

**Baltimore City  
Commission for Historical and  
Architectural Preservation**

**Landmark Designation Report  
February 12, 2013**



**Old Douglass High School**

1645 N. Calhoun Street  
Baltimore, Maryland

This designation report is subject to additions and alterations, and welcomes contributions of Alumni and others.

## Significance Summary

Frederick Douglass High School was the first high school established for African Americans in Baltimore City and the state of Maryland. Originally established as the Colored High School in 1883, this institution is celebrating its 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2013. This building, designed by Spencer E. Sisco and constructed in 1924, is the oldest existing building for African American education in the City of Baltimore. Its role in the history of Baltimore City as a site of African American education and empowerment is unsurpassed, nurturing many leaders in Civil Rights, law, government, and the arts. The architecture of the school is also significant as an excellent example of Collegiate Gothic Revival.

## Property History

Located in the city block bound by Calhoun, Carey, and Baker Streets in the Sandtown-Winchester neighborhood, the property where Old Douglass High School is located began serving as a school in 1882, when the first building was constructed for the Maryland Industrial Training School for Girls, alternatively called the Female House of Refuge.<sup>1</sup> Founded in 1866 to reform girls, the school was first located in Baltimore County, but moved to this site in 1882 in order to be more accessible.<sup>2</sup> In 1921, the school again moved to the county, and was renamed Montrose School for Girls.<sup>3</sup> Later that same year, the City of Baltimore purchased this property to be the site for the new Colored High School.<sup>4</sup> At first, the City intended to house the high school in the existing buildings on site, and later construct a new building costing approximately \$500,000.<sup>5</sup> Instead, only two portions of the Girls School was retained and incorporated into the new building as the Shops Building.<sup>6</sup>

Originally named the “Colored Senior-Junior High School”, the institution was renamed “Frederick Douglass Senior High School” in 1923 after the famous abolitionist, author, lecturer, and intellectual who was born enslaved in Maryland and escaped to freedom from Baltimore.<sup>7</sup> The school was designed by Spencer E. Sisco of the firm Owens & Sisco, and the J. Henry Miller Company was the builder.<sup>8</sup> The new \$1.5 million dollar high school was completed in November 1924, but due to some delays was not occupied until September 1925.<sup>9</sup> Over two thousand people attended the 1925 building dedication.<sup>10</sup>

After the opening, the *Afro-American* stated that the school was “said to be one of the most modern and best equipped school buildings in the country,” and it was comparable to white city schools constructed during that decade, such as Western High School.<sup>11</sup> In fact, the school was given the status of a white school with its Public School number, No. 450.<sup>12</sup> In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, African American schools were numbered in the 100-series, and white high schools were numbered in the 400-series.<sup>13</sup>

The building contained a number of amenities, the majority of which were adamantly insisted upon by the high school’s Alumni Association.<sup>14</sup> The amenities included two

gym, a sixteen-hundred seat auditorium with two organ chambers and a film booth, a cafeteria that could seat 700, large science labs, domestic science unit, health unit, commercial art unit, home economic unit, a model apartment, separate shops wing, thirty-two classrooms, three study halls, library, elevator, and a swimming pool.<sup>15</sup> This was the first swimming pool in an African American school in the country.<sup>16</sup> The building could house 3,000 students.

Almost thirty years after opening its doors, the school once again had to move due to over-crowded conditions. In September 1954, the same month that school desegregated in Baltimore, Western High School at Gwynns Falls Parkway was turned over to Frederick Douglass High School to alleviate the overcrowding that Douglass had been suffering from in their building in Sandtown-Winchester.<sup>17</sup>

The school at Calhoun and Baker Streets later housed the Houston Junior High School and later the Houston Woods Junior-Senior High School until 1981, when the school was closed.<sup>18</sup> That same year, the building once again housed Douglass High School students as a temporary holding school while the building at Gwynns Falls Parkway was renovated in 1981-1984.<sup>19</sup> The city considered demolishing the Old Douglass building after it no longer served as a temporary school.<sup>20</sup> Instead, the City sold the building in 1989 to a developer, School 181 Limited Partnership, which opened the 100-unit Frederick Douglas Apartments in the former city school in 1991.<sup>21</sup> David Schull was the architect and Bensky Construction was the builder.

