

ENDANGERED CINCINNATI

NO SCHOOL LEFT BEHIND?

Central Fairmount School

2475 White Street
South Fairmount
1906
Edward H. Dornette, architect

One of the most picturesque designs of Edward H. Dornette, "official" CPS architect of the 1900s, Central Fairmount School is beautifully sited on the slope of a valley. Its Jacobean Revival brickwork includes curvaceous "Flemish" gables and a central belfry. Its exceptional exterior and interior features include rich stone ornamentation, leaded glass windows and Rookwood tiles.

Hyde Park School

Edwards Road and Observatory Avenue
1901
Dornette and Shepherd, architects

Hyde Park School was built in 1901 to serve its growing suburban community. Edward H. Dornette and Gordon Sheppard designed the Romanesque Revival landmark, which features two tall turrets covered in spiraling tiles, a Flemish dormer and machicolated cornice. In 1927 the building was expanded with a Colonial Revival style rear addition designed by Tietig & Lee.

School for the Creative and Performing Arts

(former Woodward High School)
Northeast corner Sycamore and Thirteenth Streets
1910
Gustave Drach, architect

The former Woodward High School, now the School for the Creative and Performing Arts, is a handsome Beaux-Arts Classical design with Arts & Crafts coloration. Boldly scaled detailing includes a heavily bracketed and dentiled cornice with gargoyles. The school was designed by architect Gustave W. Drach, a major turn-of-the-20th-century Cincinnati architect.

As Cincinnati's population declines, Cincinnati Public Schools' ambitious plan to build and renovate schools has been scaled back repeatedly. Originally proposed for renovation, several neighborhood schools, including Hyde Park and Central Fairmount, now face closure. With plans underway to build a new performing arts school, SCPA's future also is uncertain. To avoid competition from charter schools, the buildings will be shuttered or demolished unless creative new uses are found for them. Conservation Board.

