

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM - PHOTO/SITE PLAN SHEET
 Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
 Bureau of Historic Preservation
 BOX 1026, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1026

89A

Survey Code/Tax Parcel/Other No.: 150026 County: Blair
 Municipality: Altoona City Address: 411 12th Street, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16602
 Historic Name/Other Name: Penn-Lincoln Elementary School

SITE PLAN (not to scale)

PHOTO INFORMATION



Number	Description of View	Direction of Camera
H150026_06B	Front facade of school; main entrance.	SE
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

See Next Page

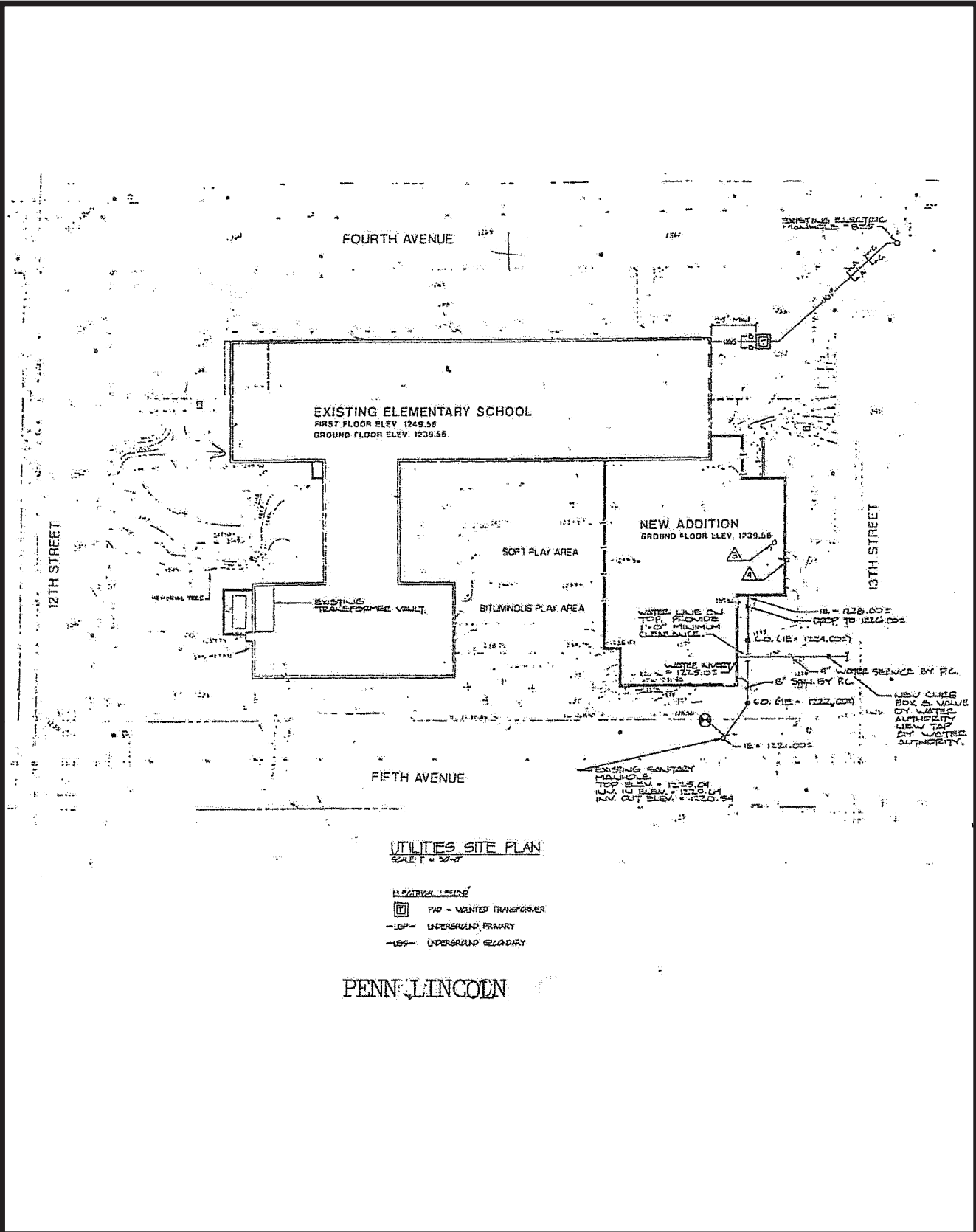


PHOTO LOCATION

NOT TO SCALE
 Prepared by CHRS, Inc.

