

**Dallas Landmark Commission  
Landmark Nomination Form**

**1. Name**

**Historic:** **Sunset High School**  
**and/or common:** n/a  
**Date:** 1925

**2. Location**

**Address:** **2120 West Jefferson Blvd.**  
**Location/neighborhood:** **Dallas, 75208**  
**Block and lot:** Block A/3320, lot 1    **land survey:** n/a    **tract size:** 11.384 Acres

**3. Current Zoning**

**current zoning:** **PD 409**

**4. Classification**

<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> <i>public</i>	<u>  </u> <i>occupied</i>	<u>  </u> <i>agricultural</i>	<u>  </u> <i>museum</i>
<u>  </u> <i>building(s)</i>	<u>  </u> <i>private</i>	<u>  </u> <i>unoccupied</i>	<u>  </u> <i>commercial</i>	<u>  </u> <i>park</i>
<u>  </u> <i>structure</i>	<u>  </u> <i>both</i>	<u>  </u> <i>work in progress</i>	<u>  </u> <i>educational</i>	<u>  </u> <i>residence</i>
<u>  </u> <i>site</i>	<u>  </u> <i>Public</i>	<u>  </u> <i>Accessibility</i>	<u>  </u> <i>entertainment</i>	<u>  </u> <i>religious</i>
<u>  </u> <i>object</i>	<u>  </u> <i>Acquisition</i>	<u>  </u> <i>yes: restricted</i>	<u>  </u> <i>government</i>	<u>  </u> <i>scientific</i>
	<u>  </u> <i>in progress</i>	<u>  </u> <i>yes: unrestricted</i>	<u>  </u> <i>industrial</i>	<u>  </u> <i>transportation</i>
	<u>  </u> <i>being consider'd</i>	<u>  </u> <i>no</i>	<u>  </u> <i>military</i>	<u>  </u> <i>other, specify</i>

**5. Ownership**

**Current Owner:** Dallas Independent School District  
**Contact:** Orlando Alameda, Real Estate and Leasing Services Ph: 972/925-5142  
**Address:** 3700 Ross Avenue    City: Dallas    State: TX    Zip: 75204

**4. Form Preparation**

**Date:** February 14, 2014  
**Name & Title:** Marcel Quimby, Designation Committee, assisted by Cindy W. Billman  
**Organization:** Sunset High School Alumni Association  
**Contact:** Mitch Womble: 214/675-2843 (cell)

**7. Representation on Existing Surveys**

Alexander Survey (citywide):    local    state    national  
National Register    no  
H.P.L. Survey (CBD)    A    B    C    D    Recorded TX Historic Ldmk  
Oak Cliff    TX Archaeological Ldmk  
Victorian Survey  
Dallas Historic Resources Survey, Phase       high    medium    low

*For Office Use Only*

**Date Rec'd:**    **Survey Verified:** Y N **by:**    **Field Check by:**    **Petitions Needed:** Y N  
**Nomination:**    *Archaeological*    *Site*    *Structure(s)*    *Structure & Site*    *District*

## 8. Historic Ownership

<b>Original owner:</b>	City of Dallas Public Schools (now known as Dallas Independent School District)
<b>Significant later owner(s):</b>	none

## 9. Construction Dates

<b>Original:</b>	1925
<b>Alterations/additions:</b>	1952, 1956, 1963, date unknown, 2005

## 10. Architect

Continued on page 11

<b>Original construction:</b>	1925	DeWitt and Lemmon Architects
<b>Alterations/additions:</b>	1952	<b>Team Room</b> Wiltshire & Fisher Architect Mark Lemmon, Consulting Architect
	1956	<b>Physical Education Addition</b> Robert D. White, Architect Mark Lemmon, Consulting Architect
	1963	<b>Science Annex</b> Jarvis Putty Jarvis Architect Mark Lemmon, Consulting Architect
	N/A	Date of construction, name of building and of architect not known
	2005	<b>Addition and South Entry</b> BCI Architects

## 11. Site Features

Sunset High School sits on a full block fronting West Jefferson Boulevard, a major divided street that is a historic east-west travel route in North Texas; the street typically is located atop a natural ridge. The site selected for the school is on the south side of West Jefferson Blvd., and is almost a full floor level above the street level. A concrete sidewalk at the street is flanked by long, low concrete retaining walls along most of the block. This low retaining wall hold back the sloping lawn - which then levels off adjacent to the building's front facade. These low retaining walls increase in height at each side of the school, providing level playing areas for the newer tennis courts and baseball field.

The site largely retains its original topography with a high point at the original south property line that slopes down to West Jefferson at the northeast corner of the site. This vertical elevation varies from a grade difference of 20' along Tennant Street to 7' along Oak Cliff Blvd. While the large front lawn and baseball field at the west end of the site are lawn, the remainder of the site is covered with buildings (the large original school and numerous additions) and paved areas for parking, basketball and tennis courts. Vegetation is limited to occasional trees in the front lawn, in the courtyard between the historic school and the addition to the east and in the parking lot.

## 12. Physical Description

Condition, check one:

excellent

good

fair

deteriorated

ruins

unexposed

unaltered

altered

Check one:

original site

Moved (date \_\_\_\_\_)

Sunset High School was constructed between December 1923 and September 1925, on the northern half of the block bounded by West Jefferson Blvd. on the north, North Oak Cliff Blvd on the east, the alley between West Jefferson Blvd and West Tenth Street on the south and Tennant Street on the west. Single family homes were on the southern half of the block, facing West Tenth Street; these were later removed for the schools' first addition. Currently, the school is surrounded by the Sunset Hill neighborhoods to the north, west and south with the immediate block to the east institutional use (churches).

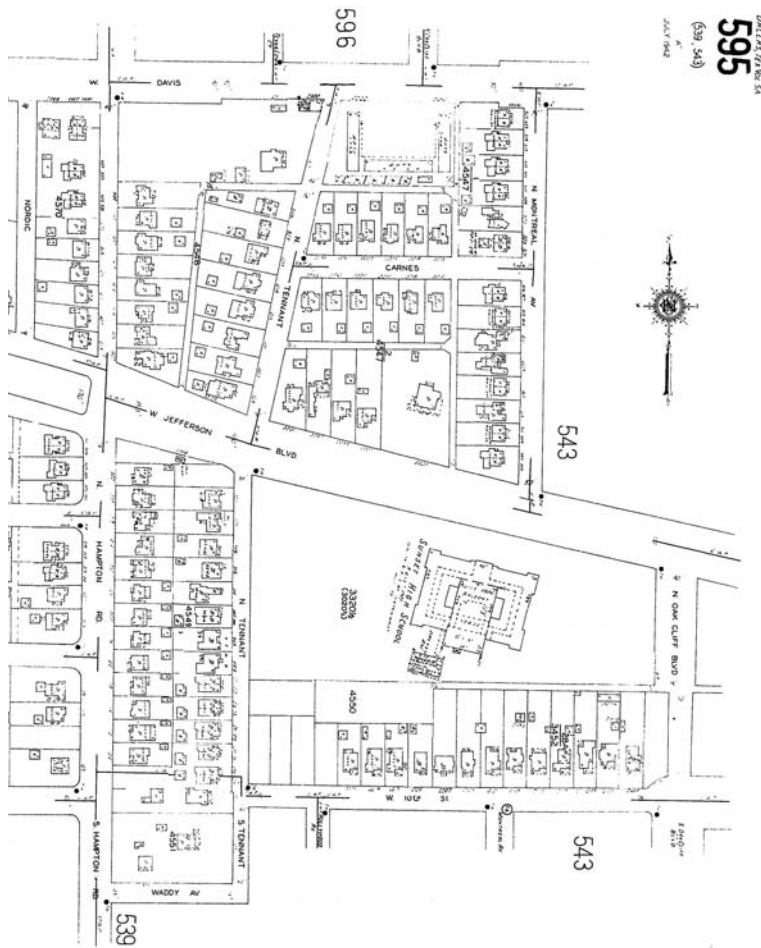


Photograph of Sunset High School, c. 1925. *Sundial* yearbook, courtesy of Joe Whitney.

The full-block site is located on West Jefferson Blvd., a major boulevard and thoroughfare that runs east-west towards Oak Cliff's 'downtown' commercial and downtown Dallas area to the east. The historic lawn in front of the school remains in place, with wide, new monumental concrete steps that lead to the open loggia and front entrance to the school.

This three-story steel frame building with masonry walls was designed in the Georgian Revival style – an architectural style that was popular in the early twentieth century in the United States. Based on Renaissance architectural ideals (symmetry, geometric proportions and prominent entrance), the Georgian style dates from the Revolutionary period of the United States through the reign of King George IV of England – a period dating from 1700 until the 1830. The Georgian style was used for larger institutional and residential buildings, typically in brick, two to three-stories in height and was characterized by symmetrical facades in a three or five-part composition, prominent central entries, hipped roof form with front facing gables on side wings and typically with single windows.

Like other architectural styles, the Georgian style was revived in the early decades of the twentieth century for commercial, institutional and residential buildings - and referred to as 'Georgian Revival.' While this revival style included many of the Georgian style's original features, it added new components including flat roofs with pediments, semi-engaged pilasters and paired or triple windows. Sunset High School incorporates many of these features – a flat roof, the five-part composition with pediments above the center portion and end wings, flat facades, triple windows compositions as well as horizontal stone courses and a water table at the first floor. However the triple round-arched (semi-circular) entry openings with Doric columns and paired round arched windows above the building entry are not of Georgian style but reflect the Romanesque style.



***Sunset High School and surrounding neighborhood, c. 1942.***

Sanborn Map, 1942, page 595, courtesy of Dallas Public Library, Dallas

Note the school sits on its original site - the northern half of the block.

The Romanesque style, also known as the Rundbogenstil or Round Arch style, is characterized by round arches found on medieval churches of Europe including layered arches surrounding entry doors, columns at arcaded cloisters, and arched windows, masonry or brick construction and towers. The central bay at Sunset High School's triple entry arches and three sets of double arched window above are typical Romanesque features. This mix of architectural styles in a single building such as Sunset High School is not unknown. A change in style at a major building feature (such as the building entry) provides the school with a more prominent entry and provides the building with a unique appearance.

The building's structure is reinforced concrete frame with exterior masonry walls. The lower level brick is a blend of red, orange and brown bricks while the upper levels are a similar blend but with a darker brown appearance. A cast stone water course separated these two brick colors.

