

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND THANKS TO MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS CHAPTER

My brother Arrel Toews, Class of 1966, for his own memories

Ellis Toews, Class of 1966

Dennis Toews, Class of 1965

Jakie Lee Rempel, in Class of 1962, but left after freshman year, by phone and email

Russell Lloyd, Class of 1969

My brother Arrel Toews, Class of 1966, for help with editing and style content suggestions

The Shop and Music Room Addition - 1957

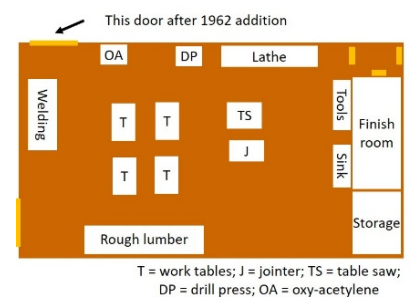
Myron's Kremlin School Buildings History – Chapter 5; last modified 06-17-2024

Chapter 5. The Shop and Music Room Addition

The next addition to the school was a shop and music room, built onto the east side of the gymnasium and completed for the 1957-58 school year, based on both yearbook photos and a few students' clear memories of having Shop class in this building at the start of the 1957-58 school year. Unfortunately, I currently have no photos of the outside of this building; if anyone has those photos, please share! Fortunately, there are a reasonable number of good photos from the inside of both rooms to help with memories of the room layouts.

Below is a sketch of the floor layout of this addition as best I remember it, not yet to perfect scale, and with the grade school building truncated; if anyone has additional or different clear memories, please let me know! The north end of the shop was perhaps 6-8 feet south of the north end of the gym, with an entry door close to the back (east) side of the gym. The south end of the music room was perhaps 8-10 feet north of the east exit door from the gym. Steps from that door had previously gone down to the south; new steps were added to go north to the music room entry door from the gym. In addition, a covered but open walkway was added north from the steps to the south door of the music room. There was an entry into a foyer from the east, between the two rooms, which had doors to the shop, to the music room, and into the finish room between the shop and music room. The north door to the shop was double-wide and large enough for getting large equipment and lumber into the building. The shop was a good bit larger than the music room, and the main part of the shop had a higher ceiling. Between the two rooms and west of the foyer was the ventilated and "clean" finish room, for final staining and varnishing of projects, without exposure to the dust of the main shop. There were windows into the finish room from both the shop and the music room. Behind the finish room (to the west) was a storage area, where smaller projects were stored between classes and where watches and rings and jackets could be stored during class. I well remember this area, because my watch, an 8th grade graduation present, was stolen from this area during my freshman year Shop 1 class. Arrel remembers there being a rough lumber rack in that room in his Shop 1 days, 1962-63.

The left photo below, taken days before demolition, shows this addition. The center diagram is the layout of the addition. The right image below is a more detailed layout of the Shop room and equipment and supplies. Arrel and Russell Lloyd remember the jointer being closer to the north wall than where I have it. Arrel's memory is that 1965-1966, his senior Shop 2 year and my freshman Shop 1 year, was the first year that welding was offered. Arrel remembers welding outside of the north-east corner door, not in the welding booths area as shown. Arrel also remembers the task board on the south wall, with all the students having little wood blocks with their names painted on them, these getting moved up each week, so everyone had a rotating task at end of class. Arrel kept his and it is in his garage workshop to remind him to always clean up when he is done; photo below.



5.1 The shop, mostly in photos

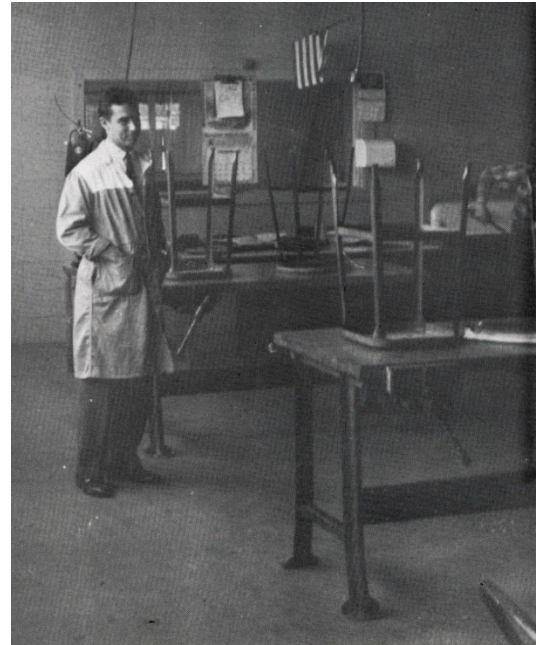
Below are two of the earliest photos of the shop, from the 1958 yearbook, the first year of this addition. Both photos are taken looking to the north-east corner of the shop. The pre-fab steel beam ceiling trusses show in the right photo.



