

PH 0660892

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 24 1978
DATE ENTERED MAY 22 1978

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
St. Helena High School Building
AND/OR COMMON
Vintage Hall

RECEIVED
OCT 6 1977
OHP

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
437 Main Street
CITY, TOWN
St. Helena
STATE
California
VICINITY OF
06
COUNTY
Napa
CODE
055 ✓
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
2
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER CULTURAL CENTRE

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
St. Helena Unified School District
STREET & NUMBER
c/o 1401 Greyson Ave.
CITY, TOWN
St. Helena
VICINITY OF
STATE
California

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Napa County Hall of Records
STREET & NUMBER
Coombs Street.
CITY, TOWN
Napa
STATE
California

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Napa County Historical Inventory
DATE
1974-1977
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Napa County Conservation and Planning Dept. 1121 First Street
CITY, TOWN
Napa
STATE
California
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

2 story plus attic school building 120' x 64', situated near the south edge of St. Helena at the south corner of Main Street and Grayson Ave. Construction is reinforced concrete core with exterior of native Napa County cut stone. Main entrance is in the centre of the N. E. long wall through a circular arch to the second floor. First floor is reached through entrances at N.W. AND S. E. ends of the building. Original layout involved classrooms on 1st. and 2nd floors and entertainment and assenbly hall in the attic. The building was originally roofed with slate, sinwe replaced with modern materials. The interior has been little changed with many original features remaining, such as pressed metal wainscoating moldings and room layout.

Architect was Frederick Soderberg of Oakland; builder, E.T. Thurston, San Francisco; landscape, Donald McLaren, San Francisco; stonework, Martini and Co. St. Helena; concrete work, Harry Thorsen, St. Helena; interior mill work, W.H. Corlett-Enterpricse Planning Mill, Napa.

Original cost was \$30,000.

Today, the building can no longer be used as a school because of the California State Field Act. Since 1967, it has been used as a cultural and community centre under the direction of Vintage Hall, Inc. The Field Act set stringent requirements for earthquake safety for school classroom buildings. It is not a negative reflection upon the quality or condition of the building, itself. It has also been used for school district offices.

This building served as the only high school for the St. Helena greater area from 1913 to 1967.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1911-1913 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Architect: Frederick Soderberg
Builder: E.T. Thurston and Co.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The area surrounding St. Helena in 1900 was one of small scattered school districts with little or no unity. With the completion of this building, there existed for the first time, " a widespread movement towards offering the very best educational advantages to the greatest number. This movement involved the abandonment of the small poorly equiped and inefficient local school and the bringing together of the children from a group of villages to one strong central institution." (St. Helena Star newspaper, June, 1912)

It is one of the earliest public high school buildings in California still in existence. It may be the oldest, although we are unable to verify this absolutely.

It is the only stone school building remaining in Napa County. More than any other form of architecture, stone construction is indigenous to the Napa Valley. Stone was prized for its strength and durability, as well as for its beauty. Over the years, there have been several stone school buildings in the county...only this one remains.

From the very beginning, the quality and charm of this structure was recognized locally as evidenced by numerous " rave notices" in newspaper articles at the time of its construction.

In 1967, at the end of its life as a school building(due to California's Field Act earthquake safety law), a local group called VinPage Hall, Inc. was formed. A major goal of this group is the preservation of this building. They occupy the building today and have spearheaded a drive to turn it into a community centre.

Original landscaping for the St. Helena High School was done by Donald McLaren, son and partner of John McLaren, who achieved fame as the creator of Golden Gate Park in San Francisco.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

St. Helena Star, miscellaneous issues, 1910-1915.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1,194

UTM REFERENCES

A	10	571040	4260940
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David and Kathleen Kernberger, Vice-president and Secretary Napa Hist. Pres. Soc.

ORGANIZATION

DATE Oct. 1, 1977

Napa Historic Preservation Society

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

P.O. Box 862

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Napa

Calif.

