

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
BUREAU FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION Box 1026
PA HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION Harrisburg, PA 17120

7. Local survey organization
 Philadelphia Historical Commission

8. property owners name and address
 National Temple Baptist Church
 1629 Master Street
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19121

9. tax parcel number / other number
 471248900

10. U.T.M. zone **18** easting **486030**

11. status (other surveys, lists etc.)

1.3 acres
 sheet: **Philadelphia**

12. classification
 site () structure () object ()
 building () Thematic
 in N.R. district yes () no ()

13. date(s) (how determined)
 1874-1875

15. style, design or folk type

19. original use
 School

14. period
 1874-1875

Italianate

20. present use
 Church

16. architect or engineer

17. contractor or builder

18. primary building mat./construction

21. condition
 Poor

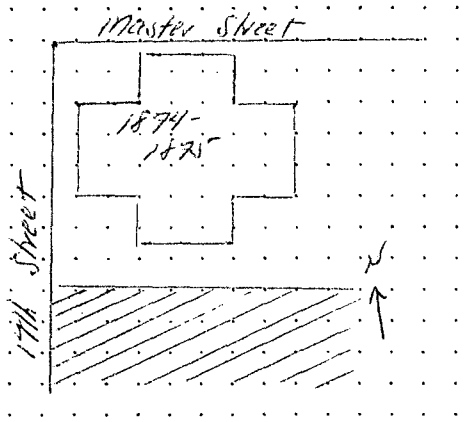
Lewis Esler

Columbus Tweed

Stone

22. integrity
 Very Good

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)

See reverse side

27. history, significance and/or background

See reverse side

28. sources of information

See reverse side

29. prepared by:

Jefferson M. Moak

30. date

5-27-87

revision(s)

1. County
 Philadelphia

2. municipality
 Philadelphia

3. street address or specific location
 1640 Master Street (SEC 17th & Master Streets)

4. survey code
 Bishop Miller Tabernacle Church
 Muhlenberg School

(continue on back if necessary)

(continue on back if necessary)

(continue on back if necessary)

3. ADDRESS: Master Street, 1640 W.
5. NAME: Bishop Miller Tabernacle Church
6. FORMER NAME: Muhlenberg School

13. DATES: 1874-1875

ADDITIONS:

DESCRIPTION: A 2-story, crossgabled stone building measuring six registers along Master Street and three registers along 17th Street. The plan of the building is cruciform. On the long side, the middle four registers project. The central register projects on the east and west elevations. All openings have stone sills and stone segmental arches with keystones. Circular openings appear within each of the gables. A bracketed wood cornice tops the structure. A stone beltcourse separates the first and second floors. The main entrance appears in the far right register of the north elevation.

HISTORY/SIGN.: Lewis Esler was the architect for the Controllers of the Public Schools from 1867 to 1883. During this period, he designed 81 school buildings, although many of his designs were based upon earlier creations by James C. Sidney and others. Seven of these survive in 1987. An eighth was demolished in 1985. Of these seven, five were included in the original National Register nomination of 1986. Two were omitted: Muhlenberg and David Wilmot, both erected in 1874-1875. The Muhlenberg School stands as the sole survivor of Esler's work with a cruciform plan, a plan once common to Philadelphia schools. Although in poor condition, it is now undergoing rehabilitation for elderly housing subject to review and approval by the Philadelphia Historical Commission. It possesses very good integrity.

28. SOURCES: Edmunds, Public School Buildings of Philadelphia, 1868-1874

EVALUATION: Despite its ill use recently, the integrity of this structure warrants its inclusion as part of the Philadelphia Schools Thematic Nomination

National Register Criteria: C, Architecture

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 #471248900.

