

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



1206

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Shaw Junior High School  
other names McKinley Manual Training School (historic); Asbury Dwellings (current)

2. Location

street & number 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Rhode Island Avenue, NW (650 Rhode Island Avenue, NW)  not for publication  
city or town Washington, D.C.  vicinity  
state District of Columbia code DC county \_\_\_\_\_ Code 001 zip code \_\_\_\_\_

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments).

David Maloney DAVID MALONEY, DC SHPO 11 Nov 2008  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
DC HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
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 this 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.
  - removed from the National Register.
  - other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Edson H. Beall 12-22-08  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- Private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2		Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

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

Public School Buildings of Washington, D.C.: 1864-1960

**number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: School

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION:

Manufacturing Facility/Processing Site

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Multiple Dwelling

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN/Romanesque Revival

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Steel and Brick

Limestone Trim

roof Slate

other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 7 Page 1

### Description Summary:

The imposing three-story stone and brick building located at a strategic corner site at the intersection of Rhode Island Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street in the Shaw neighborhood of Washington, D.C. was originally built as the McKinley Manual Training School, but later became the Shaw Junior High School and is now known as Asbury Dwellings. Designed by Boston architect Henry Ives Cobb, the school was constructed in a series of seamless stages that began in 1900 and that were completed in 1911. Designed in an orderly and symmetrical Romanesque Revival style, it has a curved front wall at the intersection of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Rhode Island Avenue, with wings extending along the streets to either side, forming a "V"-shaped footprint. The building is set upon a raised stone foundation, has buff brick walls and is covered with a flat roof. The commanding building is principally characterized by its solid masonry walls along with its generous use of symmetrically arranged punched windows with limestone trim, and in particular, by an arcade of arched openings along the building's top story.

In addition, the property includes a modest, two-story brick foundry building, constructed in 1917 to accommodate part of the school's manual training curriculum.

### General Description:

The building was constructed according to its original plans in four separate stages as a manual training school building. The first stage, built in 1900-1901, consists of the central core of the building including the main entry bay at the intersection of the streets, and short wings to either side. In 1907, 1909 and 1911, the building was seamlessly extended along both wings, resulting in a broad and extensive structure with a commanding presence in its vicinity. One-story shops and a larger auditorium were historically located at the rear of the school, but were replaced with a substantial five-story addition in 1982 when the building was renovated as Asbury Dwellings to accommodate apartments for senior housing.

The entire building is a tall three-story structure with a raised basement level. It is divided into three parts, including the principal curved entry bay and its flanking side wings. The entry bay and wings are all divided into three principal horizontal parts consisting of a raised stone base, buff brick walls at the second and third stories with rectangular window openings, and an upper fourth story defined by round arched openings. A parapet roof rises above a projecting cornice terminating the building's classical hierarchy.

The central entry bay, located at the intersection of the two streets and facing northwest, consists of a bowed bay with a large, double-height arched entry opening with two floors of windows

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 7 Page 2

above. The arched entry is actually a shallow barrel vault, rather than a mere arch, and is formed by fluted limestone piers supporting deep limestone voussoirs with a carved intrados. A finely carved and ornamented stone freize spandrel runs between the capitals of the piers and the voussoir. A pair of double wood doors with a wide semi-circular transom is set deep into the building walls, at the end of the shallow vault. Attenuated colonettes flank the actual entry door, while large, double-height columns with Composite capitals flank the robust arched opening. Two smaller and narrower round-arched windows are located to either side of these double-height columns, and sit above the building's raised stone foundation in its buff brick walls. Square edged plinth caps atop these double-height columns provide a base for stone brackets which in turn support the base of a balustraded porch above the entry arch. The entire entry bay, with its heavy Romanesque features, is evocative of a Medieval ecclesiastical building.

The second and third stories of this entry bay are well lit with windows, all of which retain their original openings, but have replacement 1/1 aluminum sash. The windows of the second story are rectangular in shape and arranged with a group of three single windows on-center with pairs of single windows to either side, all with transoms above. The openings of the third story are round arched with rectangular windows surmounted by round-arched transoms. Each single window opening is formed by narrow and attenuated columns, which provide a springboard for the arch above. The arches themselves are formed of stone voussoirs and are defined at the edge by raised stone hood moulds. A plain stone frieze board separates the third and fourth stories, while the attic level is defined by a stone cornice and capped by a parapet roof wall.

The wings to either side of this central entry bay follow a similar hierarchy and treatment. The walls are divided horizontally into base, shaft and cap as noted above, and vertically at the shaft level into pavilions, created by a series of identical bays. The shaft level of the 7<sup>th</sup> Street elevation consists of four pavilions, each with four bays, while the Rhode Island Avenue wing consists of three pavilions, each with five bays. As initially built in 1901, the side wings each included just one pavilion.

On either sides of the building, the raised basement level or ground story is constructed of smooth limestone and is punctured with punched window openings arranged in pairs. A watertable above this foundation separates the raised basement from the principal stories above. The second and third stories forming the "shaft" of the building have pairs of window openings on each story with transoms above. A plain buff brick spandrel separates the two stories horizontally while double-height pilasters span the two stories. At the same time, these pilasters vertically divide each pair of windows into separate bays, creating four vertical bays in each pavilion. Large piers spanning all three floors separate the identically arranged bays into four distinct pavilions.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 7 Page 3

The third story of both wings consists of a long range of round-headed arched window openings. Attenuated columns support the stone voussoirs of the actual arches, while 1/1 replacement sash fill in the rectangular window void. A round-arched transom is located above the window, within the stone arched opening.

A limestone cornice with brackets rises above the arched windows, while a brick parapet wall and narrow limestone cap culminates the building's roofline.

The south end wall of the school building, at the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> Street wing, is three bays wide. A projecting entry pavilion with an arched opening is one center, spanning the raised foundation and first floor levels, with pairs of windows to either side. Above the central entry, three bays of paired windows extend across the second story level. Like those along the principal elevations, all of these windows are punched openings framed by smooth limestone trim. The third story has pairs of arched openings, similarly framed with smooth limestone trim.

