History of Haughton High School

By Ann V. Huddleston and Tommie B. Pepper
May 1971
(Typed from the original by Class of 2014 Library Worker Eryn Rhodes)

Introduction

The public high school of today can trace its origin to colonial America during the eighteenth century. Prior to the first public high school, which was established in Boston in 1821, Benjamin Franklin had, as early as 1743, proposed establishing an academy. It was to be furnished with a library, maps of all countries, globes, some mathematical instruments, and apparatus for experiments in natural philosophy and in mechanics. Because of the unavailability of a Reverend Mr. Peters to be superintendent of such an academy, Franklin set aside his proposal until 1749. Funds were then solicited, and Franklin's Academy was established in 1750. It was the first school of its kind to incorporate all of the facilities for practical courses and physical activities.

In addition to Franklin's Academy, many others were established throughout the country. Some were short lived, and some were ancestors of still-existing high schools.

The high school established in Boston in 1821 was for the primary school students who were not interested in a classical secondary education. Although it was named the "English Classical School" at first, it later became the "English High School."

The first public high school in Louisiana was established in 1885 in Grand Cane. It is a small town only fifty miles southwest of Haughton, Louisiana, where Haughton High School is located. The writers of this paper are members of the faculty of Haughton High School. Having discovered that no formal study has ever been made concerning its history, the writers realized the need for historical research of the school.

Statement of Purpose of this History

It is the purpose of this history to trace the development of the high school from it national level, to the state level, to the Parish of Bossier, and then to the Village of Haughton. This paper shall consider primarily the development of Haughton High School from 1904 – 1971.

Procedure for this History

The historical research method had been used in the study.

Importance of this History

No comprehensive study of the history of Haughton High School has been made prior to this one. The authors believe that this school has contributed immeasurably to the well-being of the

Haughton community and its citizens. The school has been the focal point of activity in this small village since its conception and deserves a place in its history.

Collection of Materials

Primary sources of materials for this study are Minutes of the Bossier Parish School Board, Clerk of Court Records, personal interviews, and newspapers.

Early History of Schools in the Haughton Area

Academies

According to the customs of the times, before the establishment of any public high schools, academies were prevalent in Bossier Parish. Two prominent ones known throughout North Louisiana were the Bellevue and Fillmore Academies, located north of Haughton.

The Bellevue Academy Association was chartered on June 10, 1859,[1] and the Fillmore Academy wad opened September 24, 1860.[2] The cost of tuition per child was $12.50 to $20.00 per session of five months, and board was $10.00 a month.[3]

Associated with both academies was Professor Lyman Griswold, who later had an important role in the development of the first public schools of Haughton.

Early Public Schools

The first recorded minutes of the Bossier Parish School Board, dated October 6, 1877, give a summary of the conditions of schools in the parish.

According to the minutes,

There have been no reports of any schools during the years 1869, 1870, and 1873. The number of public school houses, so far as we have been able to ascertain, do not exceed seven in number. Most of the houses taught in are the property of individuals. During 1875 we find 57 schools were let out; 27 of them two months. No information in regard to the length of time the others were taught, but we suppose about 2 or 3 months. Average salary paid teachers, first class, $1.75, second class, $1.50, third class, $1.25, per scholar, per month.[4]

In 1878 two of the twenty-one schools designated to be established were schools at Fillmore and Bellevue. The school session was to be for a period of three months, beginning on September 2.[5]

Records of the July 15, 1885, School Board meeting show that the first public school in Haughton was to be established.[6] Need for the school was brought about because of the growth of the Haughton community.

The town of Haughton had been founded only the year before, in 1884, following the completion of the V. S. & P. Railroad.[7] Located fourteen miles south of Bellevue, the little community grew to become a thriving shipping center for Bellevue and Fillmore. Ten business houses were present; two saw-mills, a grist mill, a public cotton gin, a chair factory, one commodious hotel and two boarding houses, a large and well stocked livery stable, and a Methodist and a Baptist church. The population was about 400. Cotton, lumber, and cordwood were the principal products shipped each year on the railroad. South of Haughton was a fine agricultural as known as "Bossier Point."[8]

Professor Lyman Griswold was employed as the first teacher in the public school. He taught in a small two room building near where the present high school stands. In 1866, he taught over a store known as the G. W. Smith store. The next year a building was built in the west end of town.[9] This structure was described as an "unpainted, two-story building with two big rooms downstairs and a wide porch, and one room upstairs."[10] The first trustees were appointed on January 3, 1891, to supervise the school. They were Paul Sammin, J. G. Gramos, and Dr. Pennington.[11]

Teachers were expected to attend an institute each year organized by the superintendent of the parish school. The 1899 institute was colorfully described in a letter written by W. L. Price, a teacher in the parish.

Sunday Night
Feb. 19, 1899

Dear Sister,

Having postponed writing to you until after Institute, I shall attempt to write you a short letter tonight. . . . The weather was so cold that I did not go to Boston till Wednesday. I had a very pleasant time while I was there.

There was a good attendance of teachers, notwithstanding the inclement weather. . . . A great many of the teachers there inquired of you and seemed to miss you this year. There were a few new teachers. We had a new conductor this year, Prof. Aswell. He is a fine man and all the teachers expressed themselves as being highly pleased with him. . . . He is a beautiful talker if I may use the adjective – that is, he uses beautiful language.

As a body the teachers had to bear their own expenses this year. . . .

Cheshire and Burgess were on hand again. The meetings were held in the courthouse. It would have been impossible almost to have had them in the school building on account of the walk.

It was a very pleasant session to all. A spirit of harmony prevailed throughout the week. Enough for Institute. . . .

Your brother,

W. L. Price[12]

The sister that Mr. Price addressed was Miss Mattie Price, who had been previously employed as a teacher in the parish. Her 1896 contract is typical of the ones issued during that period (Plate 1).[13] The Second Grade on the contract refers to the classification of First, Second, or Third Grade given to a teacher on the basis of an examination.[14] an average salary for a First Grade teacher was $42.50 per month, usually for a three months session. Teachers were often called upon to donate up to half a month's salary for repairs that were needed in their schools.[15]

A course of study adopted by the school board for these early schools included English Grammar, English Literature, Dictation, Composition, Rhetoric, Algebra, Arithmetic, Geometry, Chemistry, Physics, French or Latin, Physiology, Civil Government, U.S. History, General History, Drawing, and Singing for the seventh year through the tenth year.[16]

State of Louisiana

OFFICE OF THE

Parish Superintendent of Public Education

Parish of Bossier

Dorcas 30th 1896

The moral and intellectual qualifications of Miss Willie Price as a Teacher of Youth having been established by testimonials and satisfactory examination Miss Price is hereby granted a certificate of Second Grade valid for one year and Licensed to teach in the Public Schools of this Parish.

Approved.

