

TRENTON'S JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS

Junior No. 1

800 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard (Princeton Avenue)



- First Junior High School built in the Eastern US
- Designed by Architect William A. Poland, the school is of Gothic design
- Opened in 1916 and built for 1,200 junior high students
- The school admitted African-American students until the New Lincoln School for African-Americans opened in 1924
- Addition designed by Samuel Mountford added in 1965, including a swimming pool and new cafeteria
- Renamed as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School in 1990
- Closed at the end of the 2005-2006 school year
- Note that the nearby Jefferson School was demolished and a new school was built on the site and is called the Dr. MLK Jr. Elementary School
- On May 15, 1923 a massive three-alarm fire collapsed roofs and floors of the abandoned school
- The school building is determined unsavable and in August 2024 it is demolished

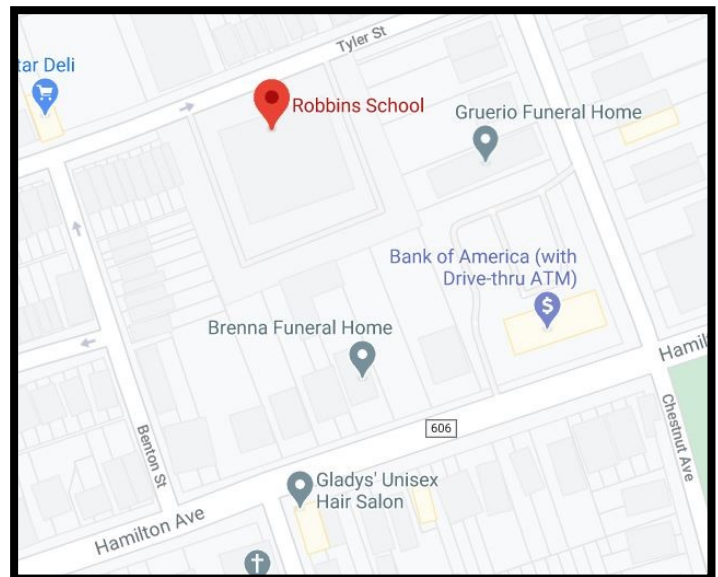
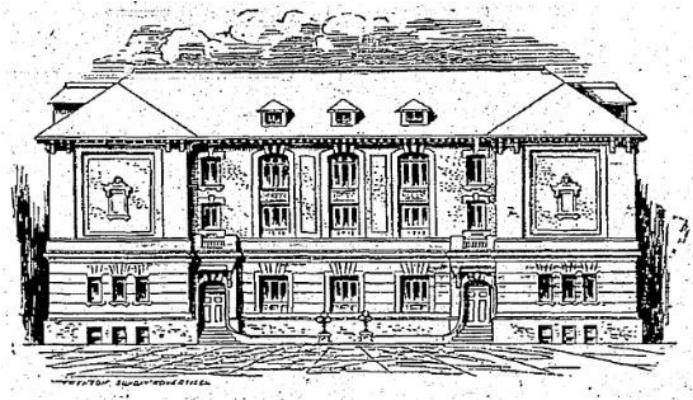


Junior No. 2

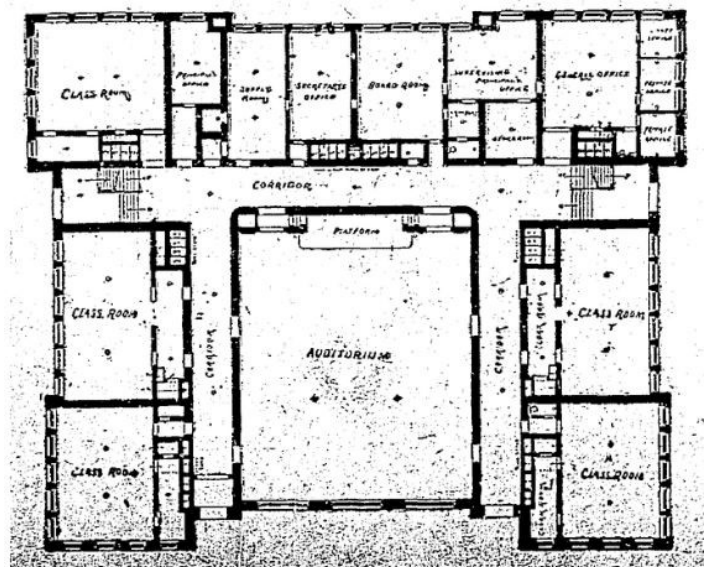
The city had proposed in 1914 to delay building a new high school until after all the new junior high schools were built. The city purchases for \$50,000 the Van Syckly property at Greenwood and Chestnut Avenues for the construction of the second junior high school. After the first junior high school opened in 1916, construction on the second junior high school should have started in the Spring of 1917. However, the school board felt pressure from increased teacher's salaries and the increase of the cost of materials. The school board decided that 1917 was not the year to start building a new school and looked at the utilization of the Carroll Robbins School instead.

