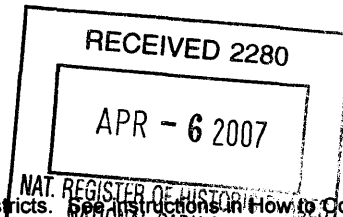


423

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 16A). Complete each item by marking 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 HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, OLD

other names/site number D.W. Waters Career Center; Thomas Jefferson Junior High School

2. Location

street & number 2704 North Highland Avenue N/A not for publication

city or town Tampa N/A vicinity

state FLORIDA code FL county Hillsborough code 057 zip code 33602

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.)

Barbara C. Mattide / DSHPO 4/2/2007
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Division of Historical Resources
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 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 See continuation sheet.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain) _____

for
Edson W. Beall Signature of the Keeper
5.15.07 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)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include any previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	total

Name of related multiple property listings

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/School

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/School

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/ Colonial

Revival/Adam

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Brick

roof Tar and Gravel

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.)

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

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 36) 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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1911-1957

Significant Dates

1911

1923

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Arch: Potter, Wilson; Elliott, M. Leo

Blder: Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of Repository

#

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, OLD
Name of Property

Hillsborough Co., FL
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 1.68

UTM References

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1	7	3	5	6	1	0	0	3	0	9	4	5	2	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 Charlette Hein, Preservation Specialist/Carl Shiver, Historic Preservationist

organization Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation date February 2007

street & number R.A. Gray Building, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee telephone (850) 245-6333

city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-0250

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 MaryEllen Elia, Superintendent, School Board of Hillsborough County

street & number 901 Kennedy Boulevard telephone (813) 272-4004

city or town Tampa state Florida zip code 33602

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 amend 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.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, OLD
TAMPA, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
DESCRIPTION

SUMMARY

The Old Hillsborough County High School, now the D.W. Waters Career Center, is an Adam Revival style brick building consisting of two stories and a full basement that was constructed in two phases, 1911 and 1923. The facility is located at 2704 North Highland Avenue in the Tampa Heights neighborhood of Tampa, Florida. The first section of the building was constructed in 1911 and opened as the Hillsborough County High School. It was enlarged in 1923 and renamed the Thomas Jefferson High School. The building was renovated in 1999 and renamed the D.W. Waters Career Center in honor of the man who served as principal of the school from 1928 to 1949. The building has an approximately rectangular ground plan, red brick exterior walls, 1/1-light wood sash windows in groups of two and three in the upper two stories, and 3/3-light windows in the basement. There are also Palladian windows over the porticoes of the secondary entranceways. The bricks are laid in English bond, and the main facade features a classical entablature at the parapet. The bricks of the basement imitate rustication and are separated from the first story by a yellow brick water table and stringcourse. The building has a flat roof surfaced with tar and gravel, and a light well near its center that provides natural light to the interior rooms of the second and third floors. The building and grounds occupy one full city block.

SETTING

Tampa is located in the western part of central Florida and lies at the mouth of the Hillsborough River that empties into Old Tampa Bay, an inlet to the Gulf of Mexico. It occupies the entire Hillsborough peninsula, spreading north and west from the north edge of Hillsborough Bay. Tampa is the seat of Hillsborough County and a major seaport. It is a financial center of the state and light manufacturing plays an important role in the economy, as does tourism and sports. Tampa is a city of approximately 300,000 residents and part of a metropolitan area in west Florida having a population of about 2,000,000. The Old Hillsborough High School is located in the Tampa Heights neighborhood in a locally designated historic district containing a mixture of residential and community service buildings and the nearby commercial areas of Columbus Drive and Tampa Street. The block to the east has been fenced for parking, and there is also angle parking along the north and south elevations. Brick streets surround the block.

