

THE GYMNASIUM



FRANKLIN COLLEGE



INTERIOR OF THE GYMNASIUM—THE MAIN FLOOR

FRANKLIN COLLEGE



Men’s Basketball 1925



FRANKLIN COLLEGE











Multiple Uses Through the Decades

FRANKLIN COLLEGE

2023



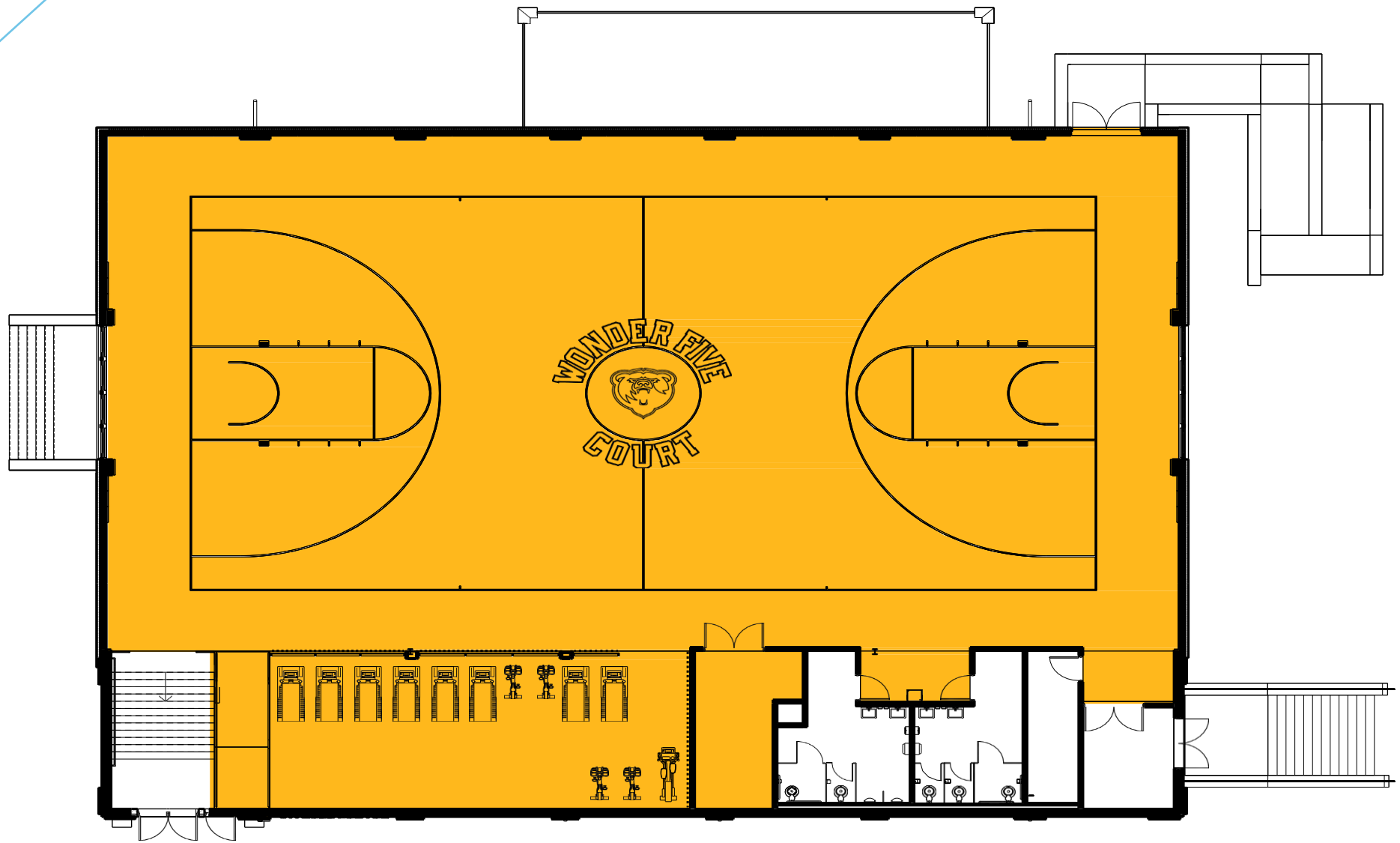
FRANKLIN COLLEGE



FRANKLIN COLLEGE

Restoration & Renovation

FRANKLIN COLLEGE



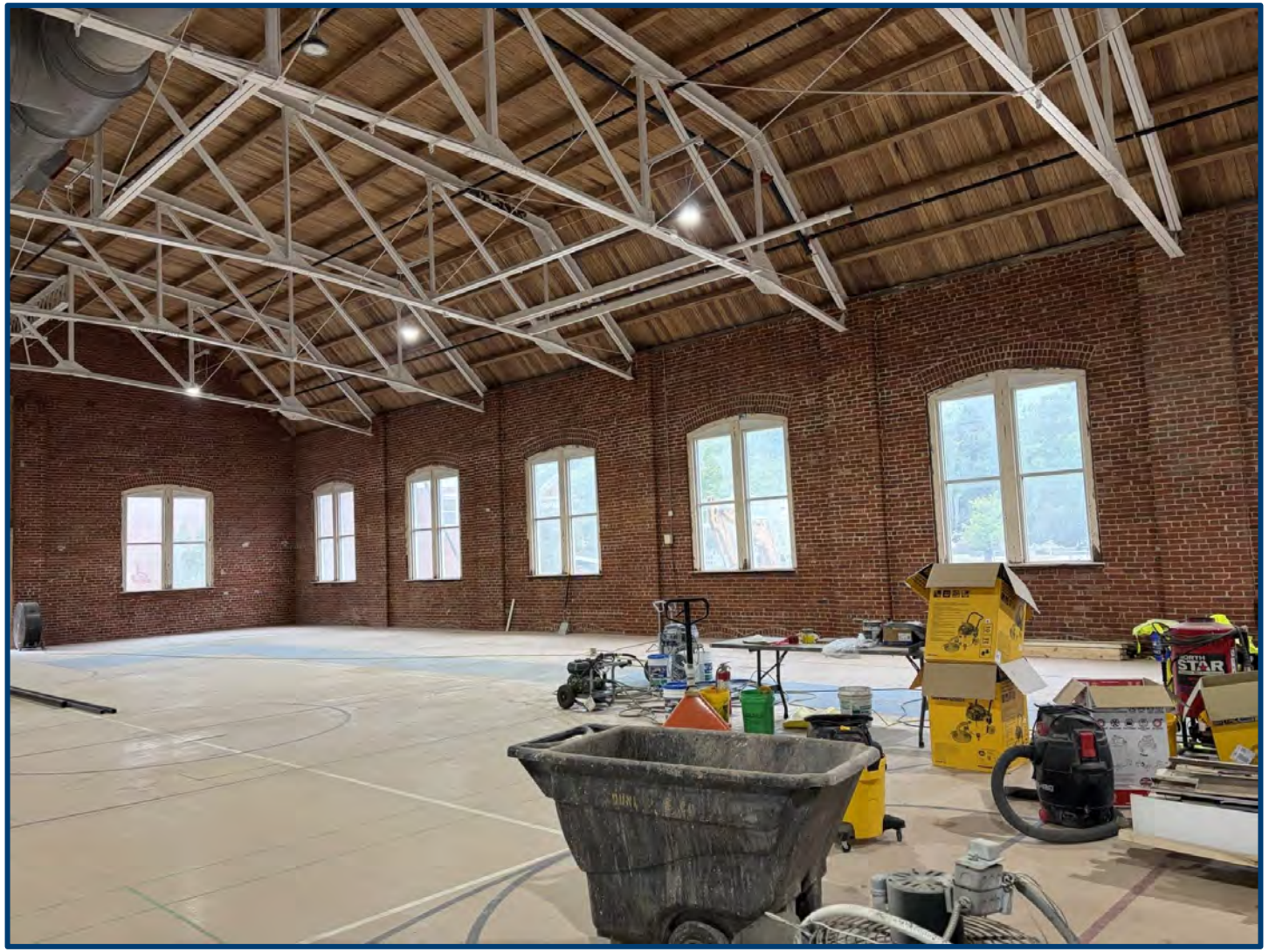
FRANKLIN COLLEGE

INTERIOR RENDERINGS | Fitness Room - Glass Separator

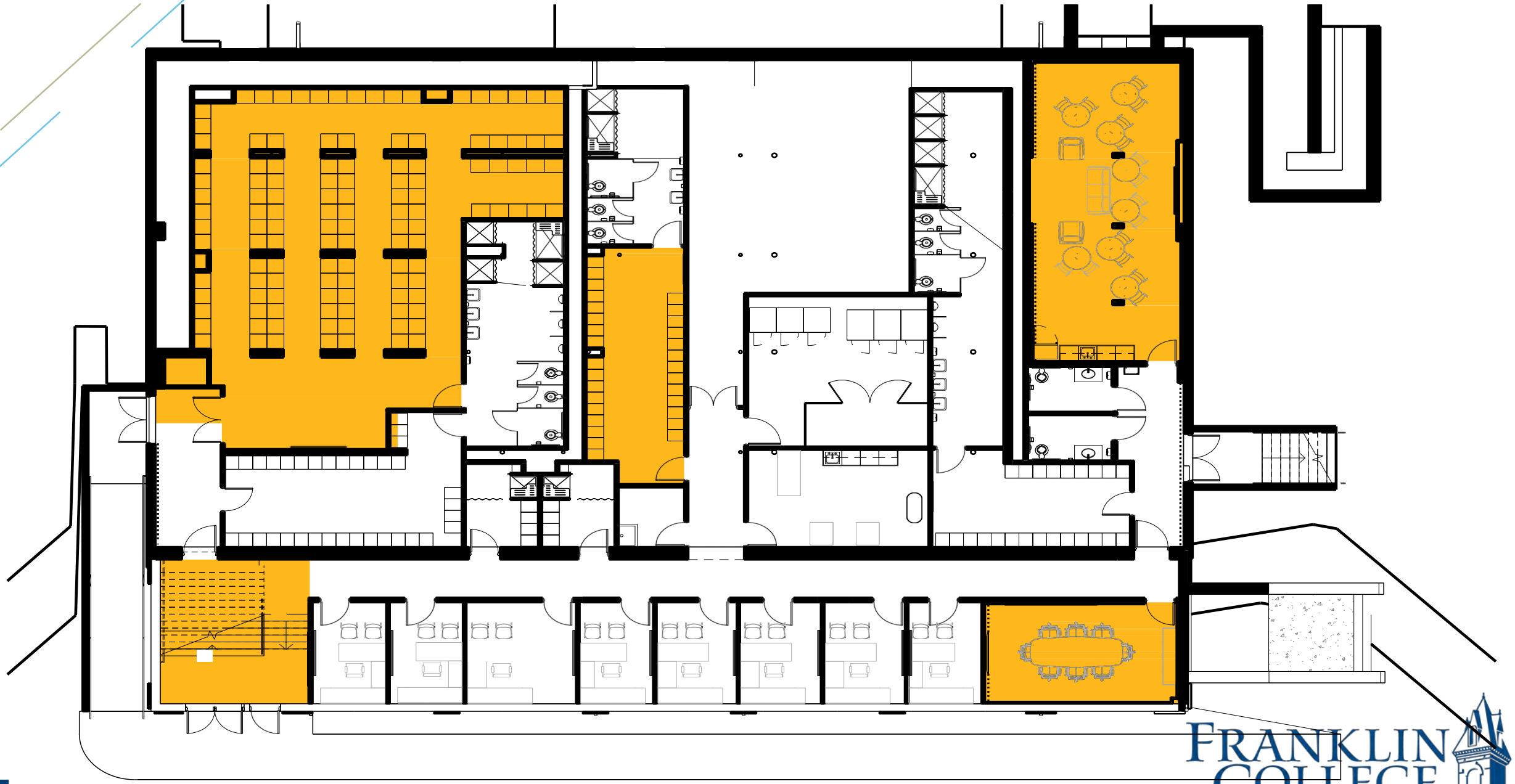


Elwood Fitness Center Interiors |
January 28, 2026