The front facade is composed of five wide bays with the two end bays protruding slightly with small pediments above; a large recessed brick panel exists in each of the end bays. An exterior grand stair from West Jefferson Blvd. extends towards the main building entry; these steps are divided into three equal sets with two large landings. The central bay protrudes slightly and is punctuated by three tall arched openings at the main entry (the raised first floor of the building). The stairs lead one under these three openings to an open porch or loggia. These large openings at the first floor have pairs of arched, double windows above. Pilasters flank each side of this center bay; these support simple cast stone capitals above that in turn, visually support the ends of the large pediment above. An oval cast stone decoration sits within this brick pediment. This procession up the stairs into an open loggia that leads to the school's main entry doors provides a formal entrance into the school.

The second and fourth bays are of a simple design and serve to connect the end bays to the center bay. These bays have a flat roofline, with cast stone cornice and no penetrations for windows or doors. The original window openings remain in place although the original windows wood windows have been removed and are placed with aluminum, 9/9 windows that are similar in design to the originals. The glass panes are clear.



Sunset High School, January 6, 2014



Front entry steps leading to loggia and front entrance.

The east and west side facades of the 1925 building are of the same materials as the front facade - masonry walls with a cast stone water course, largely rectangular floor plan. The windows are newer aluminum, 6/6 with clear glass and similar to the historic. The windows are arranged in groups of two or three. The east and west facades have two additional pairs of exterior doors; these are surrounded by semi-engaged brick pilasters with cast stone ornamentation. The original wood doors have been replaced with hollow metal but the original metal and glass wall-hung light fixture remains in place.

At the west facade, two groups of original wood windows at the first floor have been removed and replaced with new aluminum storefront and metal doors that provide an entrance to what has become an exterior patio with covered picnic tables at this facade. These modifications are sympathetic with the historic facade.



West facade, with brick and metal picnic shelters at adjacent patio.



Detail of historic exterior door surround at west facade

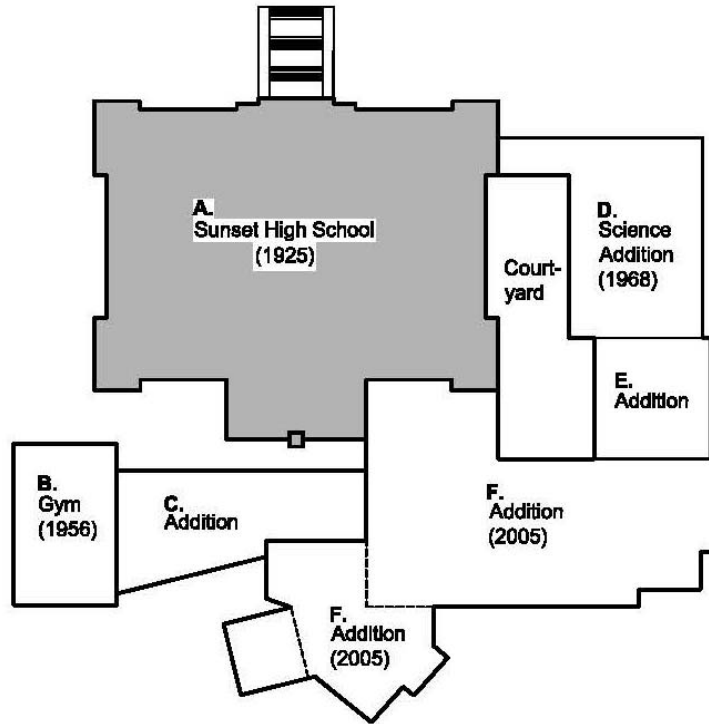


Original windows have been removed and new exterior doors and storefront installed in their place at west facade

The rear (south) facade is only partially visible due to later new construction and additions. A linear, one-story brick building is parallel to the rear facade but separated from the building by an open space that is approximately 20' wide; this smaller building restricts the view of the rear facade. The date of construction of this smaller building is not known (noted as building C on the Building Diagram). The gymnasium (1952) to the southwest of the original building, remains in place.

The large, newest addition with a new building entry adjoins (2005) is built immediately adjacent to the rear facade, so this portion of the facade has been lost to view.

The east facade of the original school remains largely intact although within the courtyard of the Science Addition - the school's first large addition (1963). This facade is not accessible to the public.



Building Diagram

### **Interior finishes**

The interior of the school originally had concrete or terrazzo floors, painted plaster walls and ceilings. The classroom doors were solid wood doors with glass lights in wood door frames with operable transom windows above. Most offices also had high, single, pivoting wood windows that opened into the interior corridors and wood, double-hung wood exterior windows - these features allowed the teachers to control ventilation and air temperature within the room.

Unfortunately these finishes and features typically no longer remain as resilient flooring has been placed over the historic concrete and terrazzo floors, walls have new finishes and a low, 2' x 4' lay-in ceiling has been added in the public corridors and classrooms with mechanical equipment and ducts located above this new ceiling.



Interior lobby and entry doors to right. Mural by students is at far wall



Typical interior corridor with new finishes.



Third floor corridor with newer resilient tile floor, encased columns and 2' x 4' lay in ceiling.



Library with exterior windows at right

### **Historic interior features within the building**

There are many interior features remaining in the original (1925) school building, including the interior stairs from the front doors into the school and the adjoining door frames and semi-circular transom windows, the auditorium, interior stairs to the lower and upper levels, library at third floor and two historic murals in the library.



### Historic Murals at the Third Floor

In 1934 the federal government's Works Progress Administration Federal Art Project hired local artists to paint murals in public buildings and schools in Dallas.<sup>1</sup> Granville Bruce was selected to paint two murals at Sunset High School - the 'Landing of Pioneers' and 'An Early Texas School.' The oil on canvas murals were located on what was then a large hallway outside the Library on the third floor; this space had tall ceilings and skylight and easily accommodated these large murals. The Library was later expanded into this corridor, and these murals are now in a prominent location within the library. The two arches adjacent to these murals indicate the location of the original doors to the upper level of the adjacent auditorium.

These murals depicted topics that Bruce would depict throughout his career - the early expansion and settlement of Texas, often in a romanticized style. 'Landing Pioneers' shows a family that has just arrived by boat in the Gulf of Mexico and have walked up the sand dunes and are looking over the new land of Texas, as they begin their trek across the state to their destination. 'An Early Texas School' reflects an outdoor school where a teacher (in suit and tie), leans over a homemade lectern and reads from a book as he teaches; he is the only one with a book. His students are a mix of the community with children, men, women and an Indian who is removed from the settlers, but appears comfortable although his arms are crossed. A farmstead is visible in the background; the foreground shows a wood water barrel and gourd dipper on one of the homemade wood benches.

These murals remain in their original location. The Sunset Alumni Association paid for an evaluation of these murals in 2001; conservator Helen Hoop noted that the murals 'have never been 'sealed, cleaned or restored.' Ms. Hoop found some deterioration to the murals (mainly paint flaking) exists and the canvas paintings were beginning to come loose from the walls; she concluded that deterioration was likely to continue unless action is taken.<sup>2</sup> She also noted the adjacent fluorescent lighting, added in 1991, should be replaced. This letter noted a then-current (2003) cost estimate for the restoration of these important murals would be \$20,000 to \$25,000.



'Landing of Pioneers' mural; note original skylights in the ceiling. .



'An Early Texas School' mural.

### Granville Bruce

Granville Bruce was born in Grand Island, Nebraska and was raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. There, he attended the Layton School of Art. Bruce later studied at the Art Institute of Chicago. He moved to Texas in 1924, settling in San Antonio.<sup>3</sup> While he was living in San Antonio, Bruce studied under Hugo Pohl, a mural

<sup>1</sup> Holmes, Maxine, ed., Saxon, Gerald D. introduction, 1992. WPA Dallas Guide to and History; Dallas Public Library, Texas Center for the Book, and University of North Texas Press, 1992. p 234

<sup>2</sup> Letter from Joe Whitney, Sunset High School Alumni Association to Raphael Anchia, DISD Board, March 17, 2003.

<sup>3</sup> Granville Bruce, Sunset High School Alumni Association website; <http://www.sunsetalumni.com/about-the-artist.htm>. Accessed January 7, 2014.

decorator, painter of historical and genre subjects, and director of the San Antonio Academy of Art. The two artists eventually built a studio in the late 1920s near San Antonio's Brackenridge Park. Bruce was successful in San Antonio. In 1929, he submitted a painting to the 1929 San Antonio Competitive Exhibition, he exhibited at the Davis Wildflower Competition and he had a solo exhibition at San Antonio's Witte Museum the following year.

In the 1930s, Bruce found work painting diorama backgrounds for the Dallas Museum of Natural History, a partnership that lasted for almost fifty years; he painted many of the display backgrounds and animals at the museum. He married Ula Lee Mead in 1930; Ula was the sister of fellow artist Ben Carlton Mead, and the couple moved to Dallas; there, Bruce did illustrations for *Holland's Magazine*, *Progressive Farmer* and other publications. He also illustrated several books on Western history and worked for the Public Works of Art Project where he painted murals for Sunset and at least one other public school. He also exhibited at Dallas Allied Arts in 1932 and at the State Fair of Texas in 1934.

About 1963, Bruce was commissioned to paint watercolors of six Texas missions, which Governor John Connally presented to the State of Texas. At about the same time, the Texas State Fish and Game Commission hired Bruce to paint a 68-foot panoramic mural, showing the landscape of Texas across the state, for the John H. Reagan Building - a an aspect of his career that he enjoyed. Bruce moved to Irving, Texas, about 1950, then to Sanger in 1987.<sup>4</sup> The Dallas Museum of Natural History hosted Bruce's last major exhibition in 1982, and he was featured in *Southwest Art* magazine. Bruce died in 1989.

Other Dallas high schools also received murals including Oak Cliff (Harry Carnohan), North Dallas (John E. Douglass), Forest Avenue (Otis Dozier), Dallas Technical (Perry Nichols) and Forest Avenue (Thomas M. Stell). Several junior high schools also received murals as part of this program. Many of these artists would become important regional or nationally known artists in the years to come, including Bruce.

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<sup>4</sup> *Granville Bruce: Old Texas* exhibit at West Texas and Plains Museum; <http://www.tfaoi.com/aa/6aa/6aa38.htm>; accessed January 4, 2014.

## ***10. Architect***

Sunset High School was designed by the architectural firm of DeWitt and Lemmon which formed in 1921 by Roscoe DeWitt and Mark Lemmon. The two men would close their professional partnership in 1926 and both would have successful architectural practices in Dallas until the 1960s and 1970s. J. A. Rife Construction Co. was the general contractor.

### **Roscoe Plimpton DeWitt - partner with DeWitt and Lemmon, Architects<sup>5</sup>**

Dallas-based architect Roscoe P. DeWitt graduated from Dartmouth in 1914 and received his MA in architecture from Harvard in 1917. He then served as a Captain with Battery E of the Fifty-Eighth Artillery in the Coast Artillery Corps during World War I. Following World War I, he began his career as a prominent Dallas architect, first partnering with Mark Lemmon (1921–1927) and their firm designed Sunset High School, Woodrow Wilson High School, several projects at Southern Methodist University, and the main sanctuary for Highland Park United Methodist Church. DeWitt and Lemmon dissolved their partnership in 1926 and DeWitt practiced as a sole proprietor until 1940.

