

*Dallas Landmark Commission
Landmark Nomination Form*

1. Name

historic: Dallas High School
and/or common: Main High School, Bryan Street High School, Dallas Technical High School, Crozier Tech, Business and Management Magnet Center
date: 1907

2. Location

address: 2218 Bryan Street
location/neighborhood: CBD

block: Part of 259 and 264. All of A/312
tract size: 5.4 Acres

3. Current Zoning

current zoning: CA-1(A)-SP

4. Classification

<i>Category</i>	<i>Ownership</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Present Use</i>	<u>_____</u> museum
<u><i>X</i></u> district	<u>_____</u> public	<u>_____</u> occupied	<u>_____</u> agricultural	<u>_____</u> park
<u>_____</u> building(s)	<u><i>X</i></u> private	<u><i>X</i></u> unoccupied	<u>_____</u> commercial	<u>_____</u> residence
<u>_____</u> structure	<u>_____</u> both	<u>_____</u> work in progress	<u>_____</u> educational	<u>_____</u> religious
<u>_____</u> site	Public	Accessibility	<u>_____</u> entertainment	<u>_____</u> scientific
<u>_____</u> object	Acquisition	<u><i>X</i></u> yes:restricted	<u>_____</u> government	<u>_____</u> transportation
	<u>_____</u> in progress	<u>_____</u> yes:unrestricted	<u>_____</u> industrial	<u>_____</u> other, specify
	<u>_____</u> being considered	<u>_____</u> no	<u>_____</u> military	<u><i>X</i></u> vacant

5. Ownership

Current Owner: Robert Yu
Contact: William Cothrum, Master Plan
Phone (214) 761-9197
Address: 500 S. Ervay Street Suite 112-B City: Dallas State: TX. Zip: 75201

6. Form Preparation

Date: 10/12/99
Name & Title: Compiled from the National Register Nomination

Organization: Crozier Tech Alumni

12. Physical Description

Condition, check one:

excellent

good

fair

deteriorated

ruins

unexposed

unaltered

altered

Check one:

original site

moved (date _____)

Describe present and original (if known) physical appearance. Include style(s) of architecture, current condition and relationship to surrounding fabric (structures, objects, etc).elaborate on pertinent materials used and style(s) of architectural detailing, embellishments and site details.

The Dallas High School Historic District originally consisted of five freestanding buildings, some attached to allow internal circulation, on approximately 5.4 acres (see site plan). The original three-and-one-half-story Classical Revival Auditorium and Classroom Building (1907) with addition (1911) faces Bryan Street at the northwest corner of the complex. Slightly east and adjoined by a covered walkway, L shaped Art and Science Building (1941) faces Bryan Street on the northeast corner. Immediately east is a three-story rectilinear shaped Classroom Building (1930) with Art Deco details. All three buildings are of buff brick. At the rear (south), the Girl's Gymnasium and Manual Training Building (1919-1920), constructed of pink brick, was demolished in 1999 after a fire destroyed the building. The last building is a two-story, almost windowless, Boys' Gymnasium and Dressing Room (1954) just west of the 1919-1920 building and south of the original 1907 building. Originally names the Dallas High School in 1907, the complex was renamed the Norman Robert Crozier Technical High School in 1941. The five-building district sits on approximately 5.4 acres just inside the area defined as the central core, within the downtown loop of highways, and just west of Central Expressway (Hwy . 75) in the northeastern quadrant. The building fronts Bryan Street in an area of high-rise, contemporary office and hotel facilities. The complex of school buildings provides a striking visual contrast to the surrounding steel, glass and concrete construction that surround and envelop the site. All of the buildings are of buff brick, with structural concrete support, except for the 1919-20 building which is the only one of pink brick. Landscaping features remain on the site including mature trees, evergreen hedges, and grassy lawns A number of covered walkways connect the various buildings, but most are not historic. Brick walls along Bryan Street complement the buildings and connect the building to the site. Auditorium and Classroom Building (1907)

The three-and-one-half-story Classical Revival Auditorium and Classroom Building dates from 1907.