Photographer Name: Melissa Timo Date: November 2006
 Negative Location: CHRS, Inc.

See reverse for additional instructions



UTILITIES SITE PLAN
SCALE 1" = 30'-0"

- LEGEND**
- PAD - VAULTED TRANSFORMER
 - UP- UNDERGROUND PRIMARY
 - US- UNDERGROUND SECONDARY

PENN-LINCOLN



NOT TO SCALE
Prepared by CHRS, Inc.

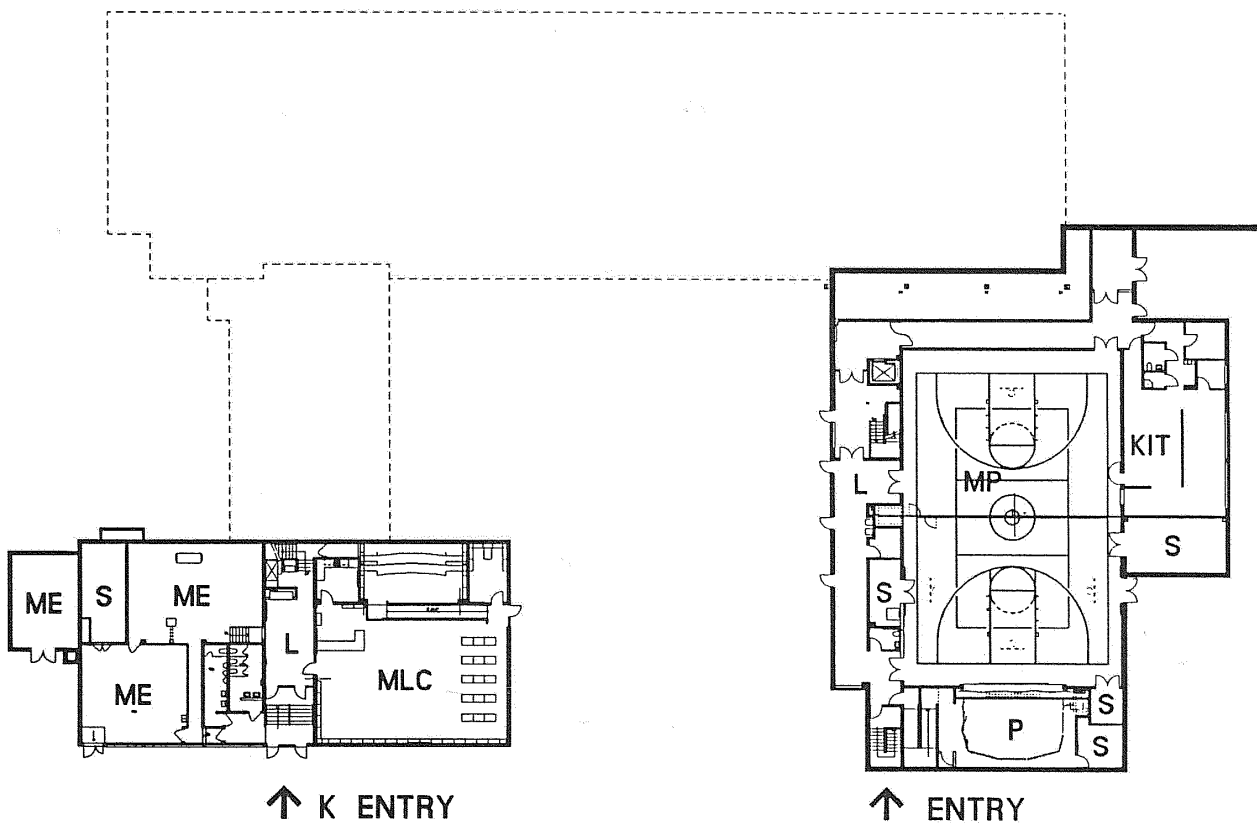
KEY # 150026

**DRAWING PROVIDED BY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Penn-Lincoln Elementary School
Altoona City, Blair County**

