

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NRHP Listed: 4/16/2025

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

**1. Name of Property**Historic name: St. Clare Walker SchoolOther names/site number: Middlesex Training School, DHR ID# 059-0078

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**2. Location**Street & number: 2911 General Puller Highway (SR 33)City or town: Saluda State: VA County: MiddlesexNot For Publication:  N/AVicinity:  X**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

 A  B  C  D

Julie D. Dargan 3/16/2025

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Date

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

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title :

State or Federal agency/bureau  
or Tribal Government

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

---

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  
 determined eligible for the National Register  
 determined not eligible for the National Register  
 removed from the National Register  
 other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

---

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

---

#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:

Public – Local  X

Public – State

Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)  X

District

Site

Structure

Object

**St. Clare Walker School**  
**Name of Property**

## Middlesex County, VA

## Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	4	Noncontributing	0
	0		0
	0		0
	0		0
	4		0

## buildings

sites

## structures

## objects

Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

## 6. Function or Use

## Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

## EDUCATION: school

## EDUCATION: education-related

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

## GOVERNMENT: government office

## RECREATION AND CULTURE: sports facility

## TRANSPORTATION: road-related

---

**VACANT/NOT IN USE**

---

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

---

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COLONIAL REVIVAL: Georgian Revival

BUNGALOW/CRAFTSMAN: Craftsman

### Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: WOOD: weatherboard; BRICK; CONCRETE;  
OTHER: Dryvit

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and non-contributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

---

### Summary Paragraph

The St. Clare Walker School campus is located along the north side of General Puller Highway (SR 33), east of Cooks Corner in Middlesex County. The St. Clare Walker School served as a high school for Black students from 1939 through 1969 and as a middle school through 1994, at which point the new St. Clare Walker Middle School in Locust Hill opened. The campus has subsequently served as offices and classrooms for the Middlesex County Department of Social Services. The building also houses the Middlesex County School Board offices, and the gymnasium serves as a recreational center for the county's youth. The 10-acre nominated boundary includes four contributing buildings: the c. 1939 one-story, brick Colonial Revival main building with c. 1953 additions, a c. 1941 frame agricultural shop/cafeteria building, a c. 1968 cinderblock bus maintenance shop, and a c. 1959 prefabricated metal classroom building. While later alterations have affected the main school building's integrity of materials and workmanship, the campus as a whole retains a high degree of integrity of location, setting, design, feeling, and association to its period of significance.

This material is based upon work assisted by a grant from the Department of the Interior, National Park Service. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of the Interior or the National Park Service.

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA

County and State

---

### Narrative Description

The historic St. Clare Walker School sits on a 22.58-acre property in Middlesex County, three miles south of the Town of Urbanna, three miles east of county seat, Saluda, and just northeast of Stormont. The nominated boundary is limited to 10 acres of the total tax parcel acreage and represents the land and resources historically associated with the school. The campus was closely tied to the community of Cook's Corner to the west and residential areas along General Puller Highway to the east. Additionally, remnants of several mid-to-late 19<sup>th</sup> century Black communities lie in forested tracts to the southeast, some of which include the post-Emancipation communities of Doolittle, King's Neck, and Lady's Bridge. These areas are just east of Cook's Corner, the center of Black commercial life in Middlesex County during the mid-20th century. The campus parcels comprise four contributing resources: the c. 1939 school with c. 1953 additions; a c. 1941 frame agricultural shop/cafeteria building; c. 1968 cinderblock bus maintenance shop; and a c. 1959 prefabricated metal classroom building.

#### Location and Setting

The four historic campus buildings stand in a compact formation on the north side of SR 33, approximately one-third of a mile east of the intersection of SR 227, SR 641, and SR 33. This intersection is known as Cook's Corner. Asphalt driveways surround the campus, dividing it into thirds. There are three entrances off SR 33, with the driveways forming a loop across the rear (see Figure 1).

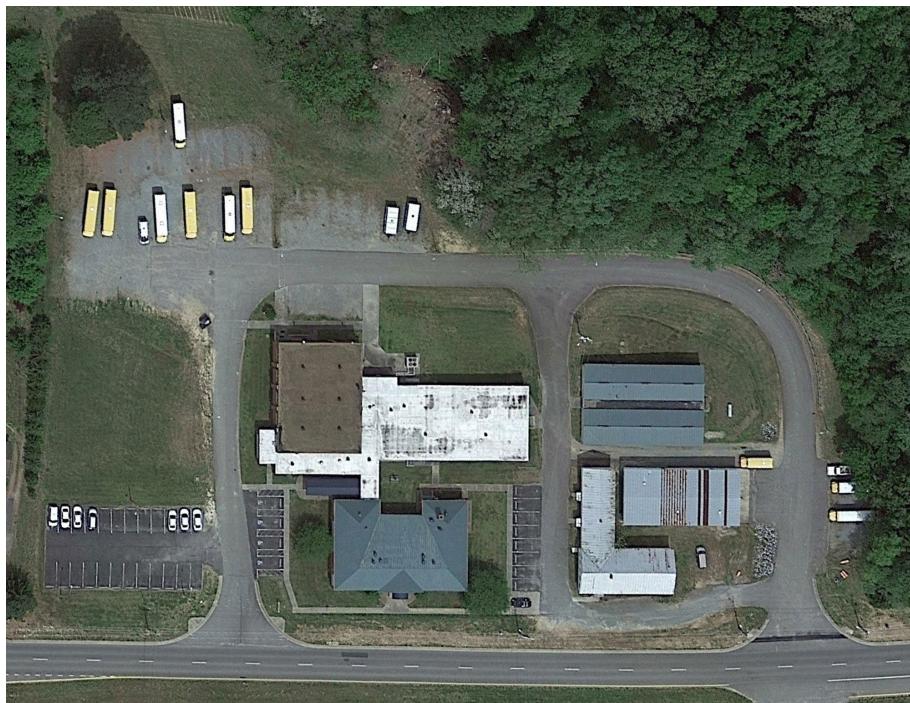


Fig. 1. Aerial view of St. Clare Walker School landscape. NW at the top of the image.

---

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA

---

County and State

The westernmost third of the site includes a two-row, 60'x120' asphalt parking lot in the southwest, with a lawn to the north. A gravel bus lot (the former basketball court) and an open field (the former baseball field) sit north of the parking lot. Large pine trees mark the baseball field entrance. The middle section includes the c. 1939 Colonial Revival brick school building to the south with the c. 1953 gymnasium and classroom additions to the north. In the eastern third, the c. 1941 industrial frame Agricultural Shop Building faces SR 33 to the south. The c. 1968 cinderblock Bus Shop stands north of the Agricultural Shop, in the ell formed by the latter's c. 1949 cafeteria addition. Immediately across a gravel alley to the north is the prefabricated c. 1959 classroom/cafeteria known as "the Tin Building." East of the easternmost entrance, a small park serves as the trailhead of the c. 2022 Heritage Trail, which loops one half of a mile through the woods to the north, crossing small wooden bridges and passing old well pipes, the footing of a small pump house, and a dump of cafeteria-related cans and bottles.

Field survey identified a number of additional minor resources located on and around the nominated property, which are discussed briefly here as part of the setting. These include: a projected c. 19<sup>th</sup> century house site (destroyed c. 1937-1947); a c. 1940s-1960s playing/baseball field, a c. mid-20<sup>th</sup> century structure foundation; and a c. 1960s midden (44MX0091). Other minor resources and objects include a c. 1968 oil tank; mid- to late 20<sup>th</sup> century capped well; mid- to late 20<sup>th</sup> century filled, uncapped well; pre-1994 generator; c. 2002 gymnasium sign; c. 2002 office complex sign; c. 2018 DHR Historic Highway Marker OC-46; post-2021 HVAC air handling unit; and an undated septic tank cover.

