National Park Service

OMB No. 1024-0018 SG 3496

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 National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. 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.

Title:	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
Signature of commenting official:	Date
In my opinion, the property meets does not	t meet the National Register criteria.
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Govern	nment
_State Historic Preservation Office, Ohio History C	onnection
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
Barban Ewen DSHPO for Inventory	e Registration January 28, 2019
nationalstatewideX_local Applicable National Register Criteria:X_ABCD	
In my opinion, the property X meets does not recommend that this property be considered significant level(s) of significance:	at the following
I hereby certify that this X nomination request the documentation standards for registering properties in Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements.	n the National Register of Historic rements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
As the designated authority under the National Historic	Preservation Act, as amended,
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
Not For Publication: n/a Vicinity: n/a	County: Champaign
2. Location Street & number: 725 South Main Street	
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple proper	ty listing
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A	Ö
Other names/site number:	
Historic name: South Ward District School	
	Name of related multiple property listing: N/A (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property 2. Location Street & number: 725 South Main Street City or town: Urbana State: Ohio Not For Publication: n/a Vicinity: n/a 3. State/Federal Agency Certification As the designated authority under the National Historice I hereby certify that this X nomination request the documentation standards for registering properties in Places and meets the procedural and professional required In my opinion, the property X meets does not recommend that this property be considered significant level(s) of significance: nationalstatewide X local Applicable National Register Criteria: X ABCD BARVAL DSHPO for Inventory Signature of certifying official/Title: _State Historic Preservation Office, Ohio History C State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Governorm. In my opinion, the property meets does not gignature of commenting official: Signature of commenting official:

National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

South Ward District School Jame of Property	Champaign, Ohio County and State
4. National Park Service Certification	
I hereby certify that this property is:	
entered in the National Register	
determined eligible for the National Register	
determined not eligible for the National Register	
removed from the National Register	
other (explain:)	
Lisabelin	2/21/19
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
5. Classification	
Ownership of Property	
(Check as many boxes as apply.) Private:	
Public – Local X	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	
Category of Property	
(Check only one box.)	
Building(s)	
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

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Number of Resources within Prop (Do not include previously listed resources) Contributing 1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	Total
6. Function or UseHistoric Functions(Enter categories from instructions.)EDUCATION: School)	
Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.) VACANT: Not In Use)	

South Ward District School Name of Property	Champaign, Ohio County and State
name of Freporty	County and Clate
7. Description	
Architectural Classification	
(Enter categories from instructions.)	
LATE 19th and EARLY 20th CENTURY REVIVALS: Collegiate Gothio	
LATE 19 th and EARLY 20 th CENTURY REVIVALS: Georgian Reviva	1
MODERN MOVEMENT	
_	

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Walls:BRICK

Walls:CONCRETE BLOCK

Foundation: BRICK Roof: RUBBER

Other: ALUMINUM windows and doors LIMESTONE columns, balustrade, quoining

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Located at 725 South Main Street in the City of Urbana, the South Ward District School is a two and a half story masonry building, completed circa 1921, and designed by Hamilton, Ohio architect Frederic Mueller. The property maintains a high level of historic integrity, in both the 1921 and 1952 portions of the building, and is in good to excellent condition. The earliest portion of the building is configured in a T-shape floor plan, two stories in height on a raised basement. It displays elements from a combination of Collegiate Gothic and Georgian Revival architectural styles, including a flat roof, ashlar quoining, cross-bucked balustrade, symmetrical façade with rows of windows, limestone supported arcade with recessed entrance, and masonry parapets. The interior maintains its original floor plan of classrooms, library, offices, and a multi-space area utilized for a combination auditorium/gymnasium/cafeteria, interior doors, metallic staircases, coat hooks, woodwork, and chalkboards. To the south, a one story, L-shaped, concrete block and masonry addition with flat roof was constructed circa 1952 in the Mid-20th Century tradition.

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This section of the building retains its original floor plan, classroom layout, and bands of paired windows. The original exterior doors and windows were replaced throughout the entire building at least 25 years ago. The school is located on the southeast corner of South Main Street and Park Avenue, with a deep setback, large mature pine trees, and a 19th century wrought iron fence running the length of the front of the property along South Main Street. The school is surrounded by larger and medium sized residential buildings from the late 19th and early 20th centuries of various forms and styles. A non-contributing modular classroom unit is situated to the north of the 1921 portion of the building. The property is situated on half a city block and stands on the location of the previous school destroyed by fire in 1919.

Narrative Description

The South Ward District School, in Urbana, Champaign County, Ohio is two and a half stories, constructed of brick and with limestone accents, and laid out in a T-shaped plan consisting of 3 bays. The roof is flat with a brick parapet in the Collegiate Gothic style. (Photo 1) The original entrance facing South Main Street is recessed, behind a limestone arcade supported by limestone columns, with a cross bucked limestone balustrade above. (Photos 2, 3) The entrance itself is arched with double replacement doors with a fanlight overhead. (Photo 4) The recessed portico is faced with stone blocks. Two protruding towers of Collegiate Gothic inspiration frame the center bay of the façade and extend above the second floor parapet. (Photo 5) They are quoined in ashlar limestone with an additional stone belt course of smooth stone between the first and second floors and the raised basement level. Ornamental medallions are located at the top of the parapet for each tower, with a design that matches both the north and south entrances of the 1921 portion of the building.

This 1921 building rests on a raised basement with an ashlar, beveled, limestone foundation. Single light windows are separated with brick pilasters in the basement to contribute to the symmetrical appearance of the building. A single belt course of stone is present above soldier course brick lintels. The basement pattern is repeated around the foundation area of the 1921 school. (**Photos 6, 7**)

Ashlar quoining frames the overall structure, giving it a Georgian Revival essence, along with an ashlar limestone cornice, and ornamentation located at prominent parapet points on the upper levels of the 1921 portion of the building. The ornamentation appears to be shield-like design, in keeping with the Collegiate Gothic style. Bands of contiguous window openings are in their original locations, but the original six-over-six windows were replaced a number of years ago. The window openings have soldier course brick lintels and sills, throughout the 1921 portion of the building.

The northern and southern facades of the 1921 portion of the building are identical. (**Photo 8**) The central entrance bays project slightly the entire height of the building. They contain the stairwells on the interior and have double doors and paired double hung windows on the second floor. The southern entrance is where the 1952 portion of the building was connected with a masonry addition. (**Photo 13**)

The east, or rear elevation, of the building, contains the auditorium/gymnasium/cafeteria wing that contains a large chimney on the east end of the building. A series of small double hung windows and solid metallic doors are located here at varying levels. The north and south elevations of the auditorium/gymnasium/cafeteria wing contain additional smaller, double hung windows, in the upper level, while the lower level contains larger window units that are more symmetrically placed. (Photo 9) In

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addition, the east façade repeats the same band of double hung windows in the classroom portion of the 1921 section of the building as displayed on the front façade, and in line with the single pane windows of the basement level. (Photos 10, 11)

