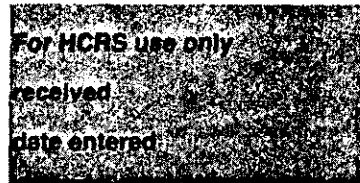


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



1. Name

historic JEFFERSON AVENUE SCHOOL

and/or common

2. Location

street & number JEFFERSON AVENUE AND POND STREETS N/A not for publication

city, town Bristol N/A vicinity of congressional district N/A

state Pennsylvania code 101 county Bucks code

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	N/A being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Bernard Mazzocchi III

street & number 2271 Farragut Avenue

city, town Bristol N/A vicinity of state Pennsylvania

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Records Department

street & number

city, town Doylestown state Pa.

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Jefferson Avenue School is a three story hip-roofed stone structure with full basement. Constructed in 1908, to provide additional classrooms for Bristol's elementary grades, the building was designed by the Philadelphia architectural firm of Heacock and Hokanson. Constructed of random coursed fieldstone with limestone trim, at a cost of \$38,000 the building features Georgian Revival detailing adapted to institutional design. Set back on a grassy knoll, this prominent structure recalls the Georgian stone farmhouses and estates of eighteenth century Pennsylvania.

Situated on the corner of Jefferson Avenue and Pond Street, the building is freestanding, providing four major elevations. The fenestration forms a regular pattern on the front and rear facades, with windows grouped to create three major bays. The basement, resting on a fieldstone base, is partially below grade, reflecting the slope of the property. While little of the original basement sash survive, the fenestration on the southwest end of the structure consisted of five double hung 9/9 sash with simple wood trim and flat stone arches. On the southeast end, the basement is lit by four single 9 light, casement sash. Narrow 8 light windows flank the entryway at basement level. The basement is delineated by a limestone watercourse extending across the width of the facade below the first floor level. Another watercourse marks the section of base resting above grade.

The Jefferson Avenue facade is dominated by a large central frontispiece denoting the school's main entrance. A single concrete step leads to the entryway, a double leaf wood door with single light panels in each leaf, surmounted by a multi-light tripartite transom. Crowning the frontispiece is a shed hood supported by two large molded wood brackets.

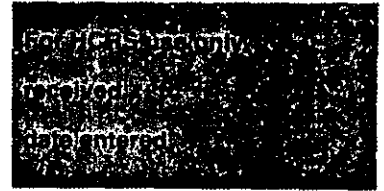
The central entrance bay is further enhanced by a large semi-elliptical window, piercing the facade above the frontispiece and providing light for both the first and second floors of the school. A variation on the Palladian motif, the window incorporates a double hung 9/9 sash with side lights and fanlight. The remaining upper story fenestration consists of double hung 9/9 sash arranged in groupings of 4 windows to each side, with single windows flanking the Palladian central section. Limestone sills and splayed stone lintels complete the detailing. Crowning the facade is a moulded wood dentilled cornice. A brick chimney with corbelling pierces the center of the broad hipped roof.

The two bay Pond Street facade features a projecting enclosed entrance with single leaf wood door, plain trim and 3 light transom. The enclosure is lit by narrow side windows of 5 lights. The limestone watertable, continuing across the side elevation from Jefferson Street spans the sides and fronts of this flat-roofed entrance. The fenestration repeats the regular pattern of the front elevation.

In grading, fenestration, and entryway, the rear facade of the Jefferson Avenue School echoes the front elevation. In place of a Palladian window, the rear elevation features bands of 3 narrow multi-light windows above the entryway on the second and third floors.

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Continuation sheet JEFFERSON AVENUE SCHOOL

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Best known for their numerous school designs, J. Linden Heacock and Oscar Hokanson received architectural degrees from the University of Pennsylvania in the 1890's, both serving apprenticeships before entering into a partnership in 1899. While the firm also designed a number of churches, residences, and office buildings, its specialization in school architecture began as early as 1903, with the commission to design a school in Cheltenham Hills, Heacock's home town. Heacock and Hokanson went on to design school buildings in Melrose Park, Abington, Glenside and Riverton, New Jersey. The firm's association with Bristol, PA began in 1908 with the Jefferson Avenue Grammar School. With Grundy's encouragement and backing, the firm went on to design several other civic and industrial buildings in the borough, including Town Hall and numerous buildings for William Grundy & Co., the city's leading textile manufacturer.