In 1991, the Douglass Alumni Association were awarding funding to conduct a feasibility study feasibility-viability study regarding the restoration of the auditorium as a cultural center.<sup>22</sup> Four years later, the Alumni had raised \$500,000 of \$3.5 million to restore the auditorium, but this dream has not come to fruition.<sup>23</sup>

In 2000, the property went into foreclosure and was transferred to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and the property has since transferred through several owners.<sup>24</sup>

The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

## **Contextual History**

### **History of Frederick Douglass High School**

Frederick Douglass High School was the first high school established for African Americans in the city of Baltimore and the State of Maryland.<sup>25</sup> It was the third African American high school established in the United States.<sup>26</sup> It grew out of a primary school for African American children established in 1867, called the Colored Grammar School. The high school curriculum was added in 1883, and the first class graduated from the Colored High School of Baltimore City in 1889, receiving their diplomas from Mayor Latrobe.<sup>27</sup> In 2013, the school will celebrate its 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

For fifty years, this was the only high school for African Americans in Baltimore City and Baltimore and Howard Counties.<sup>28</sup> The school has had several locations over its history, and its present home is its fifth location. It was first located at the Peale Museum on Holliday Street (which is a Baltimore City Landmark), moving in 1888 to a new building, the first public African American high school constructed in the United States.<sup>29</sup> The beautiful brick building was considered a credit to the city, and was located on Saratoga Street three doors from Charles Street, in the most fashionable part of town.<sup>30</sup> The building housed a high school and grammar school for 1,200 students, which was double the capacity of any other school in the city.<sup>31</sup> In his speech at the school's opening, Mayor Latrobe stated that "the colored pupils will have an incentive to strive after excellence that may be rewarded by securing for them places as teachers of their race."<sup>32</sup> The significance of this building is evident, and made more so by the fact that during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, African American schools were typically located in former white schools.<sup>33</sup> This building doesn't survive today.

In 1896, the grammar and high schools separated. The high school added "Normal School" curriculum in 1900 which trained teachers, and nine years later the Normal School broke off to become its own school, which is now Coppin State University.<sup>34</sup> In 1901, having outgrown its quarters, the school moved to the former English-German School No. 1, and elementary school on Pennsylvania Ave. and Dolphin Street, which was larger and located in the midst of a large African American community.<sup>35</sup> The same year, the school's white faculty and principal were replaced with African American faculty, and the school merged with the Colored Polytechnic Institute.<sup>36</sup>

The Colored High School quickly outgrew its quarters at Pennsylvania and Dolphin Streets, and beginning in 1908, the City School Superintendent noted that the building was inadequate. By 1914, the school was using a portable structure, and renting a house and a church to combat the overcrowding.<sup>37</sup> That same year, there were demands for a new building to "alleviate wretched conditions," a demand that was reiterated by the African American community for over a decade. In March 1925, the old school building was crowded to over-capacity with 1900 students in a building only intended to house 600 students.<sup>38</sup> In order to teach all of these students, the high school ran on two shifts.<sup>39</sup> This problem was not unique to the Colored High School; nearly a third of African American schools were run this way to alleviate overcrowding.<sup>40</sup> In 1923, Dr. Howard E. Young wrote a letter to the school board, stating that "No such pesthole as the Colored High School Building for white children would be tolerated for ten minutes."<sup>41</sup> A survey conducted in 1921 by the City's Survey Commission found that every single school for African American students was inadequate, with twelve schools recommended for condemnation.<sup>42</sup> That same year, a new African American high school was approved by the school board, and Douglass opened four years later.

Douglass High School was designed by Spencer E. Sisco of the Baltimore firm Owens & Sisco, and this was his most prominent work.<sup>43</sup> His partner Benjamin B. Owens was a prominent Baltimore architect, who designed the Terminal Warehouse building (a Baltimore City landmark), among other industrial, religious, and residential homes in the

Baltimore area.<sup>44</sup> Owens died in 1918, and Sisco carried on the firm into the 1930s, designing buildings for Springfield State Hospital in Sykesville, and other projects.<sup>45</sup>

In 1935, East Baltimore's Paul Laurence Dunbar Junior High School expanded to include ninth and tenth grades, but students still graduated from Douglass.<sup>46</sup> In 1938, Dunbar became a full high school, and afterward, Douglass served African Americans from the western part of Baltimore City, as well as students from Baltimore and Howard Counties.<sup>47</sup> Douglass had a night school for many years, which offered the same high-quality education to thousands of students who had to work during the day.<sup>48</sup> Night school is still offered at Douglass today.<sup>49</sup>

After thirty years in this building, the school once again faced crowded conditions and a need for larger quarters. In September 1954, Douglass High School moved into the Western High School building on Gwynns Falls Parkway to alleviate over-crowding.<sup>50</sup> The school has been located at this campus ever since.

