



*First Colonial School in 1908.*

## Colonial School



*Cornerstone Ceremony in 1926.*

Occupying the same lot it does today, the original Colonial School in Pelham Heights was built in 1900, a four-classroom, two-story brick building "with a very noisy wooden staircase" that forced teachers to stop lessons when students went to recess. The opening of Siwanoy School in 1910 resulted in the closing of Colonial, but an increase in population required not only its reopening but also the renting of a home at 105 Boulevard as "an auxiliary elementary school."

Sometime prior to 1921, the school was condemned by the State Board of Education. With enrollment still on the rise, the Board of Education approved a new Colonial School, regretting only that it "could not provide more playground space for the children now attending and those that will attend."

The cornerstone ceremony took place on Nov. 21 1926 and the school was completed in 1927, dedicated to "the truth and virtue in the interest of the children who will begin their education there." In his address, James Elliott, chairman of Building and Grounds Committee of the Board of Education, added, "The little (children) attending this school from five to 12 years of age are passing through their most receptive age. Let us all strive together, parents and teachers, to develop these young people entrusted to our care into useful and happy citizens of our great country."

In the late 1990s, the Colonial Site-Based Council worked with District administrators and architects on an innovative expansion that was approved by the community and resulted in a new library and other renovations to Colonial.

*1918 annex to Colonial School.*



*Colonial third graders in 1931 stand by a project depicting the coal industry in Pennsylvania and the British Empire.*

