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STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICE



NEVADA
**STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICE**

NEVADA STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
OWNER AGREEMENT FORM

NAME OF PROPERTY: Oats Park Grammar School

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PROPERTY: 151 E. Park St., Fallon, NV

OWNER OF RECORD: Churchill Arts Council

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 2204, Fallon, NV 89407-2204

This is to certify that I have been notified by the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office regarding the proposed nomination of the above-referenced property to the State Register of Historic Places, and that I have read and understand the enclosed attachment regarding the effects of listing. I understand that listing this property in the State Register of Historic Places pursuant to 383.085 of the Nevada Revised Statutes will not change my private property rights, nor will it impose any new covenants or regulations.

As the legal owner of this property, I **agree**, / **disagree** with the listing of said property in the State Register of Historic Places.

Owner (printed name): CHURCHILL ARTS COUNCIL

Owner's Signature

VALERIE J. SERPA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CAC

1 FEB 2019

Date

Please return this form to the State Historic Preservation Office by February 11, 2019.

State Historic Preservation Office
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 5004
Carson City, Nevada 89701

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 90000715

Date Listed: 5/2/90

Oats Park School
Property Name

Churchill
County

NV
State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

601 Patricia Anders
Signature of the Keeper

5/2/90
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Significant person is not applicable since property is not nominated under criterion B.

Verified by telephone with Richard Bernstein of the Nevada SHPO,
5/2/90

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

710

APR 03 1990

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Oats Park Grammar School
other names/site number Oats Park School, Fallon Grammar School

2. Location

street & number 167 East Park Street not for publication
city, town Fallon vicinity N/A
state Nevada code NV county Churchill code 001 zip code 89406

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> objects
			<u> </u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Ronald M. Jones, SHPO 3/23/90
Signature of certifying official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) _____

Patricia Andrews 5/2/90
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
EDUCATION/Grammar School

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Vacant/Not In Use/Storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

No Style

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
walls Brick

roof
other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

SEE Continuation Sheets

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1914-1921

Significant Dates

1914-1915
1920-1921

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

DeLongchamps, Frederick J.

Architect/Builder

DeLonchamps, Frederick J./ Friedhoff & Hoeffel

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SEE Continuation Sheets

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE Continuation Sheets

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Churchill County Museum

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property Less than one acre

UTM References

A

1	1	3	4	8	00	0	4	3	7	0	6	0	0
Zone			Easting				Northing						

B

Zone			Easting				Northing						

C

Zone			Easting				Northing						

D

Zone			Easting				Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

"Lots numbered 7-12 in Block 5 in the Oats Park Addition to the City of Fallon, according to Survey filed for Record, December 10, 1907, in the office of the County Recorder of Churchill County."

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes one half of the original 12 lots which were sold by John and Nelli Oats to the Board of School Trustees of Fallon School District Number 4 in 1914. Dividing the historic school block in half excludes a gymnasium (built 1946) from the nomination, and retains the scale of presentation of the original school block.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title P. Ana Gordon Revised and edited by Richard Bernstein, Architectural Historian
organization Churchill County Arts Council/ Division of Historic Preservation date March 23, 1990
street & number 1718 Lincoln Avenue / 201 S. Fall St., #106 telephone (702) 423-7511 / (702) 687-5138
city or town Fallon/ Carson City state Nevada zip code 89406/89710

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Located 18 miles east of the Lake Lahontan Dam and Recreational Area, the City of Fallon is known as the "Oasis of Nevada", and is recognized state-wide for its agricultural achievements. Selected as the Churchill County Seat in 1903, Fallon was incorporated in 1908, and the rural municipality has grown from a population of 350 in 1905 to a present-day population of 6,200.

Fallon developed commercially at the intersection of Williams and Maine Streets, (present-day Highways 50 and 95) and spread out residentially to the southeast and southwest of these crossroads. The Oats Park Addition, comprising a square area incorporating sixteen city blocks, is one of the prominent developments of the eastern section of Fallon. At the center of the addition is a ten-acre square which was deeded to the City of Fallon by owner John Oats for park usage in 1909. Today, Oats Park is the site of the city's baseball diamond, swimming pool, and picnic facilities, and serves as the city's primary recreational facility.

The Oats Park Grammar School is centered on a block on the eastern boundary of Oats Park, and faces the northeast corner of the Park. The immediate architectural neighborhood consists of the park (western boundary), one-story frame cottages and Churchill County School District storage facilities (northern and southern boundaries), and the E. C. Best Junior High School complex and grounds (eastern boundary). The school rises prominently above these open spaces and one-story structures.

The Oats Park Grammar School was designed in 1914 by prominent Nevada architect Frederick J. DeLongchamps, completed in 1915, and enlarged in 1921 following the DeLongchamps' 1920 proposals for addition. DeLongchamps' plans for both phases of the school building are available at the University of Nevada-Reno Special Collections. Photocopies of the original facade and rear elevation, the basement and first floor plans, and interior and exterior details are attached to this nomination.

The Oats Park Grammar School is a one-story, symmetrically-massed, regularly-fenestrated, hip-roofed brick building with full concrete basement. A projecting, pedimented pavilion is centered upon the facade, and raised concrete steps provide the main entrance to the school.

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Six years after the original construction of the school, a pair of slightly projecting rectangular wings were constructed at the north and south ends. Each new wing provided two classrooms, and each room accommodated fifty students. As stated in the architect's prints and specifications for the addition, all of the new materials matched the original materials, and the school presents a symmetrical and consistent facade.

Fenestration on the entire building is regularly and consistently placed, and features rhythmic groups of nine light windows on the basement level, and six-over-six and nine-over-one double-hung-sash, and one-over-one double-hung sash, capped with six-light transoms on the four first story elevations. Since the school's closure, each window has been covered with wooden boards and secured from misuse. The majority of the windows are intact.

The original school entrance consisted of a formal composition of a recessed portal framed by squared, wooden pilasters and topped with fanlight and cast cement surrounding ornamentation. The entrance was recessed within the pavilion, and consisted of double doors with transom. Sometime after 1953, and possibly after a series of earthquakes in 1954, repairs were made to the "front of the building above the entrance",¹ although it is unclear whether or not the original entrance arch was removed or enclosed during these repairs. The name "Oats Park School" is centered in the middle of this cream-colored, filled pediment. Only the pediment has been altered; the other entrance features are intact and in good condition.

As noted in the 1979 report to the Churchill County School District and as seen upon recent inspection, the brickwork of the structure is in very good condition. Post 1954-earthquake repairs included replacement of parts of the walls (evident by the non-original but compatible brickwork and mortar between the windows), repairs to the "old foundation settlement problem at the northwest corner that has been evident for years" and the incorporation of tie rods, which were being introduced to the brick and masonry buildings in town, "around the complete perimeter of the building" into the structure just below the roof-

¹ The Fallon Standard, 13 October 1954, p.5.

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line.² This repair is also evident by the newer, sensitively incorporated and compatible brickwork. None of the brick has been painted or sandblasted. The cement basement has been painted deep "schoolhouse red" and is compatible with the presentation of the building.

Original Interior Plan: From the recessed double-leaf entrance, a series of stairs entered upon a corridor extending the length of the building. This hallway opened directly into the assembly room, four classrooms, and led to the principal's office and teacher's rooms. Each classroom had its own cloakroom, which was located behind the chalkboard and extended the entire width of the classroom. The basement floor, unfinished when the school opened in 1915, provided for the boys' lavatory and manual training classroom on the north end and for the girls' lavatory and domestic science classroom on the south end.

The majority of the building's original interior finishes and details survive intact and exhibit a high degree of integrity, and, as with the building's exterior, all of the 1921 interior additions match the materials of the 1914 interior. These features include simple window and door surrounds, storage cupboards, bookcases, cloak room doors and toilet partitions, picture moldings, blackboard railings, chalk rails, baseboards and wainscoting. Ceiling heights are approximately 10 feet on the basement, and 15 to 18 feet on the first floor. The floor area is approximately 12,435 square feet per floor, and the attic above the second floor is unfinished space. The interior finish is plaster, and the floors are maple.

