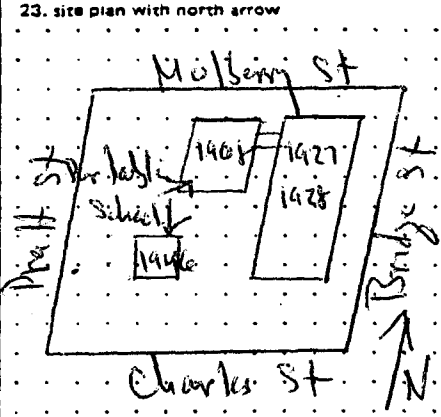


PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION Box 1026 PA HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION Harrisburg, PA 17120		7. Local survey organization Philadelphia Historical Commission		5. present name Franklín Smedley School	1. County Philadelphia
8. property owners name and address School District of Philadelphia 21st and Winter Streets Philadelphia, PA 19103		9. tax parcel number / other number 886289500	10. U.T.M. zone 18 4 14 31 61 61 0 1.7 acres 414 12 91 71 21 0 usage sheet: Frankford		
12. classification site () structure () object () building () Thematic in N.R. district yes () no ()		13. date(s) (how determined) 1927-1928 14. - change 1927-1928	15. style, design or folk type Late Gothic Revival	19. original use School	2. municipality Philadelphia
16. architect or engineer Irwin T. Catharine		17. contractor or builder Unknown	18. primary building mat./construction Brick with stone trim	20. present use School	
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.			3. street address or specific location 5199 Mulberry Street
24. photo notation		25. file/location			
26. brief description (note unusual features, integrity, environment, threats and associated buildings) A 3-story, 9-register brick building on a raised basement. Each register contains 3 windows within a stone opening on each floor, a stone dripcourse, small stone beltcourse/cornice above the first and third floors, and a stone coping atop a crenellated parapet. The central register has a projecting stone entryway with a Tudor-arched opening and the name of the school carved above the opening. A pair of small openings with stone surrounds pierces the parapet above the third floor in the central register. The side elevation stretches seven registers with a blank wall in the first register, a slightly projecting second register with 1-2-1- openings highlighted by stone surrounds and stone panels under the openings, triple sash within the third to sixth register and a single opening in the last register.					
27. history, significance and/or background During the expansive years of the 1920s, the School District had 77 new schools erected and 24 additions constructed on existing buildings. The 77 included 56 elementary schools, 16 junior high schools, 3 senior high schools and 2 technical schools. This program reflected the needs that arose from the continued growth of population, the spread of development and, to a lesser extent, the					
28. sources of information Edmunds, Chronological List of School Buildings School Board, New Buildings Under Contract				29. prepared by: J. M. Moak	
(continue on back if necessary)				30. date 5-29-87	

4. survey code

27. HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

desire to modernize the District's facilities.

In response to this program Irwin T. Catharine adopted the expedient of employing the same or essentially the same plans and elevations for a number of buildings. For example, Type 153, a 3-story, 9-register, Collegiate Gothic model, was used for five schools in various parts of the city. Although less flamboyant than other Catharine designs, it, nevertheless, made a strong statement of association with the tradition of learning and education through the use of Collegiate Gothic detailing.

The Smedley School and its four identical buildings represent Philadelphia's response to the needs of a rapidly growing and changing educational system. The two portable schools on its site do not compromise the Smedley School's integrity.

National Register Criteria: C, Architecture

Boundary Justification: The nominated property contains the contributing building, two non-contributing buildings and all historically associated land.

There is one contributing and two noncontributing buildings on the nominated property.

Verbal boundary: the nominated property is tax parcel #886289500.

EVALUATION

For its place in the history of education and of school architecture in Philadelphia, the Smedley School warrants entry on the National Register.

EVALUATOR(S)