KEY

AD	ADMIN	MP	MULTI-PURPOSE
CR	CLASSROOM	ME	MECHANICAL
F	FACULTY	MLC	MEDIA LEARNING CENTER
H	HEALTH	P	PLATFORM
IP	INSTR. PRACTICE	SEM	SEMINAR
J	JANITOR'S CLOSET	S	STORAGE
K	KINDERGARTEN	⊠	ELEVATOR
KIT	KITCHEN		
L	LOBBY		



LOWER LEVEL PLAN



NOT TO SCALE

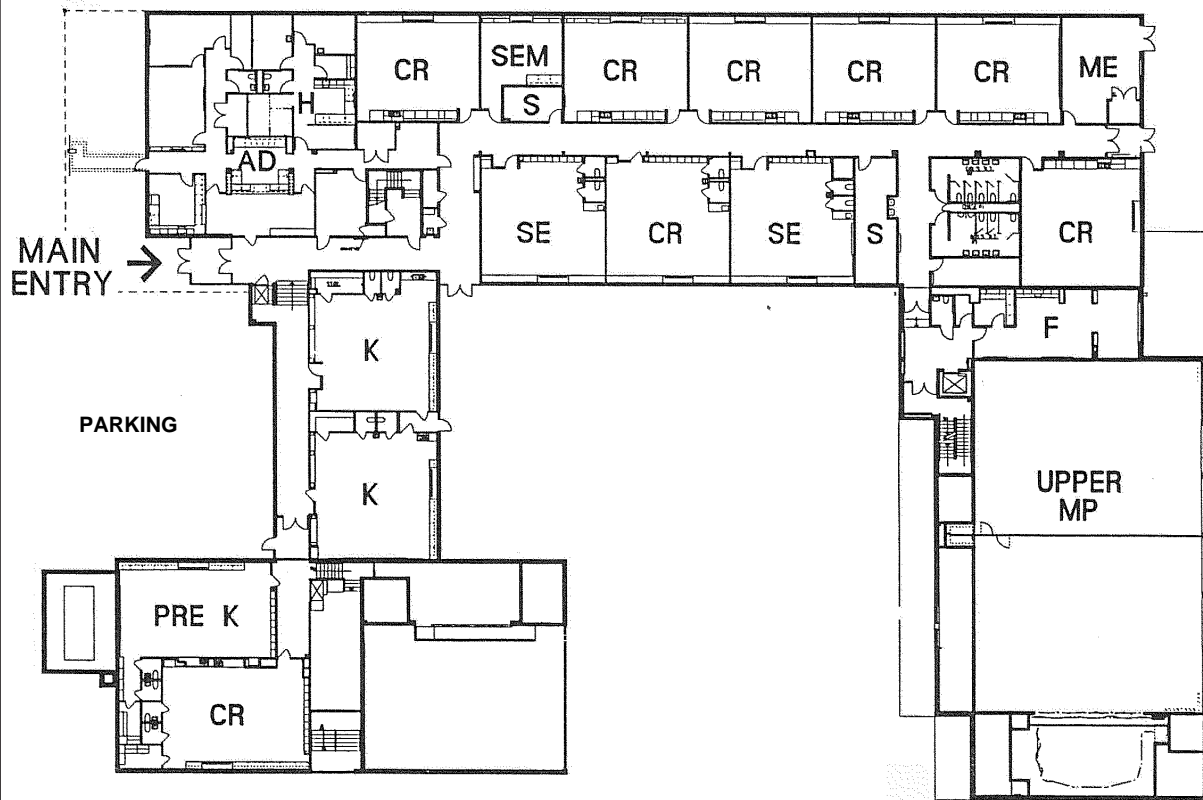
Prepared by CHRS, Inc.