The only notable interior change to the school was made sometime after the 1946 construction of the one-story gymnasium. (Located on the northeast corner of the historic school block, the gymnasium is not included within the boundaries of this nomination). With the availability of the Gymnasium's auditorium space, the school building's first-floor Assembly Room was divided into three spaces. New walls and entrance ways were positioned to create one large classroom, highlighted by the bank of windows at the east end of the original Assembly Room. In addition, the boys' and girls' lavatories, originally placed in the basement, were relocated to the first floor, occupying the remaining

² Ibid.

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corners of the former Assembly room. A hallway between the lavatories entered into the new classroom space. Since its closure, the Oats Park Grammar School building systems have been frequently monitored, and the heating, electrical and plumbing systems are functional. In addition, the grounds indicate no sign of neglect or abuse.

Despite the alterations to the building, the Oats Park Grammar School is in good condition, and retains its overall architectural integrity and position within the community.

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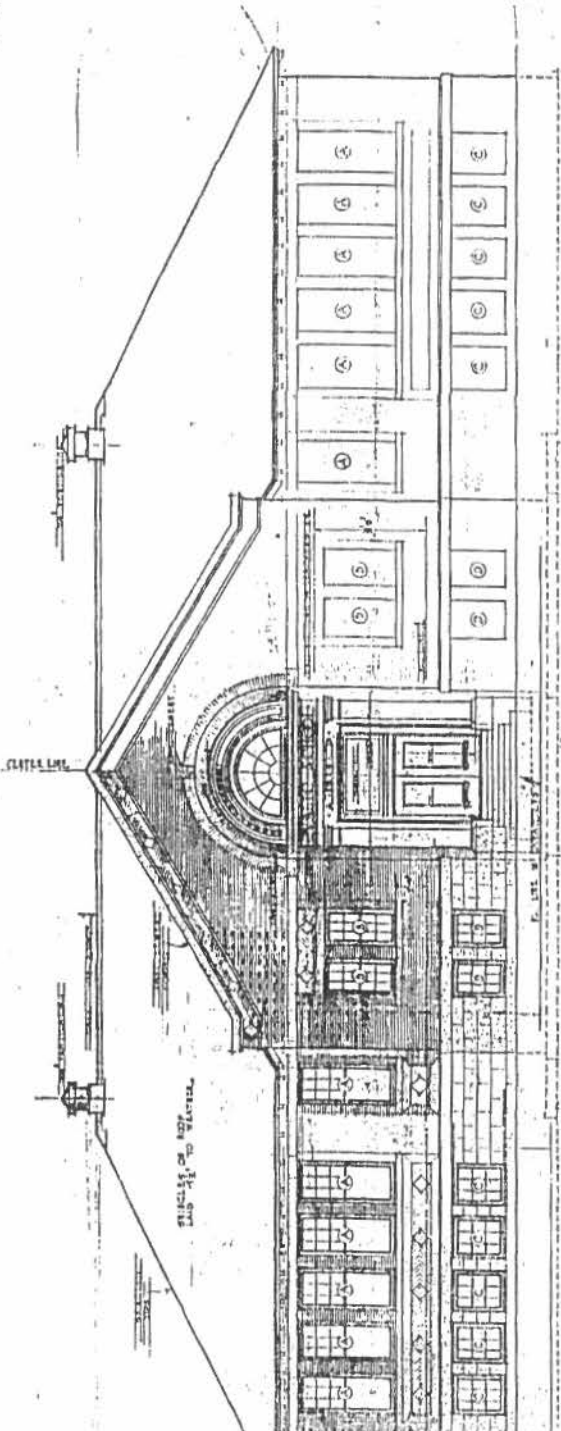
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OATS PARK GRAMMAR SCHOOL, FALLON, NEVADA
FREDERICK J. DELONGCHAMPS, ARCHITECT
FACADE, DETAIL FROM ORIGINAL 1914 DRAWINGS UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA-RENO, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

REAR ELEVATION
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

NOTE: ALL DIMENSIONS & FINISH TO FACE
OF EXISTING WORK OF CONCRETE, BRICK



FRONT ELEVATION
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

2
PUBLIC BUILDING
FALLON, NEVADA

Architectural drawing details and notes area.

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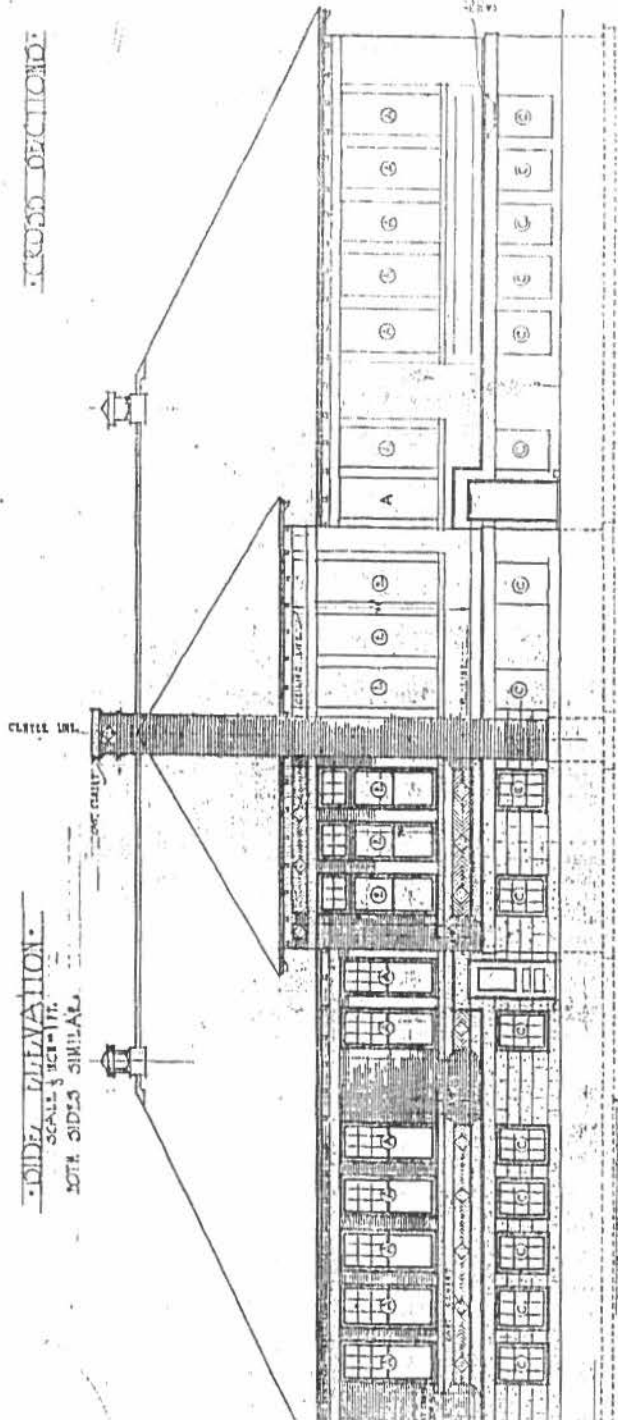
Section number 7 Page 6

OATS PARK GRAMMAR SCHOOL, FALLON, NEVADA
FREDERICK J. DELONGCHAMPS, ARCHITECT
REAR ELEVATION, DETAILS FROM ORIGINAL 1914 DRAWINGS.



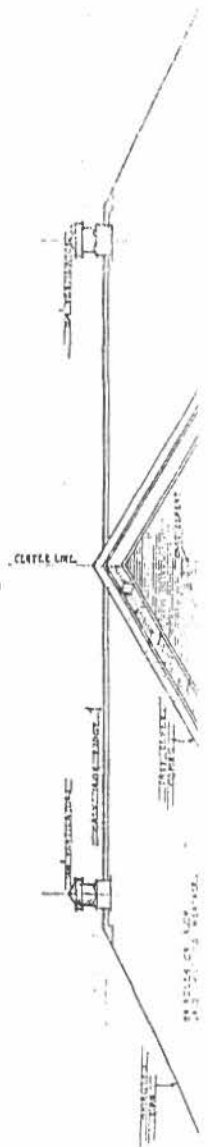
CORNICE SECTION

FRONT ELEVATION
SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"
BOTH SIDES SIMILAR.