### **The Douglass Legacy**

Frederick Douglass High School is distinguished for being the first African American High School in Baltimore City and Maryland, and serving as one of the most illustrious institutions of higher learning in the City of Baltimore. It is also distinguished because of its push, decade after decade, to achieve the "equal" in the "separate but equal" doctrine that was in place for half of its history. A 1993 *Sun* article noted that "In a segregated city where black children read cast-off textbooks from the white schools and often lived in poverty, at a time when most jobs remained out of their parents' reach, Douglass prided itself on teaching its own to overcome."<sup>51</sup> In the same article, alumnus Robert Watts, who became the first African American judge on the Municipal Court, which later became the District Court, remembered that the teachers "made it very clear to us that we would have to be better as a result [of segregation], that we would have to do better than white people to become anything."<sup>52</sup> This statement was seconded by other Douglass Alumni.<sup>53</sup>

Students at Douglass succeeded in spite of economic, societal, and racial inequities outside and even inside of school. Douglass provided an excellent education to its students in spite of inequality of funding for students, teacher's pay, school supplies, a lack of school maintenance and over-crowding.<sup>54</sup> The injustice faced by Douglass High School was universally experienced by all African American schools and teachers in the city, and is representative of the African American educational experience nationally. Alumni state that Douglass history is American history.<sup>55</sup>

As an institution, Douglass overcame these inequities and provided an excellent education to generations of students. Rose Jones remembers that it was called the "private public school" that "you were just proud that you were allowed to attend."<sup>56</sup> The African American teachers at Douglass were highly educated, holding PhDs and Master's degrees from the best colleges and universities in the country. They were experts in their fields, and taught at Douglass because they could not teach elsewhere, both before and after desegregation. Dr. Mason A. Hawkins, Principal at Douglass High School between 1910 and 1934, had a PhD from University of Pennsylvania, Masters degrees from Harvard

and Columbia University and a Bachelors degree from Morgan College.<sup>57</sup> Vice Principal Carrington L. Davis was a classmate of Theodore Roosevelt at Harvard University.<sup>58</sup> Herbert Frisby, the head of the science department, spent part of the school year researching at the North Pole, returning to school in his expedition clothes.<sup>59</sup> A world-famous Arctic explorer, he was the second African American to reach the North Pole.<sup>60</sup> One opportunity that Douglass students had early on was the opportunity to attend college, with merit-based scholarships to fund their college education at Coppin State Teachers College, Morgan State University, and Howard University.

Douglass High School was an extended family, a tightly-knit network that took care of students. Alumni Joseph Smith states that “Douglass is our heart.”<sup>61</sup> Everyone knew each other at Douglass, and multiple generations of families attended Douglass. Teachers and family were equally seen as authority figures, and discipline was shared. The talents of Douglass students were nurtured through the arts, music, sports, and various other extra-curricular activities. Douglass also had clubs that functioned like junior fraternities.<sup>62</sup>

The school gave these students and the African American community access to arts and music that were largely inaccessible to African Americans due to segregated arts facilities. The sixteen-hundred seat auditorium hosted many events, not least of which were the Douglass graduations, which had been held in city theaters for the majority of the school’s existence.<sup>63</sup> The auditorium hosted performances by many significant musicians, such as internationally celebrated singer Marian Anderson and the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.<sup>64</sup> The band and choir were well-known, taught by music teacher, conductor, and music critic W. Llewellyn Wilson. Alumna Ruth Pratt remembers that musicians at the Peabody Institute – then segregated – came and taught Douglass students in the morning before school started.<sup>65</sup> The school put on musical and dramatic productions at least twice a year, including opera.<sup>66</sup> The 1929 production of “The Flying Dutchman” was the first time that a high school produced a Wagner opera, exhibiting the great talent of these students.<sup>67</sup>