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

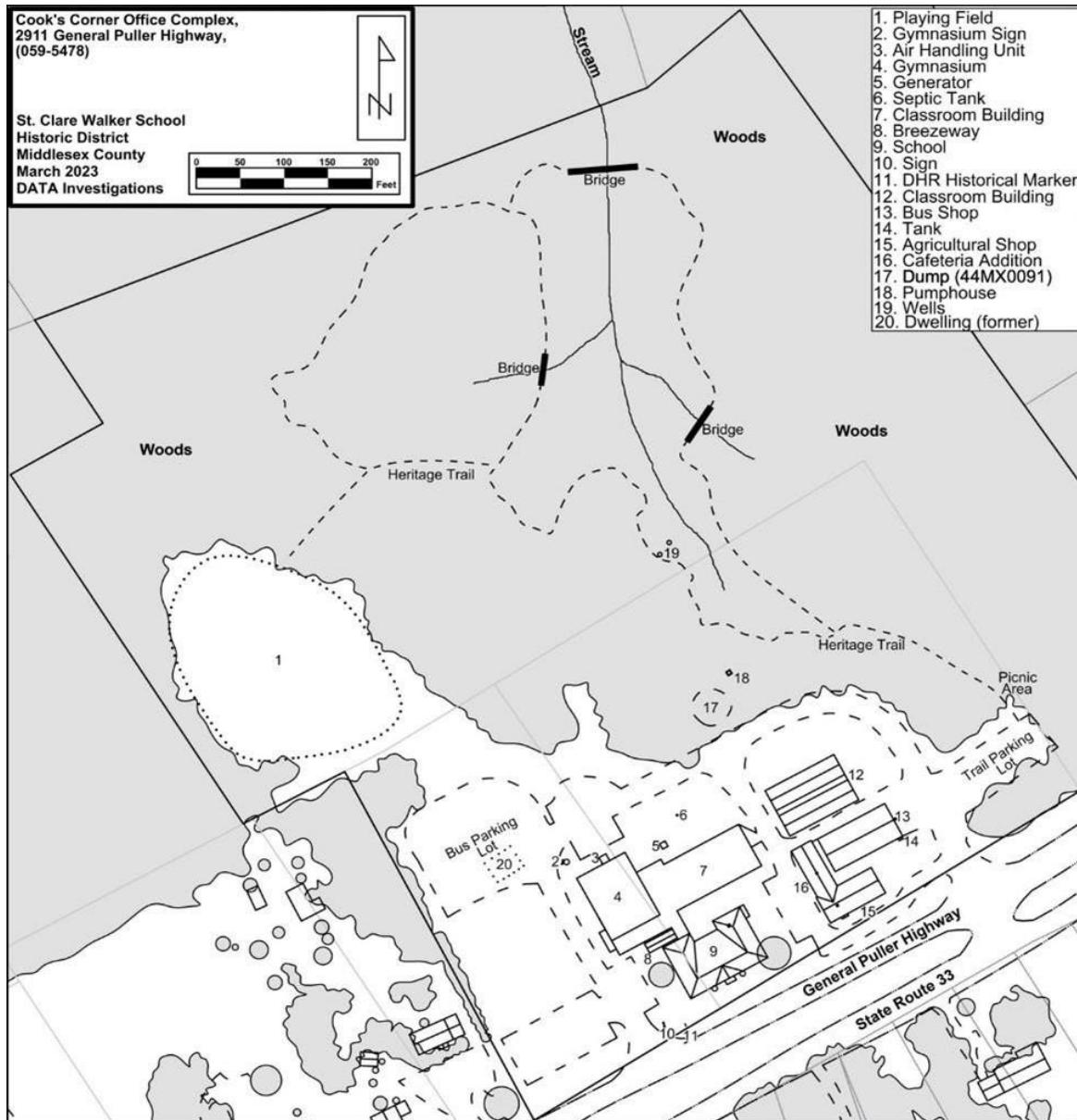


Fig. 2: St. Clare Walker School Site and Setting (see plan for location numbers).

---

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

---

Middlesex County, VA

County and State

*House site [projected], c. 19<sup>th</sup> century, destroyed 1937-1947*

The southwest third of the St. Clare Walker School campus was formerly the site of a farmhouse and a deep, narrow field. The field was partly repurposed as the school's baseball field, the balance left to grow into woods. The house appears in the 1917 and 1937 aerials, occupying a .6-acre square of mature trees. The site boundary is equated by the current gravel bus lot. In 1947's aerial, the lot was overgrown, and the house was gone. The projected house site has not been confirmed. No related artifacts were noted during the architectural survey visit.

*Playing Field/ Baseball Field, c. 1940s-1960s*

The baseball field, northwest of the St. Clare Walker High School, historically lacked amenities such as bleachers, concessions, and dugouts, but was used for recreation by students. The field was likely in use from the late 1940s to 1969 and then again in the 1990s to as late as 1994. Prior to the construction of the school, this site was part of an existing agricultural field associated with the farmhouse that stood on the site of the present bus lot. The house parcel and field appear overgrown in the 1947 aerial photograph; thus, activities were likely confined to the immediate school yard in the first decade of the school's existence.

*Foundation, mid-late-20<sup>th</sup> century*

A 5-x-4.5-foot, 4.5-inch-thick poured concrete foundation lies 120 feet NNW of the northeast corner of the 1953 addition. The foundation could be the base of a pump house reported by Wayne Jessie, Sr., Middlesex County Board of Supervisors Chairman. It lies 120 feet NNW of the northeast corner of the 1953 addition.

*Midden, c. 1960s (44MX0091)*

An approximately 200-square-foot midden lies at the edge of the woods, 140 feet NNW of the northeast corner of the 1953 addition. Most of the material appears to date to the 1960s and 1970s and includes coffee and food tins and colorless jugs and jars. The earliest pieces seen in a cursory examination are an embossed (pre-1958) Coca-Cola bottle and a metal heater or small furnace cabinet.

*Tank, ca. 1968*

An oil tank sits on mortared brick piers south of the western corner of the Bus Shop.

*Wells, mid-late-20th century*

One of two defunct late-20th-century wells is situated ca. 500 feet north of St. Clare Walker School. It is marked by a concrete culvert section measuring 3.5 feet in diameter. The uncapped culvert stands east of the Heritage Trail above the unnamed creek, 256 feet NNW of the northeast corner of the classroom building/ "tin building". It bears a thick, cast concrete cap with two iron loops.

The second of the two wells is situated ca. 500 feet north of St. Clare Walker School. It is marked by a concrete culvert section measuring 3.5 feet in diameter and is on the base of the northeast slope leading down a ravine. It has no cap but is filled in.

---

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

---

Middlesex County, VA

County and State

*Generator, pre-1994*

The 8-x-8-foot backup generator stands northeast of the utility rooms at the rear of the 1953 classroom addition, near the gym. Enclosed by a 12-x-25-foot chain link fence, it is mounted on a cement pad. A shed or other structure covered this area until at least 1994. It measured approximately 25-x-30-feet and bore a gable roof.

*Gymnasium Sign, c. 2002*

The gymnasium sign stands northwest of the northwest corner of the gym by the main entrance. It stands on two square posts in a triangle of grass between sidewalks and the curve of the driveway. The Tom Parker Memorial Gymnasium name dates to the Middlesex Department of Social Services (1994-present).

*Sign, ca. 2002*

This wooden sign is mounted between two square posts northwest of the historical marker north of the entrance. The sign is carved in router-carved lettering and painted. Announcing the school's current role, it reads: "Cook's Corner/Office Complex/Middlesex County."

*DHR Historical Marker OC-46, 2018*

A Department of Historic Resources Historic Highway Marker stands north of the west-bound school entrance from General Puller Highway. It stands 20 feet south of the southwest corner of the 1939 building.

*Air Handling Unit HVAC, post-2021*

Northeast of the main/bus lot entrance to the gym, a large HVAC tower rises two stories, feeding into the recently installed gym ductwork. Around the corner on the northeast side is a secondary entrance, likewise equipped with doors, awning, steps, and railings.

*Septic Tank, unknown date*

This septic cover is in the grass about 30 feet northeast of the generator, north of the 1953 addition.

## Architectural Description

Built in 1939, St. Clare Walker High School replaced a c. 1921 central-type, frame Rosenwald school (Langston Training School, later known as Middlesex Training School) built in the Syringa vicinity. The c. 1939 school served African American students of Middlesex and surrounding counties from its opening until integration in 1969.

### Primary School Building, c. 1938-39 (Contributing)

The one-story, U-shaped, hip-roofed Colonial Revival style building is constructed of brick laid in a modified common bond of two courses separated by a course of Flemish bond, accented by glazed headers. It rests on a continuous brick foundation of the same bond pattern, with a soldier brick belt course. All wall corners are accented by brick quoins extending to the base of the belt

---

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA

County and State

---

course. The roof is of green standing seam metal with a plain box cornice and fascia interrupted by aluminum gutters. A stretcher bond brick chimney rises from the inner slope of the northeast wing.

A projecting front entrance bay features an open pediment, three-part box cornice with crown molding at the partial returns, central double-door entrance with covered stoop, and walls covered by thin Dryvit paneling. A Colonial Revival style door surround with a simple frieze and pediment can be seen in historic photos, but it now appears to be covered by Dryvit and a simple awning supported by metal rods. The projecting central entrance is flanked by wide banks of 6/6 wood sash windows and singular 6/6 wood sash windows now covered by Dryvit panels. The sections of banked windows on either side of the entrance bay are covered by plain, stucco-effect Dryvit panels. Paneling covers the original entrance and sashes topped by soldier bricks and keystones, which are in unknown condition.

The southwest and northeast elevations have the same exterior treatment as the façade with the belt course, brick bond pattern, plain box cornice, and corner quoins. The two sides are identical in layout and fenestration with banks of five 6/6 and paired 3/1 windows encased in Dryvit, with the exception of a ground level utility room extending from the northeast elevation. The utility room bears its own Dryvit panel, hiding a window of unknown size and form. A steel door fills most of its northwest end. Crawlspace vents on the northeast have been bricked in, while the southeast and southwest vents remain open, one under each of the banked windows.

The 1939 core forms a “U,” with the central bay section facing northwest into a courtyard flanked by the classroom wings. The northeast arm of the U-shaped layout bears an entrance with double-leaf, single-light steel doors reached via a flight of five brick-and-concrete steps and a concrete porch, flanked by tubular steel railings. The central bay retains its windows in a single, triple, single arrangement but the sashes have been replaced by plate glass. The northwest arm has been incorporated into the enclosed breezeway leading to the gymnasium to the northeast and connected classroom addition to the north. The double door now leads down an interior ramp.

The interior details of St. Clare Walker School’s primary building are obscured by renovations including drop ceilings, partitions, and drywall. From the main entrance, the vestibule is flanked by administrative offices with a room and secretary’s office/counter on the right and facing an inset flat arch that may be a sealed side entrance to the auditorium beyond. Halls right and left of the arch follow the bends of the “U,” serving offices and classrooms, leading on the left to the current auditorium entrance. The auditorium southwest wall has been pushed back, taking in about half of what had been a common area. From here, former exterior doors lead down a ramp through the breezeway. The breezeway turns left to the gymnasium and right into a central hall serving the large addition’s classrooms. There is little notable interior trim, but renovations may have covered many surviving details. The dozens of large windows are hidden behind drywall.

The breezeway, gymnasium, and classroom additions date to c. 1952-1953. The flat-roofed, enclosed breezeway extends from the northwest wing of the main school building to reach the

---

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA

County and State

---

gymnasium and classroom additions. The one-story connector is laid in stretcher bond. On the northwest elevation, the walls are covered in Dryvit and many of its original 3/1 metal awning windows covered in Dryvit panels. The windows are arranged in two pairs of paired and four single four-light horizontal casements with lower awning windows. The northeast elevation retains its brick wall veneer with one bank of windows covered by Dryvit and a pair of plate glass replacement windows. The north end of the breezeway projects between the classroom building and gymnasium, with an exit door between the generator on the northwest and the side-entrance of the gym. An open arm of the breezeway on the northwest elevation projects toward the parking area and is roofed with asphalt shingles. The breezeway leads into the southwest entrance between the 1939 school and 1953 Gymnasium.