KEY # 150026

**DRAWING PROVIDED BY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Penn-Lincoln Elementary School
Altoona City, Blair County**

KEY			
AD	ADMIN	ME	MECHANICAL
CR	CLASSROOM	MLC	MEDIA LEARNING CENTER
F	FACULTY	P	PLATFORM
H	HEALTH	PRE-K	PRE-KINDERGARTEN
J	JANITOR'S CLOSET	SEM	SEMINAR
K	KINDERGARTEN	S	STORAGE
KIT	KITCHEN	SE	SPECIAL ED
L	LOBBY	⊠	ELEVATOR
MP	MULTI-PURPOSE		



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



NOT TO SCALE

Prepared by CHRS, Inc.

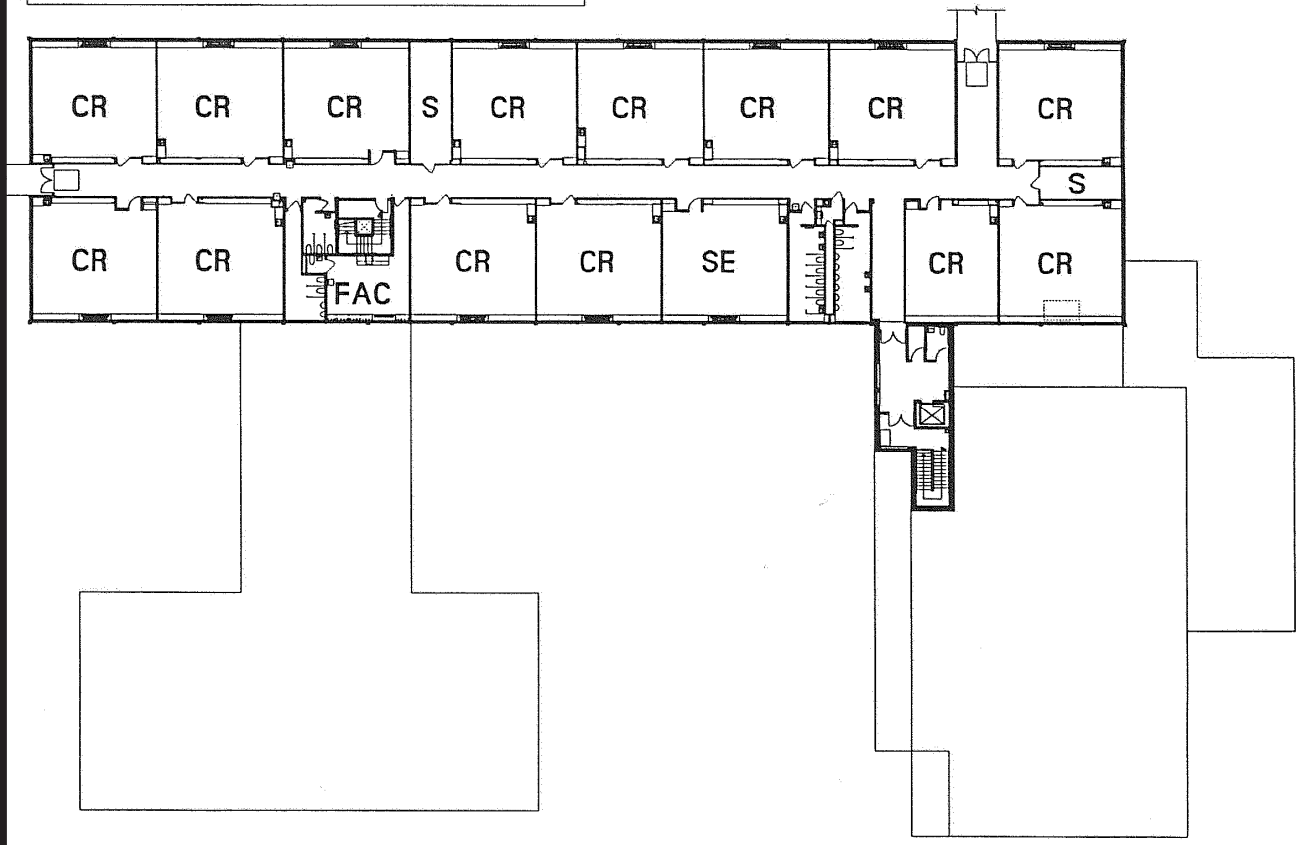
KEY # 150026

**DRAWING PROVIDED BY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Penn-Lincoln Elementary School
Altoona City, Blair County**

KEY

AD	ADMIN	MP	MULTI-PURPOSE
CR	CLASSROOM	ME	MECHANICAL
F	FACULTY	MLC	MEDIA LEARNING CENTER
H	HEALTH	P	PLATFORM
IP	INSTR. PRACTICE		RECEIVING
J	JANITOR'S CLOSET	SEM	SEMINAR
K	KINDERGARTEN	S	STORAGE
KIT	KITCHEN		
L	LOBBY	⊠	ELEVATOR



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



NOT TO SCALE
Prepared by CHRS, Inc.