Douglass High School shaped alumni that have been locally, nationally, and internationally significant leaders in law, government business, entertainment, and sports. Alumni include: Thurgood Marshall, Supreme Court Justice; Clarence M. Mitchell Jr., Lillie Mae Carroll Jackson and Juanita Jackson Mitchell, Civil Rights leaders; Parren J. Mitchell and Kweisi Mfume, U.S. Congressmen; Harry Cole, State Senator and Judge for the Maryland Court of Appeals; Verda Welcome, State Senator; Harry Cole, State Senator and Judge; Milton Allen, Baltimore State’s Attorney, Baltimore City Circuit Court Judge; Robert Watts, Municipal Court Judge, Baltimore City Supreme Court Judge; Solomon Baylor, Baltimore City District County and Circuit Court Judge; John Hargrove, Sr., U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland Judge; George Russell, attorney, former City Solicitor and Judge; Howard Peters “Pete” Rawlings, Maryland State Delegate; Clarence “Du” Burns, Baltimore Mayor; Agnes Welch, City Councilwoman; Veronica Tyler, Marian Jackson Downs, Ann Wiggins Brown, and Ethel Ennis, Singers (Opera, Broadway, Jazz); Cab Calloway, Chick Webb, jazz musicians and band leaders; Avon Long, Broadway Actor and Singer; Elton Fax, Artist; Carl Murphy, publisher of the *Afro-American* newspaper.<sup>68</sup>

## **Architectural Description**

Old Douglass High School stands on almost the entire block bound by N. Calhoun, Baker, Carey and Cumberland Streets in Sandtown-Winchester in West Baltimore, surrounded by a largely residential neighborhood of two-story rowhouses. The Collegiate Gothic Revival-style building is roughly a square three-story brick structure that features a central main entrance on N. Calhoun Street, its primary façade. The building also has two highly decorated elevations facing Cumberland and Baker Streets. These three façades feature highly decorative Gothic Revival details on the stone entranceways, Gothic arches, quoining around the windows, flared window hoods, and parapets. The entrance on the N. Calhoun Street façade also has carved bas reliefs of scholars. At the rear of the building (facing Carey Street), the building incorporates the circa 1880s four-story building of the Girls Industrial Training School. Additions and alterations have been made to the building, particularly along Carey Street. The northern portion of the site, along Cumberland Street, is a parking lot. According to the National Register Nomination Form, the interior finishes and details, such as the terrazzo floor and ornate decorative plasterwork in the auditorium were largely intact in 1989.<sup>69</sup>

## **Staff Recommendations**

The property meets CHAP Landmark Designation Standards:

B. A Baltimore City Landmark may be a site, structure, landscape, building (or portion thereof), place, work of art, or other object which:

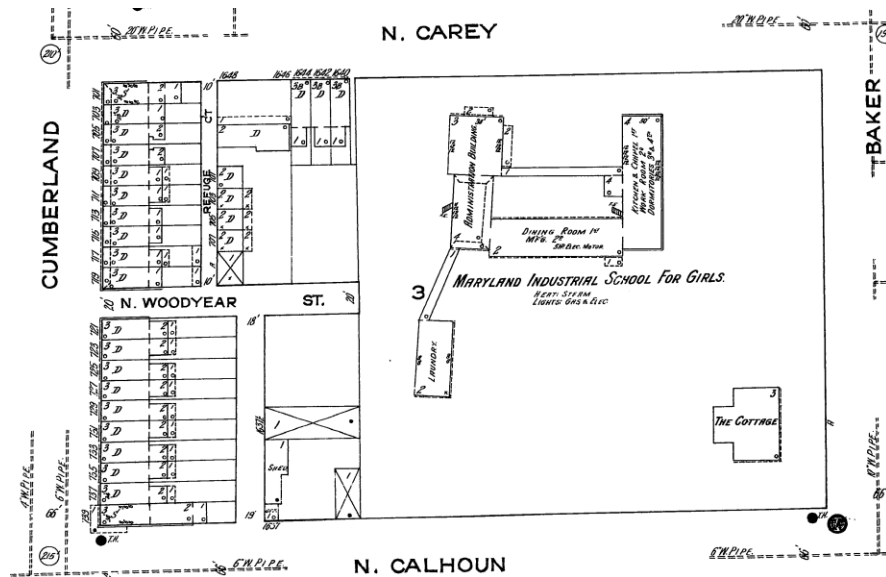
1. Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Baltimore history;
3. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represents the work of a master, or that possesses high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

Frederick Douglass High School was the first high school established for African Americans in Baltimore City and the state of Maryland. Originally established as the Colored High School in 1883, this institution is celebrating its 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2013. This building, designed by Spencer E. Sisco and constructed in 1924, is the oldest existing building for African American education in the City of Baltimore. Its role in the history of Baltimore City as a site of African American education and empowerment is unsurpassed, nurturing many leaders in Civil Rights, law, government, and the arts. The architecture of the school is also significant as an excellent example of Collegiate Gothic Revival.

