

Dover, Delaware, November 13, 1922.

A Brief Statement of the Transition from the Old School Building of
Dover to the New School Building.

This day marked the transfer of the colored children of the Dover public schools from the two old school buildings,---the one on Slaughter Street and the other on Division Street,---to the splendid and adequate new school building erected at the west side of Dover by the Delaware School Auxiliary Association through the generosity and philanthropy of Mr. Pierre S. DuPont of Wilmington.

The day opened with clouds obscuring the sky and threatening rain, but soon the sun broke through and contributed to the pleasure of this Red Letter Day.

The children gathered at their respective school buildings where they were grouped for their pictures before departing for their new school building. Mr. Herman C. Taylor took the picture of the large group at the Slaughter Street school. This group, after singing, formed in double column and marched up Kirkwood Street to Division Street.

After taking this picture, Mr. Taylor immediately went to the Division Street school where he took the picture of the 55 children gathered there that morning. The Division Street school housed the 5th and 6th grades in one room, and the 7th and 8th grades in the other room.

Next the pupils of both schools joined in a triumphal march on Division street out to the new school building. This happy procession was made up that morning as follows: 18 pupils of the 7th and 8th grades accompanied by their teacher Miss Mary Brown headed the procession carrying a banner entitled "Dover Special District." Next

in the line of march came the 5th and 6th grade rooms numbering 37 pupils led by their teacher, Mrs. Genotieve Anderson. Those two rooms have been housed in the Division Street School.

Next in the procession came the 4th grade numbering 28 pupils led by their teacher, Mrs. Eva Raikes. The fourth group in the line was the 3rd grade numbering 49 pupils led by their teacher, Mrs. Carrie Blackson; next came the 2d grade room numbering 36 pupils led by their teacher, Miss Flossye Buckner; and the last in this triumphal march came the 1st grade room with 42 children in line and accompanied by their teacher, Mrs. Edmonia Ruffin. The last four rooms have been housed in the Slaughter Street School.

210 colored children and their 6 teachers were in this memorable march on Monday morning, November 13, 1922, which left their old School buildings about 9 A.M. and arrived at the splendid new school building erected on a 6-acre tract of ground at the west edge of the Dover Special School District.

The line of colored children assembled in front of the new colored school building where another picture was taken by Mr. Herman C. Taylor. One of each of these group pictures will be enlarged, framed, and placed on the wall of the office in the new colored school.

Under the direction of the builder of the new school, Mr. E. M. Henderer, the official photographer of the Delaware School Auxiliary Association took additional pictures of the new colored school while the colored children were grouped in front of the School and after they went into the auditorium. This official photographer also took pictures of the interior of the school auditorium.

Next the two upper rooms formed a circle around the new steel flag-pole and saluted the American flag as it floated proudly in the breeze on this eventful day.

Following the flag-salute the children assembled in the large auditorium which seats 500 persons. Several of the parents and friends of the children also gathered in the rear of the auditorium to enjoy the first chapel exercise held in the new School.

Miss Mary Brown led the singing and Mrs. Genevieve Anderson presided at the piano, while several songs were sung by the children from the new music booklets provided for their use.

Supt. W. B. Thornburgh had charge of that first program designated as the opening program.

Dr. Wm. C. Jason, Principal of the State College for colored children, led the devotional exercises. The 23rd Psalm was read as the scripture lesson. Following a short prayer by Dr. Jason, he then made a brief talk in which he expressed the cordial appreciation of his people for the magnanimous gift which had been given them through the philanthropy of Mr. Pierre S. DuPont. Dr. Jason urged his people to prove their appreciation of this wonderful gift by developing into the type of citizens that would be a credit to this country.

The other persons seated on the platform during that program were as follows: Mr. John Carrow, president of the Local Board of Education, Mr. Herman C. Taylor, a Member of the Local Board and Mr. Harry C. McSherry, Editor of the Index. Mr. Taylor, representing the Local Board of Education, spoke briefly setting forth the purposes for which the new school was erected, and expressed the hope that the colored children and their parents would respond to, and measure up to their new opportunities.

