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Stockton STATE		VICINITY OF	COUN	īY .	CODE
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CITY, TOWN	222 East Weber	Avenue		STATE	
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SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT

The El Dorado School is a ing a modified Tudor Eliza of the building are 200 of 176 feet on the east from the building is divided ing coatroom to each. The southeast corner on on the floor adjoining thing is of wood frame par siderable support to the

The exterior walls are of terra cotta trim, and gracetta are used to emphase out the exterior of the gables and entries. The brick walls are laid work in the spandrels by the tops of the first stass, painted white to a at the roof ridge are rearchitecture. The white walls provides a dramatic throughout.

The fenestration is part panels of windows and by the building are careful terned brick are section vertical and horizontal in terra cotta over the cotta drip sills above i

Corners of the building pattern and topped with in clusters of three or design. Some tradition are present in the entr arch flanked by spiral . balcony. The entire fa topped with large conic capping the brick colum a favorite decoration c ern France. They were or towers and not commo Dorado School. The ter were also characteristi and up the rakes of the The building has been t

the time of its constru

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

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CHECK ONE

X_EXCELLENT _G000

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MORIGINAL SITE MOVED

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The El Dorado School is a two story brick "U"-shaped building utilizing a modified Tudor Elizabethan architectural style. The dimensions of the building are 200 feet each on the north and south wings, and 176 feet on the east front and the west elevations. The interior of the building is divided into 24 x 32 foot classrooms with an adjoining coatroom to each. There is an Assembly Room or Auditorium at the southeast corner on the first floor and administrative offices on the floor adjoining the entrance hall. The interior of the building is of wood frame partitions and wood floors which provide considerable support to the exterior walls against horizontal forces.

The exterior walls are of red brick with white mortar joints, white terra cotta trim, and grey green slate roof. White brick and terra cotta are used to emphasize structural and decorative elements throughout the exterior of the building, including facade corners, windows, gables and entries.

The brick walls are laid up in Flemish Bond. There is pattern brick work in the spandrels between sills of the second story windows and the tops of the first story windows. The windows are double hung wood sash, painted white to match the terra cotta trim. The roof vents at the roof ridge are reminiscent of chimneys in Tudor Elizabethan architecture. The white terra cotta trim with the red of the brick walls provides a dramatic and attractive color contrast of materials throughout.

The fenestration is particularly well designed and coordinated. The panels of windows and brick on the tall gabled facades and sides of the building are carefully composed. Window placement, and red patterned brick are sectioned off in a decorative grid work design by vertical and horizontal courses of white brick. The flat gothic arch in terra cotta over these window groupings, is echoed in the terra cotta drip sills above it.

Corners of the building are accented with white brick in a quoined pattern and topped with finials. White chimneys are grouped together in clusters of three or four and also become part of the building design. Some traditional English Jacobean architectural elements are present in the entry portico. The entry contains a shallow gothic arch flanked by spiral colonettes and topped by a castellated parapet balcony. The entire facade then is flanked by six sided brick columns topped with large conical finials. These cone shaped decorations capping the brick columns on each side of the entrance portal, were a favorite decoration on churches and cathedrals in England and Northern France. They were usually placed on the top of the parapet walls or towers and not commonly used so low on the facade as on the El Dorado School. The terra cotta molding over the groups of windows were also characteristic of the period as were the quoins at corners and up the rakes of the gables.

The building has been used continuously as an elementary school from the time of its construction.

[SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC —ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC —AGRICULTURE —XARCHITECTURE —ART —COMMERCE —COMMUNICATIONS	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE —COMMUNITY FLANT —CONSERVATION —ECONOMICS —EDUCATION —ENGINEERING —EXPLORATION SETTLEM —INDUSTRY —INVENTION
SPECIFIC DATE	S 1916 (1922	addia BUILDER/AD
STATEMENT O	SIGNIFICANCE	配付表) BUILDER/AD

The El Dorado School was designed inent Stockton architect from 1901 to sually fine example of modified Tudor itectural styles, both in design and

Wright was the architect for the of the architects for the Stockton Civ so the architect for many of the school County. After he moved to Santa Cruz, properties there, before his death in with the firms of Stone and Wright, Wr Satterlee, he worked by himself the la

Wright and his partner utilized v bethan architectural style in their co The Tudor Elizabethan style of the scho and design to Jacobethan architecture. particular success in major scale Univ. architecture. As such it seems particu the El Dorado School and similar buildi Pacific campus. The style is reflectiv tion was traditional, respected and rev was, however, considered somewhat light styles previously used in academic insta philosophies and mores of an American c: past and educational traditions while 1cThe use of white brick so extensively do lighter, more decorative feeling than mu of the earlier 1900's.