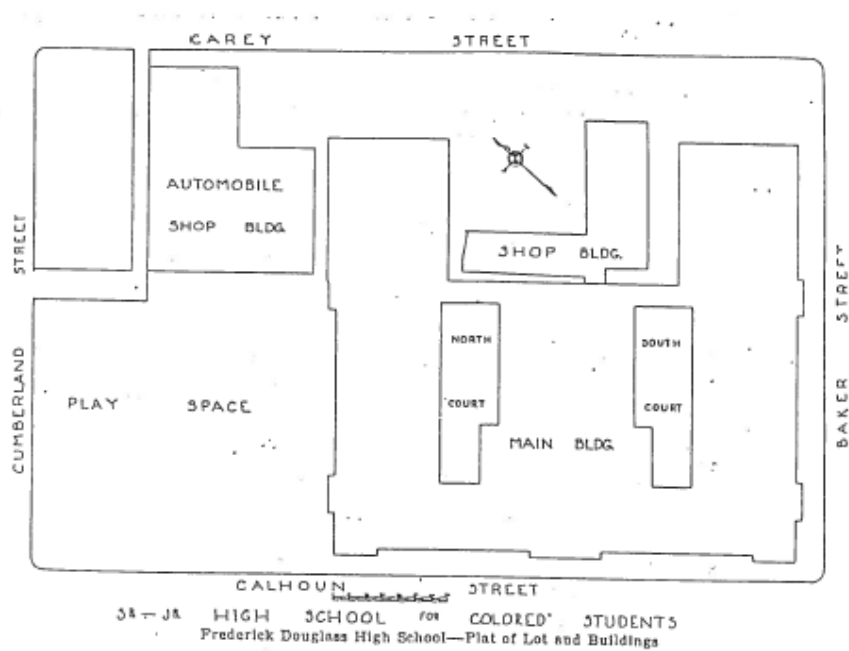
## Locator Map



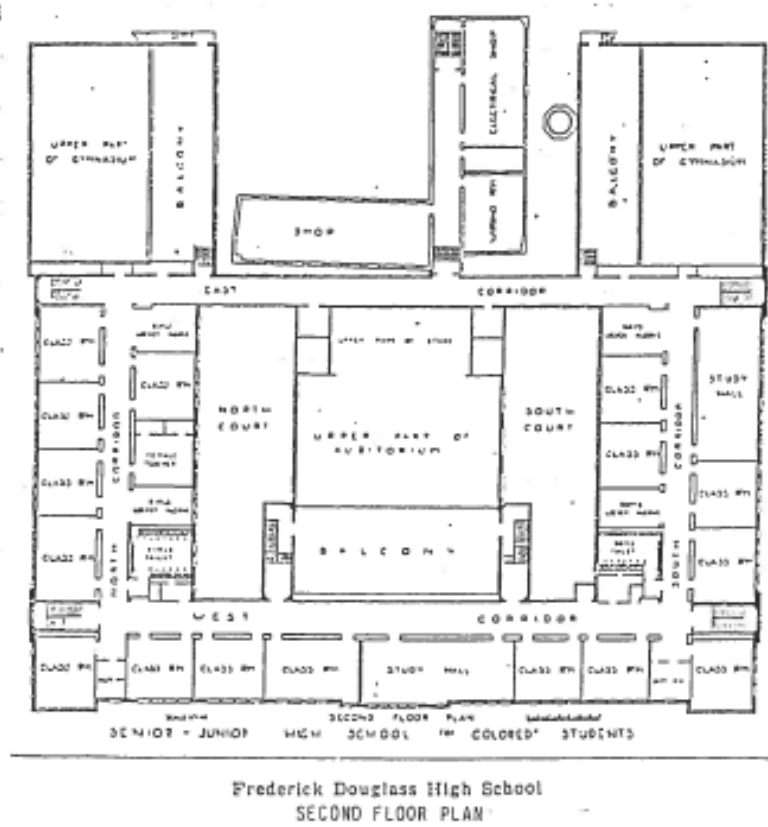
## Historic Maps



1914 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, depicting the Maryland Industrial School for Girls. The Dining Room building and Kitchen and Chapel Building were reused for the Douglass building. (Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps 1914-1915, Vol. 2, 1914, Sheet 216)