EVALUATION

EVALUATOR(S)

59° 41' 55" SE
(NORRISTOWN)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF
GEOLOGICAL

Philadelphia Public Schools
Thematic Nomination
General John Reynolds School
Philadelphia County
Zone 18
UTM 18/485080/442560

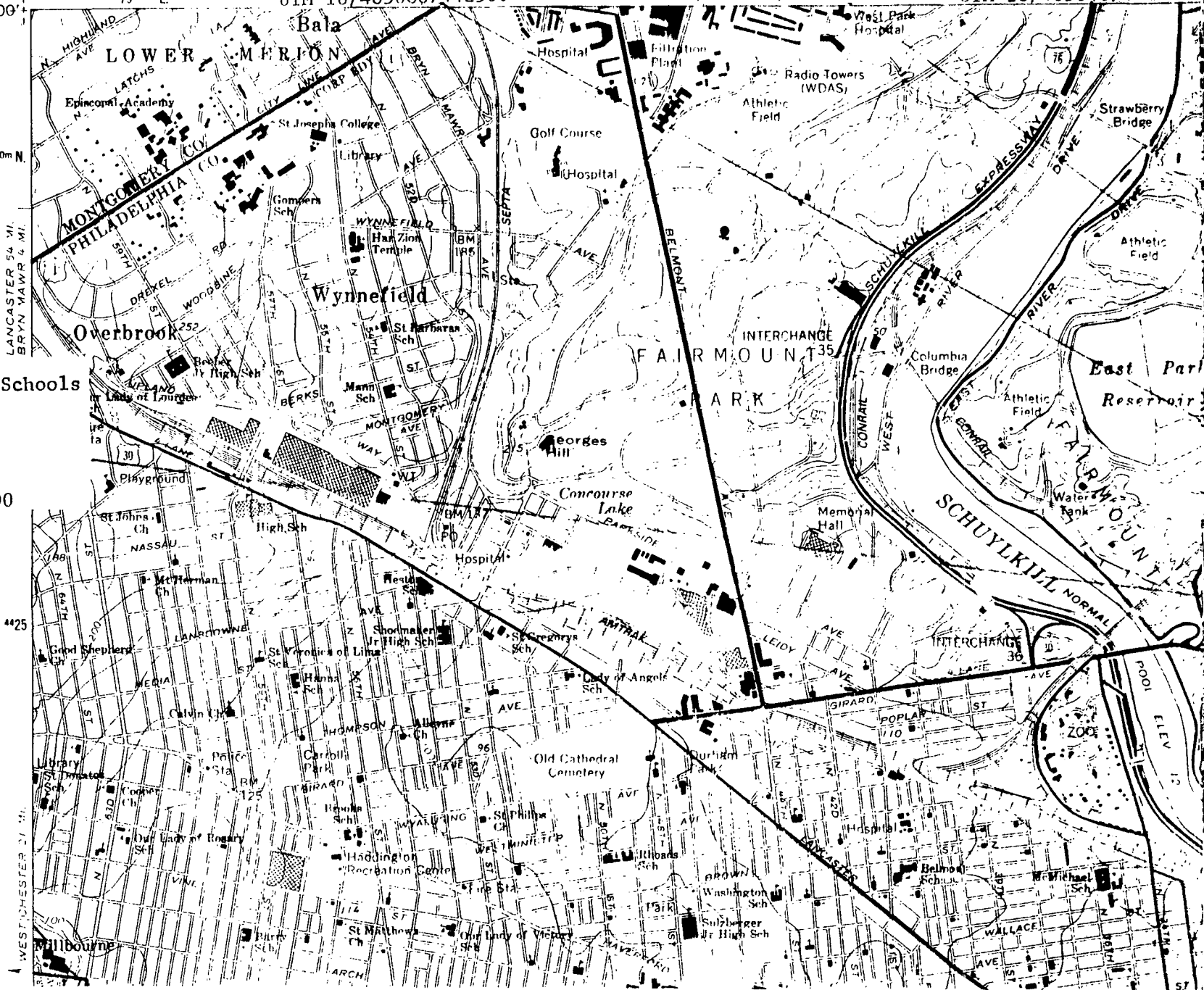
Philadelphia Public Schools
Thematic Nomination
Muhlenburg School
Philadelphia County
Zone 18
UTM 18/486030/4424750

Philadelphia Public Schools
Thematic Nomination
Thomas Fitzsimmons Jr
Philadelphia County
Zone 18
UTM 18/485040/4426860

Philadelphia
Quad

75° 15' 40" 00" W
479000m E

4427000m N



Philadelphia Public Schools
Thematic Nomination
Robert Vaux School
Philadelphia County
Zone 18
UTM 18/485080/4424900