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

Knox Miller

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 1/17/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Walter Cole

DATE

5/22/78

DATE

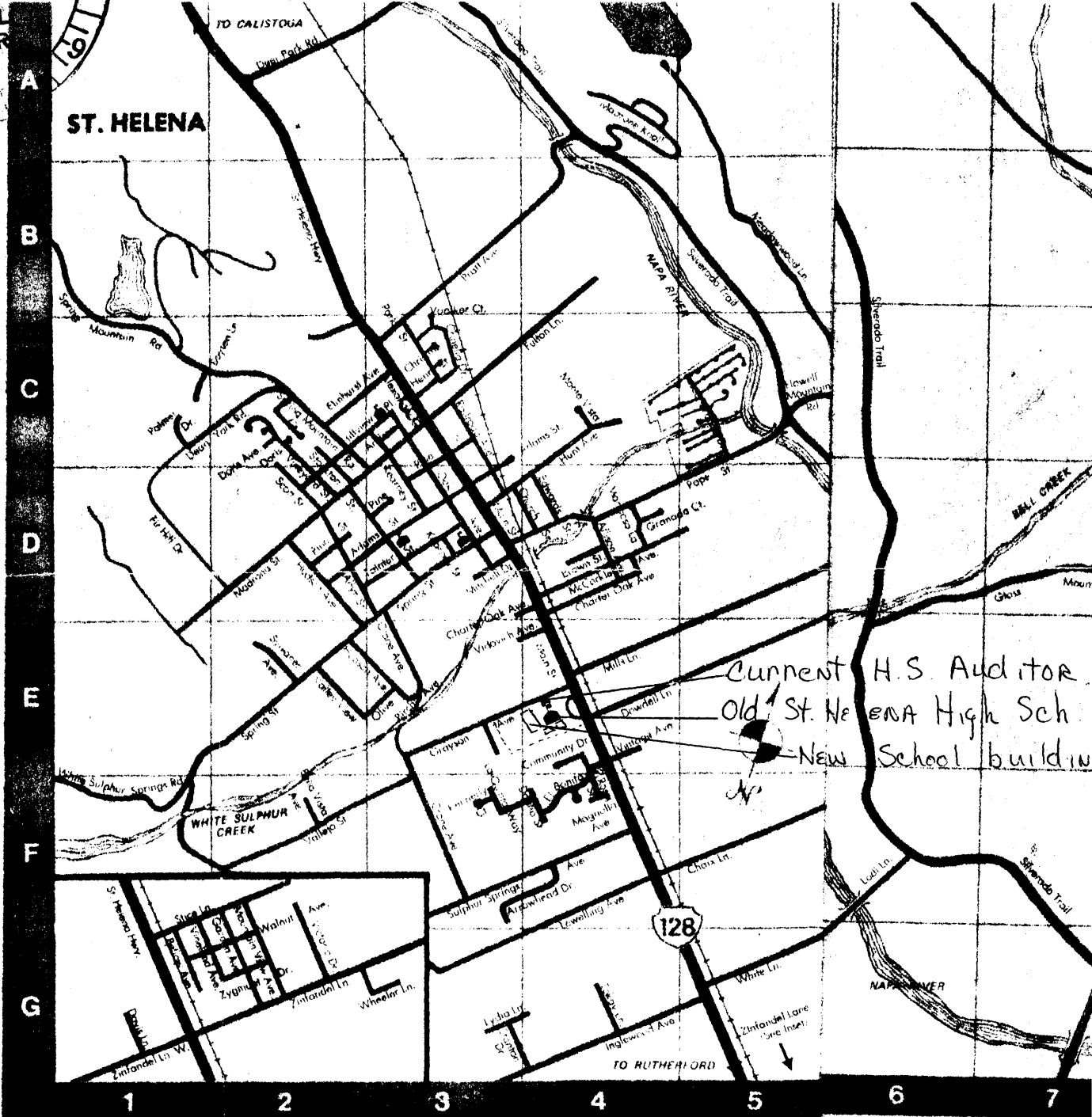
5-17-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

RECEIVED
 JAN 24 1978

NATIONAL
 REGISTER

ST. HELENA



Old cars, antiques,
 memorabilia, books, model kits,
 car care products, barrels,
 wine country gifts.

**• MAIN •
 STREET**

801 Main Street
 St. Helena
 963-9446
 OPEN Tues. - Sun
 10:00 to 6:00

Calistoga
 1320 Lincoln Ave.