Carroll Robbins School

283 Tyler Street



- Designed by Architect Harry A. Hill
- Opened in 1908 and built for 1,120 students, it was larger than the nearby high school and it was the first school building in Trenton to contain a gymnasium for the students
- The building was built as an the annex for the nearby Trenton High School accommodating the 9th grade class
- The building also housed the administration of the Trenton School Board, storage for the school board and the Carroll Robbins Training School for Teachers to which training was transferred from the Hewitt Training School
- Trenton's training school was abolished in 1917
- The building was used as Junior No. 2 from 1917-1925
- In 1926 the former Junior No. 2 students are sent to the newly opened Junior No. 4
- In 1926 the building is used for Hamilton School's elementary students and the overflow classes from the nearby high school
- Today the building continues as Robbins elementary school



New Junior Two

301 Gladstone Avenue



- Designed by Architects P. L. Fowler Co and Louis S. Kaplan, the school is of Art Deco design
- Opened in 1940 and contained both junior high and elementary school students
- Hedgepeth and Williams v. Board of Education Case - a decision in the 1944 NJ Supreme Court brought by two mothers who sued the school board over racial discrimination when their children could not attend the neighborhood all white Junior No. 2 school, and won (see article on Desegregation of Trenton Schools)
- The elementary school section was renamed as Paul Robeson Elementary School in 1977
- The school was named Hedgepeth-Williams Middle School in 1991 (see article on the Desegregation of Trenton's schools)



Junior No. 3

1001 West State Street

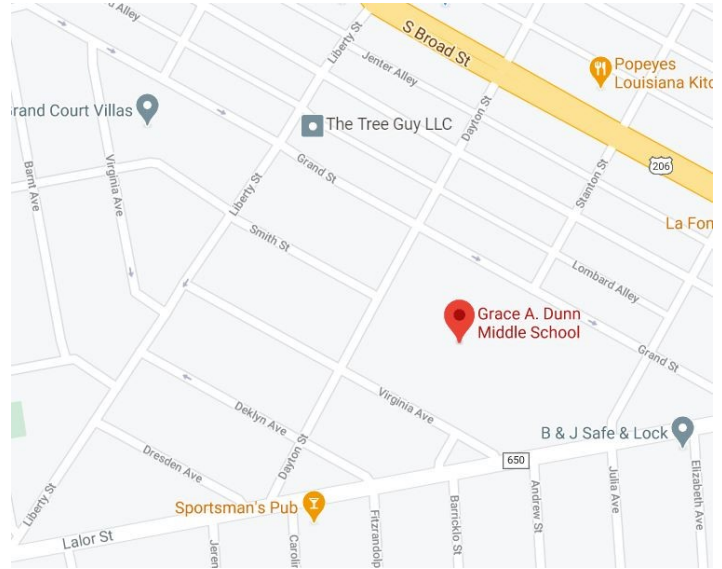


- Designed by Architect Ernest K. Sibley and Associate Architect J. Osborne Hunt, the school is of Colonial design
- Opened in December, 1924 and built for 1,800 students (1,400 junior high students and 400 elementary students)
- Note that from September 1, 1924 to December 9, 1924 its 1,665 junior high school students attended morning sessions at Junior No. 1, while 1,145 Junior No. 1 students attended afternoon sessions. During that time, its 150 elementary students attended Cadwalader School.
- Renamed as Arthur Holland Middle School in 1990, Trenton High School West, Trenton 9th Grade Academy.
- The 9th Grade Academy has been relocated to 500 Perry Street, the former building of the Trenton Times.
- The building stood vacant from 2019 until 2022 when it opened again as the Arthur Holland Middle School and underwent extensive renovations.



