

Robert Fulton School

Staff Contact: K. Chen

Location and Current National Register Status: The Robert Fulton School is not currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The school is located at the intersection of Union Street and Carlisle Avenue.

History and Significance: The Robert Fulton School is being nominated under National Register Criteria A and C at the local level. The period of significance is 1917-1930. The school was completed in 1917 to serve students in kindergarten through eight grade. The school was constructed to serve the growing residential development in the Fulton Hill neighborhood and as part of a major school construction program. The school's enrollment shifted from an all-white to an African American majority in the mid-twentieth century as the demographics of the neighborhood shifted. Following desegregation, students were transferred to the Fulton School when the last white school in Church Hill was closed in January 1969. The Robert Fulton School was designed by William Leigh Carneal, of the locally influential architectural firm Carneal and Johnston, in the Colonial Revival style.

Staff Recommendations and Comments:

The application of the National Register criteria indicates that the building is eligible for listing under National Register Criteria A and C for its association with broad patterns of history and architecture at the local level with a period of significance of 1917-1930. The architecture clearly illustrates the historic uses of the building and its association with the education of students from 1917 to 1979, and represents the work of a prominent local architect. Staff recommends that the Commission support the nomination of the building under National Register Criteria A and C at the local level.