DeWitt joined the U.S. Army as a Lieutenant Colonel and was later transferred to the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives (MFAA) section of the Army due to his architectural background. The Army had recognized that during the Allies' planned invasion of France and Europe to end the war, it was imperative that they save as much of the culture of Europe as they could during the combat. The MFAA identified the hundreds of thousands of known pieces of art - public and private - and accompanied the first troops on land with the goal to find and protect these works from damage during combat, from theft, and made arrangement with the local authorities to protect and transfer the works of art to their owners. DeWitt was part of this advance MFAA team that inspected and safeguarded historical buildings throughout the countryside of France.

After World War II, DeWitt returned to Dallas and reopened his architectural firm. Three years later he began a partnership with Arch B. Swank to form DeWitt and Swank Architects. Their architectural firm “emerged as one of the most successful in Texas after the war” and the two men practiced together until 1953.<sup>6</sup> DeWitt resumed his own architectural practice and gained a reputation as a modernist. Upon his retirement, DeWitt sold his practice to Page Southerland Page, an Austin-based firm which began in 1898. The Dallas office of Page Southerland Page, now known as Page/, continues as one of the larger firms in Dallas today.

DeWitt designed buildings at Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas, two Neiman Marcus stores (as well as Stanley Marcus' home in 1937), St. Vincent's Medical Center in Jacksonville, Florida and several public housing projects in the Dallas area. Among numerous other projects, DeWitt participated in the restoration of the original Senate and Supreme Court chambers and the James Madison Memorial Building of the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. He had an active civic career, serving on the board of directors of the Dallas Civic Opera and the advisory board for the Texas Commission on Arts and Humanities. He was a member of the Dallas Historical Society, Texas Philosophical Society, Royal Society of Arts, the American Federation of the Arts, the Harvard Club of New York and the Cosmos Club of Washington, D.C. DeWitt died November 2, 1975.

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This section on Roscoe DeWitt is largely based on information from the following sources:

<sup>5</sup> Monuments Men Foundation, <http://www.monumentsmenfoundation.org/ heroes/the-monuments-men/dewitt-maj.-roscoe-p.-dewitt>

<sup>6</sup> Jensen, Randy, “Arch B. Swank, Jr.: An Inventory of his Drawings, Photographs and Papers, 1951-1979.” Alexander Architectural Archive, The University of Texas at Austin, p. 2.

### **Mark Lemmon<sup>7</sup> - partner with DeWitt and Lemmon, Architects**

Mark Lemmon was born to William Leonard and Cosette Lipscomb Lemmon in Gainesville, Texas in 1889. William was from Missouri, but had moved to Texas to teach at the Masonic Female Institute in Marshall, Texas, where he met Cosette. She was the daughter of Garland Lipscomb, the general counsel for the Texas & Pacific Railroad where the railroad had its regional offices. After their marriage, the couple moved to Gainesville. In 1897, the family moved to Sherman, Texas where William taught school and was later appointed Superintendent of Schools. William also wrote textbooks, including a set of grade school readers; he died in 1909 when his son Mark was attending the University of Texas in Austin; Mark was the couple's only child.

Lemmon graduated from the University of Texas in 1912 with a degree in geology; he then attended Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) where he received a degree in architecture and engineering in 1916. He moved to New York and worked for Warren and Westmore Architects for about six months where he participated on the design of the Commodore Hotel in New York City and the Boradmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He then joined the army, serving as an officer with the 77th Engineering Division in France, in the Normandy region. During his time in France Lemmon was exposed to and developed a lasting admiration for French Gothic and other historic architecture styles that he would later utilize in his practice.

Lemmon returned to Dallas in 1919 and worked for Hal B. Thompson whom he knew while both were students at the University of Texas. Thompson's practice primarily included prestigious homes for clients in East Dallas and Highland Park. In 1921 Lemmon and Roscoe DeWitt, who had his own practice in Dallas, formed a partnership - DeWitt and Lemmon. One of the new firms' first commissions was the Stephen F. Austin Elementary School in Dallas (now demolished). This early school commission and Lemmon's family background in the educational profession would lead to additional school projects for the firm including Sunset and Woodrow Wilson high schools in Dallas and schools in Galveston, Denison and Cameron. Lemmon and DeWitt partnered with William B. Ittner of St. Louis, a renowned architect of public schools for the Goliad Junior High School in Galveston, Texas - a savvy move that allowed the young firm to learn the art of school design from one of the country's masters.

Another of DeWitt and Lemmon's clients was Southern Methodist University. They received three commissions on the campus, of which two were constructed. They also received a commission for Highland Park United Methodist Church, adjacent to SMU, which was completed in 1927.

DeWitt and Lemmon dissolved their partnership in 1926; both men continued their practices in Dallas and both would have remarkable careers. Lemmon's practice continued to focus on education and ecclesiastical buildings including several schools for Port Arthur (1927 thru the 1930s), Third Church of Christ Scientist (1931) and Boude Story Junior High School (1933). Lemmon also designed the Art Deco-style Tower Petroleum Building - his first high rise - that was completed in 1931. In 1935 - 1936 Lemmon was a member of the Texas Centennial Architects, Inc, the consortium of architects hired for the Hall of State building at the Texas Centennial at Fair Park. Other projects during this time included the U. S. Post Office in Stephenville, Texas, Cokesbury Book Store in downtown Dallas (1936 - 1937) and Alex Spence Junior High School (1938 - 1940) - a Dallas Landmark building. Much of his early work during this time was characterized by the use of

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This section on Mark Lemmon is largely based on information from the following sources:

<sup>7</sup> Christopher Long, "Lemmon, Mark," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://tshaonline.org/handbook/online.org/handbook/articles/fle64>). accessed January 1, 2014. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

Singleton, Kate. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark Application for Mark and Maybelle Lemmon House, Highland Park, unpublished document. Dallas, 2005.

Brettell, Richard R. and Winters, Willis Cecil, *Crafting Traditions, The Architecture of Mark Lemmon*. Dallas: Meadows Museum, Southern Methodist University Press, 2005.

various historic styles including Gothic, Romanesque, Georgian and Neo-Classical although in the late 1920s and 1930s some of his buildings utilized Moderne and Art Deco styles - the Petroleum Building, Alex Spence Junior High School, the Hall of State and Cokesbury buildings.

As with many architects across the country, Lemmon served in the Army, and was stationed in Dallas, with the Army's 8th Service Command, doing both traditional architecture and developing and negotiating contracts for the army. He was the architect for the San Angelo Air Force Base Advanced Flying School in San Angelo, Texas and also served on a committee to re-negotiate all Army contracts in the United States.<sup>8</sup> As he was stationed locally, Lemmon was able to keep his architectural practice open with several projects designed and constructed during this time including Frazer Courts Public Housing in Dallas (1940-42) and Perkins Gymnasium at SMU (1940-42).

Following the end of World War II, Lemmon's practice grew and he completed numerous projects in the last years of the decade including Fondren Science Building (1949) and Kirby Hall Renovation and addition (1947-51), Perkins Chapel (1950) and Caruth Engineering Building (1946-48) at SMU, Robert S. Hyer Elementary for Dallas Public Schools, Highland Park Junior High School (1945-47), Wynnewood Presbyterian Church (1947-49) and First Presbyterian Church in Tyler (1947-49). Lemmon also worked on numerous commissions for the University of Texas System for the Austin, Dallas and Galveston.

In 1945 Dallas Independent School District selected Lemmon for the position of 'consulting architect' - a position that insured his involvement in the design of all new work at DISD school. In his role as 'consulting architect' Lemmon mandated the design, form and materials for these projects and received a commission of 1% of the construction cost for these projects. While Lemmon served as DISD's consulting architect, his firm continued to be selected as architect by DISD for a number of school project in the four bond programs DISD passed between 1945 and 1954. During this time frame, Lemmon assigned eight new elementary schools and one high school to his firm. This role of 'consulting architect' and its lucrative fees were resented by the local architects and in 1955 the Dallas chapter of the American Institute of Architects asked that this position be eliminated. DISD supported Lemmon's role and he retained the position until 1968.

Of the numerous schools Lemmon completed for DISD, two are Dallas Landmarks - Woodrow Wilson High School and Alex Spence Junior High School.

The 1950s saw great growth in Dallas and Lemmon's office was busy with projects including five new buildings at SMU, Churchill Way Presbyterian Church (1957-59), St. Phillips Catholic Church (1957-59), the addition to the Municipal Building (with Harwood K. Smith. 1954-55), Hobilitzelle Clinical Sciences Building (1955-58), associate architect on Braniff Airlines Operations Center with Pereira and Luckman (1956-58) and Southland Center with Welton Beckett and Associates (1958-59). Mark Lemmon and George Dahl's firm joined forces to complete the Dallas Federal Building (1958-early 1960s). At a construction cost of \$24 million, this was one of Lemmon's larger projects.

In the latter years of his career, Lemmon returned to ecclesiastical buildings including several for former clients such as Highland Park Presbyterian Church and Highland Park Methodist Church. He retired from practice in 1965 (at the age of 76) although he continued to serve as consulting architect for Dallas Independent School District until 1968, when he ended his forty-six year relationship with the school district. Lemmon passed away on December 22, 1975 and his memorial service was held at one of his beloved churches, Highland Park Presbyterian Church. He was survived by his wife Maybelle Reynolds Lemmon of fifty-two years, and two sons - Mark L. and George R. Lemmon.

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<sup>8</sup> Singleton, idid

### **A. J. Rife Construction Company, Contractor**

The contractor for Sunset High School was A. J. Rife General Construction, a Dallas contractor. The first known building that the firm constructed was a large, 2-story house for Jacob Kahn at 2519 South Boulevard, Dallas in 1921; the architect for the Kahn house was the new firm of DeWitt and Lemmon.<sup>9</sup> Jacob Kahn was a prominent cotton broker; his son Edmond J. Kahn followed his father into the cotton business and served as President of the Dallas Cotton Exchange; Edmond and his wife, Louise Wolff Kahn, were would later become among Dallas's most prominent and philanthropic citizens.