Supt. Thornburgh then gave definite suggestions and instructions to both children and teachers covering the care and use of the new school building and grounds.

Following the closing song by the children the first chapel exercises closed, and the six groups of children gathered in their respective new class-rooms in the following locations: Miss Mary Brown's group, 7th and 8th grades, in the Southwest room, Miss Genevieve Anderson's group, 5th and 6th grades, in the Southeast room, Mrs. Eva Raikes' group, 4th grades, in the West room, Mrs. Carrie Blackson's group, 3rd grade, in the East room, Miss Flosaye Buckner's group, 2d grade, in the Northeast room, and Mrs. Edmonia Ruffin's group, 1st grade, in the Northwest room.

On the afternoon of the opening day, the colored schools of Dover began their regular school work in the new colored school building in Dover.

Monday, November 13, 1922, will be long remembered as a memorable day by the colored people of Dover.

NOTE:- These data were prepared by Supt. W.B.Thornburgh.

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON COLORED SCHOOL

DOVER, DELAWARE

This is a one and one, equal to two stories, part basement brick building, composition pitch and slag flat roof, interior finish, plaster on brick walls, hung wire lath and plaster ceilings, wood floors, trim and doors; auditorium, buff brick walls, hung wire lath and plaster ceiling, wood floor; heat is furnished by a low pressure steam coal fired boiler.

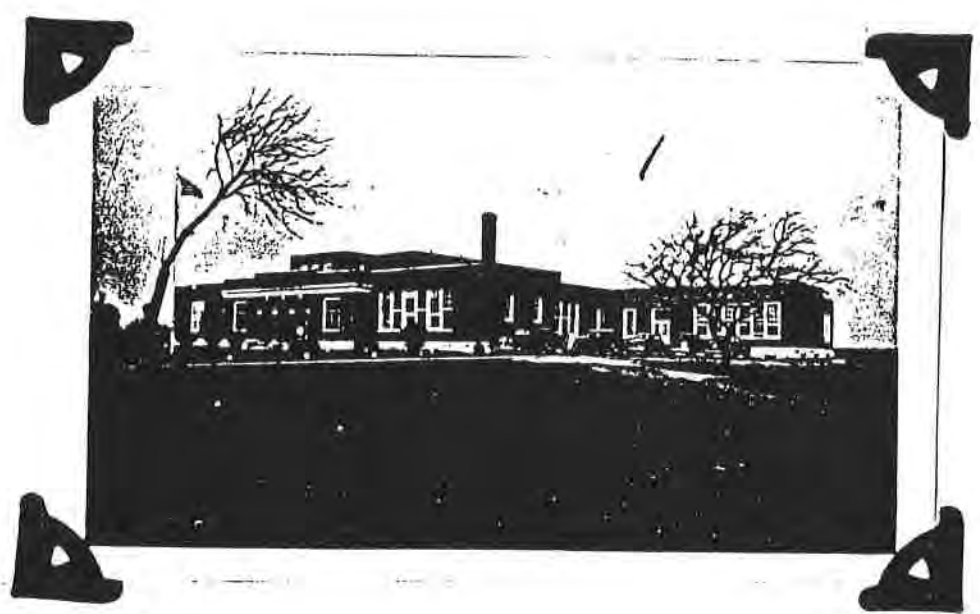
Section Built 1919-1920

Total cubic feet	234,813
Cube factor .30 =	\$70,443.90
Depreciation 20%	<u>14,088.78</u>
Estimated Value	\$56,355.12

Section Built 1934

Total cubic feet	103,078
Cube factor .30 =	\$30,923.40
Depreciation 9%	<u>2,783.11</u>
Estimated Value	\$28,140.29
	<u>56,355.12</u>

Total Estimated Value	\$84,495.41
Call	\$84,500.00



Position of
 Blueprint - Plot
 Plan for 1934
 Addition

Alteration & Addition to
 DOCKER T. WASHINGTON SCHOOL
 Dover Delaware

Sheet 1	LOT PLAN	W.D.
Comm. 181	Scale: 1/32" = 1'-0"	Date: 2-9-34

George Edwin Paves
 Architect
 306 Boulevard Building Wilmington Del.