It is largely intact except for a rear six room addition (1911) that is similar in details, materials, and proportion to the original). The building covers a full basement and rises three full floors above grade. The principal facade is noted by its raised entry featuring four large columns of Tucson order flanking triple entry doors. A raised cornice featuring an educational theme on the front facade is repeated on both the east and west facades of the building. Windows are 9/1, all ground level (basement) openings have been replaced by single glass smoked pane. Additional entry is gained from the south (three doors) and east and west facades. Single light standards with globes flank the entryway to the 1907 building and are original to the site. The building was designed by the local firm of Lang and Witchell and constructed by Chrisman and Nesbit. The 1907 building contains a two-story central auditorium with classrooms surrounding. The auditorium is modified with lower

section walls removed and ceilings dropped. Despite the alterations, Corinthian capitals on the pilasters are still visible above the dropped ceilings. A 12.5 foot wide corridor encircles the auditorium providing access to classrooms

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on all floor levels. Windows open from the corridor to the auditorium. Many of the classrooms on the perimeter have built-in accessories, including custom chalkboards and bookcases. The basement includes service facilities, cafeteria, custodial areas and a few additional classrooms. One unique feature of this building is the two small brick vent houses on each side, apparently used for air intake when the boilers were coal fed. The two lids of the coal chute are located in the sidewalk at the bottom of the entrance steps.

Girls' Gymnasium and Manual Training Building (1919 -1920). This structure was demolished in 1999 after severe fire damage. The two-story Girls' Gymnasium and Manual Training Building (1919-1920) was the second building in the complex. It was east of the 1907 building in the northeast section of the acreage. Also designed by Lang and Witchell, as a utilitarian building of plain red/pink brick walls with triple casement windows containing vertical panes, set in groups of three near ground level and smaller matching sets above. The two-story principal space contained the gymnasium with a large open space and seating balconies are on one side and end. Wooden floors were placed directly on the soil. Some of the original wall mounted exercise equipment remained on one of the interior walls. The remainder of the building consisted of a 12 foot wide hall dividing it from the gymnasium area and offices, dressing areas, and shop classrooms on the south end. The shop classrooms provided open space for various equipment with some concrete mounting pads still present prior to the fire. In one area of the building was the modified remains of one of the Buell Lumber Company structures that came with the land purchase in 1928.

Classroom Building (1930) Designed by Greene, LaRoche, and Dahl, the three story Classroom Building (1930) reflects an Art Deco influence at the north end of the acreage. The building features casement windows with six center panes flanked by two smaller panes on the top and bottom. A horizontal brick zig zag pattern decorates the building above and between the windows on the third floor and between the second and third floor windows on all facades except the south. Brick denticulation between first and second floors and brick striping on the first floor level provide additional detailing. The cornice line is capped with tile. The 1930 classroom building is largely organized around a central hallway on each floor. The east side of the first floor has large shop classrooms with skylights while the west side has standard classrooms arrangements. The second floor contains laboratories and classrooms with the home economic (domestic science) facilities on the east side. The home economic facilities were designed with the appearance of the home environment including a large amber colored leaded glass window in the hall wall of the dining room area. The third floor contains two drafting rooms with a blueprint room between them on the west side, and standard classrooms on the opposite side. The basement rifle shooting range has wooded ceilings bames for shooting protection. Prior to 1975 there were seven framed painted murals in the 1930 building and the 1941 building . Only two have survived, one in each building. The mural in the 1930 building is an eight panel painting depicting the development of the pottery industry . This

classroom may have been principally used for teaching pottery.

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Arts and Science Building (1941). The 1941 three-story Arts and Science Building is a large L-shaped building facing Bryan Street. The building joins the 1930 building on its north end thereby forming a courtyard. Also designed by LaRoche and Dahl, following Greene's death in 1932, it closely resembles the 1930 building. A few architectural elements are different. Entryways are more defined but continue the Art Deco influence with curved concrete canopy overhangs. Over detailing is in keeping with the 1930 building and include the denticulation and tile cornice capping. A horizontal brick zig zag pattern continues above and between the windows on the third floor and between the second and third floor windows on the east facade. Brick denticulation between first and second floors and brick striping on the first floor level complete the ornamentation. Detailing is not included on the south facade (courtyard side) of the 1941 building.