Heacock & Hokanson continued to design school buildings in the suburbs of Philadelphia throughout the 1920's, 30's and 40's, remaining busy during a time when many firms were struggling to survive the depression. Included among their other work from this period is the Bristol Town Hall, constructed in 1927.

The Jefferson Avenue School stands today as an important symbol of the progress and prosperity accompanying Bristol as it entered the twentieth century. Built in response to the needs of a community confronted with rapid industrialization and change, the handsome Georgian Revival building survives as the only completely intact original elementary school building in Bristol.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1908 Builder/Architect Heacock and Hokanson

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The period between the close of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century ushered in a major period of economic and industrial prosperity for the Borough of Bristol. As a result of the area's importance as an industrial center, the borough's economy and population grew at an unprecedented rate between 1860 and 1910. The Jefferson Avenue School, built in direct response to the growing needs of the community, figures prominently in Bristol's development, embodying a spirit of progress, change and civic pride, which reached its pinnacle in the early 1900's.

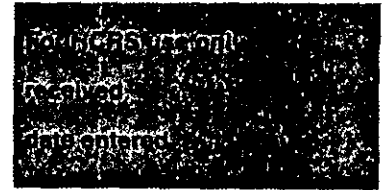
Among the earliest areas to develop in Pennsylvania (1681), Bristol has a long history as a major Delaware river port, serving as a critical transportation and trade link with other east coast ports. A milling and shipbuilding town in its earliest years, Bristol developed in the early nineteenth century as an important and prosperous coal port on the Delaware Canal line. By mid-century, the pace of development in Bristol slowed as transportation shifted from water to rail transport. Later, during the Civil War, the town served as a key manufacturing center for military supplies, boosting the local economy for the duration of the war. However, the real turning point in Bristol's development, came in the post-Civil War era with the creation of the Bristol Improvement Company (B.I.C.).

Established in 1876 by Joshua Pierce, an enterprising local businessman, B.I.C. embarked on an important development plan designed to bring industry to the area. Prior to the creation of the company, Pierce's individual efforts had resulted in the establishment of sash and planing mills, a wool felt products manufactory as well as the Bristol Foundry and Bristol Rolling mill. The B.I.C. plan called for the construction and leasing of mills to manufacturing concerns. The result was a ready made plant of operation, with significantly reduced financial risk to the company owners. By the 1890's, Bristol boasted 7 B.I.C.-organized mills, including the large worsted mills of Grundy Brothers and Campion, and the Bristol Carpet Mill, and wallpaper and leatherworks manufactories. Soon private mill complexes began locating in town. This highly productive manufacturing community earned Bristol a regional and national reputation as a major textile manufacturing center.

Workers flocked to the new mills and factories of Bristol, causing a significant surge in population. Census figures, recorded during the late nineteenth through the early twentieth centuries, indicated a population growth of some 7,500 persons during the period 1860-1919, while between 1900 and 1910 alone Bristol's population increased a record 40%. The result of this rapid growth and industrial prosperity was the creation of a strong community development movement, led by many concerned citizens including local manufacturer and senator, Joseph Grundy.

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Continuation sheet JEFFERSON AVENUE SCHOOL

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A member of Bristol's Borough Council for some thirty years, Grundy displayed a keen interest in Bristol's improvement, often giving generously of his own wealth to public projects. Among those improvement projects he participated in was the building of the Jefferson Avenue School. Aware that a new school for the Fifth Ward would be necessary in the near future, he purchased a parcel at the corner of Jefferson Avenue and Pond Street, formerly the site of the Grundy family homestead, in order to save the ideal location until such time as the school board was ready to erect a new building.

