MAGI# 0439321602

B-3932

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

RECEIVED
NOV 1 1979
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

PUBLIC SCHOOL #99 (preferred); The Columbus School

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Northeast corner of East North Avenue and North Washington Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Baltimore VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Seventh

STATE Maryland CODE 24 COUNTY Baltimore Ctiy CODE 510

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
DISTRICT	X PUBLIC	OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	X UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	BOTH	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
		X NO	MILITARY	X OTHER: community

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mayor and City Council of Baltimore

STREET & NUMBER Room 250, City Hall

CITY, TOWN Baltimore VICINITY OF STATE Maryland 21202

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Records Office, Room 601

STREET & NUMBER Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN Baltimore STATE Maryland 21202

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey

DATE 1978 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY X LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Commission for Historic and Architectural Preservation

CITY, TOWN Baltimore STATE Maryland 21202

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CONDITION

_ EXCELLENT
_ GOOD
X FAIR

DETERIORATED
_ RUINS
_ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

_ UNALTERED
X ALTERED

CHECK ONE

Y ORIGINAL SITE
MOVED DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Columbus School, #99, is a Romanesque styled structure, the chief features of which are a central square tower with pyramidal roof and a flanking pair of cylindrical corner towers with cornical roofs. It is located in a neighborhood just south of Clifton Park, a primarily residential area of nineteenth and twentieth century rowhouses in good condition. The structure is currently used as the South Clifton Park Community Center.

The two-story, eleven bay wide building is defined by the corner towers and large three-story central tower. Large wooden double doors with side wooden panels on the tower facade surmount seven stone steps and brick cheek walls with stone covering. This entrance, recessed into a large stone arch supported by two columns with decorative capitals, is ornamented with a lion's head keystone. A large multi-paned, semi-circular transom surmounts the double doors. Above the archway is a large stone with a decorative outline. Four one-over-one windows with single light transoms are divided by three stone pilasters. The windows have stone sills and lintels. The second and third story levels are divided by a stone band course. A large stone lintel is surmounted by louvered semi-circular windows set into a blind archway with gauged brick voussoirs. A wooden arch, painted white, encloses the two windows. Round stone ornamentation at the spandrels displays star designs. The tower facade is capped with a dentiled wooden cornice, metal roof gutter, and large pyramidal slate roof with ball finials.

The flanking wall east of the tower is four bays wide, while the west flanking wall is three bays wide. Both sides are designed similarly. Basement windows with gauged brick lintels punctuate the foundation walls and are surmounted by a stone water table. Windows on the first floor have one-over-one sash with a semi-circular multi-paned transom and gauged semi-circular arched brick lintels. The windows have stone sills, and a stone band course travels along the walls at the top rail level of the windows. Recessed rectangular brick panels decorate the walls between the first and second stories. The second story windows have one-over-one sash with a twelve-light transom, walls at the top rail level of the windows. The building walls are capped by corbeled brick and a metal roof gutter. A brick parapet rising above the walls is decorated with corbeled openings and topped by a metal cap.

The round cylindrical towers each have six windows identical to the second story windows on the building walls. The towers rise above the cornice, ending in conical roofs. Eight openings defined by pilasters punctuate the towers above the building's roof line. A flag pole is hung from the western cylindrical tower.

The side facade of the original building is ten bays wide with six-over-six sash, segmentally arched windows with double header brick lintels and stone sills. Basement openings of the same style have been bricked in. Projecting boys' and girls' entranceways are located on either end of the side facade. The entrances are composed of wide double doors above a stone stoop, a large multi-paned transom, a stone lintel, and a decorative metal pediment displaying "Boys" on the north entrance and "Girls" on the south. The walls end in a simple corbeled brick cornice and metal roof gutter. A four bay wide section connects the original building to a later addition. This section, containing a stairway, is styled similarly to the side facades of the original building.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

(DESCRIPTION CONTINUED)

The first addition is eight bays wide with six-over-six windows of a wider proportion than the original side windows; these have stone sills and lintels. This addition is capped by a metal roof gutter over a brick cornice. A second addition is connected to this addition by a stuccoed building section housing a single hallway.