PRESENT AND ORIGINAL APPEARANCE

Exterior

The building is fundamentally a rectangle with an open center, partially occupied by later infill construction. The exterior elevations are similar in massing and architectural detailing; they are symmetrical on both the longitudinal and transverse axes. It is a two-story brick structure set upon a raised basement denoted by a masonry water table (Photo 1). A deep bank of projecting yellow brick, above a continuous narrow string course also in yellow brick, aligns with the sills of the first floor windows and caps the water table. On the east

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 2

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, OLD
TAMPA, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
DESCRIPTION

facade are massive paired brick pilasters with minimal capitals and bases that run the full height the base of the first story windows to the bottom of the entablature above the second story windows. Resting on the tops of the pilasters is a full entablature consisting of an architrave, frieze and cornice. The words "High School" are inscribed in the frieze above the center bay (Photo 2), and subjects of study are inscribed in the decorative terra cotta spandrels between the two floors (Photo 3). The parapet is trimmed in molded tin coping, modestly highlighted at center by an open bed pediment motif.

The fenestration pattern on the main block of the east facade has a rhythmic grouping of paired and triple 1/1-light sash windows: three, two, three, two, and three, with the sets of pilasters providing the spacing between elements. Windows are punched into the brick and have recently been replaced but still maintain the original configuration of 1/1 double hung sash. The main (east) entry (Photo 2), as well as the south entries (Photos 4-5) are found at grade. A flat-roofed portico with a full entablature shelters the main entry and the other principal entries of the building (Photo 6). The north and south elevations of the original building lack the pilasters and depth of the main facade. Triple window groups flank the large Palladian windows¹ that mark the stairwells (Photos 7-8). Downspouts from the scupper system run on each side of the Palladian window and portico and are regularly spaced on the west, north and south facades to ground level. Rearranged to accommodate Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a ramp has been added to the stairs at the north entry at the east end.

The 1923 Elliott addition midsection slightly recesses where it joins the west wall of the original structure for three bays and then bumps back out on the north side while it takes the opposite approach on the south side, projecting out for three bays. The western addition mimics the eastern section of the building with a portico entry under a two-story Palladian element, flanked by a trio of double hung 1/1 windows at each level and two single units at the raised basement level (Photo 9). Window sets of three are evenly spaced and aligned from top to bottom across both these elevations. The rear (west) elevation of the building is sparser in window and door openings and is designed to serve utility functions. The midsection of the west (rear) wall projects out and is flanked by a one story addition nestled in each corner (Photo 10). There is a stucco covered wall that runs along the north, south, and western perimeters, masking mechanicals, storage, etc (Photos 11-12). Near the center of the point where the 1911 and 1923 sections of the building join is a light well that provides natural light to the interior rooms of the upper two floors (Photo 13).

Interior

The interior divisions of the Old Hillsborough High School reflect its original functions; however, some partitions have been moved or relocated to accommodate the facility's expanded curricula and vocational training aims. Wood, tile and terrazzo floors and staircases have been restored where feasible along with period light fixtures and elaborate doorways, especially in the main corridor (Photos 14-15). This main corridor serves

¹ The more familiar Palladian window consists of a central light with semicircular arch flanked by two smaller lights with a flat entablature. The variation here is often found in American Adam style houses.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 3

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, OLD
TAMPA, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
DESCRIPTION

administrative offices along the east wall and a library and museum (Photo 16) housing the School's historic memorabilia that views the courtyard to the west. On all three floors the classrooms (Photo 17), workshops (Photo 18), and offices are accessed by a U-shaped corridors that terminate at stairways connecting the floors and/or entrances to the building. Surprisingly, there is only one elevator, which is located near the middle of the north corridor. A child care center that accommodates pre-school children of adult students occupies two-large connecting rooms in the basement (Photo 19). A cafeteria located on the basement floor serves both students and faculty (Photo 20). The building has been fully rehabilitated with, the exception of the auditorium (Photo 21), which serves as a storage area at the present time. Plans to restore the auditorium are being developed. Classrooms have been remodeled to suit their current uses, including computer labs and an in-house daycare facility.

The Hillsborough County High School, now known as the D.W. Waters Career Center, has received the Preserved Banner Award from Tampa Preservation, Inc. for its outstanding architectural and functional rehabilitation.

ALTERATIONS

The first major change in the building took place in 1923 when M. Leo Elliott designed an addition that tripled the size of the school. Reference to the Sanborn maps indicates those changes in plan. The school has recently undergone an extensive rehabilitation program, with adherence to the Secretary of Interior standards, with completion and reopening as its current use as a career center in 2003 by the Tampa firm of Rowe Architects, specialists in historic preservation efforts. Floor plans of the project are attached. The east facade grounds of the site were landscaped in 1999 with grass and trees, and a low capped brick wall was constructed along portions of the south, west, and north elevations to mask the utility operations and for security purposes.