The east end wall of the building, at the east end of the Rhode Island Avenue wing of the building, is a wider five-bay-wide elevation. A central entry is deeply recessed into the raised stone basement wall, with windows flanking it. Above, five bays of paired window openings form the first and second stories, while an uninterrupted grouping of arched openings forms the third story. Double-story pilasters separate the bays at the first and second story levels, as they do on the principal elevations.

The rear walls of the school form a sort of courtyard around what was historically a set of smaller shop buildings, most of which have been replaced by a five-story rear wing, built to accommodate 147 new rental units. However, the rear walls of the principal wings of the original building are still largely exposed and visible. Unlike the well-articulated and refined front walls, these rear walls are of common red brick. The many windows arranged symmetrically and judiciously across the rear walls are simple rectangular or segmentally arched openings filled with replacement sash. The 1982 wing is also of red brick.

Although most of the school shops were demolished, one—a brick foundry—does survive and is located at the south end of the site, facing 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Built in 1917-18, this two-story brick structure is utilitarian in character with large openings on the first story and smaller, paired windows above. The building is rectangular in plan and is covered with a flat roof.

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 7 Page 4

## Interior:

The interior of Shaw Junior High School was completely gutted during the 1981-82 renovation of the building into senior housing, leaving only the structural exterior walls intact. The auditorium/gymnasium and the one-story rear shop buildings were also demolished, and a new five-story addition built in their place. The historic building and its new addition were fitted out with 147 apartment units, common spaces for tenants including lounges, game room, coffee shop, exercise room, laundry facilities, a beauty shop and other amenities.

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**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 pattern of our history.
- B** Property 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)

**Area of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Education

**Period of Significance**

1901-1958 (50 years from the present)

**Significant Dates**

1900-01; 1902; 1907; 1909; 1911

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Henry Ives Cobb

**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 files (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 8 Page 1

### Summary Statement of Significance:

Constructed in a series of stages between 1900 and 1911 and designed in a refined Romanesque Revival style, McKinley Manual Training School was, along with Armstrong Manual Training School for blacks, the city's first purpose-built manual training school. The school building is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under the Multiple Property document "*Public School Buildings of Washington, D.C., 1864-1960*" and meets Criteria A and C of the National Register with Architecture and Education as the Areas of Significance. The school is a fine example of the school building sub-type, "Architects in Private Practice, 1897-1910" as detailed in the multiple property document. As such, the building is reflective of a period of public school construction when designs were contracted to architects in private practice as opposed to earlier designs that were executed by the city's Office of the Building Inspector. In this case, Chicago architect Henry Ives Cobb, who was living and practicing in D.C. at the time, is credited with the school building's unique design. Although the building followed no prescribed model, it, like other schools from the period, was designed to reflect a classical building tradition, especially in its symmetry and use of Classical elements.

In addition, the building has important social/cultural history significant to the heritage of the city. In particular, as the city's first purpose-built manual training school, the school building reflects an important trend in educational philosophy of the time that encouraged the development of an industrial education alongside a more traditional one that prepared high school students for college. And perhaps more notably, in 1922, the school became home to Shaw Junior High School—the city's first junior high school for blacks in the city's segregated educational system—and became emblematic of the city's underserved African American population. During a period of urban renewal, the name of the school gave rise to the name of the surrounding neighborhood within the boundaries of the urban renewal area (the Shaw Urban Renewal area).

The building meets the registration requirements as set forth in the multiple property nomination. The building is fully intact in form, massing and details. The Period of Significance for the McKinley Manual Training School is 1900-1958 reflecting the building's original period of construction as the manual training school, and the building's use as Shaw Junior High School to a point fifty years from the present.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 8 Page 2

### Resource History and Historic Context:

#### McKinley Manual Training School:

The McKinley Manual Training School, as originally designed by architect Henry Ives Cobb, was built in several stages between 1900 and 1911. It was constructed, along with the Armstrong Manual Training School, as an alternative secondary school to the city's existing high schools within the D.C. Public School system. The idea for manual training schools in this city arose out of state and national movements that encouraged the development of industrial education. Until then, the high school curriculum was developed to prepare the student for higher study and to meet college entrance exams. However, as only a minority of high school students actually continued with college, the desire for a more technical education materialized. Technical schools in D.C. were intended to provide a good secondary education, while also offering a more practical course of study. The 1902-1903 *Report of the Board of Education of the District of Columbia* promoted technical education as an alternative in D.C. by noting, "There is too much poorly balanced intellectuality and too much poorly balanced manual skill. Mind and hand must be mutually subservient, and to that end must be trained together and rationally... we are trying to turn out educated hand workers rather than merely skilled hand workers..."<sup>1</sup>

Manual training was first introduced into the District's public school system in 1885 when a teacher at Central High School began giving lessons in carpentry after school hours to some of his students in his physics class.<sup>2</sup> Soon, a defined curriculum for manual training was developed within the school day consisting of wood-turning, forging and machine shop. The shops were initially located within the walls of Central High; however, due to the popularity of the technical program, the shops were moved in 1890 into a separate building at 624-626 O Street, NW, across from Central High School. In 1893, an official technical course of study was developed as part of the high school curriculum, open to all those who wished to pursue it. Due to its popularity, demands for a new and larger building arose and the Board of Education began lobbying Congress to purchase land for the construction of a dedicated manual training school. After two unsuccessful attempts, the Board eventually prevailed and in 1897-98 Congress made its first appropriations of \$50,000 to buy a site and to begin construction of Manual Training School #1. The following year, Congress followed up by making similar appropriations for Manual Training School #2 (for blacks). In its initial appropriations for manual training schools in the District, Congress likely felt compelled by the District's argument that many of the graduates of the

<sup>1</sup> Report of the Board of Education to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, 1902-1903, p. 121-122.