The rear addition is seven bays wide, constructed of dark brick, and three stories high. It is defined by three piers with smooth stone capitals. The south section has five nine-over-nine windows grouped together on the second and third floor levels. They have a shared stone sill and gauged brick lintel. The northern section has two smaller windows on the second and third stories. Both first stories have three nine-over-nine windows on each side, directly below a wide stone band course. The building walls are capped in crenelated stone molding.

The rear of the second addition is defined by a central entrance section projecting slightly and ending in a shallow pediment. It has a wide entrance on the first floor and a large window at the third floor level. The flanking walls are five bays wide. The outer windows are nine-over-nine with a stone sill and brick lintel. The central windows are tri-partite nine-over-nine with shared sills and lintels. The building walls end in crenelated stone molding.

The school's interior has a simple plan of classrooms flanking a central corridor which bends at the connecting walls of each section and ends in a T-shape in the rear addition. Main stairways are located in the connecting section between the original building and first addition and at the center of the rear addition. The interior's most notable characteristics include metal ceilings in many classrooms and the halls of both additions, interior windows (many of them have been painted over) in the original building section, and the large staircase with wooden handrails in the rear addition. The corner rooms facing the front have an unusual shape incorporating the round tower walls.

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PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	X EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X 1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1891/1905/1912 BUILDER/ARCHITECT A.S. Brown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Columbus School is a representative example of the best of Romanesque Revival architecture in Baltimore. The cylindrical end towers, large stone entrance arch, and central tower are characteristic of this style of architecture. The original building was constructed in 1891. The builder was A.S. Brown. It housed fourteen classrooms, cloak rooms for each class, well lighted, wide corridors, and the Smead system of ventilation. In 1905 an additional eight classrooms were added, as well as a new stairway. The final rear addition was constructed in 1912 when, at a cost of over $53,000, ten new standard size classrooms (26 feet by 32 feet) were added. From 1912 the building housed thirty-three classrooms, three later converted to a library, health suite, and multi-purpose room. Since this school is still occupied, it has suffered less vandalism than the other five schools proposed for new housing.

The building is proposed for re-use as 39 housing units plus ground level meeting spaces for active neighborhood organizations. The school is located just south of Clifton Park. It is surrounded by two-story brick rowhouses of the turn of the century facing the school on three sides. Because of its size and location on North Avenue, a major traffic corridor, the school is a distinctive visual landmark for the community.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Columbus School is an example of the best of Romanesque Revival architecture in Baltimore. The central pyramidal tower and end turrets are highly visible on North Avenue, a major traffic corridor. Built in three different stages, it represents the changing quality of school construction in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The interior metal ceilings are rare for Baltimore City schools.

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Baltimore City Public Schools Reports, 1891, 1905, and 1912.

Baltimore City Inspector of Buildings Reports, 1891.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .77 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A [1,8] [3,6,2,9,0,0] [4,3,5,2,4,7,0] B [ ] [ ] [ ]
ZONE EASTING NORTHING ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C [ ] [ ] [ ] D [ ] [ ] [ ]

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Irregularly shaped lot, 112 feet on North Avenue, 200 feet on Washington Street, and 146 feet on 20th Street.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Fred Shoken, Planning Assistant