Junior No. 4

401 Dayton Street

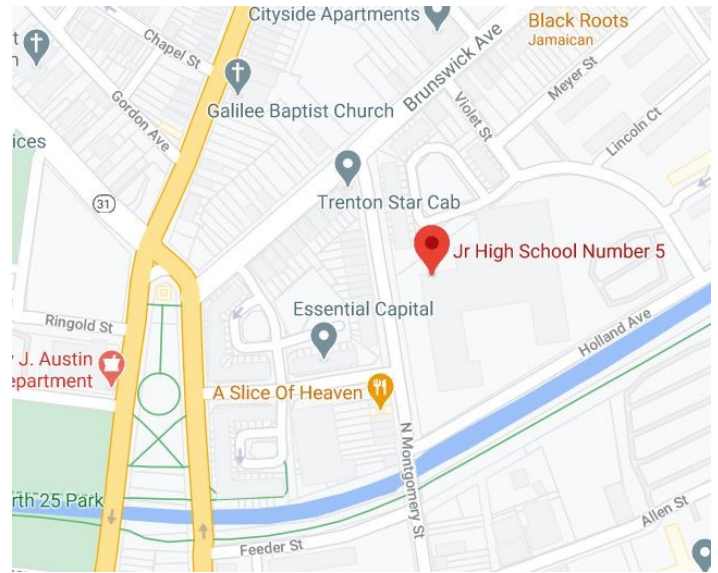


- Designed by Architect Ernest K. Sibley and Associate Architect William A. Klemman, the school was of English Tudor design
- William A. Poland is the Supervising Architect during the school's construction
- Opened in 1926 and built for 2,000 junior high students, the largest of the city's junior schools
- Renamed as Grace A. Dunn Junior High School in 1977



Junior No. 5

400 North Montgomery Street



- Designed by Consulting Architect Ernest Sibley and Associate Architects William Slack and Son, the school was of Italian Renaissance design
- Opened in 1924 and built for 1,200 students, it contained both junior high and elementary students
- The school was the second of Trenton's new junior high schools to be built
- When it was built the school was named the New Lincoln School and the school was used exclusively for Trenton's colored students
- The school was renamed Junior No. 5 in 1945 when Trenton's schools were desegregated and opens in 1946 with both white and colored students (see article on the Desegregation of Trenton's Schools)
- The elementary school was renamed the Luis Munoz-Rivera Elementary School in 1977, and today the building is known as the Luis Munoz Rivera Community Middle School



TRENTON COLLEGE CLUB FACT FINDING COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY AND SCHOOL SYSTEMS

CONTENTS

The University	1
The Trenton Free Public Library System	2
Statistics from the Annual Report	3
Break-up City appropriations and bond circulation	4
The Trenton Public School System	5
Relation of government to schools	6
City	7
State	8
The Curriculum	9
Special classes	10
Coordinators activities	11
Teachers	12
Physical plant and maintenance	13
Recommendations for the 1937 budget	14
Future recommendations	15
Scope of the school system	1-22

REPORT
NOVEMBER 10, 1936

Trenton School Board Abolishes Junior High Schools

April 27, 1990

Under Superintendent Crosby Copeland, Jr. all junior highs schools in the city were abolished in favor of middle schools. Middle schools (grades 6th, 7th and 8th) were touted by the district officials as a way to improved overall instruction and, particularly, basic skills instruction.

Research showed that students perform better in middle schools — where they are taught by one primary teacher and visiting specialists — than in junior high schools, where they switch classes throughout the day and are taught by several teachers.

The reorganization would cause the city's junior high schools to be renamed middle schools and for Junior High School Number 3 to be renamed Holland Middle School, after the late Mayor Arthur J. Holland.

A total of 401 students would attend Middle School No. 1; 431 will be in Middle School No. 2; 440 will be in Holland Middle School (Junior Number 3); and 525 students will attend Dunn Middle School (Junior Number 4). Junior high school students will no longer attend Junior Number 5.

Under the plan, 2,696 students would be enrolled in Trenton High School in the fall of 1990. The previous year there were 1,990 students enrolled in the 10th through 12th grades.

In 2020 the following are middle schools: Grace A. Dunn (No. 4), Hedgepeth-Williams (No. 2), Joyce Kilmer, and the Louis Munoz-Rivera (No. 5). Ninth grade is at the Ninth Grade Academy.



6TH GRADE

7TH GRADE

8TH GRADE