<sup>2</sup> "The Retrospect," McKinley Manual Training School, 1907.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 8 Page 3

technical course had become assistant machinists in the gun shops of the Navy Yard, greatly aiding in the manufacturing of guns during the Spanish American War of 1898.<sup>3</sup>

Competitive bids for the design of Manual Training School #1 were sought and submitted by two selected architects—Mr. Smithmeyer of Washington and Henry Ives Cobb of Chicago. (See Perspective Sketch, “Washington Manual Training School,” Henry Ives Cobb, 1898 in Continuation Pages.) In March 1899, Cobb’s proposed stone and brick Romanesque Revival-style design won unanimous approval of the established building committee. In October 1900, upon completion of the design, construction of the Manual Training School #1 began.<sup>4</sup> Two years later, in September of 1902, the first phase of the new school was completed and opened to students for the school year; in January 1903, the building was officially dedicated as McKinley Manual Training School. The school was named after the late President William McKinley who was assassinated in office in September 1901. Newspaper coverage of the dedication noted that the name was an appropriate tribute, as McKinley was “gentle and manly; a worker, not an idler; an optimist, not a pessimist; public spirited and patriotic...”<sup>5</sup> Manual Training School #2 (for blacks) was dedicated one month earlier and named Armstrong Manual Training School after General Samuel Chapman Armstrong, the founder of Hampton Institute.<sup>6</sup>

McKinley Manual Training School opened at its 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Rhode Island Avenue site with 384 students, including boys and girls.<sup>7</sup> The students followed a course of study over four years that included English, History, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Foreign Language, Drawing (freehand and mechanical), Domestic Science and Domestic Art (for girls), Shopwork, Business, and Music. Upon its dedication, the school was described as having four classrooms and a Mechanical Drawing room on the first floor; three classrooms and Freehand drawing school on the second floor; the School of Domestic Art, the Chemical Lab and the School of Physics on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor; and the lathe and bench shop and forge and machine shop in the basement level. The school, as built in 1900-1902 completed the first phase of construction of the building as designed. It consisted of a four-story Romanesque Revival-style, buff brick building at the intersection of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Rhode Island Avenue. The building’s primary entrance bay was located at the intersection of the two streets, the whole forming a wide “V”-shaped footprint. Later additions would extend the wings along both streets and at the rear of the building.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Report of the Board of Education to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, 1904-05, p.232.

<sup>5</sup> “McKinley School Dedicated,” *The Washington Post*, January 30, 1903.

<sup>6</sup> Armstrong Manual Training School is listed in the DC Inventory of Historic Sites and in the National Register of Historic Places.

<sup>7</sup> “School Term Begun,” *The Washington Post*, September 23, 1902.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 8 Page 4

Although the building was hailed at the time of its dedication as “the best school for manual training yet erected in this country, and probably the best in the world,”<sup>8</sup> it was already one year later, too small for the number of students. The popularity of the program, coupled with the partial completion of the building, led the school board to plead for more appropriations to complete the building “in accordance with its original plans.”

Enrollment over the next few years increased dramatically. Classrooms were again sought at other locales, including rooms at the old O Street building; and at Henry School. In 1907-08; 1909; and 1911 McKinley School was extended. The additions, completed according to the original plans, matched the existing structure, and extended the wings along 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Rhode Island Avenue in a seamless manner. Several one-story shops were added to the rear of the building, as was a three-story auditorium. According to a 1916 description of McKinley, the school contained fifty rooms and nine shops, including a machine shop which was described as being surpassed only by that at the United States Navy Yard.<sup>9</sup> The auditorium and rear shops no longer stand, but a foundry shop added to the southern end of the building’s 7<sup>th</sup> Street wing in 1917, survives. A 1920 Report of the Board of Education specifically noted that:

“The foundry, last year in its infancy, has had a growing popularity among students interested in trade, technical, or engineering education. Considering certain handicaps and obstacles and the incompleteness of equipment, phenomenal success has marked its progress... The cupola has been in use all year, and pourings have been made by the students at regular intervals, pouring molds or castings needed in the school machine and repair shops, thus making the work both useful and instructive.”<sup>10</sup>

Despite the various classroom and shop additions, McKinley School continued to outgrow its building. As noted in the 1920 Board of Education report, World War I had given industrial education “a greater definiteness of aim and purpose.”<sup>11</sup> In 1923 Congress appropriated \$2.2 million for a larger building at 2<sup>nd</sup> and T Streets, NE to be constructed for McKinley. Construction began in 1926, and in 1928, McKinley Manual Training School vacated its Rhode Island Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street building for its more commodious new structure in northeast.

As over-enrollment and heavy use taxed the McKinley Manual Training School during the 1920s, the building and its infrastructure fell into disrepair. Nonetheless, upon McKinley’s move to a new building, the 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Rhode Island Avenue building remained in use when it was

<sup>8</sup> “Named for McKinley,” *The Evening Star*, January 29, 1903.

<sup>9</sup> “Tech Life Year Book,” 1916, McKinley Manual Training School.

<sup>10</sup> Annual Report of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, Report of the Board of Education, 1919-1920, p. 313.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid*, p. 313.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 8 Page 5

transferred into the segregated school system, becoming home to Shaw Junior High School for blacks.

### Shaw Junior High School

Established in 1919, Shaw Junior High was the city's first junior high school for blacks. It was named for Robert Gould Shaw, a Colonel and leader of the 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts, the first black Regiment sent into the field during the Civil War. Shaw died in action in 1863, leading his regiment in battle at Fort Wagner. The school was first established in the "old" M Street High School, after M Street High School moved into the new Dunbar High School building. In 1921, improvements were made to the school, though a lack of outdoor recreation space was lamented at the time.<sup>12</sup> Shaw Junior High School remained at M Street High School for almost a decade before moving in 1928 into the vacated McKinley Manual Training School building at 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Rhode Island Avenue.