KEY # 150026

**DRAWING PROVIDED BY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Penn-Lincoln Elementary School
Altoona City, Blair County**

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE FORM - DATA SHEET

89B

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION

Survey Code: 150026 Tax Parcel/Other No.: _____

County: 1. Blair 0 1 3 2. _____

Municipality: 1. Altoona City 2. _____

Address: 411 12th Street, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16602

Historic Name: _____

Other Name: Penn-Lincoln Elementary School

Owner Name/Address: Altoona Area School District, 1415 6th Avenue, Altoona, Pennsylvania, 16602

Owner Category: _____ Private Public-local _____ Public-state _____ Public-federal _____

Resource Category: Building _____ District _____ Site _____ Structure _____ Object _____

Number/Approximate Number of Resources Covered by This Form: 3

USGS Quad: 1. Altoona, PA 2. _____

UTM A. zone 17 720671E 4487554N C. _____

References: B. _____ D. _____

HISTORIC AND CURRENT FUNCTIONS

Historic Function Category:		Subcategory:	Code:	
A. <u>Education</u>	_____	<u>School</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5</u> <u>A</u>
B. <u>Recreation and Culture</u>	_____	<u>Outdoor recreation</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8</u> <u>F</u>
C. <u>Landscape</u>	_____	<u>Parking lot</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>15</u> <u>A</u>
D.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Particular Type:

A. Classroom building

B. Playground

C. Parking lot

D. _____

Current Function Category:		Subcategory:	Code:	
A. <u>Education</u>	_____	<u>School</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5</u> <u>A</u>
B. <u>Recreation and Culture</u>	_____	<u>Outdoor recreation</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8</u> <u>F</u>
C. <u>Landscape</u>	_____	<u>Parking lot</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>15</u> <u>A</u>
D.	_____	_____	_____	_____

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Architectural Classification: A: _____

B. _____ C. _____

D. _____ Other: No style 0 1

Exterior Materials: Foundation Concrete 6 5 Roof Rubber 7 3

Walls Brick 3 0 Walls Permastone 8 0

Other _____ Other _____

Structural System: 1. Steel 4 1 2. _____

Width: Approx. 200 ft F Depth: Up to 10 rooms C Stories/Height: 1-2-story A-
B

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Year Built: ___ C. 1961 to ___ C. 1962 Additions/Alterations Dates: C. 1995 ; ___ C. ___

Basis for Dating: Documentary Physical

Explain: Based on historic maps, primary resources, secondary sources, aerial photographs, and examination of resource.

Cultural/Ethnic Affiliation: 1. N/A 2. _____

Associated Individuals: 1. N/A 2. _____

Associated Events: 1. N/A 2. _____

Architects/Engineers: 1. Hunter, Campbell & Rea 2. _____

Builders: 1. Unknown 2. _____

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet.

PREVIOUS SURVEY, DETERMINATIONS

No.

EVALUATION (Survey Director/Consultants Only)

Individual NR Potential: ___ Yes No Context(s): _____

Contributes to Potential District ___ Yes No District Name/Status: _____

Explain: Penn-Lincoln Elementary School, the 1961-62 school building that replaced Penn School and Lincoln Central Grammar School, combines characteristics typically found at the turn of the century with characteristics more common in the mid- to late twentieth century. This random combination of function and style is likely due to the school's urban location, its purpose of replacing two smaller neighborhood schools, and the design influence of the school's architects and popular preference at the time. Penn-Lincoln Elementary School does not appear to be an outstanding example of a school of its type. The school is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A.

