

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 93000740 Date Listed: 8/12/93

Dunbar School
Property Name

Maricopa AZ
County State

Educational Buildings in Phoenix MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Reba Wells
Signature of the Keeper

8/12/93
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Statement of Significance: The Period of Significance is amended to read 1925-1942.

This information was confirmed with Reba Wells of the Arizona State historic preservation office.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

740

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

JUL 06 1993

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any 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 Dunbar School

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 707 W. Grant not for publication _____
city or town Phoenix vicinity _____
state Arizona code AZ county Maricopa code AZ 013 zip code 85007

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.)

J. Gorman ASAPD 6/23/93
Signature of certifying official Date

ARIZONA STATE PARKS
State or 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 commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register Autowreck House 8/12/93
___ 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): _____

for Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

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

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
___	___ sites
___	___ structures
___	___ objects
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

Educational Buildings in Phoenix, Arizona, from Early Settlement to 1942

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: EDUCATION Sub: School

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: EDUCATION Sub: School

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Renaissance

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

roof ASPHALT

walls BRICK

other _____

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.)

- A. owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B. removed from its original location.
- C. a birthplace or a 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

Period of Significance 1871-1942

Significant Dates 1925

Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Fitzhugh & Byron

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: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1 12	399280	3700440	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	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 Jim Woodward, Architect & Patsy Osmon, Associate Historian

organization Woodward Architectural Group date September 1991

street & number 398 South Mill Avenue, Suite 202 telephone (602) 829-7571

city or town Tempe state AZ zip code 85281

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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7,8 Page 1

Dunbar School

name of property

Maricopa/Arizona

county and State

Educational Buildings in Phoenix, Arizona, from Early
name of multiple property listing Settlement to 1942

Description

The Dunbar School was constructed in 1925. It was designed by local architects Fitzhugh & Byron. Two compatible wings are attached to the north and south facades forming a generally "U" shaped plan. The building is an excellent example of the Second Renaissance Revival architectural style with North Italian mode influences and represents the Custom Architecturally Designed Schoolhouse property type. Despite early additions, the school retains integrity of its design including stylistic elements, plan configuration and massing. It also retains integrity of construction materials and building details. The Dunbar School has been in continuous use as a school from 1925 to the present day.

The Dunbar School faces west onto South 9th Avenue. The site is characterized by a grass lawn at the front facade, a Palm lined street, and asphalt and concrete surfaces. The school yard is surrounded by wrought iron fence. The site also includes two non-historic school buildings located to the east of the original building.

The Dunbar School is a symmetrical, one-story building of brick construction. The rectangular structure measures 200 x 80 feet. The hip roof is covered with clay tile and asphalt shingles. It has a concrete foundation. The entrance is approached by a central stepped platform.

Exterior features include the distinctive three part facade and massing. The building is symmetrical about a central, hipped roof bay that projects slightly from the opposing wings. Three tall, arched openings provide access to the recessed entry foyer. Windows are steel, multiple lite awning sash set in groups of four at the side wings. Important decorative elements include the two tone brick with raised diamond patterns and borders framing the windows, and cast stone frieze, cornice, keystones and quoins.

Additions to the building include a wing attached to the south end of the building, built in ca. 1938, and a similar wing attached to the north end of the building, constructed in ca. 1951. Two of the three arched openings at the foyer have been infilled with plaster and steel casement windows.

Statement of Significance

The Dunbar School is significant under Criteria A in the area of significance of Education. Built in 1925, the Dunbar School is associated with the first large increase in enrollment and the corresponding boom in school building construction in Phoenix School District #1 in the 1920s and therefore represents the historic context "Education in Phoenix, 1871-1942." As one of the first elementary schools built by the Phoenix School District #1 specifically for black students, the Dunbar School is also important for its association with the policy of segregation as applied at Phoenix schools. The Dunbar School is an excellent illustration of its property type, the Custom Architecturally Designed Schoolhouse. The building possesses the important characteristics of the property type specifically the combination of standardized functional criteria with a regional interpretation of a mainstream style to form one unified architectural statement.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 2

Dunbar School

name of property

Maricopa/Arizona

county and State

Educational Buildings in Phoenix, Arizona, from Early Settlement to 1942
name of multiple property listing

Statement of Significance (Continued)

Between 1920 and 1930 Phoenix's population expanded from 29,053 in 1920 to 48,118 in 1930. A direct result of that increase in population was a corresponding increase in school age children. In Phoenix School District #1, for example, enrollment increased 22% between the 1920 and 1921 school year and 13% between the 1924 and 1925 school year.

As early as 1920 it became apparent to Phoenix School District #1 officials that existing school facilities could not accommodate the increased enrollment. In response to that situation, Phoenix School District #1 voters passed four separate bond issues between 1920 and 1930 totaling more than 1.4 million dollars. This money was to be used to expand existing schools and construct new schools. Built in 1925, the Dunbar School represents a school constructed by Phoenix School District #1 during that important period of expansion. Its construction was funded with monies from a \$650,000 bond issue passed in 1924.

The Dunbar School is also important for its association with the policy of segregation. Racial segregation of schools officially existed in Phoenix between 1912 and 1953. The Dunbar School was one of the first elementary school built by the Phoenix School District #1 specifically for black students. It served the educational needs of the black community living in south Phoenix.

Designed as a modest interpretation of the Second Renaissance Revival style, the Dunbar School is an important illustration of its property type, Custom Architecturally Designed Schoolhouses. The building follows a popular stylistic treatment for public school buildings of the early twentieth century, and is designed within the evolving standardized schoolhouse plan of the period. It exemplifies the common educational facility arrangement of multiple classrooms accessed by a corridor along the buildings longitudinal axis. A central entry hall to accommodate internal circulation, restrooms and offices, as used in the Dunbar School plan, was also another common feature of the property type. The style chosen for the school is a good example of Second Renaissance Revival design using elements from the North Italian mode as illustrated by the hip roof, the central bay with cast stone frieze, arched entrance, and decorative brick work.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 9,10 Page 3

Dunbar School

name of property

Maricopa/Arizona

county and State

Educational Buildings in Phoenix, Arizona, from Early
Settlement to 1942
name of multiple property listing

Bibliography

Arizona Republic. Phoenix, Arizona, 1890-1942, Various Issues.

Kotlanger, Michael J. "Phoenix, Arizona, 1920-1940." Ph.D. diss., Arizona State University, 1983.

Phoenix City Directories, Phoenix, Arizona, 1889-1942.

Whiffen, Marcus. American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1976.

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is located in Lots 13 through 24 of Block 16, except for the north 3 feet of Lots 13, 15, 17, 19, and 23 of the Irvine Addition.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the original school site which has historically been associated with the property.