ORGANIZATION
Commission for Historic and Architectural Preservation

DATE
1978

STREET & NUMBER
100 North Holliday Street

TELEPHONE
(301)396-4866

CITY OR TOWN
Baltimore

STATE
Maryland 21202

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE 8-9-79

TITLE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 9-25-79

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

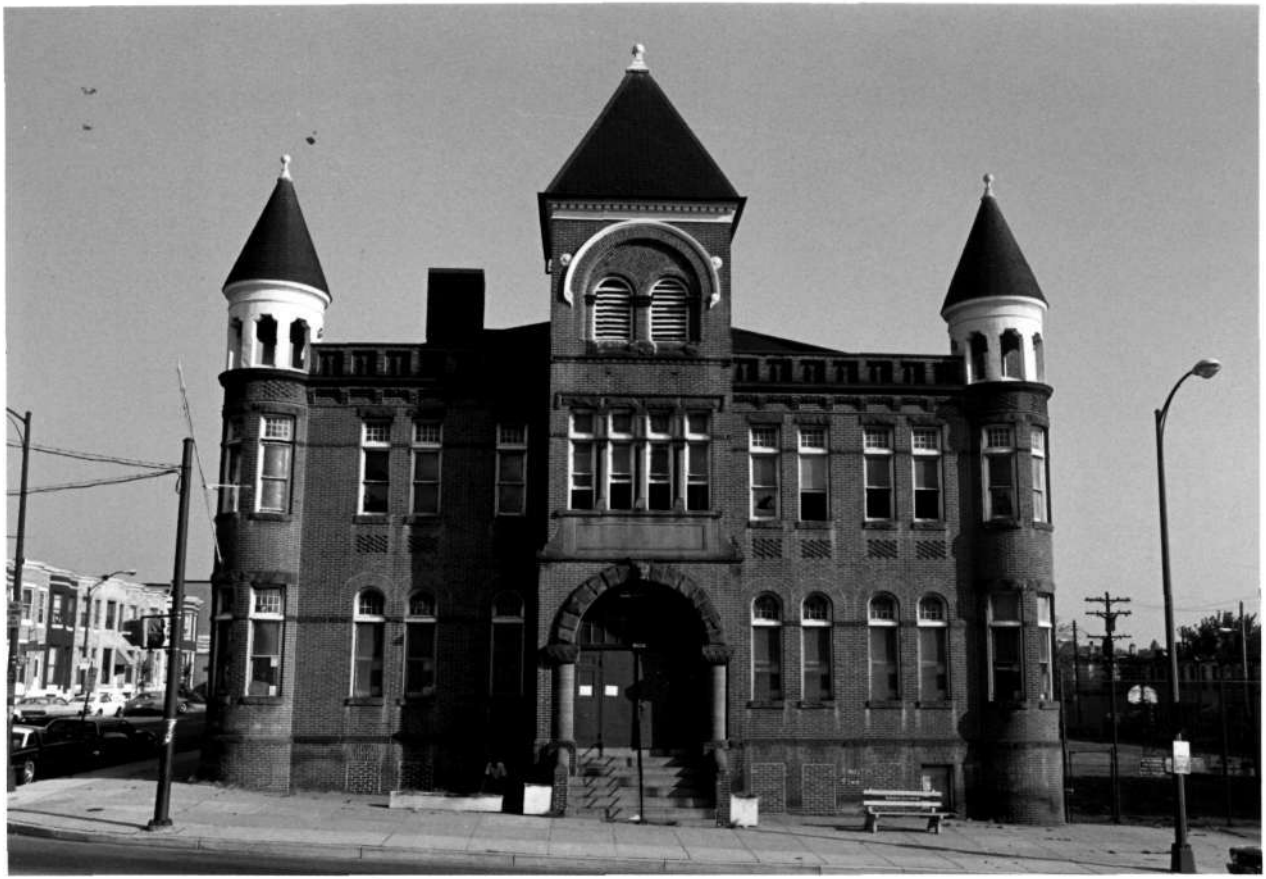
ATTEST: DATE 9-24-79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