The 1952 section of the building is single story with a flat roof and abuts against the southern elevation of the 1921 portion. (**Photo 12**) It is of mid-20th century design and void of any ornamentation compared to the 1921 portion of the building. The 1952 addition has an irregular floor plan. Window sills in the addition overall are stone, and a continuous stringcourse, composed of soldier course bricks, forms a lintel for the door and window openings, except on the north elevation. The west façade is asymmetrical with two bays, containing a single, double hung window, and a band of double hung windows. (**Photo 13**) The southern elevation of the 1952 section is also asymmetrical containing four bays, including a recessed entrance with double metal doors, and bands of double hung windows separated by brick. (**Photo 14**) Another double, metal, entrance door is the only opening on the east façade of the 1952 portion of the building. (**Photo 15**) The northern elevation of the 1952 section of the building has a limited amount of window or door openings and consists of concrete block as opposed to the brick seen on the more public viewed sides of the building. The bands of double hung windows are repeated on this side of the building as well. (**Photo 16, 17**)

The interior of the original 1921 school still retains many of its original features and floor plan, including wood floors in many of the classrooms (Photo 18) and gymnasium, wood doors, transom windows, wood intercom speakers, (Photos 19, 20, 21, 22) coat hooks, and storage closets in the classrooms (Photos 23, 24). In the large gym/cafeteria/auditorium multi-purpose room, there is a stage that has had its arched opening infilled with wood panels (which could easily be removed). (Photos 25, 26) Terrazzo flooring is located in the first floor hall along with a copper dedication plaque in the entry. The school offices are also located on the first floor, just inside the South Main Street entrance foyer. (Photos 27, 28, 29, 30) The library is located on the second floor, between the classrooms in the front of the school. (Photo 31) The floor plan for the 1921 building is repeated on each floor with hallways running from the stairwells from the north to the south, and classrooms being located on either side of the halls, with the exception of the second floor where the upper level of the gym is present. (Photos 32, 33) The staircases located in the north and south elevations of the 1921 building are constructed of iron treads and risers, squared newel posts, balustrades, and hand rails to protect against the risk of fire and sturdy enough to endure with the traffic and weight of students over the years. (Photos 34, 35) Restrooms are located in the basement level under the gym portion of the building. Additional classrooms, a staff lounge, nurses' office, and storage areas are also located in the basement.

The interior of the 1952 addition contains a long center hallway that runs from east to west. (**Photo 36**) The classrooms are located along the south side of the hall, which has linoleum tiled flooring. Restrooms are tucked into a protrusion in the floor plan to the north, and another projecting section at the northeast corner of the building contains a classroom. The classrooms in this section of the building still retain elements of their mid-20th century character, including built-in cabinets, chalkboards, and interior wood doors. (**Photos 37, 38, 39, 40**)

A non-contributing modular classroom unit is situated to the north of the 1921 portion of the building, and thought to have been put in place sometime in the 1990s. (**Photo 41**) A late 19th century wrought iron fence is present along the property's South Main boundary, and it pre-dates the 1921 building. (**Photo 42**)

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Architects

The 1921 portion of the building was designed by Hamilton, Ohio architect Frederick G. Mueller (1873-1947). Mueller was born in Hamilton and studied architecture at the Armour Institute in Chicago. During his career, he worked in partnership with Frank Packard of Columbus and Walter Shattuck. He entered into partnership with Walter Hair in 1928 in Hamilton. Other buildings to his credit include the Hamilton YMCA, the Ford Building, St. Joseph's School, and the Lowenstein Building all in Hamilton. Mueller also collaborated with Packard on the design of the Hamilton High School in that community.

The architects for the 1952 addition are thought to be Mclaughlin and Keil of Lima, Ohio, who were cited as the architects involved in an ongoing school renovation, construction, and expansion campaign of all Urbana City Schools that took place between 1952 and 1956. They are also known to have designed gymnasium and educational facilities in Miamisburg, Ohio, and Denison University in Granville, Ohio, as well as elementary schools in Beverly, Ohio and Sylvania, Ohio as part of their portfolio.

Historic Integrity

The South Ward District School represents the construction and architectural characteristics of two time periods and remains largely intact in its overall design, setting, and materials with a high level of integrity. The school is representative of Urbana's growth and development reflected by the construction and expansion efforts the community's schools over the last century.

Exterior of the 1921 Building Integrity:

More elaborate architectural elements of the 1921 building of the South Ward District School were reserved for the exterior to reflect the pride and prosperity Urbana was experiencing at the time. Like communities of today, school structures were viewed as symbols of pride for residents, and meant to impress visitors and prospective new residents and businesses. The use of limestone ornamentation and features, such as the arcaded entrance facing South Main Street conveys a rich, tasteful, design feature and focal point representative of the style from the era, and portrays an elegant presence to all that pass by or enter the building. The workmanship is excellent on the exterior of the 1921 building, and has been well maintained, retaining a clear association to its historic function as a school or institutional building. The school is clearly distinctive from that of its surrounding residential neighbors, which are predominantly of frame construction and smaller in scale.

Exterior windows and doors have been replaced in the 1921 section of the school at an unknown date, but believed to have been in the last 25 years. However, the form and architectural features of the style still prevail maintaining a high level of integrity and contribute to the significance of the building. The placement of the windows and doors, and size of their frames remain the same from the original construction time period contributing to its integrity.

Interior of the 1921 Building Integrity:

The building's historic purpose as a school is still evident and retains its original floor plan and classroom lay out in the 1921 section of the building. Interior features are not overly elaborate likely to keep construction costs down at the time, but probably more so to keep the focus upon learning in a solid and functional space for the time period that remained functional and viable through the decades. Within this portion of the school, Terrazzo floors are present in the first floor hall and entry foyer. Wooden floors are still present in the classrooms on the first and second floors, along with original woodwork, interior doors, and transoms. Ceiling heights throughout the first and second floor hallways and classrooms remain

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intact, and still convey the building's authentic feel and purpose as a school. Despite windows being replaced sometime over 25 years ago, the original opening heights remain throughout the building and also convey a sense of scale of the 1921 building's design. They allow large amounts of light to enter the interior spaces as originally intended. Storage closets and chalkboards in the classrooms also remain, adding further to the feel, integrity, and association of a school building for the era.

Even small details such as coat hooks along the second floor hallway or in the north and south stairwells are reminders of the building's function as a school and are features that remain intact from the 1921 design. The stairwells themselves are cast iron, are solid in their construction, and remain true to their original design. They are clearly intended for a building of institutional use such as a school, and a design feature that was meant to deter the spread of fire, which claimed the school located on the site a few years prior to the current South Ward District School's construction.

The grandest original interior feature of the 1921 portion of the building is its large gymnasium/auditorium/cafeteria space with its original doors, stage area, wood floors, and ceiling that soars two stories. The space conveys a sense of workmanship of the era, and association for school assembly purposes, but also a space suitable for welcoming the community to gather for school hosted programs and functions. The stage proscenium arch has been filled-in, but could easily be removed, and it still possesses the scale and character of the stage area as it was originally intended. Despite the opening being filled the feel of the massing is still evident.

Overall, the interior of the 1921 section of the building retains its feel of a school constructed in the early portion of the 20th century by its sturdy construction, simple woodwork, orderly and practical floorplan, and unencumbered and open classrooms and common areas. Not to mention the use of architectural styling popular with educational structures of the era in America. The building is not overly elaborate in its design or architectural features in its interior, but is well built, and constructed in a way to protect the building from disaster, such as fire with the use of masonry, concrete, limestone, iron staircases. Therefore for the South Ward District School retains a great deal of its architectural character contributing to its significance as the only elementary school constructed in the city in the first half of the 20th century.