J. W. Prince
President of Parish Board

R. N. Young
Secretary

R. N. Young
Chairman of Committee
for Parish Board of School Directors
Parish of Bossier

(State 1)

History of Haughton High School from 1904 – 1947

In 1904 a special tax was passed in the Haughton District No. 7. One half of this revenue was designated to be held for the purpose of a new school house. J. W. Elston, F. M. Britt, and Dr. Paul Lawrence, who were trustees at this time, were instrumental in the passage of this tax.[17]

The patrons of Haughton High School purchased the first two acres of the present site for $20.00 from Alzadora Grounds on April 26, 1905.[18] The title of this land was transferred to the Bossier Parish School Board on April 27, 1905.[19]

In a report on the parish schools on April 28, 1905 by Superintendent Joseph E. Johnston, the following account of Haughton High School was given:

> Professor C. H. Lambert. Principal; Miss Fannie Mosby, first assistant; Miss Tura Norman, second assistant; enrollment 105; average 87; course of study, first grade; cost of school per month, $205. This school, as far as course of study and strength of faculty are concerned, is the peer of any in the parish. Each teacher is teaching on an average three school grades. I found the people of Haughton thoroughly aroused on the subject of education and ready to take steps for the erection of a first class high school building on modern plans. Her citizenship is of a high order, and their hospitality is unbounded. The school is well – advanced; the pupils polite, cheerful, and happy.[20]

The trustees of Haughton High School were authorized by the Board to borrow money from the Commercial National Bank for the construction of a school building. The special tax fund monies were used to repay the loan.[21] The building was ready for occupancy for the 1906 – 1907 session. It was a two story frame building with four large classrooms downstairs. The upstairs consisted of a stage, auditorium, and laboratory.[22]

The 1906 – 1907 session began under the leadership of W. A. Bynum, principal. During this term the school with an enrollment of 120 was approved by the State Board of Education as a standard senior high school.[23] The session ended with the graduation of Haughton High School's first and only graduate that year (Plate 2). He was Laroy Smith Hays.[24]

The Hays family owned and operated a plantation five miles southeast of Haughton in Webster Parish. They moved to Haughton on 1903 so that the children could have better educational opportunity. Mr. Hays' father became active in the Haughton Independent School District and served as its president from 1903 – 1919. Upon graduation Mr. Hays attended Peabody College for one year and Louisiana State University for three years where he majored in teacher education and vocational agriculture. He received his B. A. degree in 1914 and his M. A. degree in 1937. Mr. Hays has been very active in the field of education in North Louisiana. He served as teacher, coach, and principal at Sarepta High School for twenty – eight years until his retirement in 1954. Since then, he and his wife have made their home Minden, Louisiana. Haughton High honored Mr. Hays at the 1961 Homecoming as its first graduate.[25]

(Plate 2)

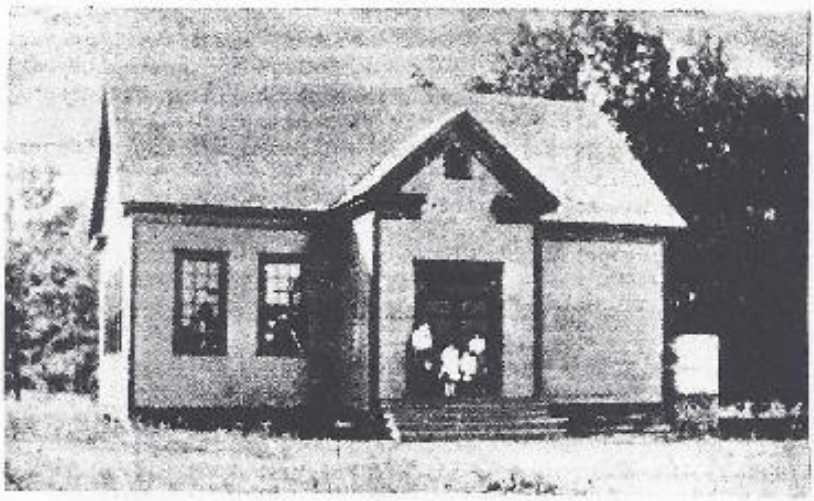
Following Mr. Bynum as principal, Professor W. J. Davis was appointed in 1908. His faculty consisted of Miss Bethenia Sneed, first assistant, Miss Julia Elston, second assistant, and Miss Ludie

Platt, third assistant.[26] Miss Carolyn Heard was contracted at mid – term as a special teacher in vocal music.[27]

Professor Bailey and Professor Mason served as principal for one year followed by the principal-ship of Professor B. N. Lowrey in 1910.[28] Under Professor Lowrey's leadership much progress was made. Proceeds from a special tax of three mills voted for District 7 in 1914 were used to enlarge the high school building and supplement the salaries of teachers and transportation drivers.[29] Two years later the three mill tax was replaced by a seven mill tax that was for general school purposes.[30] Professor Lowrey was known as a stern disciplinarian. Former students recall the dreaded "Mourner's Bench" that served as punishment for those who failed. The highlight of each school year was the day – long ceremony held at the end of the session in which each child performed. The day was filled with songs, plays, recitations, and a concert.[31] Graduation also played an important part in the community. At the exercises it was traditional to place flowers at the feet of the graduates. The girls wore pretty organdy dresses rather than caps and gowns. Each graduate was expected to make a speech.[32]

Professor Lowrey resigned in January 1918 and J. P. Lynch succeeded him for the balance of the term 1917 – 1918. He was followed by Professor J. M. Simpson who served from 1918 – 1920. Then R. V. Kerr was principal one year before he was promoted to Parish Superintendent. R. C. Childs and S. D. Maddox also served as principal, each for a year, from 1921 – 1923.[33]

Consolidation caused a marked increase in enrollment during the period between 1921 – 1927. The schools of Adner, Koran, Bellevue, and Rascoe were combined with Haughton.[34] The typical one – room school that was consolidated with Haughton was the Koran School, 1918, (Plate 3).[35] Following extreme criticism by the State Department of Education, schools such as Koran were closed and centralization of schools took place.[36]



KORAN SCHOOL - 1918

A two-room school house now under construction at Koran illustrates some of the errors common in the parish. The principles of good lighting are completely ignored; modern ideas of hygiene and sanitation are disregarded; space and money are wasted. The windows furnish just about half the required light area, they are placed too near the floor and fully four feet from the ceiling, they are spaced instead of grouped; cloakrooms are missing; ventilation is inadequate. Failure to employ an architect for the planning of this house was due to the mistaken belief that money would be saved. The error of this course is plainly evident. A competent architect could have saved money on the building as presently constructed, and, more important, the house would have been modern and entirely satisfactory for school purposes. As it is, the people of Koran district are getting a house about fifteen years out of date. The remedy for this condition is simple. The parish board should make it a fixed policy not to construct any house regardless of size or cost without having the plans and specifications made by a competent architect. To make the situation clearer to the parish board, I would suggest that the entire board visit a few of the fine, modern houses that have been recently constructed by their neighbors in DeSoto, Cable, and Dierville. The contrast with that with what we have at home will be striking.