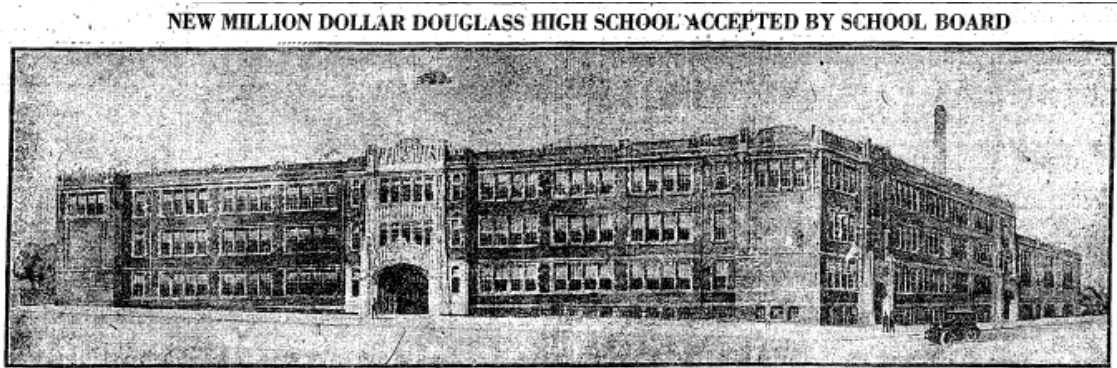


Site Plan of Frederick Douglass High School from *Report of the Board of School Commissioners, 1925*. pg. 69.



Second Floor Building Plan for Douglass High School from *Report of the Board of School Commissioners, 1925*. pg. 71.

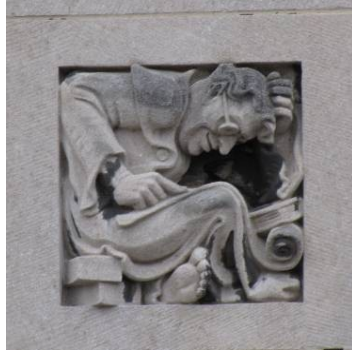
## Images



*Drawing of Old Douglass High School in the Afro-American, "New Million Dollar Douglass High School Accepted by School Board", Afro-American (1893-1988); Dec 20, 1924; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988), pg. 3*



Main entrance of the building today.



Details of three sculptures of scholars on the façade of the building.



View from the intersection of N. Calhoun and Baker Streets.



View from Carey Street of the circa 1882 portion of building reused from the Maryland Industrial School for Girls and later additions to the school.

