

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 18A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Greensboro Public School

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Corner of Second and Clear Streets not for publication

city or town Greensboro vicinity

state PA code PA county Greene code 059 zip code 15338

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

DR. BRENT D. GLASS

Signature of certifying official/Title

11/12/94
Date

PA HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION

State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Greensboro Public School
Name of Property

Greene Co., Pa.
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>1</u>		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

Greensboro/New Geneva Multiple Property Submission

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Education: School

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Culture: Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Romanesque

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
walls Stone

roof Asphalt
other Wood

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education

Architecture

Period of Significance

1904-1944

Significant Dates

1904

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Parreco, James

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Greensboro Public School

Greene Co., Pa.

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 1/2 acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1, 7	5, 9, 3, 1, 2, 0	4, 4, 0, 5, 1, 9, 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jerry A. Clouse/Bureau for Historic Preservation Staff

organization Penna. Hist. & Musuem Commission date October 5, 1994

street & number P. O. Box 1026 telephone 717-783-9918

city or town Harrisburg state PA zip code 17108-1026

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Monon Center

street & number P. O. Box 141 telephone _____

city or town Greensboro state PA zip code 15338

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Greensboro Public School, Greene Co., Pa.

Section number 7 Page 1

Description

This seven bay, two-and-a-half story stone school was constructed in 1904 by architect/builder James Parreco. Located on a grassy lot at the corner of Second and Clear streets in Greensboro, the Greensboro Public School faces west onto Second Street. Also located on this tax parcel and north of the school is a one-and-a-half story log building, the Baltzer Kramer House, moved there in about 1976. However, it is not included within this National Register boundary. There are no other surviving historic buildings associated with this property. Although changes have been made to the schoolhouse over the years, it retains sufficient integrity to represent its historic period of significance.

The overall design of the Greensboro Public School is symmetrical with three windows per floor on either side of the central tower. The round-top arches, square tower, rough-faced and squared stonework, transomed windows, and hipped roof are characteristic of the Richardsonian Romanesque style. The rough-cut stones have weathered over the years adding to give their rock-faced texture. According to tradition, the stone for this building was quarried across the Monongahela River in Fayette County. The three windows per floor correspond with the large classrooms on either side of the wide, central halls which extend from the front to the rear of the school on both floors. Both the front and rear entrances have double doors. The four classrooms in the building generally served 90 to 100 students. Three teachers attended the needs of the students.(1)

The three-story, stone and frame bell tower is the focal point of the Greensboro Public School. The tower projects about three feet beyond the facade of the building, and the wide, first floor open arch leads into the double-door entrance. Located just above the keystone of the first floor arch is a carved datestone with these words in raised letters, "Greensboro Public School 1904." The tower has paired windows on the second and third floors. The arched windows on the third floor are shorter. The second floor tower room was the location of the bell ringing apparatus. The actual bell tower section was enclosed after the school was closed in the 1960s. A steeply pitched, hipped roof tops the tower.

The windows throughout the building have single stone lintels and sills. The tall windows on the first and second floors consist of double hung sash. Above each window is a single, fixed transom separated from the window with a heavy, wooden transom bar. A stone water table projects from the building at the top of the basement and in line with the tops of the basement windows. There is a unadorned cornice at the eaves of the building, and the hipped roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles. The gable ends are four bays wide with a

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Greensboro Public School, Greene Co., Pa.

Section number 7 Page 2

single, internal brick chimney centrally located on each gable. There is a larger space between the windows at the location of the chimneys.

On the interior, the wide staircase features a newel post executed in the East Lake style with an oak leaf design. There are pine floors throughout the building. The ceilings are covered with pressed tin in a block-like, recessed panel design. The doors throughout the school are highlighted with five recessed panels.

The south first floor classroom remains much as it was originally. There are blackboards along the entire north and east walls. There are windows on the south and west walls. Historic lithographs or prints of United States presidents, typical of late nineteenth-/early twentieth-century schools, still grace the walls.

The writer was not taken through the north first floor classroom but was told that it mirrored the south classroom. Each classroom had a stove situated in the center of the gable wall. To the rear or east side of each room was a cloak room.

