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HISTORY OF BAILEY SCHOOL

El Paso, Texas
August, 1951

by
Kathryn Alexander
I.

INTRODUCTION

Construction of Mesa School in 1889 to Razing of Bailey School in 1945

Mesa School, known as Bailey School after 1912, served El Paso well for fifty-six years and is remembered happily by many thousands of El Paso residents who attended the school from 1889 to 1944.

Because of the far-sightedness of Judge Loomis, a School Board member at the time, Mesa School was built. Houses were then located north of the present downtown railroad tracks on Mesa, Kansas, Campbell, Missouri, Wyoming, and Stanton Streets. Judge Loomis hoped to see the area developed north and east of these houses. The school was built, but the residential area did not develop for a number of years.

1 Mrs. Hal Christie.

Mr. Wyndham Kemp and Mr. Zack T. White were members of the School Board which was severely criticized for building the school "out in the desert." 2

2 Mr. Maury Kemp.
Old Bailey School as it appeared in 1890. (Courtesy of Mr. H. A. Michael, City Editor, Herald-Post.)
The building was erected on block 269, Campbell Addition, bounded by Montana, Rio Grande, Ochoa, and Virginia Streets. The site was purchased for $2,750.00 in May, 1888.³


Mesa School was a four-room building, two rooms downstairs and two rooms up. The whole building became the front of the building facing on Montana Street in later years.⁴

⁴El Paso Times, June 17, 1945.

Messrs. Caples and Hammer, contractors for the Mesa School, second school to be built in El Paso, finished the school by August 15, 1889.⁵

⁵El Paso Herald, June 4, 1889, page 1, column 7.

The kindergarten and two rooms upstairs were built in 1893. In 1899, the town had grown so much that another addition to the school was necessary. Plans for this addition were drawn up by Edward Knuzell. It consisted of eight rooms. After this came the addition of two tower rooms, one on the third room and one on the fourth. The
BAILEY SCHOOL AS IT APPEARED BEFORE RAZING IN 1944. (COURTESY OF PRINTING OFFICE, E L PASO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.)
II.

INTERESTING EVENTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF BAILEY SCHOOL

School Days in Mesa School from 1889 to 1912

A contract was let in 1913 by the School Board to Dave Crockett, contractor, for the construction of sidewalks at Bailey School. Pupils who attended school in the 1890's walked from Stanton Street to the 700 block on Montana Street on two, two by twelve, boards about three feet apart to keep from floundering in the ankle-deep sand. "When the boys shoved the little girls off the walk they bogged down deep in the sand. Shoes had to be taken off and the sand shaken out before they could go on."

Sandstorms were a great hazard for the pupils of Mesa School. Only one house stood between Stanton Street and present day Fort Bliss; consequently, nothing but scattered mesquite bushes hindered the acres of sand in being
This was the second grade class at Bailey School in 1895, six years after the school was opened. In the picture are Pupils Carmelita Ainsa, Laura Townsend, Isabel Martin, Bina Paul, Leona Krause, Esther Redmond, Ethel Griggs, Ada Lane, Annie Nations, Mildred Bass, Jennie Vent, Billy Heill, Rose Smith, Annie McArthur, Ora Corbin, Ellie Shelton, Anna Gallegos, Olivette Paul, Rob Bias, Annie Corbin, Inez Dwyer, Claude Buckler, Walter Kohlberg, Florence Scamaston, Maude Day, Lucille Catlon, Ferney Sullivan, Chester Hunt, Herbert Kohlberg, Otho Carr, Boyse Schutz, Lloyd Fitzpatrick, Harry Sprintz, Grover Smith, Claude Borcherding, Jesse McLaughlin, Martin Davis, George Brunner. (Courtesy of Mrs. Julius Lorentzen, who was Ada Lane.)
whipped violently about the building. Mrs. Lee Orndorff recalls that the janitor from her father's office would come to the school on windy days to lead them home. He would take the hand of the smallest and five or six others would join hands in a line such as is used in a game of crack-the-whip. Teachers would also form similar lines and escort their pupils home. The sand and wind made their faces raw.¹²

¹²Mrs. Hal Christie and Mrs. Carmelita Pomeroy.