(Plate 3)

On July 1, 1924, the property taxpayers of the Haughton School District #7, voted on a $110,000 bond issued for the purpose of erecting and equipping a new brick school building.[37] The bond issue, however, was defeated on that day, and another similar bond issue was defeated in October of that year.[38] Finally on October 1, 1925, a bond issue of $85,000 was presented to the voters and the issue passed.[39] School Board members from Ward Six who were instrumental in the passage of the first bond issue were L. C. Biggs (1903 – 1924) and Dr. C. M. Tucker (1925 -1937).[40]

Construction on the new high school building began in 1926. The contract was awarded to J. H. Hinerman for $73,480 to be built according to the plans and specifications of Edward F. Neild, architect.[41] The building was described in a parish paper a:

> . . . . picturesque in every way and is an ornament to any town of four times the population of Haughton. It contains 11 class rooms, principal's office, laboratory, study hall, and library. It has steam heat, electric lights, and waterworks. The light is unilateral with transoms from each room to the corridors, which create a flow of air for ventilation. This past year eight teachers, four college, and four normal graduates, were employed to teach 198 children, 47 high school and 151 elementary. Five transfers were used to transport 131 pupils. Six years ago four were used to transport 75 children.[42]

This building was constructed during the principal – ship of B. N. Lowrey who had been re – employed in September 1923. Mr. Lowrey served as principal and teacher from 1923 to 1937.[43]

Many other buildings were built throughout the parish during this period. This progress prompted Superintendent T. H. Harris to praise the schools in Bossier Parish and rank them with the "best in Louisiana".[44]

Athletics were introduced to Haughton High School on a competitive basis in the fall on 1929 when A. E. Robinson was employed as the first football coach. Members of the team were Jack Clayton, Lewis Padgett, Sylvester Carson, Babs Elston, Doyle Cagle, W. B. Hickman, Clifton Staton, Otto Madden, Marshall Madden, DeWitt Reed, Jack Brown, Andrew Sandidge, Roston Powell, Glen Stinson, John David Stinson, Taylor Roach, Harvey Aldridge, Floyd Bible, Lloyd Bible, and Paul Lawrence. Mr. Robinson was succeeded in 1930 by T. O. Rusheon. Marshall Madden became the first All – State Football player when he was selected center on the team in 1931. Jack Clayton and he received athletic scholarships to Louisiana State Normal College. These were the first one that were granted to athletes from Haughton. Mr. Clayton continued in the field of athletics and became head football coach at Northwestern State College from 1957 – 1966.[45]

During these early years Haughton began the development of a strong vocational agriculture program. Appreciation of the school and this program was attested to in a letter from a former student.

Haughton, LA.
October 4, 1933

Bossier Parish School Board,

c/o Dr. C. M. Tucker
Haughton, LA.

Gentlemen:

I wish to express my appreciation to the Bossier Parish School Board for the opportunity that I have been given to study Vocational Agriculture in Haughton High School of the parish. It has been a great privilege to me and I am grateful for this opportunity of having been able to prepare myself for that which will be the vacation of my life.

I believe that Vocational Agriculture in the rural schools is a valuable asset to our educational system. It has meant more to me than any other subject that I have studied. I attribute my success in the recent livestock – judging contest at Louisiana State University to the training that I received under my instructor in the Vocational Agricultural course.

I also with to express my appreciation to the two members of the Board, Dr. C. H. Irion and Dr. C. M. Tucker, for their untiring efforts in establishing this valuable subject in the rural schools of Bossier Parish.

Yours very truly,

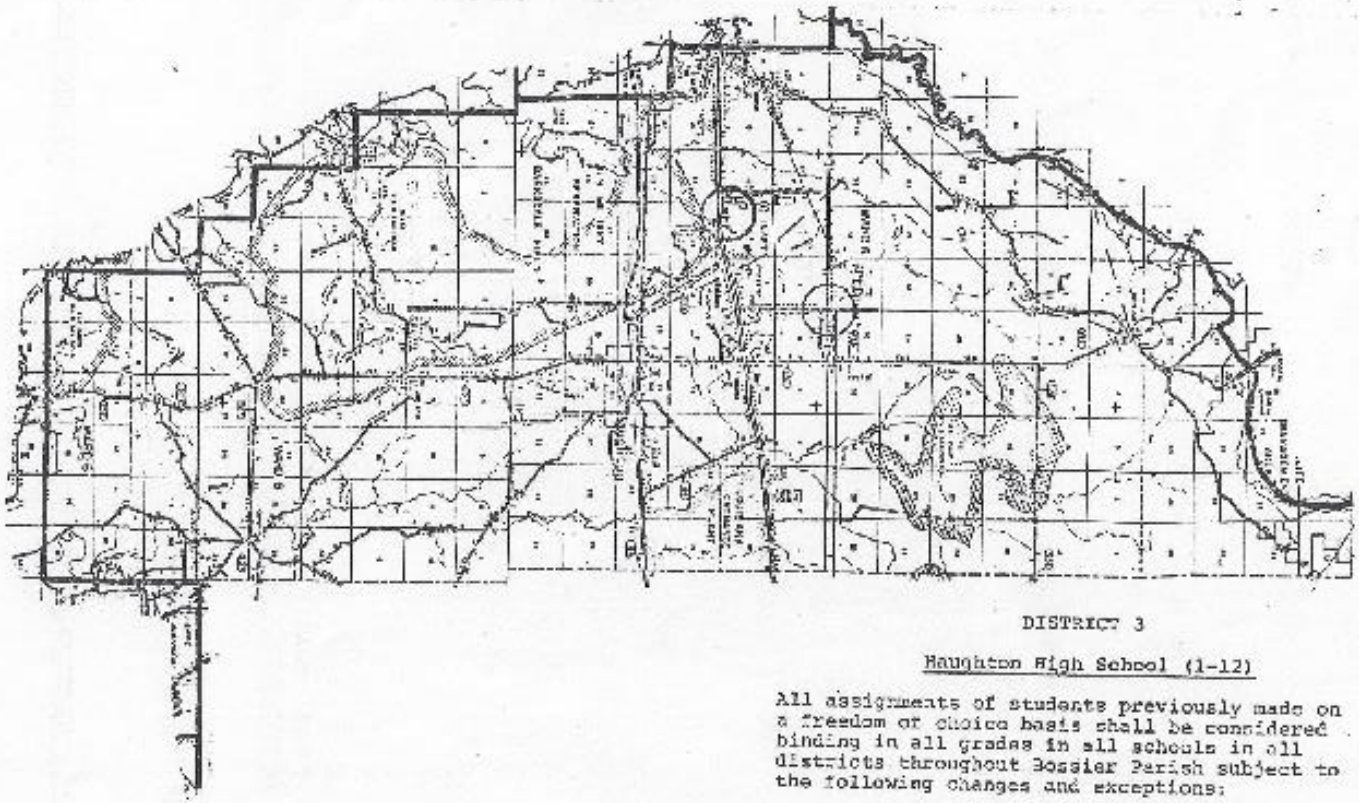
SIGNED: J.A. Edwards, Jr.[46]