The south second floor classroom had some mid-twentieth-century alterations including a new ceiling with fluorescent lights. The north second floor classroom was converted into a museum room, but the room remains structurally as it was. It houses a model of a river lock and ferry boats as well as Monongahela River related objects and artifacts.

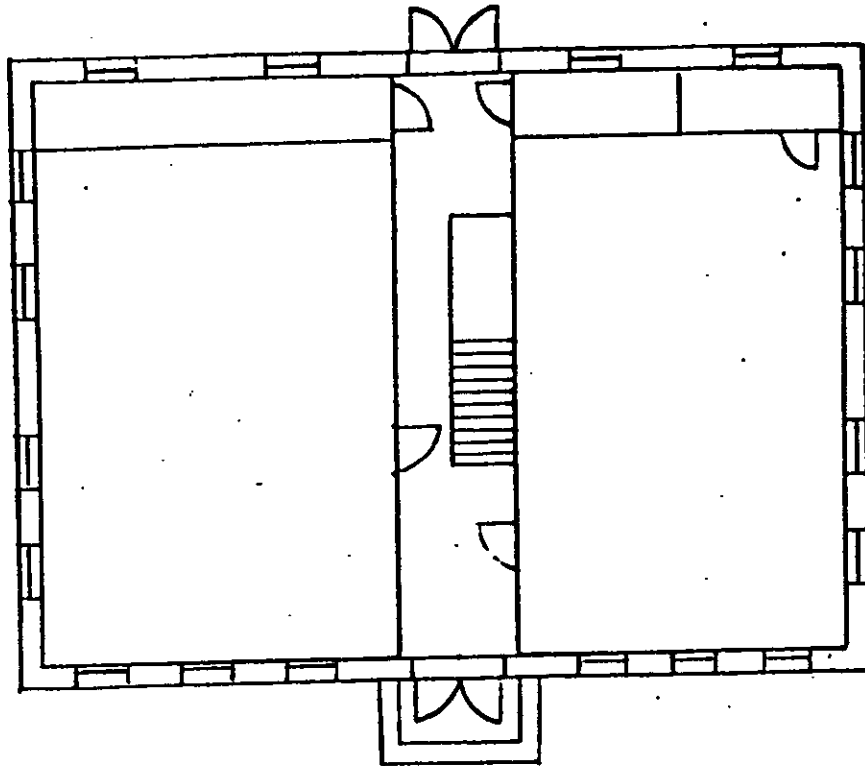
In the basement can be seen the rubblestone foundation which supports the cut sandstone blocks of this building, currently the largest building in the borough. Deep, narrow floor joists rest on three summerbeams which extend into the masonry walls and are supported by posts with capitals.

Although alterations, such as infill on the bell tower and some minor interior replacement materials have been made to the Greensboro Public School, it still retains its dominant architectural features and physical setting and is able to convey its early twentieth-century significance as a Romanesque style public school building.

(1) Virginia and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984), pp. 301-302; James South, interview, 18 November 1993.

Greensboro School
Greensboro, Greene Co.

First Floor Plan
(Not Drawn to Scale)



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Greensboro Public School, Greene Co., Pa.

Section number 8 Page 1**Statement of Significance**

The Greensboro Public School is significant in the areas of education and architecture. This building is part of the property type "Nonresidences of the Greensboro/New Geneva Area" as discussed in the Greensboro/New Geneva Multiple Property Documentation Form. Among the requirements to meet Criterion A, a nonresidence must have been associated with an important pattern of events during the period of significance of this multiple property submission and retain its dominant architectural features and its physical setting. To meet Criterion C, a nonresidence must be a regional example of an early twentieth-century architectural style. It must retain sufficient integrity of materials and stylistic details to be representative of that style. Fenestration patterns and door openings should not be greatly altered or blocked in. The interior of the building should retain most of its original floor plan. The 1904 Greensboro Public School was built on Greensboro Lot 34. This school building retains sufficient integrity to represent its Richardsonian Romanesque style of architecture. The Greensboro Public School is not only significant in association with the development of education in Greensboro but also as a locally significant example of a Richardsonian Romanesque style building.