Rowe Architects, a Tampa firm specializing in historic buildings, provided the architectural and engineering design services as well as the construction phase services. Their efforts on the Hillsborough County High School, now named the D.W. Waters Center, earned them the Outstanding Achievement Award, 2003, from the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation, the Community Design Award for Outstanding Historic Restoration, 2003, and the Tampa/Hillsborough Planning Commission. They also received the 2003 Banner Award from Tampa Preservation, Inc.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 1

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, OLD
TAMPA, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
SIGNIFICANCE

SUMMARY

The Old Hillsborough County High School, now known as the D.W. Waters Career Center, is significant under Criteria A and C in the areas of Education and Architecture. Under Criterion A, the school was one of the earliest unified educational facilities constructed in the city of Tampa and was the county's first high school. It is still in existence today as an educational facility. Built in 1911, the school served a wide area of the student population, centered in the then popular Tampa Heights neighborhood. Under Criterion C, it is an excellent example of the Adam Colonial Revival style adapted for use as a school building. The original 1911 school building was designed by architect Wilson Potter and the 1923 addition was designed by M. Leo Elliott. Both architects were well-known local and regional designers. The name of the school was changed in 1999 to the D.W. Waters Career Center to honor the man who served as a principal in the Hillsborough County School from 1928 until 1949.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

Although Spanish explorers were familiar with the Tampa Bay area as early as the 16th century, in 1821, Florida officially became a United States territory after being acquired in 1819. Europeans did not settle in the area until the U.S. Army established Fort Brooke at the mouth of the Hillsborough River in 1824. In 1834, Hillsborough County was created from Alachua County.² Although the population consisted mainly of military personnel, by 1858 Tampa had about 1,000 inhabitants, and the town was dotted with houses, churches and businesses. By the end of the Civil War in 1865, Fort Brooke deactivated and the population of Tampa began to decline. By 1880, the population stood at only 720 residents.³ Several events launched Tampa on its course to becoming a large modern city.

In 1883, the old Fort Brooke military reservation was opened to civilian settlement, causing a flurry of real estate speculation.⁴ January 1884 saw the completion of the South Florida Railroad as well as the discovery of phosphate, bringing a wave of new settlement to Central Florida and transforming Tampa into a major port.⁵ However, the migration of Vicente Martinez-Ybor and other major cigar manufacturers to Tampa was far more important to the rapid and spectacular growth of Tampa after 1885. Ybor was a Spanish citizen who had begun manufacturing cigars in Cuba in 1856. At the outbreak of the Ten-Year War rebellion against Spanish rule in 1868, Ybor was forced to flee Cuba because he was suspected of disloyalty to Spain. He reestablished his cigar operations in Key West, Florida, and after more than fifteen years there, he decided to seek a more favorable

² Long, John H., ed., *Florida Atlas of Historical County Boundaries*, (New York: Simon & Schuster Macmillan, 1997).

³ Long, Durwood, "The Historical Beginnings of Ybor City and Modern Tampa," *Florida Historical Quarterly*, XLIX (April 1971), p.9.

⁴ Grismer, Karl Hiram, *A History of the City of Tampa and the Tampa Bay Region of Florida*, (St. Petersburg Print Company, 1950),

⁵ Dunn, Hampton, *Yesterday's Tampa*, (Miami: E.A. Seemann Publishing, Inc., 1972), p.18.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 2

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, OLD
TAMPA, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
SIGNIFICANCE

place to operate his business, relocating to Tampa in 1885. Within a year, Ybor City had become a separate community standing almost in the shadow of downtown Tampa. Its independence, however, was short-lived. In 1887, Tampa annexed Ybor City, creating a community with a population of 5,000 residents.⁶

By the end of the 19th century, Tampa was becoming a city with numerous new residential neighborhoods, spawned by the wealth of the cigar industry and connected to the heart of town by electric trolleys. Hyde Park and Tampa Heights offered the City's middle and upper income residents a peaceful setting, made attractive by well-built houses, schools, and churches. Tampa Heights developed rapidly and was home to many of Tampa's important businessmen and other prominent citizens. Its location was convenient to Ybor City and the financial and port districts of downtown Tampa. Its distance from the marshy, low-lying areas of the city was also thought to protect residents from the yellow fever epidemics that struck the City annually in the 19th century.