The cornice line, however, is capped with tile. The principal wing on the Bryan Street side features classrooms only on the street side. The first floor also includes offices while the library is on the second floor and classrooms on the third. The remaining wing also includes classrooms as well as restrooms and stairs on the courtyard side. The opposite side of the corridor on the first floor contains classrooms while the second and third floors offer an assortment of classrooms. The first floor wall of the 1941 building has a pea green tile wainscoting in the halls). All restrooms have tile floors with walls and stall of marble paneling. The one remaining mural in this building consists of six panels and depicts the evolution of Texas history.

Boys' Gymnasium and Dressing Room (1954) The one to two-story Boys' Gymnasium and Dressing Room was built in 1954, and remodeled on the interior in 1988-1989. The building is quite modest, thus following its primarily utilitarian use as a gymnasium. Although few windows are present, the existing ones are large metal casement windows set either individually or in groups of three. The architect and builder of this building are unknown. The Boys' Gymnasium was the last of the complex to be built. Its interior spaces were modified in 1988-1989 with retractable bleachers and updating of other gymnasium equipment. Despite these alterations, the building remains much as it did in 1954. With the opening of this building, the Dallas High School complex completed the last phase of development for secondary education on this site. All later development would be away from the central business district in post-World War II subdivisions.

13. Historical Significance

Statement of historical and cultural significance. Include: cultural influences, special events and important personages, influences on neighborhood, on the city, etc.

The Dallas High School, later known as Nathan Robert Crozier Technical High School, complex at Bryan and Pearl Street is one of the most prominent landmarks in the city. The Auditorium and Classroom Building opened on this site in 1908 replacing a late 19th century buildings. From 1907 to 1954, the period of significance, the Dallas Independent School District added four more buildings on the site and operated under seven different names. The Dallas High School complex meets Criterion A in the area of Education at the local level as one of the oldest intact educational facilities in Dallas. This historic district constituents the only intact complex that reflect the evolution of vocational training theories and practice at the secondary level in Dallas. Dallas High School complex are some of the oldest institutional buildings on the local school district property roles and remained in continuous use until September 1995. All five buildings are contributing to the site.

Three Dallas men, Colonel Leonidas M. Martin, Dr. Emanuel M. Tillman, and Richard D. Coughanour, met in the law office of Mr. Coughanour on June 16, 1884, to hire a full-time superintendent of schools for the Dallas school system. They initiated the directive that evolved into today's Dallas Independent School District and began to address the lack of an adequate educational system and facilities in the city of Dallas. As a result of their efforts, the first high school classes in Dallas were held in 1884 on Bryan Street. Although no longer extant, the original building had served as an elementary school and one of the first school buildings in the ward. The original property is adjacent to the site being nominated. The 1884 high school classes were the beginning of secondary education along Bryan Street between Pearl and Hawkins.

Shortly after the turn of the century, administrators of the Dallas Independent School District began to plan a new complex for high school classes on Bryan Street. The new building was designed by the Dallas firm of Lang and Witchell Architects. The building contained most of the vocational programs already taught at the school except for the domestic arts and drawing class, first introduced in 1905, that were held in the old fire station adjacent to the school. Dr. Schiebel described the original 1907 Classical Revival building in his book *Education in Dallas*: "The new building was equipped with an auditorium seating 1200 students, five manual training shops, one domestic science room and one sewing room, a large lunchroom in the basement, offices for the superintendent and principal and, on the third floor, a large "lantern room," quite likely the beginning of the visual aid program in the Dallas schools." Also rooms for chemistry, physics, and biology were specified. "The school had a small library as early as 1886 located in the principal's office, this new building had a room with two doors on the second floor above the front entrance designated as a school library. This beautiful new 60 room brick school was open for classes September 1908."

