NPS Form 10-900
(3-82)

OMB No. 1024-0018
Exp. 10-31-84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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received

date entered

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Ridge Avenue Farmers' Market

and/or common

USE THIS COPY FOR DUPLICATING

2. Location

street & number 1810 Ridge Avenue ___ not for publication

city, town Philadelphia N/A vicinity of

state Pennsylvania code 042 county Philadelphia code 101

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	x occupied (partial use)	___ agriculture	___ museum
___ building(s)	x private	___ unoccupied	x commercial	___ park
x structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	n/a in process	x yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	n/a being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
		___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Rosen & Raiton Enterprises, Inc.

street & number 1810 Ridge Ave, P.O. Box 42577

city, town Philadelphia n/a vicinity of state Pennsylvania

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of Records & Deeds, Room 153, Philadelphia

street & number City Hall

city, town Philadelphia state PA 19107

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic American Building Survey has this property been determined eligible? xx yes ___ no

date PA No. 1737, 1970 - certified locally in 1968 ___ federal ___ state ___ county xx local

depository for survey records Philadelphia Historical Commission, Room 1313 City Hall Annex

city, town Philadelphia state Pennsylvania 19107

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	___ original site
___ good	___ ruins	___ altered	___ moved date N/A
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Ridge Avenue Farmers' Market is a commercial farmers' food and provisions market building, containing one story with basement storage areas. It is situated on a corner plot adjoining a small hotel and what was once a motion picture theater and several store front dwellings. The market is a dominant element in a neighborhood commercial shopping district. High Victorian Gothic in style with a basilica-type plan, the structure has an irregular rectangular shape, measuring 92 feet on the Ridge Avenue or main front, 262 feet on the Ginnodo Street side, with a three bay nave and one bay side aisles. The nave is covered with a high peaked wooden open truss roof with jerkin-head end gables. The aisles are roof shed style. A shed roof originally covered the sidewalk of the three accessible sides. The Ridge Avenue (front) and Leland Street (rear) shed roofs have been removed. The Ginnodo Street (accessible side) shed roof has been replaced with modern materials.

The Ridge Avenue facade sits on a rusticated brownstone base about 5 feet high. Each bay is defined by an arched recess in the brick wall, with Gothic-arch doorways in each recessed bay. Three alternating doors (center and side aisle doors) were bricked up in 1968 renovations. The remaining entrance doors have been replaced, also in 1968, with modern flush doors in poorly designed pseudo-colonial frames. All 5 original transom lights remain. Triple Gothic-arch windows are situated above the side aisle doors. These windows are joined by yellow sandstone miter-arch lintels and sloping yellow sandstone sills

The jerkin-head gables incorporate a large tri-part Gothic-arch window in which the original multi-light stationary sashes remain, although some groups of smaller panes have been replaced with larger panes of glass. These windows are finished with brick arches and yellow sandstone sills. Both the peaked roof of the nave and the shed roofs of the side aisles are supported on double brackets with plain square purlins and cross braces and turned decorative diagonal braces.

Various decorative effects have been achieved on the brick facade by use of black burnished brick and by manipulation of brickwork. These decorative details emphasize the lines of the windows and serve to create visual horizontals which offset the inherent verticality of the unusually steep gable. The use of the jerkin-head gables also aids in reducing this verticality, bringing the structure more into visual scale with its neighbors making a less ponderous and overwhelming statement in the streetscape.

The Ginnodo Street or northwest side facade is 17 bays long, each bay defined by a square-arched recess in the brick wall. The rusticated brownstone base extending across these side bays is only 1 course (about 15 inches) high with 5 feet high rusticated bases forming pier-like projections separating each bay. The first bay and all even-numbered bays also contain segmental pointed-arch clerestory type windows. All even-numbered bays also contain basement entrances with heavy brownstone lintels and iron horizontal bulkhead doors. Beginning with the third bay, all odd-numbered bays include entrance doors finished with Gothic arches. All Gothic-arch openings are finished with brick. Windows are finished with sloping yellow sandstone sills. Original entrance doors have been replaced, as on the Ridge Avenue front facade, with modern doors set in pseudo-colonial frames. Several original multi-paned windows and transom sashes remain, but most have been replaced with larger pane sashes. The decorative line of brickwork has been carried around from the front facade at window sill level.