Elwood Fitness Center – Progress to Date Upper Level



FRANKLIN COLLEGE



FRANKLIN COLLEGE

INTERIOR RENDERINGS | Football Locker Room - Without Toe Kick Lighting



INTERIOR RENDERINGS | Women's Soccer Locker Room - Without Toe Kick Light



INTERIOR RENDERINGS | Lounge







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Elwood Fitness Center
Opening May 2027



FRANKLIN COLLEGE


We live here

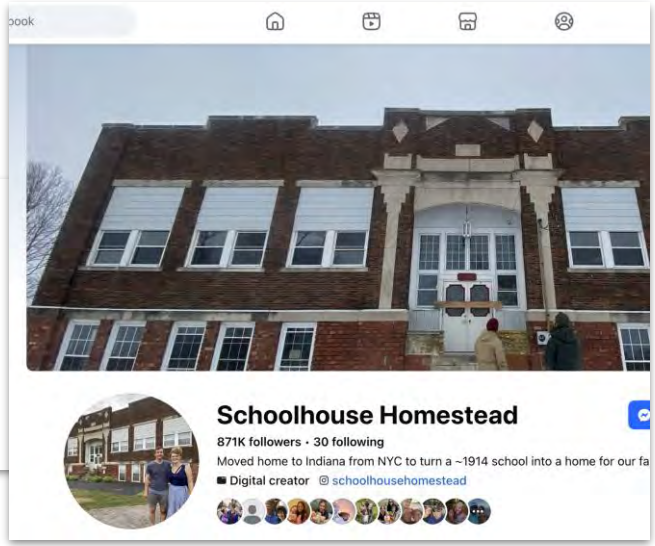


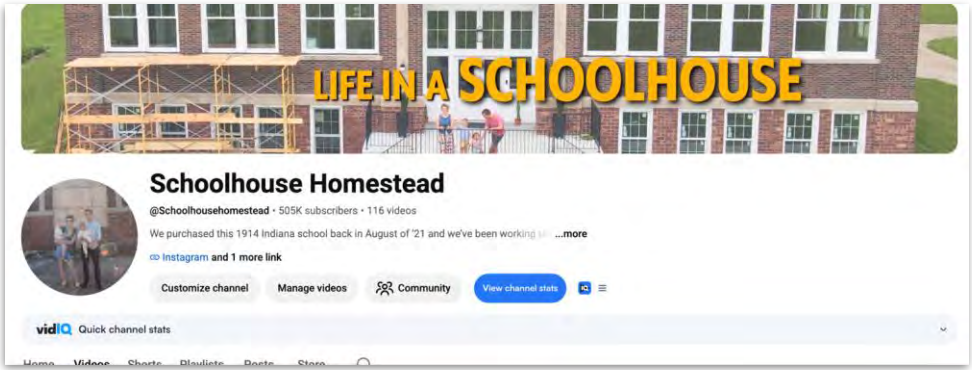
👋👋👋 I’m

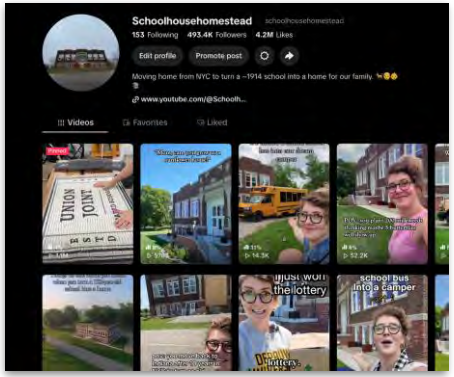
Stacie!