Shaw Junior High School occupied the 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Rhode Island Avenue building from 1928 until 1977, witnessing major deterioration of the building's infrastructure, including faulty electrical wiring and plumbing, a leaky roof, mold and rodent infestation due to overcrowding and lack of maintenance. In 1946, D.C. Schools Superintendent Corning recommended improvements and additions to Shaw; two years later an independent study deemed the school beyond repair and recommended its replacement. Four years later, in 1952, no replacement had been built and Shaw Junior High School remained open despite being considered a fire-trap by the D.C. Fire Department. Still, for years Congress denied the city's request for funds for a new Shaw Junior High School and year after year students packed into the overcrowded school. Often referred to as "Shameful Shaw," the school became emblematic of the city's underserved black community. In 1965, as part of a protest against the "deplorable conditions" at the school picketers barred the entrance to the junior high school. One year later, the Model Inner City Community Organization (MICCO) submitted urban renewal proposals for the neighborhood that included a replacement building for the junior high school. These urban renewal efforts gained momentum after the area was devastated by riots following the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. Still, the new Shaw Junior High School at 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Rhode Island Avenue was not begun until 1973 and not completed until 1977, during which time students continued to occupy the old school building. In 1982, after several years of vacancy, the former school building was converted into senior housing called Asbury Dwellings.

<sup>12</sup> "Shaw Junior High Filled with Pupils," *The Washington Post*, October 9, 1921.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 8 Page 6

### Asbury Dwellings:

Following the move of Shaw Junior High School, the District government immediately entered into an agreement with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the local Asbury United Methodist Church to convert the former school into senior housing. The District declared the school building surplus property, re-zoned the property for apartment use, sold the property below market value to the non-profit Asbury Dwellings, Inc., and provided below-rate mortgage loans for acquisition and rehabilitation. Construction of the rehabilitation project, designed by Wanchul Lee Associates (WLAPC), began with a ceremonial groundbreaking in July 1981 and was completed in June 1982. The building was entirely gutted on the interior, leaving only the structural exterior walls intact. The auditorium/gymnasium and the one-story rear shop buildings were demolished, and a new five-story addition built in their place. The historic building and its new addition were fitted out with 147 apartment units, common spaces for tenants including lounges, game room, coffee shop, exercise room, laundry facilities, a beauty shop and other amenities. The exterior of the building was cleaned and restored to the original design, while a new roof and new windows replaced the old ones. Brick from the demolished gymnasium and other support structures was recycled. At a total cost of over six million dollars, the project was then considered the largest adaptive re-use of a District school building.<sup>13</sup>

Today, the former manual training school continues in use as Asbury Dwellings. It is an important cultural institution in the Shaw neighborhood and is a significant physical landmark.

### Henry Ives Cobb<sup>14</sup>:

Architect Henry Ives Cobb designed the McKinley Manual Training School while he was living in Washington, D.C. and serving as architect for American University. Cobb (1859-1931) was born in Brookline, Massachusetts and attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University. After a stint studying architecture in Europe, Cobb returned to America where he worked for the Boston architecture firm, Peabody and Stearns. In 1881, Cobb left Boston and moved to Chicago where he established a nationwide practice with partner Sumner Frost. Cobb is probably most well known for his designs of the University of Chicago, which he worked on between 1891 and 1900, but he was quite prolific and received numerous commissions for public, private and institutional buildings. He was one of the designers of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago; he was master plan architect for the University of Chicago and designer of several buildings on the campus; and he served as special government architect for many years designing federal buildings. He received numerous

<sup>13</sup> "'Shameful Shaw' to become pride of elderly, handicapped," *The Afro American*, November 7, 1981.

<sup>14</sup> The biographical information on Henry Ives Cobb has been excerpted from the HABS document of American University-Ohio Hall of Government (HABS DC-458).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 8 Page 7

commissions for public and institutional structures, including the Chicago Historical Society building. On a domestic scale, Cobb earned an important reputation for his residential buildings many of which he executed in the Romanesque Revival style, recalling the work of Henry Hobson Richardson that is so pervasive in Chicago.

In 1898, Cobb left Chicago, apparently to seek a warmer climate for his family. He settled in Washington, D.C. for a couple of years where he was working on a campus plan and individual buildings for the American University, though only the Ohio Hall of Government was ever erected. In 1902, after completion of the designs for McKinley Manual Training School, Cobb moved his main office to New York City. Cobb died in 1931 at 71 years of age. His long career reveals an ability to create major, comprehensively planned campuses, and to design in both the Classical and Romantic styles.

Of particular note structurally, Cobb was one of the first architects of his day to employ metal as an internal skeletal support system. Although he used this technologically innovative support system, he relied upon historic styles for his buildings' exteriors. In general, and certainly the case of McKinley Manual Training School, Cobb's historic references were not archeologically accurate, but were fanciful, playful and eclectic.

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National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 9 Page 1

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 9 Page 2

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United States Department of the Interior  
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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 9 Page 3

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 9 Page 4

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Shaw Junior High School  
Name of Property

Washington, D.C.  
County and State

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 60,587 square feet

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>324733</u> Easting	<u>4308948</u> Northing	3	<u>  </u> Zone	<u>  </u> Easting	<u>  </u> Northing
2	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>	4	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>

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 Kim Prothro Williams  
Organization D.C. Historic Preservation Office date 11/2/2008  
street & number 801 North Capitol Street, NE telephone 202 442-8840  
city or town Washington, D.C. state    zip code 20002

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

- X A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- X A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

- X 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 Asbury Dwellings, Inc. c/o H & E Management  
street & number 9400 Livingston Road, Suite 3 telephone     
city or town Fort Washington state Maryland zip code 20744

**Paperwork Reduction 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. 470 et. seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

Section 10 Page 1

### Verbal Boundary Description:

The McKinley Manual Training School/Shaw Junior High School (now Asbury Dwellings) is located on Lot 211 of Square 444 in the Shaw neighborhood of Washington, D.C. The property includes the former school building, along with a foundry shop, constructed in 1917 as part of the collection of school shops. +

### Boundary Justification:

The boundaries include the lot upon which the school and its shop buildings were constructed in the period between 1900 and 1917.