The school is not associated with any significant person and is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B. The school is a typical example of modern school architecture in the 1960s, exhibiting little to no outstanding architectural elements. Alterations have been made to the original structure, including replacement windows and doors. A large 1996 addition has been appended to the original school. These changes have substantially altered the feeling and association of the original structure. The property is also recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C. Eligibility under Criterion D cannot be fully addressed since the property has not been subject to archaeological testing.

THREATS

Threats: 1 1. None 2. Public Development 3. Private Development 4. Neglect 5. Other

Explain:

SURVEYOR INFORMATION

Surveyor Name/Title: Laura S. Black/Senior Project Manager Date: June 25, 2007

Project Name: Historic Pennsylvania Schools Survey

Organization: Cultural Heritage Research Services, Inc. Telephone: 215-699-8006

Street and No.: 403 E. Walnut Street

City State: North Wales, PA Zip Code: 19454

Additional Survey Documentation: Site plan, floor plan, aerial photographs, photographs, and property location appended.

Associated Survey Codes: _____

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM - NARRATIVE SHEET 89C
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

Survey Code: <u>150026</u>	Tax Parcel/Other No.: _____
County: <u>Blair</u>	Municipality: <u>Altoona City</u>
Address: <u>411 12th Street, Altoona, Pennsylvania, 16602</u>	
Historic/Other Name: <u>Penn-Lincoln Elementary School</u>	Sheet <u>1</u> of <u>4</u>

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

This school is located at 411 12th Street, Altoona, Pennsylvania, in Altoona City, Blair County. It is part of the Altoona Area School District, 1415 6th Avenue, Altoona, Pennsylvania, 16602. The tax parcel number is unavailable. The 1961-62 school is centrally located on an urban block bounded by 12th and 13th Streets and 4th and 5th Avenues. The lot is edged by wide concrete sidewalks. A narrow strip of grass with scattered trees surrounds the school. The building sits on a hill slope. The school's design accommodates the topography of the lot. A small visitor's paved parking lot is located at the northern corner of the lot. A parking area has also been added to a circular driveway off of 12th Street near the main entrance. An enclosed kindergarten play area is located in a courtyard between the two short wings of the school building. A Permastone-clad retaining wall and stairs with metal railings are located on the northwest side of the school building, providing access to an entrance used by kindergarten children.

The school building measures multiple bays wide and up to approximately ten rooms deep. The core of the building, completed in 1962, formed an L with mostly classrooms along a two-story interior linear hallway main wing. A two-story short wing is connected to the main wing by two classrooms. This short wing is dropped one story due to the slope in the lot's topography. This combined leg houses kindergarten classrooms and the original multi-purpose room. A 1995-96 addition is located at the southwest end of the main wing to form the current U-plan. It contains a new multi-purpose room. The 1962 steel structure's curtain walls feature a mix of brick, Permastone-cladding, and modern casement and picture windows with replacement panels. The building sits on a concrete-block foundation. The flat roof is covered with rubber membrane. The building has an exterior brick chimney. The main entrance contains metal-frame glass double doors surrounded by fixed windows. The entrance is set back under an overhanging end of the second story of the main wing. The kindergarten entrance contains metal-frame glass doors set below large picture windows. "Penn-Lincoln Elementary" is spelled out in letters attached to the building next to this entrance, visible from 5th Avenue. Completed in 1996, the addition is brick with a flat roof.

The main entrance is located on the first floor of the northeast end of the main wing, at the juncture of the main wing and the original short leg. Metal-frame glass double doors lead to a vestibule enclosed by fixed windows and a second set of metal-frame glass double doors. The entryway features terrazzo floor tiles, a Permastone-clad wall, and a dropped ceiling with fluorescent lights. Administrative offices and a health suite are located on the southeast side of the main entry lobby. A hallway extends southwest from the lobby, wraps around the offices and an enclosed staircase, and continues southwest through the first floor of the main wing of the school. It is flanked by general classrooms, special education classrooms, bathrooms, and a "seminar" room. A second floor in this main wing features a linear hallway flanked by classrooms, bathrooms, and a faculty room.