Exterior of the 1952 Building Integrity:

The exterior of the 1952 section of the building was connected to the south entrance of the 1921 building. The 1952 part of the South Ward District School was clearly built for function rather placing emphasis on a more elaborate architectural style. The 1952 exterior is simple masonry construction with little to no ornamentation, and clearly represents a different trend of school construction in the latter half of the 20th century, reflecting its significance that is associated with an Urbana school renovation and expansion program. The 1952 section of the school retains its original window and door placement locations and sizes. These features contribute to the integrity of its design with its rows of windows meant to provide abundant natural light to the classrooms located in this portion of the building. The one story height of the 1952 building is in contrast to the two story 1921 portion of the school, but also clearly indicates the institutional nature of the building. The meeting of the two distinct architectural designs reflected in the school seem to complement one another by the color of the brick between the two sections, yet obviously different. The 1952 portion of the school also does not overshadow the 1921 section, since it is only a single story in height.

Interior of the 1952 Building Integrity:

The 1952 portion of the school also retains much of its original fabric including its classroom layout, woodwork, interior doors, hallway configuration, and built in storage features in the classrooms. The

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workmanship is simple and in good repair. Blonde-colored woodwork, of the built-in storage features found in the classrooms, is indicative of the style of the time period of the mid-20th century contributing to its integrity. This portion of the building's function as a school is also still evident as well.

Location:

The South Ward District School is situated on a large corner lot surrounded by residential properties, dating from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It maintains a deep setback from the surrounding homes, as it's always had. A large amount of open space still surrounds the school for parking, greenspace, and the playground to the east and west. A non-contributing modular classroom building is located to the north of the property that has been present since the 1990s. However, it is small in scale and does not impact the historic integrity of the overall property. A playground is located to the east of the building. A 19th century wrought iron fence runs the length of the front of the property as a remnant from the previous school that stood on the site, but was destroyed by fire. Mature trees still shade the front of the building facing South Main Street, adding to the overall character of the setting. The South Ward District School building has integrity of location and setting by being on the original site and still retains its appearance as a separate building with frontages on South Main Street and Park Avenue.

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8. 5	tatement of Significance	
	cable National Register Criteria "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the prope.)	perty for National Register
X	A. Property is associated with events that have made a sign broad patterns of our history.	gnificant contribution to the
	B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant	cant in our past.
	C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a construction or represents the work of a master, or post or represents a significant and distinguishable entity windividual distinction.	ssesses high artistic values,
	D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information history.	important in prehistory or
	ria Considerations "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 grave	
	D. A cemetery	
	E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure	
	F. A commemorative property	
	G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance withi	n the past 50 years

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uth Ward District School	
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from EDUCATION	instructions.)
	•
Period of Significance 1921-1956	
Significant Dates 1921 1952	· ·
Significant Person (Complete only if Crite	rion B is marked above.)
Cultural Affiliation	

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The South Ward District School is being nominated for listing under Criteria A. It signifies important developments in the Urbana Public School timeline that correlates with population and local development patterns in small communities in Ohio in the early 20th century through the post-World War II era of the 1940s and 50s. Prior to that time, Urbana's booming economic cycles can be pinpointed to three time periods of the 19th century starting with the War of 1812, the coming of the railroads and Urbana University in the 1850s, and during the late 19th century, an influx of industrial developments and prosperous surrounding agricultural lands adjacent to the community. The northern sections of Urbana saw considerable growth particularly in the latter half of the 19th and early 20th centuries, and again in the mid-20th century, as the city flourished with a number of small manufacturing concerns and rail systems locating in this vicinity of the city. This had a transformative impact upon the construction and development of local schools to meet the educational needs of the community's population. The South Ward District School is being nominated at the local level of significance. The Period of Significance is 1921, when the school opened, to 1956, which was the end point of Urbana's citywide school construction, renovation, and enlargement initiative.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Urbana was founded in 1805 as the county seat of Champaign County. Its first economic boom came in the form of serving as an important military post for Ohio and the Northwest Territories during the War of 1812. A series of subscription schools were located in Urbana during these early days of settlement, beginning in 1810. The community boasted of 200 residents at the time of the war's outbreak. Urbana served as an important military point, and drew a number of skilled craftsmen and entrepreneurs who began to build and transform the community. Brick makers, wagon makers, furniture makers, blacksmiths, tanners, and journey mechanics were just a few of the first makers to create an industrial development base in Urbana. Many of the soldiers who were among those tradesmen were exposed to the community at the time and saw great potential in the area with the population growing to slightly under 700 inhabitants by 1820. They remained in the community or returned to it following their military service.

The community's second economic development came before the Civil War. Urbana's population had grown to over 2,000 residents by 1850. During that time, an influx of wealthy and educated residents, particularly from the eastern United States found their way to the community. The establishment of Urbana University in 1850 and their association to that institution's Swedenborgian origins, in part, drew this new-found population. The Swedenborgs were individuals and families who identified their faith to the teachings of Emanuel Swedenborg and his theology of the Christian faith that explored and touted a focus upon a spirit realm of demons, angels, and scientific aspects to religion. Swedenborg himself was a scientist, before turning more towards a spiritual awakening and dreams that came to him in the 18th century. Some of Urbana's most prominent and wealthiest families were of the Swedenborg faith. They tended to be enlightened socially, intellectual, and artistic. More Swedenborg families were drawn to Urbana, when Urbana University was organized as the first Swedenborg-based institution of higher learning in America. The Swedenborg families of Urbana brought a new level of influence and affluence

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in the development of local industries such as carriage manufacturers, baking companies, foundries, tanneries, early banking institutions, and education that contributed to the community's growth. Like other communities, transportation improvements also contributed to Urbana's mid-19th century growth. The first railroad arrived in Urbana by 1848 and connected the city to Cincinnati and Sandusky. By 1858, the Pennsylvania line arrived in Urbana connecting the city with points east and west, and new industries would follow, related to the manufacture of lumber, agricultural equipment, and bridges to name a few.

In Ohio, the first law concerning schools was passed in 1825. It introduced public schools, by establishing property taxes and placing the responsibility for schools at the township level. In 1849, a new law was enacted that permitted municipalities to fund schools out of city taxes and be exempted from township control. This special district status applied to communities larger than 500 residents. That same year, the Urbana City Schools were established, after years of struggling to gain a more formal and organized school system. Much of Ohio's School Law of 1849 was based on the Akron school system, created in 1847. That legislation cleared the way for city created districts with a number of elementary schools and students would be divided into grades based on achievement. If there was enough demand, the local school board could establish a high school as well. A local school board would be created, elected by the public, and would make decisions concerning the local district's management. African American children were excluded from the law. In 1853, Ohio revised its law, and cleared the way for the state to collect a property tax across the state, and redistribute it to each school district based on the number of students enrolled locally. The 1853 law also allowed for the creation of school libraries for the first time. The 1914 Rural School Codes Act shifted schools to county responsibility, but Urbana remained a city focused institution, and nearby Urbana Township students largely attended the city based schools.

Prior to 1849, local education options were largely private, subscription options, or typically not available to Urbana's early African American population. Private academies for both boys and girls were erected in the communities that were spurred on by the arrival of Urbana's upper class, who brought with them Eastern U.S standards of education. A number of schools were established throughout the community, at different locations near the community center, and instructed by a constant and changing stream of instructors throughout the 1820s, 30s, and 40s. With the formation of the Urbana school system for public education, and election of an Urbana School Board, the entity began to look to the division of three areas where the community's population was centered or expected to grow and expand: North, South, and Central.