The construction company's projects in the 1920s and 1930s included commercial projects including the remodel of the historic (1874) Collin County Courthouse in McKinney in 1927 and a new warehouse and division workshop for the Texas Highway Department in Dallas in 1930. The Rife Construction Company numerous projects for the military during World War II including a medical replacement facility at Camp Barkley buildings at the new Swift Army Camp in Bastrop County and at Fort Sill. One of their more interesting projects was the construction of the Jerome Relocation Center, Arkansas in 1942 to accommodate relocated Japanese Americans from California and Hawaii. This center was the first such center and opened in October 6, 1942 and it would be the first to close in June 1944. Built at a cost of \$4.7 million, the project was completed by the J. A. Rife Construction Company & Associates which was a partnership of J. A. Rife Construction Company of Dallas (75% ownership), and Stephen Chandler.<sup>10, 11</sup>

A. J. Rife's projects in the 1950s included buildings at Carswell Air Force Base in Fort Worth and work for the Dallas Housing Authority.

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<sup>9</sup> Industrial Development and Manufacturers Record, 1921. [www.books.google.com/books?id=c18-AQAAMAJ](http://www.books.google.com/books?id=c18-AQAAMAJ); accessed January 2, 2014

<sup>10</sup> Burton, Jeffrey, Mary M. Farrell, Florence B. Lord and Richard D. Lord, 'Confinement and Ethnicity, an Overview of World War II Japanese American Relocation Sites', online/ accessed Jan. 4, 2013 pages 149 - 160  
Pub 1999 by Western Archeological and Conservation Center, U. S. Department of the Interior; reprinted 2000.  
[books.google.com/books?isbn+0295981563](http://books.google.com/books?isbn+0295981563)

<sup>11</sup> Jerome War Relocation Center, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerome\\_War\\_Relocation\\_Center](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerome_War_Relocation_Center); accessed Jan. 4, 2014.

### **13. Historical Significance**

#### **Oak Cliff Schools<sup>12</sup>**

In 1891 the newly-incorporated town of Oak Cliff decided to provide public education facilities for its population, and shortly thereafter voted to seek bids on a new school building. The newspaper reported: “Resolved by the city council of Oak Cliff that the mayor be instructed to advertise for plans for a modern three-story brick school building with brick cross walls [*sic*] to be erected at Oak Cliff, Texas, to contain twelve rooms for school purposes and the cost of said building, complete, not to exceed the sum of \$22,000.” The corner stone for the school was laid at the corner of Patton (then St. George) and Tenth Streets in September 1892 under the auspices of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas.<sup>13</sup> This school building was known as the Oak Cliff Central High School and served grades 1 through 11; the 12<sup>th</sup> grade would be added in the future.

In 1901 William Harden Adamson was named Superintendent of the Oak Cliff Central School; it is thought that in this smaller school system, the Superintendent’s responsibilities included also serving as principal of the school. In May 1902 Adamson presided over his first graduation of students from Oak Cliff, awarding some 18 diplomas at a ceremony held at Oak Cliff Methodist Church. In 1903 Adamson was unanimously re-elected as Superintendent at a salary of \$1,300 per year.

Room assignments for 1903 listed 15 teachers at the Central Building – 2 in the high school and 13 in grades 1-8. In December 1903 the enrollment figures totaled 819 with 386 boys, 433 girls and an additional 105 enrolled in the ‘colored school’ – 43 boys and 62 girls.

#### **Dallas Public School System<sup>14</sup>**

The first public school system that served the City of Dallas - the Dallas Public School system - was founded and operated by City of Dallas' municipal government. As the town of Oak Cliff was a separate town, it operated its own school system for Oak Cliff and nearby residents until 1903 when Oak Cliff was annexed by the City of Dallas. In 1904, the Oak Cliff schools became part of the Dallas Public School system. Due to lack of school space, the students from Oak Cliff High School were moved to the new Dallas High School on Bryan Street (built in 1903 and mostly recently known as Crozier Tech High School) which was Dallas’ only high school for white students at the time. Elementary and middle school students in Oak Cliff remained at the Oak Cliff Central School.

By 1906 the Dallas school system had grown to 10,000 students in 14 schools and 200 teachers, with 1,000 students in Oak Cliff. Oak Cliff continued to grow and by 1912 the Oak Cliff community requested a new high school be provided. School officials began to project their future needs for the next few decades and in 1914, it was estimated that the school population would increase from 2,801 in the 1915-16 school year to 8,902 by 1925 - reflecting the future growth of the city of Dallas and its suburban growth patterns. The Dallas School Board then recommended that sites in Oak Cliff and South Dallas areas be secured for ‘high school buildings of the standard capacity (to) be forthwith constructed, furnished and installed...’<sup>15</sup> By 1915 two sites had been selected and nationally known architect William B. Ittner was hired to design both high schools – Oak Cliff High School (now known as Adamson High School) and Forest Avenue High School in South Dallas (now known as Madison High School). This venerable architect, nationally known for transforming

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<sup>12</sup> Largely based on Johnson, Bob; Glenn Strauss and Marcel Quimby, ed.. 'Oak Cliff High School Dallas Landmark Nomination', September 15, 2009, pgs 14 - 15.

<sup>13</sup> “Corner Stone of the Oak Cliff Public School Building Laid To-Morrow,” September 12, 1892, *Dallas Daily Times Herald*, p. 4, col. 1.

<sup>14</sup> Largely based on Johnson, Bob; Glenn Straus and Marcel Quimby, ed.. 'Oak Cliff High School Dallas Landmark Nomination', September 15, 2009, pgs 14 - 15.

<sup>15</sup> 'Historic and Architectural Resources of East and South Dallas' National Register nomination, 1995

American public school architecture by designing schools with light in all classrooms, introduced ventilation into the classrooms, provided modern plumbing and bath facilities by moving the student bathrooms (previously delegated to basements) to the same floor as the classrooms; in general his schools were much more humane than those of the previous century. With the completion of these new high schools, Dallas now had three high schools, each serving distinct areas of the city - north, south and south-west (Oak Cliff); Professor Adamson was selected as the Principal of the New Oak Cliff High School. The school board also looked at purchasing additional land in both areas for additional elementary and middle schools. Oak Cliff continued to grow and then new Oak Cliff (Adamson) High School was soon over-crowded; by the early 1920s, the need for another new high school to serve the western portion of Oak Cliff was identified.

### **Sunset Hill Addition and adjacent context**

The site for the new high school was located on West Jefferson Blvd., adjacent and to the north of Sunset Hill Addition. This neighborhood was originally part of the John Merrifield farm in the late nineteenth century. The farm was purchased by Leslie Stemmons in 1911 and platted for development. In July 1911, 160 lots were put up for sale, with the typical lot selling for \$750. Sunset Hill Addition and nearby Rosemont neighborhoods were annexed by the City of Dallas in 1915.<sup>16</sup> The site of the future school was not annexed until several years later. At the time of the school's opening in 1925 the south boundary of the school site was adjacent to the rear side of northern lots on West Tenth Street.

Sunset Hill neighborhood largely consists of one and two-story bungalow and craftsman homes. The subdivision was bounded by West 10th Street, Clarendon Street, South Waverly Drive and Hampton Road. Most of the homes were built prior to the construction of the school and most retain much of their original character. The historic Cedar Crest house, a large Greek-Revival country estate that was originally built outside Dallas' city limits in 1905 now sits on a large lot directly across West Jefferson Blvd. While the street is a mix of commercial and residential buildings and uses, the surrounding residential neighborhoods date from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and many pre-date the school. Two of these neighborhoods have local or national historic designation, including Rosemont (NR) to the north-east and Winnetka Heights (Dallas Landmark, NR, RTHL) to the east.

The school site faced West Jefferson Blvd., a historic road that ran from downtown Dallas, through downtown Oak Cliff towards Grand Prairie. The road was a six lane boulevard from downtown Oak Cliff to Marlborough Street - six blocks east of the school site. From Marlborough Blvd. west (including at the Sunset school site) it was a two-lane road leading through the nearby countryside; this was deemed unsuitable for the traffic anticipated at the new high school.<sup>17</sup> The City of Dallas extended the six-lane boulevard at West Jefferson Blvd. from Marlborough Avenue to Hampton Road in 1925; this was done in conjunction with Dallas County extending the road from Hampton west to Cockrell Hill, as this portion was beyond Dallas city limits (which was at Hampton Road). The street car alignment within this wide boulevard was also extended as part of this construction project, allowing students from the Cockrell Hill and the rural areas along West Jefferson to ride the streetcar to the new school.<sup>18</sup> This expansion of the boulevard connected the western edge of Oak Cliff with downtown Dallas and provided improved vehicular and street car access for the faculty and students of the new high school.

### **Sunset High School design and construction, 1923 - 1925**

Hired by the Dallas Board of Education in 1923 to design two new high schools, Sunset and Woodrow, DeWitt and Lemmon began work first on Sunset High School. R. O. Jamison was the structural engineer. The construction documents were issued for bid on October 23, 1923 and bids were received in December 1923. J. A. Rife Construction Co. was awarded the construction project and began work in January 1924. J. A. Rife has

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<sup>16</sup> 'Sun rising again for Oak Cliff's Sunset Hill neighborhood group', Roy Appleton, Dallas Morning News blog; January 3, 2012; accessed October 15, 2012. <http://oakcliffblog.dallasnews.com>.

<sup>17</sup> 'Thorough Street Opened to Sunset High School;', Dallas Morning News, May 24, 1924 pg 13.

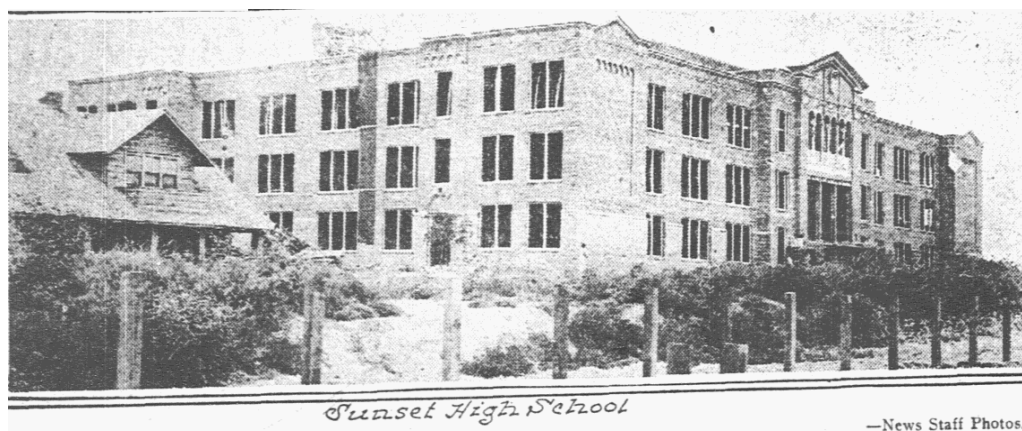
<sup>18</sup> Dallas Morning News, September 4, 1925.



worked on at least one project with DeWitt and Lemmon previously - on the construction of the Kahn house in South Dallas in 1921.