For recreation pupils played baseball, ran races, jumped over mesquite bushes, and dug houses in the sand. There was not any playground equipment such as pupils enjoy today.

Mrs. Carmelita Pomeroy was the champion pitcher and Mrs. Lee Orndorff was the champion catcher for the baseball games that were played. The street before the 500 and 600 blocks of Mesa Street served as a diamond.¹³

¹³Mrs. Carmelita Pomeroy.

Mrs. Julius Lorentzen remembers winning a foot-race during the morning recess and finding her desk piled high with oranges and apples the next morning as a reward for her victory.
Mrs. Orndorff once found a snake on her desk left by Claude Buckler.

Students stood on their desks to watch goat herders drive their herds through the school grounds.\textsuperscript{14}

\textsuperscript{14}Mrs. Lee Orndorff.

A board fence divided the boys' playground from that of the girls. It ran from the building back to Rio Grande Street.\textsuperscript{15} Judge Ballard Coldwell used to stick his hands through the fence to get some lunch from Rachel Howard. Her lunches were the best according to the Judge. Other boys would stick their hands through the fence claiming to be the Judge, but Rachel would inform them that she knew they were not Ballard because their hands were too clean.\textsuperscript{16}

\textsuperscript{15}Mrs. Lena Lynch.

\textsuperscript{16}El Paso Herald-Post, June 27, 1945.

Pupils who did not bring water from home in bottles drank from dippers attached to the water buckets.\textsuperscript{17} In

\textsuperscript{17}Mrs. Lena Lynch.

1908 the School Board passed a motion adopting the rule
that each pupil in the Public Schools at El Paso be required to provide himself with a drinking cup, and requiring him to use same at all times while at school. This rule was to apply to all pupils attending the public schools.  

18 School Board Minutes, El Paso, Texas, August 3, 1908.

The drinking cups were kept in the pupil's desk.  

19 Mrs. Julius Lorentzen.

Clothing of boy pupils consisted of "diabolical garments" according to Mr. Maury Kemp. Because of the poor heating conditions prevalent in those days, they wore "long drawers" which itched. Over these went long stockings that were half grey and half black. These wore out in a couple of days. Knee pants which had three buttons at the knees, two on one leg and one on the other, joined the stockings. The three buttons had no use and were immediately broken off by the boys. A shirt, coat, hat or skull cap, and shoes completed the clothing.

Little girls wore pinafores over their dresses. These were usually added on Wednesday because laundry in those days was a problem. The girls enjoyed their starchy
Their hair was worn in long braids and this often led to trouble because the little boys delighted in teasing the girls. A boy once tied Mrs. Lorentzen to a pole by her braids. Mr. W. W. Hawkins put ink on Mrs. Hawkins' pink hair ribbons. They met in the fifth grade at Mesa School and later married.\textsuperscript{21}

\textsuperscript{20}Mrs. Hal Christie.

\textsuperscript{21}\textit{El Paso Times}, June 28, 1945.

Pupils enjoyed school in those days and liked their teachers. There was not much homework. Pupils of merit were allowed to sit in the first ten seats. Since rooms were heated by stoves, being one of the first ten might give one pleasure physically as well as mentally.

Friday afternoons were particularly enjoyed by the pupils. In the first and second grades, teachers read stories to the children. In the third and fourth grades, children took part in programs which the parents came to see. These usually consisted of recitations, songs, and a violin number. Spelling matches were often held.\textsuperscript{22}

\textsuperscript{22}Mesdames Carmelita Pomeroy, Julius Lorentzen, Hal Christie, Lee Orndorff and Lena Lynch.
Appropriate programs were held to commemorate Texas Independence and San Jacinto Days. A typical program for April 21 began with Judge Sexton, father of Mamie Sexton, who always started his speech by saying, "Thermopylae had her messenger of defeat, but the Alamo had none..." A member of the faculty would then give the life of a Texas hero.23

In 1942 the celebration of Labor Day, Armistice Day, Washington's Birthday and Texas Independence Day was discontinued.24

There was no official P.T.A., but parents often visited the schools for the Friday afternoon programs. Often the School Board announced days that the parents should visit the schools to see the work of the pupils.25

In February, 1893, an entertainment was presented at the Opera House by the ladies of Mesa School. Mr. Moss got up six tableaux. Mrs. Bailey presented the children in

23Mrs. Hal Christie.