One of the former private academies was utilized as the earliest public school, located in the downtown Urbana area. The facility created a central school in good condition, as opposed to the scattering of earlier private schools around the community that were in varying states of repair. By 1852, the demand was so great, students were separated into high school level classes, utilizing the upper part of the community market house for more space. The high school recorded 30 students by 1857. By 1864, the high school's enrollment had grown to 52, and the entire Urbana school system enrollment had reached 680. The community population had reached 3,249 by 1860. The area was thriving through agriculture, and the growth of local industries such as flouring mills and the woolen mill. Following the Civil War, the Urbana School District would construct brick school houses in the south and north wards in the mid-1860s, in the northern parts of the community where much of the city's industrial growth was taking place near rail lines. An elementary school was established in the southern portion of Urbana where residential growth continued to expand, and in close proximity to Urbana University. Another elementary school remained in the central portion of the community and downtown.

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By the 1870s and through the early 20th century, Urbana continued to grow in population. A multitude of smaller industries continued to emerge as major employers such as furniture, broom, paper, box car, food, and railroad accessory manufacturing. Urbana's population stood at 4,246 in 1870 and continued to largely tick upward reaching 7,739 by 1910. Multiple residential subdivisions were platted, and they largely fanned out towards the north, south, and northeast portions of the city from the original town plat. The first formal high school was constructed "on the hill" along Wood Street during this time period. The third high school to stand on the site remains today and is known as the iconic "castle." The earlier elementary schools in the central, north, and southern portions of the city were replaced with larger and more modern structures at this time, as Urbana's population continued to grow, particularly in the industrial areas of the city in the northwest and more residential based areas south of downtown. A larger South Ward District School was constructed along South Main Street by 1897, and an identical North Ward District School was erected on North Russell Street in 1901. The north school served the pupils of the northern sections of the city, with its heavy manufacturing and industrial areas. The South and Central Wards served the historic commercial core of downtown Urbana and the predominantly residential areas of the city.

The 1897 South Ward School was destroyed by fire in 1919, thought to have been caused by a malfunctioning furnace. The present building was constructed on the same site in 1921, with larger classrooms and features that neither the previous South Ward District School nor the North Ward School contained, such as the combination gymnasium/auditorium/cafeteria. The 1921 South Ward District School not only is reflective of a time of growth and prosperity in Urbana, but is significant as an example of modern school design in the early 20th century not seen in Urbana before. The school was also erected with the thought that southern Urbana would continue to grow in population and would need a sizeable and modern structure to accommodate a growing student body (enrollment numbers are not available). With the former South Ward District School being destroyed in 1919, the Urbana community was able to replace it with a slightly larger and more modern educational facility for its time than what its predecessor had to offer.

The Urbana School Board also addressed the educational needs of Urbana's African-American community and provided for a "Select School" that was initially housed in St. Paul's African Methodist Episcopal Church at 316 East Market Street by the 1860s. The church and its neighborhood were the historic center of the African American community in Urbana. By the 1870s, the Urbana School Board acquired the Philander Ross home nearby on East Water Street to serve as the new home for the Select School, as it was known, for black students. It would continue to serve as the African-American school of public education for Urbana until around 1893 when Urbana's schools desegregated for good. The number of African American students that attended the North Ward District School could not be ascertained through school records, although there were small pockets of African American neighborhoods located nearby.

With the coming of the Great Depression in 1929, Urbana's economic expansion began to slow. The city's growth remained relatively stagnant with the population remaining virtually unchanged from 1910 to 1930, staying around 7,600 inhabitants. However, by 1940, the population and school enrollment began to grow again as Urbana's industries switched to war time production, and with the establishment of such local industries as Grimes Manufacturing, the construction of Mercy Memorial Hospital, and improved state roads cutting through the community. Springfield's growth in neighboring Clark County also provided additional job opportunities in its growing industrial base that positioned Urbana more as a bedroom community, even though paper manufacturing and other smaller industries remained in Urbana. Urbana's population had reached 9,935 by 1950 and 10,461 by 1960, causing the existing school stock to

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be enlarged. Around 1950, the Urbana School Board saw the community growing and embarked on a multi-year renovation, expansion, and construction campaign. It was in response to Urbana's post-World War II economic boom, which necessitated it to revisit the state of its schools and educational needs. It was at this time the South Ward District School was expanded in 1952 from its original 1921 structure.

Following World War II, and between 1950 and 1956, the Urbana Schools saw growth and development to reflect the growing population. During this time period, Urbana High and Jr High Schools were expanded. Also, during this building boom for the schools in the 1950s, East Elementary in the northeastern part of the city was erected to meet the growing residential growth that was occurring on Urbana's northeast side, and the North and South Ward District Schools were enlarged. Central Ward also continued to operate as an elementary school, but it was destroyed by fire in December 1963. The enrollment from Central Ward was then distributed to the among North, South, and East elementary schools.

By the 1980s, Urbana's population had capped out below 12,000 residents and remains consistent with that number at present. The community's third iteration of the high school known as "the castle" on the hill remains at the same location. The North, South, and East elementary schools continued to serve as the city's elementary school facilities through 2018. However, the Urbana School Board and community gave approval for a construction levy to construct a new elementary school that consolidated North, South, and East into one facility, located on the community's far south side. The South Ward District School ceased being used as a school at the end of the 2018 school year, and it is currently vacant. The Urbana High-Junior High School will remain on the same site as they have for over a century with the historic "castle" building, and its auditorium, being preserved and maintained as part of the new complex. Adaptive reuse for housing purposes for North and South Ward District schools is being pursued at this time in order to retain these buildings.

Conclusion

For over 100 years, the South Ward District School served the growing residential areas south of downtown Urbana as the only public education facility for the neighborhood. That timeframe included the previous building destroyed by fire in 1919 and subsequently replaced in 1921, with the largest and most modern educational building constructed in the city for the first time in over 20 years at the time. The South Ward District School continued to meet the needs of the residents of southern Urbana by being expanded in 1952, as Urbana's population was growing once again in the post-World War II era and residential construction continued in the southern part of the city. The 1952 addition to the 1921 school enlarged the facility with little architectural frills in order to keep costs low and the focus on its educational purpose and function. The expansion of the South Ward District School proactively positioned the property to serve for another 60 plus years as an elementary school, until it was deemed obsolete for modern teaching needs, and it was considered to be more cost effective to consolidate Urbana's older elementary schools to one location with a new building, ending an era of neighborhood oriented elementary schools in the community in 2018.

South Ward District School	
Name of Property	

Champaign, Ohio	
County and State	

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

History of Champaign County, Ohio: Its History and It's People, Industries, and Institutions Middleton, Evan, B.F. Bowen Publisher, Indianapolis, IN. 1917, pg, 554-560, 993-1021

History of Champaign County, Ohio, W.H. Beers, Chicago, 1881, pg.

Champaign County Atlas, 1874, Starr and Headington, Cincinnati, Ohio

(1956, April 4), April 20 Official School Dedication. Urbana Daily Citizen, p.1

(1920, April 13), School Board Would Have \$140,000 for School House in Urbana's South District. *The Champaign Democrat*, p.1

(1919, December 16), Fire at South Ward School Public Calamity. Urbana Daily Citizen, p.1

U.S. Census 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930

Historic Postcard Image, Published by J.A.Banta Jr., Urbana, Ohio circa. 1920. John Bry personal collection.

