

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.   
 usgs sheet: Philadelphia

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

13. date(s) (how determined)  
 1927-1928  
 14. period

15. style, design or folk type  
 Moderne

19. original use School  
 20. present use Vacant

16. architect or engineer  
 Irwin T. Catharine

17. contractor or builder

18. primary building mat./construc.  
 Brick/Limestone  
 Tile

21. condition Good  
 22. integrity Excel.

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)  
 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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 33. 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 TWELFTH & ODGEN STREETS  
 4. survey code  
 5. present name SPRING GARDEN SCHOOL #1  
 6. other name (historic name if any) SAME

Spring Garden School #1

Physical Description

The Spring Garden Public School rising three stories, in height, and spanning three bays, in front, is constructed of brick with a limestone entrance surround. Engaged pilasters and free standing, smooth dressed columns support the classical style entablature. Above, a limestone parapet has an incised name band. The front elevation is characterized by its flat, almost featureless surface, save for the projecting frontispiece. Thin ribbons of small windows flank the projecting bay. A decorative tile band rests below the molded limestone cornice. A limestone band course defines the first floor level, on all elevations of the building. The side elevation is defined by a series of triplet double hung windows. The tile band course is repeated along this face, as well. Stepped back from the parapet wall is an outdoor recreational area framed by a wire protective cage.

Statement of Significance

As the Office of the Superintendent became more sophisticated, in its design practices, it created proto-typical designs for school construction. These basic forms were then altered and adapted to satisfy site constraints as well as personal aesthetic considerations. Often the size of the lot dictated the type of building which could be constructed, while the population of the district and educational level being served by the building, further influenced the school plant. Particularly in Center City, and the immediately adjacent neighborhoods, space was a major factor in the selection of a building's design. The Spring Garden School, constructed from the design of the Lydia Darrah School, offers a compact plan for an urban educational structure. This building plan successfully incorporated a recreational area into the limited space provided by this smaller building design. The roof top gymnasiums with the metal dome would become a recognizable element in the city's streetscape.

Thus the Spring Garden School #1 is significant as an example of a type of Moderne design adopted by Catharine in the mid- and late 1920s.

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.  
184886 620M4423 660

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Philadelphia County  
Spring Garden School #1  
12th & Odgen St.  
184886 660M4424 040

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Philadelphia County  
W&E Martin Orthopedic Sch.  
184885 100M4424 220

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Philadelphia County  
Lydia Darrah School  
184885 820M4424 020

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

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Philadelphia County  
Dudolph Walton School  
184884 900M4427 020

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Philadelphia County  
George Meade School  
184885 900M4425 140

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Philadelphia County  
Verbrook High School  
184881 460M4422 940

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Philadelphia County  
M. Shoemaker Jr. High  
184880 480M4424 840

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Philadelphia County  
William B. Hanna School  
184879 800M4424 680

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Philadelphia County  
George L. Brooks School  
184880 020M4424 040

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Philadelphia County  
Thomas Dunlap  
184881 040M4423 440

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Philadelphia County  
West Phil. High School  
184881 460M4422 520

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Philadelphia County  
Julia E. Masterman School  
184882 820M4423 440

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Philadelphia County  
David Landreth School  
184884 480M4420 620

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Philadelphia County  
Weir Mitchell School  
184880 880M4420 520

Philadelphia Public Schools  
Philadelphia County  
Thony Wayne School  
184881 660M4419 960

Philadelphia Public Schools

Philadelphia Pu  
Philadelphia Co  
Daniel Boone S  
184888 920M4422

Philadelphia Pu  
Philadelphia Co  
Edison High Sch  
184887 660M4426

Philadelphia Pu  
Philadelphia Co  
David Farragut  
184888 420M4421

Philadelphia Pu  
Philadelphia Co  
William S. Stok  
184884 040M4425

Philadelphia Pu  
Philadelphia Co  
Paul Lawrence D  
184886 800M4430

Philadelphia Pu  
Philadelphia Co  
William Penn Sc  
184886 040M4423

Philadelphia Pub  
Philadelphia Cou  
Alexander Dallas  
184885 140M4424

Philadelphia Pu  
Philadelphia Co  
Mifflin School  
184887 760M4423

Philadelphia Pub  
Philadelphia Cou  
Fleisch  
184886 340M4423

Philadelphia Pu  
Philadelphia Co  
Thaddeus Steven  
184886 340M4423

Philadelphia Pu  
Philadelphia Co  
Hereditch School  
184887 100M4420

Philadelphia Pu  
Philadelphia Co  
J. Sylvester Kas  
184886 300M4421

Philadelphia Pu  
Philadelphia Co  
Samuel J. Randa  
184886 340M4421

Philadelphia Pu  
Philadelphia Co  
Robert Ralston  
184887 460M4420

Philadelphia Pu  
Philadelphia Co  
Francis M. Drex  
184885 220M4421