GPO 892-453

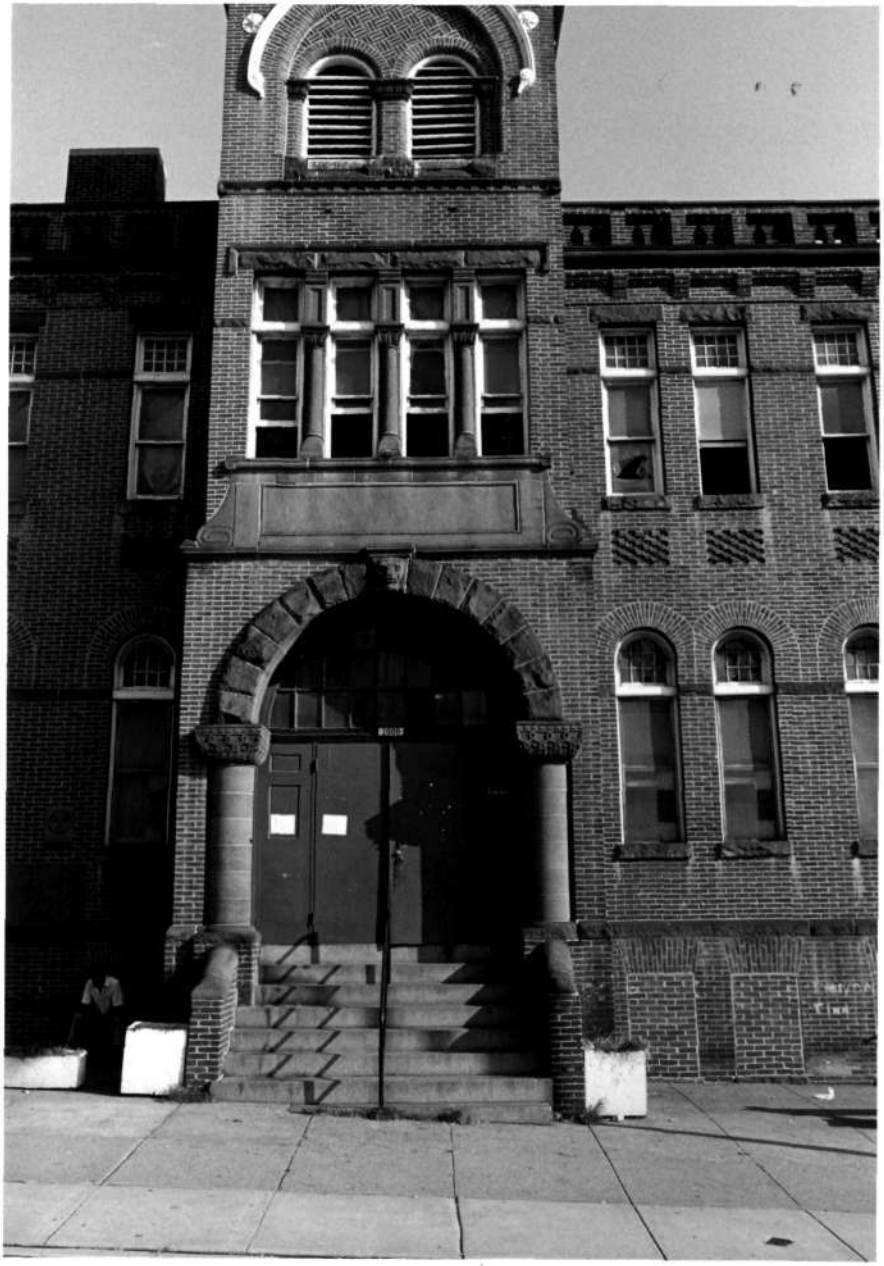
School #99 B-3932

18. 362770
4351540



School #99
Baltimore City
Jeff Jerome / CHAP
9-26-78
Front facade from North Avenue