For the last 5 years, we’ve been turning a 112-year-old elementary school into our home.
STOP
UNION JOINT


Note...
schoolhousehomestead
Stacie Grissom • DIY Home (well, school) Renovation
170 posts 983K followers 485 following
Renovating a 100-year-old school into our house
Schoolhomestead@gmail.com
Franklin, IN
Bigger updates on... more
linkin.bio/schoolhousehomestead


Schoolhouse Homestead
871K followers · 30 following
Moved home to Indiana from NYC to turn a ~1914 school into a home for our fa
Digital creator schoolhousehomestead

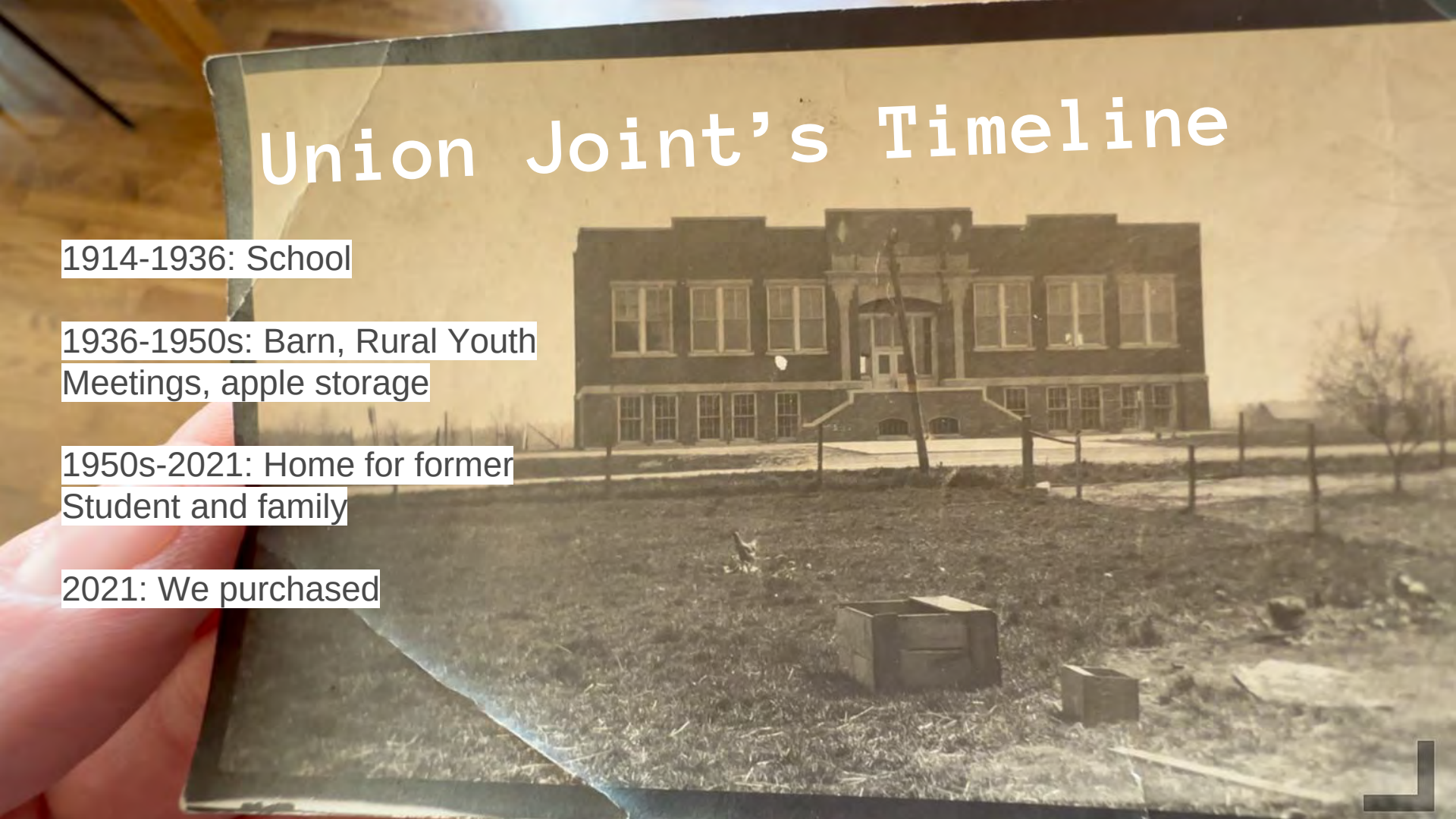

LIFE IN A SCHOOLHOUSE
Schoolhouse Homestead
@Schoolhousehomestead • 505K subscribers • 116 videos
We purchased this 1914 Indiana school back in August of '21 and we've been working ...more
Instagram and 1 more link
Customize channel
Manage videos
Community
View channel stats
vidIQ Quick channel stats


Schoolhousehomestead
153 Following 493.4K Followers 4.2M Likes
Edit profile
Promote post
Videos
Favorites
Liked

Our School: A little History



Union Joint's Timeline



1914-1936: School

1936-1950s: Barn, Rural Youth Meetings, apple storage

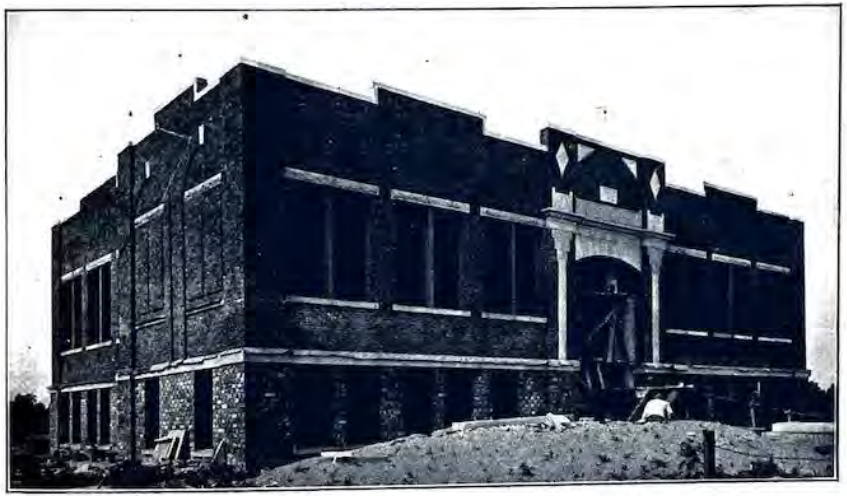
1950s-2021: Home for former Student and family

2021: We purchased

only a small per cent of the children attend high school, and if education is to mean anything to society and the nation, we must rightly look to the products of the high schools for the leaders among future generations. A leader must have a broad horizon, and a good perspective, that is, the ability to see things in the right proportions. He must be able to think through problems; be willing to attack the hard things and have perseverance to carry out his thoughts. He must have high ideals and be optimistic.