Little history has been located on the early development of schools in Greensboro. Greensboro's sister river town, New Geneva, had a stone school house by 1810, and although the 1832 Gazetteer of Pennsylvania noted that New Geneva had two schools, no schools were listed for Greensboro. Many of the early schools in the area were connected with religious denominations in which tuition was charged to students. The Pennsylvania legislature passed Public School Acts in the mid-1830s. By 1837, eight school districts were organized in Greene County. These schools were only kept open for two or three months a year. Between this time and the 1850s, there were seven schools in Monongahela Township with 250 pupils and two schools in Greensboro with 101 pupils. Three pottery manufacturers were on the Greensboro School Board in 1888. (1)

While there is no historic record when the first school was built at Greensboro, the 1816 tax record indicates that there was a school in the area. At that time Baltzer Kramer was listed as among those unable to pay for his children's schooling. Although Lot 60 had been presented to Greensboro citizens for public uses by town founder Elias Stone, this lot was used as a cemetery. In 1865 one of the Greensboro schools was located on Lot 43, near the northwest corner of Second and Minor streets. Another school was located on Lot 61 across from the above mentioned cemetery. It was a one-story, brick building with a room at one end for the teacher. This building was demolished in the twentieth century. (2)

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Greensboro Public School, Greene Co., Pa.

Section number 8 Page 2

As previously stated the Greensboro Public School was built on Lot 34. An earlier school, built between 1865 and 1876, had straddled Lots 34 and 33. After the present school was built, this two-story frame building was moved to Front Street where it was converted into a house. It was demolished in the late twentieth century. (3)

The Greensboro Public School served grades one through eight and continued in use until about 1960. The school district donated the property to the Borough of Greensboro. A local group called the Mon Center formed to save the building from further deterioration. The Borough then donated the property to the Mon Center organization. By 1976 this group had converted the school into a local museum and meeting place. (4)

Greensboro continued as a commercial center and major port on the Monongahela in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, and the local population grew after 1900 as the coal and coke boom hit the area. This explains the need for a larger, more substantial school. The size and architecture of the Greensboro Public School is similar to schools built throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in that period. Throughout the late nineteenth century and into the early twentieth century as well, schools progressively became larger with more complex floor plans and were more likely to be constructed in popular national styles. (5)

The Greensboro Public School was the first of James Parreco's works in Greensboro. The following year he built the Greensboro Baptist Church. Although the church was done in the Victorian Gothic style, Parreco again employed rusticated stonework. Likewise, he used stone in his own c. 1910 house built on the corner of Third and Clear streets. However, he used coursed stone work with less rustication in the Parreco House, which displays elements of the Prairie style. These buildings illustrate Parreco's versatility as a builder and his desire to build substantial structures in Greensboro.

The Greensboro Public School is significant in association with the development of educational resources in Greensboro as well as for its Richardsonian Romanesque style architecture. Built during a time of population growth in the area due to the boom in the local coal/coke industry, this school is built in an easily recognizable early twentieth-century form.

Notes

(1) Phillip S. Klein and Ari Hoogenboom, A History of Pennsylvania (University Park, Pa.: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1980), pp. 242-243; Samuel P. Bates, History of Greene County, Pennsylvania (Chicago: Nelson, Rishforth & Co., 1888), pp. 522-523; Lillian Potisek, Hilda Stull, and

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Greensboro Public School, Greene Co., Pa.

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Thomas Vlencek, eds., History of Greene County (no publisher, 1976), p. 28;
Thomas F. Gordon, Gazetteer of the State of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia: T.
Belknap, 1832), pp. 185, 319.

(2) Doris Hawk, interview, 4 October 1994; J.L. McConnell, McConnell's Map
of Greene County, Pennsylvania (Philadelphia: Tuttle & Co., 1865).

(3) Caldwell's Illustrated Historical Atlas of Greene County (Condit, Ohio:
J.A. Caldwell, 1876), p. 122; Doris Hawk, interview, 4 October 1994.

(4) Doris Hawk, interview, 18 October 1994.

(5) Jerry A. Clouse, Greensboro Historic District National Register
nomination, August 1994, Section 8, p. 5.

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Greensboro Public School, Greene Co., Pa.

