

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 93000683

Date Listed: 8/5/93

Southside School
Property Name

Washoe
County

NV
State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrews
Signature of the Keeper

8/5/93
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Location:

The correct address for the property is **190 East Liberty**.
The narrative citation for the address (160 East Liberty) is a typo.

Significance:

Education is deleted as an area of significance. The current narrative does not provide sufficient justification for the proper evaluation of the school under this theme.

This information was confirmed with Ron James of the Nevada SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

688

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED

JUN 24 1993

NATIONAL
REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Southside School

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 190 East Liberty not for publication

city or town Reno vicinity

state Nevada code NV county Washoe code 031 zip code 89505

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Ronald M. Jones, SHPO 6/14/93
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- 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
Patricia Andrews

Date of Action
8/5/93

Southside School
Name of Property

Washoe County, Nevada
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: School

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT: Local Agencies

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

MODERN MOVEMENT/ART DECO

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- Criteria A, B, C, D with checkboxes and descriptions.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- Criteria A-G with checkboxes and descriptions.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Education

Architecture

Period of Significance

1936

Significant Dates

1936

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- Documentation checkboxes: preliminary determination, previously listed, etc.

Primary location of additional data:

- Location checkboxes: State Historic Preservation Office, Other State agency, etc.

Name of repository:

Nevada Historical Society

Southside School
Name of Property

Washoe County, Nevada
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.24 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 0 | 0
Zone Easting Northing
2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Zone Easting Northing
4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Helene Snyder

organization _____ date 12/92

street & number 5990 Coyote Ridge Road telephone (702) 747-5967

city or town Reno, state Nevada zip code 89523

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Reno

street & number P.O. Box 1900 telephone 334-2230

city or town Reno state Nevada zip code 89505

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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The Southside School Annex was constructed in 1936 to provide additional classrooms for the Southside School (built in 1903 and demolished in 1960). A striking example of a regional interpretation of the Art Deco style, the building is currently used as additional office space for the city of Reno. The architect of the Annex is not known. The building is in good condition.

The school building is located at the northeast corner of Liberty and Sinclair streets, at 160 Liberty. The Reno City Hall occupies the southeast corner of the large, city-owned lot (APN# 11-196-01), one block in size, on which the school is located. The City Hall is a low one-story, brick building which does not contribute to the significance of this property. The remainder of the block is a paved parking lot. The neighborhood is transitional, with businesses in former residences or newer office buildings located along Liberty, and historically residential areas one block away on Ryland (one block north of Liberty) and Moran (two blocks south of Liberty) Streets.

The Southside School is a tall, two-story, red brick building with a striking Art Deco entrance frontispiece. The building is angled on a corner lot and the central entrance is oriented toward the corner. The main rectangular, gabled roof (whose ridge runs roughly north-south) is bilaterally bisected by a five sloped, hipped roof. There is a two-story, one bay wide, rectangular wing attached to the north wall and a one story, seven sided wing attached to the south side.

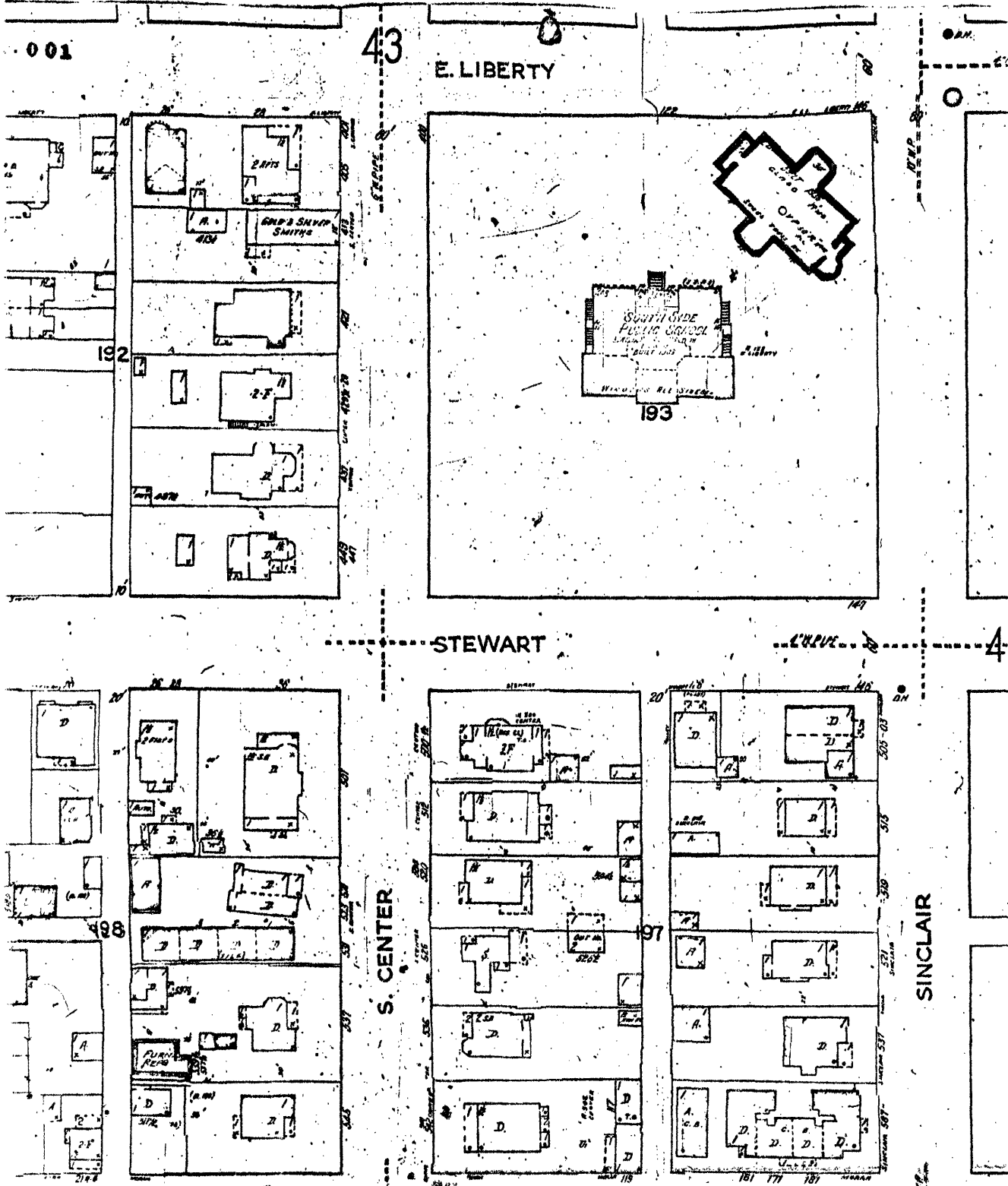
The building rests on a concrete basement. The building is decorated at the corners with brick quoins. Recessed spandrels between the first and second story windows are ornamented with a crest with the letter "S" and bricks laid in decorative patterns. The building is pierced by many large expanses of glass. Window types include single, three-over-three, double hung windows, single or paired nine-lite awning windows. The window openings have brick lintels and cast concrete sills. Three of the second story front and rear windows are framed by a concrete surround ornamented with a floral and owl motif.