NOTE: ALL DIMENSIONS & HEIGHT TO BE ONE
OF BOTH SIDES OF CORNER CASTLE LINE.

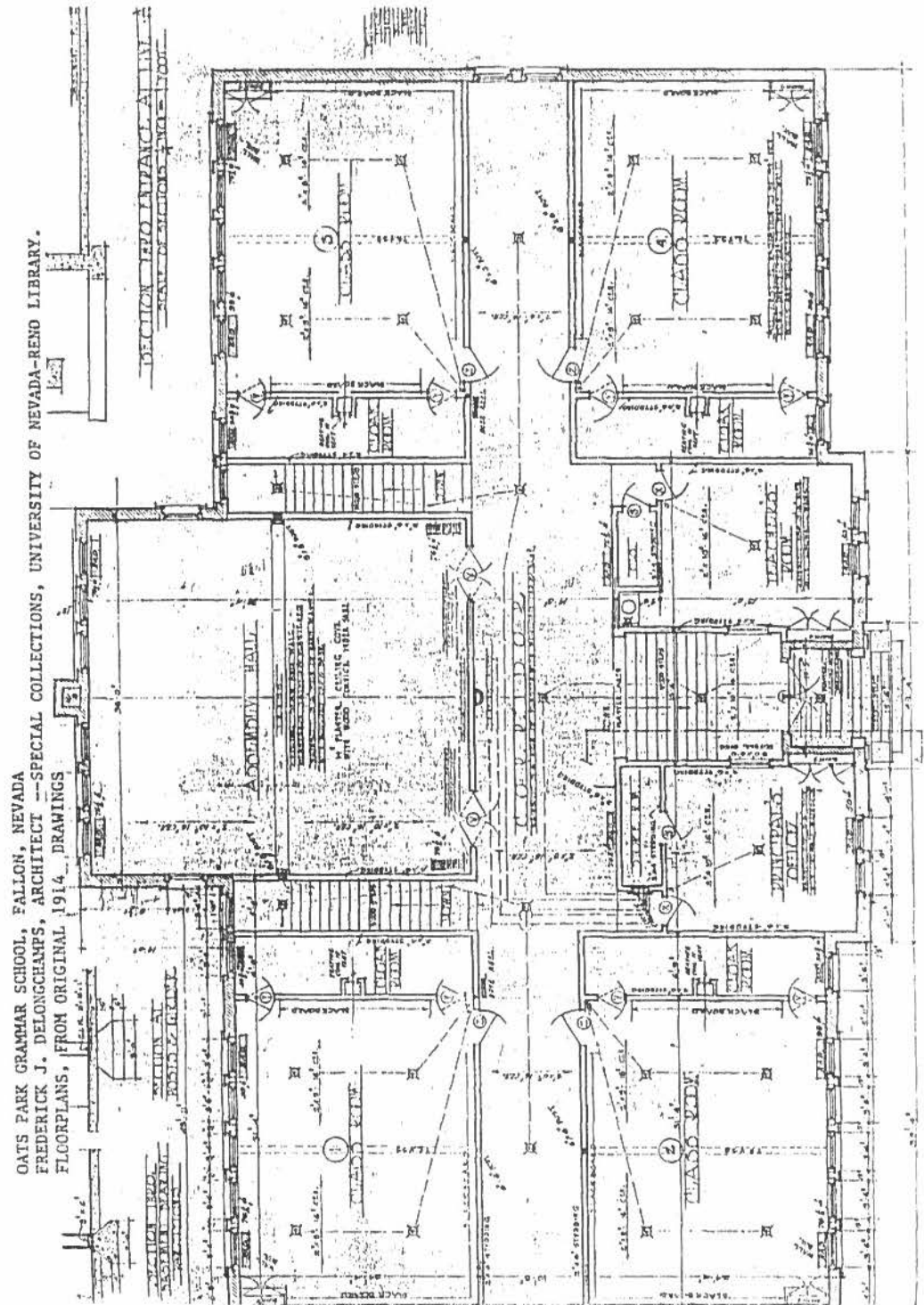
REAR ELEVATION
SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"



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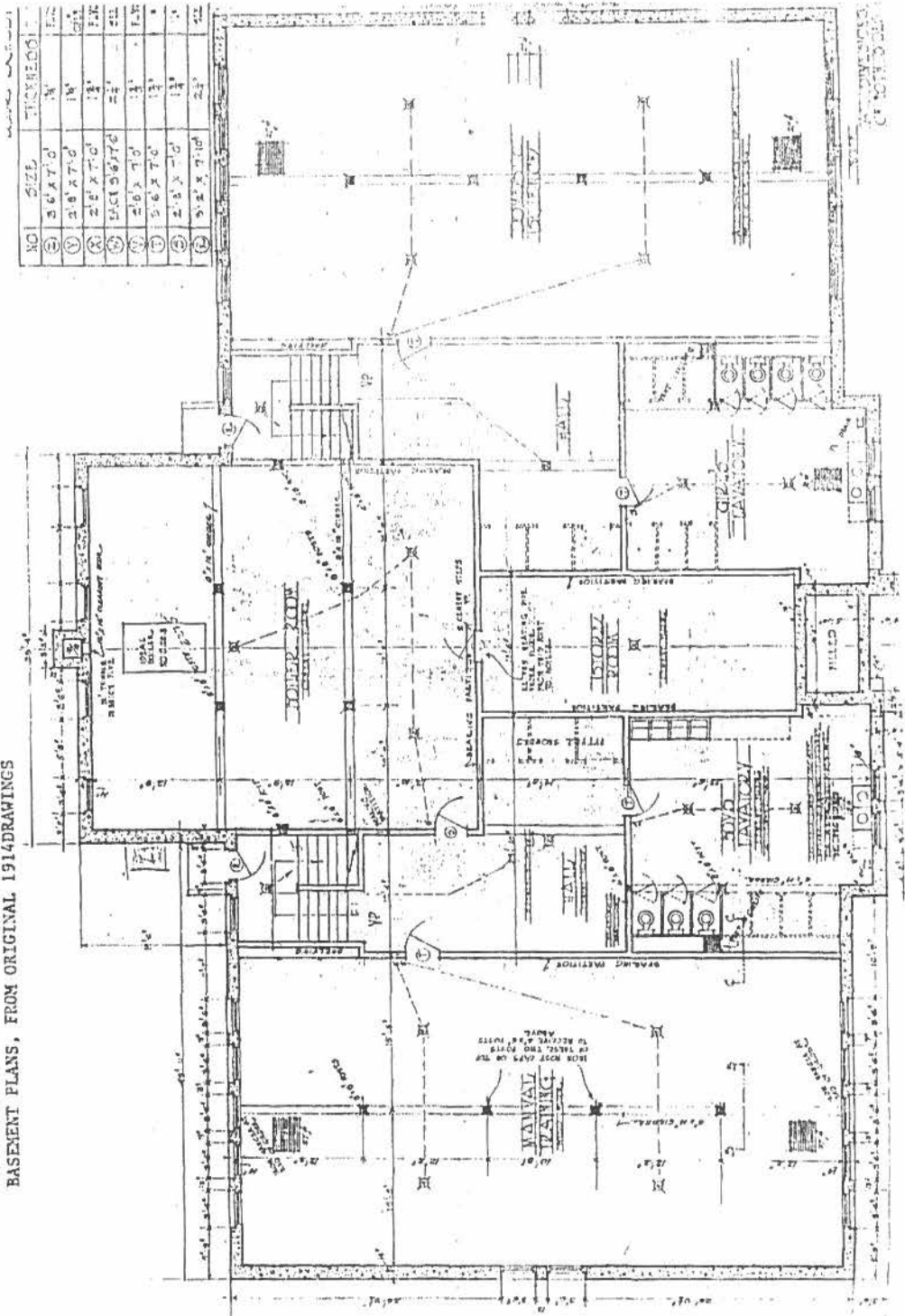