A hallway extending northwest from the main entry lobby accesses two kindergarten classrooms, each with individual bathrooms, and the original dropped two-story short wing of the school. A pre-kindergarten and a general classroom, each with its own bathrooms, are located on the first floor level of the short wing. Set on a hill slope, an exposed lower level contains mechanical utility rooms, bathrooms, and a media learning center (library) that was originally constructed as a multi-purpose room. The media learning center features carpeting, concrete-block and glazed tile walls, hanging fluorescent lights, and a raised reading platform which was formerly a stage. A separate kindergarten entry off of 5th Avenue accesses a lobby next to the media learning center.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION (Continued):

The multi-purpose room addition to the school is accessed from the original structure by a new two-story staircase and elevator transition area, with a faculty room on the upper level tucked between the original main wing and the new multi-purpose room. The core of the addition contains the multi-purpose room, a kitchen, storage areas, and a lobby enclosed on the northeast side by a brick knee-wall, metal-frame glass doors, and fixed windows. The multi-purpose room features concrete-block walls, fluorescent lights, acoustic ceiling tiles, tiled floor, suspended basketball hoops, an inset stage, and a removable room divider. The school also has spaces used as a computer lab, a music practice room, and a parent resource room.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE:

Following the incorporation of Altoona City in 1869, and the installation of the city's first Superintendent of Schools, John Miller and his successor D.S. Keith, "an extensive program of building and curriculum revision [was completed] which make the whole period of 1870-1895 one of remarkable progress for the elementary school" (Patrick et al. 1949:35). In 1880, a two-story eight-classroom brick school building, Penn School, was constructed by the Altoona School Board at the corner of 6th Avenue and 10th Street. Increasing enrollment led to the construction of a third story of classrooms in 1890. The building was one of a dozen schools built by the School Board during the period between 1870 and 1895. For many decades it operated under the eight-grade system established in 1875.

Possibly in response to an 1895 "provision made for establishment of high schools in every district of the State and power to directors to form 'joint high schools,'" and to accommodate increasing numbers of students studying towards a high school diploma, the Altoona School Board constructed a separate school building for high school students in 1895 (Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Public Instruction 1934:82; Mulhern 1933:480; Altoona Area School District 1996:n.p). Lincoln School, located at 7th Avenue and 15th Street, was the first building in the city erected for this purpose. Within a decade the high school had outgrown its relatively new building. When a larger high school building was constructed by the School Board in 1908, Lincoln School became the Lincoln Central Grammar School, a thirteen-classroom elementary school (Altoona Area School District 1996:n.p.; Patrick et al. 1949:37).

The eight-grade system remained in place "until 1924, when the opening of the Theodore Roosevelt Junior High School resulted in the two upper grades being shifted to the junior high school under the 6-3-3 plan" (Patrick et al. 1949:35). Both Penn School and Lincoln School were functioning as elementary schools when the Penn-Lincoln Elementary School was built by the Altoona School District in 1961-62 to replace the two earlier smaller buildings. The new building was designed by the architecture firm of Hunter, Campbell & Rea of Altoona, Pennsylvania, which had been formed by the 1955 reorganization of an earlier firm. The firm would continue to change names over time, becoming Campbell, Rea, Hayes & Large by ca. 1970 and subsequently Hayes Large Architects. Among the firm's specialties are educational buildings. The new school featured approximately 28 classrooms and a multi-purpose room. Following the Pennsylvania General Assembly's passage of the School District Reorganization Act of 1963 (Act 299), the Altoona School District merged with the Logan Township School District to form the Altoona Area School District. This occurred in 1966. In 1996, the school was renovated and added to by the District. The architect for the addition was Hayes Large Architects. Though constructed later in the twentieth century, this school opened as and still functions as a neighborhood school used by the local community for a variety of activities and programs. When rededicated in 1996, Altoona Area School District Superintendent Dennis E. Murray stated, "Penn-Lincoln Elementary School has been the focal point for many activities that have taken place in this neighborhood for more than 30 years." Principal Jennifer A.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (Continued):

Mikolajczyk announced that the “Penn-Lincoln School is proud to assume its rightful place in the community. This new, state-of-the-art school will bring this center city neighborhood in to the 21st Century” (Altoona Area School District 1996:n.p.).

NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION:

The Penn-Lincoln Elementary School was evaluated according to criteria set forth in the *National Register Bulletin 15: “How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation”* (National Park Service 1997). The *Draft Pennsylvania Public Schools Historic Context* was also used to evaluate the resource (Vitiello 2006). Penn-Lincoln Elementary School, the 1961-62 school building that replaced Penn School and Lincoln Central Grammar School, combines characteristics typically found at the turn of the century with characteristics more common in the mid- to late twentieth century. It was constructed as, and is still, a neighborhood school, constructed in an urban community of residential development. A prominent secondary entrance (beside a sign displaying the school’s name) is accessed by a “walkers” double set of stairs from the sidewalk surrounding the property. The main entrance is tucked into the school building behind an unobtrusive circular driveway. Parking areas on the property are small and generally post-date construction of the school. The school appears to be oriented towards neighborhood children and the local community. In that respect, Penn-Lincoln Elementary School is functionally similar to the smaller nineteenth-century buildings it replaced. Structurally, Penn-Lincoln Elementary School resembles typical mid-twentieth century school buildings. It is a simple modern structure with little embellishment. Its two stories are spread out across an urban block. The property features open areas of playground and landscaping. This random combination of function and style is likely due to the school’s urban location, its purpose of replacing two smaller neighborhood schools, and the design influence of the school’s architects and popular preference at the time. Penn-Lincoln Elementary School does not appear to be an outstanding example of a school of its type. The school is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A.

The school is not associated with any significant person and is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B. The school is a typical example of modern school architecture in the 1960s, exhibiting little to no outstanding architectural elements. Alterations have been made to the original structure, including replacement windows and doors. A large 1996 addition has been appended to the original school. These changes have substantially altered the feeling and association of the original structure. The property is also recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C. Eligibility under Criterion D cannot be fully addressed since the property has not been subject to archaeological testing.

REFERENCES CITED:

Altoona Area School District

1996 *Penn-Lincoln Elementary School Dedication and Open House* brochure provided by the Altoona Area School District.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Public Instruction

1934 *100 Years of Free Public Schools in Pennsylvania; 1834-1934*. Harrisburg: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Public Instruction.

REFERENCES CITED (Continued):

Mulhern, James

1933 *A History of Secondary Education in Pennsylvania*. Philadelphia: Published by the author copyright 1933; Printed in Lancaster, PA: The Science Press Printing Company.

National Park Service

1997 *National Register Bulletin*, "How to Apply National Register Criteria for Evaluation." Washington, D.C.: National Park Service.

Patrick, Charlotte M., Mae C. Harter, Martha E. McKerihan, Charles A. Faris, K. Virginia Krick, and Eugene L. Lantz

1949 *Altoona's Centennial Booklet; Noteworthy Personages and Events; Altoona History 1849-1949*. Published online (<http://www.libraries.psu.edu/do/digitalbookshelf/30053035>) Accessed on June 5, 2007.

United States Department of Agriculture

1967 Aerial Photograph AHQ-10HH-16. Created on September 4, 1967. On file at the Pennsylvania Geological Survey Library, Middletown, Pennsylvania.

United States Geological Survey

1993 *Altoona SE, PA Aerial Photograph*. USGS Reference Number 40078-E4-03-PHT. Created on April 8, 1993.

1998 *Altoona, PA Quadrangle*. 7.5 minute series. Topography compiled 1962. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1988 and other sources. Photoinspected using imagery dated 1993. Survey control current as of 1963. Boundaries, other than corporate, revised 1998. Denver, CO.

Vitiello, Domenic

2006 *Draft Pennsylvania Public Schools Historic Context*. Prepared for the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau of Historic Preservation. Draft copy provided by BHP in February 2006.



0ft 2000ft

 0m 609.5m
 Prepared by CHRIS, Inc.

KEY # 150026

USGS 1998
 ALTOONA, PA

Penn-Lincoln Elementary School
 Altoona City, Blair County



NOT TO SCALE
Prepared by CHRIS, Inc.

KEY # 150026

**USGS 1993
ALTOONA SE, PA**

**Penn-Lincoln Elementary School
Altoona City, Blair County**



NOT TO SCALE
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KEY # 150026

USDA 1967

**Penn-Lincoln Elementary School
Altoona City, Blair County**