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City of Reno Sanborn Atlas, 1953



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The building's outstanding feature is the stepped, recessed concrete frontispiece with surrounds the central, first story double doors and the second story nine-lite window. Above the door is a recessed rectangular panel containing the school name. Above the window is another rectangular panel ornamented with a floral and owl motif.

The first floor interior is bisected by a hallway; the adjacent four classrooms have been converted into offices. A front and rear stairway lead to the second floor. A stage is located in the eastern corner of the large room upstairs, and modern dividers now partition the auditorium space. There are storerooms behind the stage. The original wooden floors remain in some rooms and have been removed in others. Overall, the school survives in good condition in spite of modern intrusions such as florescent lights, carpeting, and dividing walls. A window on the rear elevation has been converted to a door, and a new ramp insures barrier-free access to the first floor.

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The Southside school is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A, for its association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, and criterion C, for its embodiment of a regional interpretation of the Art Deco style in Nevada.

The original Southside School was constructed in 1903, to accommodate the expanding population of Reno. An adjacent firehouse dating from the late nineteenth century, located on the northwest corner of this city block, was converted into a school annex in 1918. In 1936, a second, larger annex was constructed at the corner of Sinclair and Liberty streets. This new annex was built with Works Progress Administration (WPA) funds and housed kindergarten, fifth, and sixth grades. The WPA programs were initiated under President Roosevelt and the Emergency Relief Appropriate Act of 1935. This program employed nearly nine million people over an eight year period; in Reno, both unemployed professionals and laymen contributed to the construction of the new Southside School Annex.

Although the school will not be explored under the "Education" context in this nomination, the property is also significant under this theme. Four local educators are associated with this school. Three teachers who retired from the Southside School, Ms. Jessie Beck, Ms. Echo Loder, and Ms. Alice Maxwell, have had three newer schools dedicated to them. The closing Vice-Principle, Marvin Moss, has recently retired as the District Superintendent of Schools.

In addition to the building's significance due to its association with the WPA program, the school is also significant as an outstanding example of late Art Deco architecture in Nevada. Only a handful of buildings were constructed in this architectural style throughout the state; others, such as the Las Vegas High School, and the Mapes and Riverside Hotels in Reno, have already been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. This school is particularly noted for its stepped, recessed concrete frontispiece in the projecting entrance pavilion, and decorative brickwork and contrasting concrete door and window surrounds. The vertical orientation of the door

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surround, the massing of the building with a central block and additions, the metal casement windows, and the elaborate detailing are all characteristic of the Art Deco style, which was popular in the 1930s and 1940s.

The building also possesses architectural details reminiscent of earlier styles, such as the cornice returns visible on the east and west elevations. This feature is usually associated with the Greek revival architectural style. Brick quoins on all elevations are representative of classical styles. These features contribute to the distinctive character of the Southside school and place it in a category of a "regional" interpretation of the Art Deco style. The Art Deco features, the earlier, classically-inspired details, the interesting orientation of the structure, and the site specific details such as the "S" in the crests below the windows give the school a unique character.

The original annex was demolished in the early 1960s as was the Southside School. Only the Southside Annex from 1936 remains on the block which has been associated with Reno schools from the first decade of this century. This building is an important example of Art Deco architecture and is also significant for the government program, the WPA, which provided the labor to construct it.

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Bullis, Rose M. History of Washoe County Schools (Reno, 1978)

Assessor Office, City of Reno; Site Map

Nevada Historical Society:

Reno Architectural Survey, Washoe County 1983

Historic Properties Inventory, City of Reno 1983

Reno Evening Gazette, 1942, 1959-1960

Nevada State Journal, 1929, 2935, 1959-1960

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Verbal Boundary Description

Parcel #11-196-01

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Southside School.