24El Paso Times, April 22, 1942, page 1, column 5.

25Mrs. Julius Lorentzen.
musical selections and various drills. The benefit netted

$160.00 for the Mesa School.

There was a friendly relationship between parents and teachers. Many teachers boarded with their pupils or near them. Mrs. Campbell lived in Dr. Race's home next door to Mrs. Lynch's family. Once Mrs. Lynch ran off to see some rain makers on Rim Road, a Mexican village at the time, and Mrs. Campbell reported her conduct to her parents. Often Mrs. Lynch suffered from this proximity. Mrs. Kate Moore Brown, the beloved music teacher, lived in the home of Mrs. Lynch.

Once Mrs. Bailey (the very highly regarded principal from 1889 to 1911) came to Lena Lynch's home to report that Mrs. Lynch's sister and Annie Loomis (Mrs. W. H. Webb) had frightened her by remaining after school to watch a talented janitor draw pictures on the board. (Mrs. Lynch heard this while hiding under the dining room table, which was covered by a floor-length cloth.) The teachers felt a responsibility
for the actions of their pupils. 28

28 Mrs. Lena Lynch and Mrs. Carmelita Pomeroy.

Miss Kate Moore, the music teacher, and Miss Mary Gates, the art teacher, rode bicycles to reach the school. Miss Moore played a little pitch pipe to give the pupils the key of their songs. Pupils then sang the notes and finally fitted the words to the notes. Pupils enjoyed music and it afforded them pleasure at home.

Besides gathering around the piano to sing in the home of a classmate, pupils enjoyed masquerade and surprise parties. School social life, however, did not begin until the eighth grade at Central School where all the pupils of Mesa and Central School went for grades eight through eleven. 29

29 Mrs. Julius Lorentzen.

The School Board Minutes of 1891 through 1902 reveal that School Board members were concerned with many matters which certainly must have influenced the pupils and faculty of Mesa School.

Faculty members were told to have their dresses clear the floor to escape vermin.
Cuspidors were to be placed in every classroom. The board was sued by the irate father of a pupil who had been sent home from school for not giving a class recitation. A student was expelled from school for defacing the walls of a school building. Discipline was a matter of concern in those days. A teacher could inflict corporal punishment with a reasonable-sized switch, only after receiving written permission from the parents or guardian of the offender. Teachers who maintained good discipline were placed in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades and paid a higher salary for the same. Schools were dismissed for a diphtheria epidemic and a carnival. According to Mrs. Carmelita Pomeroy carnivals and circuses usually came up from Mexico and were held where the present day lawn of the El Paso Public Library is located.

Election of teachers for the forthcoming year and each individual's salary usually filled the agenda of the June meeting. One year, contracts for only seven months were issued because of lack of school funds.30

30School Board Minutes, El Paso, Texas, 1891-1902.
1912 to 1945 in Bailey School

Mrs. Bessie B. Bailey was principal of Mesa School from 1889 until 1911 when she retired. Mr. Maury Kemp recalls that, as Miss Bessie B. Cairns, she was his third grade teacher in a wooden building on Stanton and Myrtle Streets where the Cotton Exchange Building now stands. The building had been a skating rink and was divided into two rooms to alleviate the crowded conditions in Central School, which was located on Myrtle and Campbell Streets. Mrs. Lorentzen was told that Miss Cairns answered an ad in an eastern paper for a teacher and came to El Paso.

Miss Cairns married John Bailey, a lawyer. When Mr. Bailey became paralyzed, they returned to El Paso, and Mrs. Bailey resumed her teaching. 31

Mrs. Bailey served as a substitute teacher until she became principal of Mesa School where she also taught fourth and fifth grades for a time. 32

She had the habit of putting a well-known quotation on the board each morning. Each pupil said it before leaving

31 Mr. Maury Kemp.

32 School Board Minutes, El Paso, Texas, February 24, 1888.
school at the end of the day. One of the many Mrs. Orndorff
still remembers is: "Habit is a cable, We weave a thread
of it each day, Until it becomes so strong that we can not
break it."