The first subdivision in the Tampa Heights neighborhood was Orange Grove Estates, created in the 1870s from the old homestead of Joseph Robles who settled in the Tampa area in 1857. Between 1889 and 1907, at least 23 new subdivision plats were recorded within the neighborhood. In 1900, the area had acquired the name "Tampa Heights." By 1910, a Tampa Heights address was among the most fashionable in the City, especially the southern section of the neighborhood, which was marked by large, two-story frame dwellings. During this time, some of Tampa's wealthier citizens were building large, new homes in Hyde Park, an area that had opened west of the Hillsborough River. Hyde Park began to take on the aura of a more "aristocratic" address, surpassing Tampa Heights in stature. Although some larger houses were still built in Tampa Heights during the teens and twenties, the neighborhood became more middle class and ethnically mixed.

Although accessible by rail from the population centers of the northeast during previous decades, the Post-World War I rise in middle-class private automobile ownership spurred the development of a vast network of paved highways that provided easy access to the Florida climate from a broader range of geographic areas. Thousands of "tin-can tourists" from the Mid-Atlantic States and the Midwest poured into the Tampa Bay area in the early 1920s, camping in their cars for the winter season. George S. Gandy, who had come to Tampa from Philadelphia in 1903, realized his dream of connecting Tampa and St. Petersburg with the opening of the Gandy Bridge in 1924. This bridge reduced the distance between the two cities from 43 miles to 13 miles and gave Tampa residents direct access to the gulf beaches.

With the hectic growth of Tampa and its suburbs, the old Atlantic Coast Line and Seaboard Air Line railway depots located in downtown Tampa became obsolete. The growing city needed a larger and grander rail terminal to meet its needs, so Tampa Union Station was built in 1912. With the growth of the port and railroad, Tampa's position as a major city was assured.

⁶ Long, Durwood, pp. 38-39.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 3

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, OLD
TAMPA, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
SIGNIFICANCE

CRITERION A: EDUCATION

The earliest known school in Hillsborough County was established in 1848 when an educated Englishman, W. P. Wilson, opened a school in the County Courthouse in Tampa. One room schools houses accommodated students all over the county. Tampa School #1 started in the mid 1850s in the Masonic Lodge on Whiting Street, according to the Board of Education early meeting minutes. This particular school was considered the predecessor to Hillsborough High. While these schools usually charged tuition, they were not “public” schools in the true sense, but many operated out of public facilities.⁷

Prior to 1869, Hillsborough County did not have an official school board. Schools operated under the supervision of the Board of County Commissioners. At that time, Tampa was little more than a small village and still recovering from the Civil War. In 1866, Samuel Craft, the most influential educational reformer of his time, opened a school in the Baptist Church in Tampa. Named the Select and Limited Male School, its top priority was the building of character. While the school only lasted one year, Craft’s strict philosophy on discipline and structure impacted the school district, especially in rural areas.

Tampa also had a variety of private schools up until 1870. It was at that point that the newly elected County Board of Public Instruction obtained the money to employ a principal and a staff and opened a public school in the abandoned City Hall. While the school term was only six weeks, this arrangement held until 1876. At that point, Tampa’s first public school building was constructed on Franklin Street for a cost of \$2,350.⁸ The first decade of the 20th Century still found Tampa Heights as a very desirable neighborhood. With Hillsborough County and the City of Tampa now having need for a large high school, the Tampa Heights neighborhood and the Highland Avenue site were chosen for that project. Previously, the high school was still holding class in the old frame building on North Franklin in downtown Tampa. The Highland Avenue site was purchased in 1908. Architect Wilson Potter designed the school, and it opened as Hillsborough County High School in 1911 with E. L. Robinson as principal. The original school was only one-third of its present size (Attachments A & B). By the early 1920s, the rapidly growing population of Tampa necessitated an ambitious school building plan throughout the city. In 1923, local architect M. Leo Elliott was commissioned to design an addition to accommodate the growing number of students. Even though the facility was tripled in size (Attachments C & D), it proved inadequate to local educational needs. Still, it remained the only high school in Tampa until 1928.