The cornerstone for the school was laid, June 7, 1924.<sup>19</sup> A newspaper article in the August 31, 1924 Dallas Morning News discusses the new school under construction, and referred to Sunset High School as the '*largest such [high school] in the South.*' The completion cost was originally scheduled to be less than \$500,000. The actual construction cost was reported to have cost \$384,000 (not including land acquisition, furniture nor equipment).

The structural system was of reinforced concrete foundation, and structural steel frame. Large steel trusses spanned the auditorium; each truss was 82' long and almost 8' high. The exterior materials included clay tile walls with brick facing; cut Indiana Limestone at sills, steps, copings, loggia base; terra cotta - with acceptable manufacturers of Federal Terra Cotta Co., Northwest Terra Cotta Co., Tottenville Plant of the Atlantic Terra Cotta Co.<sup>20</sup> A corner stone box was to be fabricated to fit within a recess in corner stone; the box to be of 16 oz. copper, about 4" x 6" x 12" with tight fitting lid. The roof was to be 4-ply composition, of asphalt saturated allrag felt, mopped with hot asphalt. The Specifications also included the demolition of the 'dwelling now on the building site'.<sup>21</sup>



***Photograph of Sunset High School***

Dallas Morning News, August 31, 1924, p 1.

This photograph shows the almost-completed high school, construction associated with West Jefferson Street and the house that existed at the site at the left of the new school; this house would be demolished shortly.

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<sup>19</sup> 'Sunset HS Corner Stone Laying to Held Saturday', DMN, June 5, 1924.

<sup>20</sup> *Specifications for Sunset High School, Set #56*. DeWitt and Lemmon Architects; Mark Lemmon Consulting Architect, December, 1923; p. 37. Courtesy of Joe Whitney.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 37.

Interior materials specified included brick at interior walls, smooth vitrified brick wainscoting (to 6' high) in the Gymnasium, salt glazed brick as a wall base (four courses high) in the lunchroom and the shower room walls, interior 'partition tile' (clay or shale tile) to be plastered, brick at selected interior walls, mastic linoleum flooring of red or green integral color. Accessories include cork panels (4' high x length indicated) for tackboards and slate blackboards - a few of which remain.

### **Sunset High School Opens - September 1925**

The school opened its doors for the first time on September 21, 1925 and served students in the western portion of Oak Cliff and Cockrell Hill. The school had fourteen hundred students - less than the two thousand the facility could accommodate - and thirty-nine teachers. Sophomores, juniors and senior students had been transferred from Oak Cliff High School and a new class of freshmen who would later comprise the class of 1929 - the first class to have attended the new Sunset High School for the entire four years of high school. The first graduation was held in January 28, 1926 with forty-eight student receiving their diplomas; W. H. Adamson, principal of Oak Cliff High School which most of the students attended prior to Sunset, addressed the students.<sup>22</sup> It was typical for high schools in the 1920s to have two graduations each year - one after the first semester in the winter and a larger group that graduated in June; this was discontinued in 1959 when graduations only occurred in June of each year.

While there are several thoughts about the origin of the school's name, the name Sunset was finally given to the school due to the residential district in which it is placed', page 169.

Sunset High School was not the first Dallas school to bear the name 'Sunset'. A new elementary school that opened in 1920, at Hampton and Gladstone Streets was originally called 'Sunset Hill Elementary School'. Miss Lida Hooe (1875-1923) was a beloved elementary school teacher, and became the first Supervisor of Penmanship and Drawing in 1904. After she died of breast cancer, the new Sunset Hill Elementary School was renamed Lida Hooe Elementary School in her honor in 1924.<sup>23</sup>

The 1945 Sundial article also notes "Since the student body had to literally cross countryside in order to come to Sunset, they compared themselves to the American Bison as pioneering the western frontier of the barren plains and chose the Bison as their mascot." The 1945 Sundial article further refers to the view from the upper floors of 'the smooth grassy plains stretching out as far as the eye can see.'

### **Sunset History, 1925 - present**

An unfortunate incident occurred in October 3, 1933 when a gas explosion occurred in the west wing of the school. William Henry Franklin, the school's custodian was critically injured in the explosion and soon died.<sup>24</sup>  
<sup>25</sup>

### ***World War II***

In the 1940's patriotism was at its peak. Many faculty and students would fight in World War II but not all would return. Principal W.W. Bushman, a much loved, much respected man, who said he "could not ask those boys to volunteer without going himself," resigned his position as Principal and joined the U. S. Army. Sunset students supported the war effort in many ways - including student Miss June Pressley was crowned Dallas Bond Queen for Dallas purchasing more war bonds than anyone else.

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<sup>22</sup> In the early decades of the 20th century, it was common for high schools to have graduations following the first and second semesters of the year; the spring/summer graduation was the larger group and eventually the winter graduation was dropped.

<sup>23</sup> 'Lida Hooe Elementary School', [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lida\\_Hooe\\_Elementary\\_School](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lida_Hooe_Elementary_School); accessed December 30., 2013.

<sup>24</sup> Dallas Morning News

<sup>25</sup> Bison Spirit newsletter, Sunset High School Alumni Association; Curry Printing, Euless, Texas. Fall 2012.

Plaques installed at Sunset displays the names of those who served so valiantly in the defense of our country in World War II and the Vietnam War; refer to the 'Casualties of World War II and Vietnam' section. Plaques that list these students are installed in the new building entry.

After WWII, the diversity of courses offered in school, necessitated a need for both classroom and recreation space. This new and future expansion of the school required the purchase of the southern half of the block for use by the school. This took several years to accomplish in the late 1940s and early 1950s. The first new construction was for a new Team Room in 1952 and new Gym and Band hall, completed in 1956. As students were then driving to school, the first parking lot for students was built in the southeast quadrant around 1959; this was an unimproved (dirt) lot. Tennis courts were also constructed at the east side of the school and additional courts would be built in this area in 1964.

The 1950s instituted several changes to the class structure. For the 1952-1953 school year the school district did not have adequate room to accommodate 8th grade students from Cockrell Hill in a nearby junior high school so Sunset accommodated them for their 8th grade. These students attended Sunset for five years, the only class ever to do this. In 1958 the fall/winter graduation was eliminated, with all students graduating in the spring - which continues today.

The class of 1964 provided a time capsule for the addition that was under construction. A student recalls that they "produced a copper box and ...filled it with various things they thought someone sometime might care something about." This box was soldered closed placed in the cornerstone in the Annex (Science Addition). Another addition to the school facilities was a large parking lot behind Sunset High School in the 1950 with new tennis courts at the east side of the school. In 1969, additional tennis courts were added.

In 1969 a night of vandalism occurred at both Sunset and Adamson High Schools. The damage was quite extensive at both schools, with both the Bison head and the Leopard damaged, trophy cases demolished and trophies thrown up and down the halls. There was no security at that time to detect the vandalism in progress. However, is such that an occurrence such as that cannot happen again. In the event of a break-in, electronic surveillance would signal an alarm and police would arrive within minutes.

Integration began in DISD schools in the late 1960s, included Sunset. Some population movement was noticed in the areas as parents either put their children in private schools, or moved, perhaps to the suburbs, to achieve what they felt would be a more settled school situation for their children. The principal, Mr. Filgo noted "We have had a change - ethnic ratio - of course, it was brought on by desegregation and brought on by changes in the pattern of the neighborhood. The ratio in 1975 was 61% Anglo, and about 30% Mexican- American and 7% Black. Parents who kept their children in Sunset were satisfied with the choice and the education the students received in the interim settling-in period. The entry of the new students was accomplished quietly with no appreciable problems. Obvious successes of this change included Perry Washington, Sunset's first black cheerleader - chosen not for his color, but for his own likable happy-go-lucky personality. Melvin Lemmon was elected Wittiest Senior Boy in 1973 and Willie Pierson, Most Talented Senior Boy in 1975. By the mid-1970s Sunset would be the epitome of ethnic equality and its racial mix would be acceptable to the courts.

### **Activities and Organizations at Sunset High School**

Sunset has a number of activities and organizations for the students' enrichment. A sampling of the numerous activities follows.

***Music*** - In the 1930s, there was a school orchestra and chorus; in 1932 the orchestra was the largest high school orchestra in Dallas, and the chorus was the largest Sunset had ever had.

***Occupational Education Program*** - this new program implemented in the 1950s was designed to provide a career path for employment for students by attending school for half-days and working

half-days. In 1965, Vocational Office Education was added.

***The Bison, the school mascot*** - Since the opening of Sunset, there have been three Bison heads displayed in the front hall - a tradition that extends to this day.

***Band*** - In 1961 the Band Director, Mr. Utley, organized a dance band called the First Herd, in 1962 the Second Herd and so on. In 1964 Cerminaro was named 1st Chair brass section of the State Band. The band was invited to march in San Antonio's Fiesta of the Flowers parade in 1964.

***Reserve Officer Training Corps (R.O.T.C)*** - Like most Dallas high schools, Sunset had an active program which was originally for male students; girls were admitted in 1976.

### **Sports at Sunset High School**

Like other DISD schools, Sunset had the full complement of sports available to schools, including:

***Football*** - Like most high schools, football at Sunset is a major activity of the students' high school experience with the first games held in the fall of 1925. The local media seemed to be confused during these early games with several Dallas Morning News sports articles referring to the 'Sunset Buffaloes.' The first football team was named after its mascot - the bison. In 1934 the team won the first 'City Championship', and again in 1938. The 1940s the football team was a contender for the state championship over several years and was State Runner up in 1942 and 1949. In 1950 the team won the 'City Championship' title (now discontinued) as well as the State Championship; the team was a State Semi-Finalist again in 1955.<sup>26, 27</sup>

Sunset's first football rivalry was with Oak Cliff (Adamson) High School - the other Oak Cliff high school; the two schools are the only Dallas schools to have won state championships - Adamson in 1924 and Sunset in 1950. This rivalry continued until 1979 when the two schools were assigned to different to different athletic districts.<sup>28</sup> The rivalry was re-ignited when the teams met again in 2003 (Sunset 27 - Adamson 6), in 2012 (Adamson 35 - Sunset 12) and 2013 (Adamson 40 - Sunset 6), continuing what is now an 88- year tradition.

***Basketball*** - Sunset won the state basketball championship in 1944. Coached Stanley Thomas's teams during these years included notable players such as Hank Foldberg and, Bobby Folsom.<sup>29</sup>

***Baseball*** - Sunset won the state baseball championship in 1943-44 and 1944-45. Davey Williams contributed to the teams' success and would play professional baseball, spending his entire career with the New York Yankees as player and coach.

***Track*** - The track team won the city Championship in 1961 under Coach Jack Roten. Along with volleyball and basketball, track programs for girls were started in 1974.

