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OCT 04 1988

<b>PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM</b> OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION Box 1026 PA HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION Harrisburg, PA 17120		7. Local survey organization Philadelphia Historical Commission		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 886211000	10. U.T.M. zone <b>18</b> easting <b>484320</b> 2 acres 11. status (other surveys, lists etc.) PHRS (5-20-81) usage sheet: Philadelphia		5. present name William S. Peirce School
12. classification site ( ) structure ( ) object ( ) building ( ) Thematic in N.R. district yes ( ) no ( )	13. date(s) (how determined) 1928-1929	14. period 1928-1929	15. style, design or folk type Late Gothic Revival	19. original use School	
16. architect or engineer Irwin T. Catharine	17. contractor or builder Weiss Construction	18. primary building mat./construction Brick with lime-stone trim	20. present use School	21. condition Excellent	6. other name (historic name if any) N/A
22. integrity Excellent	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) A 4-story, 9-register, brick building on a raised basement. Stone beltcourses appear above and below the first floor. Each register contains three openings separated by pilasters extending the full height of the building. Limestone capitals top each of the pilasters as well as the piers that separate the registers. The central register has a projecting 1-story entrance with an arched opening with two doors and tracery in the transom. A stone band along the top of the entry projection has the name of the school carved in it. Both the north and south elevations stretch six registers and are mirror images of each other. The rear four registers match those of the front. The second register from the front projects slightly and has four openings in a 1-2-1 arrangement. The first register has no openings but is ornamented by pilasters.		4. survey code
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. The program reflected the needs that arose from the continued growth of population, the spread of development and, to a lesser extent, the desire to modernize		28. sources of information Board of Education, New School Buildings Under Contract Building Permit 1928, #5800		29. prepared by: J. M. Moak	
30. date-87 24-87		31. revision(s)		(continue on back if necessary)	

27. HISTORY/SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

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 schools. For example, Type 153-A, a 4-story, 9-register, Collegiate Gothic building, to all intents and purposes duplicates Type 153, represented by five other schools. For 153-A, Catharine simply added a floor and employed a little more lavish ornamentation. Although less flamboyant than other Catharine designs, this type and the Peirce School, nevertheless, provide a statement of connection with buildings of learning and education through the use of the Collegiate Gothic style.

The Peirce School represents Philadelphia's response to the needs of a rapidly growing and changing educational system and the remarkable versatility of Catharine's basic plans to satisfy the space requirements of neighborhood schools through expandability.

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 #886211000.

EVALUATION

For its place in the history of education and of school architecture in Philadelphia, this building merits entry on the National Register.

EVALUATOR(S)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Philadelphia Public Schools TR  
State Philadelphia County, PA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

71. Paterson, John M., School

Substantive Review

Keeper Laura McClelland 11/18/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

72. Peirce, William S., School

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper Alvina Byers 11/18/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

73. Penn Treaty Junior High School

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper Alvina Byers 11/18/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

74. Pennell, Joseph, School

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper Alvina Byers 11/18/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

75. Pennyacker, Samuel W., School

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper Alvina Byers 11/18/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

76. Reynolds, Gen. John F., School

Substantive Review

Keeper Laura McClelland 11/18/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

77. Richmond School

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper Alvina Byers 11/18/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

78. Roosevelt, Theodore, Junior  
High School

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper Alvina Byers 11/18/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

79. Rowen, William, School

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper Alvina Byers 11/18/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

80. Sharswood, George, School

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper Alvina Byers 11/18/88

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Peirce, William S., School  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Philadelphia Public Schools TR  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia

DATE RECEIVED: 10/04/88                      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/18/88  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/03/88                      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/18/88  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 88002307

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    11/18/88    DATE

Entered in the  
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_  
REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_  
DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

\_\_\_ count      \_\_\_ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

\_\_\_ historic      \_\_\_ current

DESCRIPTION

\_\_\_ architectural classification  
\_\_\_ materials  
\_\_\_ descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period      Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates      Builder/Architect  
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

\_\_\_ summary paragraph  
\_\_\_ completeness  
\_\_\_ clarity  
\_\_\_ applicable criteria  
\_\_\_ justification of areas checked  
\_\_\_ relating significance to the resource  
\_\_\_ context  
\_\_\_ relationship of integrity to significance  
\_\_\_ justification of exception  
\_\_\_ other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

\_\_\_ acreage      \_\_\_ verbal boundary description  
\_\_\_ UTM's      \_\_\_ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

\_\_\_ sketch maps      \_\_\_ USGS maps      \_\_\_ photographs      \_\_\_ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



William S. Pierce School

2400 Christian

1987

Negatives at Philadelphia Historical  
Commission

Photographed by City of Philadelphia  
Front Facade

Phila. Public Schools TR

Phila. County

Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000730