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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

JUN 21 1993

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 15). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Milpitas Grammar School  
other names/site number Milpitas Senior Center

### 2. Location

street & number 160 North Main Street  not for publication  
city, town Milpitas  vicinity  
state California code CA county Santa Clara code 085 zip code 95035

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	_____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official: Heads R. Gray Date: Jan 11, 1992  
California Office of Historic Preservation  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. entered in the National Register  
 See continuation sheet. Delores Byers 7/22/93  
 determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet  
 determined not eligible for the National Register.  
 removed from the National Register.  
 other, (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action: \_\_\_\_\_

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Education/SchoolEducation/Library

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Social/Meeting Hall, ClubhouseRecreation & Culture/auditorium

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & 20th Century Revival(Neoclassical)

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Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concretewalls stuccoroof asphaltother wood exterior Ionic columns & detailing

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**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

The Milpitas Grammar School was built in 1916 in the Neoclassical style, constructed of wood, with stucco siding and is one-story. The exterior is painted light beige with all trim painted off-white. The building is square in shape with a central courtyard surrounded by classrooms. The facility is approximately 6,000 square feet. Except for interior changes the school is in original condition.

**West elevation:**

- wide concrete steps lead to the centrally located front double doors which are topped with a pediment
- the front facade has a pedimented portico supported by four Ionic columns
- the raking cornice has dentils, as does the corncing above the column and over the front doors
- the front doors are flanked by two multi-paned windows topped with cornices, and two single paned sash windows on either side
- the front facade is also flanked by symmetrical bays, each with four multi-pane windows and lentils supported by brackets
- the front is landscaped with large and small trees, grass and small shubbery

**Central elevation:**

- the brick courtyard is square in shape surrounded by a concrete walkway leading to the various classrooms
- landscaped with trees and barrel planter boxes
- the courtyard is surrounded by four classrooms, two offices and one multi-purpose room
- the twelve courtyard columns surrounding the courtyard area, have been reconstructed to the original style

**West and south elevations:**

- this utilitarian elevation has sash windows and no other architectural significance

**North elevation:**

- this utilitarian elevation has sash windows and no other architectural significance
- the north elevation is landscaped with small shrubs
- a parking lot for 50 cars is located north of the facility

**Interior significance:**

- the multi-purpose room is equipped with a raised-stage which has the original carved proscenium
- all other classrooms and offices are functional, with no significant architectural features

 See continuation sheet

**8 Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
Education

Period of Significance

1916-1943

Significant Dates

Cultural Affiliation

Significant Person

Architect/Builder  
unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

In the year 1855, the first school was organized and the building was completed in 1856. The school district was formed in 1860 and began receiving state funding. The district included Milpitas and Alviso residents. This facility was erected on Old Oakland Road, the main thoroughfare in Milpitas. Unfortunately, no information on the architect or builder is available.

The original school was destroyed by fire in 1912 and the present facility was constructed and opened in 1916. This remained a grammar school site until 1956 when the school district closed the school moving students to a larger school. From 1956 to 1969, the Milpitas Grammar School then served as City Hall. The grammar school has also housed the library, chamber of commerce, police department, and recreation department and now serves as a senior center.

For 100 years, this site was dedicated to education and was one of the focal points in the community. The Grammar School is the oldest surviving school building in Milpitas. The facility is also the only Neoclassical public building in Milpitas, and is an outstanding example of that architectural style.

The building with its distinctive ornamentation and detailing reflects the community's aspirations and pride during the beginning of the Twentieth Century. The community's pride and responsibility to its citizens is exhibited in its building a large and prominent school to accommodate anticipated population growth.

Although the Milpitas Grammar School continued to be significant into more recent times, the period of significance has arbitrarily been ended at 1943, fifty years ago.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Milpitas, 1852-1952: A Century of Little Cornfields (1986)  
Loomis, Pat

Historic Sites Inventory: Milpitas California (1990)  
Marvin-Cunningham, Judith & Paula Juelke Carr

Evaluation Report for the Bellew-McCarthy Ranch, Milpitas, California (1988)  
Urban Programmers

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property 1.49+ acres

UTM References

A 

1	0	5	9	6	7	9	3	4	1	4	3	2	7	4
Zone				Easting				Northing						

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Santa Clara County Assessor's Parcel No. 28-24-19

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire City lot that has historically been associated with the structure.

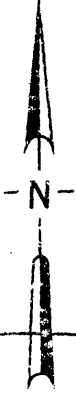
See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title <u>Cathy Dressler, Director of Leisure Services</u>	date <u>March 30, 1993</u>
organization <u>City of Milpitas</u>	telephone <u>408-942-2470</u>
street & number <u>457 E. Calaveras Blvd.</u>	state <u>CA</u>
city or town <u>Milpitas</u>	zip code <u>95035</u>

MILPITAS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

San Joaquin Co  
Calif



(X) = Orientation of photo no. "X"

WELLER

LANE

SOUTHERN PACIFIC

PACIFIC

FORD

CREEK

CHANNEL

RAILROAD

AVE.

WINSOR

195 N. Main St



(1)

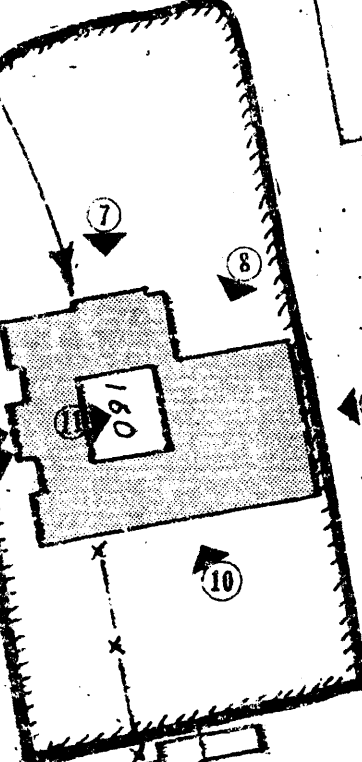
(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

N. MAIN ST



112

116

115

130 STREET

Site Boundary

scale: 1 inch = 100 feet

(from 1959 City Base Map, revised 1975)

ST.

88

14

13

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ (photographs) Page 1

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### PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

1. Name of property: MILPITAS GRAMMAR SCHOOL (1670 N. Main St.)
2. Location: MILPITAS, CALIFORNIA
3. Photographer: DAVID REESE
4. Date of Photos: DECEMBER, 1991
5. Location of original negatives: MILPITAS COMMUNITY CENTER, 457 E. Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas, CA

[NOTE: Items 1 through 5 above are the same for all the photographs listed below]

6. Description of view (photo numbers are keyed to accompanying sketch map):
  - PHOTO NO. 1: Front elevation of building (camera facing east)
  - PHOTO NO. 2: Front entry of building (camera facing east)
  - PHOTO NO. 3: Front portico detail (camera facing east)
  - PHOTO NO. 4: Detail of front entry column capital (camera facing east)
  - PHOTO NO. 5: Detail of window to right of front entry (camera facing east)
  - PHOTO NO. 6: Window grouping at north end of front elevation (camera facing east)
  - PHOTO NO. 7: North side elevation of building towards front (camera facing south)
  - PHOTO NO. 8: North side elevation of building towards rear (camera facing south)
  - PHOTO NO. 9: Rear elevation of building (camera facing west)
  - PHOTO NO. 10: South side elevation of building (camera facing north)
  - PHOTO NO. 11: East side of interior court yard (camera facing east)