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Previous documentation on fil	e (NPS).	
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previously listed in the Na		
previously determined elig		
designated a National Hist		
	recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	
recorded by Historic Ame	rican Landscape Survey #	
Primary location of additional	l data:	
X State Historic Preservation	o Office	
Other State agency		
Federal agency		
X Local government		
University		
X Other		
Name of repository: Cham	paign County Historical Socie	ty
Historic Resources Survey Nu 10. Geographical Data	moer (ir ussigneu), _em oo	
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Latitude/Longitude Coordina	tes	
Datum if other than WGS84:		
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal)	places)	
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3. Latitude:	Longitude:	

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1952 addition to the	1 0	ntributing modular classrooms, and the
1932 addition to the	1)21 building.	
11. Form Prepared	By	
name/title:John B	ry, Consultant and Urbana Histo	<u>orian</u>
organization:		
street & number:	14248 Stahelin Ave.	
···t	:4	MI 1 - 49222
city or town: _Detro	<u>state:</u>	MI zip code:48223
e-mail sowles	88@yahoo.com	
telephone: 239-32	21-4712	
date: January	<u> 2019</u>	<u> </u>

South Ward District School	
Name of Property	

Champaign, Ohio County and State

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: South Ward District School

City or Vicinity: Urbana

County: Champaign State: Ohio

Photographer: John Bry

Date Photographed: November 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1921 Building Exterior Views

1 of 42. 1921 Section, West and North Elevations, Front Façade, Looking Southeast

2 of 42. 1921 Section, West Elevation, Entrance Arcade, Looking Southeast

3 of 42. 1921 Section, West Elevation, Looking East, Front Facade, Balustrade Detail

South Ward District School

Name of Property

Champaign, Ohio
County and State

- 4 of 42. 1921 Section, West Elevation, Looking East, Main Entrance
- 5 of 42.1921 Section, West Elevation, Looking Northeast, Second Floor, Quoining, Parapet, and Tower Detailing
- 6 of 42. 1921, West Elevation, Looking Northeast
- 7 of 42. 1921, West Elevation, Looking Southeast with 1952 addition
- 8 of 42. 1921 Section, North Elevation, Looking South, Second Floor Parapet and Quoining Detail
- 9 of 42. 1921 Section, East Elevation, (Gym/Cafeteria Area), Looking West
- 10 of 42. 1921 Section, East Elevation, Looking West
- 11 of 42. 1921 Section, East and North Elevations, (Gym/Cafeteria Area), Looking Southwest

1952 Building Exterior Views:

- 12 of 42. 1952 Section, South and West Elevations, Looking Northeast
- 13 of 42. 1952 Section, West Elevation, Looking Northeast at connection with 1921 building.
- 14 of 42. 1952 Section, South Elevation, Looking North
- 15 of 42. 1952 Section, East Elevation, Looking West
- 16 of 42. 1952 Section, North Elevation, Looking Southwest
- 17 of 42. 1952 Section, North Elevation, Looking Southwest

1921 Building Interior Views:

- 18 of 42. 1921 Section, Representative Classroom, Room 27 Shown, Second Floor, Facing Northwest showing wood floors
- 19 of 42. 1921 Section, First Floor, Cafeteria/Gym/Auditorium, Interior Door and Transom Example, Looking West
- 20 of 42. 1921 Section, Sample Classroom Door, Room 18 Shown, First Floor, Looking West
- 21 of 42. 1921 Section, Sample Classroom Door Transom, Room 18 Shown, First Floor, Looking West
- 22 of 42. 1921 Section, Representative Classroom Room 27 Shown, Second Floor, Intercom Speaker, Looking South
- 23 of 42. 1921 Section, Original Coat Hooks, Basement, North Stairwell (Such hooks exist throughout the 1921 portion of the building).
- 24 of 42. 1921 Section, Representative Classroom, Room 27 Shown, Second Floor, Built-in Closets, Second Floor, Facing South
- 25 of 42. 1921 Section, First Floor, Cafeteria/Gym/Auditorium, Looking East
- 26 of 42. 1921 Section, First Floor, Cafeteria/Gym/Auditorium, Looking West
- 27 of 42. 1921 Section, First Floor Hall, Terrazzo Floor, Looking North
- 28 of 42. 1921 Section, First Floor Hall, Terrazzo Floor, Looking South
- 29 of 42. 1921 Section, Dedication Plaque, First Floor Foyer, Looking Northwest
- 30 of 42. 1921 Section, Front Entry Foyer from First Floor Hallway, Looking West
- 31 of 42. 1921 Section, Library, Second Floor, Looking Northwest
- 32 of 42. 1921 Section, North Stairwell Landing, First Floor, Looking South
- 33 of 42. 1921 Section, Hall, Second Floor, Looking North

South Ward District School	Champaign, Ohio
Name of Property	County and State

34 of 42. 1921 Section, North Stairwell Landing, Looking South to Basement 35 of 42. 1921 Section, North Stairwell, Landing, First Floor, Looking North

1952 Building Interior Views:

- 36 of 42. 1952 Section, Hall, First Floor, Looking East
- 37 of 42. 1952 Section, Sample Classroom, Room 31 Shown, First Floor, Looking West
- 38 of 42. 1952 Section, Representative Classroom, Room 31 Shown, Looking East
- 39 of 42. 1952 Section, Sample Lockers in Classrooms, Room 31 Shown, First Floor, Looking Northeast
- 40 of 42. 1952 Section, Sample Built-In Cabinets in Classrooms, Room 31 Shown, First Floor, Looking Southeast

Exterior Property Resources Views:

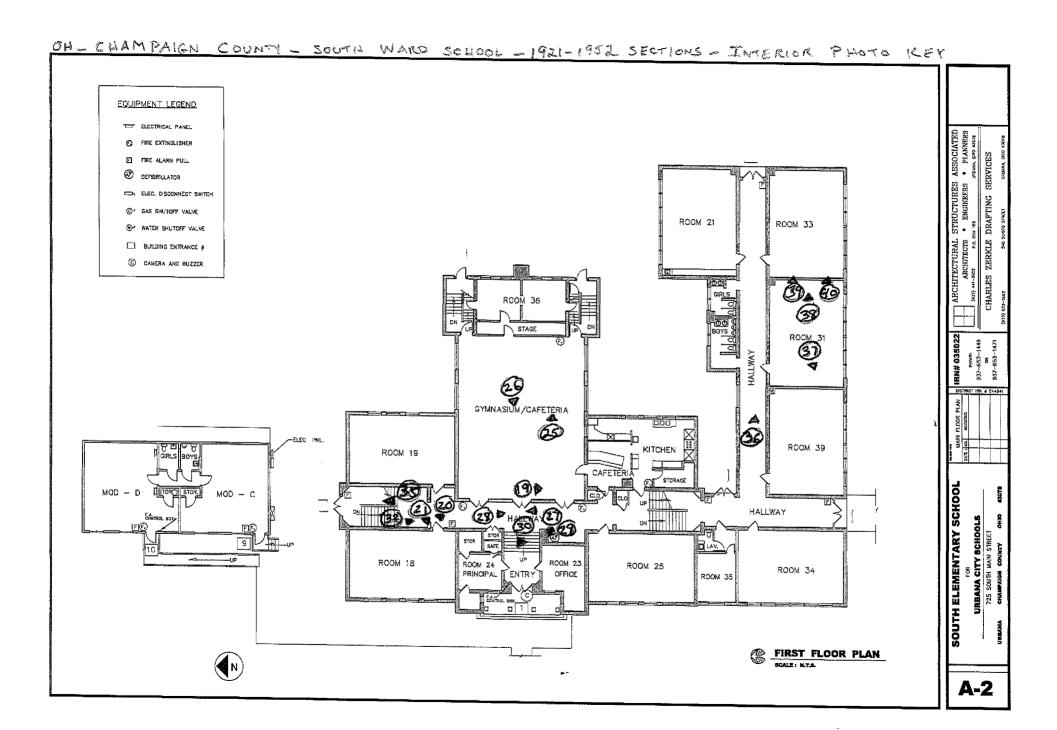
- 41 of 42. Modular Classroom Outbuilding, West Elevation, Looing East
- 42 of 42. Wrought Iron Fence that runs the length of the west property boundary along South Main Street, Looking Southwest