Mrs. Bailey was a wonderful person of outstanding
ability and deserves the best eulogy.\textsuperscript{33} A resolution of a

\textsuperscript{33}Mrs. Lee Orndorff.

vote of thanks to Mrs. Bailey for her services was entered
in the School Board Minutes.\textsuperscript{34}

\textsuperscript{34}School Board Minutes, El Paso, Texas, May 23, 1911.

In December 9, 1912 the School Board changed the
name of Mesa School to Bailey School after receiving a com-
munication from A. P. Coles requesting the change.\textsuperscript{35}

\textsuperscript{35}Ibid., December 9, 1912.

Mr. Maury Kemp gave the dedicatory speech on the
afternoon of December 10, 1912 and Mesa School was known
as Bailey School thereafter.

Seven principals followed Mrs. Bailey at Bailey
School.
BAILEY CLASS OF 1907--The Bailey School Class of 1907. Left to right, first row, two unidentified boys, Lynn Mee; second row, Hazel Priest, Sybil Anderson (now in California), Ruth Critchett (Mrs. Milton Shedd of Los Angeles), Maybelle Bryan (Mrs. Thornton Hardie of El Paso), Elsinor Shelton (in New York), Marion Bowden (in California), Rosalie Pettigrew (Mrs. George Chant), Janet Rumsey, Gladys Searle; last row, Marguerite Iverson (teacher in El Paso High School Junior High), Miss Olga Pool (now Mrs. Olga Wilson, principal of Dudley School), Wilson Cannon, unidentified teacher, Meddie Kelly, Marie Levinson, Mrs. B. B. Bailey (principal), Philip McCreary (reporter), Maude Rohmer, unidentified, Ada Davis, Miss Ida Breed (teacher who inspired Mrs. Wilson), Harry Ozane (in Chicago), Miss Lucille Wagner (music teacher who later sang opera in New York), Clarence Follett, Lucy Fisher, unidentified. (Courtesy of Mrs. George Chant, who was Rosalie Pettigrew.)
Miss Ruth Evans, who afterwards became Mrs. James Poole and who is deceased, was the next principal from 1911 to 1914. She was followed by Miss Willie McCreary, who served from 1914 until her death in 1918. Miss Klifford Rice succeeded her and served until 1927. Lilla Thomas served from 1927 to 1929. Mrs. Alberta Morse followed from 1929 to 1938. Next was Miss Josephine Steuber from 1938 to 1942. Mr. J. D. Osborne, Jr./ acted as principal from 1942 until Bailey was closed in 1944. 36

36Records of the Administrative Office of the Public Schools of El Paso, Texas.

From 1911 to 1944 Bailey underwent various changes under the guidance of the above mentioned principals.

All students below high school age residing east of Kansas Street and north of G. H. and S. A. tracks and west of Brown Street and also eighth grade pupils of the Sunset School district attended Bailey School. 37

37School Board Minutes, El Paso, Texas, August 12, 1910.

Five hundred and twenty-one pupils attended the first day of school at Bailey in September, 1910. High school students from Morehead School attended Bailey for their art lessons. They enjoyed the attractive tower room
where the classes were held. 38

38 Miss Marguerite Iverson.

The P.T.A. requested that the School Board have lights installed on the tower stairs and have the piano tuned. 39

39 School Board Minutes, El Paso, Texas, November 15, 1915.

During the spring term of 1915 the manual training boys under J. C. Worthington earned vacation money by decorating the buildings. 40


A parents' day was held at Bailey School on a Friday preceding May 15, 1915 and the Montana Street school was on inspection for patrons from the top floor to the manual training departments in the basement. Miss Willie McCreary, the principal, and the staff of teachers of the school showed the visitors through every part of the big school and explained the work being done by the different grades. 41

41 Ibid., May 15, 1915.
Bailey patrons were justly proud because the Bailey School children had the highest average of spellers of any school in the city in a written spelling test held at the various schools. The principals of the schools exchanged buildings and gave out the words prepared by Superintendent R. J. Tighe, and also corrected the papers. Bailey School led with San Jacinto second.\(^4\)\(^2\)

\(^4\)\(^2\)\textit{Ibid.}, May 11, 1915.