- <sup>1</sup> "City Selects Property for New Colored High: Orders Deal Closed For ...", *The Sun (1837-1987)*; Dec 6, 1921; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1987), pg. 11; "Junior-Senior High School Site Bought: Mayor Announces Building For ..." *The Sun (1837-1987)*; Jan 18, 1922; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1987), pg. 20
- <sup>2</sup> "Offers School to State: Board Of Maryland Reformatory For Girls Willing To Give It" *The Sun (1837-1987)*; Apr 10, 1913; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1987) pg. 16; "Local Matters", *The Sun (1837-1987)*; Jun 9, 1868; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1987) pg. 1; "Local Matters: Brief Locals", *The Sun (1837-1987)*; Jan 4, 1882; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1987) pg. 4
- <sup>3</sup> "Delinquent Girls Like Montrose School", *The Sun (1837-1987)*; Mar 20, 1944; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1987) pg. 10;
- <sup>4</sup> "Delinquent Girls Like Montrose School"; "City Selects Property for New Colored High: Orders Deal Closed For ..."
- <sup>5</sup> "City Selects Property for New Colored High: Orders Deal Closed For ..."
- <sup>6</sup> "Douglass, Frederick, High School, B-4210" National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, 1989. Section 7, Page 1; "Douglass High School Opening Delayed Until Fall: New High School Open...", *Afro-American (1893-1988)*; Mar 14, 1925; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988), pg. 13
- <sup>7</sup> "Forty-one Men are in High School Grid Squad", *Afro-American (1893-1988)*; Oct 5, 1923; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988), pg. 15
- <sup>8</sup> "Plans for School Finished: S. E. Sisco Architect For New Colored Institution" *The Sun (1837-1987)*; Mar 1, 1923; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1987), pg. 3; "High School To Cost \$1,149,000: Contract Let for Building of New..." *Afro-American (1893-1988)*; Apr 13, 1923; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988), pg. 1
- <sup>9</sup> "Douglass High School Opening Delayed Until Fall: New High School Open...", *Afro-American (1893-1988)*; Mar 14, 1925; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988), pg. 13
- <sup>10</sup> "2000 Witness Dedication of Douglass High: School Board And City ..." *Afro-American (1893-1988)*; Dec 12, 1925; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988), pg. 13
- <sup>11</sup> "2000 Witness Dedication of Douglass High: School Board And City ..."
- <sup>12</sup> "Development of Baltimore City School Architecture, 1920-1939." *Baltimore City School Architecture Context Papers*, (Maryland Historical Trust, 1990), 7, citing Strayer, 1921: 56; "Mrs. Hattie Hawkins in Recital Here", *Afro-American (1893-1988)*; Dec 10, 1932; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988), pg. 9
- <sup>13</sup> Oral history interview with Douglass Alumni, Nov. 5, 2012.
- <sup>14</sup> "Want Pipe Organ in New High School: Alumni Association Also Asks ...", *Afro-American (1893-1988)*; Jan 13, 1922; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988), pg. 7
- <sup>15</sup> "New Million Dollar Douglass High School Accepted by School Board", *Afro-American (1893-1988)*; Dec 20, 1924; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988), pg. 3; "New Colored High School To Contain 32 Class Rooms, 2 Gymnasias, Labs; ...", *Afro-American (1893-1988)*; Mar 2, 1923; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988) pg. 1; Larry S. Gibson, pg. 76.
- <sup>16</sup> Larry S. Gibson, pg. 76.
- <sup>17</sup> "School Role Rise of 5,300 is Expected: City Officials Have No Indication On Movement" *The Sun (1837-1986)*; Aug 21, 1954; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1986), pg. 22; "Western High May Become Coeducational Negro School", *The Sun (1837-1986)*; Mar 20, 1953; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1986), pg. 17
- <sup>18</sup> "Bus driver cleared of blame", *Afro-American (1893-1988)*; Jan 11, 1958; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988), pg. 18; Elaine Wyna "The last graduation at 'Old' Douglass", *Afro-American (1893-1988)*; Jun 18, 1983; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988), pg. 8
- <sup>19</sup> Arthur Johnson, "Douglass Students Back Home Again" *Afro-American*, May 19, 1984, Enoch Pratt Free Library African American Room Vertical Files.
- <sup>20</sup> Elaine Wyna
- <sup>21</sup> Edward Gunts "Groffs Mill condos to be built in Owings Mills", *The Sun [Baltimore, Md]* 27 Jan 1991: 1M.

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- <sup>22</sup> “Letters to the Editor” *The Sun* [Baltimore, Md] 20 July 1992: 6.A.
- <sup>23</sup> Ernest Imhoff “Keeping track of \$1.58 billion in fund raising; Grants: In the dizzying world of philanthropy, it can be hard to know who needs money and who has it to give away. Grantmakers has answers.” *The Sun* [Baltimore, Md] 07 Nov 1996: 1B.
- <sup>24</sup> School 181 Limited Partnership to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure, 2000, Baltimore City Circuit Court (Land Records) Liber 260, Folio 414 – 418;
- <sup>25</sup> Elizabeth M. Oliver “Countdown begins on Douglass Hi 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary” *The Afro-American*, September 10, 1983, Enoch Pratt Free Library African American Room Vertical Files.
- <sup>26</sup> Wilma F. Bonner et al, *The Summer Story: Capturing Our History, Preserving Our Legacy* (2010: Wilma F. Bonner, Sandra E. Freelain, Dwight D. Henderson, Johnnieque B. Love, Eugene M. Williams)
- <sup>27</sup> Elizabeth M. Oliver; “Colored High School”, *The Sun (1837-1986)*; Jun 29, 1889; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1986), pg. 6; “Colored High School” *The Sun (1837-1986)*; Jun 29, 1889; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1986), pg. 6
- <sup>28</sup> Richard Kluger, *Simple Justice: The History of Brown v. Board of Education and Black America* (New York: Vintage Books, 2004), pg. 195; Larry S. Gibson, *Young Thurgood: The Making of A Supreme Court Justice* (Amherst, NY: Prometheus Books, 2012), pg. 62.
- <sup>29</sup> “Mrs. Donnell Swan Granted a Divorce”, *The Sun (1837-1986)*; Jul 25, 1888; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1987), pg. 4
- <sup>30</sup> “Colored High School: The First in Baltimore The Building Formally...” Reported for the Baltimore Sun, *The Sun (1837-1986)*; Oct 11, 1888; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1986), pg. 6
- <sup>31</sup> “Colored High School: The First in Baltimore The Building Formally...”
- <sup>32</sup> “Colored High School: The First in Baltimore The Building Formally...”
- <sup>33</sup> *Baltimore City School Architecture Context Papers*, (Maryland Historical Trust, 1990), 15; “Colored High School: The First in Baltimore The Building Formally...”
- <sup>34</sup> Elizabeth M Oliver; F. Erik Brooks and Glenn L. Starks, *Historically Black Colleges and Universities*, (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, LLC, 2011), 145.
- <sup>35</sup> “Transfer of a School: Mr. Gatch’s Plan For Building Just Vacated By City College”, *The Sun (1837-1986)*; Jun 27, 1899; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1986), pg. 7; Elizabeth M Oliver
- <sup>36</sup> “To Combine Schools: Colored High And Polytechnic To Be Consolidated”, *The Sun (1837-1986)*; May 9, 1901; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1986), pg. 12; Elizabeth M Oliver
- <sup>37</sup> “New Building for High School Badly Needed: Present Requirement Demand ...” *Afro-American (1893-1988)*; Jul 4, 1914; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988), pg. 1
- <sup>38</sup> “Douglass High School Opening Delayed Until Fall: New High School Open...”
- <sup>39</sup> Larry S. Gibson, pg. 62
- <sup>40</sup> “Half Time Classes Create School Problem: Nearly One-Third of Colored ...”, *Afro-American (1893-1988)*; Sep 28, 1923; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988), pg. 9
- <sup>41</sup> “Negros in Bitter Attack on Schools: Said To Be Urging One Of Race As ...”, *The Sun (1837-1987)*; Nov 19, 1922; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1987), pg. SS26
- <sup>42</sup> “Survey Shows Up City Schools: Every Building For Colored Children ...”, *Afro-American (1893-1988)*; Feb 18, 1921; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988), pg. 1
- <sup>43</sup> “Plans for School Finished: S. E. Sisco Architect For New Colored Institution”; “Obituary: Spencer B. Sisco”, *The Sun (1837-1987)*; Mar 9, 1951; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Baltimore Sun, The (1837-1987), pg. 8
- <sup>44</sup> “Benjamin B. Owens” Baltimore Architecture Foundation.  
<http://baltimorearchitecture.org/biographies/benjamin-owens/>
- <sup>45</sup> “Benjamin B. Owens”; *The American Architect* Vol. 103, No. 1952, 1913, pg. 10. Available as a Google e-book.
- <sup>46</sup> Richard Kluger, *Simple Justice: The History of Brown v. Board of Education and Black America* (New York: Vintage Books, 2004), 195; “Dunbar High School has 178 in 1938 June Graduating Class”, *The Afro-American*, July 9, 1938, 24.
- <sup>47</sup> Oral history interview with Douglass Alumni, Nov. 5, 2012.

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- <sup>48</sup> Robert Rhodes, Oral history interview with Douglass Alumni, Nov. 5, 2012; "Elmer Henderson Sent to P.S. 101, Mrs. Lee to 112: Tenth Grade Added ...", *Afro-American (1893-1988)*; Jul 20, 1935; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988), pg. 14
- <sup>49</sup> Theresa Whitley, oral history interview with Douglass Alumni, Nov. 5, 2012.
- <sup>50</sup> "School Role Rise of 5,300 is Expected: City Officials Have No Indication On Movement".
- <sup>51</sup> Gary Gately
- <sup>52</sup> Gary Gately
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