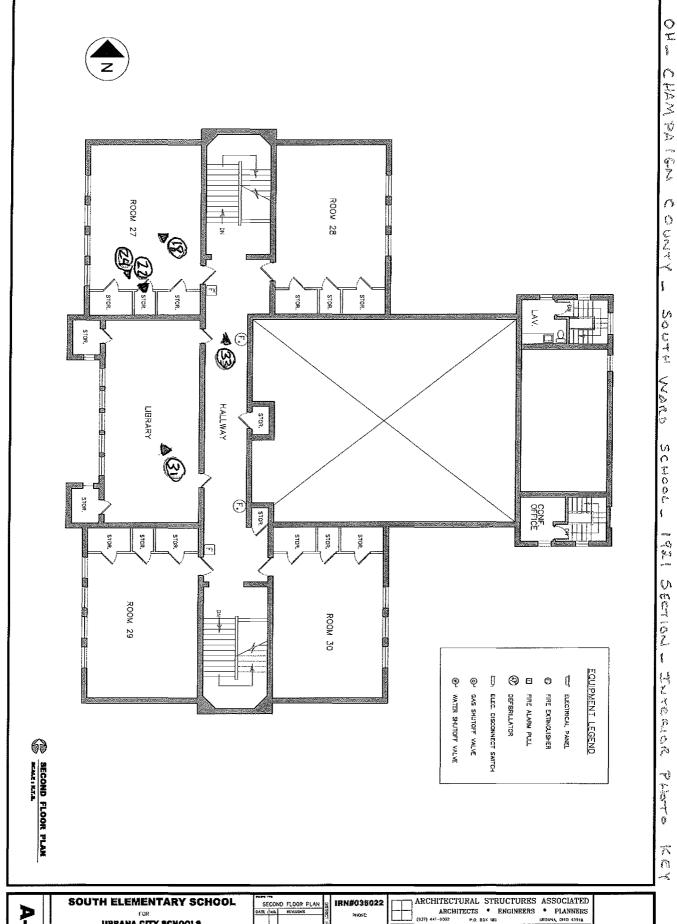
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seg.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.









