

<b>PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM</b> OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION Box 1026 PA HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION Harrisburg, PA 17120		7. Local survey organization Philadelphia Historical Commission		1. County Philadelphia 5. present name Dimmer Beeber Junior High School 2. municipality Philadelphia 3. street address or specific location 5901 Malvern Avenue 4. survey code
8. property owners name and address School District of Philadelphia 21st and Winter Streets Philadelphia, PA 19103		9. tax parcel number / other number 886268000	10. U.T.M. zone 118 41719121810 2.5 acres 4421610610 northing usgs sheet: Philadelphia	
12. classification site ( ) structure ( ) object ( ) building ( ) Thematic in N.R. district yes ( ) no ( )	13. date(s) (how determined) 1931-1932 14. period 1931-1932	15. style, design or folk type Classical Revival	19. original use School 20. present use School	
16. architect or engineer Irwin T. Catharine	17. contractor or builder Unknown	18. primary building mat./construction Brick with lime-stone trim	21. condition Excellent 22. integrity Excellent	
23. site plan with north arrow 		BLACK AND WHITE PRINT(S) 3 1/2" x 5" enlargement or medium format contact note location of negative in block 24.		
24. photo notation		25. file/location		
26. brief description (note unusual features, integrity, environment, threats and associated buildings) A 3-story, 15-register, brick building set upon a stone basement. The symmetrical arrangement of registers is highlighted by a center projecting frontispiece block and two flanking projecting building ends. The main entrance is handsomely detailed with four smooth dressed Doric columns supporting an entablature incised with the school name. Above is a molded cornice and a balustraded parapet. The main facade of the building is broken down into elements beginning with a limestone basement. The first floor is defined by a stone beltcourse above the window heads. The main body of the building is characterized by projecting brick pilasters with stone bases and capitals which flank the recessed windows. These pilasters support a stone fascia and cornice, above which sits a brick parapet. Stone gable heads appear above the (continue on back if necessary)				
27. history, significance and/or background Type JHS-4, the model for eight junior high schools erected between 1922 and 1924, stands as the first junior high schools designed and built as junior high schools. Earlier junior high schools really represent an adaptation of an elementary school plan. The Georgian Revival model of JHS-4 appears in the current nomination as the Jones, Harding, Sulzberger, Vare, Shaw, Roosevelt and Cooke Junior High (continue on back if necessary)				
28. sources of information Edmunds, Chronological List of Public School Buildings, 1818-1934 School Board, "New School Buildings Under Contract" (continue on back if necessary)			29. prepared by: J. M. Moak 30. date 5-20-87 revision(s)	

26. DESCRIPTION (continued)

parapet over the projecting three pavilions. Each of the registers contains tripartite sash, except for the central entrance pavilion.

27. HISTORY/SIGN. (continued)

Schools of 1922-1924 by Irwin T. Catharine. The introduction of School Board Type JHS-8 marked another phase of junior high school design following the popular Georgian Revival JHS-4. Although the overall plan remained the same with the rectangular block broken by projecting center and end pavilions, Catharine employed a Neo-Classical vocabulary for JHS-8 and through it conveyed a sense of massiveness and tradition. Two schools of this type, the Woodrow Wilson and General Louis Wagner Junior High Schools, both of 1927-1928, were listed on the National Register in 1986. The current nomination proposes to enter a slight variation on this form, the Dimmer Beeber Junior High School, on the National Register. It retains a very high degree of integrity.

National Register Criteria: A and C, Architecture and Education.

Boundary Justification: The nominated property contains the contributing building and all historically associated land.

There is one contributing building on the nominated property.

Verbal boundary: the nominated property is tax parcel #886268000.

EVALUATION

The architectural merits of this building and its place in the evolution of public schools in Philadelphia warrant its inclusion on the National Register as a part of a Multiple Resource nomination.