The c. 1953 additions to the St. Clare Walker School consist of a single-story, rectangular brick classroom wing, oriented east-to-west, and a two-story rectangular rear gymnasium, oriented north-to-south, attached to the west wing of the main block via the short breezeway. The additions have minimal exterior ornamentation. Brickwork is stretcher bond, except for two-course common bond along the bottom of the classroom wing. Flat asphalt roofs cover both the classroom wing and gymnasium.

The gymnasium includes five pairs of evenly spaced four light awning casement windows on the second story of the north and south elevations and no windows on the northwest and northeast elevations. There is a brick, one-story bathroom addition off the south end of the southwest with two casement windows, now hidden by a Dryvit panel. The northwest exterior entrance to the gym is via single-light double-leaf metal doors and a low cement ramp flanked by tubular steel railings. The entrance is protected by a nearly flat metal shed roof. As on the rear of the main school and Agricultural Shop buildings, triangular wooden brackets support the roof over the entrance doors.

The interior of the gymnasium reaches two full stories in height with exposed, painted steel framing interlaced with recent duct work and lights. Opposing bands of clerestory windows light the tiled floor and a bank of original wooden folding bleachers that line the southwest wall. The basketball backboard is original, mounted on a frame of welded steel pipe.

The classroom addition included classrooms, a library, science room, office, music room, and connected the gymnasium to the 1939 core. The large, one-story, flat-roofed, brick classroom building is laid in stretcher bond. Its original four-light metal casement windows are enclosed behind Dryvit panels. Based on a 1968 bird's eye aerial (Fig. 3), the southeast elevation appears to have had an original fenestration pattern of alternating paired and triple banked window groups with six sets. The panel widths on the northwest elevation suggest a pattern of two sets of paired windows followed by four banks of triple windows.

The interior of the 1953 classroom addition is arranged along a southwest-to-northeast hallway. The rooms branch off in pairs from the hallway, each pair with their own small hallway and doors. Original finishes and architectural details are believed to be preserved behind 1990s-2000s renovations.

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State



Fig. 3. 1968 aerial photo shows St. Clare Walker School looking north. From left to right: the 1953 Gymnasium, 1939 School with 1953 classroom addition behind, 1959 prefabricated classrooms/cafeteria, 1949 frame Cafeteria/classroom addition, and 1941 frame Agricultural Shop.

#### Agricultural/Shop Building, c. 1941 (Contributing)

The St. Clare Walker School's Agricultural Shop building was in use from 1941 to 1994, with later classroom use through at least May 2007, as suggested by a test schedule on one wall. The frame, weatherboard, one-story classroom building rests on a brick foundation of a header row separating two stretcher rows, over a poured concrete base. The building measures six bays in width. Exterior details include quarter-round molded corner boards and rounded, exposed rafter tails. The classroom building is topped by a side-gabled, standing-seam metal roof with a small gable overhang marking the entrance. The overhang is supported by triangular, Craftsman style brackets akin to those employed on many regional vernacular and Rosenwald schools.

The main entrance is composed of a single wood panel door with a simple frame. The entry is reached via two concrete steps with a board railing. The façade is relatively unadorned with slightly projecting eaves clad underneath in bead board and 9/6 and 12/8 double-hung wood sash windows that have been boarded over. The asymmetrical fenestration includes a single and two pairs of 9/6 wood sash windows east of the entrance, the latter two pair are the large 12/8 windows of the shop room that have been boarded over. At the corner beyond the last of these, is

---

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA

County and State

---

a paneled wood door with cement stoop. A single, corbeled, interior slope brick chimney rises from the south near the ridge, east of the entrance. The weatherboarded west elevation includes

an evenly spaced set of five 9/6 sash wood windows with a louvered wooden breeze vent in the gable. The east elevation features fenestration of three pairs of three 12/6 wood sash windows flanking a large garage bay with a paneled wood overhead door with a single 12/6 wood sash window on either side of the garage door. The north elevation is lit by 12/8 and 9/6 sash wood windows in an arrangement of two sets of paired 12/8 wood sash windows followed by a single 9/6 wood sash window, all with the lower sash boarded up. The first two sets are windows into the large shop room, the last is in a small workroom.

A c. 1949 one-story frame classroom/cafeteria addition extends from the rear of the school, with its west elevation in line with that of the shop building. The addition displays weatherboard cladding and a gabled, standing-seam metal roof. It is set on a stretcher bond brick foundation and features two side entrance doors. Other details include a central interior corbeled brick chimney, overhanging eaves, rounded, exposed rafter tails, and boarded up 9/6 wood sash windows in a triple block arrangement interspersed by two entrances. The entrances contain doors of five horizontal panels with original hardware set in simple frames. They are topped by shed overhangs of standing seam metal supported by triangular wooden brackets in the Craftsman style. They are accessed by concrete steps, three for the northwestern door to the cafeteria, two for the middle classroom. The east elevation of the rear ell abuts a narrow alley at the rear of the cinder block shop. It features evenly spaced 9/6 wood sash windows in a triple block configuration. The block nearest the 1941 core has been boarded up. The narrow alley between the Agricultural Shop building and the 1968 Shop Building is shaded and has drip lines filled with rubble including molded "Oxford" bricks. The alley preserves access for maintenance and serves as a lightwell. The addition's north elevation is windowless, being the wall of the cafeteria's wash closet and pantry. There is a small crawl space access panel in the right end of the foundation.

The Agricultural Shop is divided into two formal classrooms, two offices, a cafeteria, a large vocational workshop, a pantry, and numerous closets. The original layout is unclear but appears to have had classrooms arranged east to west. The southern classroom has had its south corner partitioned into a low office with drop ceiling. The wall between this classroom and the shop includes, from northwest to southeast, two closets, a period built-in bookcase, and the public entrance to the maintenance shop office and bathroom. The closet interiors are largely bare frame, open to the attic. The northeastern two-thirds of the original shop building were converted very early after construction into a vocational training space, with the wall paneling and wood floor eliminated, bringing the floor in this section down several feet to a concrete slab. The western corner of the shop includes a small workroom with sink and storage. The south corner contains the office of the later bus maintenance shop and bathroom. They are reached via wooden steps from the shop or through a door off the Agricultural classroom.

The agricultural (southern) classroom, like the northern classroom and cafeteria, features vertical beaded wainscoting and chair rail, with plasterboard upper walls, sash windows, and the outline

---

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA

---

County and State

of a long blackboard along the northwest wall. The northeast, 1940s-era wall includes the same wide tongue-and-groove wainscoting as located in the bathroom. Several doors access unfinished closets. Between them is a built-in bookshelf with a cupboard below. The cupboard doors appear reused and may date to the late-19th-early-20th century. Together, the closets and bookshelf enclose the original brick chimney stack. The core classroom includes pendant "schoolhouse" milk glass lights on chains. The northern addition dates to the late-1940s and began as one long room with a central brick stove flue but was later partitioned at the chimney. As a result, construction details are mirrored on either side of the partition, including Streamline Moderne fluorescent light fixtures hung from plaster boarded ceilings.

The door from the agricultural classroom was a later addition, cut through the ghost lines of two blackboards, one on each side of the wall. Likewise, there was no access to the cafeteria from this room after the partition was created, although someone has since created a hole in the wall to the left of the chimney. The northern room of the addition wing, the cafeteria, includes a compact kitchen space with a small washroom/utility closet beyond. The long, shallow closet bears beaded wainscoting and chair rail, and includes a water heater on the southwest wall, a deep porcelain sink along the northwest wall, and plank shelving on the northeast walls. Beyond the closet, the beaded wainscoting to the right of the closet's paneled wooden door bears the outline of an absent serving counter. The larger end of the L-shaped pantry projects into the room from the northeast. Its pine shelves retain labels for canned and dry goods, including those for "pudding", "tomatoes", and "beans". The ca.10-x-10-foot kitchen/serving area is demarcated by the edges of historic linoleum rugs, several layers thick. Beneath tile and floral patterns, original red and black Art Deco linoleum remains in place. A triple sink with backsplash and pipe legs is centered under the trio of large windows on the southwest wall. A gas valve indicates that a stove/oven once stood between the sink and closet.

The attic space is original, retaining its open balloon framing. Prominent bracing makes it of limited use for storage. A section of the 1941 northwest roof slope remains, enclosed by the cafeteria addition. The attic space opens onto the shop area to the northeast. School bus seats and other materials are stored in the rafters over the office and workroom. The office exterior is paneled in full-height vertical beadboard sheathing and the interior with 1970s-80s pressed board paneling. The bathroom is wainscoted in 3-inch tongue-and-groove boards with plaster above.

The shop workroom is paneled in full-height vertical beadboard sheathing on the exterior with horizontal beadboard and shiplap, wide below, narrow above, inside. Exposed framing in the large shop reveals the back of diagonal sub-cladding that underlies the exterior weatherboard. The shop space features hand-painted signage for outlet voltages, room usage, including the "office", and tool boards with hand-painted silhouettes on the north and south walls. Similar painted panels are (re)used in the closet behind the office. There is also a scattering of period graffiti, notably in the closets. Green enamel industrial pendant lights hang from the tall open rafters.

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

“Tin Building,” c. 1959 (Contributing)

The two front-gable, metal shed buildings north of the Bus Shop were erected at St. Clare Walker School in 1959 to serve as temporary classrooms. They were joined side-to-side by a flat-roofed hall, rendering a single structure with an M-shaped roof. It held approximately six classrooms for 5th, 6th, and 7th grade African American students of the county. The prefabricated halves are steel-framed, and aluminum clad with roofs of standing seam metal. The combined building rests on continuous cinderblock foundations. Three 24-light casement windows line the south elevation, two on the north, and three single-hung aluminum windows on the west of the linked building and three long, low vents pierce each roof ridge. A low cement ramp leads to the inset entrance in the west end of the hall.