It is the aim of the high school to develop these characteristics, both in the knowledge gained and the methods of study. The pupils will forget many of the facts learned but the habits of industry, perseverance and observation will remain.

In a small high school the teacher has a chance for close contact with the pupils. It has been my aim to develop initiative in each pupil by giving him just enough aid



The first joint township school, for grades only, in Johnson County. It will be completed soon.

and encouragement so that he can finally surmount the difficulty. The laboratory

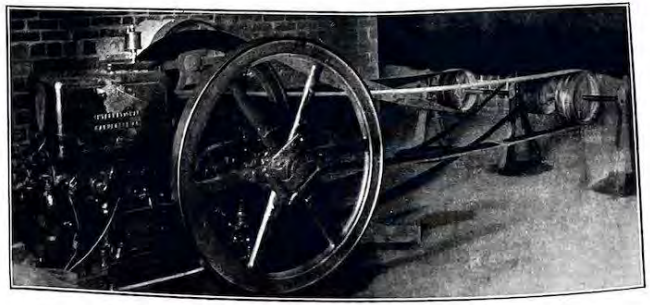


Drinking fountains in the hall-way. Pressure tanks are a means of abolishing the drinking cup. This building has a fine system of acetylene lights.

there in higher mathematics that will help a boy or girl after he finishes school?" One of the things the American people of today demand is quickness of thought and the power of reasoning, and both of these traits of character are developed in this subject. I try to make the child think quickly and accurately and to reason problems for himself.

You say you can tell a man by the books he reads. In English we have studied the English and American authors and have read several of their best works. In this way I put before the pupils the best class of literature and try to arouse their interest in good reading.

In American History and Civics and especially Civics my aim is to make the child familiar with development of his country and with what influences the important steps in that development play on our life. How we are making history every day and that



The air moves and the water flows as a result of this engine





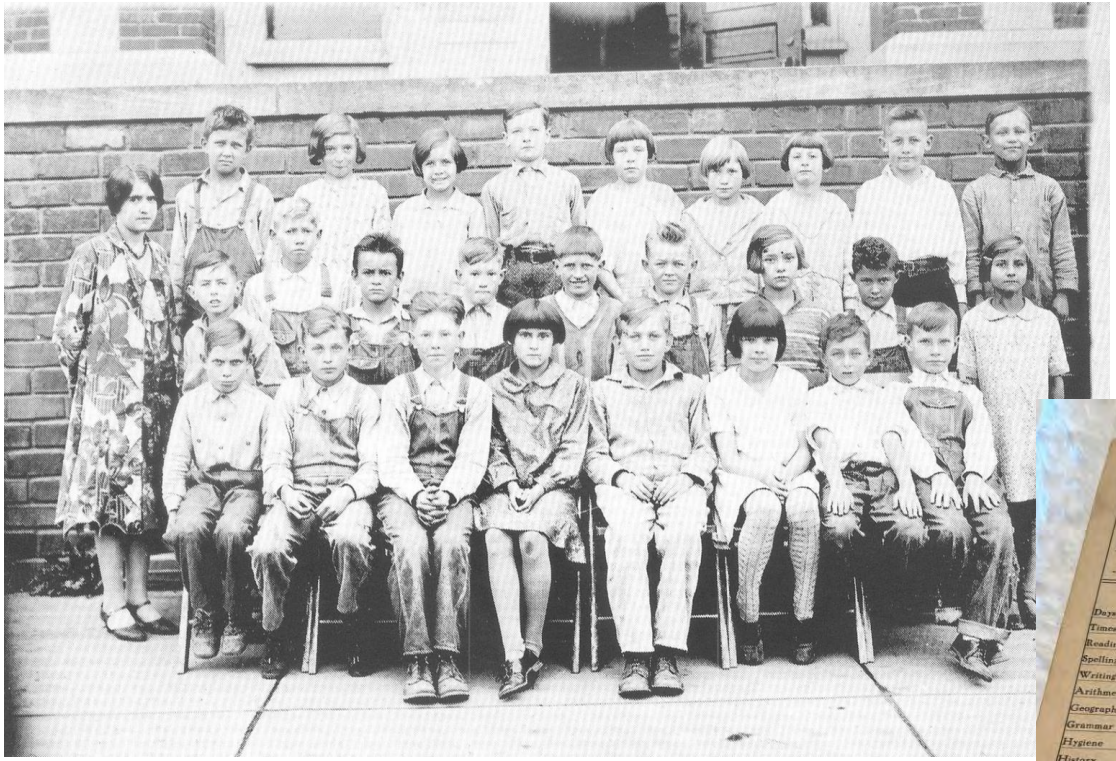


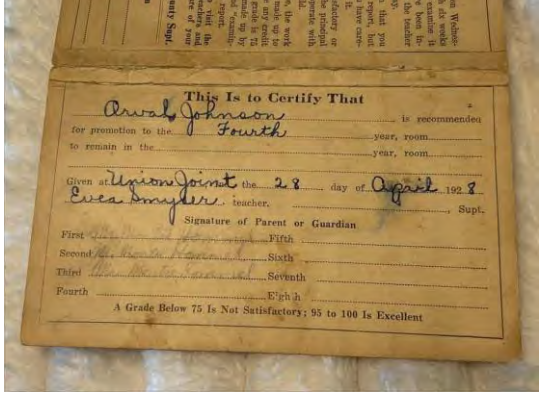

Clay
Sand




1st GR
UNION JOINT







This Is to Certify That

Arvah Johnson is recommended

for promotion to the Fourth year, room

to remain in the year, room

Given at Union Joint the 28 day of April 1928

Evea Smyser teacher, Supt.