--J. A. Edwards studied agriculture at Haughton for four years. He represented the State of Louisiana at Kansas City Livestock show where he placed third in the nation in the horse judging event.[47]

A home economics cottage was add in 1932 to alleviate crowded conditions. At the same time a "teacherage" of seven rooms was built. The latter building is presently used as a student activity building.[48]

T. O. Rusheon replaced Mr. Lowrey as principal in 1936, and D. E. Shipp succeeded Dr. C. M. Tucker on the school board.[49] The next year school Districts 7 and 21 were consolidated into the present District 3 (Plate 4). In the same year a $35,000 bond issue for the constructing and equipping of a gymnasium and cafeteria was passed.[50] With the erection of this building, Haughton became the first school in the parish to have a gymnasium.[51]

(Plate 4)



DISTRICT 3

Haughton High School (1-12)

All assignments of students previously made on a freedom of choice basis shall be considered binding in all grades in all schools in all districts throughout Bossier Parish subject to the following changes and exceptions:

1969-70 All Negro students living within the city limits of Haughton in grades 8, 9, 10, and 11 will attend Haughton High School. This is in addition to those students choosing Haughton High School by freedom of choice.

Platt (1-6)

1969-70 All students black or white in Platt attendance area will attend Platt Elementary School.

Growth of the school prompted another bond issue in 1940 for the purpose of securing grounds and building a new high school.[52] The $65,000 building, the first building at Haughton to be built on a modern design, was ready for occupancy in 1941.[53]

Extracurricular activities became a prominent part of school life in the early forties. The Haughton Band was formed under the direction of H. H. Ramsey. It consisted of thirty – five students who participated in the music festival at Bossier High School on May 9, 1941.[54] Mr. Ramsey was required to divide his instruction time between Haughton and Bossier High School. Jack Dew became Haughton's first full time band director in the fall of 1941.[55]

Under the guidance of Miss Pearl Fuller, the House Economics Club published the first yearbook, *The Travelette*, which was named after the football team known as the Travelers.[56] The name of the yearbook was changed in 1948 to *The Treasure Chest*. *The Trailer*, the first school paper, began publication in January 1940.[57] The paper is now known as the "Pirate's Log."

Girls' basketball, boys' basketball, track, and football played an important part in the lives of the students. Coach Cecil Ross brought basketball into prominence throughout the parish with his efforts at Haughton.[58] Serving as head football coach was Frank "Pop" Hughes. Funds were inadequate for proper maintenance of an athletic program. Uniforms for Haughton's football team were practice suits borrowed from Bossier High School.[59]

World War II had its effects on the school. The male members on the faculty were reduced to one, Mr. Rusheon. Mr. Hughes was transferred to Benton as principal and others entered branches of the service.[60] Many graduates of Haughton High School also entered the service. Cassius Brandenburg and Raymond Fowler were two alumni who lost their lives in the conflict.[61] Activity at the high school was at a minimum during the next five or six years as the community geared itself for the war effort.

History of Haughton High School from 1948 – 1971

A new era in education in Louisiana began with the school term 1948 – 1949 when all schools added the twelfth grade. The graduating class on 1949 consisted of only two students, Elizabeth Ann Tooke and Thelma Horton. Parish wide exercises were held at Bossier High School.[62]

The growth of the Haughton School necessitated ordering a special election for the purpose of acquiring funds to buy land, to erect a new elementary building and auditorium, to build a new shop building, and to erect and light a stadium. Up to this time the $325,000 bond issue was the largest ever floated in the Haughton district.[63] The shop elementary building were completed in 1951.

Mr. Rusheon was promoted to supervisor of Negro schools in the parish in 1950 ending twenty years of continuous service to Haughton High School.[64] The agriculture teacher, P. W. "Zip" Moreland, became principal for the 1950 – 1951 school term.[65]

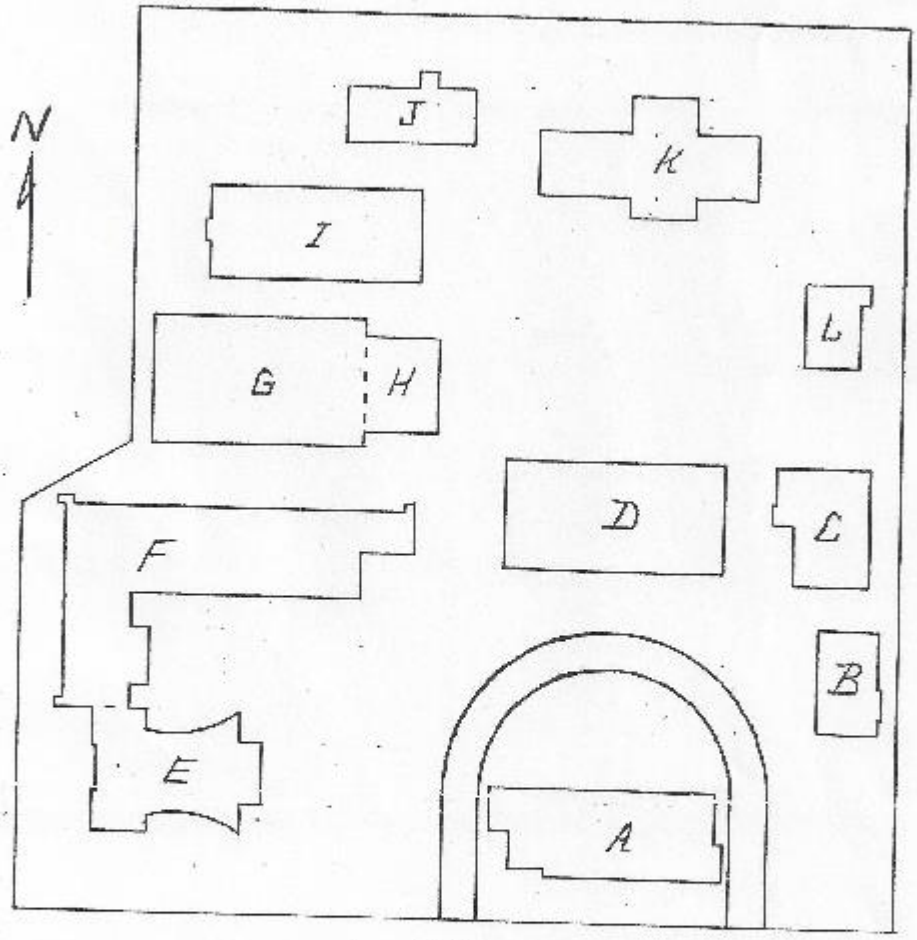
With the erection of the stadium, sports were revitalized. Johnny Robertson was employed as football coach, and a regular session schedule was established. Coach Cecil Ross lead the boys' and girls' basketball teams to winning season in 1950 – 1951.[66] Taking over as the head football and basketball coach for the 1951 – 1952 season was Harold. E. Harlan.[67]