***Swim Team*** - Sunset would have its first Swim Team in 1965. Robert May and Roger Veal would set records in the breaststroke and backstroke.

***Golf Team*** - Sunset's golf team won the state golf championship in 1938, 1940, 1947 and 1952. A girl's golf team was started in 1972.

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<sup>26</sup> Sunset High School entry, Wikipedia. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sunset\\_High\\_School\\_\(Dallas\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sunset_High_School_(Dallas)).

<sup>27</sup> Campbell, Dave. *Dave Campbell's Texas Football*, 2008 ed., p. 362.

<sup>28</sup> Appleton, Roy. Adamson, *Sunset looking to revive Oak Cliff's long-gone high school football rivalry*, Dallas Morning News, September 5, 2012; accessed January 1, 2014.

<sup>29</sup> Robert Folsom would become Mayor of Dallas, 1976 - 1981.

***The Sanger Trophy*** - A unique sports competition was established by Sanger Brothers Department Store in 1929 to recognize a Dallas high school for its excellence in athletics with a large, ornate trophy awarded annually to one of six high schools within Dallas Public Schools (and later DISD) who had achieved the best record in sports based on a points system.<sup>30</sup> The store provided a large trophy which was passed to the successful school each year. Sunset High School was awarded the trophy 12 times - more than any other school; upon the competitions' end in 1954, the trophy was awarded permanently to Sunset High School for this remarkable record. The Sanger trophy was restored in 2012 and it now resides in the Old Red Museum of Dallas Culture and History where this impressive and coveted trophy is now publicly displayed and its story told.

### **Changes to the building since 1925**

Like most public schools of the time, changes in enrollment and school programs have necessitated additions at the school since its original construction. These changes include the following:

#### ***Team Room, 1956***

The Team Room at Sunset housed locker and shower rooms; this was a small building and its cost was approximately \$28,000. This project was issued for bid along with new ROTC Facilities at Lincoln High School in South Dallas. The new Team Room was a steel frame building, with exterior masonry walls and steel sash windows; the interior walls and ceilings were plaster. The architects were Wiltshire & Fisher Architects, with Mark Lemmon, Consulting Architect.<sup>31</sup> The construction documents were issued in February 1950, with bids due March 14, 1950. It is thought this small building was demolished when later construction occurred.

#### ***Physical Education Addition, 1956***

The need for a new gymnasium resulted in the construction of this building. The architect for the school was Robert D. White; Mark Lemmon was Consulting Architect and structural engineer was Frank Chappell, and Zumwalt & Vinther were the mechanical engineers. The drawings were issued for bid in May 1954 with bids due June 7. Dallas Morning News articles noted that this new gymnasium would be completed at a cost of over \$185,000.00 and that the building would also be used as a band hall.<sup>32</sup>

The gym was of structural steel frame, masonry and cast stone exterior, windows and curtainwall. Interior finishes include ceramic tile, resilient floors, wood floors, suspended ceiling tile and plaster finishes. The exterior brick matches that of the high school. The gymnasium building remains in place, and hosts a large 'Sunset Bison' logo and bison image.

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<sup>30</sup>The six Dallas high schools in 1929 were Dallas High School (also known as Crozier Tech), North Dallas High School, Oak Cliff High School (now known as Adamson High School), Forrest Avenue High School (now known as Madison High School), Woodrow Wilson High School and Sunset High School. Booker T. Washington High School which served Dallas' African American population was not included in this competition.

<sup>31</sup>*Specifications for Team Room for Sunset High School, Set No. 2.* Wiltshire & Fisher Architects, Mark Lemmon Consulting Architect, February 1950, p. 23. Courtesy of Joe Whitney.

<sup>32</sup>Dallas Morning News, January 20, 1954.



Physical Education Addition (Gymnasium)

**Annex (Science Addition), 1963**

This large addition to the east of the original added much needed space for the new school. This was one of the projects funded by the \$10 million Bond Program in 1962. A courtyard separated the existing and new building and accommodated the science labs and classrooms and was soon referred to as the 'science lab'. The new addition opened in September 1963.

The two-story building is constructed red and brown brick with horizontal precast concrete band below the roof line, and is set back slightly from the original building's front facade. The front facade is a blank brick wall with an arched opening at the west side; a canopy at grade and an raised, enclosed glass overhead connection tie the this addition to the existing school. The east facade of this building has large expanses of curtainwall that are slightly recessed from the exterior wall and roof.

The architect was Jarvis-Putty-Jarvis of Dallas, with Office of Mark Lemmon as Consulting Architect. The mechanical engineers were Ratliff-Irby-Purdy and the structural engineers were Mayes & Brockett. Construction drawings were issued early January 1963, with bids due February 12, 1963. Avery Mays Construction was the contractor. Avery May's son Gerard Avery Mays was a Sunset graduate who attended Southern Methodist University on a football scholarship and excelled at the sport. Upon graduation he played defensive lineman for the AFL Dallas Texans in 1961-62, and then played for the AFL Kansas City Chiefs and NFL Kansas City Chiefs. While with the Chiefs, Avery was a captain in Super Bowls I and IV. He retired in 1970, and returned to Dallas to work with his father in the construction business.

**Later Addition to the Science Addition, date unknown.**

A two-story addition at the south side (rear) of the Science Addition was constructed after the Science Addition. With its simpler brick detailing, horizontal band at the center of the upper windows and use of brick soldier courses instead of precast concrete at the roofline, is it a different design from both the Science Addition and newer 2005 addition. No information was available on this building and its date of construction is not known.



Addition to east facade at left (date unknown; noted as E on Building Diagram). Note design does not match the earlier Science Addition.



North facade of Science Addition at right (1963).

**Addition including new entry at school, 2005**

To accommodate an increased student population, new programs and technology, a major expansion (153,000 SF) of the school was planned in the early 2000s with construction completed in 2005. This large addition is at the south side of the school and faces West 10th Street; a large two-story entrance hall is provided, creating a large lobby which accommodates the larger student body and allows the use of metal detectors and other security measures.

Two stories in height, the exterior is a planar brown brick facade with punched openings for window; a cast stone water table reflects that of the historic building. The new entry is curtainwall storefront glazing. The architects for this newest project at the school was BCI architects Inc. and McCarthy Building Construction Inc. was the General Contractor. Jacobs/Pegasus JV was the Program Manager for DISD.



Aerial view of 2005 addition to the south side of the school Addition  
Courtesy of McCarthy Construction, Inc.



New entrance to the school in 2005

**2013 - Byron Rhome Field House.** The practice football field and field house is located on West 12th Street, several blocks west of the school. Completed in 2013, the new field house is named for Coach Byron Rhome who coached at Sunset from 1936 - 1964. He was coach for the Freshman Football and Track teams, and served as head coach from 1946 - 1964.<sup>33</sup>

<sup>33</sup> "New Sunset Field House", Bison Spirit Newsletter, Spring 2013, pg 2.

## **Summary**

Sunset High School is the second public high school in Oak Cliff; the first high school - Oak Cliff High School (Adamson) was split in half with students in the newer residential neighborhoods in the western and south-western areas of Oak Cliff and Cockrell Hill attending Sunset; students in eastern and northern areas of Oak Cliff remained at Oak Cliff High School. Today, Sunset High School is a comprehensive high school that serves approximately 2,300 students in grades nine through twelve. Principal Luz Martinez, PhD leads a faculty of 120.

With the successful designation of Sunset High School as a City of Dallas Landmark, the eight oldest high schools in Dallas will have achieved City of Dallas historic Landmarks status, in recognition of their significance to their graduates and faculty and their contributions to the City of Dallas. These oldest eight high schools in DISD are:

Dallas High School, 1907

Oak Cliff High School (Adamson), 1915

Forest Avenue High School (Madison), 1916

North Dallas High School, 1922

Booker T. Washington High School (Booker T. Washington School for the Performing Arts), 1922

Sunset High School, 1925 (Landmark designation pending)

Woodrow Wilson High School, 1928

Lincoln High School, 1938



## APPENDIX

### Sunset High School Hall of Fame<sup>34</sup>

In 1933, the Sundial staff established the Sunset Hall of Fame for the school for the purpose of recognizing Sunset graduates who achieved national fame while students at Sunset. Between 1933 and 1974, seven students were so recognized.

The Sundial staff of 1975 recognized that a number of students had distinguished themselves following graduation and were honored with admission to the Hall of Fame; two additional members were added that year - Jack James and Dr. Lee Smith. It is not known if the Sundial staff or school has added to the Hall of Fame since 1975.

Ross L. Bush, 1933 (track)  
Jack James, 1975 (Assistant Director, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology)  
Linda Darnell, 1939 (film actress)  
Bill Hammon, 1942 (track)  
Dr. W. T. White, 1950 (President of the American Association of School Administrators)  
Lewis Stuckey, 1955 (President of Key Club International)  
Jerry Cobb, 1957 (basketball)  
Eddie Southern, 1955 (Track, Olympic Silver medalist, hurdles, 1956; member UT world record 440 and 880 yard relay team)  
Lee Smith, 1975 (President, Southwest Texas State University)

### Notable Graduates<sup>35</sup>

In addition to the more formal Hall of Fame list of alumni recognized by the Sundial staff, a number of graduates have been made significant contributions following graduation. This list is largely excerpted from Wikipedia, and is listed alphabetically:

Clay Armstrong, PhD, 1952 (Physiologist; much present knowledge on ion channel structure and function traced to him)  
Billy Lee Brammer, 1947 (journalist and novelist)  
Stockton Briggles, 1953 (movie and television producer)  
Ballard Burgher 'Buck' Cobb, 1938 (U. S. navy, crew member of U.S.S. Arizona at Pearl Harbor and first Sunset alumni to die in World War II)  
Ross L. Bush, 1933 (set national high school record in 880 yard run)  
Henry Calvin, 1935 (television actor)  
John Cerimaro, 1965 (New York Philharmonic principal horn player; Los Angeles Philharmonic and Seattle Symphony Orchestra)  
Jerry Cobb, 1957 (All American High School basketball player; TCU basketball team)  
Betty Mims Danoff, 1940 (one of the founders of the Ladies Professional Golf Tour; won major title that stopped Babe Didrickson Zaharias' 13-tournament winning streak)  
John Dodd, 1958 (Mayor, Farmers Branch)  
Edward Edwards, 1968 (Actor in television)  
Hank Foldberg, 1944 (West Point All American football player)  
Don Foldberg, 1946 (West point All American football player)  
Hon. Robert Skillern Folsom, 1944 (Mayor of Dallas; President, Dallas School Board)  
Dr. Robert Haley, 1965 (UT Southwestern Medical School, Chief of Epidemiology, expert on Gulf War Syndrome; Past President, Dallas County Medical Society)  
Danny Hall, 1970 (Deputy Chief of Mission, U. S. State Department, Helsinki, Finland)  
Bill Hamman, 1942 (set national high school record in 200 yard low hurdles)  
Dr. Jo Gayle Dillon Howard, 1969 (Smithsonian research scientist)

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<sup>34</sup> Sundial, 1975, courtesy of Doris Murphy

<sup>35</sup> Wikipedia, [www.en.wikipedia.org/Sunset\\_High\\_School\\_\(Texas\)](http://www.en.wikipedia.org/Sunset_High_School_(Texas)); accessed January 2, 2014

Jack N. James, 1937 (Assistant Director, Jet Propulsion Laboratory of California Institute of Technology)

Betty Jameson, 1939 (Founding member of the Ladies Professional Golf Tour, won 13 LPGA titles, including 3 majors)

Don January, 1947 (professional golfer, 10 PGA tour titles including PGA Championship, 1967)

Rudy Jaramillo, 1970 (UT baseball team; hitting coach for Texas Rangers and Chicago Cubs)

Michael Jenkins, 1960 (President, Dallas Summer Musicals; founder and owner of LARC Entertainment Systems; one of founders of the Six Flags Amusement Parks; winner of Tony award)

Mickey Jones, 1959 (musician and television actor including drummer for Bob Dylan, Trini Lopez and Johnny Riveres)

Louise Latham, 1940 (film, television and Broadway actress)

Jerry Mays, 1957 (AFL Dallas Texas championship team; Kansas City Chiefs in Super Bowl I; played Super Bowl IV Championship team).