Metal cladding in the central hallway is untreated, and simple metal doors provide entry to the rooms on either side of the hall. The condition of the rooms varies, with those on the southeast retaining tile floors, painted walls, and drop ceilings, with representative examples of Modernist light fixtures, likely original. Rooms on the northwest have no ceilings, with prefabricated metal framing visible. An unfinished partition between two rooms has been infilled with simple wood framing, though it may have once had an operable accordion wall. A relatively intact restroom also remains. The building is currently used largely for county office storage space, making access difficult.

“Shop Building” or “Bus Shop,” c. 1968 (Contributing)

Plans for the building were submitted in 1967 and it was under construction by students in 1968. The one-story, flat front-gable, cinderblock bus maintenance shop building is roofed with metal panels. There is a broad concrete ramp to two large roll-up garage doors in the east. Each door has a rudimentary ‘window’ of small rectangular cutouts. The doors are separated by an offset cinderblock stove chimney. There are two steel access doors in the otherwise solid north wall. The south elevation is lit by three ten-light metal casement windows with brick header sills. A fuel oil tank rests on mortared block piers against the east end of the southeast wall. The interior was not accessed during the visit.

### Integrity Analysis

The school campus retains all seven aspects of historic integrity. Of the extant historic campus, integrity of **design** remains high, but due to some alterations, the integrity of **materials** and **workmanship** at the main school building is fair. The exterior of the 1939 brick school has been altered with the replacement of some original window sash with plate glass and Dryvit paneling covering the majority of its large original windows and entrance bay. The Dryvit paneling impacts the feeling and material integrity of the building, but removing the panels would reveal the original fenestration. The 1941 Agriculture/Shop building is highly intact with its 1949 Cafeteria/Classroom ell and preserves many elements characteristic of typical school construction of the period. The **feeling** of the campus collectively remains, with its circulation patterns and most of its buildings intact. The campus retains its **association** with rural, early 20th

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

century segregated educational facilities in Virginia and provides a tangible reminder of the sacrifice, struggle, and success of the African American residents of Middlesex County in obtaining a quality education for their youth. The **location** of the buildings has not changed, and the **setting** retains its historic character and relationship to its surroundings and the highway.

### Archaeological Potential

During the intensive architectural survey of the campus, a reconnaissance level survey was conducted of potential archaeological resources. There are two areas that historically held buildings or structures, a projected c. 19<sup>th</sup> century house site (destroyed c. 1937-1947) and 20<sup>th</sup> century foundation of a small structure, likely a pump house. The house site has the potential to contribute to an understanding of the school's development within the center of an African American community that included domestic and business-related components beginning in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century; however, the modification of the landscape to accommodate for the school predates the period of significance. While the structural foundation could date to the period of significance and have been associated with the school, it is unlikely that it retains any features that contribute to the understanding of the school and its significance. An approximately 200-square-foot midden (44MX0091) lies at the edge of the woods and could provide information related to education and the St. Clare Walker School, but a more intensive archaeological survey would need to be undertaken to better determine that. Based on preliminary survey, most of the material appears to date to the 1960s and 1970s and includes coffee and food tins and colorless jugs and jars. The earliest pieces seen in a cursory examination are an embossed (pre-1958) Coca-Cola bottle and a metal heater or small furnace cabinet. While the deposit has not been tested, it is likely to contain stratified layers of mixed domestic, educational, and architectural elements, along with other trash.

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

---

### 8. Statement of Significance

#### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

#### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA

County and State

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION

ETHNIC HERITAGE: African American

---

---

---

---

**Period of Significance**

1939-1969

---

---

**Significant Dates**

N/A

---

---

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Walker, John Henry St. Clare

---

---

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

---

---

**Architect/Builder**

Callis, J. Eddie (builder)

---

---

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The St. Clare Walker School consists of an assemblage of resources associated with the history of the St. Clare Walker School, as well as the broader history and development of African American education in Middlesex County from the first half of the 20th century through desegregation and the integration of public schools in 1969. During its first three decades, the high school's vocational and agricultural programs helped shape the campus landscape, often at the hands of students and staff who were directly involved in its construction. This pre-segregation curriculum followed the pattern set by Historic Black Colleges as developed by leaders and advocates, including Booker T. Washington, and later expanded across the southern states through the sustained efforts of the Black community, Black national organizations, and the Julius Rosenwald Fund. Construction of the St. Clare Walker High School began just after the end of the Rosenwald funding era. This endeavor proved the value of earlier grass roots movements, as Middlesex County's Black community created a modern high school that would set hundreds of local children on paths to success at a time when African American secondary education in Virginia faced nationwide shifts catalyzed by the Civil Rights Movement.

Collectively, the resources within the campus trace a narrative from one of the earliest African American schools in the county – the Rosenwald-funded Middlesex Training School at Syringa – to an African American high school, the St. Clare Walker School, built largely through determined community activism and named for one of the community's most prominent educators, culminating with the integration of public education in Middlesex. The St. Clare Walker School is significant at the local level under **Criterion A** in the areas of **Education** and **Ethnic Heritage: African American** with a period of significance of 1939 to 1969, beginning with the opening of the St. Clare Walker High School building and ending with the integration of public schools in Middlesex County, which led to the high school's closing. The school is also significant under **Criterion B** in the area of **Education** for its association with prominent local educator and advocate **John Henry St. Clare Walker**, who spent most of his life dedicated to educating both African American and White students in Middlesex County.

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

The St. Clare Walker School served the African American community in Middlesex County from 1939 through 1969. The c. 1939 St. Clare Walker High School stands as a result of a community effort to create better educational opportunities for local children during the Jim Crow era. The founding and operation of the school exemplify the local adaptation of successful cost and labor-sharing models. The implementation of these practices and management of the school was shepherded by John Henry St. Clare Walker. The campus was invested with all the resources the local community could muster in the effort to provide a brighter future for the next

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

generation. The students who benefitted from the deep educational traditions reaching back through John Henry St. Clare Walker to the staff of Historically Black Colleges and Universities like Hampton University and Booker T. Washington's Tuskegee would go on to build America's Black middle class, providing role models for generations to come. This campus preserves the formative landscape of new visions for African American education in Virginia.

### **Criterion A: Education and Ethnic Heritage – African American**

The school is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion A** in the areas of **Education** and **Ethnic Heritage: African American** for its vital role in the advancement of the Black students of Middlesex County, Virginia. Through a rigorous program of academic and vocational training from 1939 to 1969, students at St. Clare Walker High School were prepared for careers in an evolving state and country. Students at St. Clare Walker School received a valuable foundation in an educational system unique to Middlesex County's African American community.

Black Virginians historically had an arduous path to publicly funded schooling and secondary education. Public education for White Virginians resulted from the establishment of the Literary Fund of 1810 and the Public School Act of 1829. It took an additional three decades, the Civil War, and Reconstruction for the consideration of education for African Americans. Prior to the Civil War, Virginia law ruled the education of enslaved and free Black persons illegal. While the Virginia Constitution of 1870 promised schooling regardless of race, gender, or income, and proposed future compulsory attendance, the lack of equal access stunted the progress of African American students for generations. Segregation based on "discouraging tension" and/or appeasement was in effect from the start, even under radical Republican leadership. Universal segregation of educational, institutional, and public spaces was legally sanctioned in *Plessy v. Ferguson* in 1896 under the banner of "separate but equal." Black schools were routinely shorted on supplies and aid, hampered by a bureaucracy invested in keeping Black students from maturing to careers on par with those offered to White students. Black Virginians redoubled their efforts to create the best educational opportunities possible in the face of white privilege.

The situation was further clarified with the ratification of the Virginia Constitution of 1902, which introduced measures focused on eliminating the Black vote.<sup>1</sup> In addition to introducing the poll tax to disenfranchise Black voters, the new constitution established legal segregation. Section 140 of the Constitution of 1902 stated that "White and colored children shall not be taught in the same school."<sup>2</sup> The stigma of institutionalized racism and systematic deprivation clung to Black Virginians throughout their lives. If they could not eliminate the stigma, Black educators were adamant that they would prepare their charges to fight it. Students were trained to excel beyond the handful of occupations in agriculture, menial labor, and the domestic service

<sup>1</sup> "Senator Carter Glass 1858-1946: The Good and the Bad," blog post, *The Notes from Underground*. Accessed on 08 September 2022, <https://smallnotes.library.virginia.edu/2021/09/01/senator-carter-glass-1858-1946-the-good-and-the-bad/>.

<sup>2</sup> Allison Blanton and Kate Kronau, Calfee Training School National Register of Historic Places nomination, National Park Service, Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, 2022.

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA

County and State

deemed acceptable by state and local school boards. Black leaders combined progressive models taught at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, like Hampton Institute, with programs such as the Rosenwald Fund and later, the Public Works Administration, with passionate grassroots campaigns.<sup>3</sup> Public secondary education in Middlesex County became available for African Americans in September of 1916 with the opening of Langston Training School in Syringa. The evolution of that school led to the creation of the St. Clare Walker School. Although built later, it was the result of community partnership and grass roots efforts.

*Antecedents: Langston Training School (Middlesex Training School), 1916*

In 1920-21, the Rosenwald Fund supported the construction of an addition to the 1916 Langston Training School building. Five years later, the Fund helped finance a dedicated “Vocational Agriculture” building. These spaces formed the template for the later St. Clare Walker school.



Figs. 4 and 5. Syringa, VA schools. Undated. Fisk University, Rosenwald Collection.

Left: 1916 Langston/Middlesex Training/High School, predecessor of St. Clare Walker School (burned 1936); Right: 1925/26 Syringa Rosenwald Vocational Agriculture Building.