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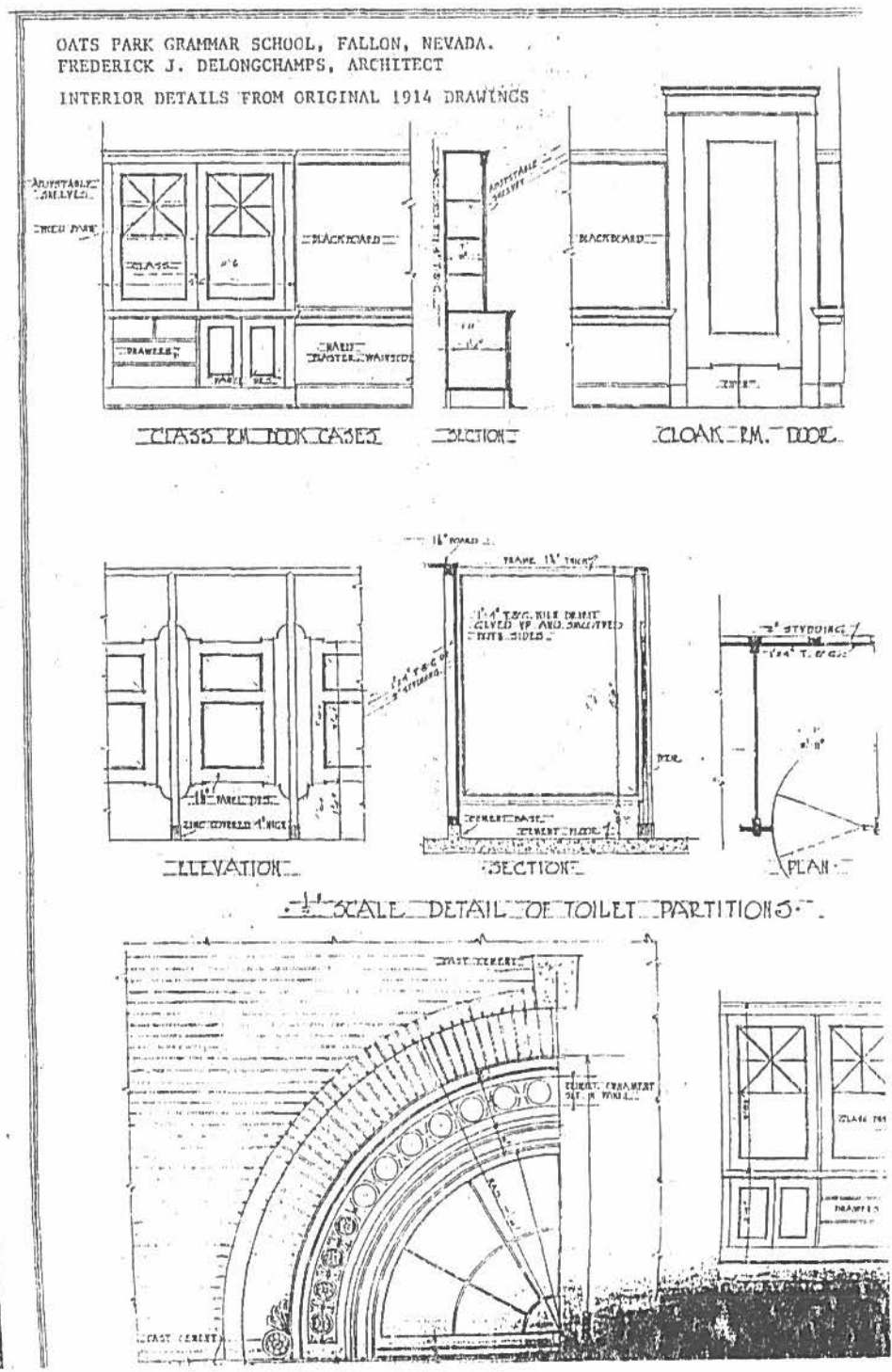
OATS PARK GRAMMAR SCHOOL, FALLON, NEVADA
FREDERICK J. DELONGCHAMPS, ARCHITECT --UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA-RENO, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY
BASEMENT PLANS, FROM ORIGINAL 1914 DRAWINGS



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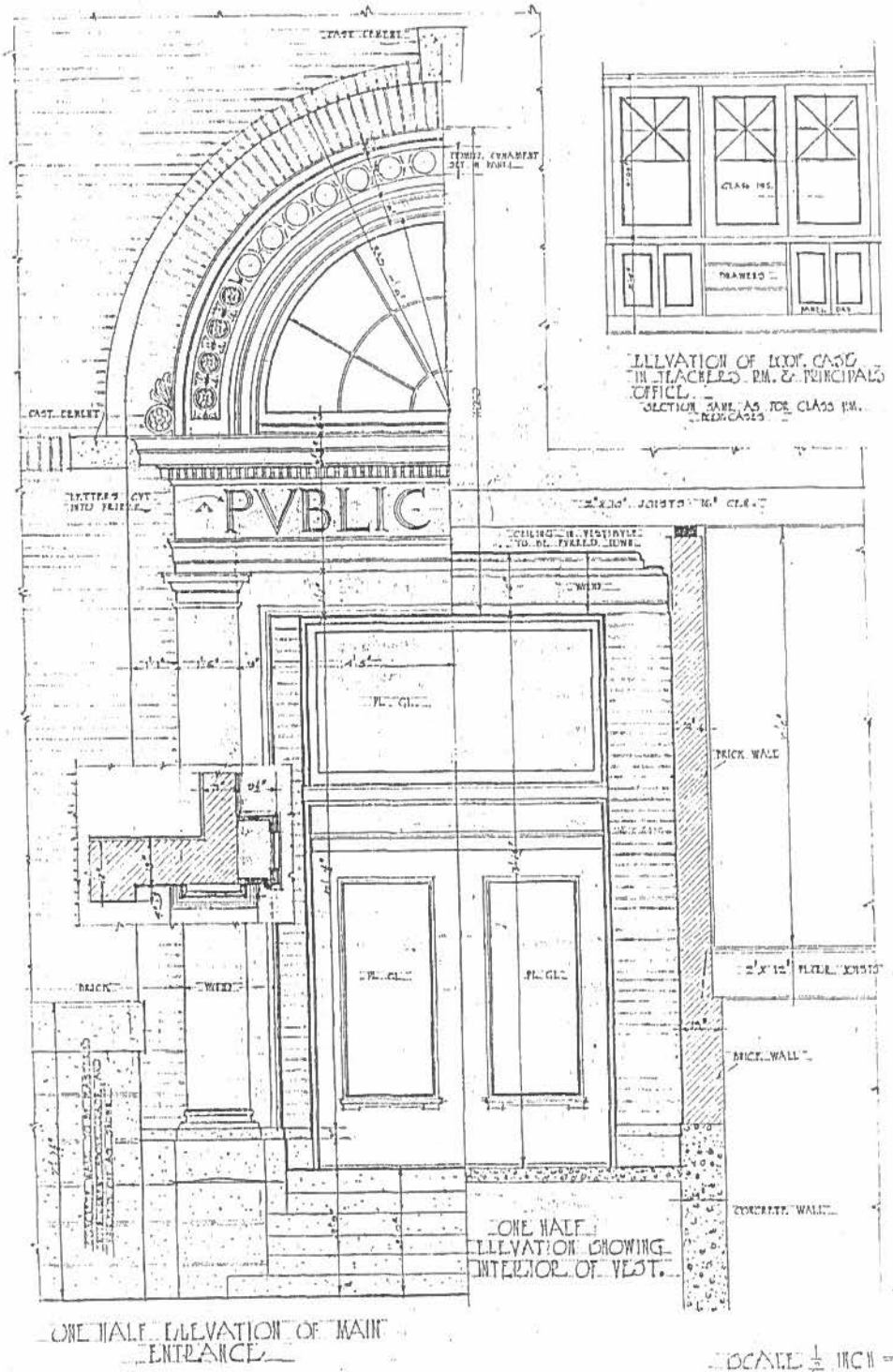


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OATS PARK GRAMMAR SCHOOL, FALLON, NEVADA
FREDERICK J. DELONGCHAMPS, ARCHITECT
FRONTISPIECE, DETAIL FROM ORIGINAL 1914 DRAWINGS



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The Oats Park Grammar School is significant because of its association with the theme of Education in Nevada and qualifies for the National Register under Criterion A. Because of its association with Frederick J. DeLongchamps, Nevada's most prominent architect, the Oats Park Grammar School is also significant architecturally and qualifies for the National Register under Criterion C.