In September of 1916 pupils of the seventh and eighth grades entered Morehead, which was the new high school.\(^4\)\(^3\)

\(^4\)\(^3\)\textit{School Board Minutes, El Paso, Texas, June 12, 1916.}

The flu epidemic of 1918 caused the schools to be closed for five weeks preceding Armistice Day.\(^4\)\(^4\)

\(^4\)\(^4\)Miss Dove Husbands.

New flooring for the kindergarten was allowed in the July 21, 1920 School Board Minutes. Additional drinking fountains were provided in 1921. A complete renewal of the school plumbing was ordered in 1922, but was not completed until 1926.
P.T.A. officers at Bailey School in 1921 were:
President, Mrs. W. G. Abbott; First Vice-President, Miss Klifforid Rice; Second Vice-President, Mrs. J. B. Ravel; Third Vice-President, Mrs. Fred Stevenson; Secretary, Mrs. A. L. Hawley; Treasurer, Mrs. W. C. Barnes. 45

El Paso Herald, September 29, 1921, page 4, column 2.

Bailey School pupils had the best health record among pupils of any in the city, according to the annual report of the school physician, Dr. George H. Higgins. Of the 516 examined only 10 were found defective. 46

Ibid., January 3, 1922, page 2, column 7.

Excitement was occasioned in December, 1922 by the theft of Liberty bonds and thrift stamps valued at $300.00 and $15.00 in cash from the school safe. None of the records were touched. 47

Ibid., December 16-17, 1922, page 1, column 12.

In 1928 bullets of the Escobar Revolution whizzed by Bailey School and lodged in the walls of the little store on the corner of Rio Grande and Ochoa Streets. The bullet holes may still be seen.
During the 1920's, programs were held at Bailey, but these were hindered by the lack of an auditorium. May Day celebrations were held on the schoolgrounds often in the form of a carnival.  

Mrs. Juliette Galvan Logan.

Track events were held at Washington Park, and the whole school attended. This particular outing was not a favorite with the teachers because of the responsibility.

Miss Dove Husbands.

Bailey pupils took part in the 1936 Centennial Celebration at Liberty Hall. The school presented a Pageant of Texas Music one afternoon. The program began with the early church music and ended with the modern music of David Guynes. Father Buchanan of Las Cruces brought a choir of boys and girls to sing the church music. Mrs. Clara Britton, the W.P.A. recreation director, was in charge of the Indian dancing and music. Mrs. Mary Vance, the music teacher, was responsible for the cowboy music on the program. Mr. Walter Davis sang the modern music of David Guynes.

Mrs. Alberta Morse.
As early as 1931 School Board Minutes show members to be considering the razing of Bailey School. A suggestion was made that a survey be made of repairs and replacements anticipated over a period of five to ten years, calling especial attention to the fact that plans should be made anticipating replacement of such buildings as Aoy, Bailey, Franklin, and others of the older buildings.51

51School Board Minutes, El Paso, Texas, July 21, 1931.

In 1933 members discussed abandoning Bailey in application to the Federal Government for school construction funds.52

52Ibid., June 16, 1933.

During October and November, 1937, the Times and Herald-Post carried several stories about the abandonment of Bailey. Citizens were told that $11,000.00 could be saved annually. Many resisted the movement though and nothing was done.

Mr. Carroll and Mr. Saunders were asked to see if it was logical to tear the building down.53 Carroll was

authorized to ask for bids for salvaging.\textsuperscript{54} The Chamness Lumber Company's bid to tear down the building for $1,456.32 to be paid the owner was accepted.\textsuperscript{55} The First Baptist Church offered $40,525.00 for the site and this was accepted.\textsuperscript{56} The sale was approved by the State Board of Education.\textsuperscript{57} The deed was given and demolition of Bailey began. With its demolition went a substantial reminder of an era that is passed. It was one of the first solid steps on the road of progress in a lusty, rowdy border town that lives today only in the memory of its former students.\textsuperscript{58}

\textsuperscript{54}Ibid., March 13, 1945, page 3.
\textsuperscript{55}Ibid., June 26, 1945, page 1.
\textsuperscript{56}Ibid., July 25, 1945.
\textsuperscript{57}Ibid., October 9, 1945.
\textsuperscript{58}El Paso Times, August 26, 1945.