Originally named Langston Training School for its first principal and Grafton Baptist Church Reverend Robert J. Langston, the Syringa school bore several names. Langston was a major proponent for the founding of his namesake school but left in the Spring of 1917 for another position. The name then changed to Middlesex High School/Middlesex Training School. There was a time in the early 1920s when all three were used interchangeably. The school also absorbed the students of the “old district school” that was at or near the site of the new high school building built c. 1916-1917.<sup>4</sup> Initially, the school only offered two years of high school curriculum, but later expanded to four years of high school courses with accreditation. Middlesex Training School offered a comprehensive academic and vocational education in the spirit of influential Black institutions and educators like Hampton University and George Washington Carver. Through the efforts of its principal and his team of educators, the school joined the ranks of four-year secondary schools and earned full accreditation in 1932.<sup>5</sup> The name “Middlesex High School” was briefly used, ca. 1935, but eventually refused by the White school board.

<sup>3</sup> Susan Cianci Salvatore, et. al, “Racial Desegregation in Public Education in the United States Theme Study,” Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2000, p. 27.

<sup>4</sup> Middlesex County Deed Book 44:240.

<sup>5</sup> Daily Press, Newport News, VA Wed. 27 Jan. 1960, p.8, col.3.

---

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA

---

County and State

The main school building burned in January of 1936. The Vocational Agriculture building escaped the fire and continued to operate with the elementary grades under the name of Syringa Graded School. After the 1936 fire, the high school relocated to the former Rappahannock High School building in Locust Hill. It is unknown if the Locust Hill building stood unused at the time. High school courses were offered in this building from the last half of the 1935-36 session through the end of the 1937-38 session. During this time, the need for a more permanent and up-to-date building was identified and lobbied for by the local African American population.

#### Middlesex Training School, 1939 (Future St. Clare Walker High School)

A steering committee was formed and charged with the effort to purchase the land and plan for a new Middlesex Training School building. The Middlesex County Steering Committee consisted of John Henry St. Clare Walker, William Edward Robinson, Dr. Marcellus E. Toney, J. T. Wood, J. A. Jones, W. H. Johnson, J. B. Johnson, James Spencer Taylor, Nestor Leetodd Holmes, Rev. James Edward Wright, Rev. Benjamin Harrison Gayles, and W. T. Thornton.

The steering committee purchased land from the Rawley family in Cook's Corner, and for the sum of \$1250, conveyed to the Middlesex School Board "five or eight acres" of this property as the site for the new school in 1938. The African American community was expected to contribute \$4,000, Middlesex County to contribute \$2,500, the Slater Fund of the Southern Federation for Negroes to contribute \$4,000, and the New Deal's Public Works Administration (PWA) to contribute 45% of the total cost.<sup>6</sup>

After the Great Depression and further diminishing of resources, the Federal government passed the Economic Recovery and Construction Act in 1932 to invigorate the economy. The goal was to provide financial assistance to local, state, and federal agencies to fund public infrastructure improvement and new construction projects. In 1933, the Public Works Administration (PWA) was created to administer the funding. Throughout the country, the PWA subsidized public projects including construction and/or renovation of schools and other institutional buildings, hospitals, subways, bridges, and dams. From its inception through 1939, the PWA backed 70% of all school construction in the country. The St. Clare Walker School retains its state-sponsored design similar to other PWA-sponsored schools, including the Hickory Hill School (NRHP Ref. No. SG100011128, DHR# 127-0434) in the City of Richmond, which was designed by architect Raymond V. Long for the Division of School Buildings, Virginia State Department of Education in 1937.<sup>7</sup>

---

<sup>6</sup> *Richmond Times Dispatch*, June 27, 1939, p.4; *Free Lance Star*, September 15, 1939, p.2; "School Budget includes Addition to Middlesex negro high school," *Richmond News Leader*, Apr. 1, 1949, p.6.

<sup>7</sup> The Hickory Hill School was designed in 1937, completed in 1938, and listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2024. Bryan Clark Green, "National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation: Rosenwald Schools in Virginia," Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, August 2004, p. 189.

---

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA

County and State

In October of 1938, J. Eddie Callis of Mathews was awarded the contract of \$24,173 for a brick building including five classrooms and an auditorium.<sup>8</sup> Construction began soon thereafter and was finished in the summer of 1939. The school building opened for classes that September. Over time, the school grew to include multiple additions and separate buildings: a 1941 agricultural building with a c. 1949 one-story frame classroom/cafeteria addition; a 1959 tin classroom building; and a c. 1968 bus shop, all of which remain and attest to the need for educational facilities during the period of significance.

St. Clare Walker High School bore the name “Middlesex Training School” for the first decade of its existence, a misleading appellation carried on from its predecessor in nearby Syringa, Virginia. True training schools were devoted to instruction in manual trades such as farming, domestic work, plumbing, carpentry, and masonry. They typically stopped short of the 12<sup>th</sup> year, thereby diminishing the currency of the diploma. The leaders of the original Middlesex Training School sought to create a veritable high school with a breadth of study that would meet or exceed that of the Whites-only schools that garnered the school board’s attention.



*Fig. 6. Photo of the student body from the Southside Sentinel. May 1, 1969. This photo is in the tradition of similar photos begun by Booker T. Washington at his first pilot schools and served as an affirmation to the community in their efforts to create the best educational opportunity possible for their children.*

By opening day, plans already existed for a frame building to supplement the main building. Initially designed as a space for Home Economics, the second building’s role quickly expanded to also accommodate the Vocational Agriculture program. Fundraising continued into 1940 and by the spring of 1941, the building neared completion. All construction work was completed by the school’s male students under the direction of skilled craftsmen. In January of 1945, the school board was requested to wire the building. The campus remained at this size until an

---

<sup>8</sup> Callis was contracted to build a model home economics shop and general shop instruction building at Mathews in January, 1939, *Portsmouth Star*, Jan. 20, 1939, p.13; *Daily Press*, Jan. 19, 1939, p.9.

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA

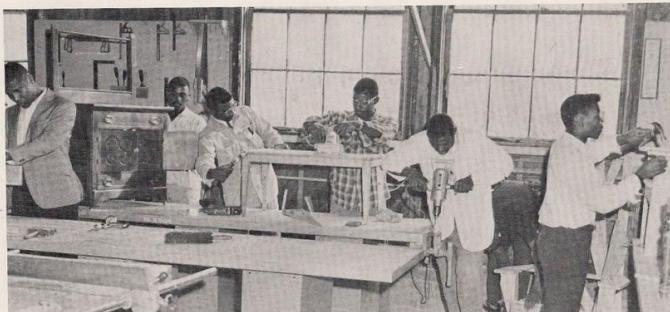
County and State

addition was built onto the rear of the frame building, c.1949-50. The eastern room was converted to house shop classes by 1968 school year.



Fig. 7. Agricultural Shop Building of 1941 with 1949 Cafeteria addition visible at left. Mid-1950s.

### Woodworking



The boys are learning skills in woodworking. They use hand and power tools. From left to right: Eddie Yates, Wel-  
don Dandridge, Lewis Dandridge, Melvin Chamberlain, Larry McDonald and Bernard Beverley.



Figs 8 and 9. Image of woodworking students in Agricultural Shop and tool boards in place.

After ten years, the campus shed its inherited Middlesex Training School moniker and was renamed St. Clare Walker High School. John Henry St. Clare Walker, long-term educator and principal, had been instrumental in promoting Middlesex education and gaining the accreditation that signaled full high school status.<sup>9</sup> The school prided itself on universal training that would open professional opportunities in a broad variety of disciplines and trades. Coursework included academic subjects such as literature, math, biology, chemistry, geography, civics, history, and art. Home economics and vocational training were diverse, and could range from dressmaking to masonry to engine repair. Extracurricular activities, including debate clubs and academic

<sup>9</sup> December 1949 Meeting Minutes, Middlesex County School Board.

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

contests, fostered a competitive spirit. Throughout its term as a segregated school, multiple confirmed graduates went on to become faculty of their alma mater, including:

- Lyman Beecher Brooks '25 (1929-1934) - Lyman Beecher Brooks went on to become first Provost and later President of Norfolk Unit of Virginia State College, later Norfolk State University.<sup>10</sup>
- Easter Duster Holmes '26 (1931-1935) (1945-1969)
- Charles I. Thurston '27 (1951-1969)
- Sherman T. Holmes Sr. '32
- Catherine Jordan Frazier '44
- Ned Thorton '47 or '48
- Arnetta Banks Kidd '54
- Shirley Amy Lloyd '63
- Henry Easton '64

In addition, there were several long-term employees of Middlesex High School, including:

- John Henry St. Clare Walker, c.1920-1959
- Rev. James E. Wright, c. 1922-1944
- Eugenia Lee Griffin, c. 1920s and 1930s
- Helen Cauthorne, c. 1920s and 1930s
- Catherleen E. Cameron, c. 1931-1967
- Florence Lockley Cox, c. 1932 - 1960s
- Cornelia Smith Davis, c. 1930-1955
- Ruth Jackson Brokenborough, c. 1921-1963, \*Elementary Grades
- Gladys Cauthorne White taught with St. Clare Walker at Middlesex Training School (1936-1938) and then went on to be Supervisor of Negro Education for Middlesex and Mathews Counties (1941-1948), and later Middlesex only (1948-1954) under the Anna T. Jeanes program.
- Almar Irene Ferguson Jones, c. 1944-1969 and continued teaching for the Middlesex County Public School system until her retirement in June of 1981.

Campus life extended beyond the buildings. The school property hosted games and races; the field northwest of the school saw decades of baseball without bleachers or concession stands on site. The basketball court between the gravel bus lot and paved parking lot is known now only from the background of an old photo. The maypole, which figured prominently in the dance and pageantry of May Days of the 1940s and 50s, was never a permanent feature and its location can no longer be identified. The wooded areas on the property held networks of trails and paths, linking the school to neighborhood businesses and residences.

<sup>10</sup> "Lyman Beecher Brooks Biography," *Dictionary of Virginia Biography*, Library of Virginia. Accessed on 4 November 2024. [https://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/dvb/bio.asp?b=Brooks\\_Lyman\\_Beecher](https://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/dvb/bio.asp?b=Brooks_Lyman_Beecher).