The Leland Street or rear facade, follows the general lines of the Ridge Avenue front facade, but the smaller windows have been omitted and decorative brickwork has been minimize This facade includes the large tri-part Gothic window in the jerkin-head gable-walls and 5 entrance doorways, several of which have been bricked up. The side aisle bargeboards are decorated with simple quatra-foil cutouts.

The tall roof of the nave is broken by 4 long shed dormers which rise from the juncture of the nave and side aisle roofs. Each dormer consists of 3 sets of triple double-hung 12/12 window sashes. Portions of the original slate roof, especially over the side aisles, have been patched or replaced with either asphalt shingle or felt roofing materials. Portions of the original snow guards on the main roof remain. A ball-type lightning arrestor at the center of the roof peak is probably original to the structure.

The interior of the market includes wooden truss work supporting the tall jerkin-head gables which spring from cast iron piers where the gable joins the side aisles.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
X 1800–1899	X commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
X 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates 1875 **Builder/Architect** Davis E. Supplee

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Ridge Avenue Farmers' Market is an imposing and high styled High Victorian Gothic style building. It is possibly the only remaining structure designed by Davis E. Supplee, a little known Philadelphia architect whose works have been confused with those of Frank Furness. The market was once a focal point of an active commercial center in its neighborhood

The Ridge Avenue Farmers' Market was built 1875 and immediately became a central element in the North Philadelphia commercial shopping area. Located in what was essentially a working class neighborhood, the market is within a short distance of the once prestigeous Girard Avenue and is only several blocks away from North Broad Street. Providing goods for a wide range of patrons, the market became a bustling commercial center in the late nineteenth century.

At the time of its construction the Ridge Avenue Market replaced an older market house/public meeting hall several blocks away. Enhancing the new market was a hotel and stable that were built adjacent to the market. The hotel was used by farmers coming to Philadelphia from Lancaster and Lebanon Counties. As a result, the Ridge Avenue Market offered a large quantity and wide variety of farm products. Throughout the late nineteenth century and well into the twentieth century the facility remained an important part of the neighborhood.

Built in the High Victorian Gothic style, the market incorporates elements that are generally associated with ecclesiastical architecture. Most noteably the structure has a basilica type plan, a high pitched open truss roof and large Gothic style windows at the gable ends. The jerkin-head end gables are particularly interesting because of their use on such a large scale. Located amid two story, three bay residences, the market visually dominates its neighborhood.

The Market was designed by Davis E. Supplee. Born in the late 1840's, Supplee was the son of a Philadelphia carpenter. Though little is known about Supplee's training drawings attributed to him indicate that he may have studied in the office of a prominent late nineteenth century architect. Aside from the Ridge Avenue building only two other structures in the city can definately be created to Supplee. Both of the buildings, the Second Presbyterian Church of Mantua and the old Liberty Title and Trust Building, were designed in the High Victorian Gothic style and both were demolished during the twentieth century.

Though the structure has not operated as a market for over a decade, the building reflects its earlier function and its prominence in the community.

9. Major Bibliographical References

1. 1875 Deeds GWR 26 page 197 and FTW 199 page 200, Phila. Recorder of Deeds, 153 City H
2. Ashmead Scrapebooks Col. 32 pp. 106-9, Penn. Hist. Society.
3. Philadelphia Preserved, ed. R. Webster, Phila. 1976, Temple Univ. Press

CONT. on attachment

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 0.575

Quadrangle name Philadelphia

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	18	485800	442440
B			
C			
D			
E			
F			
G			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification The boundary of the Ridge Avenue Farmers' Market begins at the inside curb of the intersection at Ginnods Street and Ridge Avenue and proceeds northwest to the intersection with Leland; then, southwest along Leland to the Ridge Avenue Farmers' Market property line; then, southeast along the property line to

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
state	N/A	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mr. Gil Gilbert / Paul Doutrich

organization Experience Research Service/ BHP date November 18, 1983

street & number 1827 Spruce Street / Box 1026 telephone (215) 735-2527

city or town Philadelphia / Harrisburg state PA 19103

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state ___ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title LARRY E. Tise State Historic Preservation Officer date