Educational Development (Criterion A)

Churchill County was established in February 1864, nine months prior to Nevada's entry into US statehood on 31 October 1864. After a series of temporary county seats, the emerging crossroads town of Fallon was established as the permanent Churchill County seat in 1903. Two years later, Fallon was surveyed by the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, and identified as having a population of 350. Fallon incorporated as a municipality in December 1908.¹

Fallon developed commercially at the intersection of Williams and Maine Streets, and spread out residentially to the southeast and southwest of these crossroads. One of the prominent developments of Fallon's eastern section was the Oats Park Addition, owned by John Oats, an English immigrant to the American west. Oats and his wife Nellie owned lands in Fallon and numerous ranchlands about the County, and became instrumental in the early development of Fallon. In 1906 Oats donated property for the construction of the first Fallon High School, a two-story brick structure located on Second Street. Three years later, he donated a ten-acre area centered within the Oats Park Addition for use as a public park. By the early 1910s the Fallon City Council began improvements to the square, and residential usage developed around the square. Several undeveloped blocks bordered the park.

At the turn-of-the-century, the Churchill County economy was based on mining, and following a strike at Rawhide, Fallon became the center of mining and ranching enterprises. Opportunity to diversify the economy developed with the passage of the Newlands Reclamation Act of 1902, which enabled the irrigation

¹ Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, City of Fallon, 1905 map, Nevada State Historical Museum, Reno.

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and development of the desert lands of Nevada. The Lahontan Dam project, located within a few miles of Fallon, was designed to harness the power of the Truckee and Carson rivers. Initiated in 1911, it was the first Federal Reclamation Project in the United States, and directly influenced the need for more educational facilities in Churchill County.

Work on the construction of Lahontan Dam began in the spring of 1911 and was completed in 1915. During this four year period, the project attracted an influx of workers, and the town and county grew accordingly--from 1,000 in 1909, and to 1,800 in 1912.² Growth in Fallon was paralleled by growth in Churchill County, and this was reflected in the need for new educational facilities in both the city and county. At the same time bonds were approved and architectural plans drawn for a grammar school in Fallon, residents of the nearby Harmon District of Churchill County voted to construct a larger school for their rural students.³ The almost-simultaneous construction of the Harmon School in the country and the Oats Park Grammar School in the city confirms the impact of the construction of the Lahontan Dam upon Fallon and Churchill County. The Harmon School, consisting of the school building, pumphouse and teacherage, was erected between 1915-16. It was nominated to the National Register for its association with the development of Nevada's public education system, and was listed on the Register in 1989.

The "Fallon Grammar School" was designed in 1914 by Reno architect Frederick J. Delongchamps. The budget for the school building, including purchase of the real estate, the school furnishings and the payment of the architect's five per cent fee for supervising the building's construction was \$20,000.00, and was raised by bond. The bids for the construction of the school building were opened and accepted in June 1914. Friedhoff and

² Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, City of Fallon Map, 1905, 1909, 1912, Nevada State Historical Museum, Reno.

³ Harmon School, National Register of Historic Places Nomination, Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology, Nevada, 1988.

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Hoeffel of Reno won the bid for construction; J. A. McDermitt of Reno for plumbing and heating.⁴

On 8 July 1914, John and Nellie Oats sold Block No. 5, Lots 1-12 to the Board of School Trustees of Fallon School District Number Four for the sum of \$500.00.⁵ With architectural plans and contractors prepared, construction on the school building began soon after the acquisition of the property. The building was finished in January 1915, and was named in honor of John Oats.

On Thursday 7 January 1915 the School District hosted a reception to celebrate the completion of "one of the most modern and magnificent school structures." Declaring that the event "marked an epoch in the educational progress of the City of Fallon," the Churchill County Eagle praised the School District for completing the project within the 20,000 bond, and detailed the spacious and modern interiors:

The class rooms are all the same size and will accommodate a maximum of 45 pupils, or a total number in the building of 180....The entire building is floored with maple and the doors are of hard wood, all presenting a fine appearance. The heating and ventilation are modern and the best that the board could secure.

The basement is divided into two separate parts, the south for the girls and the north for the boys. This lower part of the building has only been completed so far as the hallways and lavatories are concerned, and while provision is made on the boys' side for manual training and in the girls' department for domestic science, these large rooms will be completed later when funds are available...Directly in front of the entrance is the main assembly room, with ample seating capacity for the entire school.⁶

⁴ Churchill (Nevada) County Eagle, Saturday, 20 June 1914.

⁵ Churchill County (Nevada) Deed Book, Book 12, Page 82.

⁶ Churchill County Eagle, Saturday 9 January 1915, p. 1.

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The Oats Park Grammar School, serving the third through eighth grades of Churchill County, opened for classes on Monday 11 January 1915.

While celebrating the completion of the school in 1915, the Eagle reporter also noted that "when the increased population requires, two rooms can be added on the north and two on the south, thus doubling the capacity of the school and accommodating 360 pupils." By 1921, this expansion was necessary. DeLongchamps' firm provided the "Additions and Alterations to the Oats Park Grammar School" in 1920. T. J. Reese, a Fallon contractor, won the bid for construction of "four additional classrooms" and "two basement rooms to conform to those already in use at the school, that will afford quarters for domestic science and manual training classes."⁷

The architect's 1920 prints included the substantial expansion of the centrally-located First-Floor Assembly Hall to include a gymnasium and stage, and the inclusion of a moving picture room located against the Hall's interior wall. When the project went out to final contractor's bid, however, these innovations had been deleted from the specifications.⁸

Construction on the two wings began in March 1921, and by late May 1921 the exterior construction was completed. The Fallon Standard called the building "one of the state's finest school edifices."⁹ The only subsequent addition to the Oats Park Grammar School block was a completely detached gymnasium, constructed in 1946.

As reported in The Fallon Standard, the Oats Park Grammar School suffered minor damage during the earthquake and aftershocks of

⁷ Fallon Standard, Thursday 6 January 1921, p. 1.

⁸ Contract and Specifications for Addition to Grammar School Building to Fallon, Nevada, 1920. F. J. deLongchamps, architect, Reno. Special Collections, University of Nevada Reno Library.

⁹ Ibid, 25 May 1921, p. 1.

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July and August 1954, but opened on schedule with other schools on September 7. School remained open during the minor repairs, although two classes were shifted to other rooms of the school, "not because of danger, but to avoid noise during remodeling work."¹⁰

In 1954, the newly-appointed Nevada School Survey Committee commissioned Peabody College of Nashville, Tennessee to survey and report on the status and future of Nevada schools. As a direct result of this report, the High and Grammar Schools of Churchill County were re-organized and consolidated under one County Superintendent. This organizational restructuring, including creation of the Churchill County School District, prompted the decision to make the Oats Park Grammar School a junior high school for the seventh, eighth and ninth grades in 1957. Within a few years, facilities at Oats Park were deemed inadequate by the State, and the city passed a bond issue for a more comprehensive facility. The E. C. Best Junior High School, constructed on property directly behind the Oats Park Grammar School, opened in September 1962. By the mid-1970s, the lower grades were served by both E. C. Best Middle School and the newly constructed Minnie P. Blair School.¹¹ The Oats Park Grammar School was used for storage and provided classroom space for students of the Western Nevada Community College.