Bill Meeks, 1940 (music industry and radio station jingles entrepreneur)

William Allen 'Bill' Melton, 1958 (Dallas County Treasurer for 25 years; announcer for 1996 Olympic games, Super Bowls VI, VIII and IX, Cotton Bowl Classic and 2001 and 2005 Presidential Inaugurations.)

Dr. Tomothy G. Nance, 1980 (President, Evangel Christian University of America)

Dick Penner, 1955 (English professor and co-composer of 'Oobby Dooby', Roy Orbison's rockabilly classic)

Jerry Rhome, 1960 (football at Sunset, made All State and All American. Runner up for 1964 Heisman Trophy; College Football Hall of Fame, Washington Redskin's Super Bowl XXII Championship)

Lee Smith, PhD, 1953 (educator; President, Southwest Texas State University)

Terry Southern, 1941 (Novelist and screenwriter, including Easy Rider, Dr. Strangelove; taught at Columbia and NYU)

John M. Stemmons, 1927 (developer, donated land for Stemmons Freeway, Linz Award recipient)

Earl Stewart, Jr., (professional golfer)

Pete Stobestreet, 1958 (high school and collegiate basketball and Lewis Stuckey Jr., 1955 (President, Key Club International)

Glen Waggoner, 1958 (Founder of ESPN's The Magazine; author; National Baseball Hall of Fame - writers division)

Davey Williams, 1945 (professional baseball player, spent entire career with New York Giants as player and coach)

Michael Yeargan, 1964 (Tony Award winner for Best Scenic design)

### **Principals of Sunset High School<sup>36</sup>**

Sunset has had a strong list of principals since 1925. In the 1970s the ethnic population of north Oak Cliff began changing with the Hispanic population increasing, and DISD encouraged teachers and administrators to more closely reflect this diversity. In 1983, Sam Lopez became the first Hispanic principal at Sunset High School. The schools principals have included:

1925-1931	Jack A. Wilson
1931-1941	W. T. White
1941-1942	W. W. Bushman
1942-1946	J. D. Chalk
1946-1947	Shumake M. Baber
1947-1950	Robert H. McKay
1950-1959	C. C. Miller
1959-1968	H. S. Griffin
1968-1980	Harold J. Filgo
1980-1983	Joel Pittman
1983-1985	Sam Lopez

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<sup>36</sup> Information on Principal J. A. Wilson, largely taken from biography of Wilson in 1926 issue of Sundial (first yearbook), page 12 - 13.

1985-1989	Richard Marquez
1989-1990	Cele Rodriguez
1990-1992	Michael Stiles
1992-1992	Carl Montoya
1992-1994	Domingo Regalado
1994-1997	Oscar Rodriguez
1998-2001	Daniel Menchaca
2001-2004	Silvia Lopez
2004-2006	Emilio Castro
2006 - 2013	Anthony Tovar
2013 - present	Luz Martinez

**Jack A. Wilson** - Sunset's first principal was born April 10, 1878 in Detroit, Michigan to Joseph and Barbara McMurchie Wilson, who had immigrated from Ireland and Scotland. Wilson completed high school at Central High School in Detroit, then attended Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania on a scholarship. He received his B. A. degree in 1901 and his M. A. degree in 1904 from Lafayette College. He then served two years on sailing ships before beginning his teaching career at his alma mater - Central High School in Detroit until 1914 when he became principal of Morley School in Detroit. where he taught until April, 1917 when he joined the U. S. Navy as Commander of the U.S.S. Summers for several months. He then served on the U.S.S. Bath as navigating officer, then was transferred to the destroyer force and served on the U.S.S Reid and U.S.S. Laub; he was discharged on January 1, 1920 and moved to New Orleans for a short time then returned to the sea as chief mate on the Steamer Boswell.

Wilson left the sea for good and in October 1921, he joined the faculty at Bryan Street High School (originally known as Dallas High School, and most recently known as Crozier Tech High School) for a year. From 1922 - 1925 he taught history and coached athletics at North Dallas High School, then was appointed as Sunset High School's first principal in Fall 1925.

Wilson married Eva Lenore Smith while in Detroit, and they had one daughter Barbara, who graduated from Sunset in 1929. Mrs. Wilson was also a teacher. The couple lived on South Montclair, near the school. Wilson served as Sunset as principal until 1931, and died on October 2, 1946; he is buried in his hometown of Detroit.

**W. T. White** - W. T. White was Superintendent of Fairview School District prior to teaching for DISD in the 1930s. He met his wife Janice Yarborough while teaching; she was also a teacher with DISD. White became Sunset's second principal, serving from 1931 - 1941. He was then transferred to DISD administration as Assistant Superintendent and in 1946, became DISD Superintendant, a position he held until 1968 - one of the longest serving superintendents at the school system. A high school was named in his honor.

**W. W. Bushman**<sup>37</sup> - W. W. Bushman was born in Missouri April 23, 1901. Bushman was football coach at Sunset High School for a number of years and became principal in 1941. Later that year he left Sunset and joined the US Army. When asked why he would join the Army and enter the war, his response was 'I could not ask these boys to join without going myself.'<sup>38</sup>

Bushman served the 312th Fighter Wing, 14th Air Force and served in the China Burma Theater of Operations. He died of unknown causes, August 23, 1944 at Kunming, China, and was buried at the National Cemetery of the Pacific, Honolulu, Hawaii. Bushman was the first and only faculty member at Sunset to die in WWII. He was survived by his wife Janice Bushman and their young daughter Billie Jan (born 1941). Billie Jan would attend Sunset High School and graduated in 1958.

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<sup>37</sup> This section on Principal Bushman is largely based on 'William Waltger Bushman' article, Bison Spirit Newsletter, sunset High School Alumni Association., p. 1.

<sup>38</sup> Ibid., p. 1.

## Casualties - World War II<sup>39</sup> and Vietnam.

Sunset High School has had numerous students who attended Sunset High School students from WWII to the more recent wars in Iraq an Afghanistan.

World War II casualties include:

### Faculty

W. W. Bushman, Major, U. S. Army Air Force (Sunset High School Football Coach (1939-1941 and Principal, 1941-1942). 1901 - 1943.

### Students

Robert James Aderhold, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Marine Corps; 1924 - 1944 (U. S. class of 1941)  
Leonard W. Akins, Corporal, U. S. Marine Corps; 1924 - 1945 (class unknown)  
Jack H. Alford, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army; 1915 - 1945 (class of 1933)  
David C. Allen, Technical Sergeant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1913 - 1945 (class unknown)  
Thomas Percy Angers III, Yeoman Second Class, U. S. Navy; 1922 - 1944 (class of 1941)  
Wallace Averett Angle, First Lieutenant, U. S. Army; 1922 - 1944 (class of 1941?)  
Charles William Bauman, First Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1917 - 1944 (class of 1935)  
William Luther Black, Jr., Seaman Second Class, U. S. Navy; 1926 - 1946 (class unknown)  
William K. Blackbury, Jr., Technical Sergeant, U. S. Army Air Corps, 1924 - 1944 (class of 1942)  
Walter R. Bone, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1917 - 1943 (class of 1935)  
Warren Holmes 'Zeke' Boone, Jr., Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1924 - 1944 (class of 1941)  
Robert J. 'Bobby' Bradford, Captain, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1919 - 1944 (class of 1937)  
James Bradley, U. S. Navy (dates and class unknown)  
William Evan Bridges, Sergeant, U. S. Army; d. 1943 (class unknown)  
Robert Theodore 'Bob' Brown, Staff Sergeant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1922 - 1944 (class of 1940)  
George Booke Brundrett, Captain U. S. Army; 1911 - 1945 (class of 1929)  
Floyd Burrows, Corporal, U. S. Army; 1919 - 1942 (class of 1935)  
Maxwell W. Caldwell, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1916 - 1942 (class unknown)  
Joseph W. Carroll, Jr., First Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; d. 1943 (class unknown)  
Robert E. Cloud, Jr., Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1918 - 1945 (class of 1937)  
Ballard Burgher Cobb, Seaman U. S. Navy; 1920 - 1941 (class of 1938)  
Percy B. Coker, Captain, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1918 - 1940s (date unknown) (class of 1937)  
Hawood Comer, dates and class unknown.  
Charles Buford Cothran, Technical Sergeant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1921 - 1943 (class of 1940)  
William Clyde Couch, Jr., Sergeant, U. S. Army; 1918 - 1943 (class of 1941)  
Don E. Cousins, First Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1921 - 1945 (class of 1936)  
William Sherwood Council, Captain, U.S. Army Air Corps; 1921 - 1945 (class of 1939)  
Elton Leon Darden, Seaman First Class, U. S. Naval Reserve; d. 1944 (class unknown)  
Jack Steele Davis, Sr. First Lieutenant, U.S. Army; 1917 - 1944 (class of 1935)  
Lloyd Dean, U.S. Navy; 1917 - unknown (class of 1939)  
Earl Roe Donnell, Jr., Ensign, U.S. Navy; 1918 - 1942 (class of 1935)  
Marvin Louis Duncan; dates and class unknown.  
Frederick M. Eidson, Water Tender Second Class, U.S. Navy; 1919 - 1944 (class of 1938)  
Adnirum J. Etheridge, Technician First Class, U.S. Army; d. 1943 (class unknown)  
Glenn S. Farris, First Lieutenant, U.S. Army; 1918 - date unknown (class of 1940)  
Thomas Hearne Felker, First Lieutenant, U.S. Army Air Corps; 1923 - 1945 (class of 1940)  
James Findley, Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army Air Corps; 1919 - 1943 (class unknown)  
Norbert Owen Finks, Sergeant, U.S. Army Air Corps; 1918 - 1943).  
John West Folsom, Jr., Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army Air Corps; 1919 - 1944 (class unknown; younger brother of Robert Folsom, later Mayor of Dallas.  
James Ward Fouts, Lieutenant Junior Grade, U.S. Navy; date unknown - 1944 (class of 1935)  
William Henry Fulghum, First Sergeant, U.S. Army; 1918 - 1944 (class unknown)  
Albert Troy Garrison, Sergeant, U.S. Army Air Corps; d. 1943 (class of 1941)  
David M. Gay, U.S. Marine Corps; 1920 - 1944 (class unknown)

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<sup>39</sup> Whitney; Joe; ed.; World War II Casualties (of) Sunset High School, Dallas, Texas; unpublished manuscript.