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

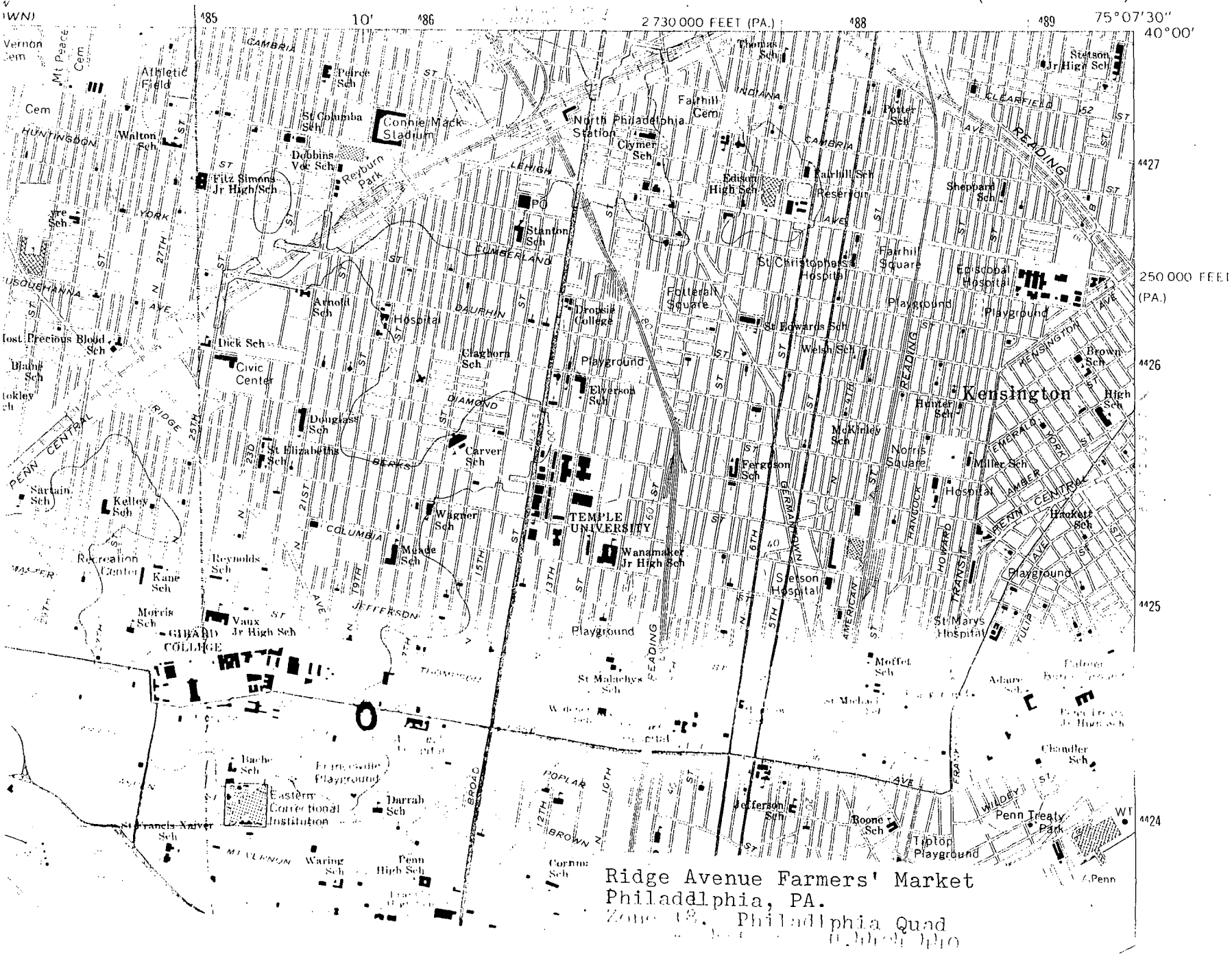
Attest: date

Chief of Registration

Ridge Avenue; then, northeast along Ridge Avenue to the starting point.

PHILADELPHIA QUADRANGLE
PENNSYLVANIA—NEW JERSEY
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

5964 II S.E.
(FRANKFORD)



Ridge Avenue Farmers' Market
Philaddlphia, PA.
Zone 18. Philadlphia Quad

Ridge Avenue Farmers' Market
Ridge Ave., Ginnado St., Leland St. (near Girard Ave.

Zone 18
Easting: 485 800
Northing: 4424 440

PHILADELPHIA QUADRANGLE
PENNSYLVANIA–NEW JERSEY
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)