+

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

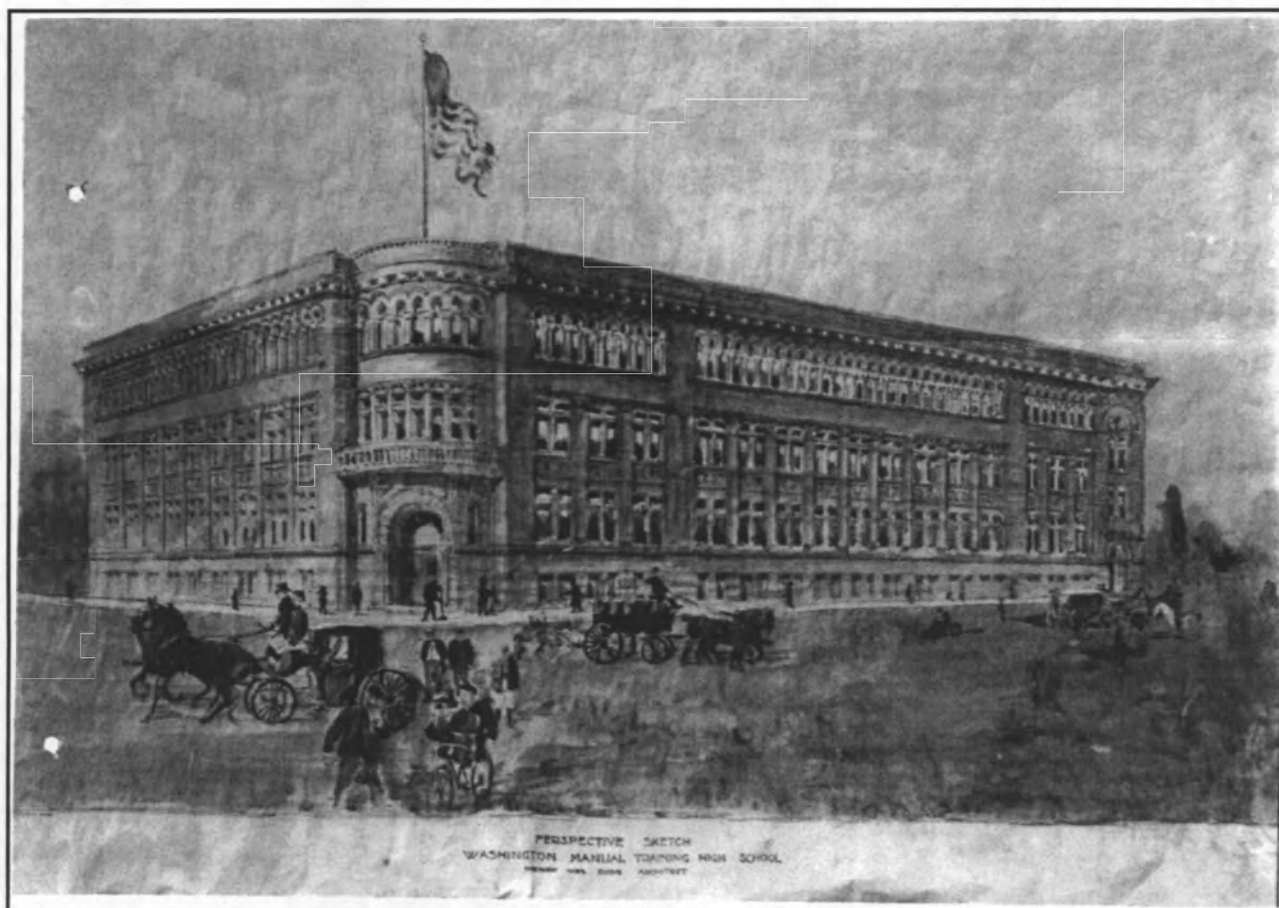
Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

### HISTORIC IMAGES



Perspective Sketch, "Washington Manual Training School," Henry Ives Cobb, Architect 1898