Signature of Parent or Guardian

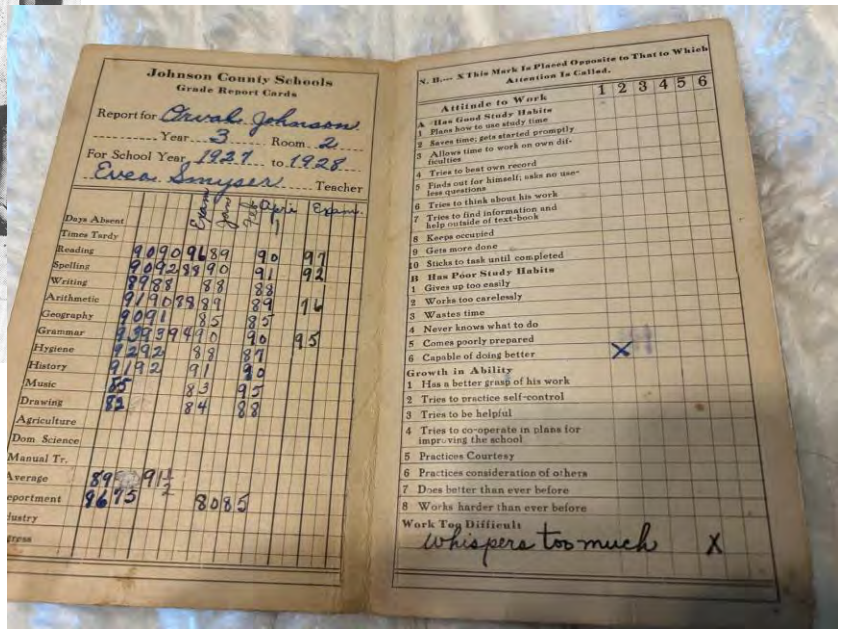
First Fifth

Second Sixth

Third Seventh

Fourth Eighth

A Grade Below 75 Is Not Satisfactory; 95 to 100 Is Excellent



Johnson County Schools

Grade Report Cards

Report for Arvah Johnson

Year 3 Room 2

For School Year 1927 to 1928

Evea Smyser Teacher

	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	Exam.
Days Absent								
Times Tardy								
Reading	90	90	96	89			90	97
Spelling	90	92	88	90			91	92
Writing	89	88		88			88	
Arithmetic	91	90	78	89			89	96
Geography	90	91		85			85	
Grammar	85	89	99	90			90	95
Hygiene	92	92		88			87	
History	91	92		91			90	
Music	85			83			95	
Drawing	82			84			88	
Agriculture								
Dom. Science								
Manual Tr.								
Average	89		91½					
Deportment	96	93		80	85			
Industry								
Progress								

N. B.— X This Mark Is Placed Opposite to That to Which Attention Is Called.

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Attitude to Work						
A Has Good Study Habits						
1 Plans how to use study time						
2 Saves time; gets started promptly						
3 Allows time to work on own difficulties						
4 Tries to best own record						
5 Finds out for himself; asks no useless questions						
6 Tries to think about his work						
7 Tries to find information and help outside of text-book						
8 Keeps occupied						
9 Gets more done						
10 Sticks to task until completed						
B Has Poor Study Habits						
1 Gives up too easily						
2 Works too carelessly						
3 Wastes time						
4 Never knows what to do						
5 Comes poorly prepared						
6 Capable of doing better						X
Growth in Ability						
1 Has a better grasp of his work						
2 Tries to practice self-control						
3 Tries to be helpful						
4 Tries to co-operate in plans for improving the school						
5 Practices Courtesy						
6 Practices consideration of others						
7 Does better than ever before						
8 Works harder than ever before						

Work Too Difficult

Whispers too much X

UNION JOINT SCHOOL SITE, BUILDING SOLD

Jesse Townsend Buys Structure, Land For $1,030—Flagstaff Brings $3

The joint school property of Franklin and Nineveh townships was sold to Jesse Townsend at public auction Saturday afternoon in consideration of $1,030.

Purchase price was $430 more than the appraised value of $600 given on the building and real estate by six appraisers appointed by Judge Charles B. Staff some time ago.

The purchaser is a farmer residing across the road from the property to the north.

George I. White, Franklin attorney, was auctioneer. He first announced the building would be sold separately from the ground. This method of sale brought $525

New Rural Youth Center Opened In Abandoned School

Meeting, Recreation Rooms Are Planned In Union Joint Building

The abandoned Union Joint School on Franklin R.R. 3 is being renovated for a Rural Youth Center and the first meeting of the organization in its new headquarters will be held at 7:30 o'clock Tuesday night.

The school, which went out of the county school system about 20 years ago, is owned by Paul Canary who has offered the use of the building to the Rural Youth.

One room in the building has been completely re-decorated. The walls and ceiling have been painted and the floor sanded and shellacked. New steps have been installed in front of the building. Ac-

Mr. Canary Takes Pride in His Herd



P[illegible] Canary, successf[illegible] da[illegible]an, is pictured [illegible] Je[illegible] cows at her stal[illegible] his barn. Mr. [illegible] acre farm on the Trafalgar [illegible]nd has a milk[illegible] tered [illegible]raded.

A QUICK [illegible] THE

NEWS OF THE DAY

By International News Service.

93-Acre Farm Is One of the Most Famous in County

Paul Canary and his family, consisting [illegible] wife and three children, [illegible]th a herd [illegible]e-tween th[illegible]on into a min[illegible].

A farmer [illegible]ary gives full credit [illegible] his [illegible]s to the non-voting [illegible]embers [illegible] his firm: namely the [illegible]ows. In [illegible] fashion or another he has dealt with them since his birth in 1903, but not until 1925 did he launch into the venture [illegible]pacity.

[illegible]rted by renting a [illegible]and [illegible]n for several years was ass[illegible]ed with W. J. Campbell until ab[illegible] three years ago when he struck ou[illegible] for himself on his present place on the Trafalgar road about four miles rom Franklin.

Makes Use of School

This place consists of 93 acres, 90 of which comprise the farm proper and three containing the old Union joint grade school, a handsome building which has been given over to educating beef cattle on the technique of developing the most steaks in the shortest possible time and teaching chickens how to lay

BASKETBALL!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1929

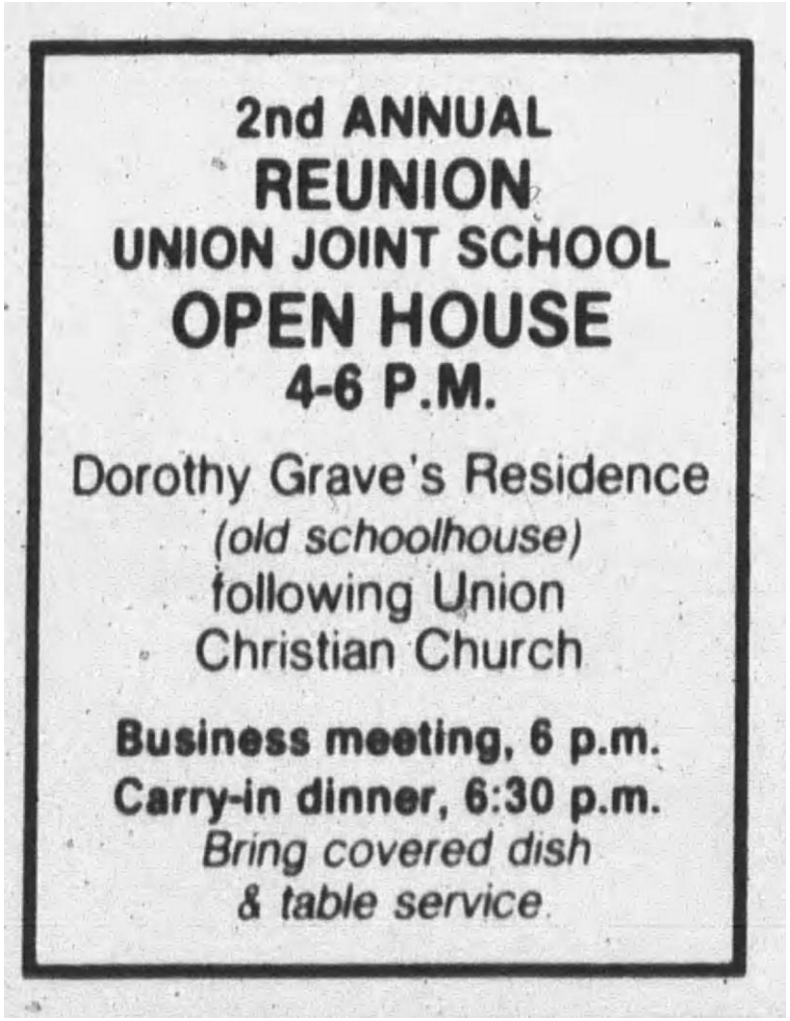
——7 O'clock——

UNION JOINT GRADE TEAM vs.
HOPEWELL GRADE TEAM

——— 8:00 O'clock ———

HOPEWELL HIGH SCHOOL -vs.-
NINEVEH HIGH SCHOOL

ADMISSION 25c



•Union

(FROM PAGE 1)

drove a truck for Morgan Packing Company. They lived in Franklin for 17 years.