Tampa was prospering during the Boom Times and part of the activity was due to the County School Board urging the bond issuance of over \$5 million for school sites, buildings and equipment. Nine elementary schools, three junior high schools, two senior high schools, a vocational school, four schools for the African-American students, an administration building and seven additions to existing schools were funded with this money. By 1928, the neighborhoods of Hyde Park and Seminole Heights each built their own high school.

⁷ Grismer, pp. 121-122.

⁸ Grismer, p. 162.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 4 HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, OLD
TAMPA, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
SIGNIFICANCE

Plant High School served Hyde Park and Francis Kennard's Gothic Revival design for Seminole Heights took the name of Hillsborough High School. The Highland Avenue building then became the Thomas Jefferson Junior High School in 1928, with D.W. Waters as the principal. In 1939, once again the building served as a high school, named Thomas Jefferson High School and graduated its first class in 1942. It closed again in 1967 because the Hillsborough County School Board deemed that it no longer met the requirements for a modern high school facility. Students were transferred to A. P. Leto and Hillsborough High School in Seminole Heights to complete their schooling. From the fall of 1967 to 1980, the building served students from a variety of other schools that were undergoing renovation, as well as a transitional school with a modified curriculum. From 1980 to the 1999, the building was used for a variety of purposes, including the Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System, providing a support system for Exceptional Child Education and the Regular Officer Training Corps (ROTC) District Office.⁹

Renovation began in 1999 on the former Hillsborough County High School, to be dedicated as the D.W. Waters Career Center. It reopened in the fall of 2002 as a school of choice that provides students an alternative method of obtaining a high school diploma. The career center offers a variety of vocational programs. All students were be enrolled in a career-training program for approximately half the school day and academic instruction in the Academic Learning Lab the remaining half of the day. Each student's program of study was to lead to a paid work experience during the final year. The goal is for all students to be employed upon graduation.¹⁰

CRITERION C: ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Wilson Potter (1868-1936) designed the original building. Although little information is available about his career, it is known that he practiced extensively in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.¹¹ The design of the Old Hillsborough County High School is a good and distinctive example of the Adam variety of the Colonial Revival style. The Adam style is closely linked to the Georgian Revival style, but often offers slight variations in its door and window types and decorative details. One finds a more frequent use of Palladian variation windows and more elaborate porticos and entablatures, the latter exhibiting the architrave, frieze, and cornice (usually with dentils), rather just a simple architrave and cornice. Wilson Potter's original design for the school streamlines some Adam elements, but provides the rusticated basement story reminiscent of some of the more elaborate residences constructed along the Eastern Seaboard of the United States in the early years of the republic. Although shallow pilasters, like those found on the facade of the school, were not a common feature of Adam style buildings, they are found on a few examples of the American Adam style.¹² The dominant entablature, with its open-bed pediment motif is a familiar variation of the more classicized Adam residences.

⁹ Personal Interview with Kay Morse, Thomas Jefferson High School Alumni Association, Fall 2004.

¹⁰ D.W. Waters Career Center Brochure.

¹¹ Interview with Kay Morse.

¹² Virginia and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses (New York: Alfred A. Knoff, Inc., 1984), p. 166.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 5 HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, OLD
TAMPA, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
SIGNIFICANCE

Even the small porticos are reminiscent of some Adam style entrances, which run the range from a simple stoop to an elaborate portico, one or even two stories in height. Not Adam in form is the use of 1/1-light double hung sash windows, but Potter's separation of the window groupings between pilasters still imparts the rhythm of the windows found on the main facade of Adam style residences.

Architect M. Leo Elliott continues Potter's theme in his 1923 enlargement of the school building but does not provide additional Palladian window or elaborate porticos in his design. One of his major contributions is the introduction of the light well in the center of the building that offers natural light to the interior rooms.