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

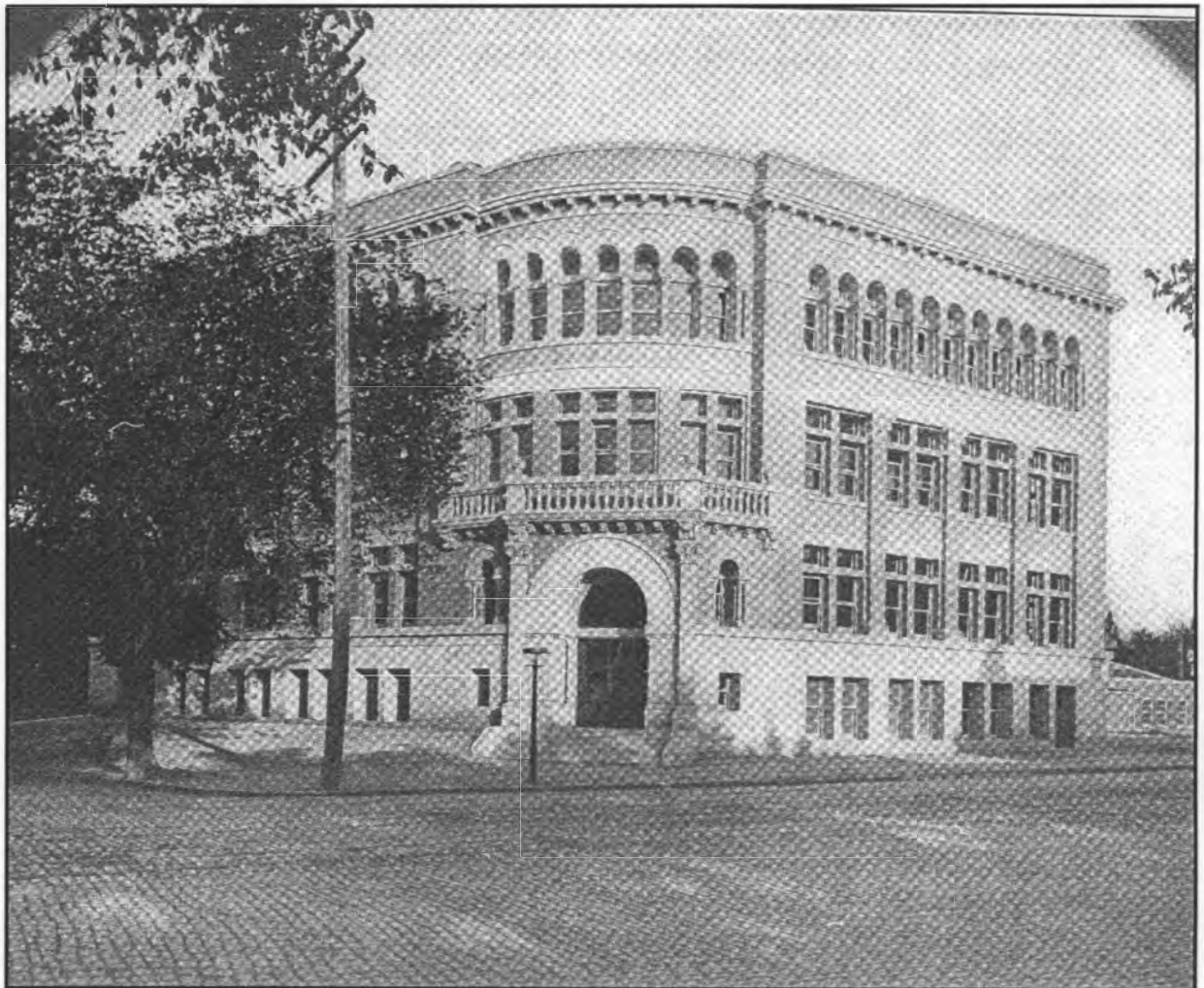
## HISTORIC IMAGES

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State



McKinley Manual Training School, January 1903 (Board Report, 1902-1903)

United States Department of the Interior  
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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

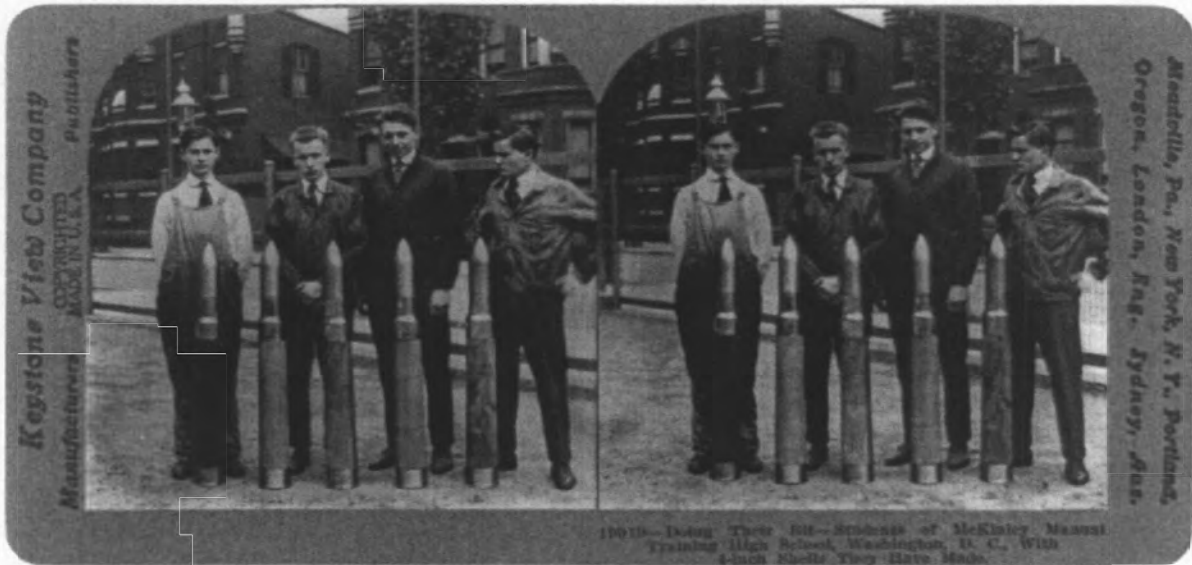
### HISTORIC IMAGES

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State



“Doing Their Bit—students of McKinley Manual Training High School, Washington, D.C. with four-inch shells they have made,” 1917.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

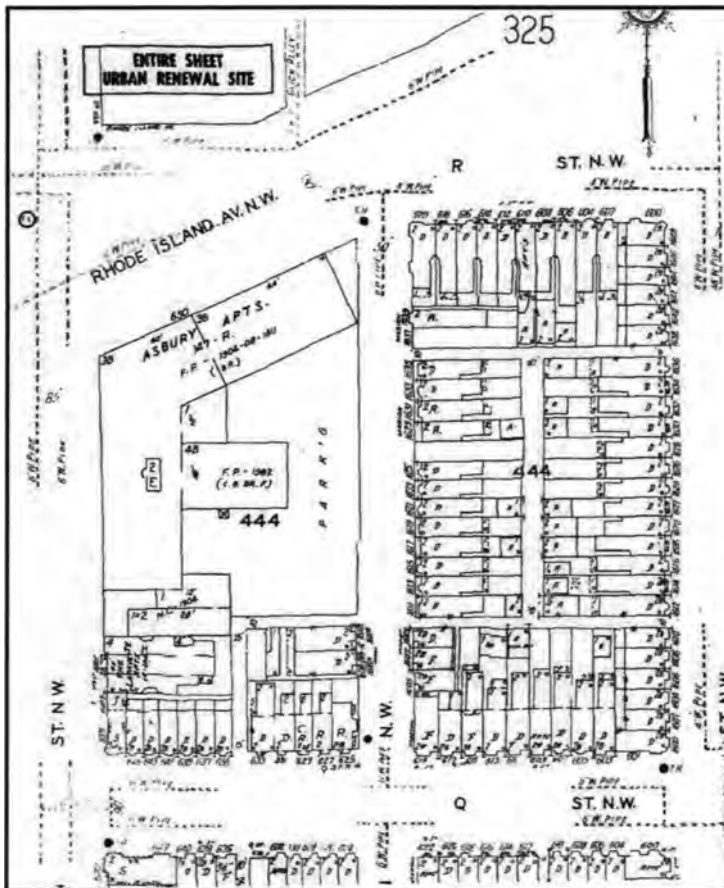
Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