Union Joint School was closed in 1935, partly because it had become too expensive to maintain. It was purchased by Jess Townsend who used it for apple storage. Paul Canary bought the school from his uncle. Rural Youth held their meetings at the old school, but it was mainly used for storage.

By 1956, Charles Graves was wanting to move to the country and Dorothy Graves needed to be close to her mother, who now lived next door to the school. The Graveses asked Canary about purchasing land to build a house across the road, but he had another idea. He offered the schoolhouse for purchase.

"Charles was thrilled to death," Graves said, "But the place was a mess when we came."

The entire entrance had been ripped away, to remove the old furnace from the basement.

"It was wonderful. People brought their grandchildren and walked the grounds and told stories."

Elaine Graves Thompson
on 1982 open house for the public to see old Union Joint School

"There were no steps, and we had to go in through the basement."

Two classrooms were incorporated into each of the two apartments. Ceilings were lowered and drywall applied where needed on the six-brick- thick walls.

For awhile, the Graves family lived on one side with their two daughters, Charlene and Elaine, while the youth group met across the hall. Charles passed away in 1973, and Elaine and Ron remodeled the apartment and moved in to be close to her mother.

The family decks the halls inside and out every Christmas. The entryway between the two apartments, which is relatively unheated, greets visitors with twinkling lights, greenery, Christmas characters and music. The back stairway which led children to the playground also glows with holiday color.

Outside, the old school takes on the look of a gingerbread house at dusk, with wreaths, red ribbon and lights. A wood, hand-painted Santa and reindeer, constructed by Charles and Elaine when she was a youngster, prance across the lawn.

In 1982, Graves, her daughters and their husbands, and her grandchildren had an open house for the alumni of Union Joint School and the Johnson County Historical Society. Around 80 people toured their old school turned residence.

"Everyone pitched in to get ready," Graves said.

Her granddaughter, Ronna Heiney, sketched an outside view of the old school for the cover of a program for the county museum. The program contains memories written by some of the students of the school and gave highlights of the tour.

"It was wonderful," Elaine Thompson said. "People brought their grandchildren and walked the grounds and told stories."

School administrators saw the need for the joint school because students in the extreme corners of a township were remote from the consolidated schools in the township's center.

Joint schools for grade schools seemed to meet the need.

In 1914, county school superintendent J.C. Webb reported that Union Joint School — the first joint township graded school in Johnson County — was ready for use. Located on the north boundary line of Nineveh Township, the school also took in students from Franklin Township.

The challenge over the years has been upkeep on the old structure. The furnace was on the blink last week, and Graves is worried about a heavy snowfall on the roof.

"I hope we don't get too much," she said. "With this flat roof, I don't know how much it can hold."

Cornerstone Church
Has A New Daycare
BETHLEHEM'S BABES
Pre-Registration Begins
10/18/99
Infants up to kindergarten
Call Jan at 878-5807 for more info
Daycare Hours: 6:30am to 6:30pm M-F
Programs Centered Around God's Love
(Fundamental, Non Denominational)
375 S. - 1 mile east of Trafalgar

Beech Grove Baptist Church
(Independent Fundamental)
3 1/2 miles West of Trafalgar on 325 S.
SERVICES
Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service ..... 10:45 a.m.
(Nur & Jr. Church provided)
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night
A.W.A.N.A. ..... 6:30 p.m.
Bible Study Prayer ..... 7:00 p.m.
For information or directions , call 878-5417
Pastor Brett M. Baird
"Come Grow With Us"

OUR STORY + CONSTRUCTION



Fall 2021:

We bought the schoolhouse… sight unseen.






No 3


LIVE

Phase 1: Cleanout






LIVE






DEPAUW
TIGERS

















Also Fall 2021:

“Maybe I should film some stuff…”



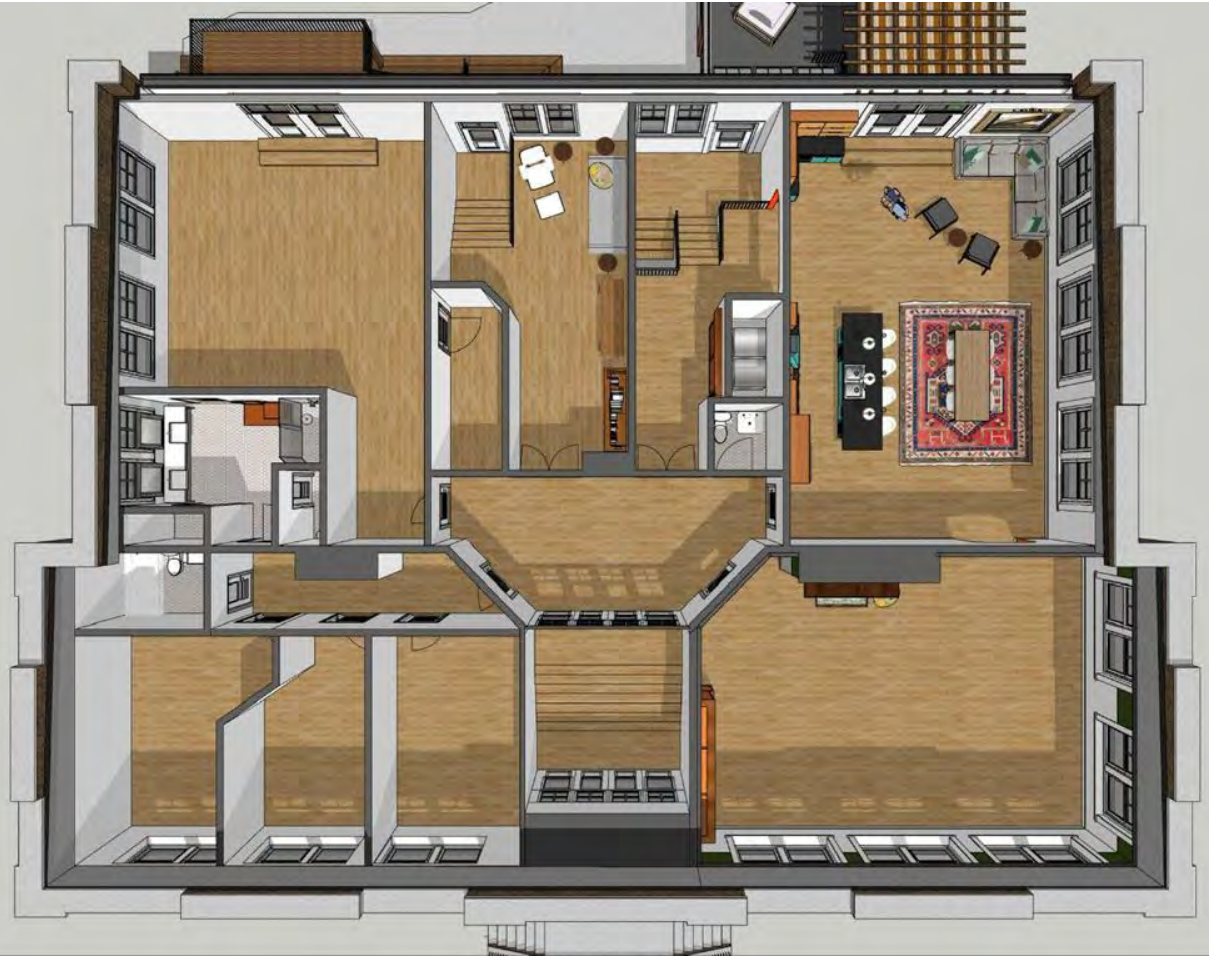
We Bought a Schoolhouse! -- Schoolhouse Homestead, Episode 1