On Wednesday, June 26, 1945, Old Bailey pupils met for a picnic and get-together at the school before it was
torn down. Over a hundred former pupils attended. A. H. Hughey, Superintendent of Schools, was master of ceremonies of the program given in connection with the event. Speakers for the event included the late Mayor J. E. Anderson, Miss Mary I. Stanton, then oldest living teacher of the El Paso schools; Mrs. Olga Pool Wilson, former Principal of Lamar School, who taught at Old Bailey, and the late Judge Ballard Coldwell, once a pupil at the school. The program ended with a singsong led by Mr. Hughey.\(^{59}\)

\(^{59}\text{Several Times and Herald-Post clippings appearing during 1945.}\)

Among those who attended were: Mrs. Kenneth Oliver, Mabel O'Conner (Mrs. R. U. Liscomb), Ada Lane (Mrs. Julius Lorentzen), Elsie Lurkins (Mrs. Sarah Platt), Miss Ethel Brown, Estella Goodman (Mrs. Charles Levy), Lillie Calisher (Mrs. Max Moye), Alice Davis (Mrs. Lee Orndorff), Miss Olive Davis, Lena Falvey (Mrs. Frank Lynch), Miss Mabel Falvey, Mildred Tilton (Mrs. Kenneth Oliver), Inez Dwyer (Mrs. Hal Christie), Milda Connley (Mrs. Hope Smith), Lucile Smith (Mrs. Melvin Shaver), Anna Shelton (Mrs. Maury Kemp), Loretta Brick (Mrs. Will Rand), Madge Brick, Evelyn Martin (Mrs. Alves Dixon), Kate Krouse (Mrs. Preston Bell), Helen Newell (Mrs. Roy Davis), Margaret Redman (Mrs. P. A. Gramley), Aileen Waltz (Mrs. Wm. Ramsey), Frances Clark

MR. G. P. PUTNAM, SUPERINTENDENT OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, EL PASO, TEXAS. 1894-1908. (COURTESY OF MRS. RUTH CUMMINGS.)
Mr. A. H. Hughey, Superintendent of the Public Schools, El Paso, Texas, 1919-1951. (Courtesy of Printing Office, El Paso Public Schools.)
III.

UNUSUAL FUNCTIONS OF BAILEY SCHOOL FROM 1889 TO 1945

Bailey School performed many unusual functions for the El Paso schools during its existence. The executive offices of the superintendent were located in the building until 1925 when they were moved to 100 West Rio Grande Street. During these years many School Board meetings were held in the executive offices. The offices were remodeled in 1910 and 1919 according to School Board Minutes of those years.

A nurses' cooking school was conducted at Bailey by Miss Le Baron.61


The Army was allowed free use of the building from 5:00-7:30 P.M. in order that officers and enlisted men might receive instruction in French.62 Installation of lights was not provided for the night school until February 19, 1918.

62 Ibid., July 9, 1917.

Deaf children received instruction from Mrs. Belle Howell at Bailey School. Eighteen youngsters ranging from
pre-kindergarten age to eighth grade were enabled to hear their own voices, musical programs, and receive instructions for the first time because of an especially constructed device connected to a large table equipped with shiny dials available in their classroom. 63


The El Paso teachers' library was moved from El Paso Technical Institute to the second floor of Bailey School in 1940. 64

64 El Paso Times, November 5, 1940.

During 1940 Bailey School had elementary grades one through four, several deaf classes, and various government project classes including W.P.A. evening school, the N.Y.A. sewing room, and the W.P.A. book bindery. 65

65 El Paso Herald-Post, December 10, 1940.

The National Youth Administration sewing room project in Bailey was responsible for placing many American girls between the ages of sixteen and twenty-four with garment factories located in El Paso. Mrs. Della Mitchell and Mrs.
Minnie Duvall were the project supervisors.  