The building was adequate for school needs until 1911, when space requirements necessitated the addition of six new classrooms to the south wing on the Live Oak Street side. The addition was also by the firm of Lang and Witchell, who in 1919, designed the Girls' Gymnasium and Manual Training Building. The large population growth of Dallas from 1910 to 1930 continued to demand additional classroom space. An additional five more high schools were built in Dallas, and a 1930 addition was added to the Dallas High School site. The school also was renamed Dallas Technical High School.

The new Art Deco style building had been authorized in 1928, along what is now north Central Expressway, but was not completed until 1930. This latest addition allowed expanded facilities in home economics, including a cottage apartment on the second floor, nicely equipped with the modern decor of the day; electric shop; six rooms were assigned to art: two for commercial art, one for etching, and one for sculpture and life drawing, and two for art pottery. It was designed by the firm of Greene, LaRoche and Dahl.

In 1941, the Arts and Science Building was added to the school site adjacent the 1930 building. This three-story Art Deco style building also was designed by the firm of LaRoche and Dahl architects. The new building gave additional space and a room for finished art products to be displayed.

The school had an excellent academic program from the beginning. The 1907 building provided for a continuation of many programs begun earlier. These included a department of music and manual arts course for both boys and girls (1885), industrial drawing (1887), and stenography and typewriting (1895). The 1907 building allowed additional training in wood shop, machine shop, pattern making, joinery and turning shop. In 1915 a Cadet Corps was organized, the first ROTC unit. The school also offered music classes as early as 1909. In 1909 architectural blueprint reading and mathematics for building trades were authorized. In 1912 a commercial course for boys consisting of bookkeeping, commercial law, geography, stenography and typewriting was added. Even though music had been taught, in 1931 the school's first full time music director hired. Cosmetology was established for girls in 1942 supported by a state certificate.

An important operation of the school was the night school. Although underway since 1892, it closed shortly after the death of the first teacher. In 1900 it reopened and operated there until recent years. In 1933, during the Depression, vocational classes were offered at Dallas Technical High School under state and federal financial subsidy. Adults who were unemployed and who presented prospect for training or retraining were served. Industrial cooperative training and distributive education were added to the vocational program in 1937, also in that year a course in television was authorized.

Early in World War II, classes were added to train personnel for employment in the war plants, this was in a separate vocational building on Ross Avenue. With the return of veterans from World War II special classes were set up in the school with some 2000 men and women receiving their diplomas.

In the post World War II years, Dallas' school- age population grew annually as new housing developments spread in all directions. The Dallas Independent School District responded by building 97 new schools between 1946 and 1966. Hundreds of additions were added as well to existing school facilities. The opening of Thomas Jefferson High School in 1956 in north Dallas and construction of three more high schools in the same year made the 1956-57 school year the "catch up year" for the DISD building program.

At Dallas High School, the Boys' Gymnasium and Dressing Room became the last addition to its facilities when completed in 1954. This building reflected both the response to the upgrading of facilities across the district and the change in physical education instruction after the 1940s that called for separate boys and girls gyms and dressing rooms.

Dr. Norman Robert Crozier was one of two significant principals during the school's history. He served as principal of the school, then know as Central High School from 1914-1919 when he was elected assistant superintendent and then superintendent of schools in 1924. He remained superintendent until his death in 1940. These are the years of much improvement to the school. He was instrumental in promoting and developing the vocational area of the school . The other principal of special note is Dr. Walter John Edward Schiebel who served the school from 1932 until his retirement in 1965. Dr. Schiebel was instrumental in carrying through the concept of the vocational program after its formation and directing the schools academic and vocational program to its very high level of success. Dr. Schiebel, long time administrator for DISD, felt that Dallas High School adjusted to the ever changing needs of the community.

At the time of its construction in 1907, the curriculum offered standard course-work but added vocational elements. When the neighborhood demographics changed, the school expanded vocational and skill oriented training that attracted students from across the school district. By the late 1920s students competed to attend Dallas High School with its "special classes." As the composition of the neighborhood changed again, DISD adjusted the curricula to include remedial classes in general subjects and expanded vocational training. The willingness to adjust to the community's needs is the reason for the extended use of these facilities and the strong community associations with the complex.

