10/4/2022

Nomination by Sherri Jefferson

Photographs by Hannah Beckman-Black, September 2021



Westside High School (Chadbourn Middle School), façade, view south



West view

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: Westside High School
Other names/site number: Gould Academy, Johnson High School, and Chadbourn Negro High School
Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

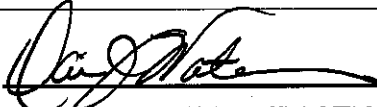
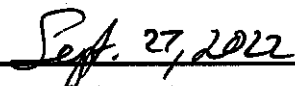
Street & number: 801 W. Smith Street
City or town: Chadbourn State: North Carolina County: Columbus
Not For Publication: Vicinity:

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 X statewide X local
Applicable National Register Criteria:
 X A X B C D

 Signature of certifying official/Title: _____	 Date
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	
In my opinion, the property <u> x </u> meets <u> </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official: _____	Date
Title: _____ State or Federal agency bureau or Tribal Government	

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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

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: foundation

Foundation: CONCRETE

Roof: SYNTHETICS

Walls: BRICK

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

Westside High School Contributing Buildings: Main School and Cafeteria

Located west of the historic downtown district of Chadbourn, Westside High School is situated on two tracts: 9.23 acres and 10 acres at 801 W. Smith Street. The tax parcel identifications for the school and gym are *No.: 13-04949; Deed Book¹ 102 Page 133, Plat Book 22 Page 30 and Plat Book 33 Page 42²* Easy access, the school can be reached traveling from a major thoroughfare (Brown Street). Brown runs through the epi-center of town and is NC 410. The school is also located within 6 miles of Whiteville, which is Columbus County seat and 15 miles from historic downtown Tabor City, N.C. Compelling, Westside is on the direct path to surrounding beaches in North and South Carolina. Following the NC 410 route or SC-9 Route, Chadbourn to Myrtle Beach is 57 miles (91.73 kilometers) by car and 43.87 miles from

¹ Discrepancies and Gap Deeds regarding the property at Westside High School location. No specific deed found for 9.23 ac lot. Gap deed and no conveyance deed for 10 ac lot, which became "owned" by the Town's former Registry of the Deeds Commissioner, Mr. Leo Fisher. In 1919, a L.V. Bradshaw appears to have been the owner. There is no record of the ownership under the Gould Academy or Chadbourn Negro High School early years. Unable to locate deed owned by Campbells on Smith Street.

² Plat Book and Page of the Westside High School Property both school and gym. Columbus County Registry of the Deeds https://search.columbusdeeds.com/view_image.php?key=7f10e0ebf521cf93878b7deeeccc1a9e Retrieved. April 12, 2022

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Chadbourn to Myrtle Beach in the south direction³.

Westside High School is closely related to the surrounding environment and landscape.

Like many schools in North Carolina built for colored students, records about architectural design, engineering and building contractors are not available. While research suggest that Westside may have been designed by Leslie N. Boney, no concrete evidence exist to confirm this as fact. Neither Columbus County, National Archives, North Carolina Department of Education or DPI has records of the school's construction. No blueprints or other records are available. Hence, aside from evaluation of the structure and photos, no evidence of structure, building material or textiles is available.

Main Building

Construction began in 1948. The doors to Westside High School opened for students in ca. 1950. The school is a one-story, low-slung, brick building within the town's limits. Westside High School's main building is situated on a well-kept 10- acre campus, which surrounds a county recreation park [Wilkes] with field and a facility building located west of the school not included in the Historical Registry Boundary. An asphalt and concrete paved, driveway align the property in front of the original building and runs alongside each side of the main entrance doors toward the south of the building.

The front of the building includes a brick and cement foundation with the original ca. 1886 bell from the Gould Academy school. The bell surrounds planted trees at the Smith Street entrance.

Currently, the frontage of the school has signage that reads "Chadbourn Middle School." The sign has a stone base and sided with brick. The school is built with concrete central block with a main and secondary front entrance, the foyer, front offices, a library, and classrooms. The school also possess a gymnasium. Because Westside is still located at its original location, the current setting maintains the integrity of its origins. Westside also maintains integrity of most of its original building material with both exterior and interior finishes. The Westside High School building evokes the historic sense of its 1950s period.

Metal chain-linked fencing surrounds part of the school grounds and the fields. Some evergreen and flowering plants and compact trees still grow in the front and back of the school building and surround the school.

Directly across the street from the school now sits the "Westside Community Center," which is located on property once occupied as the "Globe." A student center, Erastus and Lucy Campbell financed the *Globe* as a social gathering place for Black students. For several decades, the *Globe* was a gathering place for Black students who could not entertain at public places due to discrimination and segregation laws. Today, the Westside High School alumni own the center.

³ Chadbourn to Myrtle Beach, S.C., [Distance between Chadbourn, NC and Myrtle Beach, SC \(distance-cities.com\)](https://distance-cities.com)
Retrieved, March 25, 2022

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Unlike the Cedar Grove, J. J. Jones and others colored schools throughout North Carolina, Westside High School experienced no significant renovations over the years.

Years 1948 - 1955

Construction on the main building began in 1948. The doors to the main campus opened for enrollment ca. 1950. The Westside campus included the "Main Building" along with other smaller buildings. The Main Building was a simple rectangle structure oriented parallel to Smith Street. The rectangular structure housed the classrooms, offices and restrooms. Three buildings to the west of the Main Building and one to the east included the former Chadbourn Negro School's Elementary building, the Home Economics and Agriculture building and the Primary building. The Home Economics and Agriculture building remained in use and the elementary school served as the cafeteria. The old building east of the school provided refreshments, fruits and "hot plates" to students and faculty. Erastus and Lucy Campbell owned the property. The other buildings built before World War II were constructed along the Smith Street corridor.

The Chadbourn Negro School Primary building and Home Economics and Agriculture building served the students and faculty until ca. 1955. The buildings demolished and never replaced.

Gymnasium and Auditorium

Unlike the 1911 Chadbourn High School built for white students, Westside students did not have a gymnasium or auditorium. According to Preston A. Davis and Kathleen "Cobb" Smith, president and secretary of the Class of 1957 and former Westside High School educator, the *Globe* had a dual purpose as a community auditorium, student center, and gymnasium. It was located across the street from the "Main Building." The school and community hosted graduations, school dances, and sporting events. The structures demolished. In their place is the Westside Community Center. Today, there are four (4) buildings, which includes two conforming and two non-conforming structures: the main school and cafeteria and the gymnasium and utility building.

Years 1970 - Present

In 1969, Westside graduated its last class as a colored-only school. The school changed to comply with desegregation laws and to accommodate a growing student population. In ca. 1970s, Westside High School became Westside Elementary and remained an elementary school until ca. 1990s. During the late ca. 1970s, the district added an additional classroom section to the east and west wing of the "Main Building." Each with a covered porch or breezeway. Then, the district renamed the school to Chadbourn Middle School around 1992. The front entryway changed to add "CMS" and the Gould Academy's 1886 "Bell".

By 2012, the Washington, D.C. Chapter of the Westside High School alumni and others, financed the construction and maintenance of the community center. It replaced the *Globe* student center, which was torn down years earlier. The building is not part of this nomination.

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The Area Today

The area surrounding the school is largely residential. From 1948-1969, the community surrounding Westside High School consisted of acreages of land and privately owned property. Smith Street, now called S.R. 1423 consisted of an informal field used periodically by the current school for playing sports. The field is different from the field called Wilkes Park, which is not part of the Historical Registry Boundary.

East and west of Westside are modest homes built in the 1920s and other newly constructed properties built as recent as 2018. The home designs include bungalows, craftsman-styled homes, colonial homes and ranch-style houses. Not far from the Westside High School site is Chadbourn Elementary School and other homes built as early as 1900. These homes remain in good-condition.

Westside High School Main Campus

Included in the Historical Registry Boundary is the current 10. acre-tract. The Westside High School campus is located on the same property once occupied by Gould Academy (1886), Johnson High School (ca. 1920) and Chadbourn Negro High School (ca. 1930). Westside is still oriented facing Smith Street and extends around the end of the main building. The paved entrance surrounds wood terrain and is on a flat, even site. The original campus included 4 buildings, the main school, home-economic/agricultural building, cafeteria and the *Globe*, which was a social building for students. Today, four buildings remain on the campus: "Main Building" and cafeteria, utility/boiler, and gymnasium. The school is located on 4-tax parcels, which includes two easements and adjoins a 9.23-acre tract.

A postwar school, Westside High construction started in 1948 using cost-effective construction, building material, and minimalist features. The foundation of the building is brick and cement. The walls are brick and the roof is asphalt. The current main building consists of 12-classrooms, three offices, cafeteria, library/reference room and restrooms. The gymnasium is a one-story building.

Exterior

Postwar construction focused on safety of students and easy access to exits, but there is no information regarding whether they used lead paint or built the school with detail to air quality, and other issues now associated with school construction or heating and air conditioning needs,

One-story, Westside High School features a modernist design. Builders built Westside High using the brick wing walls with a stacked bonded design. Some parts of the building have concrete frames with what appears to be brick veneer - possibly from repairs or addition of classrooms. Some of the front façade windows use an equal light pattern in a casement style, minimalist, and modern window grid consisting of eight glass panes arranged in four groups of

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four on the frontal view of the school. Some windows have rowlock brick sills. Throughout the property, there exist other window designs and features like window-walls, row windows, and four-over-four sash windows. Some windows include rowlock brick sills.

The rear of the building consists of 12 small windows. Entrances consists of double acting doors installed at the main entrance. The entrances are steel or aluminum with glass inserts. Other doors are aluminum without inserts or vinyl replacement. The school is sheltered by porches (breezeway) supported by square wood posts.

Visibly seen from the main entrance of the school with the Chadbourn Middle School - "CMS" signage, is a brick smokestack (chimney), which rises between two banks of windows. The banks are located at 3 and 4 of the six banks.

Interior

Unique to the school design is the existence of the original restroom sinks and toilets, doors, textile, some asphalt flooring, cabinetry, desks, hardwood doors and corridor windows. Depending upon entrance point, the classroom wings extend west and east from the main entrance and feature large expanses of windows and roof monitors. The school also have several clerestory windows and above doorways, which allows natural light in the instructional spaces.

Classroom and Hallways

Westside High School design is an open corridor plan. Some of the classrooms open directly to an outdoor hall or to an outdoor courtyard. The main entrance at the head of the classroom wing opens to the east-west wing, with offices on the southeast and the classrooms east. Measuring about thirty feet by thirty feet with nine-foot ceilings (some measuring seven-foot) and window-walls, some classroom consists of linoleum floors or are covered with low carpeting. Other classroom walls are cement-block covered with plastered or drywall. Ceilings are covered with acoustical tiles and have lighting panels.

Some of the classroom doors located at the south end of the west side have solid wood doors, metal fixtures, and 6-horizontal-glass square inserts at the two-top. Doors also have a covered-glass insert in the middle of the doorway with signage above. The doors are trimmed in steel frame and coated with paint. Westside's 8-glass grid windows also create ventilation and an abundance of light in classrooms. Classrooms designs include chalkboards and/or whiteboards.

Classrooms appear on each side of the school corridor. Some classrooms have exit doors leading to the courtyard. A few classroom fixtures include original cabinetry. Original cabinetry in the home economics room and breakroom includes cabinets and countertops. Other rooms have cement-block partitions, which includes kitchen sinks and faucets.

Uniquely situated, some classrooms have skylights and a few possess vintage-styled, wooden desk with attached chair. The remaining desks sets are modern and laminated.

The hallways run east-west with a T-shape from the main entrance with walls constructed with

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single painted bricks. Some aligned with plastered covered cement-blocks, 6-glass panel clerestory steel framed windows, and walls panels (corkboard/whiteboard). Some walls have affixed water fountains.

Offices

The offices are spacious open floor plans made with cement-block walls, which consist of linoleum flooring and some with low carpeting. An office has about nine-foot ceilings and window-walls, acoustical tiles and lighting paneling.

Cafeteria/Kitchen

The original cafeteria and kitchen are located on the ground floor of their original building. The original walls are concrete with some plaster and paint. Ceilings have acoustical tiles and some have lighting panels. The cafeteria floor is linoleum. The kitchen area includes a commercial type vent hood and plumbing appearing original to the building. The kitchen consists of tile flooring. A small cafeteria serving line with tray layout and side table exist. A steel entrance door enters the cafeteria from the kitchen.

Restrooms

Westside bathrooms are original to the building. The girls and boy's restroom consist of metal truss ceilings with skylights and cement-block walls with tiles. There are five steel framed, 3-grid modern glass windows. The metal stalls are original to the construction and bolt to the tile flooring. Multiple wall sinks align the east wall with faucets.

Gymnasium

Interior

Constructed in 1984, the gymnasium is located on the 9.23⁴-acre tract of the Westside campus. The gymnasium is complete with metal truss ceiling. The walls are cement-block walls. About 18 small skylights adorn the gym. The gymnasium has linoleum tile floor complete with a black painted basketball court designed and goals are located on each end of the gym. Each one centered mid-court. Openings at the end of the west wall leads to other rooms, which have cement-block walls and ceiling lighting. This area includes the locker room and shower. The locker room consist of top-bottom, metal wall unit lockers and floor lockers. The gymnasium leads to an open field.

Exterior

The gymnasium also serves as Westside's auditorium. It is built of brick and running-bond brick veneer on concrete block. The primary part of the building rests atop a painted cement-over-brick foundation. One-story, the brick and cement building have a slight slope, asphalt rooftop.

⁴ Review of records within Columbus County Registry of the Deeds records, including Plat/Map Book 22 Page 30 and Book 33 Page 42 and Deed records establish gap in conveyance of Deeds and no information about original owners of 9.23 acres or the Campbell's adjoining property on Smith Street.

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The gym has one primary entrance.

Integrity Statement

The Westside High School retains strong integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association for listing in the National Register. Unique to its status is that Westside High School has continued its educational services on the exact same site as Gould Academy (started 1886), Johnson Negro High School (1918), and the Chadbourn Negro High School (.ca 1930). Compelling, it remains on the same site it has occupied since the original school was built in 1948 and when the first class enrolled in ca. 1950. Its setting still conveys an almost rural, uncrowded, residential environment on the westside of Chadbourn. The campus layout has not evolved much and still consist of a gymnasium/auditorium and the main school building. All were brick and brick veneered, one story, and Modernist in design.