M. Leo Elliott (1886 -1967) was a New York City transplant, arriving in Tampa in 1907. He had studied at the Cooper Union and Don Barber's Atelier. Following his apprentice training, Elliott moved to Norfolk, Virginia, where he received a commission to design buildings for the Jamestown Exhibition. Within a few months upon arrival in Tampa, Elliott had won a design competition for the Centro Asturiano Club and Tampa City Hall, partnering with Bayard C. Bonfoey (1872-1953), who had arrived in Tampa from Hartford, Connecticut, in 1903. His partnership with Bonfoey lasted until 1919. Practicing on his own after his return from World War I, his studio grew to over 60 employees, one of the largest in the South, designing many of the most prominent buildings in the state of Florida.¹³ Elliott designed several schools in Hillsborough County alone and some of his buildings are on the National Register of Historic Places, including the Centro Asturiano (c.1914), the Italian Club (c.1917), the Cuban Club (c.1918), and Tampa City Hall (c.1915).

¹³ Grismer, p. 384.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 9 Page 1

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, OLD
TAMPA, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL RESOURCES

BIBLIOGRAPHY

BOOKS

Dunn, Hampton. Yesterday's Tampa. Miami: E.A. Seemann Publishing, Inc., 1972.

Grismer, Karl Hiram. A History of the City of Tampa and the Tampa Bay Region of Florida. St. Petersburg: St. Petersburg Print Company, 1950.

Kostof, Spiro. A History of Architecture, Settings and Rituals. New York: Oxford University Press, 1985.

Long, John H., ed. Florida Atlas of Historical County Boundaries. New York: Simon & Schuster Macmillan, 1997.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2002.

PERIODICALS

Long, Durwood. "The Historical Beginnings of Ybor City and Modern Tampa," Florida Historical Quarterly, XLIX (April 1971).

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS

D.W. Waters Career Center Brochure. Historic Schools Analysis: Hillsborough County Public Schools, Tampa Preservation, Inc., 1999.

The History of Hillsborough County Public Schools 1848-2000, including the Updated Book II, Earl J. Lennard, Ph.D. Superintendent of Schools.

INTERVIEWS

Personal Interview with Kay Morse, Thomas Jefferson High School Alumni Association, Fall 2004.

MAPS

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 9 Page 2

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, OLD
TAMPA, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL RESOURCES

FLOOR PLANS

Rowe Architects, Inc.

PHOTOS

Burgert Brothers Photograph Collection

Undated Historic Photographs provided by Rowe Architects, Inc.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 10 Page 1

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, OLD
TAMPA, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

1.68 acres MOL Lots 1 to 12 inclusive Block 3 of ROSEBURY PARK as recorded in Plat Book 00002, Page 0075 of the Public Record of Hillsborough County, Florida.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The City Block nominated is the original site of the school according to Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number _____ Page 1

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, OLD
TAMPA, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

EXTERIOR:

1. Old Hillsborough County High School
2. 2704 North Highland Avenue
3. August, 2004
4. Charlette Hein, Historic Preservation Specialist
5. City of Tampa, Department of Historic Preservation
6. Main (East) Facade, Looking West
7. Photo 1 of 21

Items 1-5 are the same for the remaining photographs

6. Detail, Main (East) Facade, Looking South
7. Photo 2 of 21

6. Detail, Main (East) Facade, Terra Cotta Panel
7. Photo 3 of 21

6. South Elevation, Looking Northeast
7. Photo 4 of 21

6. South Elevation, Looking Northeast
7. Photo 5 of 21

6. North Elevation, Looking Southwest
7. Photo 6 of 21

6. Detail, South Elevation, Looking North
7. Photo 7 of 21

6. Interior, 2nd Floor, Palladian Window, Looking South
7. Photo 8 of 21

6. Detail, North Elevation, Looking South
7. Photo 9 of 21

6. South and West Elevations, Looking Northeast
7. Photo 10 of 21

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number _____ Page 2

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, OLD
TAMPA, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

- 6. West and North Elevations, Looking Southeast
- 7. Photo 11 of 21

- 6. Interior Light Well, Looking Southwest
- 7. Photo 13 of 21

- 6. Interior, Main Entrance Steps to First Floor, Looking West
- 7. Photo 14 of 21

- 6. Interior, First Floor Corridor, Looking Southwest
- 7. Photo 15 of 21

- 6. Interior, First Floor, Library and Museum, Looking Southwest
- 7. Photo 16 of 21