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URSEANA

URBANA CITY SCHOOLS

725 SOUTH MAIN STREET CHAMPAIGN COUNTY ONIG

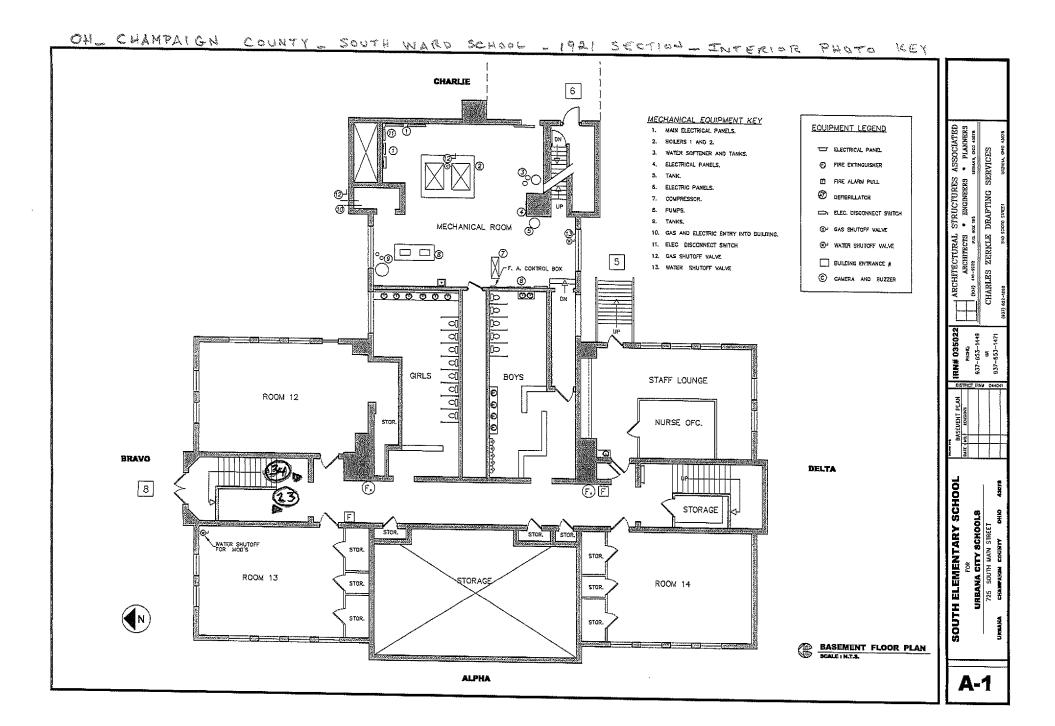
937-653-1449 937-653-1471

(937) 657-1862

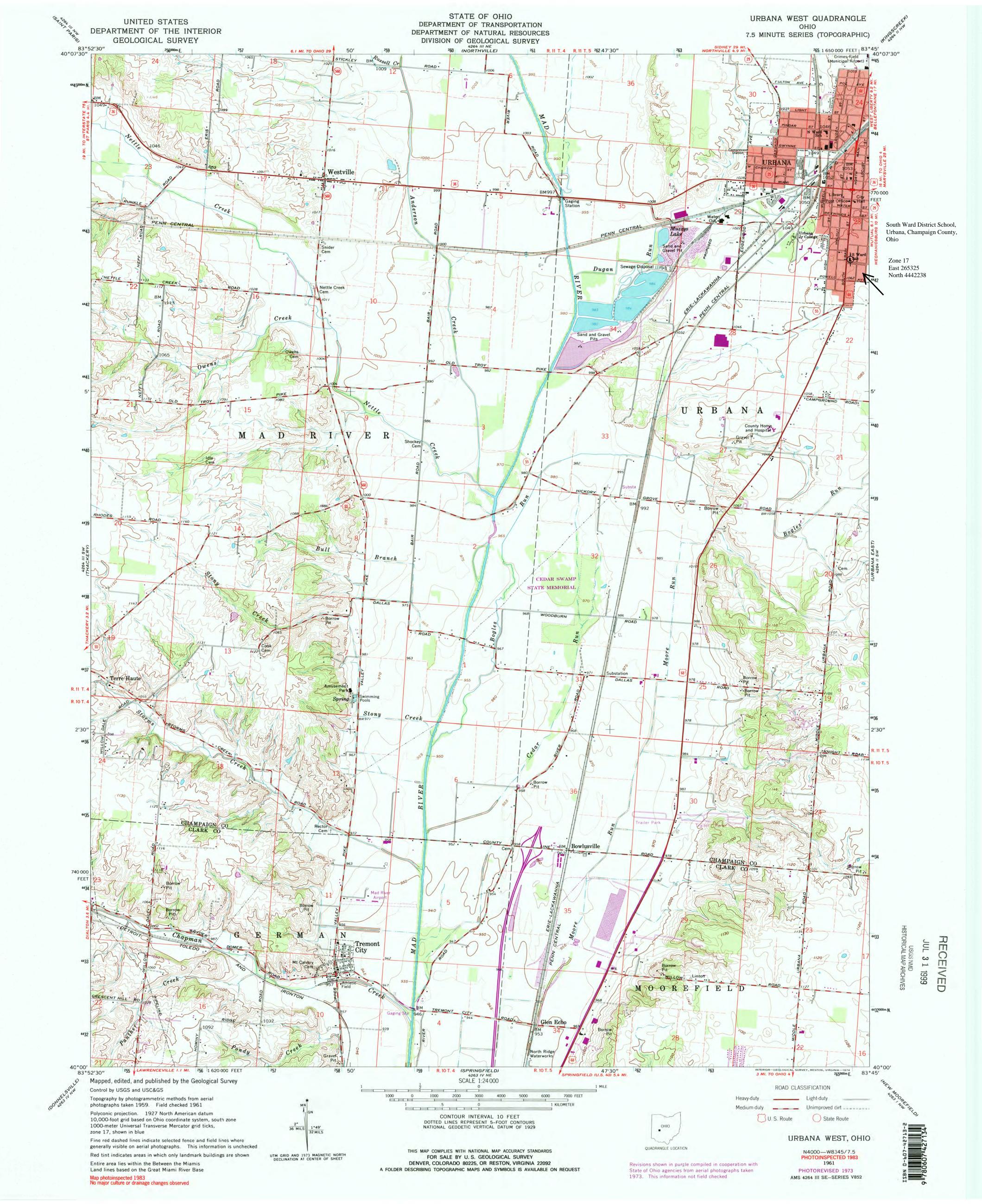
ARCHITECTURAL STRUCTURES ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTS • ENGINEERS • PLANNERS (937) 441-9009 P.O. 80X 185 URBANA, GHO 63978 CHARLES ZERKLE DRAFTING SERVICES

540 SCIOTO STREET

UPERNA, DHG 43078



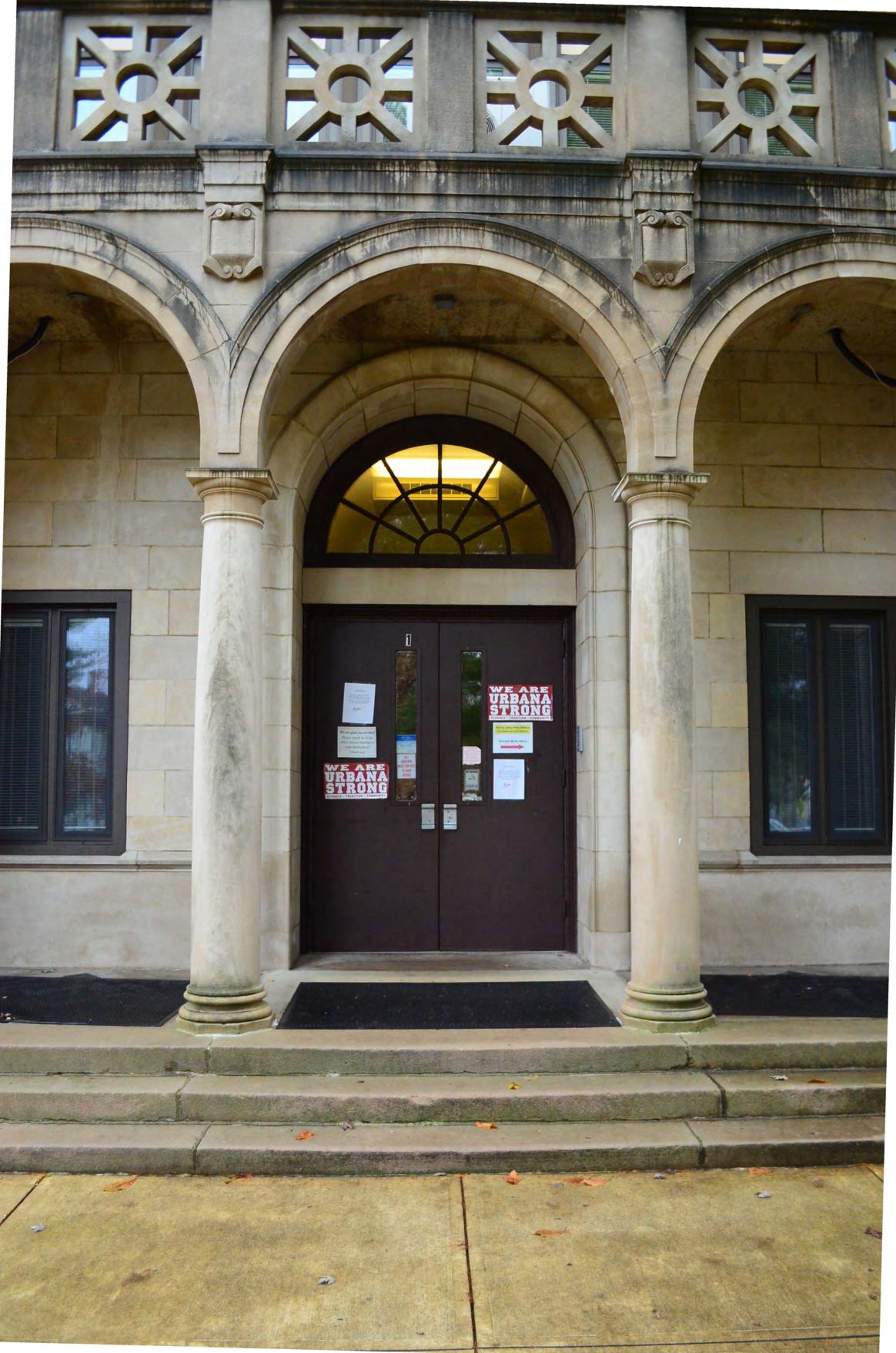
OH_ CHAMPAIGN COUNTY - SOUTH WARD DISTRICT SCHOOL - HISTORIC POSTCARD VIEW CIRCA. 1920 New South District School. Urbana, Ohio.

















