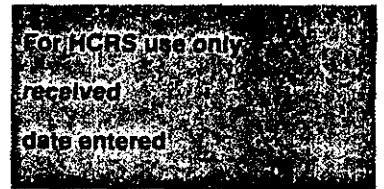
Indeed, by 1908, Bristol's School Board moved to construct a new grammar school in order to relieve the overcrowding of the borough's schools. Posting bonds for the purchase and construction of the building, the Board paid Grundy \$4,100 for the Jefferson Avenue property -- a sum he later returned during dedication ceremonies. Planning for the new school was extensive and thorough. The Board placed special emphasis on high architectural quality, holding a competition for the design of the building. An impressive total of 18 architectural firms, including several Philadelphia firms, submitted entries. The winning design, a dignified Georgian Revival building, came from the Philadelphia firm of Heacock & Hokanson.

Seen as "an important event in the progress of Bristol" according to local newspapers of the day, the construction of the Jefferson Avenue School was celebrated with tremendous fanfare, beginning with celebrations at the laying of the cornerstone. The school's official opening was observed with three days of dedication ceremonies and parades, complete with patriotic songs, speeches and flags proclaiming Bristol's proud heritage and bright future. Included among the celebrations were processions before the public by the borough's school children, led by uniformed drill squad, presentation of the flag staff, a parents night during which the school was open for inspection, and a banquet attended by 150 guests holding various governmental and public offices in the borough and county. As the centerpiece for this auspicious occasion, the school became a new emblem of civic pride, a solid reminder of the communities growth and progress.

Every aspect of the building's plan and design spoke of the great strides made by the Borough of Bristol, including the choice of architectural style. In the wake of Victorian style excesses, American architects in the late 1800's and early 1900's sought to restore a sense of order and dignity to the architectural landscape. The Georgian Revival style, drawing references from colonial and early national periods in American history, was characterized by its domestic scale, symmetrically ordered facades and subtle, classical detailing. Evoking a sense of pride and dignity, the style was well suited to public buildings, academic edifices and elegant residences. Heacock & Hokanson's selection of this style was an appropriate choice for the Jefferson Avenue School, reflecting the period of prosperity and fierce civic pride which spurred the creation of a new public school. The native fieldstone used in the school design recalled images of early industrial Bristol, harmonizing well with the stone mills and houses of these earlier days.

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Continuation sheet JEFFERSON AVENUE SCHOOL

Item number

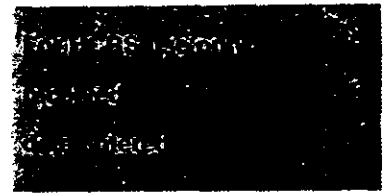
8

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The school's interior, as described in a history of the borough, was laid out as follows: the basement contained the school auditorium, in addition to boys and girls lavatories, boiler room and coal bin. The boiler room was constructed in brick and reinforced concrete, rendering it fireproof. The upper floors consisted of four classrooms with adjoining cloak rooms. The second floor housed a teachers' room at the head of the stairs. The present configuration of the building remains largely intact, particularly the classroom layout. Some efforts to modernize the building took place including the addition of a firestair, within the envelope of the building and some alterations to the auditorium area. When constructed, the building was noted for its installation of the most modern equipment of the period, including large air ventilators connected to a central air conduit, and hygenic drinking fountains.

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Continuation sheet JEFFERSON AVENUE SCHOOL Item number 10 Page 2

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

140' to the west side of Pond St.; thence south along this western property line a distance of 220' to the point of beginning.

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .71

Quadrangle name Bristol

Quadrangle scale 1: 24000

UMT References

A

1	18	5	1	3	1	1	8	10	4	4	3	1	8	7	2	10
Zone		Easting						Northing								

B

Zone		Easting						Northing								

C

Zone		Easting						Northing								

D

Zone		Easting						Northing								

E

Zone		Easting						Northing								

F

Zone		Easting						Northing								

G

Zone		Easting						Northing								

H

Zone		Easting						Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification Beginning at a point on the north east corner of Jefferson Ave. and Pond St, thence east along the northside of Jefferson Avenue a distance of 140' to the west property line of the adjoining property; thence north along said line a distance of 220' to the south side of Grant Ave.; thence west along said line a distance of

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state _____ code _____ county _____ code _____