- 6. Interior, Basement Floor, Typical Classroom, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 17 of 21

- 6. Interior, First Floor Workshop, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 18 of 21

- 6. Interior, Basement Floor, Child Care Center, Looking Northeast
- 7. Photo 19 of 21

- 6. Interior, Basement Floor, Cafeteria, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 20 of 21

- 6. Interior, First Floor, Auditorium, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 21 of 21

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number _____

Page _____

Hillsborough County High School
2704 North Highland Avenue
Tampa, Hillsborough County, Florida

Maps and Photographs _____

HISTORIC BURGERT BROTHERS PHOTOGRAPH
PA2944, C.1924 ATTACHMENT D



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

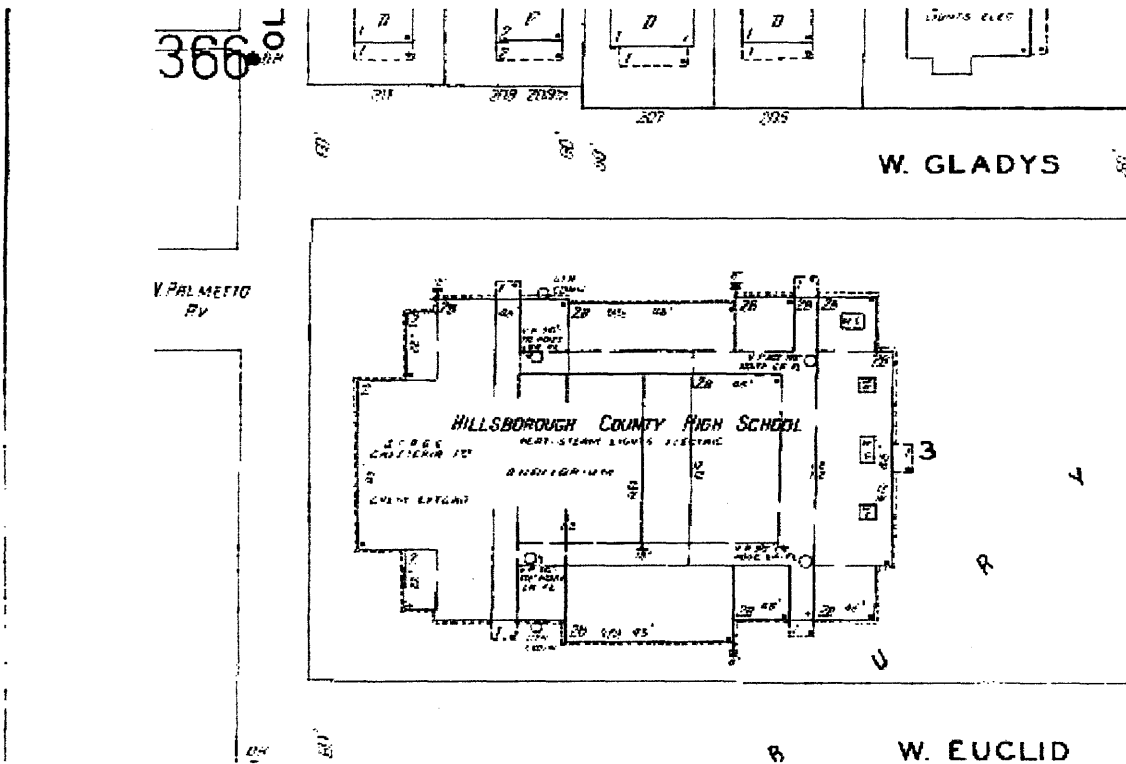
Section number _____ Page _____

Hillsborough County High School
2704 North Highland Avenue
Tampa, Hillsborough County, Florida

Maps and Photographs

1931 SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY MAP

ATTACHMENT C



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number _____ Page _____

Hillsborough County High School
2704 North Highland Avenue
Tampa, Hillsborough County, Florida

Maps and Photographs

HISTORIC BURGERT BROTHERS PHOTOGRAPH
PA587, C.1912

ATTACHMENT B



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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number _____ Page _____

Hillsborough County High School
2704 North Highland Avenue
Tampa, Hillsborough County, Florida

Maps and Photographs

ATTACHMENT A

1915 SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY MAP