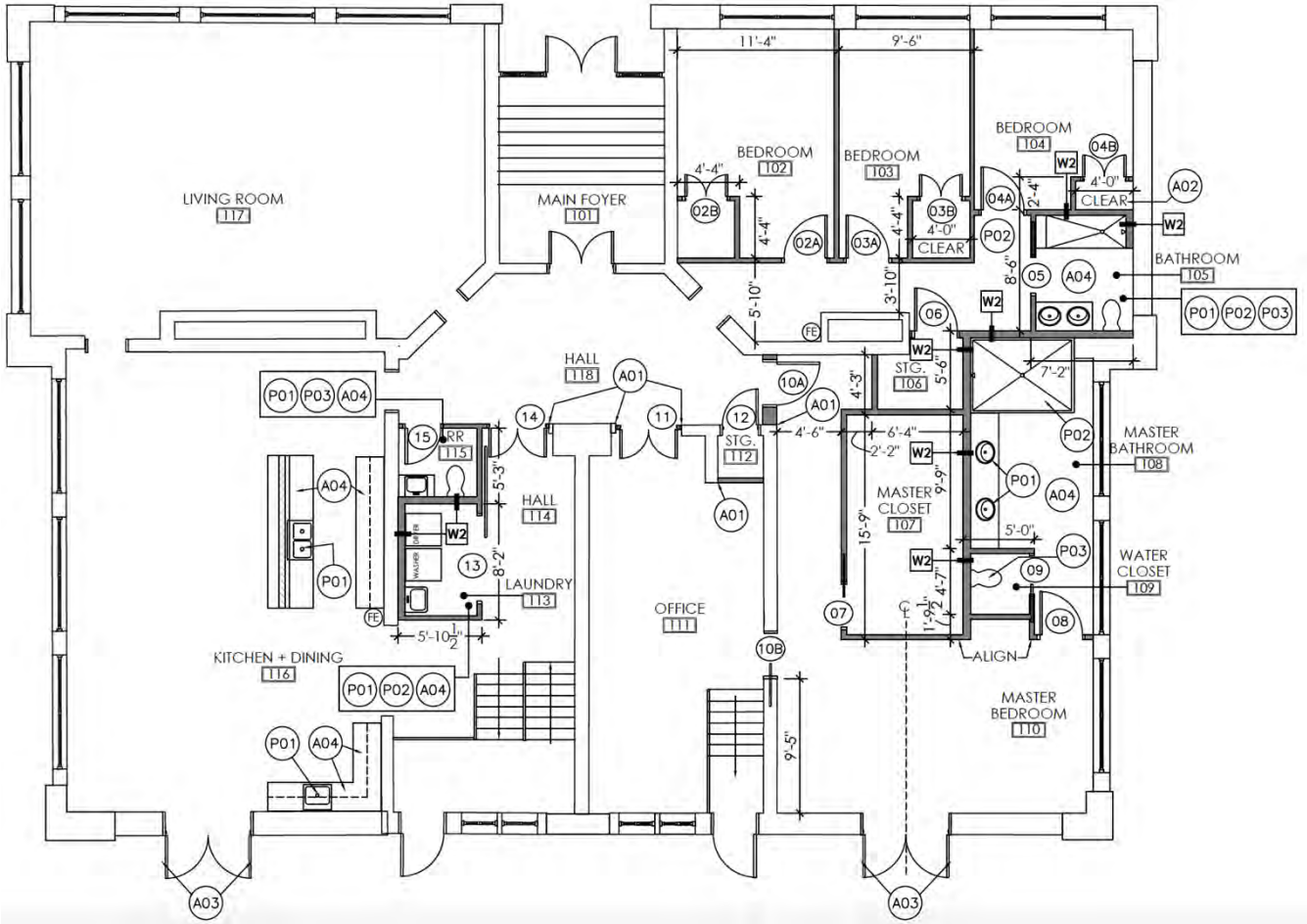
173K views • 4 years ago

Phase 2: Design and Critical Repairs








LIVING ROOM
117
MAIN FOYER
101
BEDROOM
102
BEDROOM
103
BEDROOM
104
BATHROOM
105
STG.
106
MASTER
CLOSET
107
MASTER
BATHROOM
108
WATER
CLOSET
109
MASTER
BEDROOM
110
OFFICE
111
STG.
112
LAUNDRY
113
RR
115
HALL
114
HALL
118
KITCHEN + DINING
116
11'-4"
9'-6"
4'-4"
5'-10"
3'-10"
8'-6"
7'-2"
5'-6"
4'-3"
6'-4"
2'-2"
9'-9"
15'-9"
5'-0"
4'-7"
1'-9½"
5'-3"
8'-2"
5'-10½"
9'-5"
2'-4"
4'-0"
CLEAR
4'-6"
ALIGN
FE
W2
P01
P02
P03
A01
A02
A03
A04
02A
02B
03A
03B
04A
04B
05
06
07
08
09
10A
10B
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12
13
14
15

FLOOR PLAN










Final Cut Pro





Phase 3: Building to the Plans











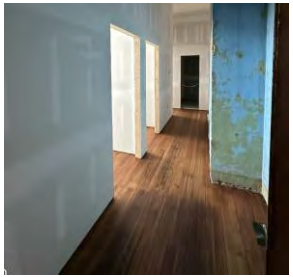
Preserving Historic Details

(and making up some as well)





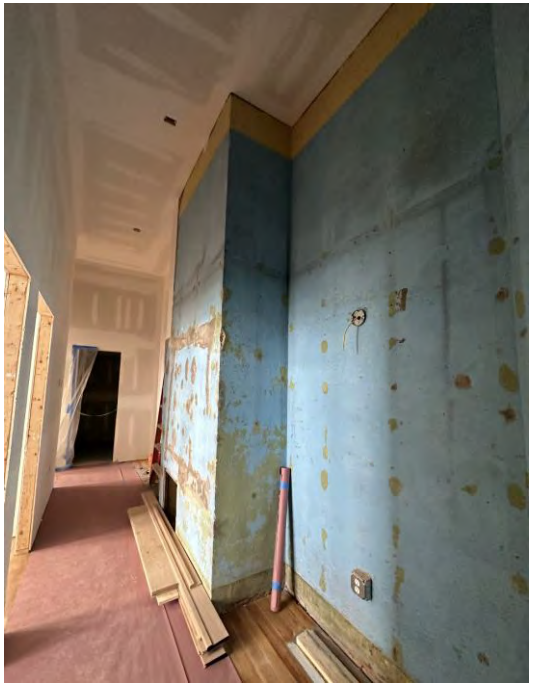








Original Colors on Peeps of Plaster



Kids' Hall, this spot of original plaster will be blue and yellow.