EVALUATOR(S)

Philadelphia Quad

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Thematic Nomination  
Rudolph Blankenburg School  
Philadelphia County  
Zone 18  
UTM 18/481600/4424500

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Thematic Nomination  
Belmont School  
Philadelphia County  
Zone 18  
UTM 18/482500/4423880

59° 11' SE  
(NORRISTOWN)

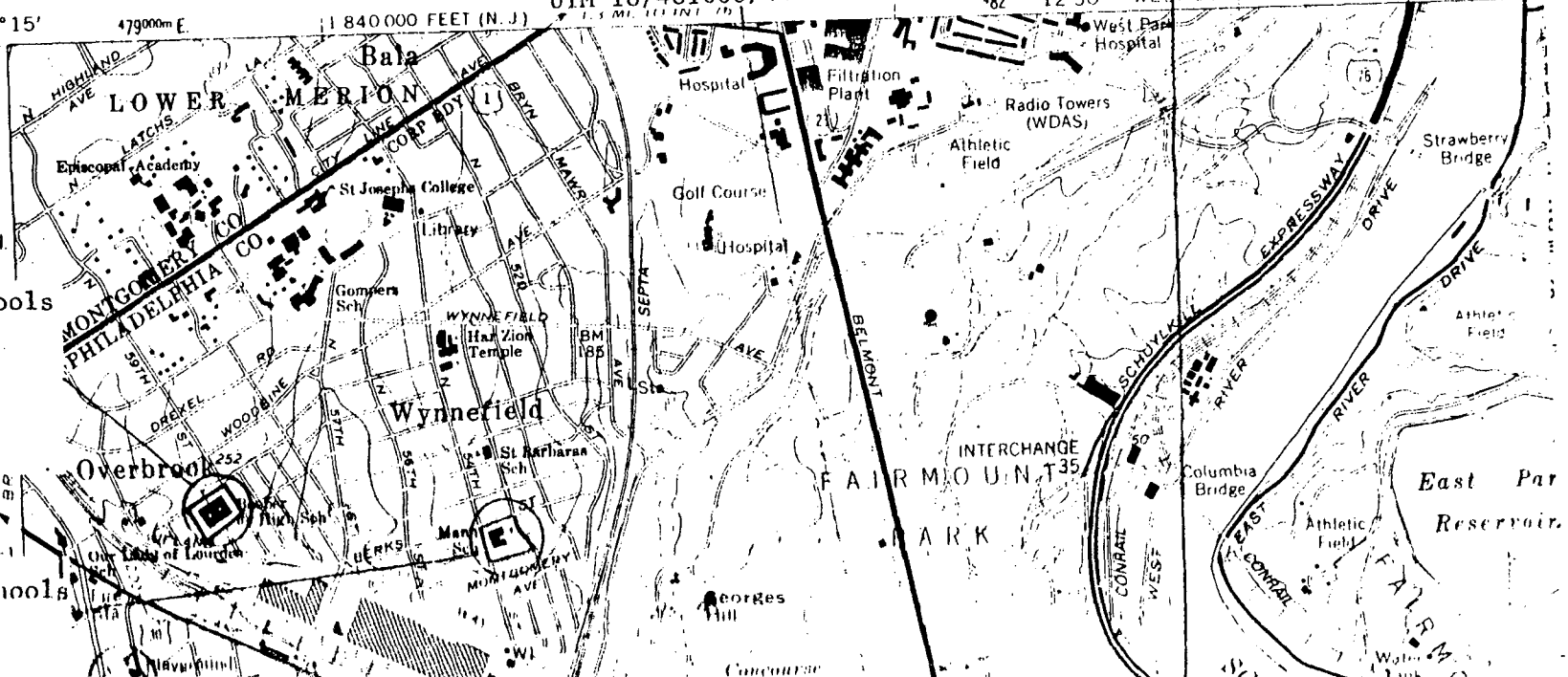
75° 15'  
40° 09'

479000m E

1 840 000 FEET (N. J.)

482 12'30" WEST CONSHOHOCKEN R. MI

4427000m N



Philadelphia Public Schools  
Thematic Nomination  
Dimmer Beeber School  
Philadelphia County  
Zone 18  
UTM 18/479280/4426060

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Thematic Nomination  
William Mann School