School records which consisted of the birthday, grades, and addresses of every El Paso public school child who has attended the schools since 1889 were kept in two rooms at Bailey School from 1942 until 1945. Mr. Webster Waide was in charge of these records. He was assisted by Miss Louise James and Mrs. Dorothy Raymond.  

The Annual Conference of Homemaking Teachers was held in Bailey School in August, 1944. People who were on the programs were: Mrs. Lois Huffaker, Dr. Harry Harmsworth, Mrs. Grace Hooten, Mrs. Margaret Morse, Mr. A. H. Hughey, Mr. S. O. Blount, Miss Mildred Shafer, Miss Florence McAlister, Byron England, Miss Helen Rose, Miss Ivella Gibbs, Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, Mrs. T. P. Clendenin, Mrs. Callie Fairley, J. N. Cardwell, F. N. Cooper, and Miss Ruth Huey.
IV.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing history of Mesa, Bailey School, is not all inclusive and is not intended to be. Special emphasis is given to the period from 1889 to 1911 because that period is a way of life that the present generation has never seen.

The site served El Paso well in the field of education for fifty-six years and will continue to do so, because the Y.M.C.A. is going to be completed there in the near future.

Bailey's great contribution to El Paso is her thousands of pupils who were educated on her five floors. They made and are making the history of El Paso.
APPENDIX A

OLD BAILEY'S SOLILOQUY

EDITOR'S NOTE: Bailey School, constructed in 1889, is headquarters and main office for the Department of Adult and Family Life Education. It is a storehouse for surplus books. It houses special classes for deaf and mute children needing special instruction. There is a division of the Teachers' Professional Library. It is headquarters for the City-County Council of the PTA. The School Board is considering tearing the building down and constructing a Technical Institute on its site.

By OLD BAILEY

It's a damned insult. Too old, am I? Too out of style? Not modern. My walls, my roof, my floors, is anything wrong with them? Look at the walls of Dudley and Austin High, your most modern schools, shivered, cracked, and still cracking, and less than 10 years old. My walls are sound and on a sound foundation. They were built 56 years ago when building was forever, when El Paso was West, and men were men, and life meant living.

Give me the usual dressing up, every few years, of paint and petty repairs and ordinary care given all buildings, and I'll be here solid, safe, and sound 50 more years from now, when these modern cement rattle traps with their hollow tile and stucco and other veneered finish have crumbled into disuse.

Out of date, am I? Who says so? New-comers here in the last 25 years, men who were swiveling brats when I was already the pride of the city's schools, and when my walls had already sheltered and turned out the pioneer builders of this city's greatness. What do these present board members know of me, and of the men whose characters were formed within my walls?

I was built out in a desert andbeckoned and brought around me hundreds of pioneer homes and millions of wealth, when this city was youthful and strong and unafraid, instead of being decadent, ease-loving, and selfish as now. The children who came to me were seeking an education. Now an education is chasing the children and really catches very few.

The School Board that built me had its eyes on the future and the possibilities of El Paso. Later Boards potter
around with WPA labor, charge tuition to helpless children, hire flappers and collegebred ignoramuses to teach, who never rode a horse, cut a switch, or shot a gun, and are always saying to the public and to the state, "Gimme, Gimme, Gimme."

So I am to be abandoned, am I? Not worth further use. Who said that? Not one whose feet ever clambered up my steps, not one whose arms ever flung affectionately around my iron columns, which could bear the weight of every school building in El Paso, not one whose hands ever scraped an initial on my bricks.

So a fraction of one per cent of the annual cost of school operation could be saved by abandoning me? Why not put the 16,000 grade children of the city in the El Paso High School Stadium, 8,000 at a time, one group in the morning, the other in the afternoon, and teach them by phonograph, radio, and loud speakers, and have practically the whole budget, and sell off the 18 empty school buildings?

I am old and plain and ugly, am I? Still no one disputes my usefulness and serviceability. But I am not plain. I am the only school building in El Paso with five stories, five floors on which school work can be conducted. I have the most ingenious fire escape system ever devised. I have catacombs in my basement which not over a dozen people know about or have entered. I have the only class room in the city that is lighted from all four sides.