In the late 1970s, the Churchill County School District commissioned an evaluation of the potential restoration of the Oats Park School. This preliminary report acknowledged that restoration of the building as a school was possible, but probably cost-prohibitive. Based on this preliminary report, undertaken without identification of the architect and his original plans, the Churchill County School District closed the Oats Park Grammar School.

¹⁰ Ibid, 6 October 1954, p.1.

¹¹ Nunn, Trudy Tedford. "A History of the Secondary Schools in Churchill County, Nevada." M. A. Thesis. University of Nevada-Reno, July 1975, p. 73-74.

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Since its closure, the Oats Park Grammar School building has been used for storage purposes by the Churchill County School District. In January 1990 the Churchill County Sheriff's Department began using one of the former basement classrooms as a weight-training facility.

Frederick J. DeLongchamps (Criterion C)

Frederick J. DeLongchamps, architect for the original Oats Park Grammar School in 1914 and additions in 1920, was Nevada's most prolific twentieth century architect. His designs are credited with playing a significant role in molding the architectural character of twentieth-century Nevada. Between 1907 and 1964, the architect's firm produced drawings for over 550 new structures, additions and remodelings in Nevada and across the country.¹² In addition to commissions in New York City, Miami, San Francisco and Reno, DeLongchamps' firm produced at least twenty drawings for a variety of buildings types within Fallon.

Born in Reno in 1882 and educated in Mining Engineering at the University of Nevada-Reno, Frederick J. DeLongchamps briefly served as a draftsman for the U.S. Surveyor's Office in Reno. He moved to San Francisco in 1906 and served an apprenticeship in architecture. He returned to Reno in 1907 and entered into a two-year partnership with Ira W. Tesch, formerly of the U. S. Surveyor's Office. DeLongchamps and Tesch created designs for approximately thirty buildings between 1907 and 1909.¹³

As noted in the 1986 National Register nomination for the Thematic Nomination of the Architecture of Frederick J. DeLongchamps (within the cities of Minden and Reno):

As part of Nevada's small architectural community, Frederick J. DeLongchamps maintained a diversified architectural practice providing a full range of architectural services. The architect was responsible

¹² Thematic Nomination of the Architecture of Frederick J. DeLongchamps, National Register of Historic Places Nomination, Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology, Nevada, 1986, np.

¹³ Ibid., np.

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for work in a wide range of building types and economic programs. DeLongchamps' body of work is characterized by its integrity of design. His work employs a conservative design approach which incorporating [sic] influences found in the mainstream of American architectural theory.¹⁴

Working independently in 1910, DeLongchamps won the design competition for the Washoe County Courthouse, and during the next decade he completed designs for 103 buildings, including the Oats Park Grammar School in 1914.

In designing his major public and commercial buildings, DeLongchamps often employed the Beaux-Arts and Neo-Classical styles, and incorporated formal massing, rhythmic fenestration and elaborate ornamentation into his designs. Compared to his more monumental, elaborate and celebrated structures, the Oats Park Grammar School is a modest example of the DeLongchamps' style. However, the school building exhibits many details and elements often employed in DeLongchamps' more elaborate buildings, such as the symmetrical massing and fenestration, attention to building materials as ornamentation, and a prominent, embellished entrance. In addition, although the school building is a one-story structure, the raised basement and steeply pitched hipped roof endow it with an undeniable prominence of place.

Throughout his career, DeLongchamps consistently championed stone, brick and terra cotta as building materials and ornamentation. His plans for the exterior brickwork of the Oats Park Grammar School detailed the use of bricks of contrasting colors, an intricate chevron-and-diamond design on each elevation and the use of cast cement for entrance ornamentation.

DeLongchamps' attention to detail extended to his drawings for the interior finishes of the school building. Enlarged and precise detailing of doors, bookcases, toilet partitions, door and window casings, picture moldings, blackboard railings, chalk rails, baseboards and wainscoting are represented in his drawings for the school.

¹⁴ Ibid, np.

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The Oats Park Grammar School (identified in the 1914 plans as the "Fallon Grammar School") is one of the earliest and perhaps the first public school building designed by Frederick J. DeLongchamps. His firm drew plans for at least 20 public school buildings in Nevada, California and Oregon. Although the hallmarks of DeLongchamps' formal building style are evident on most of his school building drawings, it appears that none of the schools utilized the same exterior or interior plans. However, DeLongchamps' plans for the Lake County High School (Lakeview, Oregon) exhibit many characteristics similar to the Oats Park Grammar School. The High School building is a one-story, symmetrically-massed, regularly-fenestrated, hip-roofed brick building with full basement. A projecting, pedimented pavilion is centered upon the facade and features an elaborate entrance way. Unlike the Grammar School, however, the High School has a stucco finish, and fenestration composed of six-light casement windows.¹⁵

Oats Park Grammar School was the first of approximately 20 buildings designed by DeLongchamps for Fallon clients, and the school building commission launched his career in Churchill County. Other local commissions included: the new design for the Churchill National Bank (1919); the remodeling of the Churchill County High School in 1922 (the successful contractor for this job was T. C. Reese, contractor for the 1921 Grammar School addition); and new designs for such major buildings as the Masonic Temple (1926), Fallon Municipal Building (1929), Churchill County Courthouse (1948), the Fallon Telephone Building (1948), and the Churchill Public Hospital (1948). DeLongchamps' residential work in Fallon began with the plans for the L. B. Bergen Home in 1948. Between 1952 and 1953, the firm of DeLongchamps and O'Brien (partnership formalized in 1939) prepared plans for seven residences in Fallon. Frederick J. DeLongchamps died in February 1969.

¹⁵ DeLongchamps, Frederick J., Drawings for the Lake County High School, 1921. Collection of Architectural Drawings and Specifications, Special Collections Department, University of Nevada-Reno, Library

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Conclusion

The Churchill Arts Council, a non-profit organization dedicated to the furtherance of Churchill County's visual and performing arts, is sponsoring the nomination of the Oats Park Grammar School to the National Register. The Oats Park Grammar School building is suitably located to provide a central location for community-wide activity, and recognition of the historic and architectural significance of the building will enable the Churchill Arts Council and the community to rally support for an adaptive reuse of the building.

