

**Maryland Historical Trust  
Determination of Eligibility Form**

Property Name: Drew-Freeman Middle School Inventory Number: PG: 75A-69  
 Address: 2600 Brooks Drive Historic District: Yes  No  
 City: Suitland Zip Code: 20746 County: Prince Georges  
 USGS Quadrangle(s): Anacostia  
 Property Owner: Prince George's County Board of Education Tax Account ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 0022\0027 Tax Map Number: 0080  
 Project: Boys & Girls Club 2012 Bond Bill Agency: BPW  
 Agency Prepared By: Maryland Historical Trust  
 Preparer's Name: Jonathan Sager Date Prepared: 11/14/2013

Documentation Is Presented In: \_\_\_\_\_

Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation:  Eligibility Recommended \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility Not Recommended  
 Criteria: A B  C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

*Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:*

Name of the District/Property: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible: Yes Listed: Yes  
 Site Visit by MHT Staff: Yes No Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Description of Property and Justification: (Please attach map and photo)**

The school at this location opened in September 1960 as La Reine High School, a Roman Catholic school for girls operated by The Bernardine Sisters of St. Francis. The building was designed by architect Edwin Philip Schreier and constructed during 1959 and 1960 by Victor Beauchamp Associates for a cost of approximately three million dollars.

Contemporary accounts noted some of the building's unique architectural features, including the prominent metal spire and the self-supporting precast concrete "science dome," which contained innovative wedge-shaped combination lecture hall and laboratory spaces. The Washington Post described the building as "contemporary in design of brick, concrete and steel, completely fire-resistive, with enclosing walls principally of glass, aluminum and ceramic panel. Its three connected wings will be so arranged as to form an inner quadrangle, the fourth side of which will be formed by a garden wall. The novel science wing actually is a separate building connected to the general classroom wing by a covered passage" (Washington Post, Sep. 13, 1959).

La Reine High School closed in 1992 and the student body merged with Bishop McNamara High School in Forestville. The building was acquired by the Prince George's County Board of Education in 1994 and reopened as a public school, known as Francis Scott Key Junior High and later Drew-Freeman Middle School.

<b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>	
Eligibility Recommended: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility Not Recommended: _____
Criteria: <u>A</u> <u>B</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>C</u> <u>D</u>	Considerations: <u>A</u> <u>B</u> <u>C</u> <u>D</u> <u>E</u> <u>F</u> <u>G</u>
MHT Comments:	
<u>Jonathan Sager</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>11/14/13</u> Date
<u>R. Kuntz</u> Reviewer, National Register Program	<u>11/23/13</u> Date

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Drew-Freeman Middle School

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Edwin Philip Schreier lived in Chevy Chase and practiced architecture from 1927 to 1978. He studied architecture at Catholic University from 1920 to 1927. According to his May 11, 1985 obituary in the Washington Post, his early work was primarily residential construction, and much of his work from the 1950s through his 1978 retirement was for the Catholic Archdiocese of Washington. He died May 6, 1985.

The Drew-Freeman Middle School building is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C, as a well preserved and unusually elaborate example of mid-century school design. Schreier's plans drew from a wide variety of Modern styles and themes including an interest in shapes, colors, and geometric forms that are uncommon in traditional architecture; motifs related to science and space; and the use of a diverse collection of new or innovative building materials. Additional research may associate the design and construction of the school with more specific trends in the history of architecture, education, or the Roman Catholic Church. The ca. 1963 residential building to the north of the school was not evaluated as part of this Determination of Eligibility but is included in this MHP record because of its historic association with the school and use of some common design features.

"Catholic H.S. Is Dedicated." The Washington Post, Times Herald. May 31, 1961: B6.

"Catholic High School Planned for Suitland." The Washington Post, Times Herald. Jan. 23, 1960: A8.

"Edwin Schreier Dies: Designed Schools, Churches." The Washington Post. May 11, 1985: B4.

"Unique Lab Planned for New Suitland School." The Washington Post, times Herald. Sep. 13, 1959: D19.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility Recommended: \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility Not Recommended: \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria:      A      B      C      D

Considerations:      A      B      C      D      E      F      G

MHT Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, National Register Program

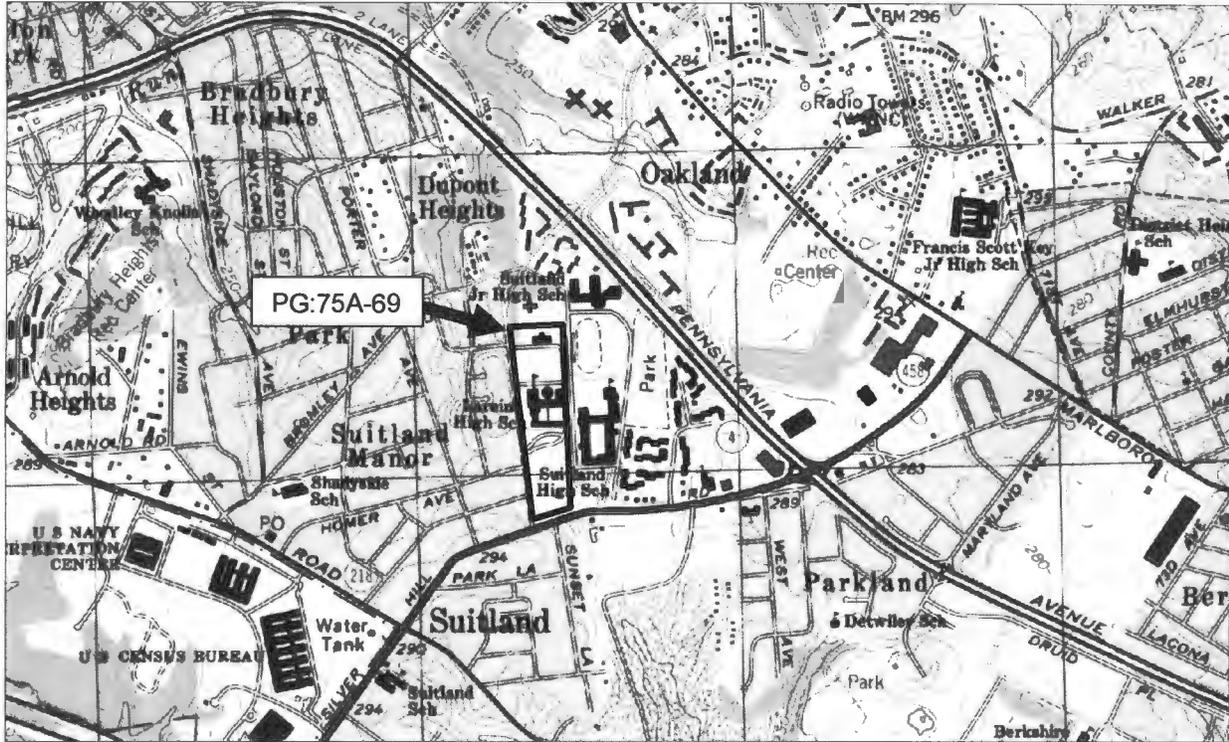
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

PG:75A-69

Drew-Freeman Middle School (La Reine High School)

2600 Brooks Drive, Suitland

Anacostia Quadrangle 1965, Photorevised 1979, Bathymetry added 1982



Prince George's County Tax Map 0080, Parcels 0022 & 0027



JKC 09/11/2015