

Hueytown School Burns

Damage Figured About \$80,000; 535 Pupils 'Out'

Page 1, Friday, March 4, 1949 Birmingham News

Caption under picture: HUEYTOWN SCHOOL BURNS – Two brick chimneys stand guard today over the smoldering embers, all that remains of the Hueytown Grammar School. The one-story frame building burned to the ground last night.

The Birmingham district's second costly fire within 24 hours had county school officials searching for accommodations for the 535 pupils of Hueytown Grammar School today.

The building burned to the ground last night. Damage to the one-story frame structure was estimated at more than \$80,000.

It was the second serious fire in the Birmingham area in 24 hours. The first occurred yesterday morning at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church. Damage to the church was estimated at between \$60,000 and \$70,000.

Fire at the school started in lunchroom at the rear of the building.

Members of the Bessemer and Lipscomb Fire Departments and Hueytown Volunteer Fire Departments prevented the blaze from spreading to nearby buildings.

Only one fire hydrant was in the vicinity. Two hoses were attached to this hydrant. Had more hydrants been available, firemen might have had more success in fighting the blaze, the firefighters said.

Dr. I. F. Simmons, county school superintendent said he hoped to arrange temporary accommodations for the children by Monday morning.

The school had 17 teachers. Its principal is Mrs. James A. Davis, who has held that post since the school was built in 1935.