B-3932



School #99
Baltimore City
Jeff. Jerome, CHAP
9-26-78
Front entrance detail

B-3932

School #99
Baltimore City
Jeff. Jerome, CHAP
9-26-78
Rear section facade

B-3932

EXIT
6
Sou
Dimen

School #99

Baltimore City

Jeff - Jerome, CHAP

9-26-78

Rear Section Stairway

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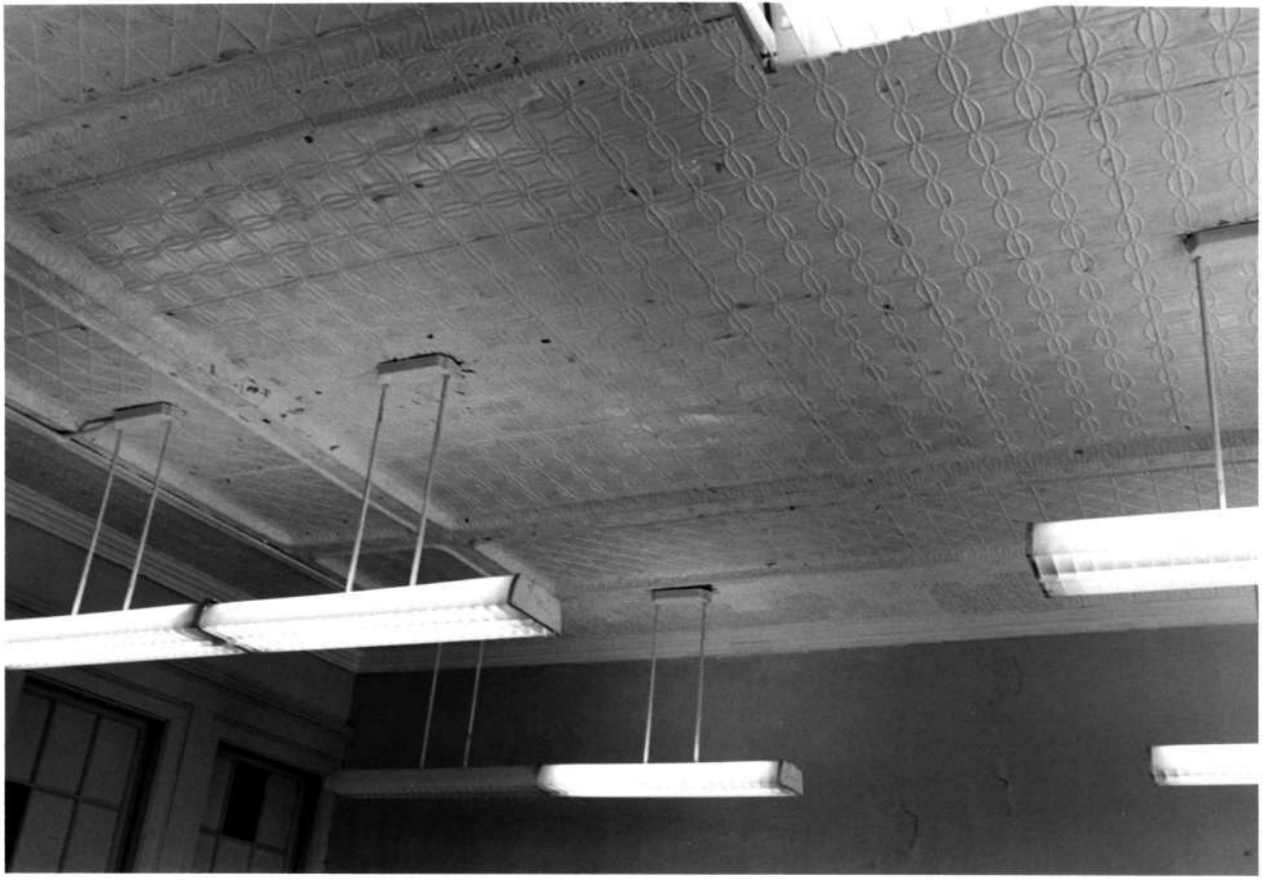


School #99
Baltimore City
Jeff. Jerome, CHAP
9-26-78
Tin ceiling in classroom

B-3932

FHR-8-253 (10-78)

MAGI# 0439321602

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Washington D.C. 20243

Form Approved
OMB No. 42-R1701

B-3932

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION APPLICATION — PART 1

(Pursuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

Instructions: *Applicant should read the instructions carefully before completing application. No Certification may be made unless a completed application form has been received (P.L. 94-455). Use typewriter or print clearly in dark ink to complete the application form. If additional space is needed to complete Part 1, use the reverse side or a separate plain sheet of paper clearly indicating the owner's name and mailing address. Part 1 of this application may be completed and sent to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer at any time during the year, and may be sent separately or with Part 2.*

