

*Pulaski Co.
Little Rock
U.M. Rose School*

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 1-2-4-6-10 Page 1

INDIVIDUAL DATA SHEET

General Description

Code: PU-171

Congressional District: 2

Name: U. M. Rose School

Current Owner: Philander Smith College

Address: Corner of IZARD and W. 13th
Street, Little Rock

County: Pulaski

Address: 812 W. 13th Street
Little Rock, AR 72202

Architectural Information

Architectural Firm: Charles L. Thompson

Date of Construction: 1915

Stylistic Influence: Colonial Revival

Original Use: Public Elementary School

Present Use: Private College Administration
Building

Geographical Information

UTM Reference: 15/565760/3844015

Acreage: Less than one

Verbal Boundary Description: Beginning at a Point at the SW corner of Block 232, Original City, Little Rock, where 13th and IZARD Streets intersect, proceed northerly along the curb of IZARD to the intersection with a perpendicular line bordering the northern elevation of the building, thence proceed easterly along the building to the intersection with the sidewalk of State Street, thence proceed southerly along the curb to the intersection with 13th Street, thence proceed westerly to the point of beginning.

Condition

Excellent
 Good
 Fair

Deteriorated
 Ruins
 Unexposed

Unaltered
 Altered

Cott & Bulard

11/1/88

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 & 8 Page 1Code: PU-171Physical Description

The U. M. Rose School, now the James M. Cox Administration Building for Philander Smith College, stands as one of the finest examples of Federal Colonial Revival in an area of Little Rock rich with both domestic and public early 20th century high-style Colonial Revival architecture (this building sits adjacent to both the Governor's Mansion and MacArthur Park National Register Districts, two districts of primarily residential buildings). Of two stories atop a raised brick basement, this design features a 'u' shaped plan with symmetrically-placed projecting wings flanking a three-bay central section with projecting central entrance bay on the first floor. It is constructed of brick with concrete and wood trim. The east and west elevations are identical, featuring two banks of five nine-over-nine wood sash windows flanking two smaller centrally-placed nine-over-nine sash windows on each of the two floors; the only other detail are the projecting concrete dentil cornice and meander trim beneath the parapet roof and the concrete water table that defines the top of the raised basement. The rear facade is likewise simply detailed, with the symmetrical fenestration and shallow brick paneling being the only surface detail, and the symmetrically placed internal brick chimneys being the only break in the roofline. The south or main facade features the same concrete water table and projecting dentil cornice and parapet roof seen on the other elevations, but displays a more elaborate use of ornament. The projecting wings each contain a single, centrally-placed, wood-frame Palladian window set in a

Statement of Significance

The U. M. Rose School, an educational commission named by the Little Rock School Board after a Little Rock attorney and jurist noteworthy for his activity during Reconstruction, stands as an intact example of the Thompson firm's interpretation of the Federal Colonial Revival at its finest. In addition to being a cohesive exercise in the Colonial Revival that stands on its own, this commission is significant relative to the firm's oeuvre by virtue of its adaptation of the Colonial Revival style to a large civic commission without sacrificing detail and quality of design. The design exploits the balance of sheer uninterrupted surfaces with symmetrically-distributed fenestration and shallow ornament to create a Federal Revival masterpiece without labor-intensive craftsmanship or expensive materials.

The building has remained an educational structure since its construction and so continues to serve in the manner for which it was intended.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 & 8 Page 2Code: PU-171Physical Description - Cont.

blind wooden arch with fanlight and sidelights, though the center of the window is filled with brick headers. The wood returns are decorated underneath with delicate wood bead molding. The second story of the central section is punctuated with square-headed six-over-six sash windows with splayed concrete lintels and projecting embellished keystones, spaced evenly across each of the three bays, and separated from the story below by a course of flush concrete trim. The first-story windows are arched, fourteen-over-eight sash, wood-frame windows, set in brick with concrete keystones, with the exception of the central projecting entrance bay, which has single, thin eight-by-eight casement windows flanking the shallow columned porch. Brick stoops with concrete coping flank the concrete stairway. The wood entrance with its elliptical fanlight, detailed sidelights, and paired doors are set behind two flanking pairs of concrete Corinthian columns that support the undecorated frieze, dentil course and bracketed entablature that together form the shallow portico. Behind the portico, two symmetrical, single-story wings with square corner posts form the vestibule that leads into the main structure. The only decoration of the vestibule is the central signage and concrete coping and post caps.

The building's interior is simply decorated, with plaster walls, and pressed tin on both the ceilings and panels underneath the dog-leg staircases. The only alterations

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

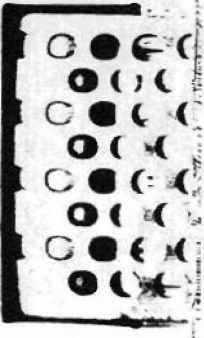
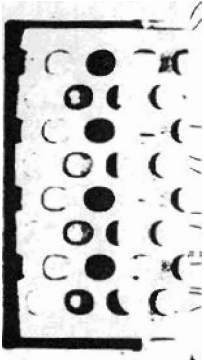
Section number 7 & 8 Page 3

Code: PU-171

Physical Description - Cont.

have been the conversion of the second-floor library into faculty offices and the filling of the two loading bays on the rear elevation with concrete blocks and aluminum entry doors.

Statement of Significance



7591 54
(MC ALMONT)

LITTLE ROCK QUADRANGLE
ARKANSAS

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

92°15' 34°45'

SEARCY 45 MI (VIA U. S. 87 & 167
1.7 MI. TO INTERSTATE 40)

1.1 MI. TO INTERSTATE 40

1910 000 FEET 17'30"



750 000
FEET

43

U. M. Rose School (Amendment to Charles
Thompson Thematic Nomination)
Little Rock, Arkansas
Pulaski County
15/565760/3844015
Little Rock Quadrangle
1:24000