## SITE MAP



Shaw Junior High School  
7<sup>th</sup> Street and Rhode Island Avenue  
Washington, D.C.  
(From Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1991)



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Shaw Junior High School

Name of Property

Washington, D.C.

County and State

### PHOTOGRAPHS

*The following information is common to all photographs:*

Shaw Junior High School  
7<sup>th</sup> Street and Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C.  
Kim Williams, photographer  
May 2008  
DC Historic Preservation Office (DC HPO)

- 1) View looking southeast to front entry and side wings  
1/8
- 2) View looking southeast to front entry  
2/8
- 3) View looking east along Rhode Island Avenue  
3/8
- 4) View looking southwest at east end wall of the Rhode Island Avenue wing  
4/8
- 5) Detail of east end of Rhode Island Avenue  
5/8
- 6) View looking northwest at rear elevation of the Rhode Island Avenue wing  
6/8
- 7) View looking southwest at new wing  
7/8
- 8) View looking west at rear elevation of 7<sup>th</sup> Street wing  
8/8





ASBURY DWELLINGS

ASBURY  
Dwellings  
1800

7  
1800

Blue informational sign

Blue informational sign









ONE WAY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Shaw Junior High School

MULTIPLE NAME: Public School Buildings of Washington, DC MPS

STATE & COUNTY: DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, District of Columbia

DATE RECEIVED: 11/14/08      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 12/02/08  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/17/08      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/28/08  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08001206

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    12-22-08 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.





McKinley Manual Training School / Shaw Junior High School

7<sup>th</sup> & Rhode Island Ave., NW

Washington, DC

Kim Williams

October 2008

DCHPO

View looking southeast to front entry and side wings

1/8



McKinley Manual Training School/Shaw Junior High School  
7<sup>th</sup> & Rhode Island Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC

Kim Williams  
October 2008  
DC HPO

View looking southwest at new wing

7/8



McKinley Manual Training School / Shaw Junior High School  
7<sup>th</sup> + Rhode Island Avenue

Washington, DC

Kevin Williams

October 2008

DC HPO

View looking west at rear elevation of 7<sup>th</sup> Street wing

8/8

### Missing Core Documentation

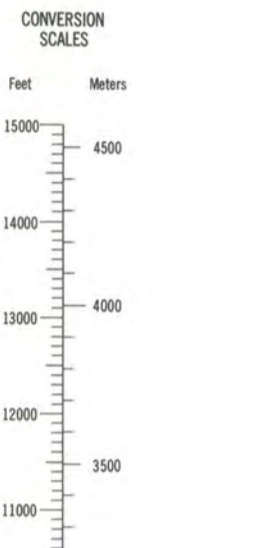
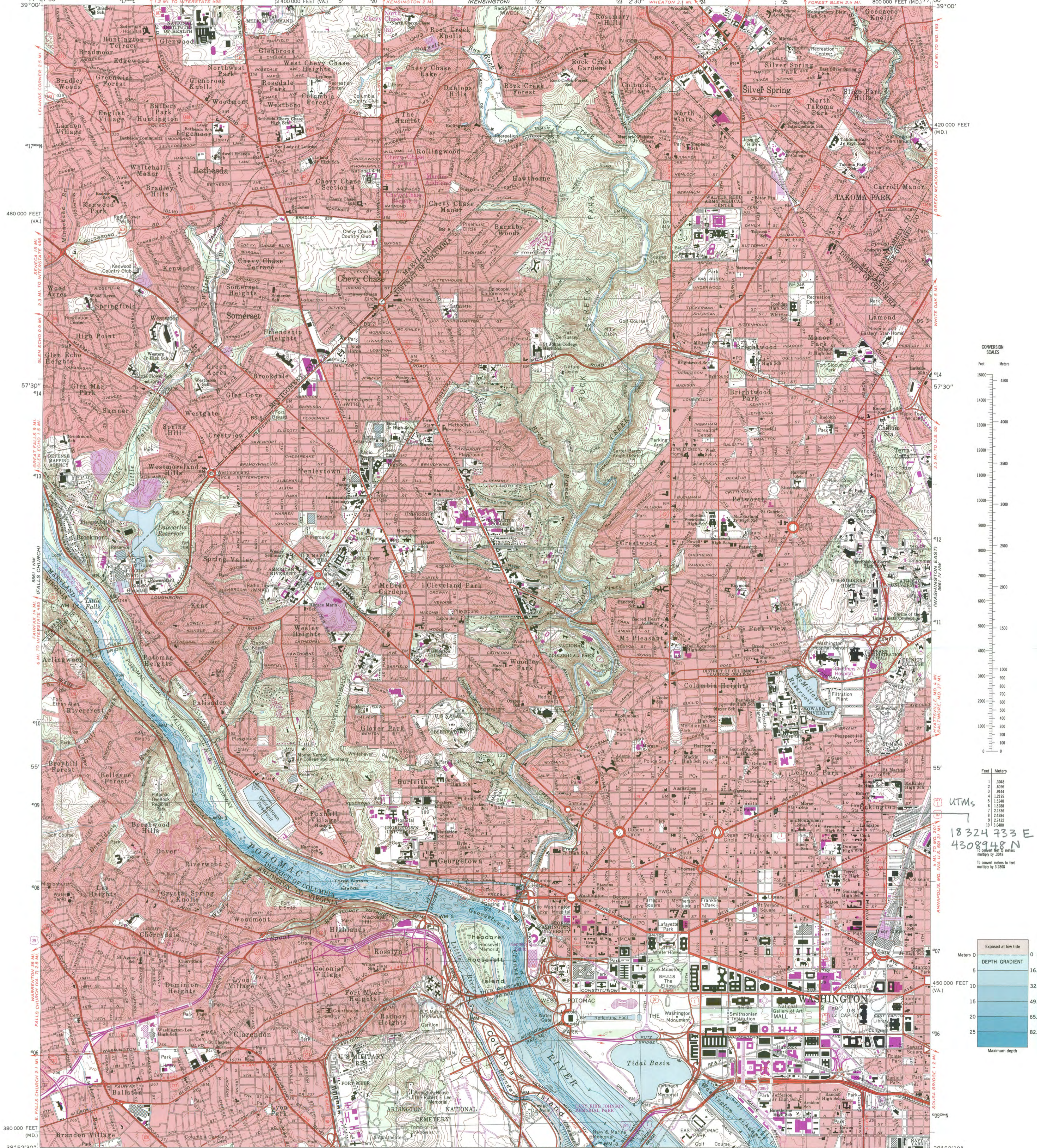
<b>Property Name County, State</b>	<b>Multiple Property Name</b>	<b>Reference Number</b>
Shaw Junior High School District of Columbia	Public School Buildings of Washington, DC MPS	08001206