PART 1 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. NAME OF PROPERTY: The Columbus School (Public School # 99)

Address of property: Street North Avenue and Washington Street

City Baltimore County --- State Maryland Zip Code

Name of historic district in which property is located

2. DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE:

(see instructions for map and photograph requirements—use reverse side if necessary) The Columbus School is a Romanesque styled two-story, eleven bay wide structure defined by two cylindrical corner towers with conical roofs and a large three-story square central tower with a pyrimidal roof. The front entrance is recessed into a large stone arch supported by two columns with

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

(use reverse side if necessary) The school is a representative example of the best of the Romanesque Revival architecture in Baltimore. The original part was constructed in 1891, A.S. Brown, Builder, and housed fourteen classrooms, cloak rooms for each class, well lighted wide corridors and incorporated the Shead system of heating/ventilating. In 1905

Date of construction (if known): 1891 ☒ Original site ☐ Moved Date of alterations (if known): 1905, 1912

4. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF OWNER:

Name The Baltimore School Associates

Street 18 Crowninshield Street

City Peabody State Mass. Zip Code 01960

Telephone Number (during day): Area Code 617-531-0015

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is, to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I am owner of the property described above.

Signature Date 4/19/79

For office use only

The structure described above is included within the boundaries of the National Register historic district and ☐ contributes ☐ does not contribute to the character of the district.

The structure ☒ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) and ☒ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with the Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60).

The structure is located in a district which ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6), ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60), and ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to contribute to the character of said district.

Signature Date 4-4-79
State Historic Preservation Officer

This property has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Department of the Interior (36 CFR 67) and, if subject to depreciation under section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954,

☐ is hereby certified a historic structure

☐ does not contribute to the character of the historic district and does not merit certification as a historic structure. Reasons given on the attached sheet.

Signature Date
Keeper of the National Register

2. Continued

decorative caps, and ornamented with a lion's head keystone. A large round arched multi-paned transom fan light surmounts the double doors. Four first floor 1/1 windows with single light transoms are divided by three stone pilasters. The second and third floor levels are defined by a stone belt course. A heavy stone lintel is surmounted by louvered semi-circular windows set in a blind arcade with gaged brick voussoirs. A wood framed arch encloses the two windows. Round stone ornamentation at the spandrels have star design reliefs. The tower pavilion is capped by a dentilled wood cornice, metal gutter and large pyrimidal slate roof with ball finials.

The flanking east wall is four bays wide, the west wall three. Windows at the first floor of both are 1/1 with round headed multi-paned transoms set below gaged brick arches. Recessed rectangular brick panels enrich the wall surface between the first and second floors, with the upper level windows 1/1 with tweleve light transoms below flat arched lintels. A brick parapet rises above the wall surface decorated with corbelled and open panels,with a pressed metal cap.The round towers have six windows in each, repeating the design of the upper floor windows in the main block. The towers rise above the parapets, with an open area defined by eight pilasters topped with conical roofs.

The side elevations of the original section are ten bays deep, with 6/6 segmentally arched windows. Projecting entrances are located at either end of the side elevation,with double doors, a large multi-paned transom and decorative pressed metal pediments displaying "BOYS" on the north entrance and "GIRLS" at the south.

