



Preservation
North
Carolina

STANFORD COMMUNITY CENTER



FOR SALE

Set on a lush wooded acre, this c.1942 Rosenwald inspired building with original belltower and windows is ready for its next era.

**109 STANFORD
COMMUNITY ROAD
MAGNOLIA, NC 28453
DUPLIN COUNTY**

FEATURES

- 1,229 square feet
- 1 acre
- Zoning: N/A

PRICE: \$99,900

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GENERAL INFORMATION



ABOUT THIS PROPERTY

The charming structure features a large classroom flooded with natural light from the bank of large nine-over-nine windows located on the southeast elevation. The northwest elevation is asymmetrical, with a pair of nine-over-nine double-hung windows providing light to the teacher's office, and three six-light "Breeze Windows" placed high on the wall to provide cross-ventilation for the classroom. The eaves of this elevation feature exposed rafter tails. The southwest gabled elevation contains a single five-panel entry sheltered by a small gable roof supported by brackets identical to the main entrance, with a small centrally located louvred attic vent in the gable. The gable roof has a slight overhang with fascia. The northeast gable façade contains the main entry with a five-panel door that is sheltered beneath a small gabled roof supported by triangular knee braces. Single six-over-six double-hung windows flank the main entry with a louvred attic vent centered above. The entry foyer leads into two cloak rooms that have been converted into restrooms, and the original bell in the bell tower. Simple flat casing is used on all openings. A louvred bell tower with a pyramidal roof tops the east gable. The building is sheathed in German siding. Simple flat casing surrounds all building openings. The main roof and entry hoods are sheathed in a standing-seam metal. All features appear to be original.

The Stanford Community Center embodies distinctive characteristics of the 1924 Rosenwald Fund One-Teacher Community School Plan 1-A architectural design, and represents the extended influence of the Rosenwald legacy. The site also showcases the resilience of Duplin County's Black community in the quest for education and a cohesive community. The current structure is the third African American schoolhouse that was built on the property. That early structure was built and envisioned by three pioneering freedmen: Simon Stanford, Isaac Bryant, and Joe Carlton. As Stanford was the main engineer and donor of the land, the school was named for him. This existing third schoolhouse was built in 1942 as denoted by the hand carved cornerstone. Little documentation of funding sources has yet been identified, but at this time the school has not been tied to Rosenwald funding directly. Based on newspaper articles, oral histories, and state preservation records, it is understood that the building was used as a religious and social community center for the African American residents in Duplin and adjoining counties.

AREA INFORMATION

The building is nestled in a tranquil grove of oaks on one acre, a few miles off of I-40 in Duplin County, home to Duplin Winery, and under an hour from Wilmington. It's one of only a couple of properties on Stanford Community Road, a fragment of the old Magnolia to Kenansville roads, surrounded by mostly agricultural land. Visit townofmagnoliamc.com and www.duplinnc.gov to learn more about the area.