United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Nam	ie					
historic	WASHINGTON UN	IION HIGH SCHOOL		/ HECEIVED		
and/or common	WASHINGTON HI	GH SCHOOL		MAY 1 3 1981		
2. Loca	ation			OHP		
street & number	38442 FREMONT	BOULEVARD		not for publication		
city, town	FREMONT, CALI	FORNIA vicinity of	congressional district	10th		
state CALIF	ORNIA cod	e 06 count	Y ALAMEDA	code ₀₀₁		
3. Clas	sification					
Category district X_ building(s) structure site object	Ownership X public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered	Status occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	entertainment government	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:		
name street & number	FREMONT UNIFI 40775 FREMONT	ED SCHOOL DISTRIC	<u>.</u>			
city, town	FREMONT	vicinity of	EAST BAY state	CALIFORNIA 94536		
5. Loca	ation of Leg	al Descript	ion			
courthouse, regis	stry of deeds, etc. ALAM	EDA COUNTY RECORD	ER'S OFFICE			
street & number	1225	FALLON STREET				
city, town	OAKL	AND	state	CALIFORNIA 94612		
6. Repr	esentation	in Existing	Surveys			
itle		has this	property been determined (elegible? yes _X_ no		
date			federal st	ate county loca		
depository for su	rvey records					
city town			etate			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

INTRODUCTION

7. Description

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL (FORMERLY WASHINGTON UNION HIGH SCHOOL) WAS BUILT ACCORDING TO PLANS DATED JUNE 25, 1923 AND PREPARED BY HENRY H. MEYERS, ARCHITECT. THE SCHOOL IS LOCATED AT 38441 FREMONT BOULEVARD, FREMONT, CALIFORNIA, 94536 ON A BLOCK BOUNDED BY FREMONT BOULEVARD, EGGERS DRIVE, HASTINGS STREET AND COUNTRY DRIVE ON A FLAT SITE. THE ORIGINAL BUILDING IS DIVIDED INTO FOUR AREAS, AUDITORIUM, ADMINISTRATION/CLASSROOMS, SCIENCE AND HOME ECONOMICS. THESE AREAS ARE CONNECTED TO FORM AN IRREGULARLY SHAPED BUILDING. THE ARCHITECTURE IS CHARACTERISTIC OF CALIFORNIA PUBLIC BUILDINGS IN THE 1920'S, UTILIZING MEDITERRANEAN IMAGERY: IN THIS CASE THE DESIGN IS BASED PRIMARILY UPON ITALIAN ROMANESQUE MODELS. THE BUILDING WAS REMODELED ACCORDING TO PLANS DATED MARCH 18, 1935, PREPARED BY BIRGE M. CLARK AND D. B. CLARK, ARCHITEGTS. ADDITIONS WERE MADE IN 1936 FROM PLANS COMPLETED BY BIRGE M. CLARK.

THE AUDITORIUM IS A ONE STORY 40' HIGH BUILDING WITH ADJACENT WINGS & ARE TWO STORIES.

BAYS ARE SPACED AT 18' INTERVALS.

THE AUDITORIUM AREA IS A ONE-STORY REINFORCED CONCRETE AND WOOD STRUCTURE ABOUT 40' HIGH. PLATE NUMBER 1 AND 2 SHOW THE FLOOR PLAN AS ORIGINALLY LAID OUT. THE ROOF HAS COMPOSITION MATERIAL RESTING ON PLANKS, RAFTERS AND WOOD TRUSSES. THESE TRUSSES SPACED ABOUT 18 FEET APART BEAR ON CONCRETE COLUMNS FRAMED INTO CONCRETE WINDOW WALLS. THE FLOOR IS MADE OF WOOD PLANKS AND JOISTS SUPPORTED BY TIMBER GIRDERS RESTING ON CONCRETE PIERS. THE ORIGINAL CEILING HAS BEEN REPLACED WITH A SUSPENDED ACOUSTIC TILE CEILING OVER THE ENTIRE AREA.