Student clubs and organizations once again became an important part of school life. A student council was organized in 1949 – 1950. F. H. A. and F. F. A. were quite active. Many students also participated in 4 – H Club activities. The band and choir were under the direction of Miss Mary Jane Seigler.[68]

L. H. Butler replaced Mr. Shipp as school board member for Ward Six in 1954.[69] During his tenure as board member, a new air – conditioned music building and home – economics building were completed in 1958 at a cost of $115,261.[70]

In September, 1960, Mr. Harlan assumed the principalship when Mr. Moreland was promoted to visiting teacher for the parish.[71] Since Mr. Harlan has been principal, many noticeable improvements have been made to the campus. A new cafeteria, a multipurpose building which houses the science, language, and the business labs, and a gymnasium have been built. All these were completed by 1968. The old cafeteria has been converted into an air – conditioned library. Property acquisitions also made possible the construction of a quarter – mile track and field. Total cost of these projects amounted to over $600,000. I. E. Tyner, who replaced Mr. Butler in the school board in 1965, was instrumental in the success of these proects.[72]

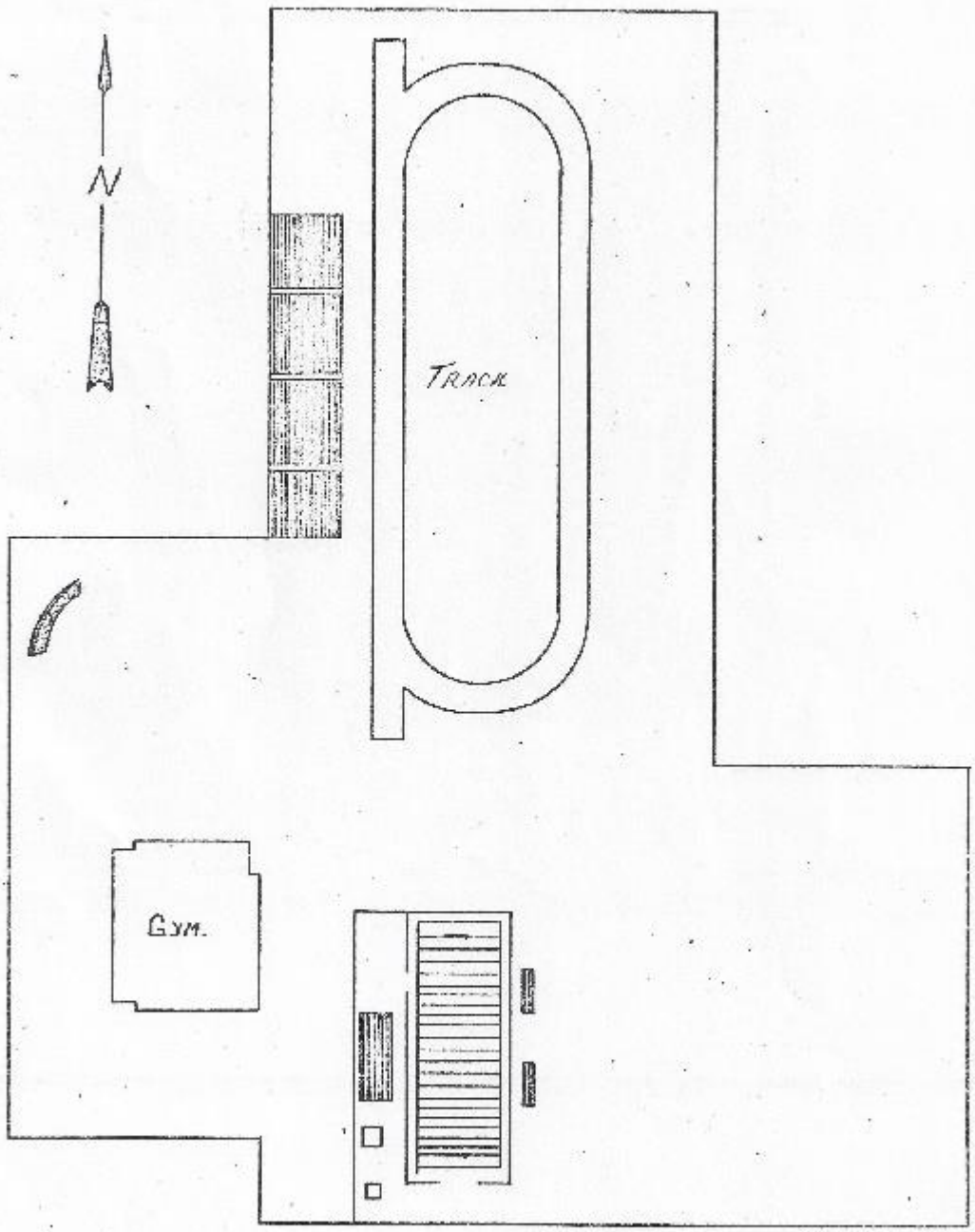
Haughton High School was a twelve year school at the beginning of the 1969 – 1970 term. Court ordered integration changed the status of the school to grades seven through twelve in February, 1970. Grades one through six were moved to Platt Elementary for the remainder of the term. The present school term in District 3 began with Haughton housing all students in grades eight through twelve in twelve buildings on a thirty – two acre campus (Plates 5 and 6).



LEGEND

A. Main High School Building
B. Activity Building
C. Home Economics
D. Science-Business Building
E. Auditorium
F. Jr. High Building
G. Girl's Gym
H. Library
I. Cafeteria
J. Agriculture Building
K. Band Building
L. Custodian's House

(Plate 5)



(Plate 6)

Anecdotes

Haughton High School served as the only school [in Bossier Parish] at which three of its principals, T. O. Rusheon, P. W. Moreland, and H. E. Harlan, had taught. One of the present faculty members, Tommie Baird Pepper, taught under each of these men.

The Beta Club, an honor organization, has been successful in securing portraits of four late principals. The portraits of B. N. Lowrey, R. V. Kerr, and T. O. Rusheon are in the vestibule of the auditorium. A portrait of P. W. Moreland will be presented to the school during ceremonies dedicating the gymnasium in honor of his memory (Plate 7).