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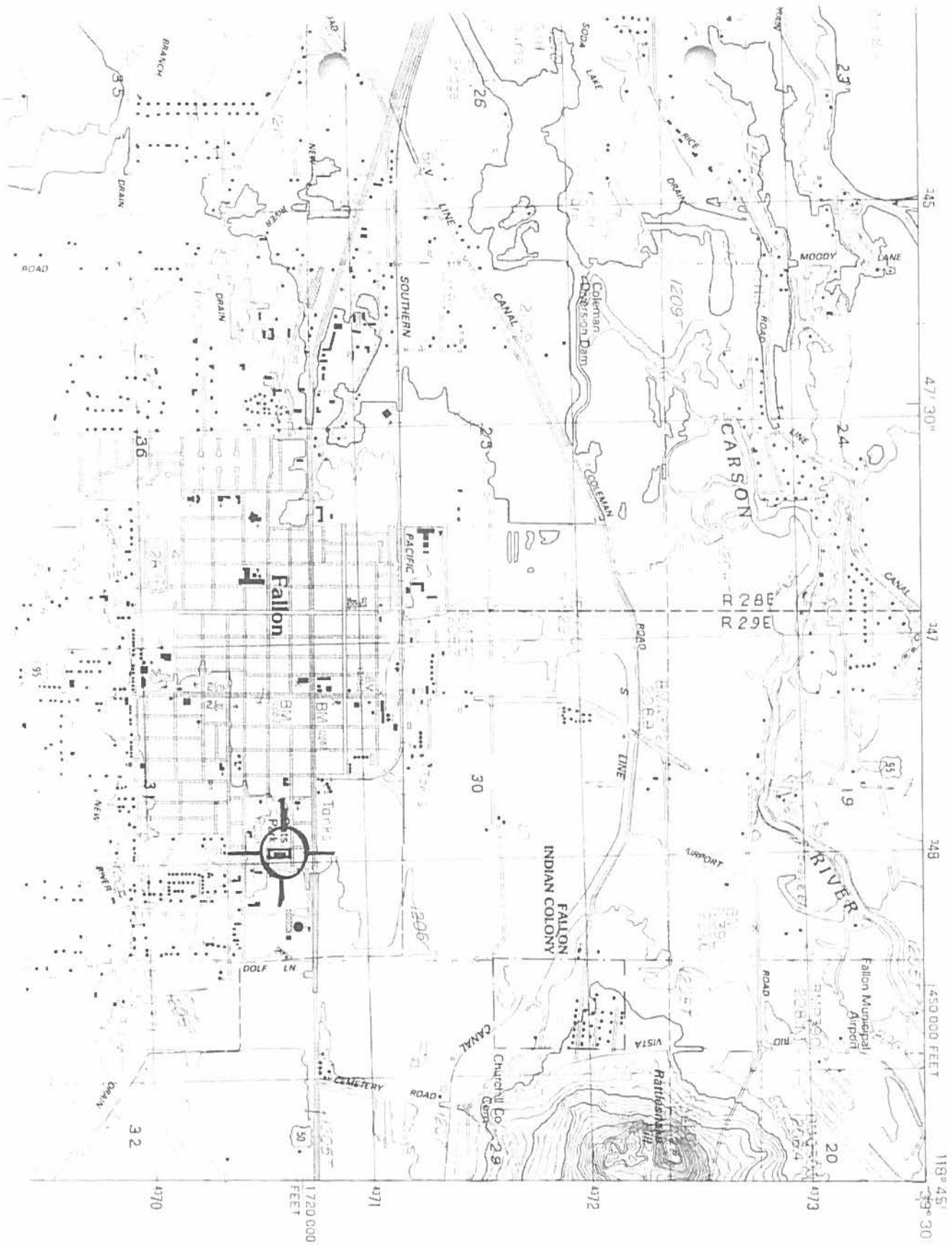
Section number PHOTOS Page 1

Photographs 1 - 9 were taken by Kirk Robertson of the Churchill County Arts Council in February, 1990.

Photographs 10 - 13 were printed from historic negatives on file with the Churchill County Museum, Fallon, Nevada.

All the negatives for photographs 1 - 13, are now on file with the Churchill County School District, Fallon, Nevada.

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7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)





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OATS PARK SCHOOL
FALLON, NV.

VIEW LOOKING EAST, 1990.

Chancellor



2)

OATS PARK SCHOOL
Fallon, NV.

VIEW OF FRONT AND SOUTH END OF BUILDING,
(EAST) Churchill Co 1990.



3

OATS PARK SCHOOL
FALLON, NV

VIEW OF FRONT ENTRANCEWAY, 1990.