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Bibliography

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Caldwell's Illustrated Historical Atlas of Greene County (Condit, Ohio: J.A. Caldwell, 1876).

L.K. Evans, Pioneer History of Greene County (Waynesburg, Pa.: Waynesburg Republican, 1941).

Greene Township, Monongahela Township, Greensboro Borough, Greene County Tax Records, Greene County Courthouse Annex, 1797-1910.

Rev. William Hanna, History of Greene County (Greensboro, Pa.: 1882).

J.L. McConnell, McConnell's Map of Greene County, Pennsylvania (Philadelphia: Tuttle & Co., 1865)

Richard Meyer, John F. Bauman, and Alfonso Narvaez, "Historic buildings Survey: Grays Landing Lock and Dam, Monongahela River, Pa." (West Chester, Pa.: John Milner Assoc., Inc., February 1991).

The Papers of Albert Gallatin, microfilm (Philadelphia: Rhistoric Publications, 1969) Sponsored by New York University and the National Historical Publications Commission.

Lillian Potisek, Hilda Stull, and Thomas Viencek, eds., History of Greene County (no publisher, 1976)

Andrew J. Waychoff, Local History of Greene County and Southwestern Pennsylvania (Parsons, W.Va.: McClain Printing Co., 1975).

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Greensboro Public School, Greene Co., Pa.

Section number 10 Page 1

Boundary Description

Beginning at a point on the eastern edge of Second Street where Clear Street intersects the northeast corner of Second Street, then proceeding from this point in a northeast direction parallel with the Greensboro School one hundred and forty-eight feet to a point just north of the north wall of the school, then proceeding from this point in a southwest direction seventy-five feet to a point, then proceeding from this point one hundred and forty-eight feet in a southwest direction to a point on the northern edge of Clear Street or the southern boundary of this property, then proceeding from this point in a northwest direction seventy-five feet parallel with the northern edge of Clear Street to the point of beginning.

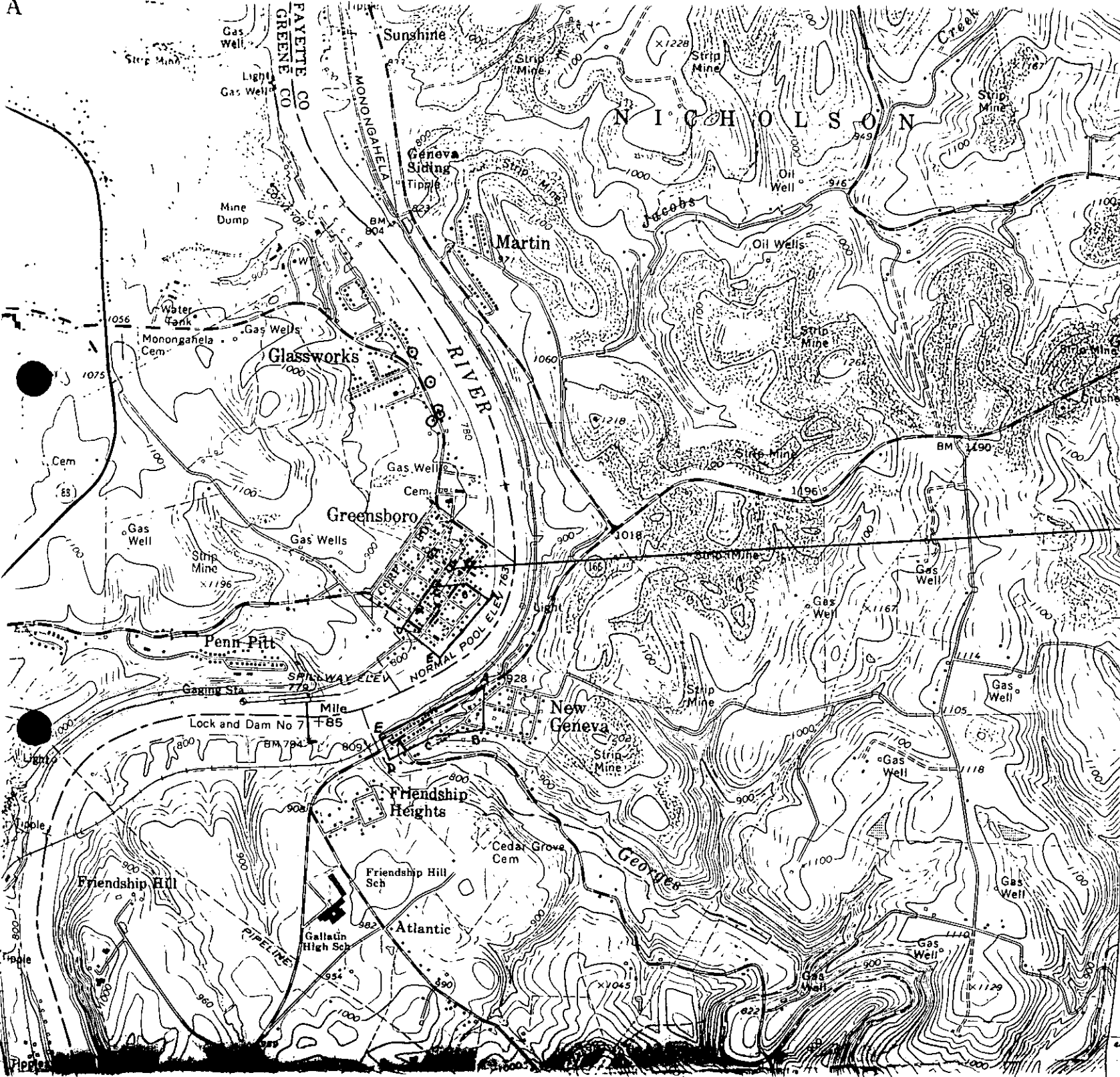
Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the land immediately surrounding the school and was drawn to exclude open land and a building moved to the site.