The last and most recent evolution of education on this site was its conversion by the Dallas Independent School District (DISD) to use as a magnet school. In 1975 DISD converted the school into the Business and Management Magnet Center. This center was closed in September 1995, and moved to the new Townview Magnet Center in Oak Cliff.

The future of the site is now an undetermined fact, but it continues to be an asset to the community. The school through the years has operated under seven names: Central High School, 1884; Dallas High School (The name embossed over the entrance doors of the 1907-08 building), 1908; Main High School, 1916; Bryan Street High School, 1917; Dallas Technical High School, 1928; Norman Robert Crozier Technical High School, 1942; and last, the Business and Management Magnet Center, 1975.

In personal interviews with ex-students, the one remark made most often is: "The school trained me for my life's work. I owe my livelihood to the training I received as a student there." Many ex-students who did not have the opportunity to attend college chose to attend the school to receive training in a skill that they could use upon graduation. This has to be the true measure of the schools success. Dallas High School, despite its long use and updating, retains much of the original

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educational complex atmosphere familiar to generations of students. Exterior views are remarkably intact and well preserved for a collection of buildings of this age and intensive use. Some interior portions have been altered including much of the grander spaces of the original auditorium, but much of the classroom and laboratory areas are true to their respective periods of construction. Considerable materials and detailing including mosaic tile, marble, built in items, ceiling fans hangers and laboratory work stations are still in place.

Dallas High School represents one of the few remaining nonresidential links to Dallas' past. Its period of service spans most of the 20th century and unifies the generation that gave their lives in the trenches of France, with the arrival of Fascism and the Atomic Era to those that witnessed Korea, the journey to the Moon, Vietnam and the Computer age. The visual contribution to the contemporary, downtown streetscape with its mass of offices, hotel and high rise, provide a dramatic recall to a past in Dallas, when life (and values) were far different to that of the present era.

14. Bibliography

Composed from the National Register of Historic Places Nomination produced by the Crozier Tech. Alumni, Delora Lewis historian

15. Attachments

- | | |
|---|---|
| <i>District or Site Map</i> | <i>___Additional descriptive material</i> |
| <i>Site Plan</i> | <i>___Footnotes</i> |
| <i>___Photos (historic & current)</i> | <i>___Other: _____</i> |

16. Inventory of Structures-Historic District Only (Page ___ of ___)

Please complete this form for each structure in a proposed historic district

a. Location and Name

b. Development History

Original owner: _____

Architect/builder: _____

Construction/alteration dates: _____

c. Architectural Significance

Dominant style: _____

Condition: _____

Alterations: _____

d. Category

<i>Contributing _____ excellent example of an architectural style that is typical of or integral to the district; retaining essential integrity of design</i>	<i>Compatible _____ supportive of the district in age, style and massing but is not representative of the significant style, period and detailing, or area of significance typical of the district</i>	<i>Non-contributing _____ intrusive; detracts form the character of the district</i>
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e. Statement of Significance

Designation Merit

- A. *Character, interest or value as* X
part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the City of Dallas, State of Texas or the United States.
- B. *Location as the site of a significant historical event.* —
- C. *Identification with a person or persons who significantly* X
contributed to the culture and development of the city.
- D. *Exemplification of the cultural, economic, social or historical heritage of the city.* X
- E. *Portrayal of the environment of a group of people in an era of history characterized by a* —
distinctive architectural style.
- F. *Embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style or specimen.* X
- G. *Identification as the work of an architect or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of the city.* X
- H. *Embodiment of elements of* —
architectural design, detail, material or craftsmanship which represent a significant architectural innovation.
- I. *Relationship to other distinctive buildings, sites or areas which are* —
eligible for preservation according to a plan based on historic, cultural or architectural motif.

Unique location of singular physical characteristics X
representing an established and familiar feature of a neighborhood, community or the city.
- J. *Archaeological value in that it*
has produced or can be expected —
to produce data affecting theories or historic or prehistoric value.
- K. *Value as an aspect of community sentiment of public pride.* X
- L. *Value as an aspect of community sentiment of public pride.* X