The central hall of doors will be the color of another classroom.

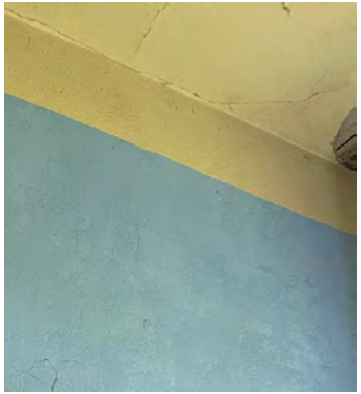




Our bedroom hall and bathroom will have peeps of the original wall with the original colors.

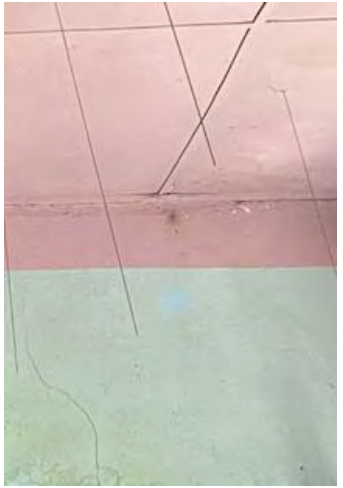


Our School's Original Colors…













Recycled Paint Collaboration with Up Paint




ESTD
UNION
JOINT
GRADED SCHOOL № 9
1914


UNION
JOINT
GRADED SCHOOL № 9
ESTD
1914




M. WILSON




Kk Ll


UNION JOINT
TRACK CLUB


UNION JOINT GRADED SCHOOL
ESTD 1914
QUIET IN HEART. AND IN EYE, CLEAR
UNION JOINT GRADED SCHOOL.
ESTD 1914


SCHOOL BUS


STOP
NO. 9
UNION JOINT

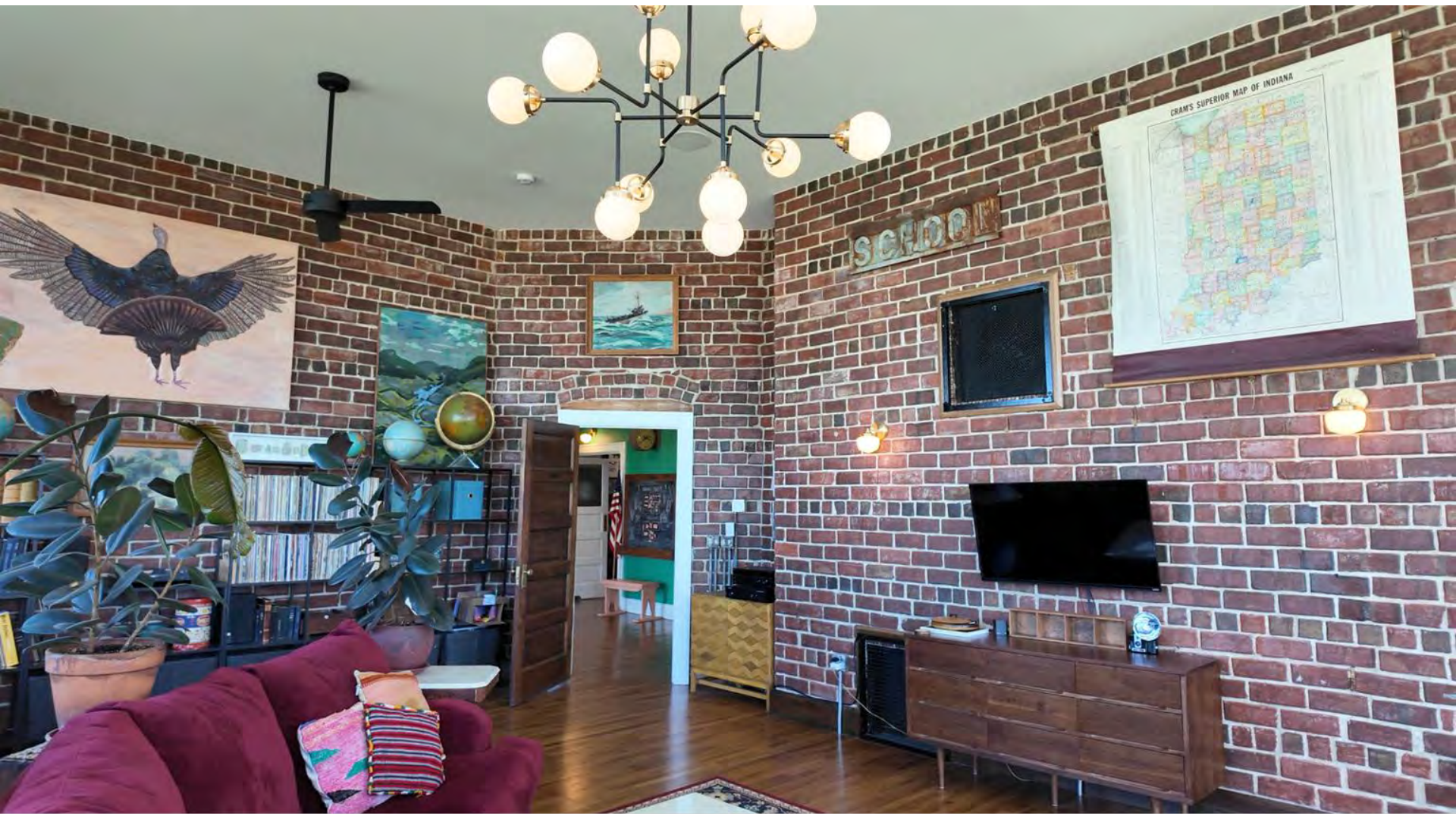


Today!








SCHOOL
CRAM'S SUPERIOR MAP OF INDIANA











Throughout the whole process, I'd been sharing videos… and then millions of people came along for the ride.



We turned a school into our dream home! START TO FINISH

9.2M views • 1 year ago



We bought an old elementary school - 3 YEARS (in 30 minutes) Timelapse Start to Finish

8.8M views • 2 years ago



We live in this SCHOOL! How did we buy it? + FULL TOUR

4.7M views • 1 year ago



This School Is Now our Family Home… Come Inside! (UPDATED Full Tour!)

4.7M views • 5 months ago



2 YEARS (in 7 minutes) -- TURNING AN OLD SCHOOL into OUR HOUSE

2.9M views • 2 years ago



What's it like to live in a school? 1 YEAR LATER (Heat bills, problems... Ghosts??)

1.7M views • 1 year ago



Lessons from Putting Your House (Or Project) on the Internet:

- Storytelling definitely can change the whole project.
- More stories that show how cool adaptive reuse can be… maybe inspires others? It did for us!
- Explaining the “why” behind preservation /reuse choices helps people see old buildings differently… and can lead to some surprising things.



Thank you!