Greensboro School Photo List

All of the following photographs of the Greensboro School, located in the borough of Greensboro, Greene County, Pennsylvania, were taken by Jerry Clouse, November and December 1993. All of the negatives are located in the offices of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

1. Looking southeast at the north elevation and facade of the Greensboro School.
2. Looking northeast at the south elevation and facade of the Greensboro School showing the Baltzer Kramer house just north of the school.
3. Looking east at the round arch in the bell tower with the datestone above the keystone.
4. Looking west in the south first floor classroom showing the blackboards and window and ceiling design.
5. Looking east in the south first floor classroom showing the blackboards, ceiling, and historic prints on the walls.
6. Looking south in the south second floor classroom showing the blackboards and window placement.



(SMITHFIELD)
5063 IV SE

GLASSWORKS (GREENE COUNTY)

4407 EBERHART/GABLER HOUSE (BLDG. 224)
ZONE 17, E 592890/N 4406190

CRAWFORD HOUSE
ZONE 17, E 592790/N 4406040

GLASSWORKS/GABLER HOUSE (BLDG. 302-B)
ZONE 17, E 593030/N 4405920

GLASSWORKS/GABLER HOUSE (BLDG. 302-A)
ZONE 17, E 593040/N 4405900

REPERT/GABLER HOUSE (BLDG. 314-A)
ZONE 17, E 593000/N 4405860

4406 GREENSBORO (GREENE COUNTY)

JAMES JONES HOUSE
ZONE 17, E 593200/N 4405210

PARRECO HOUSE
ZONE 17, E 593040/N 4405240

GREENSBORO SCHOOL
ZONE 17, E 593120/N 4405190

PETERS/GRAHAM HOUSE
ZONE 17, E 593060/N 4405100

BOUGHNER HOUSE
ZONE 17, E 592980/N 4404980

4405 GREENSBORO HISTORIC DISTRICT (GREENE COUNTY) ZONE 17

A - E 593310/N 4405020

B - E 593210/N 4405100

C - E 593040/N 4405090

D - E 592910/N 4404890

E - E 593090/N 4404740

4404 NEW GENEVA HISTORIC DISTRICT (FAYETTE COUNTY) ZONE 17

A - E 593300/N 4404610

B - E 593300/N 4404420

C - E 593100/N 4404380

D - E 592860/N 4404260

E - E 592820/N 4404370

4403