

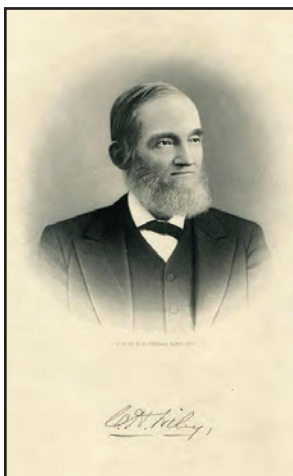
HISTORIC MARKER PROGRAM

Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission

Calvin H. Wiley School

1400 W. Northwest Boulevard

Calvin H. Wiley School was named after a man generally regarded as one of the greatest champions of public education in the history of North Carolina. Constructed in 1925, long after the death of its namesake, Wiley School stands apart as a thing of beauty, its grand appearance serving as a striking metaphor for the pride with which Wiley viewed the people and State of North Carolina.



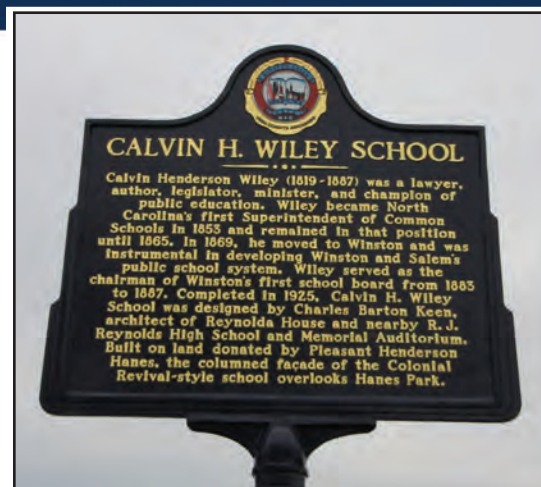
Calvin Henderson Wiley was a lawyer, minister, author, and lawmaker known for his passion for public education. In 1853, Wiley became North Carolina's first Superintendent of Common Schools after he convinced the General Assembly to approve legislation that established a statewide system of schools. Wiley moved to Winston in 1869 and had a hand in developing the public school systems of both Winston and Salem, even serving

as chairman of the first school board in Winston for a number of years.

Originally an elementary school housing close to 1000 students, Wiley was built on land donated by P.H. Hanes. It was constructed to accommodate Winston-Salem's growing population, as well as to replace the old West End School, which was outdated and crowded. The building itself was designed by Charles Barton Keen, the renowned architect responsible for designing the Reynolda Estate and



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nearby R.J. Reynolds High School and Auditorium. Wiley is a three-story, Flemish bond brick structure built in the Colonial Revival style. Various structural elements of the school suggest that it was among the first schools in the region designed to be fire resistant.

Today, Wiley shares an identity with the nearby West Highlands and West End neighborhoods because it has grown among them. Together with Brunson Elementary and Reynolds High, Wiley creates a group of schools that students can walk to from the beginning to the end of their educational paths.



This information is also available
at the Forsyth County
Historic Resources Commission's web site:
<http://www.ForsythCountyHRC.org>