R E S O L U T I O N

By Mr. Wise

Seconded by Mr. Durham

WHEREAS, on December 23, 1970, God in his infinite wisdom called to his eternal rest a beloved friend and schoolman, Mr. P. W. Moreland, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Moreland faithfully and efficiently served as classroom Teacher, Coach, Principal and Supervisor in Bossier Parish for the past Thirty five years, and

WHEREAS, his life and work during these years of untiring service exemplified to the highest degree the ideals of teaching, and

WHEREAS, because of his deep religious and moral convictions as well as his sincere devotion to his profession, he gave far more than duty demanded, and

WHEREAS, his influence as a schoolman and citizen will continue, for "To live in hearts one leaves behind is not to die", and

WHEREAS, he established a record of achievement which is a source of inspiration not only in the community which he served but throughout the entire parish.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Bossier Parish School Board, express regret and sorrow at the untimely death of this outstanding schoolman and extend to his family our heartfelt condolences, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the family and be recorded in the minutes of the Bossier Parish School Board.

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution passed and adopted by the Bossier Parish School Board at a meeting held on January 14, 1970.

Emmett Cope

Emmett Cope, Secretary

(Plate 7)

An important person at every school is the custodian. The present custodian at Haughton High School is J. K. Aldridge. Mr. Aldridge, a Haughton resident since 1919, was a member of the first football team. Because of his earlier profession, carpentry, he helped construct every building on the campus except the last three.[73]

One of the largest families to graduate is that of Mr. Mrs. F. R. Chandler. A former school bus driver for nineteen years, Mr. Chandler has seen nine of his ten children graduate: Bessie, Frank, Mary Grace, L. C., George, Dorothy, Doris, Eleanor, and Gillie Jean. A daughter, Annie, married in her senior year and did not graduate. The Chandlers also have seen twelve grandchildren graduate from Haughton, and there are six grandchildren presently enrolled in school in the Haughton area.[74]

Frank B. Staton, vocational agriculture teacher, is a graduate of Haughton High School, and also holds the highest degree of the faculty, a Masters + 30.[75]

John F. Lowrey, son of the late Professor B. N. Lowrey, is mayor of Haughton. Mr. Lowrey, a graduate of Haughton High School, has two children, John and Beth, currently enrolled in school. Martha Lowrey Swindle, daughter of Professor Lowrey, was a teacher at Haughton High School for many years and is now teaching at Princeton.

C. Belle Hector, a social studies teacher at Haughton High School will retire at the end of this session. Mrs. Hector has rendered 37 years of service to the Bossier school system, teaching 23 years at Princeton and her final year at Haughton. Sibyl Tyner and Virginia Ward, elementary teachers at Platt, and formerly of the Haughton school are also retiring. Mrs. Tyner has taught 25 years in the system, 23 at Haughton and two at Platt. Mrs. Ward's service includes 23 years at Haughton and Platt.

Receiving All–State recognition in football were Carrol Matlock, tackle; Rex Matlock, fullback; David Barnes, center; and Marshall Tilley, center. Ted Ward participated in the 1965 L. H. S. A. A. All Star game in Baton Rouge and was chosen the outstanding player. Mike Beaty played in the 1966 L. H. S. A. A. All Star game.[76]

Two state records in track are held by Haughton. In Class B, the Mile Relay with a time of 3.26 was set by Jr. Cantu, Mike Beaty, Sammy Evans, and Ted Ward. A 440 Relay Class A record was made in 1970 by Danny Rushing, Tommy Wells, Jimmy Rusley, and John Brewer.[77]

Haughton basketball players selected to All–State teams were Jimmy Weaver, Ken Maynard, Walter Hickman, Ronnie Jones, Larry Farmer, Archie Smith, Kenny Covington, Kenny Cowan, Benny Deprang, and Mike Hollis. In addition to All–State, Kenny Covington is the only athlete to be selected as an All–American high school athlete. The first year Haughton participated in Class A basketball, 1966 – 1967, they were State Runner–up. In 1967 – 1968 they became Class A State Champions. They repeated the feat in 1968 – 1969 posting a 38 – 2 record, and this record still stands as the best record made by a high school in the Bossier – Caddo area. The outstanding coaching of these teams led Billy W. Montgomery to be named Coach of the Year in 1968 and also in 1969.[78]

The school year of 1970 – 1971 began Haughton's first year in Class 1 – AAA. As the smallest school in this district, the Buccaneers completed an impressive 8 – 2 season in football and a 25 – 11 overall season in basketball. The track team, winning three track meets and placing second in District 1 – AAA, is completing a very successful year.

Tables

Table I

Faculty of 1970 – 1971

Harold E. Harlan – Principal
Robert Lattier – Assistant Principal
Billy W. Montgomery – Assistant Principal

Martin Andrews
Donald W. Black
Elaine Blount
Jo Ann Broadway
Shirley Bryant
John L. Burson
George C. Cicala
Richard J. Concillio
Estelle R. Grems
Betty Guillot*
Patsy Gullatt
Elaine Harner
Roy E. Hayes
C. Belle Hector
Barbara Hendricks
Vicky R. Hinton
Shirley Hoffman
Ann V. Huddleston
Gussie Mae Hudson
Sarah Jarvis
Melanie Jones
Gary Killen
John F. Langston
Barbara J. Lochner
Barbara May Lodge
Annie G. Magee
Billy G. Mangham
Will A. Marston
Candice P. Martin
Jimmy L. McDonald
Bobby R. McHalffey
Henry D. Meachum
George R. Moore
Jannie Lee Moss
Tommie B. Pepper
Ruby S. Pierre
Pattye Robinson
Fred Scarbrough
Thomas B. Shuler
Frank B. Staton
Bernie S. Teague
Allie D. Tilley
Dervis Tippen
Merrilee H. Warren
Barbara Winfield
*Resigned on April 1, 1971

Table II

School Personnel 1970 – 1971

Registrar – Mary Jo Garland
Secretary – Jackie Hanley
Dietitian – Martha Showers
Cafeteria Personnel – Vergia Beckham
Henrieeta McLemore
Louise Fisher
Mary Hogsett

Myrtle Pennington
Nell Jones
Edna Mae Devereaux
Mattie Drayton

Custodian – J. H. Aldridge

Custodial Helpers – Louie Fredrick
Jim Thurston
Addie Lee Jones
Zeffie Windon
Marshall Lee Tomlinson

Table III

Principals of Haughton High School
1906 – (this 1971 data was updated through 2014)

Lambert, C. H.	1905 – 1906
*Bynum, W. A.	1906 – 1907
Davis, W. J.	1907 – 1909
Bailey, Prof.	1909 – 1910
Mason, Prof.	1909 – 1910
Lowrey, B. N.	1910 – 1918 (Jan.)
Lynch, J. P.	1918
Simpson, J. M.	1918 – 1920
Kerr, R. V.	1920 – 1921
Childs, R. C.	1921 – 1922
Maddox, S. D.	1922 – 1923
Lowrey, B. N.	1923 – 1936
Rusheon, T. O.	1936 – 1950
Moreland, P. W.	1950 – 1960
Harlan, H. E.	1960 – 1984 (Oct.)
Montgomery, B. W.	1984 (Oct.) – 1987 (Dec.)
Smith, Jane	1987 (Dec.) – 1994 (Dec.)
Tynes, William “Bill”	1994 (Dec.) – 1996 (June)
Couvillion, Gene	1996 (Fall) – Present

* 1907 – first year that HHS was recognized as a senior high school by the state of Louisiana / also, the first graduate was in 1907 – Laroy Smith Hayes

Assistant Principals

(this 1971 data was updated through 2014)

Adkins, C. M.	1968 – 1970
Lattier, Robert	1970 – unknown
Montgomery, Billy	1970 – 1984 (Oct.)