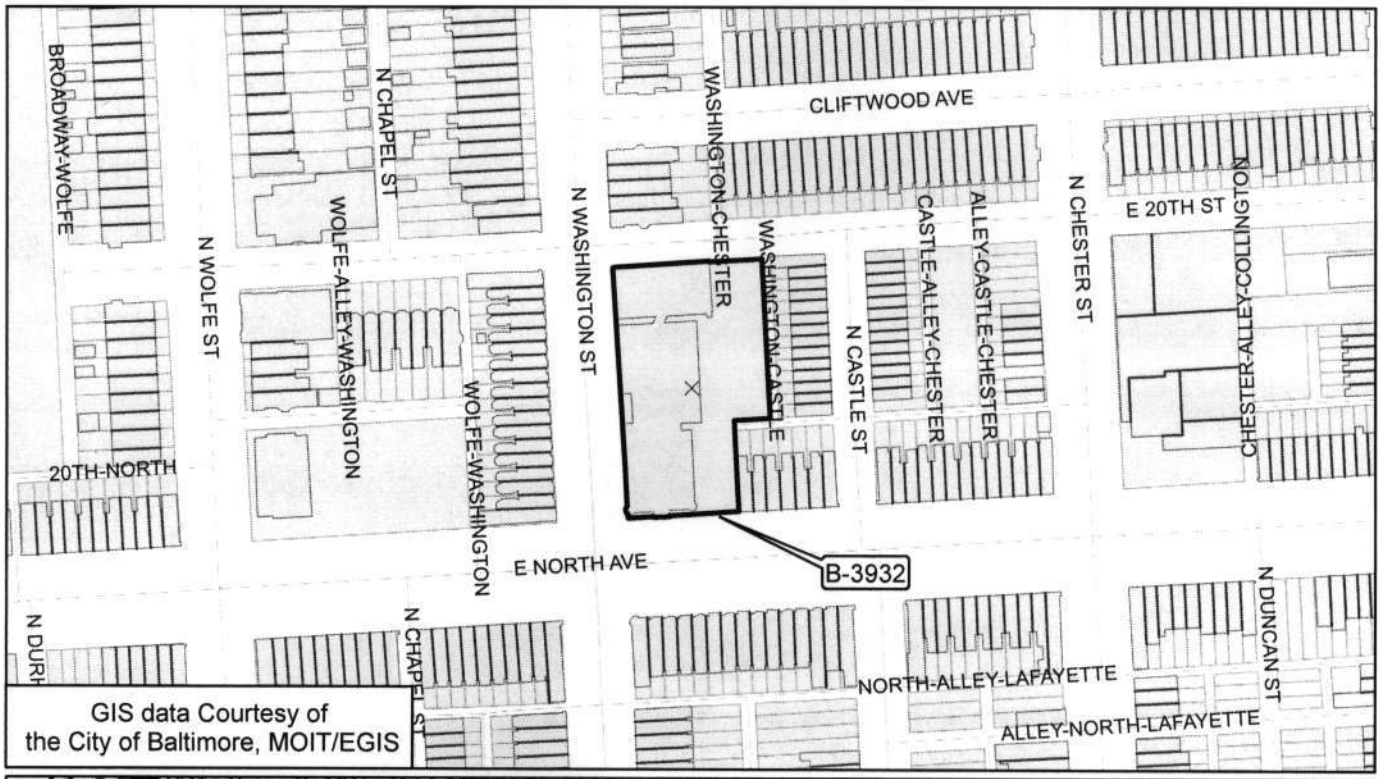
A four bay deep section connects the original part with the first (1905) addition, and repeats the details of the earlier wall. The 1905 addition is eight bays deep with 6/6 windows but wider than those in the original part. A second addition is appended to this area by a one bay wide, stucco section. This 1912 addition is seven bays deep constructed of a darker red brick, and is three stories high.

The interior has classrooms flanking a central corridor that turns at the first addition and terminates in a "T" at the last addition. Main stairs are located in the hyphen that connects the original and first addition and at the center of the rear addition.The interior has excellent pressed metal ceilings in many classrooms and in the hall.

3. Continued

an additional eight classrooms were added, as well as a new stair.At a cost of $ 53,000 ten new standard sized classrooms were added at the rear in 1912.The school has contained 33 classrooms since this last addition, three of which have been converted for use as a library, a health suite and a multi-purpose room. The school is proposed for reuse as 39 apartments, with ground level meeting rooms. It is surrounded by two story brick row houses dating from the turn of the century, and is considered the landmark structure of the community.

B-3932
Public School # 99 (The Columbus School)
2000 E. North Avenue
Block 4167, Lot 001
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.



GIS data Courtesy of
the City of Baltimore, MOIT/EGIS