The current condition of the school still fits within the overall physical character of the school in terms of design, materials, and workmanship and are within the period of significance (1948-1969). There exists two non-contributing building on the historic register boundary site.

The Westside High School alumni building is located across the street from the main building and campus. Therefore, the overall feeling and association related to the significance of the former Westside High School (formerly Gould Academy, Johnson High School and Chadbourn Negro High School) in the history of black education in Columbus County, North Carolina, remains extremely high, and an active national alumni association works diligently to maintain the history of Westside High School and its community.

Westside school maintains its integrity of feeling and design. The original Gould Academy bell remains located on the premises.

Westside School is clearly the most intact mid-twentieth-century building representing the pre-integration period of Columbus County and other parts of the country. Throughout North Carolina, researching records of Negro schools in Alamance County to Yadkin County, Westside is one of the only schools with no records (yearbooks, photos, and grade reports, etc.). Columbus County's other Black high schools including **Central** (formerly Whiteville Negro School), **Farmers Union, Tabor, Mt. Olive and Armour** did not have the longevity as Westside High School. As soon as schools integrated in Columbus County, these schools either closed, merged and/or suffered demolishing.

The struggle for equality and equity in educating Black children in Chadbourn, North Carolina in the segregated South and its impact on African American lives is memorialized in the history of Westside High School. The chronicling of the history of Black formal schools and the creation of Westside High School exemplifies this struggle. The journey from Gould Academy to Johnson High School, from Johnson High School to Chadbourn Negro High School, and from Chadbourn Negro High School to Westside High School demonstrates the importance of preserving the history of these building and garnering an understanding of the 100-year journey to attain equity

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and equality in education in North Carolina and the United States.

Statement of Archaeological Potential

The Westside High School remains on the site it occupied since the founding of formal Black education in Chadbourn, North Carolina. The property remains closely related to the surrounding environment and landscape. The site includes archaeological deposits, such as debris that accumulated during operation of the school, infrastructural remains, remnant landscape features such as planting beds and paths, and structural remains of the earlier Gould Academy and Chadbourn Negro High School bell are present. An examination of these items can lead to an understanding and interpretation of the school and life of Black children during the period of significance. The spatial organization of outdoor activities and the character of daily life is in the archaeological record. But also depends upon the lens of examination, the information concerning institutional culture and African American identity before and during the periods of significance. Therefore, archaeological remains may be an important component of the significance of the school. However, at this time no one has investigated to discover these remains.

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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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Education
Ethnic Heritage -Black

Period of Significance

1948-1969

Significant Dates

1915-1930
1945-1957
1969

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Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Erastus and Lucy (Alston) Campbell

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Leslie N. Boney

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.)

Westside High School meets the National Register of Historic Places Criterion A and B in the areas of education and black ethnic heritage as a facility providing early education to African American students in the eastern town of Columbus County North Carolina from 1948 through 1969. However, the school's history chronicles the progressive movement of African American education from Reconstruction to the Civil Rights era of the mid-twentieth century and examines the role of education in the segregated South before and after *Brown v. The Board of Education of Topeka* (1954) and its implication upon separate but not equal education and the need to integrate learning.

The historical significance of Westside and the individuals who chartered its founding and success is important to American history as it demonstrates the state of public education for Black students and the challenges and triumphs to maintain an identity in a society that sought to eradicate their existence. Westside's history includes its struggle for equality in attaining a basic tenet: education.

For over 132 years, the site of Westside High School provided education to Black children. First at this location was Gould Academy, established in 1886 by the Christian Board of Education via Fuller for the Presbyterian Church USA via Fuller Memorial Presbyterian Church in Durham. In 1918, the 5-teacher Rosenwald School formerly called Johnson High School then, Chadbourn Negro High School in ca. 1930 replaced Gould Academy. In 1948, construction began on Westside High School, which remains on the existing site. In 2022, the structure remains intact.

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

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Chadbourn, Columbus County, North Carolina

The North Carolina Legislature incorporated Columbus County in 1808 within Whiteville as its county seat. The legislatures incorporated the Town of Chadbourn on March 7, 1883, and it is named after lumber merchant James B. Chadbourn of Wilmington, NC.

Chadbourn is located within Columbus County. Modern day Columbus County began as part of Sothern Bladen County formed in 1739, and western Brunswick County, formed in 1764. Whiteville is the designated county seat. Columbus County formed in 1808 from parts of Bladen and Brunswick Counties. Named after Christopher Columbus, the county is the 3rd largest in size and has a population of over 55,000.

Citizens of the county were known for farming and harvesting tar and turpentine from their pine tree forest. Hence, the railroad became a necessary industry as naval stores and crops became an intricate part of the economy. Between 1853 and 1855, Columbus County had two railroads: Wilmington & Manchester and Charlotte & Rutherfordton. According to the 1900 Census, the population was 243 people. By 1910, the census reported, a population growth to 1242 people. In part, the growth occurred because of J.A. Brown's request of Northerners and Westerners to come to Chadbourn to engage in farming. Through his "Sunny South Colony" program, he offered land for nominal money to create a thriving farming and business economy.

The town thrived as an import and export for lumber, tobacco and crops. Subsequently called the Strawberry Capital of the World.

Chadbourn's leading transportation system included the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad passenger trains, which traveled from Elrod, Robeson County, North Carolina to Myrtle Beach, Horry County, South Carolina. Chadbourn, NC served as the connection point between the lines. Connections points were to Wilmington, North Carolina and Augusta, Georgia.

After the passage of the Civil Rights Act, it appears that the town's final passenger train via Augusta - Sumter - Florence - Chadbourn - Wilmington ended between 1965 or 1966. Congress had enacted a law banning race discrimination in public accommodations, Title II of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. As white leaders worked to maintain segregation, schools remained segregated despite the Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka ruling.

Education in Columbus County, North Carolina and Historical Context:

History of Black Education in Chadbourn, Columbus County

North Carolina passed its first public education law in 1839. Prior to North Carolina's integrated public school system, Black children in Columbus County learned at home; through the church; at boarding schools like C.S. Brown in Winton, N.C.; Brainerd Institute formed by the Presbyterian USA Church in 1866; and, at schools in Northern states. Those who furthered their education in Columbus County faced the reality of segregated learning.

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According to Lewis⁵, by 1884 Columbus County had 1,400 African American students and 2,200 white students. By 1885, Columbus County had 121 schools⁶.

By 1886, some Black children were formally educated in Columbus County through the Christian Board of Education. The Fuller for the Presbyterian Church USA via Fuller Memorial Presbyterian Church in Durham created the Gould Academy in Chadbourn. The Gould offered K-12 education. By 1900, Professor Jacob, an African American educator formed the "Professor Jacob School" in Lake Waccamaw, Columbus County.

Black students did not attain equal education in Columbus County. Public education for Blacks in Columbus County became available through assistance of prominent African Americans and Northern philanthropist.

White students in Chadbourn attended Chadbourn High School erected in 1911. The CHS brick two-story school was constructed as an agriculture building, gymnasium, cafeteria, and community cannery. The school offered a 4-year high school akin to the Northern states and employed 2 high school teachers who taught 54 students; 6 teachers taught 96 pupils in the graded (elementary) school. Mr. H. M. Bowling served as the principal.

In 1911, Black children in Chadbourn attended Gould Academy, a small one-story wooden schoolhouse located in the westside district of the town. The school did not have the amenities offered white students at Chadbourn High School. Other than the Gould, the African Methodist Episcopal churches like Mt. Zion AME and St. Mary's AME (1913) organized in Columbus County to offer home-study programs. By 1920, the County had 8,000 students⁷.

In other parts of the County, some Black children attended school in the 1920s in facilities built designed by Wilmington architect Leslie N. Boney - 1926 Acme-Delco and Cerro Gordo schools. Most schools were federally funded (WPA) agricultural annexes dating to 1936, and the 1950s with gymnasiums.

Despite segregation laws, some Blacks and whites did intermingle and marry in Chadbourn as noted by the 1940s census and other pre-1940 cohabitation documents. However, these relationships did not prevent segregated learning in Chadbourn or within the county, which had a separate school for Blacks, Whites and Indians.

Early Years of the Westside High School Site 1886 -1930s

The current site of Westside High School once enrolled Black students at the Gould Academy in 1886. The school was founded by The Board of Christian Education of the Presbyterian Church, USA via Fuller Memorial Presbyterian Church in Durham. The school was a traditional school-

⁵ Gordon Lewis, Facts about Columbus County. 1945 ed. Chadbourn, N.C. : Columbus County News, [1945?] iv, 74.

⁶ Home-study programs, church affiliates and county schools.

⁷ Id. Lewis

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house. One open room. No official records are available about the Gould⁸. However, oral history informs that in 1905⁹, the school taught students via two teachers. One taught primary and the other high school.

By 1915, Gould had outgrown the students because the railroad industry (naval stores) and cash crop (Strawberry) had improved the economy through the *South Sunny Colonist* program started in 1895 by J.A. Brown. With assistance from the Smith family, Mr. J.A. Brown acquired acres of land in Chadbourn. Recognizing the farming industry had suffered, he decided to reach out to people across America, specifically Northerners and Westerners to come to Chadbourn. He called the program “*Sunny South Colony.*” To improve the economy, these “colonist” would invest their money in land and businesses within Chadbourn to develop the farming and naval industry.

Erastus “*aka Ras, R.S and R.C*” Campbell and his wife Lucy (Alston) Campbell relocated to Chadbourn, North Carolina.

To address the education of Black students, local resident and influential members of the community, Erastus and Lucy Campbell sought the services of their professional and personal contacts to aid the Town of Chadbourn in the construction of a new school. By 1918 the Gould Academy was no longer capable of providing a healthy, quality, educational environment for Black students due to the aging and deterioration of the building and lack of educational resources.

The Campbells housed teachers from the Gould in their properties located at 977 Smith Street and Princess, Wilkes, and Holland Streets in Chadbourn Township. They also had houses for tenants to rent throughout Chadbourn. The Campbells used their transport service to transport students from rural areas to Gould Academy.

Then, the Campbells learned about the Rosenwald schoolhouse program founded and started by Tuskegee University’s Dr. Booker T. Washington in partnership with Julius Rosenwald the CEO of Sears and Roebuck. The program required African Americans to match the seed money of Mr. Rosenwald to build schools. The school districts financed new buildings that aligned with the Rosenwald construction plan. Erastus and Lucy Campbell paid the seed money to build the school in Chadbourn. The Campbells who owned and mortgaged properties and maintained businesses in the region.

Mrs. Campbell also had a midwifery practice and Mr. Campbell owned and operated the general and drug store. Affectionately called the community “clerk.” He also worked for the ACL Railroad company and owned farmland to fund and provide produces and meat for the store. The Campbell’s daughter, Mildred attended the former Johnson High School for primary and high

⁸ Gould Academy reported in the newspaper of the Africo-American Presbyterian Newspaper. *Gould Academy* by name Obit of Emma Fuller 1925. <https://newspapers.digitalnc.org/lccn/sn84025826/1925-08-06/ed-1/> Retrieved. April 11, 2022; Presbyterian Church USA did not respond to several request for information.

⁹ Mary J. Campbell-Jefferson. Oral history from Erastus and Lucy Campbell of Columbus County, NC.

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school.

The total cost of construction and maintenance of the new school named Johnson High School later renamed Chadbourn Negro School was \$9,688.00. The Campbells paid \$2,142.00 and the local school board paid \$6,146.00. Mr. Rosenwald paid \$900.00 of the \$1,400.00 for the construction of the five-teacher plan building.

On January 10, 1929, the Africo-American Presbyterian Newspaper wrote about the Johnson¹⁰ High School.

“EMANCIPATION DAY CHADBOURN. Very impressive Emancipation Day was celebrated on Tuesday, January 1st, 1929, at the **Johnson High School**, of which Prof. J. P. Murfree is Principal. Scholars, patrons of the school, friends of the community and neighboring communities turned out en masse to meet together in one accord to praise God, by way of prayer, speeches and singing. The immortal Proclamation of Abraham Lincoln was read by Miss Marian N. Muldrow, a student of medicine in Howard University. The principal address was, made by Rev. W. C. Pope, of Raleigh. The address was very timely. It was not so flowery, but simple, pointed and very practical. It was food for thought. We feel that everyone present was benefited. Rev. Robert N. Cowran, pastor, of the Chadbourn Presbyterian church, master of ceremonies, did himself proud. It was a great' day in Chadbourn. It will go down in history. Before adjourning, a committee was selected to see that the celebration be. even more elaborate for another; year. “Oh, Liberty! Can man resign thee, Once having felt thy generous flame?” ‘As He died to make men holy. Let us die to make men freer While God is marching on.” J. L. C”

The school is seldom mentioned in any other official records.

Despite a cry for equality in education for Black school children, during the 1920s all school systems in North Carolina maintained separate educational facilities for white and Black students (Waccamaw or Lumdee *Indian children who did not “pass” for white attended school with Black children, if at all. While others had attended a school specifically for Indian children*). Campaigns for equality in education including buildings was advanced by parents, clergy and students.¹¹

By ca. 1930, Johnson High School was renamed the Chadbourn Negro High School. The school offered a K-8 primary and high school curriculum. The Campbells created office space to address the needs of the community and to serve as a liaison for the school.

The Formation of Westside High School 1940 - 1950

Columbus County population continued to grow. The student population was 11,588 during the

¹⁰ EMANCIPATION DAY CHADBOURN. [Africo-American Presbyterian. \(Wilmington, N.C.\) 1879-1938, January 10, 1929, Image 1 · North Carolina Newspapers \(digitalnc.org\)](#) Retrieved. April 11, 2022

¹¹ Sarah Caroline Thuesen, “Classes of Citizenship: The Culture and Politics of Black Public Education in North Carolina, 1919-1960” (Ph.D. dissertation, University of North Carolina, 2003), 248.