Smith, Jane	1984 (Oct.) - 1987 (Dec.)
McHalffey, Bobby Ray	1985 - 1986
Jones, Dr. Hurie	1987 - 1990
Tynes, William “Bill”	1988 – 1994
Rushing, Don	1990 (Aug.) – 1994 (Aug.)
Couvillion, Gene	1995 (Spring) – 1996 (Fall)
Jordan, Emma	1995 (Fall) – 2000
Gaspard, Kim	1996 (Summer) – 1998 (Spring)
Turner, Martha	1998 (Fall) - present
Thrash, David	2000 (Aug.) – 2004
Jefferson, Yolanda Jackson	2004 – 2012
Haynie, David	2012 – present

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Table IV

Enrollment Haughton High School

1947 – 1971

School Session	Students	Teachers
1947 – 48 (a)	435	19
1948 – 49 (b)	432	20
1949 – 50	494	22
1950 – 51	529	24
1951 – 52	536	23
1952 – 53	556	24
1953 – 54	595	23
1954 – 55	639	25
1955 – 56	598	27
1956 – 57	620	26
1957 – 58	666	27
1958 – 59	660	26
1959 – 60	770	27
1960 – 61	752	32
1961 – 62	848	34
1962 – 63 (c)	558	27
1963 – 64	692	29
1964 – 65	709	31
1965 – 66	738	32
1966 – 67	795	35
1967 – 68	908	35
1968 – 69	1,046	39
1969 – 70 (d)	1,076	44
1970 – 71 (e)	887	44

(a) Grades 1 – 11

(b) Grades 1 – 12
(c) Platt Elementary opened, Grades 1 – 6
(d) Integration, became Grades 7 – 12, February, 1970
(e) Grades 8 – 12

(updates to the 1971 information)

2012-13	first mid-term graduation (held in the HHS auditorium)
2013-2014	1102 students / 70 teachers, 3 counselors, 1 graduation coach, 1 SRO, 3 secretaries, 1 clerical aide, 8 paraprofessionals, 1 nurse, 8 food service workers, 9 custodians

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Table V

Superintendents of Bossier Parish
Since 1879

J. H. Keyser	1879 – 1891
A. J. Murff	1891 – 1892
J. A. W. Lowry	1892 – 1899
W. H. Scanland	1899 – 1904
Jos. E. Johnston	1904 – 1909
W. A. Fortson	1909 – 1921
R. V. Kerr	1921 – 1956
T. L. Rodes	1956 – 1962
Emmett Cope	1962 – 1971
John McConathy	1971 – 1982
Rudolph Smith	1982 – 1984
Jap Gullatt, J.	1984 – 1988
Douglas Peterson	1988 – 1991
W. T. Lewis	1991 – 1995
Jane H. Smith	1995 – 2000
Kenneth N. Kruithof	2000 – 2009
D. C. Machen, Jr.	2009 – Present

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Table VI

Student Council Officers

1970 – 1971
President – Irene Lee Toliver

Vice – President – Jan Huckaby
Secretary – Ted Warren
Treasurer – Paul Meyer
Reporter – Renee Ramsey

1971 – 1972
President – Paula Mangum
Vice – President – Ann Pepper
Secretary – Ted Warren
Treasurer – David Meyer
Reporter – Renee Ramsey

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Table VII

Retired Teachers
Haughton High School

Lowry, B. N.*	1910 – 1918, 1923 – 1937
Nabours, Pearl*	1927 – 1951
Nelson, Lillian	1937 – 1952
Jones, Lucille	1936 – 1963
Tooke, Anna	1941 – 1965
Jones, Lula Belle	1951 – 1969
Smith, Mary S.	1925 – 1928, 1942 – 1969
Burroughs, Eunice	1952 – 1970
Bryant, Lillie V.	1970

*Deceased

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C. Unpublished Materials

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D. Personal Interviews

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Chandler, Mr. and Mrs. Frank R., April 17, 1971, Haughton, Louisiana.
Clayton, Jack, April 17, 1971, Haughton, Louisiana.
Harlan, Harold E., April 17, 1971, Haughton, Louisiana.
Hays, Laroy s., April 1, 1971, Minden, Louisiana.
Horton, Mrs. D. A., May 2, 1971, Haughton, Louisiana.
Hughes, Frank K., April 17, 1971, Haughton, Louisiana.
Jones, Misses Lucille, Lulabelle, and Martile, April 5, 1971, Haughton, Louisiana.
Montgomery, Billy W., April 30, 1971Haughton, Louisiana.
Moreland, Mrs. P. W., April 7, 1971, Bossier City, Louisiana.
Ramsey, Harold H., April 13, 1971, Benton, Louisiana.
Sutherlin, Lucille McAnn, April 5, 1971, Haughton, Louisiana.
Tyner, I. E., April 26, 1971, Haughton, Louisiana.

E. Documents

Bossier Parish Teacher's Contract. Issued to Miss Mattie Price, 1896. In possession of niece, Rona E. Baird.

Price, W. L. Letter form Rocky Mount, Louisiana to Miss Mattie Price, Haynesville, Louisiana, February 19, 1899. In possession of niece, Rona E. Baird.

F. Newspapers

The Bossier Banner, Benton, Louisiana, September 8, 1927.

G. Published Materials

Bennett, Charles O. "Public Education in Bossier Parish, 1852 – 1930," *North Louisiana Historical Association Journal,* Vol. II, No. 2, Winter, 1971.

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Footnotes

[1]Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northwest Louisiana. (Nashville: The Southern Publishing Company, 1890), p. 119

[2]Ibid., p. 122

[3]Ibid.

[4]Minutes of Bossier Parish School Board, 1877-1921, p. 4.

[5]Ibid., 1878, p. 20.

[6]Ibid., 1885, p. 45.

[7]Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northwest Louisiana, op. cit., p. 121.

[8]Ibid.

[9]Dr. C. M. Tucker, Unpublished Manuscript, (On file, Haughton High School). March, 1935.