There is nothing plain or common about me. I am unique. But above all things it should be remembered that the history of the whole school system took place within my walls. Until recent years the offices of superintendents, supervisors, and others in charge of the school system were with me, and board meetings were held in my rooms. Here Manual Training and Home Economics were first installed in El Paso 40 years ago, and all the school fads and innovations of the last 50 years have had their say, and their day, first within my walls. If I have not been of more service to education in El Paso than any other two buildings, I'll eat all the sand on my window sills.

Am I to be left vacant, empty, locked up, and alone? Of all the thousands of childhood's feet that have passed my portals and pattered down my halls, will none now run to my aid? Of those who were in El Paso when I was built and who were proud of me, will none speak up now? Surely the teachers of those days will not allow disgrace to come upon me.
I alone of El Paso schools have seen the depression of 1892, the Spanish War, the Mexican Revolution, the World War I, the gay twenties with their following depression, and World War II. Hence, I am just now wise enough to make a good school building out of myself. It is not my belfry that has bats in it.69

APPENDIX B

FACULTIES

1889
Bessie B. Bailey, Principal
Lee Campbell
Mary I. Stanton

1894-1895
Bessie B. Bailey, Principal
Allie Fitzpatrick
Mary I. Stanton

1899-1900
Bessie B. Bailey, Principal
Helen Brady
Ada M. Lockhart

1908-1909
Bessie B. Bailey, Principal
Sallie Blake
H. Ellison
Alice Davis
Katherine Flynn
Elizabeth Page

1909-1910
Bessie B. Bailey, Principal
H. Ellison
L. Jones
Mary Pool
Laura Townsend
Elizabeth Page
Rowena Elliot
Annie Wilbarger

1919-1920
Klifford Rice, Principal
Elise Brown
Edith Maloney
Sue Lattner
Hannah Ellison
Clare Snell
Kathleen Eylar
Edna King

Allie Fitzpatrick
Kate Moore Brown

Lee Campbell

Sue Dix
Mary I. Stanton

Virginia Thomas
Laura Townsend
Mary Pool
Winifred Wilson
Annie Wilbarger

Laura Nelson
Winifred Wilson
Sallie Blake
Annie L. Robb
Willie B. McCreary
Catherine Flynn
Emma L. Lott

Nelle Stevenson
Dove Husbands
Lovenia Browning
Helen Langsford
Ada Niland
Grace Flech
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Francina Hardie
Jennie Lee Rue
Louise Moore
Elizabeth Watson
Betty Rutherford
Opal Vick
Leona Ronan
Frances Cassidy
Ena Steger

1929-1930
Sallie Jones
Ruth Wilson
Irene Biggs
Sallie Blake
Agnes Morgan
Mary Vance
Gladys Balcomb
Anita Berker
Eula Jaschob
Moufie Hoge

1931-1932
Alberta Morse, Principal
Dorothy Scaife
Alice Lomax
Irene Biggs
Mary Sammer
Nannie Mae Major
Dorothy Danielson
Sara Foote
Mary Louise Foote
Florence Grosheider
Anne Lawhorn

1932-1933
Maude Alexander
Frances Turrentine
Sadie Ellis
Lozier Condon
Ena Steger
Frances Cassidy
Ruth Wilson
Sallie Blake
Melba McBride
Mayme Murphy

1933-1934
Alberta Morse, Principal
Maude Alexander
Mary Anderson
Irene Biggs
Sallie Blake
Frances Cassidy
Lozier Condon
Nannie Mae Major

1934-1935
Melba McBride
Mayme Murphy
Mary Sammer
Ena Steger
Frances Turrentine
Mary Vance
Virginia West

1934-1935
Alberta Morse, Principal
Maude Alexander
Irene Biggs
Sallie Blake
Lozier Condon
Sallie Ellis
Verna Kergan
Anne Lawhorn
Virginia Ledell

Audrey Liler
Nannie Mae Major
Ena Steger
Mary Vance
Frances Cassidy
Francina Hardie
Melba McBride
# APPENDIX C

## MESA SCHOOL ATTENDANCE REPORT

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20 school days taught

Superintendent's Report, September 26, 1890
BIBLIOGRAPHY

Newspapers


Records

Records of the Administrative Office of the Public Schools, El Paso, Texas.