

The former Louisiana Tech dining hall (Toliver Hall) was constructed in 1939. It is a one-story brick building set on a half basement which becomes a full story basement at the rear as the ground falls away. Although not strongly articulated, the dining hall has some of the same Colonial Revival details found on many of the campus' other 1930s buildings. Alterations have been confined to the interior.

The dining hall's red and brown brick was laid in a manner to resemble the textured effect found on colonial buildings where burnt headers were used. The building has an overall "T" footprint, with a gabled parapet section at the front with a long block extending from it. Most of the latter is taken over by a large dining room. Small louvered dormers are found on both sections. An oculus with cast concrete keystones is found on the upper portion of each gabled parapet elevation. Windows are six over six. Those on the gabled parapet front section feature a jack arch and a contrasting cast concrete keystone. The windows on the long side of this section have a cast concrete panel below. Deeply recessed entrances are found on each end of the gabled parapet block as well as on each side of the main block (toward the rear). They feature a simple cast concrete opening with a five-pane transom and a paneled vestibule.

Most of the interior space is given over to a large dining room. The gabled parapet end section contains a foyer and offices with a paneled wainscot. (Some of the paneled wainscot has been covered with plywood.) The dining room space has a largely modern character (new flooring, new ceiling covering, etc.) It has been subdivided with partition walls that do not extend to the ceiling; hence its overall character as one large room survives to some extent.

Assessment of Integrity:

Because the dining hall survives unchanged on the exterior, it would be immediately recognizable to someone from the historic period.

SIGNIFICANT DATES:	1939
ARCHITECT/BUILDER:	Neild, Somdal & Neild, Architects
CRITERION:	A

Toliver Dining Hall is of local significance in the area of education because it is an important component of a critical chapter in Louisiana Tech's history, the great construction boom of the 1930s which increased the physical plant by one-third, including numerous major buildings. See the multiple property cover form "The 1930s Building Boom at Louisiana Tech" for a fuller statement of significance.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

See the multiple property cover form's bibliography.