James Henry George, Private U.S. Army; 1922 - 1944 (class unknown)  
 Wallace K. Gibson, Seaman Merchant Marine; 1925 - 1945 (class unknown)  
 Henry Grady Giles, Jr., First Lieutenant, U.S. Army Air Corps; 1923 - 1944 (class of 1940)  
 William Leo Graham, Private, U.S. Army; dates and class unknown  
 Fred C. Grant, Flight Officer, U.S. Army Air Corps; 1922 - 1944 (class of 1940)  
 William Allen Gray, Jr., U.S. Army; dates and class unknown  
 Gray Hamilton, U.S. Army Air Corps; dates and class unknown  
 Charles Austel Henderson, Jr., Private, U.S. Army; 1921 - 1944 (class unknown)  
 Ben W. Herndon, Private, U.S. Army; d. 1944 (class unknown)  
 Richard G. Hinkley, Private, U.S. Marine Corps; d. 1945 (class unknown)  
 Eugene Horton, Private First Class, U.S. Army; d. 1943 (class unknown)  
 Gerrard Horton, Sergeant U.S. Army Air Corps; 1922 - unknown (class of 1941)  
 William L. 'Billy' Hotard, Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army Air Corps; d. 1942 (class on 1935).  
 Gordon E. Houston, Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army Air Corps; d. 1942 (class unknown)  
 Roland H. Jackson, Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army Air Corps; 1921 - 1944 (class unknown)  
 Jeff Gerrard Johnson, Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army Air Corps; 1920 - 1943 (class of 1941)  
 Walter Manion Jones, Seaman Second Class, U.S. Army; d. 1943 (class of 1940)  
 Doran DeWitt Kemper, First Lieutenant, U.S. Marine Corps; 1921 - 1944 (class unknown)  
 Earl Lowry Kerbow, Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army Air Corps; 1921 - 1943 (class unknown)  
 Lawrence Kiskadden; U.S. Army; dates and class unknown  
 William Frederick Lambert, Jr., Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army Air Corps; 1924 - 1945 (class of 1943)  
 Leonard Robert Land, Captain, U.S. Army Air Corps; d. 1945 (class unknown)  
 Joe Bob Law, U.S. Army; dates and class unknown  
 Richard C. Lawson, Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army Air Corps; 1921 - 1944 (class of 1938)  
 William G. 'Bill' Ligon, U.S. Army; dates unknown (class of 1940)  
 Samuel Webb Lipscomb, First Lieutenant, U.S. Army Air Corps; 1918 - 1945 (class unknown)  
 Warren G. McCord, Flight Officer, U.S. Army Air Corps; 1924 - 1944 (class unknown)  
 Louie F. Mathews, Private First Class, U.S. Army; 1916 - 1943 (class unknown)  
 William Garland Medaris, Jr., Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; d. 1945 (class of 1942)  
 Paul Merritt, Torpedoman's Mate Second Class, U. S. Navy; d. 1945 (class of 1940)  
 Arthur Ross Moore, First Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; d. 1943 (class of 1937)  
 William B. Morehouse, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army; d. 1944 (class of 1939)  
 William S. Morriss, Royal Air Force; d1915 - 1941 (class of 1932)  
 John Muse, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1918 - 1943 (class of 1936)  
 John Owen, U. S. Army; dates and class unknown.  
 Edwin Forrest Patterson, First Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1920 - unknown (class unknown)  
 Wilson Pershing, U. S. Army; dates and class unknown.  
 Robert E. Pettigrew, Flight Officer, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1924 - 1945 (class unknown)  
 Charles R. Pierce, Private, U. S. Army; d. 1942 (class of 1935)  
 Albert Anthony Pinto, Seaman Second Class, U.S. Army; 1925 - date unknown (class of 1942)  
 Ralph McKnight Pope, Aviation Radioman First Class, U. S. Navy; 1915 - 1944 (class unknown)  
 Pierce M. Pritchett, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1916 - 1943 (class unknown)  
 Glenn W. Reagan; Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1919 - 1945 (class unknown)  
 William M. Ridgeway, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; d. 1944 (class unknown)  
 Arthur Rat 'Arch' Ross, Water Tender Second Class, U. S. Navy; d. 1942 (class unknown)  
 Thomas Oscar Russell, Aviation Radioman Second Class, U. S. Navy; d. 1945 (class unknown)  
 Dathan Sample, Aviation Cadet, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1923 - 1942 (class of 1940)  
 George Benjamin 'Ben' Sandifer, Jr., First Lieutenant, U. S. Army; 1915 - 1944 (class of 1935)  
 Homer Neil 'Mack' Santerre, First Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1920 - date unknown (class unknown)  
 Wallace Carl Sharp, Corporal, U. S. Army; 1922 - 1942 (class unknown)  
 George Benjamin Simpson, Jr., Aircraft Machinist Mate Second Class, U. S. Navy; d. 1944 (class of 1941)  
 Byron K. Sims, Corporal, U. S. Marines; 1926 - 1945 (class unknown)  
 Albert T. Smith, Staff Sergeant, U. S. Army Air Corps; d. 19444 (class unknown)  
 William Frank Snelen, Private, U. S. Army; 1912 - 1943 (class of 1932)  
 John Wayne Spears, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army; 1919 - 1942 (class of 1937)  
 Jimmy Statler; U. S. Navy; dates and class unknown.  
 George Lupodlphus Stephens, Fireman Second Class, U. S. Navy; dates and class unknown.

Jack Boyd Swaim, Private First Class, U. S. Army; 1926 - 1945 (class of 1942)  
Dalton B. Tarver, Aviation Cadet, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1925 - 1945 (class of 1943)  
Jouette Edmond Thomas, Jr., U. S. Navy; 1925 - 1943 (class unknown)  
John Ross Thurman, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army; 1919 - 1943 (class unknown)  
Harvey Harrison Tilford, Jr., Private First Class, U. S. Marines; 1926 - 1945 (class of 1943)  
William H. Wallace, Jr., Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army; d. 1944 (class of 1936)  
Ned Warner, Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Force; 1915 - 1941 (class unknown)  
Percy Alton Weaver, Jr., Lieutenant Junior Grade, U. S. Navy; 1919 - 1943 (class of 1936)  
Earl H. Webster, Private, U. S. Army Air Corps; d. 1942 (class unknown)  
William 'Bill' White, Gunnery Sergeant, U. S. Marines; d. 1944 (class of 1937)  
Fred S. Wilcox, Jr., Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1921 - 1944 (class of 1939)  
Robert Irving 'Bob' Wiskochil, Private First Class, U. S. Marines; 1921 - 1942 (class unknown)  
William Wisner, First Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1924 - 1944 (class of 1941)  
Julius Emmett Ziegelmeier, Jr., Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Air Corps; 1920 - 1943 (class of 1938)

**Vietnam casualties include:**

David Calabria, (class of 1965)  
Wayne Emerton, (class of 1964)  
Robert Rudd, (class of 1964)  
Stephen Franklin Jumper, (class of 1967)  
Robert Fritz Speer, (class of 1967)  
Sidney Taylor Stratton, (class of 1967)

Korea War, Iraq War and Afghanistan War casualties are not known at this time.

**Sunset Alumni Association**

The alumni association was formed in 2000 with a goal of supporting the school, its students and the preservation of the school's history. It currently holds an annual alumni meetings and has recently worked with the DISD and the City of Dallas on obtaining Dallas Landmark designation for the school.

**Sunset Foundation, Inc.**

The Sunset Foundation Inc., is a non-profit organization formed in 1996 that supports the continuation of education by funding college scholarships for Sunset High School graduates. To date over 65 scholarships have been awarded for a total of almost \$300,000.

## **14. Bibliography**

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Other resources included The Sundial, Sunset Bison (Sunset Alumni Association's newsletter), Dallas Morning News and Wikipedia.

## **15. Attachments**

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>District or Site Map</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Additional descriptive material</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Site Plan</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Footnotes</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Photos (historic &amp; current)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other:</i> _____

## **16. Designation Criteria**

**History, heritage and culture:** Represents the historical development, ethnic heritage or cultural characteristics of the city, state, or country.

**Historic event:** Location of or association with the site of a significant historic event.

**Significant persons:** Identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the culture and development of the city, state, or country.

**Architecture:** Embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style, landscape design, method of construction, exceptional craftsmanship, architectural innovation, or contains details which represent folk or ethnic art.

**Architect or master builder:** Represents the work of an architect, designer or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of the city, state or country.

**Historic context:** Relationship to other distinctive buildings, sites, or areas which are eligible for preservation based on historic, cultural, or architectural characteristics.

**Unique visual feature:** Unique location of singular physical characteristics representing an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood, community or the city that is a source of pride or cultural significance.

**Archeological:** Archeological or paleontological value in that it has produced or can be expected to produce data affecting theories of historic or prehistoric interest.

**National and state recognition:** Eligible of or designated as a National Historic Landmark, Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, State Archeological Landmark, American Civil Engineering Landmark, or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

**Historic education:** Represents as era of architectural, social, or economic history that allows an understanding of how the place or area was used by past generations.



<b><i>Recommendation</i></b>
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***The Designation Committee requests the Landmark Commission to deem this nominated landmark meritorious of designation as outlined in Chapter 51 and Chapter 51A, Dallas Development Code.***

***Further, the Designation Committee endorses the Preservation Criteria, policy recommendations and landmark boundary as presented by the Department of Development Services.***

***Date:***

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***Daron Tapscott - Chair  
Designation Committee***

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***Mark Doty  
Historic Preservation Planner***