The design of the school exhibits v. used in some buildings on the University Tudor Elizabethan style does not appear very large extent in other areas, and as and identity as an important regional or

The El Dorado School is an exception adaptation of this architectural style. sensitivity were exercised in order to de as carefully and completely as the front out appears to be of unusually high quali CHECK ONE

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(1922 addis) BUILDERVARCHITECT Hm. C. Wright and SPECIFIC DATES 1916 Louis Stone

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The El Dorado School was designed by William J. Wright, prominent Stockton architect from 1901 to 1938. The school is an unusually fine example of modified Tudor Elizabethan/Jacobethan architectural styles, both in design and in workmanship.

Wright was the architect for the Pioneer/Haggin Museum, and one of the architects for the Stockton Civic Auditorium. Wright was also the architect for many of the schools in Stockton and San Joaquin County. After he moved to Santa Cruz, he built a number of rental properties there, before his death in 1946. Variously associated with the firms of Stone and Wright, Wright and Sala, and Wright and Satterlee, he worked by himself the last dozen years of his work in Stockton.

Wright and his partner utilized variations of the Tudor Elizabethan architectural style in their design of the El Dorado School. The Tudor Elizabethan style of the school is similar in feeling and design to Jacobethan architecture. This style was employed with particular success in major scale University and College or "school" architecture. As such it seems particularly appropriate for both the El Dorado School and similar buildings of the University of the Pacific campus. The style is reflective of an era in which education was traditional, respected and reverent toward heritage. It was, however, considered somewhat lighter and less solemn than the styles previously used in academic institutions and thus reflects the philosophies and mores of an American culture that still revered the past and educational traditions while looking ahead to the 1920's. The use of white brick so extensively does lend to the building a lighter, more decorative feeling than much institutional architecture of the earlier 1900's.

The design of the school exhibits variations of a similar style used in some buildings on the University of the Pacific campus. This Tudor Elizabethan style does not appear to have been utilized to a very large extent in other areas, and as such, may gain significance and identity as an important regional or local design adaptation.

The El Dorado School is an exceptionally fine and well-executed adaptation of this architectural style. Considerable effort and sensitivity were exercised in order to design and compose all elevations as carefully and completely as the front facade. Workmanship throughout appears to be of unusually high quality.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

DATE ENTERED

AUG 15 1977

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER PAGE 1

in 1922, eight classrooms were added to the original building, four on the south wing and four on the north wing. The additions carefully followed the details and materials of the original structure in design and workmanship, and there is virtually no noticeable difference between the original school and its additions.

Additionally, the court area between the two main wings (legs of the "U" shape) of the school has been roofed over and used as a covered play yard. The covered area includes some varied offices and rooms as well. The school has no record of the date of this alteration.

There have been some interior alterations of a minor nature through the years. A small additional classroom building was constructed on school grounds nearby in 1952.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

HEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

The architectural elements are well composed, interesting, and highly decorative. The school represents a most successful interpretation of its architectural style, apparently rare in its use as a grammar school design.

The school has served as a community educational facility since its construction in 1916, and as such its design and function have exerted an influence upon a generation of Stockton residents, both as students and as members of the community.

Stockton architect Frank Mayo built the eight-room addition to the El Dorado School in 1922. Mayo and Bissell were associate architects for work done on the early College of the Pacific Campus in Stockton, when the school moved there from San Jose in 1924.

Under the supervisory chairmanship of the architectural firm of Davis-Heller-Pearce, various architects were assigned various buildings to design. Mayo and Bissell were assigned the largest of the first group of buildings to design—the Auditorium and Conservatory. These early Campus structures were built in 1921-1925.

Bibliography:

Hunt, Rockwell, <u>History of the College of the Pacific</u> Burns, Robert, <u>First 50 Years of the College of the Pacific</u> Bissell, Howard G., <u>Memoirs</u> Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Stockton Album , V. Covert Martin, Simard Printing Company, Stockton, 1959.

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