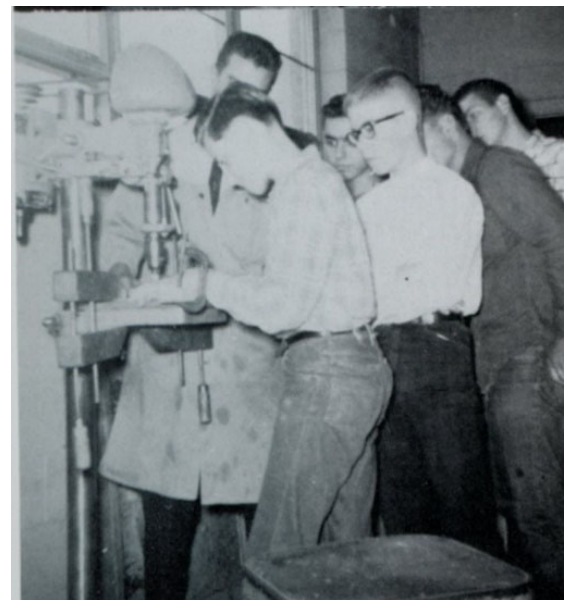
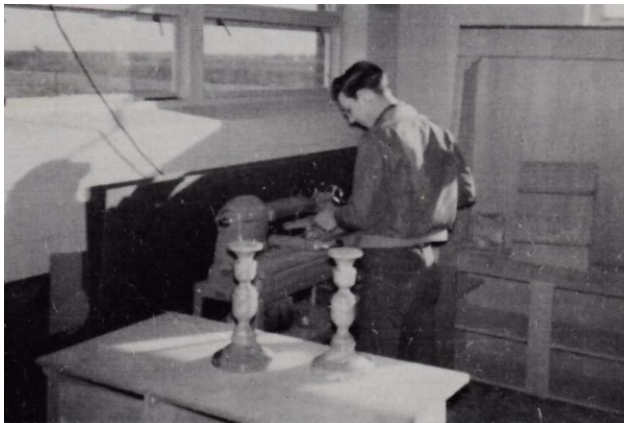
Two photos below show nice views of the north-west corner of the shop, with the double entry doors from the north, the gas heater hanging from the ceiling, and the lumber rack at the north end of the west wall. The top left photo is from the 1961 yearbook, top right from 1960. The bottom right photo, from the 1959 yearbook, shows the door into the storage locker area, in the south-west corner of the shop.



The left photo below, from the 1959 yearbook, provides the best view of the south wall of the shop, with the windows into the finish room behind the boys and the wide clean-up sink at the far right. The photo to the right with long-time shop teacher Dwayne Janzen, from the 1963 yearbook, shows a similar view, but also provides the best view of the “butcher block top” work tables, with a wood vise on each side.



The top left photo below, from the 1960 yearbook, shows the lathe, which was near the south end of the east wall, close to the door into the foyer. The windows are nicely shown here also. The right photo below, from the 1965 yearbook, shows the drill press, which we remember being just north of the lathe. The bottom left photo, also from 1965, shows the hand-tool cabinet, to the left of the window into the finish room and to the right of the door into the foyer.



5.2 The music room, mostly in photos

There is less to be said about the music room, which was basically a large open room, with windows to the outside on the south and east walls and into the finish room on the north wall. These windows were covered with shades in their early years, as shown in the photos below from the 1959 yearbook. The top left photo is taken further to the west than the top right photo and also shows the blackboard and/or bulletin board at the west end of the north wall. The top right photo shows the window into the shop finish room behind the students.



The photo to the right, from the 1963 yearbook, shows the south wall windows, with the door leading to the entrance to the south end of the gym at the far right, barely visible. The left photo below, from the 1964 yearbook, shows a nice view of the entire north-east corner of the room, with the finish room windows, the door to the foyer, and the east windows. The bottom right photo, also from 1964, shows the new steps out the east gym door, going down both ways, and the canopy over the walkway to the music room. This photo also shows a window into the grade school boys' locker room at the east end of the stage.

