

tional recitation rooms; then a small, two-story, brick wing was added to the west side, and finally a one-story, frame addition of considerable size, was erected in the rear for use as a study hall. Two-story, brick wings had likewise been added to the Grammar school nearby. There was no architectural beauty about these buildings. The conflagration of May 3, 1901, swept the entire nest away and closed the spring term for that year for Duval High School.<sup>a</sup>

LaVilla Grammar School was the home of Duval High beginning with the fall term of 1901, until Central Grammar school, at Liberty and Church Streets, was completed in November, 1902, where it was assigned five rooms on the second floor. The arrangement was inadequate and unsatisfactory from the first and decided complaint arose about it. School funds at this time were at a low ebb, and the erection of a separate building for Duval High was delayed, as it was thought inadvisable to float a bond issue or increase the millage of taxation for the purpose, in view of the heavy losses sustained by the people in the conflagration of 1901. Nevertheless, D. H. S. Alumni Association became active in the matter and prepared a program to raise funds by its own efforts for the erection of a suitable High School building, and it was largely through the efforts of the Association, in keeping the matter alive, that the central unit of the present Duval High School on Ocean Street was built.<sup>a</sup>

After two years of planning, the contract was awarded by the School Board December 26, 1906, to J. A. McDonald, for the erection of a brick and stone High School building on the east side of Ocean Street between Beaver and Ashley, for \$64,770, completely equipped. Work was begun in January, and on April 4, 1907, the corner-stone was laid with Masonic ceremonies, in the presence of school officials, faculty and pupils of Duval High School, and a large concourse of interested spectators. Sealed in the corner-stone as mementoes were:

Program of the ceremonies; constitution and roster of D. H. S. Alumni Association; roster of Board of Education; rosters and photographs of D. H. S. faculty and senior, junior, sophomore and freshman classes in 1907; photograph of High-Grammar School building at Liberty and Church Streets; Masonic rosters; No. 1 of Vol. 1, Oracle of March, 1907 (first issue); current issues of local newspapers.