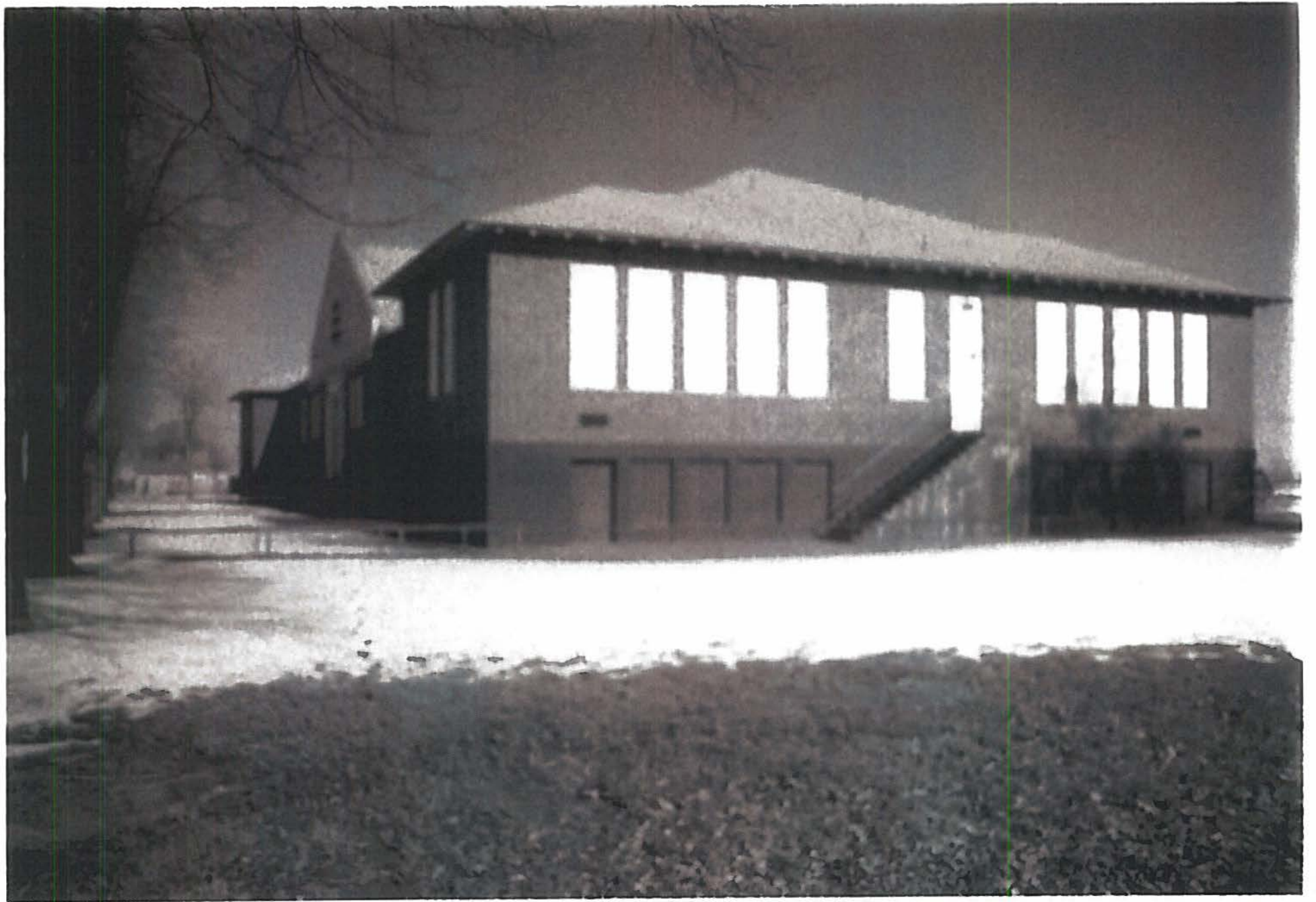
Churchill ©



4

OATS PARK SCHOOL
FALLON, NV

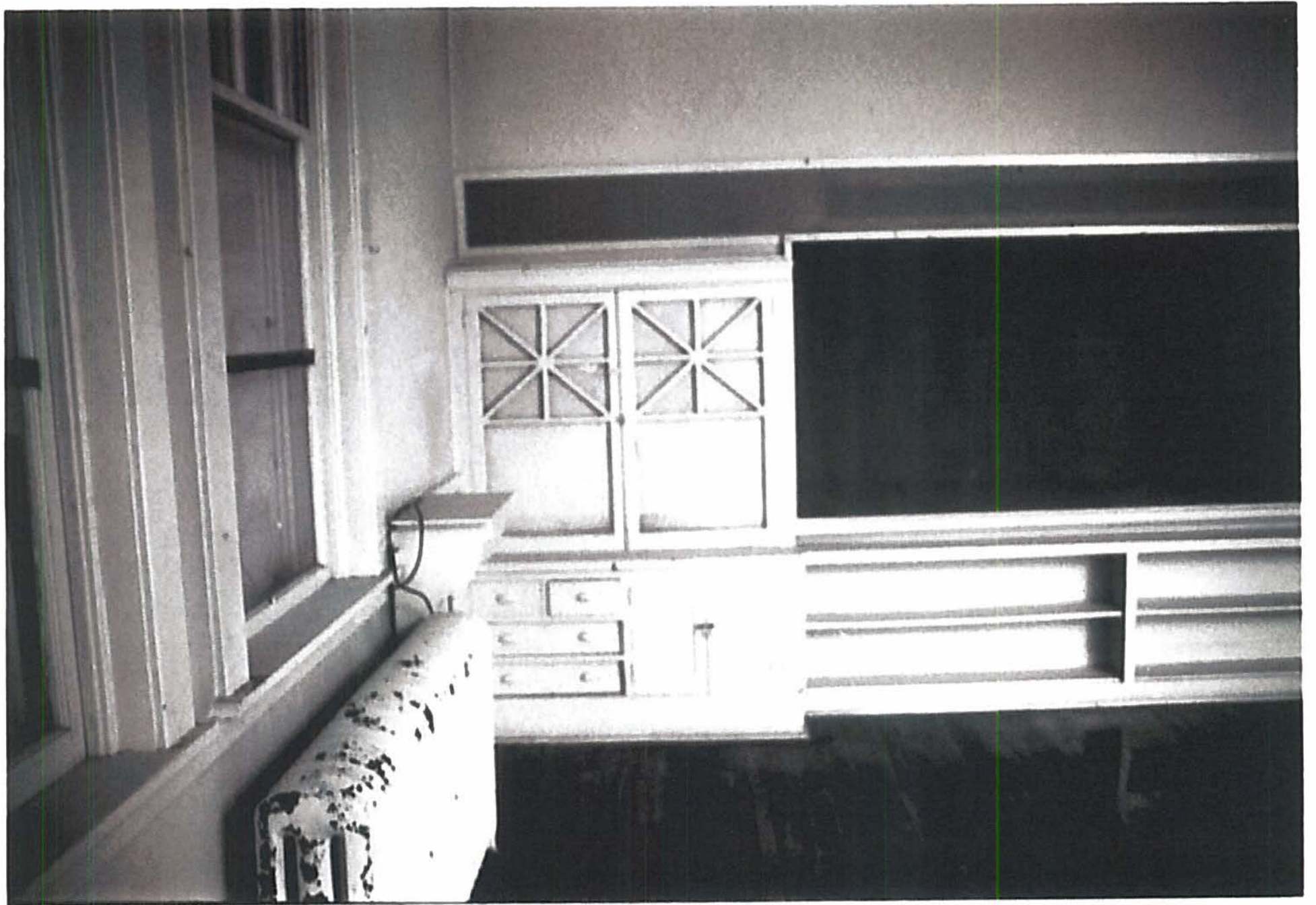
VIEW OF NORTH END AND REAR OF BUILDING, 1998.
Churchill &



(5)

OATS PARK SCHOOL
FALLON, NV

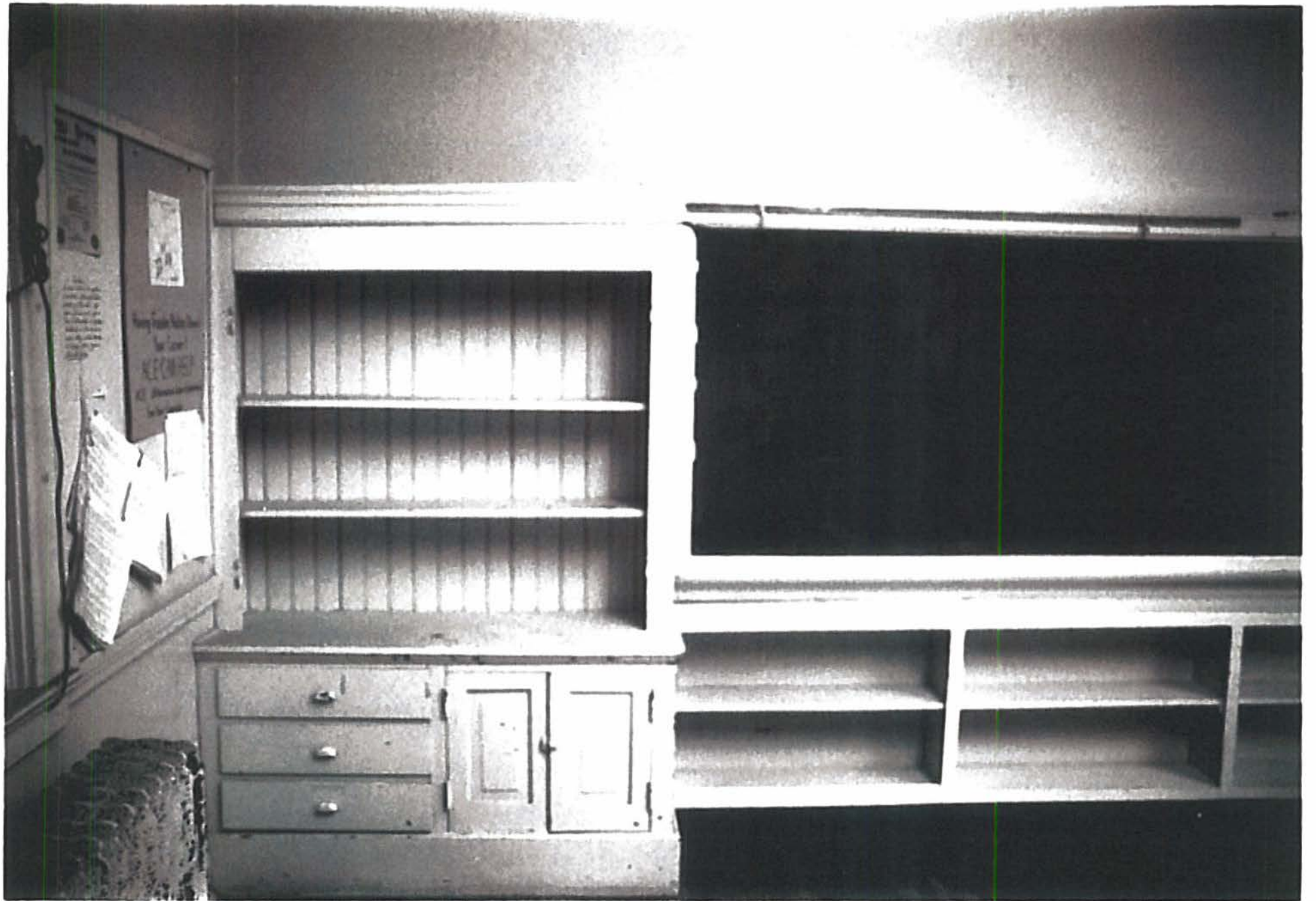
VIEW OF SOUTH END OF BUILDING, 1990.
Churchill



(6)

OATS PARK SCHOOL
FALLOM, NV.

INTERIOR DETAIL, CLASSROOM BOOKCASES, 1990.
Churchill Co



OATS PARK SCHOOL
Fallon, NV.

INTERIOR DETAIL, CLASSROOM BOOKCASES, 1990.
Churchill &



(8)

OATS PARK SCHOOL
FALLON, NV.

INTERIOR DETAIL, CLOAK ROOM DOORS,
1990. Churchill Co



2

OATS PARK SCHOOL
FALLOON, NV

INTERIOR DETAIL, FRONT ENTRANCE WAY, 1990.
Churchill &



10

OATS PARK SCHOOL, FALLON, NV, CA 1915.

Churchell





OATS PARK SCHOOL, FALLON, NV. CA 1916

Churchill



12

OATS PARK SCHOOL, FALLON, NV. CA 1921
Churchill Co



1953

13

OATS PARK SCHOOL, FALLON, NV. CA 1953
Churchell