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth R. Mintz

organization ELIZABETH R. MINTZ

date April 23, 1985

street & number 301 Cherry Street

telephone (215) 592-0465

city or town Philadelphia

state Pa

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

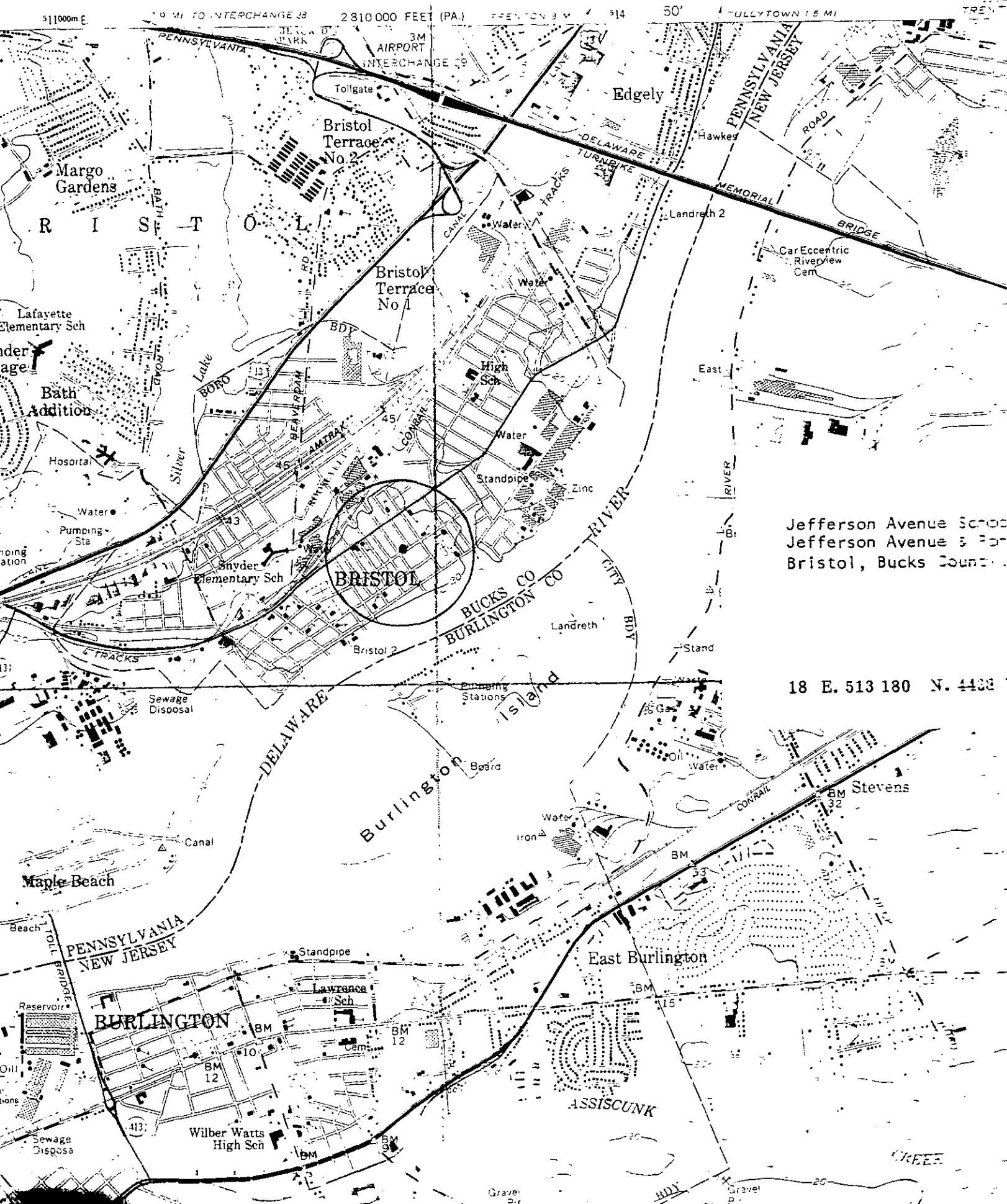
State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title Larry E. Tise, State Historic Preservation Officer

date 3/24/85





Jefferson Avenue School
Jefferson Avenue & Park
Bristol, Bucks County

18 E. 513 180 N. 4433