

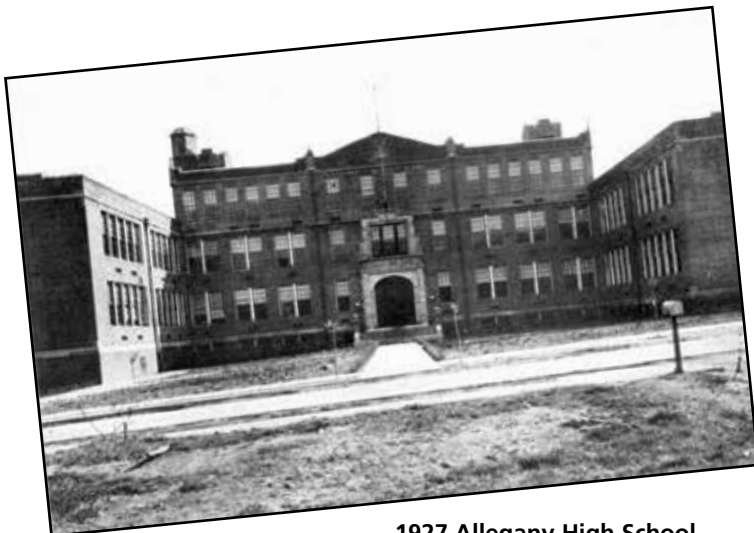
# Allegany High School Students Construct 8 Foot LEGO Model of Former School



In our Spring/Summer 2022 issue of *Mountain Discoveries* we featured an article on the “**American High School Experience**” presentation that took place the entire month of July at Allegany Museum in Cumberland, Maryland. The exhibit was curated by current Allegany High School students in Mr. Brian White’s Historical Research Methods class and included large panel displays, photographs, memorabilia *AND* the Lego replica of the Sedgwick Street building. Allegany High School was housed at the Sedgwick Street location from 1926 through 2018 when it was moved to a new state-of-the-art facility at 900 Seton Drive in Cumberland.

The Lego project required interdisciplinary skills that stretched beyond typical social studies classes. The students took multiple photographs of the exterior and studied engineering and other aspects of the structure as well as original floor plans. They used Minecraft, a creative building block computer game, to build a 3D blueprint of the school and also to create the scale needed for the Legos — 1 Minecraft block = 1 Lego block. The students needed to build inside supports from Legos to hold up both the walls and the ceilings, which was especially important because the Lego project featured no glue whatsoever.

Three students, Drake Rose, Cole Fiscus and Daniel Gregory were the primary Lego builders with research collaboration from other students and teachers. The project took the entire academic year to complete, about 200 man hours and over 35,000 Lego pieces. The Lego building measures 44” wide by 96” long and the cost was estimated at about \$2,000 from donations and class budget. It is three and a half times larger than Lego’s largest box set, *Titanic*.



**1927 Allegany High School, Sedgwick Street, Cumberland, Maryland.** Although there had been several additions and upgrades, the basic structure of the school remained the same. The Lego model accurately represents this photo.

Following the “**American High School Experience**” exhibit, the Lego building will be permanently displayed at the new high school on Seton Drive, as well as some of the large panels and other memorabilia. It is fitting, timely and rewarding to have these pieces preserved as the high school at Sedgwick Street has since been demolished.

Use this QR code (click/scan with your phone) to connect to a YouTube video showing the Lego project in progress.