[10]Lucille McAnn Sutherlin, Personal Interview, Haughton, Louisiana, April 5, 1971.

[11]Minutes, op. cit., 1891, p. 74.

[12]Letter in possession of Miss Rona E. Baird, niece of Mr. Price. (Minutes identified Cheshire as teacher at Haughton – 1897), Fryeburg, Louisiana, April 10, 1971.

[13]Contract in possession of Miss Rona E. Baird.

[14]Minutes, op. cit., 1897, p. 168.

[15]Ibid., 1899, p. 197.

[16]Ibid., 1896, p. 159.

[17]Ibid., 1904, p. 288.

[18]Conveyance Records, Clerk of Court, Bossier Parish, April 26, 1905, Books 25-434.

[19]Minutes, op. cit., 1905, p. 299.

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[30]Ibid., 1916, p. 632.

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[33]Dr. Tucker, op. cit.

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[35]Charles O. Bennett, "Public Education in Bossier Parish, 1852 – 1930", North Louisiana Historical Association Journal, Winter 1971, Vol. II, No. 2, p. 53.

[36]Ibid., p. 54.

[37]Minutes of the Bossier Parish School Board, 1922 – 1934, p. 101.

[38]Ibid., 1924, pp. 118 – 120.

[39]Ibid., 1925, p. 135.

[40]Treasure Chest, Haughton High School, 1955.

[41]Minutes, op. cit., 1926, p. 241.

[42]The Bossier Banner, Benton, September 8, 1927, p. 4.

[43]Minutes of the Bossier Parish School Board, 1935 – 1948, p. 507.

[44]Minutes, 1927, p. 275.

[45]Jack Clayton, Personal interview, Haughton, Louisiana, April 17, 1971.

[46]Minutes, 1934, p. 478.

[47]Ibid., p. 479.

[48]Dr. Tucker, op. cit.

[49]Tresure Chest, Haughton High School, 1955.

[50]Minutes, 1937, p. 69.

[51]Frank K. Hughes, Personal Interview, Haughton, Louisiana, April 17, 1971.

[52]Minutes, 1940, p. 393.
[53]Ibid, 1941.
[54]Travelette, Haughton High School, 1941.
[55]Harold H. Ramsey, Personal Interview, Benton, Louisiana, April 13, 1971.
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[57]Ibid.
[58]Ibid.
[59]Mr. Hughes, op. cit.
[60]Ibid.
[61]Mr. Clayton, op. cit.
[62]Mrs. D. A. Horton, Personal Interview, Haughton Louisiana, May 2, 1971.
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[66]Treasure Chest, Haughton High School, 1951.
[67]Treasure Chest, Haughton High School, 1952.
[68]Treasure Chest, op. cit., 1951.
[69]Minutes Bossier Parish School Board, 1954 – 1958.
[70]Minutes, op. cit., 1958, p. 142.
[71]Minutes Bossier Parish School Board, 1958 – 1961.
[72]I. E. Tyner, Personal Interview, Haughton, Louisiana, April 26, 1971.
[73]J. H. Aldridge, Personal Interview, Haughton, Louisiana, April 30, 1971.
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[75]Annual Report, Haughton High School, April 30, 1971.
[76]Harold E. Harlan, Personal Interview, Haughton, Louisiana, April 17, 1971.
[77]Ibid.
[78]Billy W. Montgomery, Personal Interview, Haughton, Louisiana, April 30, 1971.

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LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY
Ruston, Louisiana 71270
College of Education

May 17, 1971

Mr. Harold B. Harlan, Principal
P. O. Box 27
Haughton High School
Haughton, Louisiana 71037

Dear Mr. Harlan:

I was so glad to have your letter of May 14 which confirmed my belief that the paper on Haughton High School by Mrs. Huddleston and Mrs. Pepper is one of the best that I have ever read. I had wondered if my friendship with Mr. L. S. Hays (the first graduate, class of 1907) and my having been born at Koran, now a ghost town, had caused me to be prejudiced in favor of the subject. I am also very fond of Ann and Mrs. Pepper and I must agree that they "dug in" when they did their research.

They told me that the Materials Center had made enough copies for your school to have a copy and for the Center to have a copy. They were kind enough to give me a copy, also. Now I wish that all of our students worked as diligently as they do!

Thank you for your letter. Send me some more students like these two!

Sincerely yours,

John Ardis Cawthon

John Ardis Cawthon

Acknowledgments

The writers of this history appreciate so much the kindness and the patience shown by their principal, Harold E. Harlan. Gratitude also goes to Dr. J. A. Cawthon for his invaluable assistance in the procedures of historical research.

Appreciation is extended to the staff of his Media Center, to the staff of the Central Office of the Bossier Parish School Board, and particularly to Jap Gullatt, Business Manager and former teacher and coach of Haughton High School.

Further indebtedness is acknowledged to Margaret Adkins, English teacher as Airline Junior College and formerly of Haughton High School, for criticisms and suggestions concerning the composition of this paper.

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Alma Mater

Haughton High you'll ever be
Cherished in out memory.
We will sing our praise to thee
And forever loyal be.

Hail to thee, old Haughton High!
May your spirit never die.
Sons and daughters ever true. . .
Alma Mater, we love you!

Joyful times and friends sincere,
Red and white we hold thee dear.
In our hearts will ever dwell.
Days with you we loved so well.

--Lyrics composed by:
Mrs. Elaine Worley
Mrs. Mary Garland
--Music arranged by:
Mr. Billy Ray Guin

Adopted:
October 26, 1962

School Colors:
Red and white

Mascot:
Buccaneers

May 6, 2014 – Today is the Class of 2014's last day at Haughton High. They took finals yesterday and today and some of them are dedicated enough to return to take AP tests this week and next even after they were released today. At the CenturyLink Center in Bossier City on May 17, they will take part in Commencement Exercises (aka "Graduation") and continue a proud Buccaneer tradition. That Buc tradition includes history that is obscure to many, but two former faculty members made great headway in gathering HHS data with a project they completed several decades ago. The original data was compiled and written by Ann Huddleston and Tommie Baird Pepper when they were faculty members at Haughton High in 1971; they submitted this as a research paper for a class they were taking at La. Tech.

The typed version of their research has been stored in the Haughton High Library archives since it was written. The attached file is is obviously a work in progress, as many items need to be revised/updated. There was, of course, no digital copy until now. For the members of the Class of 2014, who have never known life without the internet, this is almost a foreign concept. However, this document has now been "rebirthed" so that new generations of Buccaneers can share this knowledge. Thanks to Class of 2014 member and library worker Eryn Rhodes for her typing work on this project! It is our hope that the updates will continue so that the history of Haughton High will continue for many new generations.

Mary Sullivan, Class of 1985, HHS Librarian (Jan. 1990 – May 2014)