

7. Local survey organization

8. property owners name and address
 School Board of Philadelphia
 21st Street & the Parkway
 Philadelphia, Pa. 19103

9. tax parcel number/other number
 11. status (other surveys, lists etc.)

10. U.T.M. Zone 18 Easting 620
 two acres
 usgs sheet: Philadelphia
 northing 4423166

12. classification
 site () structure () object ()
 building () district ()
 Thematic

13. date(s) (how determined)
 1930-1931
 14. period

15. style, design or folk type
 Art Deco

19. original use School
 20. present use School

16. architect or engineer
 Irwin T. Catharine

17. contractor or builder

18. primary building mat./construc.
 Orange Brick

21. condition Excel.
 22. integrity Excel.

23. site plan with north arrow
 24. photo notation
 25. file/location

BLACK AND WHITE PRINT(S)
 3 1/2" x 5" enlargement or medium format contact
 note location of negative in block 24.

26. brief description (note unusual features, integrity, environment, threats and associated buildings)
 NPS counting purposes: one contributing building
 (continue on back if necessary)

27. history, significance and/or background
 (continue on back if necessary)

28. sources of information
 see bibliography for nomination
 (continue on back if necessary)

29. prepared by:
 B. Mintz

Computer Coding (BHP Survey Grantees Must Complete)

30. date 7/1986
 revision(s)

31. county _____ 32. style _____
 32. construction material _____ 34. roof _____
 35. design type _____
 36. historic function _____
 37. construction feature _____ 38. ext. walls _____ 39. plan _____
 40. facade width _____ 41. roof material _____ 42. stories _____ 43. depth _____
 44. ext. design _____
 45. int. design _____

1. County PHILADELPHIA
 2. municipality PHILADELPHIA
 3. street address or specific location 21st Street, South of 12th Street
 4. survey code
 5. present name SPRING GARDEN SCHOOL #2
 6. other name (historic name if any) SAME

Spring Garden School #2

Physical Description

This building rising three stories and spanning sixteen bays is constructed of brick in the Art Deco style. The building is defined by both its verticality and a series of projections and recessions typical of the period. Ribbon bands of windows enhanced by brick piers and pilasters are grouped in pairs with single flanking end bays. The corbelled brick spandrel panels are decorated with brick diamond motifs. The pilaster capitals are adorned with floral motifs. At the ends the building recedes and projects with a pronounced 1-1/2 story section resting in front of a recessed story. The building's geometric form is reinforced by the set back stair towers securing the roof top recreational cage. The entrance surrounds are enhanced with decorative motif.

Statement of Significance

The Spring Garden School #2 followed a popular plan and exhibits characteristic detailing for Art Deco with one major exception, the selected color of brick. Unlike all other school buildings designed in the Art Deco style, this building was constructed in an unusual orange brick. This vivid color used in conjunction with the high level of detailing employed creates a powerful appearance for the building. Moreover, this building is an important example of the Art Deco style in academic architecture. Designed to resemble a fortress complete with flag staffs, the Spring Garden School epitomized the richness of textures and materials employed in the creation of school structures. The Office of the Superintendent consistently displayed a level of sophistication and styling in the design of buildings. Always mindful of the high profile which school buildings maintained within a community, the Superintendent's office created structures which stood out from the surrounding architecture. Perfect in size, scale, materials and architectural ornamentation, the Spring Garden School is an intact example of Art Deco academic design.

Thus Spring Garden School #2 is important as an unusually detailed and colored example of Art Deco public school designs by Catharine.

area of significance: architecture

verbal boundary description

The nominated property consists of Philadelphia County lot 8861455 which contains the school and its contiguous grounds.

EVALUATION

EVALUATOR(S)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County
Spring Garden School #2
12th & Melon St.
18486 620N4423 660

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County
Spring Garden School #1
12th & Odgen St.
18486 660N4424 040

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County
W&E Martin Orthopedic Sch.
18485 100N4424 220

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County
Lydia Darrah School
18485 820N4424 020

PHILADELPHIA QUADRANGLE
PENNSYLVANIA-NEW JERSEY
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County
Rudolph Walton School
18484 900N4427 020

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County
George Meade School
18485 900N4425 140

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County
Verbrook High School
18481 460N4422 540

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County
Shoemaker Jr. High
18480 480N4424 840

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County
William B. Hanna School
18479 800N4424 680

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County
George L. Brooks School
18480 020N4424 040

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County
Thomas Dunlap
18481 040N4423 440

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County
East Phil. High School
18481 460N4422 520

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County
Walter R. Masterson School
18482 820N4423 440

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County
David Landreth School
18484 480N4420 620

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County
Weir Mitchell School
18481 880N4420 520

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County
Bonny Wayne School
18483 660N4419 940

Philadelphia Public Schools
Philadelphia County

Philadelphia Pub
Philadelphia Co
Daniel Boone Sch
18488 920N4423

Philadelphia Pub
Philadelphia Co
Edison High Scho
18487 660N4426

Philadelphia Pub
Philadelphia Co
David Farragut S
18488 420N4426

Philadelphia Pub
Philadelphia Co
William S. Stoke
18484 040N4425

Philadelphia Pub
Philadelphia Co
Paul Lawrence Du
18486 800N4430

Philadelphia Pub
Philadelphia Co
William Penn Sch
18486 040N4423

Philadelphia Pub
Philadelphia Co
Alexander Dallas
18485 140N4424 2

Philadelphia Pub
Philadelphia Co
Hofflin School
18487 760N4423

Philadelphia Pub
Philadelphia Co
Fleische
18486 340N4423 4

Philadelphia Pub
Philadelphia Co
Thaddeus Stevens
18486 340N4423

Philadelphia Pub
Philadelphia Co
Meredith School
18487 100N4420

Philadelphia Pub
Philadelphia Co
J. Sylvester Kam
18486 300N4421

Philadelphia Pub
Philadelphia Co
Samuel J. Randal
18486 340N4421

Philadelphia Pub
Philadelphia Co
Robert Ralston S
18487 460N4420

Philadelphia Pub
Philadelphia Co
Francis M. Drex
18485 220N4421

Philadelphia Pub
Philadelphia Co