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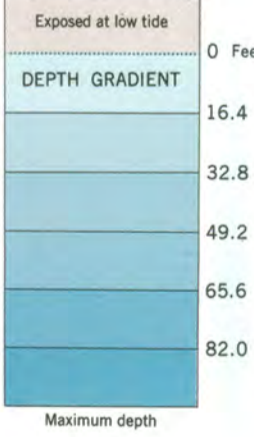
Nomination Form

Photographs (#~~3~~<sup>2</sup>-6)

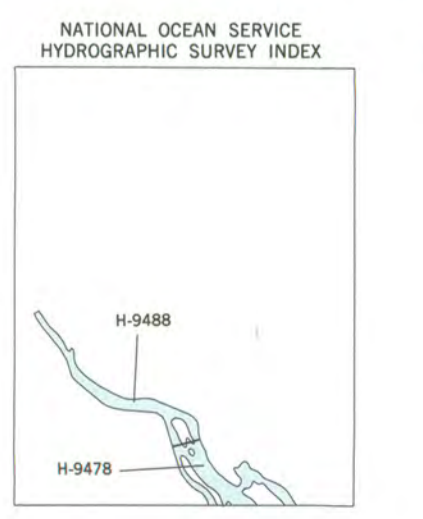
USGS Map



UTMs  
18324 733 E  
4308948 N  
To convert meters to feet  
multiply by 3.2808

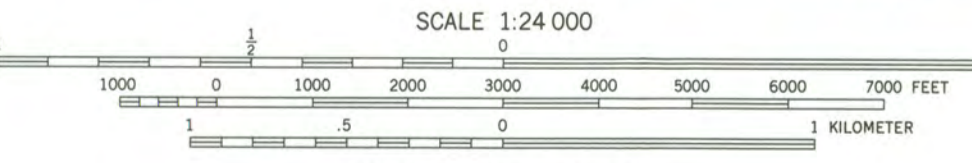


Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey and the National Ocean Service and the National Ocean Service Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, NCPS, and WSSC. Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1955. Field checked 1956. Revised 1965. Bathymetry compiled by the National Ocean Service from tide-coordinated hydrographic surveys. This information is not intended for navigational purposes. Mean low water (dotted) line and mean high water (heavy solid) line compiled by NOS from tide-coordinated aerial photographs. Apparent shoreline (outer edge of vegetation) shown by light solid line. Polyconic projection, 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Maryland coordinate system, and Virginia coordinate system, north zone 18 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 18 1927 North American Datum. To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 8 meters south and 26 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks. Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown. There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map. Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation with Commonwealth of Virginia agencies from aerial photographs taken 1981 and other sources. This information not field checked. Map edited 1983. Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas.



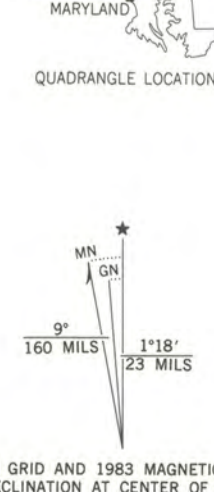
HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY INFORMATION

Survey Number	Survey Date	Survey Scale	Survey Line Spacing (Naut. Miles)
H-9478	1977	1:5,000	.01-.08
H-9488	1976	1:5,000	.01-.05



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929  
BATHYMETRIC CONTOUR INTERVAL 1 METER WITH SUPPLEMENTARY 0.5 METER CONTOURS-DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER  
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE  
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 0.6 METER

BASE MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
BATHYMETRIC SURVEY DATA COMPLIES WITH INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION (IHO) SPECIAL PUBLICATION 44 ACCURACY STANDARDS AND/OR STANDARDS USED AT THE DATE OF THE SURVEY  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20852  
AND VIRGINIA DIVISION OF MINERAL RESOURCES, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22903  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



WASHINGTON WEST, D.C.-MD.-VA.  
38077-H1-TB-024  
1965  
PHOTOREVISED 1983  
BATHYMETRY ADDED 1982  
DMA 5661 1 NE-SERIES V933