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1932-33 school term with 68 schools and 305 teachers. During this period, the Columbus County school system remained segregated with 3,800 African American students and 38 schools¹².

The Chadbourn Negro High School was in poor condition, the Campbells, residents, clergy and educators informed the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction that the school no longer accommodated the growing student population and lacked the resources to provide quality education. The school also lacked a library, gymnasium, classroom and office spaces, fire protection, and adequate plumbing. The Campbells mobilized clergy from diverse Black churches, educators who taught at the school and the P.T.A., they engaged the school board for the construction of a new school.

Although many assert that Westside erected in 1948, the Campbells' evidence reveals the school remained "Chadbourn Negro School." The graduating class of 1949 and the principal school records filed with the Division of Negro Education¹³ demonstrate the Class of 1949 included (**Boys**): Brown, Paul; ¹⁴Campbell, Herman E; ¹⁵Campbell, John W; Dee, Charles; Ford, Curtis; Gause, Willie; George, Walter; Hill, Arthur; Lennon, Huddie; Lennon, James; Mason, James; Murphy, Lemuel; and Robinson, Sherman. The Class of 1949 (**Girls**): Cooper, Bobbie; English, Dorothy; Johnson, Berthel; Lennon, Carrie L; Lennon, Carrie K; Lennon, Delphia J; Lennon, Pearline; Mears, Dorothy; Miller, Bessie; Murphy; and Williams, Etta.

Further, school records reveal Black students took the same classes/coursework as their white counterparts, but did not receive the same books and school resources. Black students were expected to perform the same or better. Johnson High School curriculum included languages like French; English Composition and Literature; Mathematics, which included Algebra and Geometry; and, students learned different Sciences. Their educators were very well educated, too. The faculty who taught in the 1940s also possessed Bachelors of Science degrees and advanced degrees.

Still spending for educating African American students was less than their white counterparts per capita and "separate and unequal."¹⁶ With Campbell aid, members of the P.T.A. staffed and funded events and educational programs for Chadbourn Negro High School.

Westside High School Building 1950-1969

By ca. 1950, builders had completed the construction of the main building on the Westside High School campus. Students merged from Cerro Gordo, Evergreen, Fair Bluff, and Chadbourn to attend Westside for both primary and high school¹⁷. Research suggests Leslie N. Boney designed

¹² Id. Lewis at 25.

¹³ See photographs of the Class of 1949 school records

¹⁴ Not related to Erastus and Lucy Campbell (or Mary)

¹⁵ Not related to Erastus and Lucy Campbell (or Mary)

¹⁶ Jeffrey Crow, Paul D. Escott and Flora J. Harley, *A History of African Americans in North Carolina* (Raleigh: North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1992), at 166.

¹⁷ Preston Davis. President of the Westside High School Class of 1957. Oral history. Dated April 8, 2022.

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the main buildings on Westside High School campus during 1948-1954.¹⁸

In 1954, the United States Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. the Board of Education of Topeka* called for desegregation of schools. Then, the Supreme Court issued a demand requiring all schools to desegregate “with deliberate speed.” This second opinion was due to school districts like Columbus County refusing to or delaying integration. Funding for Black children in Columbus County was less per capita than white students. Columbus County took no action to integrate the schools. To avoid integration, North Carolina and local school boards adopted a “Freedom of Choice” plan.

North Carolina created an advisory commission. In 1956, the Advisory Commission on Education created the *Pearsall Plan*. This plan was an attempt to bypass or ignore compliance with desegregation. The plan transferred the compliance and facilitation of integration to local counties. The plan also allowed students to receive state funds for private school (charter school)¹⁹.

Columbus County did not work toward integrating their school system. By 1957, Erastus and Lucy Campbell’s daughter, Mary Jane Campbell graduated from Westside. It remained colored-only.

Columbus County failed to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Acts of 1964, which prohibited discrimination in federally-assisted programs such as education. By 1969, Westside continued as a colored-only school. The school integrated after 1969 and later became an elementary school under the same name. Thereafter, ca. 1990 the school board renamed Westside to Chadbourn Middle School. It remained Chadbourn Middle School until it officially closed in 2018. Closure occurred over opposition by community leaders and students. The building remains unoccupied. Three other predominately black-area schools also closed. The Board buses children from Chadbourn to Evergreen, North Carolina to attend school. Evergreen school also lacks resources, too.

Critical Significance to Local, State and National Events and Lives

Birth of a Community of Learning

The Fuller Memorial Presbyterian Church via the Board of Christian Education of the Presbyterian Church USA founded and funded Gould Academy. In 1886, Gould was the only *formal* school to educate Black children in the Town of Chadbourn, Columbus County, North Carolina. Some Blacks attained their learning via the AME church home-study program and

¹⁸ Sherri Jefferson reliance upon the only records regarding Black schools via information from various sources: The Columbus County Architectural Survey, 1998: Results of the Columbus County Reconnaissance Survey Turberg, Edward F. [North Carolina]; Edward F. Turberg, [2009?] Call #: R NC 720.975631; Columbus County Architectural Survey, 1998; and, A Historical view of the Columbus County schools, 1808-1977 Paschal, Jerry D. Whiteville, N.C.: Columbus County Board of Education, 1977. Call #: Q NC 370.975 H

¹⁹ Id. Jeffrey at 170

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school. Education for Blacks in Columbus County paid off for better literacy. Especially, in the town of Chadbourn because according to the 1920 US Census documents, Black men and women had higher literacy²⁰ and were more educated than whites.

By 1915, the Academy grew and by 1918-1919 the Johnson High School was birthed. Around ca. 1930 Johnson was renamed to Chadbourn Negro School. More compelling is that according to the 1910 and 1920 census, the Black population had a higher literacy rate than the whites in the Town who were the majority population. This is largely due, in part, to the education provided by the Gould Academy, Johnson High School and Chadbourn Negro School. Westside High School was constructed in 1948 and enrolled the first class of students ca. 1950.

As the Town of Chadbourn increased in population due to its once thriving strawberry and tobacco crops, it was necessary to maintain a K-12 program within the Township. Hence, Westside became the school of choice by the Columbus County Board of Education providing a full curriculum, school plant, trained faculty and by the 1960s the Black only school had as many as 800 students. Today, the Westside High School remains located on the property of the Gould, Johnson and Chadbourn Negro High School site. For almost 100 years, the site educated Black children from K-12. The Black population remains the majority population within the Town limits of Chadbourn.

THE CAMPBELLS: The Legacy and Contribution of Erastus and Lucy [Alston] Campbell to Black Education in North Carolina and Formation of Westside High School

Created a Community of Family, Friends, Fellowship, FurtherEd and Funds

Socially, economically and spiritually grounded, the Campbells were able to capitalize on their relationship within the Presbyterian community to the benefit of the Black community in Chadbourn and surrounding areas. Through meetings and dialogue with E.H. Miller and D.C. Clark, Mr. Erastus Campbell secured an agreement to further fund Gould Academy. Important to note that in 1905, E.H. Miller became the first deacon of the “Chadbourn Presbyterian Church”.

A leader in the “*Africo American Presbyterian Church*” society, the Campbells had a lot of influence. Lucy conversed directly with Mrs. J. A. Brown, Mrs. D. C. Clark, and other women of Chadbourn’s White Presbyterian church. The ladies agreed with the Campbell’s request. Mrs. D. C. Clark married James H. Chadbourn, Sr. and was the granddaughter of Col. Smith of Whiteville. Mr. Col. Smith owned the land that developed Chadbourn.

The owner of a flourishing midwifery practice, Mrs. Campbell was ahead of her time. She ventured to educate all children. Therefore, she and her husband requested the expansion of Gould Academy to further the education of the expanding community. The Campbell children attended the school, too. By now, the Campbells owned several properties in the Chadbourn

²⁰ Columbus County, North Carolina 1920 Census Records. [1920 Federal Population Census - Part 9 | National Archives](#)

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township.

During the early 1900s, many Blacks were unable to purchase land from white owners. The Campbells realized this dilemma and began working toward purchasing, reselling and negotiating land deals for Black families.

Between 1905 and the 1920s, the Campbells amassed land²¹ [acres, lots and *Sunny South Colony* Blocks] from some of the most prominent white families in Chadbourn (and Columbus County) including from **E.H. Miller** [Book and Deed, 01/160, June 23, 1905], **D.C. Clark**²² [Some include May, 1923 D.C. Clark Block Deed Book 119 Page 103], **J.A. Brown** [Book and Deed, S-2/156 November 25, 1921], **J.R. Wilkes** [Book and Deed H-2, 496. May 21, 1910], **T. Lewis** [Deed 123 Page 444 1925], **McCoy**, [Book J-3 Page 335], the town's founder, Mr. Chadbourn [St. Mary's AME land deal on Clark and Smith Street] and, many others.

The Campbells owned most of the land on the westside of Chadbourn to include the 420 Wilkes Street location used to house Masonic members of the Prince Hall Masons and Eastern Stars²³.

By now, the Campbells had a successful midwifery business, mortgage and finance service company, church, embalming and funeral business, and a local general store. They owned properties in counties throughout the region. Plus, they co-founded a nursing school in Fayetteville, North Carolina at 114 Gillespie Street and were co-owners of the Perry Drug Store with a relative, pharmacist Harmon Hassell Perry.

Harmon was the first Black pharmacist in the State of North Carolina. A graduate of Shaw University Class of 1896, Perry regularly volunteered to help educate Black youth in Chadbourn and taught at the Gould and Johnson High School. The Campbell's first drugstore was located at 502 Hillsboro Street in Fayetteville. The Gillespie Street housed the main drugstore. Harmon was the son of William H. Perry and Adaline (Pickard) Perry. He is buried in Brookside Cemetery in Fayetteville; N.C.

Within Columbus County, the Campbells owned several properties including acres on Smith Street in Chadbourn acquired in 1901 and Princess Street in 1905. Avid supporters of education, Erastus and Lucy Campbell financed the education of several Black scholars who attended various colleges and schools. Many of the students majored in medicine, pharmacy, education/teaching, nursing, and trade. Campbell's son also benefitted being educated in Chadbourn, NC. Later, graduated from Meharry School of Pharmacy and Medicine in Tennessee.

Erastus and Lucy Campbell founded the St. Mary's African Methodist Episcopal Church in Chadbourn, NC located on Clark and Smith Street, which they organized in 1913. They were

²¹ Evidence of stolen black land is and remains prominent in the County. A lot of Campbell properties remain unaccounted for and/or transacted without authorization, knowledge or legal consent.

²² Campbells purchased and owned more than 20 lots through 42

²³ This Hall was not donated to Masons or Eastern Stars. Erastus Campbell still owns it.

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also Trustees. Descendants of founders of other AME churches, to include St. Paul in Dillon, SC and Beauty Spot in Robeson County, NC founded in 1869; the Campbells understood the role of religion and education. The AME churches helped to facilitate academic curriculums, too. Although many relied upon the Northern states for academic advancement, they understood the role for and need of historical Black Colleges and Universities located throughout the Southern states.

Notwithstanding, in 1915 the Campbells realized that the Gould was too small to accommodate the growing needs of the Black community. They wanted to build a new school. They engaged the county into partnership with Rosenwald to build the Johnson High School later renamed Chadbourn Negro School. They searched and secured teachers for the 5-teacher school. Their daughter Mildred was also a student.

During the period of 1918-1925, Erastus and Lucy Campbell used their influence to request new construction for schools in Columbus County. Armed with their percentage of money for the cost of construction and financial support from the local school board, the Campbells were able to attain agreements from the Rosenwald Fund to give seed money for the construction of Armour, Chadbourn Negro High School (the Johnson School), County Training, Delco, Farmer's Union, and Lake Waccamaw.

The Campbells also owned property in the City of Whiteville,²⁴ Columbus County and worked diligently for the construction of the city's negro school and teacher's home. Mrs. Campbell was originally from Elrod and Maxton, an area in Robeson County. Her family owned²⁵ land and co-founded Beauty Spot AME church in 1869. It stands today with its original liberty bell at 273 Beauty Spot Church Rd, Rowland, NC 28383. Lucy worked diligently to secure a Rosenwald School for Maxton in 1927.

As reported by the *Africo-American Presbyterian Newspaper*, despite the Great Depression in 1929 the Campbells still invested time, money and resources into the church and community²⁶.

The newspaper reported, "Financially our churches are in good shape. So far, we are up with all our benevolences and local expenses. Our present local program is the remodeling of the Second Presbyterian church of Chadbourn into a beautiful edifice to be known as the Fuller Memorial church. We had our annual rally the second Sunday in September and it was a splendid occasion. Captains had been appointed and the reports were as follows: **Mrs. Lucv Campbell_ \$61.86** Mrs. M. E. Fuller. 42.50 Mrs. Ida Gordon 26.35 Mrs. Georgia Ward 18.30 Mrs. Emma Scipio_ 15.35 Mrs. Georgia Lewis 15.30 Mrs. Ophelia Davis 12.85 Mrs. Mary Lewis _... 10.90 Mrs.

²⁴ Property located on Memory Street; Property that housed the Prince Hall Masons and other land

²⁵ Estate of Mary Johnson Alston Taylor – "Mary Johnson (Alston) Taylor Trust" Probated in 1929. Lucy Campbell, Trustee. After the death of Nelson Alston. Mary remarried Jon Taylor. No children in that union. She continued to live on the Alston estate.

²⁶ In 1929 during the Great Depression, the Campbells Still Led Giving to Church and Civic Programs. Weekly Contributions to One of Many Programs: [Africo-American Presbyterian. \(Wilmington, N.C.\) 1879-1938, November 07, 1929, Image 4 · North Carolina Newspapers \(digitalnc.org\)](#) Retrieved. April 11, 2022

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Novella Scipio_ 15.35 Mrs. Jennie LaSaine. _ 10.35 Mrs. J. Singleton 1.30 Mrs. Mary
McCoy_..... 5.75 Public Offering 14.00 Total .r _ \$250.06.”

To put these numbers into perspective, during this period many Americans were bankrupt or living in poverty. Historian Cheryl Lynn Greenberg wrote *“To Ask for an Equal Chance: African Americans in the Great Depression.”* In the book, she said black unemployment rates in the South were double or even triple that of the white population. In major cities across America, nearly 70 percent of black workers were jobless in 1934. In cities across the North, approximately 25 percent of white workers were unemployed in 1932, while the jobless rates among African Americans topped 50 percent and 60 percent²⁷.

The Campbells had numerous other financial commitments to include four (4) churches: St. Paul AME (Dillon, SC), St. Mary’s (Chadbourn), Fuller Memorial (Chadbourn), and Beauty Spot AME (Elrod, Robeson County, NC). Plus, they had children in school and owned others businesses. During the 1930s, many of their tenants could not afford to pay their rents and their borrowers could not pay their mortgages.

Still, the Campbells managed to pay hundreds per month toward different contributions. They made weekly payments in the amount of \$50 to \$65 per week to each church. Their contributions totaled Two hundred and forty (\$240.00) dollars per month in documented church contributions. Most Americans received an annual income of \$1,368.00 during the Great Depression²⁸.

During the Great Depression, the Campbells continued to amass land. They also sold land to Black families from surrounding areas whom Whites would not sell. Creating an enclave and safe settlement for Blacks, the Campbells thrived in Chadbourn. Their plan helped Black families to become property owners. Most Black land owners in Chadbourn and Whiteville purchased their land from the Campbells. Including **Paul Davis** [Book and Deed 112/197 October 28, 1921 and 164/577 November 13, 1945], **O.W. Williamson** [Book and Deed T-2/32 September 12, 1921] **Frank Bolton** [Book and Deed. 133/465 May 18, 1929], **W.F. Yates** [Book and Deed I-3/91 and 134/258. November 30, 1928], **Currie** [Book 164/107 October 26, 1942] and a host of others. These families benefitted from Westside education, too.

Hence, the Campbell’s involvement with the creation of Johnson High School (later renamed Chadbourn Negro High School) was to ensure that Black students attained college preparatory courses and could compete in society. Desiring the best educators for the Johnson High School, Erastus and Lucy networked to secure teachers from Historical Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU).

By ca. 1930s, the Campbells organized church and civic leaders like **James B. Brown** of

²⁷ Klein, Christopher. Last Hired. First Fired. <https://www.history.com/news/last-hired-first-fired-how-the-great-depression-affected-african-americans> Retrieved. April 11, 2022

²⁸ Petro, Diane. Brother, Can You Spare a Dime? The 1940 Census: Employment and Income Spring 2012, Vol. 44, No. 1 | Genealogy Notes. <https://www2.census.gov/library/publications/1979/demographics/p23-080.pdf> Retrieved. April 11, 2022

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Chadbourn. He served on the P.T.A. alongside **C.M. King** of Cerro Gordo, NC, and **O. L. Anderson** of Fair Bluff NC.

Together, they renamed Johnson²⁹ High School to Chadbourn Negro High School³⁰. The Chadbourn Negro High School remained located at 801 W Smith St Chadbourn, NC 28431. The high school served Black students from Evergreen, Fair Bluff, Cerro Gordo and Chadbourn. Although discussions ensued about naming the school, the Campbell School, the Campbells wanted to grant unto the Black students a sense of belonging to the town. Hence, the Chadbourn Public High School was for white students, and the Chadbourn Negro School was for Black students.

In addition to Chadbourn Negro High School, other Black high schools served Columbus County including Central (formerly Whiteville Negro School), Farmers Union, Tabor, Mt. Olive and Armour.

Columbus County had a separate education department called the Division of Negro Education. The Campbells were instrumental in the hiring of teachers and the principal for the Chadbourn Negro High School because of the influence in the areas of academia, healthcare, sciences, and agribusiness. Erastus and Lucy garnered community support and input about hiring teachers from several Historical Black Colleges and Universities.

In fact, the Campbells were instrumental in hiring the 1937-1938 teachers **W.E. Brown** of Virginia Union, **L.D. Pierce** of Winston Salem's Teacher College, J.V. Reynolds of Benedict College, and **A. L. Williams**³¹ of Atlanta University. All these teachers had a 4-year college education and years of teaching experience in subjects to include English, Math, and Science. Their salaries ranged from \$704-\$1084.00. The Campbell's held meetings at their residence.

A lot of misinformation spreads about the quality of education of Black students. But Black students attained the same level of educational coursework as their white peers. In addition, their faculty prepared them to compete in society and to be upright students with dignity, integrity and pride.

Black educators understood they carried the weight of their ancestors who were denied a formal education. Examining the academic success of the faculty of the Class of 1937-38, one will find they had 9-11 years of prior educational experiences. These faculty members attained their formal education during the early 1900s. Some educators were first generation of freed slaves.

²⁹ Mary J. Campbell-Jefferson. Oral history suggest that "Johnson High School" was named to honor Johnson C. Smith of now Johnson C. Smith University a member-school of the Presbyterian Church USA

³⁰ Mary J. Campbell-Jefferson. Oral History about Erastus and Lucy Campbell. Additional source about Johnson High School by the Eighth Grade Chapter of the Tarheel Junior Historian Association of Westside High School Chadbourn, NC 1961-62. [A Brief History of Cerro Gordo, Chadbourn, Grist, And the Mt. Moriah Community Compiled by the Eighth Grade Chapter of the Tarheel Junior Historian Association of Westside High School Chadbourn, NC 1961-62 \(rawessence.net\)](#)

³¹ Mr. A. L. Williams would become the school's principal.

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Notwithstanding, the Campbells support of Black students included scholarships, field trips, school dances and financing the construction of the “Globe” student center. Importantly, Baptist churches like Free Will Baptist and other churches also were strong supporters of the students of Chadbourn Negro School.

In 1946 Erastus and Lucy Campbell mobilized church and civic leaders to meet at their home to discuss constructing a new school. The Campbells at the helm, the church and civic leaders commissioned the P.T.A. to facilitate a committee to rename the school. Again, the community wanted to name the new school after the Campbells.

Again, the Campbell’s declined citing they wanted a name that would reflect the community. Proud of their work for the Westside Community and the Black settlement, Lucy suggested “Westside High School.” The name embraced the hardworking, proud students and faculty as well as their families. Community builders and volunteers completed Westside High School in ca. 1950. The school remains located at 801 W. Smith Street.

Erastus and Lucy Campbell used their resources and influence to improve the lives of Blacks in Chadbourn. Because of their hard work and dedication toward equity, inclusion and equality, the education and graduation rates of Blacks improved. In 1935, the Johnson High School graduated less than 15 students. In 1940, the Chadbourn Negro School graduation class almost doubled the Class of 1935. According to the Division of Negro Education, Dept. of Public Instruction, State Archives of North Carolina High School Principals' Annual Reports for 1947-1950, the last graduating class of CNS saw academic improvements in all areas of study. Academic excellence was exceptional in Chadbourn.

For decades, Westside was known for “*Black Excellence.*” The students attained academic achievements, succeeded in athletic programs and hosted social gatherings. The students won debate competitions, too. Plus, the 1953-1957 Westside High School Girls Basketball team won two (2) State championships. Segregated, the girls played throughout the State of North Carolina against all-Black schools. After winning two-championships, a plan ensued to let the girls compete against the all-white winning squad. The plan failed due to opposition by State white civic and community leaders.³²

When Chadbourn began construction of Westside High School in 1948, they had six-teachers and 230 students. By 1962, the school had about 33 teachers and more than 800 students with a graduation class of 300. Compelling, in 1962 Mrs. D.C. Clark loaned letters written by the early settlers of the *Sunny South Colony* to display in Westside’s 8th grade history classroom. Some of the letters dated back to 1895 and 1897.

Westside’s success is attributed to dedication, commitment and perseverance of the Campbells. The Campbells built a community of leaders in the field of education: **Messrs. Fouse, A. B.**

³² Mary J. Campbell. *Student Westside High School 1945-1957. Student-Athlete 1953-1957, Girls Basketball. Oral history.*

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Daniels, J. B. Powell, D. George, William Robinson, G. C. Grandy, Douglas Lewis, J. P. Murfree (former Principal of Johnson High School and Chadbourn Negro High School), F. I. McDougald and Prof. A. I. Williams. Devoted principals, faculty and staff created Black Excellence.

By the 1960s, students of Gould, Johnson, and Chadbourn Negro School had become educators and college graduates who returned home, back to Chadbourn, to share their education and experience with their fellow neighbors.

Some of North Carolina's leading Black educators attended and/or taught at Westside including include **James B. Brown, Messrs., Fourse, A.B. Daniels, J.B. Powell, William Robinson, G.C. Gandy, Douglas Lewis, J.P. Murfee (former Principal of Johnson High School and Chadbourn Negro High School) and Johnson, F.I. McDouglad, Doris Scipio Dees and Professor A.I. Williams.**

The Legacy Lives On

The Campbells were an intricate part of negotiating for Black education in Columbus County and Westside in Chadbourn benefitted. Today, their presence and properties remain in Chadbourn. Erastus and Lucy Campbell birthed Chadbourn's westside as a Black settlement to provide home, school, church and community. From 1905 through .ca 1950s, the Campbells had been responsible for housing and providing homes and mortgages to dozens of Black families from Chadbourn to include the *Faison, Frink, Grantham, Smith, Davis, Campbells (not related), Burns, Simpson, King, Wooten, Lindzey, Brown, McDonald, McDuffie, McLennon, and Lennon, Currie, Bailey, Tatum*, and a host of others. From 1961 through the 1990s, most Black homeowners continue to buy, sale or live-in their properties.

From 1905 – 1920, the Campbells availed one of their homes situated on a 16-acre tract of land at 977 W. Smith Street (Columbus County, NC Deed Book 112 Page 197) to serve and house several teachers who worked at the Gould Academy and Chadbourn Negro School. The Smith Street property is within walking distant to school on 801 W. Smith Street. They had another adjoining property next to the school. Other local properties were available for use. The Campbells also provided similar services to faculty in Whiteville, North Carolina for students attending the Whiteville Negro School. But their homestead was in Chadbourn.

Erastus and Lucy Campbell worked to ensure Black children had food, shelter and access to education. By now, the Campbells had not received rents or mortgages from their properties, but did not evict or foreclose. By 1934, the Westside residents experienced suffering from the Depression and the church rallied to provide corporate assistance and contributions through community efforts advanced by everyone.

The local clergy and church members rallied to help their community. Creating teams, each had a responsibility to provide funds to help. The Campbells raised fifty-percent of the total amount collected over and beyond their own regular contributions during the Great Depression and other

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commitments.

In 1934, the newspaper³³ reported “Fuller Memorial Presbyterian- a church, under the wise guidance of our able pastor, Rev. T. B. Francis, is making rapid strides, with no steps backward. During the busy marketing season, the church had a rally, with the members divided into! four groups as follows: Club No. 1—James O. Scipio, President; Mrs. M. M. Fuller, Vice-President; Mrs. _ Captain; Mrs. Georgia Lewis, Assistant Captain. Amount raised, \$33.13. Club No. 2.—Mr. Paul Davis, President; Mr. James Faulk, Vice-President; Mrs. Lucy Campbell, Captain; Mrs. Allie Faulk, Asst. Captain: Amount raised, \$15.45. Club No. 3.—Mr. David Word, President; Mr. D. V. Lewis, Vice-President; Mrs. Lizzie McKoy Langley, Captain; Mrs. Julia A. Singleton, Assist. Captain. Amount raised, \$17.09. Club No. 4.—Mr. Robert Lewis, President; Mr. Erastus Campbell, Vice-President; Mrs. Ida Jordan, Captain; Mrs. J Elizabeth Lewis, Asst. Captain. Amount raised, 25.75. Total amount raised by the four clubs, \$91.98. Our pastor ably explained the new organization of the Presbyterian Church. The members are endeavoring to stand up 100: per cent”

World history impacted the lives of many Chadbourn families. Mary J. Campbell (Jefferson) was born in 1939. Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union had invaded Poland. Consequently, the invasion of Poland lead to World War II. Yet, the Campbells continued to advocate for and contribute to educating Black children whom the State had forgotten.

Erastus and Lucy Campbell ensured that the curriculum at Chadbourn Negro School would prepare Black students to compete in society and that children and families would have access to education, food and housing. Many children resided on farms or within the rural area of Columbus County and transportation was an issue. So, in addition to their Ford Model-T, the Campbells availed faculty to use of their transportation via their Phaetons (horse carriage) and their “buggy wagon” to transport children to school.

By 1945, the Campbells had aided and/or provided housing for several teachers and/or their families: *Powell, Lennon, Muldrow, Scipio, Graham and others*. Some resided on Princess Street, Holland Street, and others on Clark, Wilkes and Smith Streets, to name a few.

Like other Black families in the South, the Campbells also experienced the victimization associated with stolen land throughout South and North Carolina including within Columbus County and surrounding areas.

Still, the Campbells hosted beach events and extended their generousities to students, faculty and their families. Because of segregation laws, Blacks did not have equal access to public accommodations in the South. Chadbourn’s proximity to the beaches enabled the Campbells to let families experience vacations. Erastus by her side, Lucy was the first woman to own and operate a hotel in the Atlantic Beach, S.C. area.

³³ Church members rally to help community. <https://newspapers.digitalnc.org/lccn/sn84025826/1934-09-06/ed-1/>
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Before Tyson, Gordon and Rucker purportedly discovered the “Black Pearl.” Erastus and Lucy Campbell had owned and sold properties to these gentlemen. Lucy Campbell was the strategist and mastermind behind the *masterplan* of the *Black Pearl*. In 1927, real estate investor and mortgagor, Lucy [Alston] Campbell purchased property in Little River Township, Atlantic Beach S.C. from The DeVine family [Book N-6 Page 429 and Book H Page 237].

Later, she financed G.W. Tyson purchase of land on Atlantic Beach. As part of the investment, she and Erastus also purchased property [Book V-6 Page 195].

By 1937, she sold land to R. K. Gordon [Book D-7 Page 114] and in 1944 to M. Rucker [Book 19 Page 132]. Lucy Campbell was instrumental in developing “The Black Pearl” because she created a master plan and financed the development of businesses and secured purchasers and investors.

The first Black woman to own a residence, she was also the first woman to own a hotel, restaurant and social club in Atlantic Beach, S.C. She and her sister Dicey Piglet also owned and operated the **Dew Drop Inn** hotel, restaurant and social club [Book Q-7 Page 132].

The Campbells continued their financial and moral support of Chadbourn schools throughout the matriculation of their daughter, Mary Campbell (Jefferson), a graduate of Westside class of 1957. Mary furthered her education at Johnson C. Smith University, which is one of the ten schools of the Presbyterian Church, USA. She attained degrees from the College of New Rochelle in New York and her Masters at Fordham University in New York. Mary J. Campbell-Jefferson has a scholarship (www.MaryJCampbell-Jefferson.com) program for Chadbourn students³⁴. She married Stephen M. Jefferson and is the proud mother of eight (8) children and at the time of this nomination, she has fourteen (14) grandchildren.

Westside High School: The Class of 1957

According to Mary J. Campbell-Jefferson, Preston Albert Davis, and Katherine “Cobb” Smith, Westside High School instilled morals, values, educational tools, and life skills. Westside prepared students for their future and educational lessons lasted their lifetime³⁵. Members of the Westside High School Class of 1957³⁶ said, in August 1945 the school bell rang at Chadbourn Negro School. The doors opened to a small four (4) room white wooden building.³⁷ Our First-Grade teachers, Ms. Ethel Elliot and Ms. Elizabeth Powell, greeted us. From second through eighth grade our teachers taught and nurtured us.”

Neither the Columbus County School Board nor the North Carolina Department of Education maintained records, photographs, yearbooks, or other important information about Westside or

³⁴ Mary J. Campbell-Jefferson Scholarship. www.MaryJCampbell-Jefferson.com

³⁵ Mary J. Campbell-Jefferson, Preston Albert Davis, Katherine “Cobb” Smith

³⁶ Mary J. Campbell-Jefferson, Preston Davis, Katherine “Cobb” Smith, Genora Nance (Williams) Vera Parham, Mary Lee Little Boswell, Pearlene Frink Rozier (and the late Ashley Rozier, II), **and** the Westside Class of 1957, 2007 Class Reunion Committee and attendees.

³⁷ Entering Class of 1957, first-grade 1945 class photograph provided with nomination.

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its former schools (Chadbourn Negro High School). However, some local families and Eighth-Grade Teacher, Mr. D. R. Brown took and maintained photographs of students throughout their matriculation. Classmate Genora Nance-Williams kept photographs, too.

Westside Class of 1957 teachers included **Ms. Elizabeth Powell, Ms. Dorothy Moore Powell, Ms. Faye Dees, Ms. Courtney Scipio Muldrow, Ms. Doris Dees, Ms. Virginia Corbett, Ms. Virginia Jacobs George, Ms. Iris Davis and Mr. James R. Brown. Other faculty included Jimmie Reynolds, Theodore “Fred” Reynolds, and Mable Bradley-McDonald. Principal William L. Alphonso** served at the helm of leadership of both Chadbourn Negro School and Westside High School.

The faculty and students were blessed daily with nutritious meals prepared by culinary staff Ms. Gina Vann and Ms. Lelia Williams. Although the local school board was required to feed the children with food from the USDA, the board failed to meet their duties. Throughout the school term, Erastus and Lucy financed meals along with Paul Davis,³⁸ William Davis, Sr., and local clergy. The school had an excellent custodian staff: Samuel Antione and Versie Towns (also a school teacher).

The surrounding schools began to merge with Chadbourn Negro High School, which taught primary (Elementary K-8) through twelfth grade (12).

1. In 1951, the Mt. Moriah Colored School enrolled eight (8) students into Chadbourn Elementary School. Ms. Mable McNeil, Ms. Versie Towns, and Mrs. John L. Jones taught the new enrollees. Mr. James R. Brown taught at Mt. Moriah before starting to teach at Chadbourn Negro High School.
2. In 1952, Cerro Gordo Black School came as eighth graders. Ms. Mable McNeil was one of their teachers at Cerro Gordo before coming to Chadbourn Negro High School.
3. In 1953, Carver Elementary School located in Fair Bluff, North Carolina taught students from grades first through eighth, under the leadership of their principal Mr. Jones. Their teachers were Ms. Clara Graham, Ms. Freedman, Ms. Mabel McNeil, Ms. Corbett, Ms. Spaulding, Ms. Haskin, Ms. Victoria McAlister and Ms. Lennon.
4. In 1953, all the students entered high school at the newly constructed Westside High School in Chadbourn. The Class of 1957 homeroom teacher was Ms. Helen Lennon. Ms. Hester Price became the homeroom teacher in their sophomore year.
5. Westside High School students had a full curriculum of **English** (composition, literature), **History** (American, World, Political Science, etc.), **Mathematics** (algebra, geometry, etc.) **Science**³⁹ (general labs, physical, earth, etc.), **Languages** (French and German), **Music** and the **Arts**. The students also had several clubs including a Debate club, which Mary J. Campbell (Jefferson) joined the speech and debate program.

³⁸ Mr. Paul Davis was a prominent man in Chadbourn, NC and North Carolina. Recognized for his role in the African American Presbyterian Church. Also, business partner with the Campbells.

<https://newspapers.digitalnc.org/lccn/sn84025826/1928-11-22/ed-1/seq-2/> Retrieved. April 11, 2022

³⁹ The curriculum created and shared by Dr. Harmon Hassell Perry, the First Black Pharmacist in North Carolina was still being taught with lessons shared by Thomas Nelson *Collins* Campbell.

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6. Ms. Hester Price was also one of the girls' basketball coaches and led the girls to two (2) state championships years. The Westside High School Wildcats girls' basketball team members⁴⁰ and uniform numbers: Team Captain Pearlene Frink (6), Hazel Ward (4), Ernestine Dees (13), Jeanette Smith (14), Mary Jane Campbell [Jefferson] (8), Betty Jane Garden (3), Louise Gore (7), Rubie Lee Haynes (5), Genora Nance (12), Joshine Daniels (11), Patsy Lawrence (10), Albant McCoy (9), Coach, Miss Hester Price.
7. On May 18, 1957, students from Mt. Moriah, Cerro Gordo and Fair Bluff all received their high school diplomas as graduates of Westside High School Class of 1957.
8. The Class of 1957 Officers: Homeroom Teacher, **Ms. Hester Price**; Class President, **Preston Albert Davis**; Class Vice-President, **Kathleen "Cobb" Smith**; Class Secretary, **Jeanette Smith-Brown**; and, Class Treasurer, **Thurman English**.
9. Class Moto: "Every Noble Life Leaves A Fiber of It." Class Colors: Pink & Black. Class Flower: White Carnation. Class Song: "*Westside We Are Leaving*."
10. The Alma Mater: "*Dear Westside High We Love Thee*" and the Negro National Anthem "Lift Every Voice." The faculty and students wrote the alma mater song,

The Alma Mater: "*Dear Westside High We Love Thee*"

*Dear Westside High we love thee.
We'll love thee to the end;
No matter where we go or roam.
We'll always call thee home.
Your colors we will cherish,
Shine on purple and gold,
And may you never perish
But stand out firm and bold.*

*Refrain
DEAR Westside High DEAR Westside High
We'll always love you so!*

*DEAR Westside we love thee.
For all you done for us;
You taught us everything we know.
And showed the way to go.
We'll lift up high your banner.
And we'll never let it go.
We'll love in such a manner,
Our love will overflow.*

*DEAR Westside High we love thee.
This promise we'll hold dear;*

⁴⁰ Mary J. Campbell-Jefferson Team Member Class of 1957. Photograph of team filed with nomination.

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*That were we go the world may see
Just what you'd want us to be.
Your colors we will cherish,
Shine on purple and gold,
And may you never perish,
But stand out firm and bold.*

An organized, educated, motivated and empowered group of students, the Class of 1957 included classmates for the 12-year school terms of 1945-1957 enrolled in Chadbourn Negro High School and Westside High School. The Class of 1957 classmates included,

Addison, Mable
Anderson, Blondell
Anderson, Bobbie Francis
Baker, Arthur
Barr-Swinson, Irene
Boone-Cooper, Mamie Lee
Brown, Callis
Brown, Calvin
Burris, Alton Audolph
⁴¹Campbell, Lonzay
Campbell-Jefferson, Mary Jean aka Mary Jane Campbell⁴²
Canty-McCoy, Evelyn
Connor, Kathleen
Connor, Etah
Currie-Nixon, Gracie
Currie-Gains, Macie
Currie-Watson, Emma R
Daniel Tindell, Geraldine
Davis, Preston Albert
Elliot Jr., Balaam Thalphooza
English Jr., Thomas
English, Thurman
Evans, Perry
Everett-McCormick, Dorothy
Faulk, James
Flowers-Mingo, Ruby
Flowers, Clarence
Ford-Huwett, Doris Jean
Frink, James E
Frink-Nance, Katie Ruth

⁴¹ Not related to Erastus or Lucy Campbell or Mary J. Campbell

⁴² Erastus and Lucy Campbell's "Mary J. Campbell"

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Frink-Rozier, Pearlene
Gardner, Wihelmenia
Gaskin-Parham, Vera Mae
George, Eugene
Gore, Jimmy
Gowan-Brown, Valdenia
Graham, Jeremiah
Graham, Johnny Ray
Graham-Rouse, Mary Emma
Hardie, Billy L
Harvey, Alfred
Hill, Christine
Hill, William (Abdul)
Holland-Young, Luccinder
Jackson, Oneal
Jenkins-Key, Gloria Louise
Kelly-William, Margie
Lanson, Ralph
Lawrence, Mary Agnes
Lawrence-Duke, Lavern
Lawrence, William Wesley
Lennon Jr., Cicero
Little-Boswell, Mary Lee
Mack, James
McAllister, Russell
McBride-Burch, Cora
McBride, Jeremiah
McCoy-McEachern, Doris Verleen
McFadden, Elizabeth
Meares-Simpson, Shirley Anne
Moore-Hunter, Enika
Nance-Williams, Genora Lee
Oliver, James Burt
Parker-Shaw, Betty
Porter-Showers, Sarah
Powell Jr., Brady
Pratt, John
Pringle, Johnny
Reed, Roy Lee
Rouse, Fred Oscar
Singleton, James
Smith Jr., James
Smith-Brown, Jeannette
Smith Jr., Jesse

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Smith, Kathleen (Cobb)

Strickland, Barbara Jean

Strickland, Randolph

Tart, Willie James

Thomas, Ernest David

Thompson-Stackhouse, Sadie M

Vereen, Merlene

Vereen, Hattie M

Wall, Cornelius

Williams, Billy Ray

Williams-Brown, Elsie Ray

Williams-Frink-Currey, Eva Mae

Williamson, Wyland

Yates-Penn, Andrew Lelar

Yates, Betty

Yates, Felton

In the words of Preston Albert Davis,⁴³ immediately after graduation, he was ready for the world. He left Chadbourn, North Carolina for college and upon attaining his education in accounting relocated to New York. Ms. Kathleen “Cobb” Smith,⁴⁴ attended Fayetteville State College where she attained her degree in Education. She returned in 1961 and taught at Westside High School for several years before relocating to New York. Mary Lee Little-Boswell, attained her higher education in New York and continued to reside in New York. Later, she returned to Lumberton, North Carolina. All have continued their ties to the Chadbourn, Columbus County area and own and/or operate a business or property.

Other classmates like Gracie Brown (57) worked in Columbus County and served the Westside P.T.A; Julius Wilson (56) graduated college, relocated to New York and owned insurance companies while Paul Gerald, Jr. (56) graduated college and retired State Director, Social Security Administration. He later returned to Columbus County. Each has continued ties with the Columbus County community and own or manage property in Chadbourn. Mr. Townes is a graduate of Westside, relocated to Brooklyn, New York and became a member of Congress and served on the Congressional Oversight Committee.

The Last Years of Westside High School

Between the Class of 1957 and the Class of 1969, students at Westside High School endured the Vietnam War and the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, Malcolm X, Senator Robert F. Kennedy, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. They witnessed the Apollo 11 journey to put humans on the moon. By now, the passage of two Civil Rights Bills regarding education and public accommodation had changed the trajectory of colored-only schools.

⁴³ Davis, Preston. Life After Westside High School. Oral History. April 9, 2022

⁴⁴ Smith, Kathleen, Life After Westside High School. Oral History. April 7, 2022

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In 1969, Westside High School graduated its last class as an all-Black school. The Class of 1969 included Bellamy, Lena; Brown, Betty; Brown, Helen; Bullock, Jerry; Durant, Bennie; Ellis, Leroy; Everett, Helen; Faulk, Josephine; Freeman, Robert; Frink, Jacob; Frink, Oscar; Gordon, Carl; Hampton, Elneta; Hill, James; Keel, James; LeSane, Lester; McCoy, Alvin; Powell, Anita; Powell, Miriam; Randall, Carletha; Ratley, Brenda; Reaves, Dorothy; Rouse, Betty; Stephens, Evangeline; Sasser, Paula; Thompson, Roosevelt; Walls, Bertram; Williams, Dorothy; and, Wilson, Vion.

Over the next 20 years, Westside High School became Westside Elementary and Chadbourn Middle School. To date, the Columbus County Board of Education has never kept any photos, documents, yearbooks or any information about Westside High School. Yet, they maintain photos, yearbooks, documents and other relevant information about Chadbourn High School (white public school) since 1911.

By 2016-2017 the Town of Chadbourn outsourced its tax collection to Columbus County Tax Office. Immediately thereafter, the Board of Education alleged lack of tax-base and budgetary issues forced the closure of Westside High School building (Chadbourn Middle School).

Over objection, the Board proposed closure of Chadbourn Middle School. By 2018, the Columbus County Board of Education closed the doors of Chadbourn Middle claiming its inability to restructure the school to modern technology. Within 24-hours after their vote, Chadbourn Middle School closed. A moving crew immediately arrive to closed the school. moving supplies to Evergreen Elementary School where students would matriculate⁴⁵. Evergreen is an older school building. It marked the first time since its construction in 1948 that Westside was not occupied as an educational site. The Board did not stop there.

Despite offers to purchase the school campus, the Board deeded the property to the Board of County Commissioners. Then, the Commissioners and Board added a restrictive, anti-compete covenant, which prohibits the property's use for educational purposes. This is subject to challenge. This comes at a time when Black students across the county are in dire need of equity and equality in education.

It is an unfortunate reminder of the days now passed. Today, the school sits vacant despite offers to purchase the property to improve the lives of students and families in the Westside community. Compelling for more than 40 years, the Westside Alumni hosts an annual *Homecoming* to preserve its legacy. The event brings hundreds of former classmates, faculty, guest and families to the region. Rich in culture, this event also stimulates the economy. The Homecoming is every year during Labor Day weekend. Plus, each graduating class host a reunion every ten-years.

⁴⁵ WECT Staff. *Move from Chadbourn Middle to Evergreen Elementary begins in Columbus Co.* Aug. 7, 2018 at 7:43 PM EDT <https://www.wect.com/story/38834253/move-from-chadbourn-middle-to-evergreen-elementary-begins-in-columbus-co/> Retrieved April 8, 2022.

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Special Thanks:

Sherri Jefferson, the African American Juvenile Justice Project and Mary J. Campbell-Jefferson Family Trust would like to thank the Westside Class of 1957 for their time and valuable information. Special thanks to Preston Albert Davis, Kathleen “Cobb” Smith (and Ms. Peggy), Ms. Mary Lee Little-Boswell, and Mrs. Genora Nance Willems. Special thanks to Julius Wilson (Class of 1956).

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Other Sources:

Columbus County, North Carolina Tax Assessor Office
Columbus County, North Carolina Office of Registry of the Deeds
Oral History: Including, but not limited to Alston, Campbell, Carmichaels, Cox, Lewis, Page, Pettiford, Reaves, Shekels, Spaulding, and Vanderhorst/Vandross family members and for photo credits.
Research via Census Records from 1790-1950
Ancestry.com database
Census data for 1860 was obtained from the Historical United States Census Data Browser via ancestry.com
Census data on African Americans in the 1870 census via ancestry.com
Conversations with Mary Jane Campbell-Jefferson aka Mary Jean Campbell-Jefferson
Probate and Register of the Deeds records available to include in Dillon County, Horry County, Marion County, Columbus County, Cumberland County, and New Hanover County, Wake County, Robeson County Courthouses and Georgetown County in South and North Carolina.
Duke County in MA – Martha's Vineyard Library.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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- 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: State Archives, Raleigh

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 17.2 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: 34.316398 LONGITUDE: -78.837131
- 2. LATITUDE 34.316480 LONGITUDE: - 78.831508
- 3. LATITUDE: 34.315279 LONGITUDE: -78.831501
- 4. LATITUDE: 34.315002 LONGITUDE: -78.836720

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone:

Easting:

Northing:

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2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting :	Northing:

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

The boundary of the nominated property encompasses four Columbus County tax parcels (PIN#s 0240.02-95-5983, 0250.00-06-3080, 0250.00-05-8954, and 0250.00-06-7196) as shown in the attached National Register Boundary Map, to include the main body of the school and the gym. The total acreage of the two properties is 17.27 acres. Other records supporting the verbal boundary are found at Deed Book 102 Page 133, Plat Book 22 Page 30 and Plat Book 33 Page 42

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The 17.27-acre boundary encompasses the land associated Westside High School from the time of its construction in 1948 until present. The boundary also includes the original site of the Gould Academy, Johnson High School and Chadbourn Negro High School. The nominated boundary also includes the historic Westside High School building aka Chadbourn Middle School and modern resources surrounding the school (field and gymnasium building and cemented walkways) that cannot be excluded because of their proximity to the historic building. However, the boundary **does not** include Wilkes Park and its infrastructure. The approximately 17.27 acres contain the highest concentration of historic resources, namely the Westside school itself, to convey historic significance.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Sherrri Jefferson, Executive Director.

For Mary Jane Campbell – Jefferson Family Trust and in Honor of Westside Class of 1957

organization: African American Juvenile Justice Project

street & number: Post Office Box 2054

city or town: Peachtree City state: GA zip code: 30269

e-mail attysjjeff@aol.com

telephone: 770-374-9591

*date: April 13, 2022

Nomination was originally submitted on March 25, 2022

Additional Documentation

Westside High School

Name of Property

Columbus County
North Carolina

County and State

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.)

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property

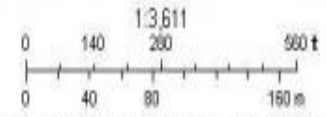
National Register Boundary Map



Westside High School
801 W. Smith Street
Chadbourn, Columbus County
North Carolina

- Parcel Identification Numbers
- 1.) 0240.02-95-5983
 - 2.) 0250.00-06-3080
 - 3.) 0250.00-06-7196
 - 4.) 0250.00-05-8954

Source: NC HPO, HPOWEB
Created by Hannah Beckman-Black 4-29-2022



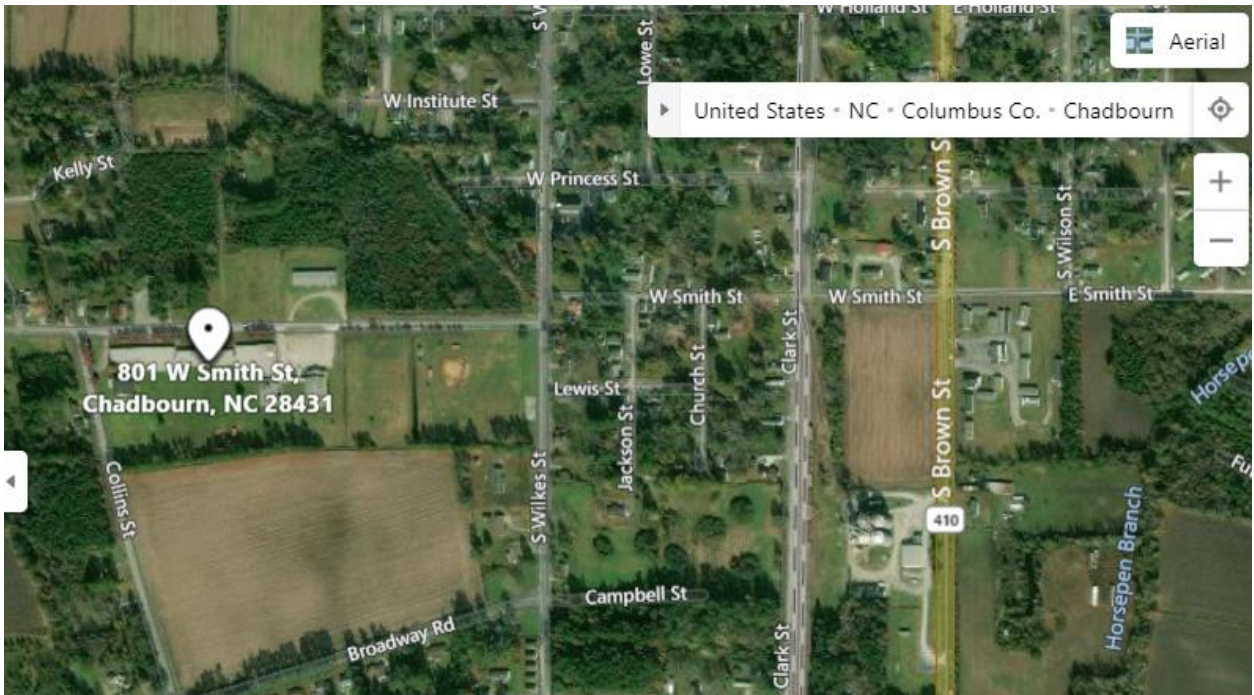
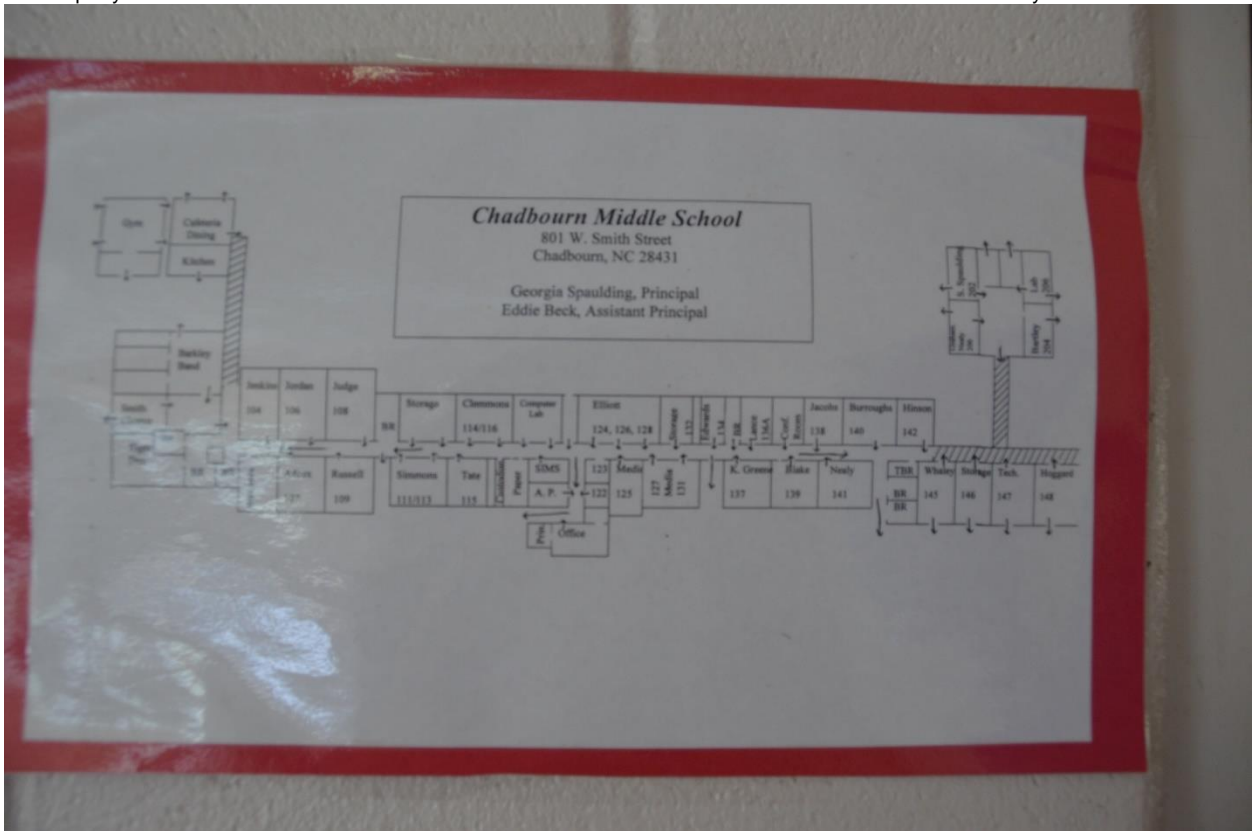
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, IGN, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community, Esri, HERE,

North Carolina State Herbario Research Office
Participating NC Counties: MCCON, NC Overlap, US EPA | State of North Carolina DOT, Esri, HERE, GeoEye, GeoEye, Inc. | NC COIA, NCEM, NCEM/IT

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600 x 1200 pixels (minimum), 3000 x 2000 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 does not need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photos of Westside. Digital images located at the North Carolina SHPO.

1. Westside School (Chadbourn Middle School), façade, view facing Smith Street
2. Westside Entrance/Front East View
3. Westside School, façade, West View
4. Westside Secondary Entrance Paved

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property

5. Westside Campus View Facing Smith Street
6. Westside Side/Rear of Building
7. Westside Rear Classroom Building
8. Westside Entrance Kitchen or Boiler Room area
9. Westside School, looking toward gymnasium, park and sporting fields and campus view-at-large
10. Westside Cafeteria
11. Westside (Home Economics Classroom or Former Staff Breakroom)
12. Westside Media Room/Library
13. Westside Classroom
14. Westside Corridor and Reference Room Entrance
15. Westside Door
16. Westside Clerestory steel framed windows Window
17. Westside Classroom
18. Westside Office
19. Westside Restrooms
20. Westside School, Gymnasium
21. Westside Locker Room

Other Photos Important to the Events and Lives

22. Dr. Thomas Nelson [Collins] Campbell Class of 1923 – Meharry School of Medicine
23. Dr. Thomas Nelson [Collins] Campbell – Pharmacist with Dr. Harmon Hassell Perry (Relative – “Uncle” but Perry was a cousin by blood) Campbell family co-owned After Perry passing owned
24. Professor Jacobs’ Black School, Lake Waccamaw, Columbus County, NC
25. Dr. Harmon Hassell Perry, First Black Board-Certified Pharmacist in North Carolina and U.S. Class of 1896 Shaw University
26. Dr. Perry Drug Store
27. Family and Business Partners with Erastus and Lucy Campbell co-owners of the nursing school for Black girls in Fayetteville, NC
28. Founders Erastus and Lucy Campbell of St. Mary’s AME located Clark and Smith Street in Chadbourn Organized in 1913. Church meeting held at the Campbell’s place and a building they owned on Wilkes/Princess Street. This structure built in June 1951. Mr. Chadbourn negotiated the property with Erastus and Lucy Campbell. Properties across and surrounding the building were owned by the Campbells via the D.C. Clark Deeds. The Campbells chose the name “Mary” to honor Lucy Campbell’s mother, grandmother (Mary Harris Alston wife of Nelson Alston and Mary Johnson Alston wife of Nelson Alston, Jr. – Mary married John Taylor after Nelson’s death. No children were born between them) and her daughter, Mary Jane Campbell (Jefferson) Westside class of 1957
29. Campbell’s building located on Wilkes and Princess, Chadbourn North Carolina
30. Rosenwald School for Chadbourn 1918-1919 – 5 Teacher Facility – Johnson School Renamed Chadbourn Negro School
31. Chadbourn Negro School Class of 1949 - Photos at Pgs. 31-33
32. Westside Girls Basketball Team 1953-1957

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property

- 33. Westside Class of 1957
- 34. Faculty and staff 1945-1957 – Chadbourn Negro High School and Westside High School
- 35. Westside Class of 1957 40th Class Reunion
- 36. Westside High School – 1969

Photo Log Photographs 1 - 27

Name of Property: Westside High School (Chadbourn Middle School site)

City or Vicinity: 801 W. Smith Street

County: Columbus State: North Carolina

Photographer: Hannah Beckman-Black, North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

Date Photographed: January 7, 2022

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

Photo Log Photographs 28- 36

Name of Property: Westside High School (Chadbourn Middle School site)

City or Vicinity: 801 W. Smith Street

County: Columbus State: North Carolina

Photographer: Sherri Jefferson, African-American Juvenile Justice Project for Mary J. Campbell-Jefferson Family Trust in honor of the Westside Class of 1957

Date Photographed/Available to Jefferson 1950-2022

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

Current Property Owners:
Columbus County Board of Commissioners
Administration Building
127 W. Webster Street
Whiteville, NC 28472
(910) 640-6640

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside School (Chadbourn Middle School), façade, view south

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Front of building/ East View

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



West View of Building Front

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside Entrance/Exit Foyer Northwest

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside School, façade, Rear elevation

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside Rear of School Classroom Building

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside School, looking toward gymnasium, park and sporting fields and campus view-at-large

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside Entrance Kitchen/Boiler Room Access

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside Cafeteria

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside (Home Economics Classroom or Former Staff Breakroom)

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside Media Room/Library

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside Corridor and Reference Room Entrance

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside Corridor and Window View to the West

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside Classroom on east of corridor

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside corridor looking to doors to south

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside rear room view to field

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside classroom facing front entrance or view of building

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside Restrooms

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside Gymnasium

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside Locker Room

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property

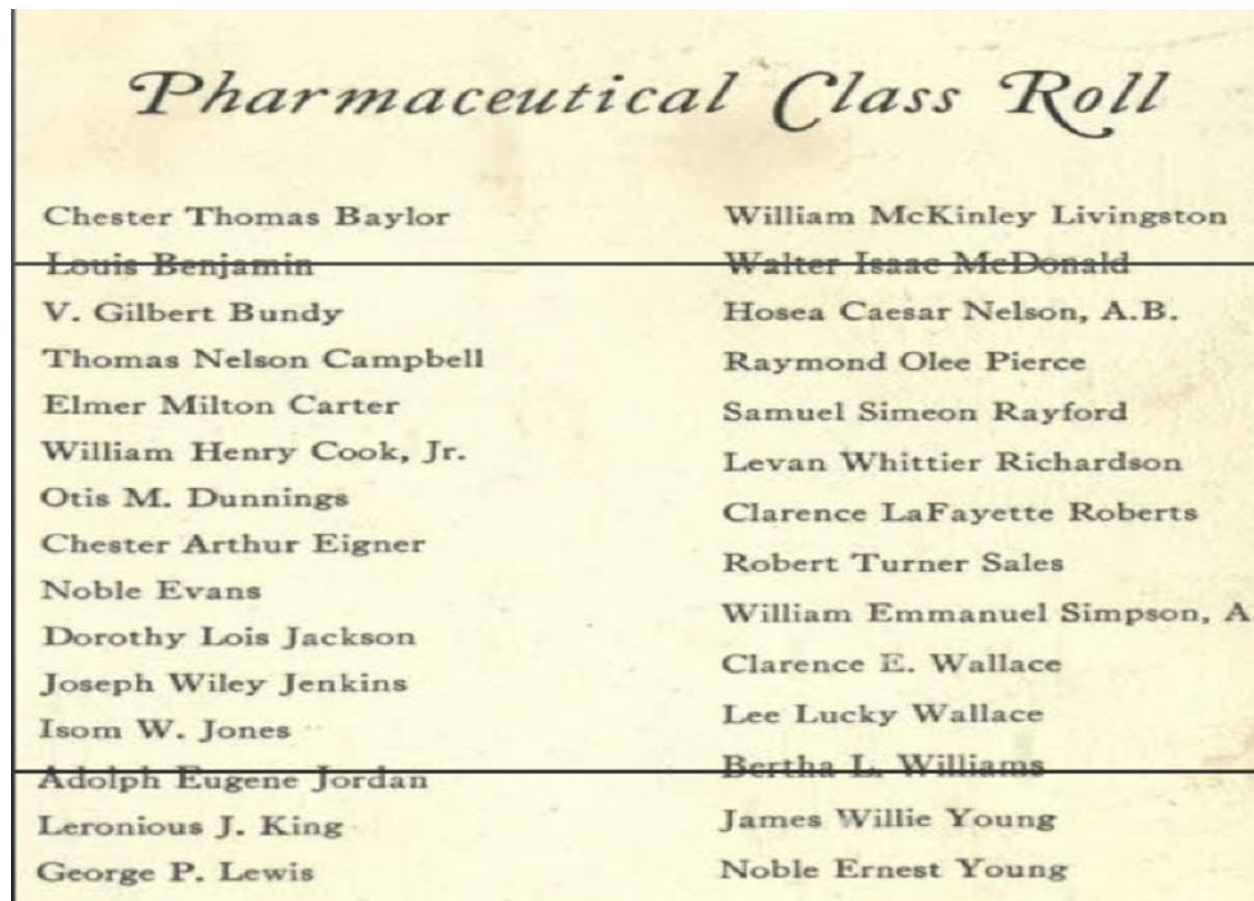


Professor Jacob's School for Black Children
Lake Waccamaw, Columbus County, North Carolina ca. 1900

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Pharmaceutical Class Roll

Chester Thomas Baylor	William McKinley Livingston
Louis Benjamin	Walter Isaac McDonald
V. Gilbert Bundy	Hosea Caesar Nelson, A.B.
Thomas Nelson Campbell	Raymond Olee Pierce
Elmer Milton Carter	Samuel Simeon Rayford
William Henry Cook, Jr.	Levan Whittier Richardson
Otis M. Dunnings	Clarence LaFayette Roberts
Chester Arthur Eigner	Robert Turner Sales
Noble Evans	William Emmanuel Simpson, A.
Dorothy Lois Jackson	Clarence E. Wallace
Joseph Wiley Jenkins	Lee Lucky Wallace
Isom W. Jones	Bertha L. Williams
Adolph Eugene Jordan	James Willie Young
Leronious J. King	Noble Ernest Young
George P. Lewis	

Thomas Nelson Collins Campbell - Class of 1923 Graduate of Meharry School of Pharmacy

Westside High School

Columbus County
 North Carolina
 County and State

Name of Property

T 628 Thomas Nelson Campbell T 10136

2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (PRIDE)
 458 Moore Street Fayetteville Cumberland North Carolina
(Number and street) (Town, township, village, or city) (County) (State)
 [THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE GIVEN ON THE LINE ABOVE WILL DETERMINE LOCAL BOARD JURISDICTION; LINE 2 OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE WILL BE IDENTICAL]

3. MAILING ADDRESS
 Perry Drug Store - Fayetteville, North Carolina
(Mailing address if other than place indicated on line 2. If same insert word same)

4. TELEPHONE 3759 5. AGE IN YEARS 41 6. PLACE OF BIRTH Robeson County
(Exchange) (Number) (Mo.) (Day) (Yr.) (Town or county) (State or country)
 DATE OF BIRTH Nov. 12 1900 North Carolina

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS
 Mrs. Viola Campbell - 307 South Memory St. Whiteville N.C.

8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS
 Mrs. Helena Perry - 458 Moore Street Fayetteville N.C.

9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS
 502 Hillsboro St Fayetteville Cumberland N.C.
(Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town) (County) (State)

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.

D. S. S. Form I (Revised 1-1-42) (over) ☆ 4826 of 4859
 (Registrar's signature) Thomas Nelson Campbell

Dr. Thomas Nelson Collins Campbell - Pharmacist with Dr. Harmon Hassell Perry (Relative - "Uncle" but Perry was a cousin by blood) Campbell family co-owned after Perry passing owned

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Dr. Harmon Hassell Perry, First Black Board-Certified Pharmacist in North Carolina and U.S.
Class of 1896 Shaw University Curriculum of Gould Academy, Johnson School, Chadbourn Negro School and Used by Faculty at Westside High School

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property

Perry's Cough and Cold Salve

with his cough syrup will break up
these fresh colds. Try them along
with the old reliable

ELECTRIC PAIN KILLER. ..

These are household necessities. I
am yet here in Prescription filling,
and have everything in the medicine
line you need. Make my store head-
quarters when in the city. Yours,

H. H. PERRY,

Perry's Drug Store

114 Gillespie street, Phone 359,
Fayetteville, N. C.

Perry Drug Store in Fayetteville, N.C.

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Family and Business Partners (Mr. and Mrs. McKeithan) with Erastus and Lucy Campbell co-owners of the nursing school for Black girls in Fayetteville, NC at 116 Gillespie Street

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Founders Erastus and Lucy Campbell of St. Mary's AME located Clark and Smith Street in Chadbourn Organized in 1913. Church meetings were held at the Campbell's place and a building they owned on Wilkes/Princess Street. This structure built in June 1951. Mr. Chadbourn negotiated the property with Erastus and Lucy Campbell. Properties across and surrounding the building were owned by the Campbells via the D.C. Clark Deeds. The Campbells chose the name "Mary" to honor Lucy Campbell's mother, grandmother (Mary Harris Alston wife of Nelson Alston and Mary Johnson Alston wife of Nelson Alston, Jr. - after Nelson death, she married John Taylor. No children were born between them - and her daughter, Mary Jane Campbell (Jefferson) Westside class of 1957)

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property

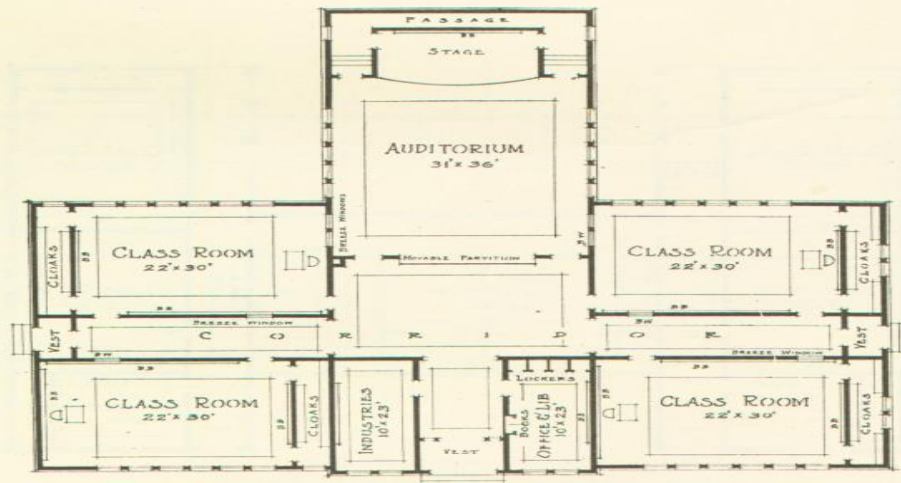


Campbell's building located on Wilkes and Princess, Chadbourn North Carolina
Also hosted school and church-related events.

Westside High School

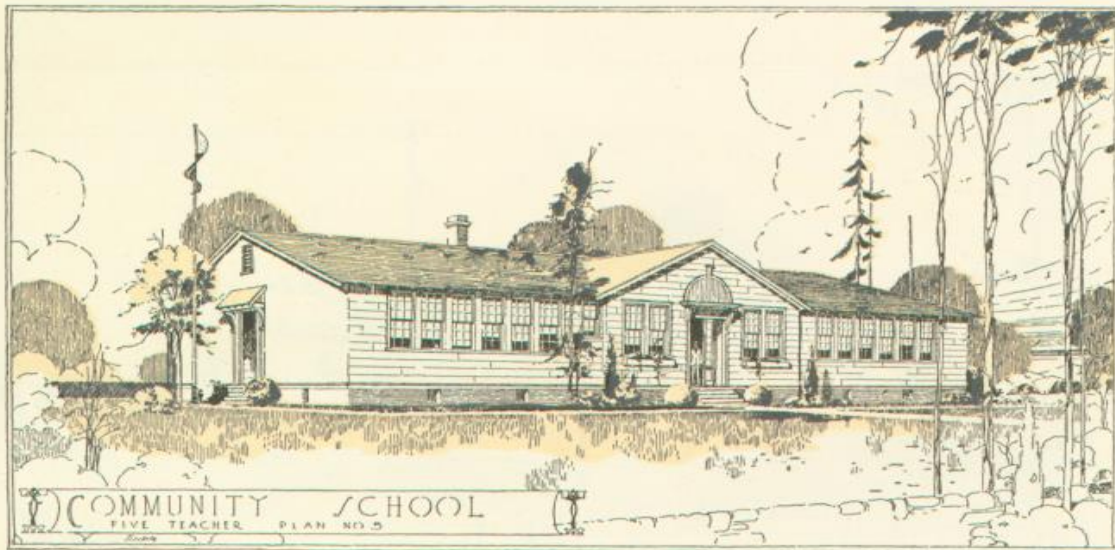
Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



FLOOR PLAN NO 5
FIVE TEACHER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
TO FACE EAST OR WEST ONLY

COMMUNITY SCHOOL PLANS



Rosenwald School- 5 Teacher Facility - Johnson School Renamed Chadbourn Negro School

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Photo of the Entering Class of 1957. Taken in 1945 as first-graders at the Chadbourn Negro High School. Pictured to the far left is Mary J. Campbell-Jefferson. The former Mary J. Campbell of Erastus and Lucy Campbell.

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



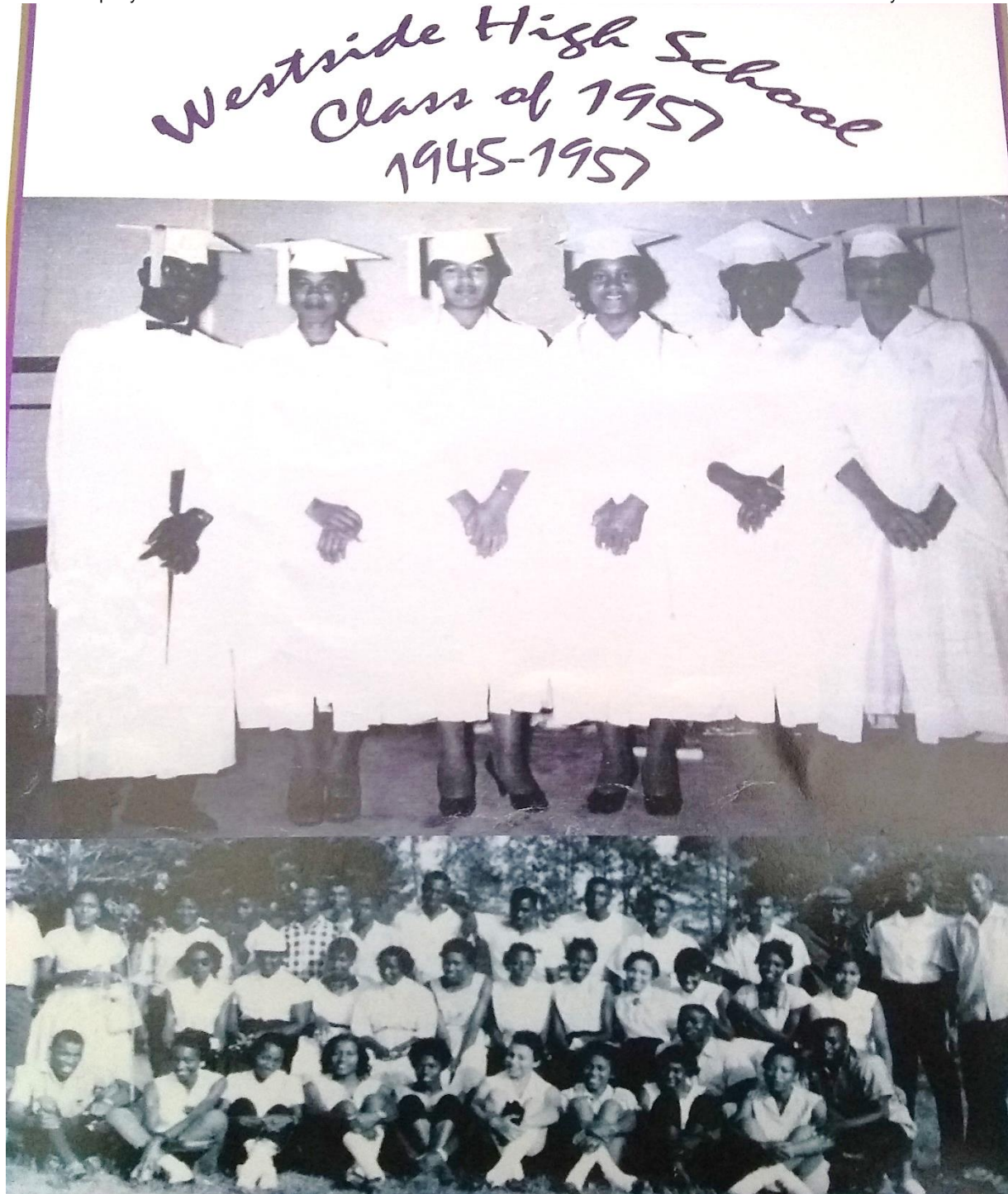
Pearlene Frink (6) CO - Captain + Captain
Hazel Ward (4)
Ernestine Dees (13)
Jeanette Smith (14)
Mary Jane Campbell (8)
Betty Jane Garden (3)
Louise Gore (7)
Rubie Lee Haynes (5)
Genora Nance (12)
Joshine Daniels (11)
Patsy Lawrence (10)
Albant McCoy (9)
Coach. Miss Price

Class of 1953-1957 Westside High School Two-Time Girls Basketball Team Mary J. Campbell-Jefferson pictured with teammates Team Captain Pearlene Frink (6), Hazel Ward(4), Ernestine Dees(13), Jeanette Smith(14), Mary Jane Campbell(8), Betty Jane Garden (3), Louise Gore (7), Rubie Lee Haynes(5), Genora Nance(12), Joshine Daniels 11), Patsy Lawrence(10), Albant McCoy(9), Coach, Miss Hester Price.

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside Class of 1957 - Chadbourn, North Carolina

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Chadbourn Negro High School and Westside High School Faculty and Staff 1945-1957 incl. Messrs. Fouse, A. B. Daniels, J. B. Powell, D. George, William Robinson, G. C. Grandy, Douglas Lewis, J. P. Murfree (former Principal of Johnson High School and Chadbourn Negro High School), F. I. McDougald, Doris Scipio Dees, Ms. Elizabeth Powell, Ms. Dorothy Moore Powell, Ms. Faye Dees, Ms. Courtney Scipio Muldrow, Ms. Doris Dees, Ms. Virginia Corbett, Ms. Virginia Jacobs George, Ms. Iris Davis and Mr. James R. Brown. Other faculty included Jimmye Reynolds, Theodore "Fred" Reynolds, and Mable Bradley- onald and Prof. A. I. Williams.

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside Class of 1957 40th Class Reunion - 1997 (Mary J. Campbell-Jefferson -
in all white seated first row next to 1957 Class President, Preston Davis.
Also seated are Genora Nance Williams and Kathy "Cobb" Smith.

Westside High School

Columbus County
North Carolina
County and State

Name of Property



Westside High School 1969

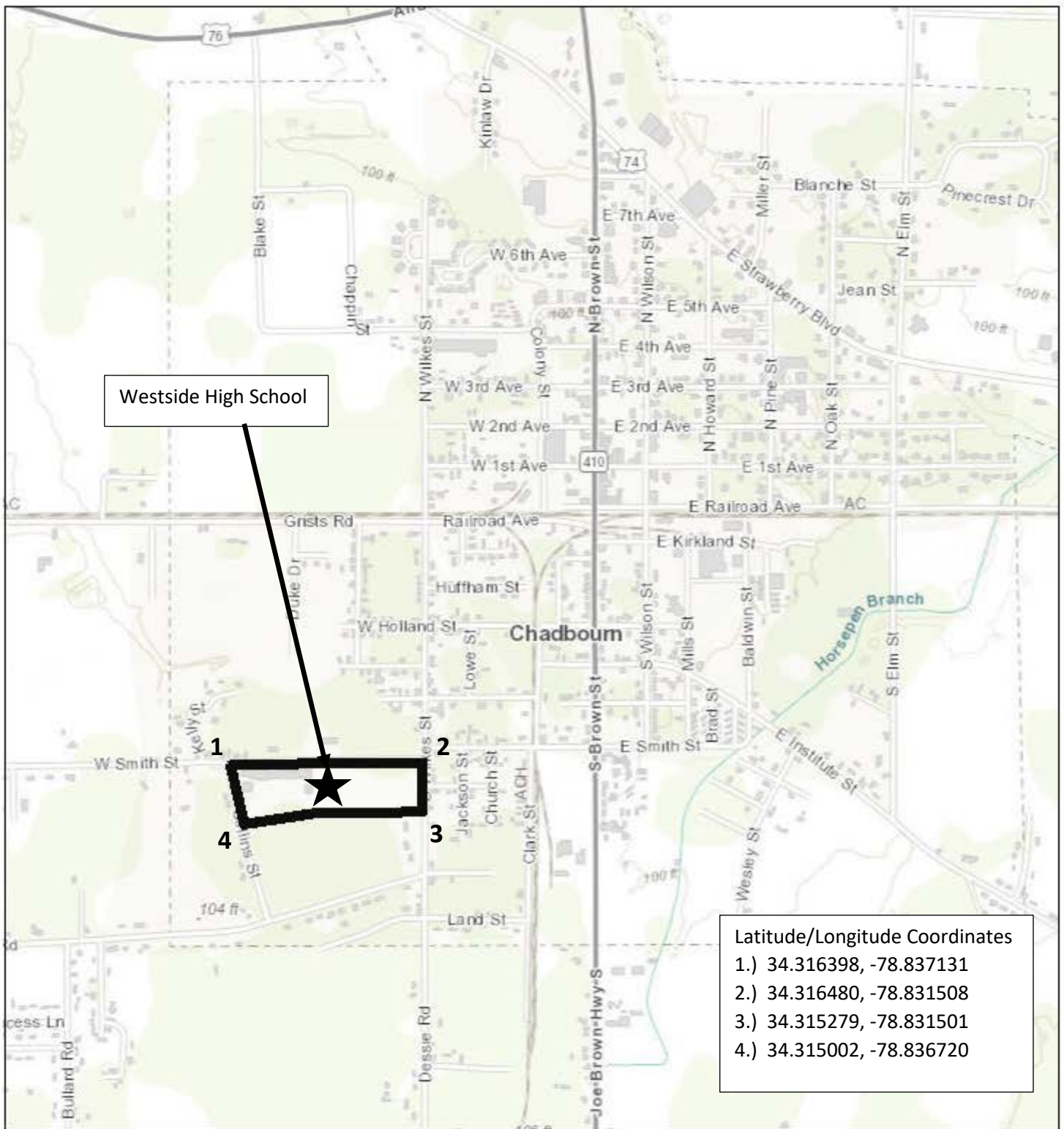
Photo courtesy of <https://www.classmates.com/yearbooks/westside-high-school/102668?page=11>

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.

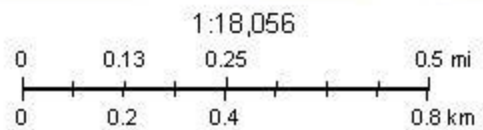
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- 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.

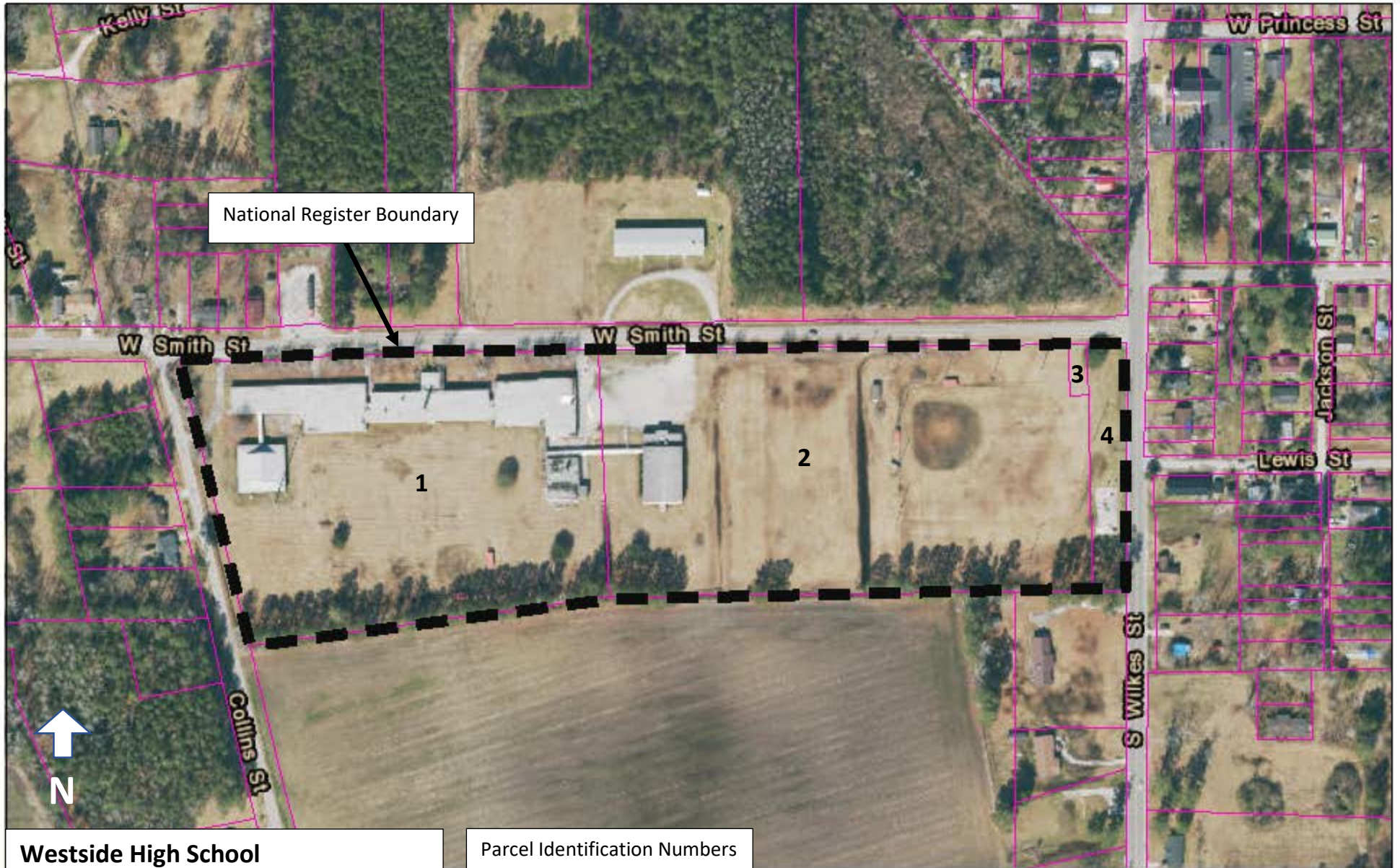


Westside High School
 801 W. Smith Street
 Chadbourn, Columbus County
 North Carolina
National Register Location Map



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, Geobase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

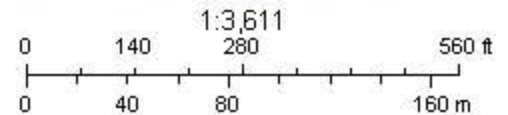
National Register Boundary Map



Westside High School
801 W. Smith Street
Chadbourn, Columbus County
North Carolina

- Parcel Identification Numbers
- 1.) 0240.02-95-5983
 - 2.) 0250.00-06-3080
 - 3.) 0250.00-06-7196
 - 4.) 0250.00-05-8954

Source: NC HPO, HPOWEB
Created by Hannah Beckman-Black 4-29-2022



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community, Esri, HERE,