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

The campus expanded again during late 1952 and early 1953 with the construction of a gym and classroom wing. The new space was a “\$135,000 project built onto a \$30,000 building, 14 years old” with “two more classrooms, a library, science room, office, music room and a gymnasium.” The contractor for the project was Edward Banks of Williamsburg. The article described the older, 1939 brick school as containing “four classrooms, a small library and auditorium” and noted “[a]lso on the grounds is a frame building which houses the cafeteria and an agriculture department.” The school’s water supply came via a 700-foot artesian well; it was formerly pumped from a spring in the woods (potentially the surviving cement pumphouse foundation).<sup>11</sup>

#### Legal educational implications beyond 1950

The landmark 1954 *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision bore no immediate fruit in Middlesex County. Finding segregation in violation of the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment, the court encouraged states to formulate a plan to integrate posthaste. With no further guidance or federal pressure, Virginia’s school districts entered the period of Massive Resistance. By 1959, consolidation of countywide elementary schools resulted in the building of a “temporary” prefabricated steel building to accommodate 5th, 6th, and 7th grade students. Such prefabricated structures answered the needs of schools across the country as they faced the postwar “Baby Boom”. Known familiarly as the “the Tin Building” or “the Chicken Coop,” it served elementary students until the neighboring Rappahannock Central Elementary School opened in September of 1962. At that time, the building was available for use by the high school classes.

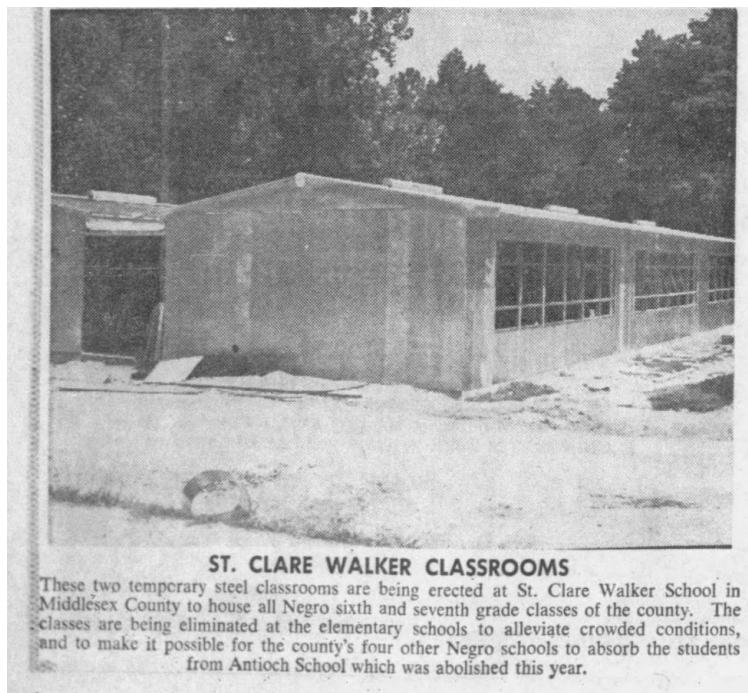


Fig. 10. St. Clare Walker School, 1959 Classroom Building, view NE.

<sup>11</sup> “Middlesex Accepts New High School,” *Richmond Times Dispatch*, May 13, 1953, p.7.

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

In 1963, the US District Court in Richmond ordered a period of “freedom of choice,” during which parents could apply to send their children to White schools. The “Freedom of Choice” era began in the fall 1963 school term. In September, a small group of thirteen children boarded a bus at St. Clare Walker High School and rode to Middlesex High School, where they were met with a police line at the door, ostensibly due to bomb threats. The first day went smoothly, to believe Dr. Harold Felton of the school board.

Faye Lewis Beverly recalled her parents and those of the others not being allowed near the school and being told that if she stayed at Middlesex County High School, the students remaining at St. Clare Walker would consider her and the other twelve pupils to be “traitors.” “I said we were not there to be liked; we were there to be educated.” The advantages she looked forward to at the White school were supplies and more funding, as she stated: “there were no electric typewriters or electric sewing machines at St. Clare Walker. I just felt I’d get a better education.” Meanwhile, the thirteen Black students were not allowed to ride the White bus and were instead ferried from St. Clare Walker High School daily. Students were also barred from extracurricular activities for the first year of their enrollment. Beverly recalled “there were teachers who were very supportive of us at Middlesex, while there were others who were not that supportive. No one ever tried to seriously harm me. I never feared for my life. But some students bumped us, tried to trip us up, put tacks in our seats and called us niggers a lot. There were just as many that treated us nice. It was a difficult time for all of us, white and black. We knew the 13 of us could not take on all of you, so we were careful,” the last statement was said with a laugh.<sup>12</sup>

The number of transfer students gradually increased, though at great cost. Parents lost money in legal fees, and many lost their jobs when employers found out that their children attended White schools.<sup>13</sup> Seymour Scott, father of Sandra Scott, one of the original thirteen to transfer schools, was interviewed by Patricia Satterfield for the *Southside Sentinel*. In Satterfield’s article, “almost everyone interviewed in this story agreed with Scott. There was more pain over integration in the community than in the schools themselves.”<sup>14</sup> Juanita Johnson Tabb, leader of the local integration movement and the first parent to enroll her two children at Middlesex High School in 1963, recounted how a car pulled up to her house as she was waiting for her boys to come home one afternoon in the mid-1960s, and the passengers threw something at the house: “we were scared to death because what we found outside was a bottle filled up with gasoline and a rag that was partially burned. Thank God that homemade bomb didn’t work but that was the meanest thing anyone ever did to us.”<sup>15</sup> Other instances of less overt threatening behavior and name calling were also recalled.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>12</sup> Larry S. Chowning, “1963: The Year Public Education Changed Forever in Middlesex,” *Southside Sentinel*, Volume 94, Number 12:2, 23 March 1989.

<sup>13</sup> Patricia Satterfield, Interview for Tidewater Mainstreet Project (TMP), interviewed by Adolfho Romero and Mason Keyser on April 20, 2023. Samuel Proctor Oral History Program. University of Florida.; Seymour Scott in Chowning, “1963,” *Southside Sentinel*.

<sup>14</sup> Satterfield, TMP Interview.

<sup>15</sup> Interview with Carstella West, 19 April 2023, p. 19.

<sup>16</sup> *ibid.*

---

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA

County and State

---

In 1967, school board members began to investigate the possibility of erecting a new addition at St. Clare Walker High School as part of a building trades class offered under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The building was built by students and finished in the summer of 1968.<sup>17</sup> The building was used for classes on brick masonry, electrical wiring, woodworking, and sheet metal fabrication. Architecturally, it is a straightforward, cinder block building, open in plan and with large windows and garage bay utilizing durable, economical materials. There is no overt ornament, and the building is shielded from the road from the more traditional facade of the weatherboarded Agricultural Shop. It is a typical example of a small commercial garage of the mid-late 20th century. Students took an active role in the creation of their campus environment, outfitting spaces and even constructing an entire building under guidance, the "Shop Building", later Bus Maintenance Shop Building. Vocational education associated with the 1967-1968 cinderblock Shop Building's construction included electrical wiring, woodworking, and sheet metal fabrication. Once complete, its large, open interior provided space for students to hone further skills. Historic photos show students at work, laying rows of individual chimney stacks (Fig.17). By providing exposure to and training in wide range of disciplines and trades, the school provided a solid footing for students' professional opportunities.

In 1969, fifteen years after *Brown v. Board of Education* and 106 years after the Emancipation Proclamation, integration took full effect in Middlesex County, and St. Clare Walker High School closed. The students moved to the former Whites-only Middlesex High School, and the campus at Cooks Corner went on to serve as St. Clare Walker Middle School for another twenty-five years, until June 1994. After Desegregation and the loss of the high school grades, part of the vibrancy that characterized the St. Clare Walker High School campus was lost. Eventually, the vocational training spaces were repurposed for garage and workshop space to maintain the county's fleet of school buses. Those areas of campus previously accessible to at least the male students were now off limits. The school's conversion to house the offices of the Middlesex County Department of Social Services spelled the end of the traditions begun under John Henry St. Clare Walker. The Agricultural Shop saw more limited use into the early 2000s. The intermittent use ensured at least basic maintenance for both buildings until relatively recently.

---

<sup>17</sup> *Daily Press* 11 Feb. 1968, p.54; "Building Trades Students Learn While Erecting Shop," *Daily Press*, 10 Oct.1968, p.49.

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA

County and State

## BRICK MASONS



This year the brick masons are proud of a new shop building constructed by them during last summer. Many of the brick masons have gained enough experience to go out on their own and work for a salary.

Pictured here are: Bernard South, Arthur Smith, Robert Jorden, Franklin Lockley, Reuben Amy, and James Ackies. Instructor: Mr. John Chandler.

*Fig. 11. Students in their brick masonry course, 1968. The Wolverine Yearbook, 1968, p.43.*

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA

County and State

## SKILLS IN WOODWORKING, SHEETMETAL AND PAINTING



Pictured are: William Baul, repainting a toy vehicle; Robert Sutherlin, working with wood; and Rodney Williams in sheetmetal.

Fig. 12. Woodworking, Metalwork, and Painting class in the new cinderblock shop, 1968. *Wolverine* 1968, p.44

## ELECTRICAL WIRING CLASS



The Electrical Wiring class is a part of our Industrial Program at St. Clare Walker. Under the supervision of Mr. Edward Smith, the class has grown in number and experience.

Fig. 13. Electrical wiring class in the new cinderblock shop, 1968. *Wolverine* 1968, p.44.