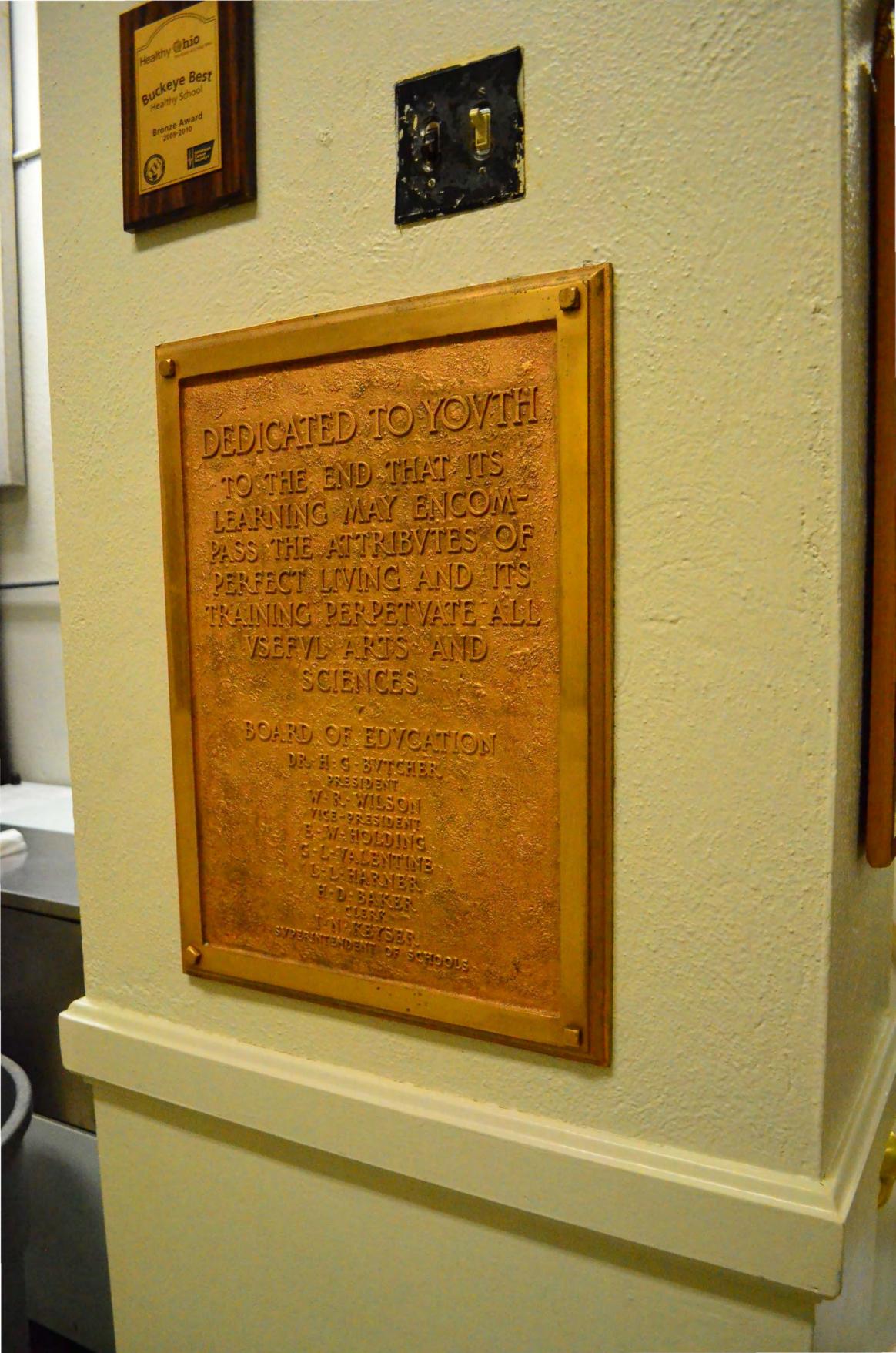






































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Nomination	Shortened Comme	ent Period (3 days)
Property Name:	South Ward District Sc	hool	
Multiple Name:			
State & County:	OHIO, Champaign		
Date Received: Date of P 2/1/2019 2/12			Date of 45th Day: Date of Weekly List: 3/18/2019
Reference number:	SG100003496		
Nominator:	SHPO		
Reason For Review	ı:		
Appeal		_ PDIL	Text/Data Issue
SHPO Request		Landscape	Photo
Waiver		National	Map/Boundary
Resubmission		Mobile Resource	Period
X Other		TCP	Less than 50 years
		CLG	
X Accept	Return	Reject2/2	21/2019 Date
Abstract/Summary Comments:	AOS: Education; POS	S: 1921-1956; LOS: local	
Recommendation/ Criteria	NR Criterion A.		
Reviewer Lisa Deline		Disciplin	e Historian
Telephone (202)354-2239		Date	4/21/19
DOCUMENTATION	N: see attached com	ments : No see attached	SI R : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NPS TRANSMITTAL CHECK LIST

OHIO HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

800 E. 17th Avenue Columbus, OH 43211 (614)-298-2000

The following	materials are submitted on January 29, 2019			
For nominatio	n of the South Word District to the National Register of			
Historic Places				
	J,			
	Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form Paper PDF			
	Multiple Property Nomination Cover Document			
	Paper PDF			
	Multiple Property Nomination form			
	Paper PDF			
1	Photographs			
	Prints VTIFFs			
1/	CD with electronic images			
	CD with electronic images			
1	Original USCS man/a)			
\	Original USGS map(s)			
	PaperDigital			
Sketch map(s)/Photograph view map(s)/Floor plan(s)				
	Paper PDF			
	Piece(s) of correspondence			
	Paper PDF			
	Other			
COMMENTS:				
***************************************	Please provide a substantive review of this nomination			
***************************************	This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67			
	The enclosed owner objection(s) do do not			
/ Constitute a majority of property owners				
\times	Other: nomination must be listed in			
	NR by March 31, 2019 to quality for Onio the seric Preseration Tax Eved to			
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January 29, 2019

Julie Ernstein, Acting Chief, National Register of Historic Places National Park Service National Register of Historic Places 1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228 Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Ernstein:

Enclosed please find four new National Register nominations for Ohio. All appropriate notification procedures have been followed for the nomination submissions.

NEW NOMINATION

North Ward District School South Ward District School Coshocton Main Street Historic District Case-Barlow Farm COUNTY

Champaign Champaign Coshocton

Summit

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the information to the National Register of Historic Places nominations for the <u>North Ward District School</u>, <u>South Ward District School</u>, <u>Coshocton Main Street Historic District</u>, and <u>Case-Barlow Farm</u>.

Please note that the nominations for the North Ward District School, South Ward District School, and Coshocton Main Street Historic District must be listed in the National Register by March 31, 2019 in order to qualify for Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credits.

If you have questions or comments about these documents, please contact the National Register staff in the Ohio Historic Preservation Office at (614) 298-2000.

Sincerely,

Lox A. Logan, Jr.

Executive Director and CEO

State Historic Preservation Officer

Ohio History Connection

Barbain for

Enclosures



February 5, 2019

Julie Ernstein, Acting Chief, National Register of Historic Places National Park Service National Register of Historic Places 1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228 Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Ernstein:

The Ohio State Historic Preservation Office recently submitted the following new National Register nominations:

North Ward District School, Champaign County; South Ward District School, Champaign County; and Coshocton Main Street Historic District, Coshocton County, Ohio.

We are requesting a shortened review period for these three nominations. These nominations must be listed by March 31, 2019 in order for the individual properties and a property within the historic district boundaries to qualify for Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credits.

Thank you for your attention to this request for expedited review. If you have questions or comments about these documents, please contact the Barbara Powers in the State Historic Preservation Office at (614) 298-2000 or bpowers@ohiohistory.org.

Sincerely,

Lox A. Logan, Jr.

Executive Director and CEO

State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosures