

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Wyman, Edward, School

other name/site number: n/a

2. Location

street & number: 1547 South Teresa

not for publication: N/A

city/town: St. Louis

vicinity: N/A

state: Missouri county: Independent City code: 510 zip code: 63104

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public - local

Category of Property: building

Number of Resources within Property:

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| <u>1</u> | _____ | buildings |
| _____ | _____ | sites |
| _____ | _____ | structures |
| _____ | _____ | objects |
| <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> | Total |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: St. Louis, Missouri Public Schools of William B. Ittner

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Tudor Revival

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation STONE/limestone roof CERAMIC TILE
walls BRICK other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: local.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE

Period(s) of Significance: 1900

Significant Dates : 1900 _____

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Ittner, William Butts

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (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 -- Specify Repository: Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: approximately 2 acres

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---------------|----------------|---|-----|-----|-----|
| A | <u>15</u> | <u>740580</u> | <u>4277920</u> | B | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| C | ___ | ___ | ___ | D | ___ | ___ | ___ |

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Cynthia Hill Longwisch, Research Associate

Organization: Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc. Date: 4/19/90

Street & Number: 917 Locust 7th Floor Telephone: 314-421-6474

City or Town: St. Louis State: MO ZIP: 63101

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Section number 7

Edward Wyman School

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SUMMARY: The Edward Wyman School is located at 1547 South Teresa, St. Louis, Missouri. This Tudor Revival style William B. Ittner-designed school was built in 1900 in City Block 1280. An example of the E ("Open")-Plan Elementary School property type, the two-story school is built of multichrome brick and has its original red tile roof. It features an E-shaped plan of a central block and flanking wings with classrooms located along only one side of the main corridor. The building is in good condition and features a high degree of integrity. Sited above grade with its rolling front lawn facing a quiet residential neighborhood, this school is Ittner's first to make use of landscaping as an enhancement of the building; the lawn retains a number of original plantings and the grounds have been maintained much as designed. An original iron fence runs the length of the front of the property. A chain-link-fenced and asphalt-paved playground is located at the rear (west) of the school. The surrounding single- and multi-family dwellings are contemporary with the school.

NARRATIVE: This two-story school has a raised basement and attic, giving an impression of being larger than it is. Ittner's E-shaped version of the open plan is fully realized for the first time in this school, with its corridor on one side and classrooms on the other (Figure 1). The quarry-faced ashlar limestone foundation is capped by a stone water table. The body of the building is a brown/cull brick mix. Above the second-story sill course, red brick is mixed with the brown to form a reticulated pattern; this is most visible in Photo #11. Red clay tile is used for the roof. The center block is seven bays wide, flanked by projecting front-gabled wings. An elaborate entrance bay highlights the center of the front elevation. It features a stone-quoined, ogee-arched doorway flanked by two narrow rectangular wood-infilled windows. Twin crenelated towers are trimmed in stone and support a curvilinear stone-coped, parapeted gable with a small inset, stone-hooded window. Below are triple tripartite ogee-arched windows (two upper tiers are infilled with wood) with squared stone hood molding. A stone-railed balcony with brick balusters is supported by corbeled brick arcading.

Most upper-story windows are grouped in units of four, three or two, a technique frequently applied by Ittner after 1900. The majority of the windows are six-over-six or three-over-three, double-hung wood sash and have flat arches with header courses. The second-story sill course emphasizes the shorter windows used in the gable ends of the wings. These windows allow for space below to install a blackboard and are a feature of most Ittner schools. Small stone-hooded windows in the gables illuminate attic space. Basement windows in the rear and side elevations have been infilled with brick.

The two gabled wings plus a center wing form the rear elevation. The gabled center wing features a two-story bay window. This wing houses the

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kindergarten in its first floor; unlike Ittner's earlier schools, it has a story above it. A crenelated chimney rises from the rear elevation, just visible in the photo. An entrance vestibule projects from the south side of the building; a first-floor classroom extends over it and a brick-balustraded balcony is formed above, marked by round stone finials.

The exterior of the school is in good condition albeit in need of trim paint. Alterations appear to be limited to the infilled basement and entrance-bay windows. A photo of the building in the 1900-01 Annual Report of the Board of Education shows rolling mounds of grassless earth planted with tiny saplings. A few shrubs were in place at that time, and potted plants were placed along the front steps. The trees are mature oaks today and manicured evergreens and deciduous hedges provide contrast; the potted plants are gone. The rolling lawn, shade trees and tended shrubbery are doubtless as Ittner envisioned. The school's original integrity remains intact both in regard to physical exterior condition and landscape.

The interior of Wyman School retains much of its original character, although more changes have been made than at most of the early Ittner schools. Transoms of interior doors have been infilled with wood and the original doors replaced. Hall and classroom ceilings, while still high, have acoustical tile coverings. Fluorescent fixtures throughout replace the original pendant shades. The original ogee-arched surround of the kindergarten doorway, presumably once stained glass, has been boarded up. Still remaining are the highly-polished hardwood floors throughout, as are the pink marble baseboards. Oak chair rails and picture molding are still present in the halls, as are the oak handrails of the iron-balustraded stairways. Large openings, as to stairs and wings, are charmingly ogee-arched. Room usage appears to be about the same as originally intended. The interior is well-maintained and while changes have been made, all of the original integrity has not been sacrificed.

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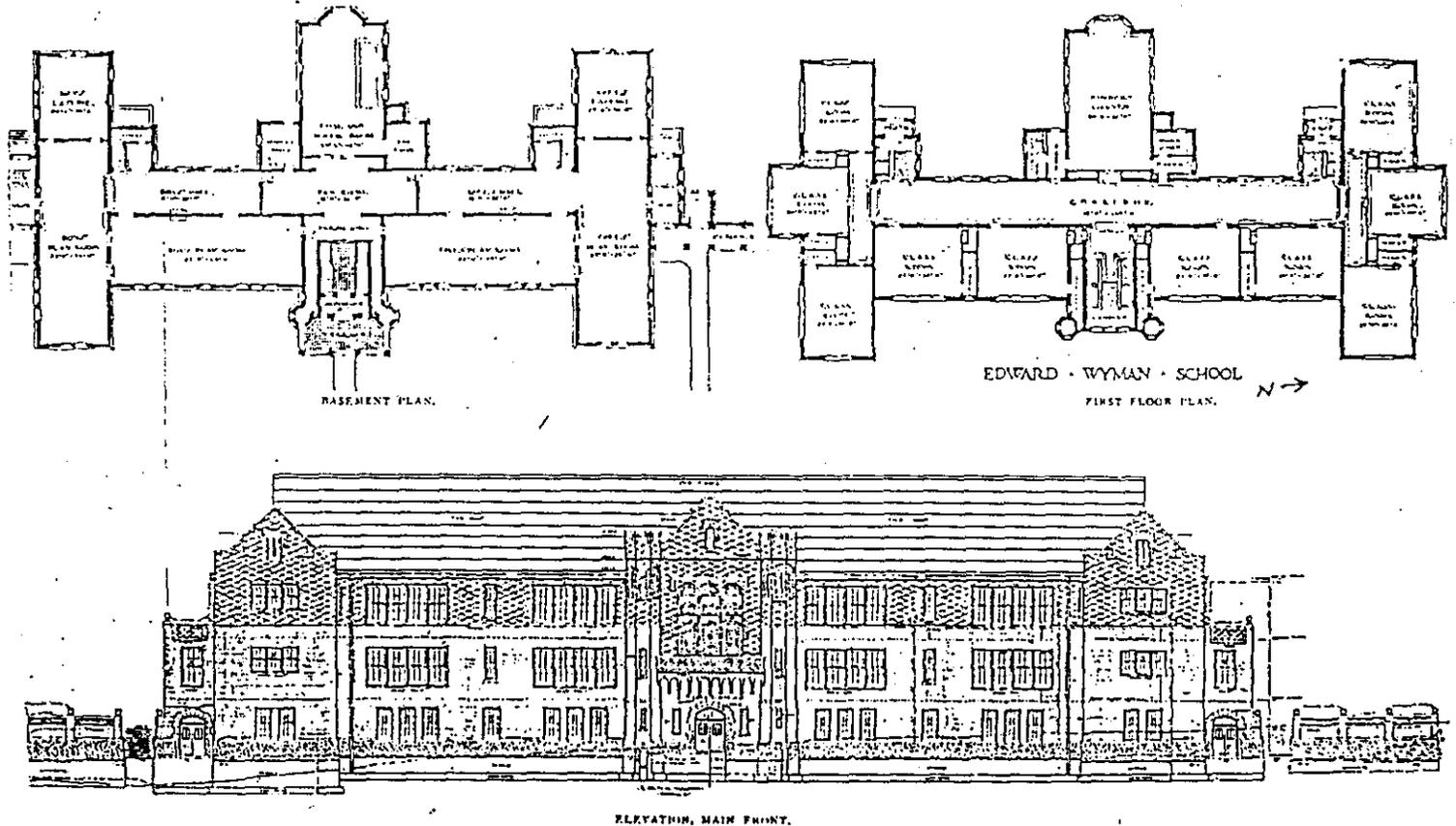
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Basement and First Floor Plans, Wyman School
Source: Inland Architect & News Record, Vol. 46, No. 5, December 1905.



Basement and First Floor Plans and Front Elevation, Wyman School, 1905
(Inland Architect & News Record, Vol. 46, No. 5, December 1905).

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Edward Wyman School

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SUMMARY: The Edward Wyman School, 1547 South Teresa, St. Louis, is significant under Criterion C for its architecture and architect. St. Louisan William B. Ittner, F.A.I.A., designed the Tudor Revival school in 1900. Its modified E plan is generally recognized as the first Ittner school to use the "open plan," a design that allows for maximum light and air to enter the building. It is also Ittner's first Jacobethan school design, thereafter his most-used style and the one most closely identified with Ittner's schools. Wyman School is also the site of the architect's first extensive effort at purposeful landscaping. Ideas that Ittner had been marshalling together since he began as Commissioner of School Buildings for the St. Louis Board of Education finally became reality in Wyman School, the first example of the E ("Open")-Plan Elementary School property type (see "St. Louis, Missouri, Public Schools of William B. Ittner" MPS).

NARRATIVE: In November 1900, the building permit for the Wyman School was issued. Adam Bauer, a member of the Master Builders' Association, contracted to build Wyman School, budgeted at \$126,348. About 590 students attend grades kindergarten through five at the school. The school was named for educator Edward Wyman (1815-88).

The floorplan of Wyman School forms an extended E shape. A long center block parallels the street, flanked by perpendicular wings that extend both in front of the block and behind it. The one-story rear kindergarten of Ittner's earlier H-plan schools is expanded here to a full two-story wing. Like the Eugene Field School, the critical interior element of this plan is that the corridors have classrooms along only one side (Figure 1). Windowed corridors are much more extensive in this plan than the earlier school, however. Diffused sunlight enters classrooms from the corridor side, providing students with a more even light. Those classrooms not receiving direct natural light from at least two directions are thereby prevented from being too dimly lit for half a day (in this case, the afternoon). Wyman was Ittner's watershed school; virtually all the elementary schools he subsequently designed for St. Louis feature this plan or a slight variation of it.

The Tudor Revival style known as Jacobethan made its Ittner debut in Wyman School. Its curvilinear entrance gable, crenelated towers and polychrome brickwork exemplify the type of detailing subsequently found in the architect's school buildings. Ittner chose the Jacobethan style as one well-suited to convey both a sense of beauty and of the permanence befitting a public institution. His picturesque, stone-trimmed designs hereafter became familiar sights amid stolid St. Louis neighborhoods. The school is in very good condition.

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Ittner's feeling that schools are enhanced by purposefully landscaped grounds found its first real showcase in the Wyman School grounds. Built above grade, the school looks out over a gently terraced lawn shaded by deciduous trees. Shrubbery softens the white stone foundation. An iron fence and a long flight of steps flanked by short walls add formal definition to the grounds. By far the most space devoted strictly to lawn to date, the grounds proclaim the importance of the school to the passerby and, most significantly, to its students.

The level of integrity of Wyman School's landscaping is high. Ittner's saplings are mature trees now; some have died in the course of ninety years, but many remain. Smaller plants, such as evergreens and deciduous hedges, are present and well-maintained; they convey Ittner's intentions although it is not possible to determine whether they are really the original plants. The lawn itself has not been altered and is well-tended; the overall effect is doubtless the one intended by the architect.

Wyman School has been in continuous operation as an elementary school since its opening, suffering few alterations and maintaining a high degree of integrity.

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Edward Wyman School

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"The Edward Wyman School Building," The Inland Architect and News Record,
vol. 46 (December 1905).

"Facts Concerning One Hundred Years of Progress in the Public Schools of St.
Louis," Public School Messenger 35. St. Louis: St. Louis Board of
Education, 1938.

Ittner, Marie Anderson. Footprints. St. Louis: John S. Swift, 1955.

_____. "William B. Ittner: His Service to American School
Architecture," American School Board Journal (January 1941)>

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The following information is the same for all photographs:

1. Edward Wyman School
1547 South Teresa
2. St. Louis [Independent City], MO
3. Cynthia Longwisch
4. April 1990
5. Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc.
7th floor, 917 Locust
St. Louis, MO 63101

Photograph #1: Primary elevation; camera facing southwest

Photograph #2: Side and rear elevations; camera facing northeast

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Verbal Boundary Description: The Edward Wyman School is located at 1547 South Teresa and occupies a lot covering approximately half of City Block 1280 as follows: beginning at the point of intersection of the south property line of 1531 South Teresa Avenue and the west right-of-way of South Teresa Avenue, proceed westwardly along said property line to its point of intersection with the right-of-way of Carr Lane Avenue; then proceed south approximately 275'; then proceed eastwardly along the property line of 1547 South Teresa to the intersection with the right-of-way of South Teresa Avenue; then proceed north along the right-of-way of South Teresa Avenue to the south property line of 1531 South Teresa Avenue, the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: The boundaries described above encompass that portion of the city block which has been historically associated with the property.



90°15' 38°37'30" N
 11 MI. TO INTERSTATE 270
 1:10,000 FEET (MO.)
 TIMES BEACH 19 MI.



ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
 PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 OF WILLIAM B. ITNER
 Edward Wymms School
 1547 S. Teasara
 St. Louis, Mo
 ZONE 15
 EASTING: 740580
 NORTHING: 4277920

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF MISSOURI
 GEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND

791 III NE
 (CLAYTON)

Photographs were renumbered to #1 and #2 on the Ittner Schools nominations prior to sending to Washington, D.C. Copies of photographs sent to Washington, D.C are filed behind the nomination in front of HPP's set of photographs.



#10 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF WILLIAM B. JTTNER
EDWARD WYMAN SCHOOL, 1647 SOUTH TERESA, ST. LOUIS, MO
PRIMARY ELEVATION; CAMERA FACING SOUTHWEST



ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF WILLIAM B. ITTNER
EDWARD WYMAN SCHOOL, 1547 SOUTH TERESA, ST. LOUIS, MO
SIDE/ REAR ELEVATIONS; CAMERA FACING NORTHEAST

#11