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

### Criterion B: John Henry St. Clare Walker - Education

The school is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion B** in the area of **Education** for its association with local educator **John Henry St. Clare Walker**. St. Clare Walker was instrumental in the development of Black education in Middlesex County through his work at the Langston Training School and as supporter and first principal of Middlesex Training School, which would later bear his name. The St. Clare Walker High School is the site most associated with John Henry St. Clare Walker and his extensive career as an educator, advocate, and administrator in Middlesex County from c. 1920 through his retirement in 1959. St. Clare Walker's persistence led to the development of a competitive, accredited curriculum in rural Middlesex County during the Jim Crow era.

Born near Locust Hill, Middlesex County, Virginia (elsewhere identified as “near the mill pond at Haleys”) in 1884, John Henry St. Clare was one of fifteen children of William and Jane Walker. At the time, there were no schools for Black children, but he learned to read at the home of a local White family who identified his desire for learning early on.<sup>18</sup> His academic capabilities were highlighted when he was chosen to give an impromptu speech at his one-room schoolhouse.<sup>19</sup> In 1903, he enlisted in the army, fought in the Spanish-American War, and was discharged as a sergeant in 1907. He attended both Howard University and Hampton Institute, studying and completing coursework throughout his professional career. The earliest mentions of St. Clare Walker in the education profession are found in the 1910 census. He is listed as a public school teacher living in his mother and step-father's household at Healy's. Also, around this same time, he was a private tutor to several children from local White families – some of whom attended his graduation ceremony at Hampton Institute in 1950. St. Clare Walker then briefly taught at a one-room school on Maryland's Eastern Shore before being called back to Virginia to teach in a one-room school in Merry Point, Lancaster County. After serving one term in Lancaster County, he then traveled south in 1912, across the Rappahannock River to Middlesex County to help found and teach in a school on the land of the First Baptist Church at Amburg, a hamlet in the Deltaville vicinity. He and community members helped build the four-room Dunbar Graded School, where he would teach Black students by day and traveled to teach White students in their homes by night. St. Clare Walker became a fixture in the county, continuing to tutor at Dunbar for twenty years but he remained on staff until 1920. The Dunbar School no longer stands; however, it marked the beginning of recognized education for Black children in Middlesex County.<sup>20</sup> In 1916, while living in Amburg, he taught at the Rappahannock Industrial Academy's Summer School program.

Langston Training School/Middlesex Training School opened in September of 1916 and was one of the first six training schools in the state. In October of 1919, St. Clare Walker was still

<sup>18</sup> “About St. Clare Walker,” Middlesex County Public Schools, <https://scw.mcps.k12.va.us/page/about-scw/>.

<sup>19</sup> Tommy L. Bogger, Ph.D. and The Black Church Cultural Affairs Committee, *A History of African-Americans in Middlesex County 1646-1992*, Pub. Tommy L. Bogger, Ph.D. and The Black Church Cultural Affairs Committee, 1994, p. 244; Hamilton Crockford, “African Tribal Chief's Descendant is Honored,” *Richmond Times Dispatch*, June 21, 1953.

<sup>20</sup> “About St. Clare Walker,” <https://scw.mcps.k12.va.us/page/about-scw/>.

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

residing in Amburg. The Middlesex Real Estate and Loan Corporation formed with St. Clare Walker as President. It is unknown how long he served in this capacity. The corporation was disbanded by the State Corporation Commission in May of 1923. In 1920, St. Clare Walker began his tenure at Middlesex Training School, teaching science and mathematics and serving as principal.<sup>21</sup> The earliest mention of St. Clare Walker as principal of Middlesex Training School is found in Hampton Institute's monthly publication, *The Southern Workman*, in August of 1920. During this time, he applied to public and private funds to supplement his pay when the school's budget ran short.

Despite a full-time career in Middlesex County, St. Clare Walker rode the bus every Saturday to Hampton Institute to complete his education, earning a B.A. in 1935 and an M.A. in 1950, both in Education.<sup>22</sup> St. Clare Walker turned to Hampton Institute throughout his career, often turning to the school for books and other learning materials in his mission to educate Black community members in Middlesex County.<sup>23</sup>

In 1921, the Middlesex Training School (constructed in 1917 and previously known as the Langston Training School) expanded with aid from the Rosenwald Fund. There was only one reported African American high school teacher (male), which can be assumed to be St. Clare Walker, during the 1920-1921 school session. Also during the 1920-1921 school year, a rear addition to the existing high school building was completed using a disbursement from the Rosenwald Fund, supplemented by community and county funds. During the 1921-1922 school session, the vocational agriculture department was established at the school, under the direction of St. Clare Walker. That same year, St. Clare Walker was appointed principal of the school, and the improvements he fostered brought in children from surrounding counties including Mathews, Gloucester, and King and Queen.

St. Clare Walker, as principal of the school, would make house visits to prospective students. One account concerning a home visit in 1922 states that St. Clare Walker "emphasized that public school education was the wave of the future and that progressive young blacks should become a part of this movement." By the 1922-1923 school year, Rev. James E. Wright, King and Queen native and pastor of Calvary Baptist Church (located at Christchurch) at the time, joined as faculty of the High School. Between 1922 and 1925, a third year of high school curriculum was offered. Sometime after 1923, the Community Mill Corporation (headquartered in Locust Hill) attempted to provide a bussing service for students traveling to the High School, however the service was not continued for a considerable length of time. Rev. James E. Wright began providing a bus service, initially with one bus, then growing to two buses, the student body began to grow. The need for more teachers to accommodate the influx of students led to teachers being added without the approval of the School Board with salaries being paid by patrons of the school.

<sup>21</sup> John Henry St. Clare Walker Obituary, *Daily Press*, January 27, 1960, p. 8, <https://www.newspapers.com/article/daily-press/44675928/>.

<sup>22</sup> Crockford, "African Tribal Chief's Descendant is Honored."

<sup>23</sup> "About St. Clare Walker," <https://scw.meps.k12.va.us/page/about-scw/>.

---

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA

County and State

---

During the 1926-1927 school year, a building was constructed on the campus of the high school to house the Vocational Agriculture department using a disbursement from the Rosenwald Fund, supplemented by community and county funds. In the Fall of 1929, Lyman Beecher Brooks, MHS alum of '25, began teaching at the school. St. Clare Walker expanded the curriculum from two to four years, and in 1930, the school was placed on the "qualified list of high schools" in Virginia. In the 1930-1931 school session, the school had become accredited by the State Department of Education and four years of high school curriculum, grades 8-11, were offered.<sup>24</sup> At the time of its designation, it was only the second rural Black school to become accredited by the Virginia Department of Education.<sup>25</sup> By the end of the 1931-1932 school year, the High School had six faculty members, Rev. James E. Wright, Lyman Beecher Brooks, Catherleen Edgerton [Cameron], and Dr. Marcellus Toney, listed as teachers, and William E. Cooke, coach. By the end of 1933-1934, at least 3 of the 9 faculty members of the school were alumni of the school itself- along with their teachers Rev. James E. Wright and John Henry St. Clare Walker. In a May issue of the school newspaper, *The Mirror*, Middlesex High School is dubbed a "Class A High School." A Charlottesville newspaper, *The Reflector*, published a month later that there were only 6 Class A High Schools for Negroes in Virginia at the time. The school at the time also offered night classes taught by St. Clare Walker. Lyman Beecher Brooks is quoted in writing that it was both "an honor and a challenge" to work alongside the teachers that taught him a few years prior. Preparing students for college was St. Clare Walker's primary drive, though Middlesex Training School also offered accredited four-year courses in Vocational Agriculture. Many Middlesex Training School instructors were trained at Hampton Institute, and St. Clare Walker donated half of his salary to supplement their incomes in order to retain qualified instructors and raise the school's standards.<sup>26</sup> The school became a de-facto satellite campus of Hampton Institute, with the library developed with the former university collections and Walker teaching the students the university's songs. "Whenever he was able, he carried his students to Hampton to concerts, field trips, trade exhibitions, lectures and athletic games."<sup>27</sup> St. Clare Walker encouraged an active school event schedule, which included traveling speakers, formal band and academic competitions, May Day and holiday festivals, and Friday oratory and debate clubs.<sup>28</sup>

After the original Middlesex Training School burned in 1938 and the new Middlesex Training School near Cooks Corner opened in 1939, St. Clare Walker carried his passion with him as its first principal. The teachers he hired, programs he sponsored, and educational ethic he fostered carried the new school onward. Simultaneously, he continued to tutor students at Dunbar Graded School. He tutored White students at his home, but the new school at Cooks Corner was Professor Walker's domain and the frame Agricultural Building his classroom.<sup>29</sup> By the 1938-1939 school year, Rev. James E. Wright, and Catherleen Edgerton Cameron, were the only two teachers (besides JHSCW) from the original location at Syringa to still be teaching at the school.

---

<sup>24</sup> Bogger, *A History of African-Americans in Middlesex County*, p. 59-60.

<sup>25</sup> "Obituary," *Daily Press*, <https://www.newspapers.com/article/daily-press/44675928/>.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

<sup>27</sup> Bogger, *A History of African-Americans in Middlesex County*, p. 245.

<sup>28</sup> *Wolverine*, pub. by St. Clare Walker High School Senior Class, 1969.

<sup>29</sup> "Holmes Interview," Tidewater Mainstreet Project (TMP), 19 April 2023, p.2.

---

St. Clare Walker School

Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA

County and State

Easter Duster Holmes, MHS class of '26, left teaching after her marriage with Sherman T. Holmes Sr., MHS Class of '32, at the end of the 1935-1936 school year. However, she came back to teach at the high school in the 1945-1946 school year. Ruth Jackson Brokenborough and Florence Lockley Cox were both longtime teachers of elementary grades at Middlesex Training School/ St. Clare Walker High School. Ruth started at MTS/MHS in 1921 and Florence at least by 1932.

In 1939, the Department of Education ordered that a teacher couldn't be both principal and a teacher of Vocational Agriculture. He resigned as principal in order to continue teaching Vocational Agriculture. In 1945, St. Clare Walker received a certificate of merit from the Virginia Agricultural Association for 22 years of service as instructor of Vocational Agriculture. In 1949, Middlesex Training School (or Academy) was renamed St. Clare Walker High School in his honor.<sup>30</sup> In 1953, he stated that he had taught every subject in high school during his career. His personnel file indicates he served solely in the capacity as teacher of Vocational Agriculture from 1940-1948. In 1953, he stated that mathematics was his specialty – he taught math at the high school until he retired at the end of the 1958-1959 school year, after teaching in the county for 41 years.<sup>31</sup> Throughout his tenure in education, St. Clare Walker was a member and/or participant in the following education-related organizations: the American Teachers' Association, Virginia Teachers' Association, Hampton Institute Alumni Association, Middlesex Voters' League, NAACP, and Calvary Baptist Church.

John Henry St. Clare Walker left a profound legacy in the minds he shaped and the values he fostered in Middlesex County's Black community. He was intimately involved in the establishment of formal secondary education for Black students and lobbied for, as well as constructed, the physical buildings and structures that witnessed such growth in Middlesex County.<sup>32</sup>

---

<sup>30</sup> It is unclear whether a ceremony was held to dedicate the new name of the school to "St. Clare Walker High School" in or around December 1949. The only resource from that period is found in the school board minutes for the monthly meeting. It seems uncommon for a school to be renamed in honor of a current faculty member. Many schools in the vicinity were renamed to honor longtime educators posthumously or upon their retirement.

<sup>31</sup> "Obituary," *Daily Press*, <https://www.newspapers.com/article/daily-press/44675928/>.

<sup>32</sup> "St. Clare Walker: Educator and Activist," RivahGuide.com, March 8, 2021; VDHR Historic Marker OC46; Bogger, *A History of African-Americans in Middlesex County*, p. 244-245.

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Anderson, James D. *The Education of Blacks in the South, 1860-1935*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina, 1988.

Bogger, Tommy L., Ph.D. and The Black Church Cultural Affairs Committee. *A History of African-Americans in Middlesex County 1646-1992*. Pub. Tommy L. Bogger, Ph.D. and The Black Church Cultural Affairs Committee, 1994.

Chowning, Larry S. "1963: The Year Public Education Changed Forever in Middlesex." *Southside Sentinel*, Volume 94, Number 12:2, 23 March 1989.

Clark Green, Bryan. "National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation: Rosenwald Schools in Virginia." Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, August 2004.

Crockford, Hamilton. "African Tribal Chief's Descendant is Honored." *Richmond Times Dispatch*, June 21, 1953.

"Lyman Beecher Brooks." *Dictionary of Virginia Biography*, Library of Virginia. Accessed on 4 November 2024. [https://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/dvb/bio.asp?b=Brooks\\_Lyman\\_Beecher](https://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/dvb/bio.asp?b=Brooks_Lyman_Beecher).

Richmond News Leader Staff. "St. Clare Walkers' Monument Is School At Christ Church." *Richmond News Leader*, 26 May 1953, p. 28.

Salvatore, Susan Cianci, Waldo E. Martin, Jr, Vicki L. Ruiz, Patricia Sullivan, and Harvard Sitkoff. "Racial Desegregation in Public Education in the United States Theme Study." Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2000.

Satterfield, Patricia. Interview for Tidewater Mainstreet Project (TMP). Interviewed by Adolfho Romero and Mason Keyser on April 20, 2023. 80 minutes. 35 pages. Samuel Proctor Oral History Program. University of Florida.

"St. Clare Walker: Educator and Activist." *RivahGuide.com*. March 8, 2021. Information courtesy of St. Clare Walker Middle School.

"St. Clare Walker High School Senior Class." *Wolverine*. Pub. by St. Clare Walker High School Senior Class, 1969.

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

Virginia Historical Society. "Civil Rights Movement in Virginia: Beginnings of Black Education," *Virginia Museum of History & Culture*, Virginia Historical Society, accessed February 12, 2021, <https://virginiahistory.org/learn/civil-rights-movement-virginia/beginnings-blackeducation#:~:text=Few%20black%20Virginians%20received%20a,an%20arrangement%20would%20deter%20conflict.>

---

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

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

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** DHR ID# 059-0078

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

---

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** 10

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 37.604877	Longitude: -76.564251
2. Latitude: 37.605267	Longitude: -76.563369
3. Latitude: 37.604400	Longitude: -76.562683
4. Latitude: 37.605142	Longitude: -76.561104
5. Latitude: 37.604071	Longitude: -76.560277
6. Latitude: 37.603052	Longitude: -76.562458
7. Latitude: 37.604180	Longitude: -76.563175
8. Latitude: 37.604018	Longitude: -76.563580

**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927    or     NAD 1983

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

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

The nominated boundary includes the entirety of Middlesex County tax parcels 27-178 and 27-179A and a 2.5-acre portion on the west side of tax parcel 27-177, as depicted on the attached Tax Parcel Map. The northwest portion is roughly delineated by the wooded area bordering the former playing field, which remains cleared. A wooded area containing the c. 2022 Heritage Trail borders the north and east sides. The southwestern boundary follows the edge of the campus that contains bus parking, along a landscaped buffer between the campus and the neighboring parcel. The property is bounded by General Puller Highway to the southeast.

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The 10-acre boundary encompasses all resources historically associated with the St. Clare Walker School campus. The chosen boundary includes the land that retains integrity and contributes to the school's operation during the period of significance.

---

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Dr. David Brown, Nathaniel Glasgow, Oliver Mueller-Heubach, Tyler Radabaugh  
organization: DATA Investigations, LLC  
street & number: 6783 Main Street  
city or town: Gloucester state: VA zip code: 23061  
e-mail fairfield@fairfieldfoundation.org  
telephone: (804) 815-4467  
date: June 13, 2023

---

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

**St. Clare Walker School**  
**Name of Property**

## Middlesex County, VA

## Photo Log

Name of Property: St. Clare Walker School

City or Vicinity: Saluda

County: Middlesex State: Virginia

Photographer: Oliver Mueller-Heubach, Nathaniel Glasgow, Tyler Radabaugh

Date Photographed: March 2023

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera.

1 of 10 VA\_MiddlesexCounty\_StClareWalkerSchool\_0001.jpg Main building and additions; camera pointed northeast

2 of 10 VA\_MiddlesexCounty\_StClareWalkerSchool\_0002.jpg Main building; camera pointed north

3 of 10 VA\_MiddlesexCounty\_StClareWalkerSchool\_0003.jpg. Main building; brickwork; camera pointed north

4 of 10 VA\_MiddlesexCounty\_StClareWalkerSchool\_0004.jpg. Main building; auditorium stage; camera pointed west

5 of 10 VA\_MiddlesexCounty\_StClareWalkerSchool\_0005.jpg. Bus Shop and Agriculture Shop; camera pointed southeast.

6 of 10 VA\_MiddlesexCounty\_StClareWalkerSchool\_0006.jpg. Bus Shop and Agriculture Shop; camera pointed northwest

7 of 10 VA\_MiddlesexCounty\_StClareWalkerSchool\_0007.jpg. Agricultural Shop; interior workshop; camera pointed southeast

8 of 10 VA\_MiddlesexCounty\_StClareWalkerSchool\_0008.jpg. Agricultural Shop; north addition; camera facing southeast

9 of 10 VA\_MiddlesexCounty\_StClareWalkerSchool\_0009.jpg. Bus parking; looking toward playing field; camera pointed north

10 of 10 VA\_MiddlesexCounty\_StClareWalkerSchool\_0010.jpg Tin Building; camera pointed south.

St. Clare Walker School  
Name of Property

Middlesex County, VA  
County and State

## Embedded and Historic Images Log

Figure 1. Aerial view of St. Clare Walker School landscape. NW at top. Google, 2023.

Figure 2. St. Clare Walker School Site Plan- (see plan for numbers). DATA Investigations, 2023.

Figure 3. 1968 aerial photo shows St. Clare Walker School looking north. From left to right: the 1953 Gymnasium, 1939 School with 1953 classroom addition behind, 1959 prefabricated classrooms/cafeteria, 1949 frame Cafeteria/classroom addition, and 1941 frame Agricultural Shop.

Figure 4. These are loosely as positioned at Syringa, VA. Fisk University, 2021. Left: c.1916 Langston/Middlesex Training/High School,

Figure 5. These are loosely positioned at Syringa, VA. Fisk University, 2021. Right: 1925/26 Syringa Rosenwald Vocational Agriculture Building.

Figure 6. Photo of the student body. Southside Sentinel, May 1, 1969.

Figure 7. Agricultural Shop Building, c.1941, with 1949 Cafeteria addition visible at left. Mid-1950s.

Figure 8. Image of woodworking students in Agricultural Shop. *The Wolverine Yearbook*, 1948.

Figure 9. Tool boards in place. DATA Investigations, March 2023.

Figure 10. St. Clare Walker School, 1959 Classroom Building, view NE. The Daily Press, August 23, 1959.

Figure 11. Students in their brick masonry course, 1968. *The Wolverine Yearbook*, 1968, p.43.

Figure 12. Electrical wiring class in the new cinderblock shop, 1968. *The Wolverine Yearbook*, 1968, p.44.

Figure 13. Woodworking, Metalwork, and Painting class in the new cinderblock shop, 1968. *The Wolverine Yearbook*, 1968, p.44.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.



#### LOCATION MAP

St. Clare Walker School  
Middlesex County, VA  
DHR ID# 059-0078

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

A:	37.604877	,	-76.564251
B:	37.605267	,	-76.563369
C:	37.604400	,	-76.562683
D:	37.605142	,	-76.561104
E:	37.604071	,	-76.560277
F:	37.603052	,	-76.562458
G:	37.604180	,	-76.563175
H:	37.604018	,	-76.563580

 Nominated Boundary

0 100 200  
Feet



Virginia Geographic Information Network (VGIN), VITA, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, NGA, USGS