THE ROOF AND FLOOR OF THE STAGE AREA IN THE AUDITORIUM ARE MADE OF WOOD PLANK AND JOISTS SIMILAR TO THE AUDITORIUM. THE WALLS OF THIS AREA ARE A CONTINUATION OF THE CONCRETE OF THE AUDITORIUM.

IN 1935 A HORIZONTAL STEEL TRUSS WAS INSTALLED IN THE ATTIC SPACE JUST UNDER THE PLANE OF THE TRUSS UPPER CHORD. THIS BRACING SYSTEM IS CONNECTED TO THE TRUSS TOP CHORD AND TO THE CONCRETE WALLS.

ADMINISTRATION AND CLASSROOMS

THE ADMINISTRATION AND CLASSROOM AREA IS A TWO STROY CONCRETE AND WOOD STRUCTURE ABOUT 35' HIGH WITH A BASEMENT AREA USED AS A BOILER ROOM.

THE ROOF AREA IS DIVIDED INTO ABOUT EQUAL PROPORTIONS OF TILE AND COMPOSITION MATERIAL. THIS ROOF RESTS ON PLANKS AND WOOD TRUSSES WHICH ARE SPACED AT 32 INCH CENTERS SPANNING TO THE EXTERIOR CONCRETE WALLS AND INTERIOR CORRIDOR STUD WALLS. THE FLOORS ARE MADE OF PLANK AND HARDWOOD FINISH RESTING ON JOISTS SPANNING TO THE INTERIOR CORRIDOR STUD WALL AND EXTERIOR CONCRETE WALL OR TO TIMBER GIRDERS RESTING ON CONCRETE PIERS AT THE GROUND LEVEL. THE FLOOR OVER THE BOILER ROOM IS CONSTRUCTED OF CONCRETE. THE BASEMENT WALLS RETAIN UP TO 10 FEET OF EARTH.

THE CEILINGS IN THE CLASSROOMS ARE MADE OF WOOD LATH AND PLASTER APPLIED TO THE JOISTS. SPECIAL FINISHES SUCH AS BLACKBOARDS, TACK BOARDS AND WOOD TRIM OCCUR OVER WALLS IN VARIOUS ROOMS. THE EXTERIOR ELEVATION HAS A CEMENT PLASTER FINISH INTERSPERSED WITH

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 X 1900–	Areas of Significance—C — archeology-prehistoric — archeology-historic — agriculture — architecture — art — commerce — communications	community planning conservation economics ducation engineering exploration/settlement	Iandscape architectur Iaw Ilterature Indicator Ilterature Indicator Indicato	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1924	Builder/Architect Henr	y H. Meyers	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, CONSTRUCTED IN 1924, IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF MEDITERRANEAN-INSPIRED PERIOD REVIVAL ARCHITECTURE POPULAR IN CALIFORNIA DURING THE

1920'S. IT IS A MONUMENT TO THE SKILL AND STYLE OF ITS ARCHITECT, HENRY H. MEYERS. IT IS HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT AS THE FIRST LARGE GOVERNMENT BUILDING AND THE ONLY HIGH SCHOOL IN WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP UP TO 1959. IT SERVED AS THE TOWNSHIP SOCIAL CENTER AND HOSTED ALL THE IMPORTANT EVENTS AND GATHERINGS. IT HAS WITHSTOOD THE RAVAGES OF TIME AS THE AREA CHANGED FROM A FARMING COMMUNITY TO AN URBAN CITY. FINALLY, WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL STANDS AS A MONUMENT TO THE UNION HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM IN CLAIFORNIA.

THE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN IS BASED UPON THE ITALIAN ROMANESQUE OF THE 12TH CENTURY. VARIATIONS OF MEDITERRANEAN REVIVALS WERE POPULAR FOR CALIFORIA PUBLIC BUILDINGS DURING THIS PERIOD. THE DECORATIVE BRICK BANDING IS REMINISCENT OF ITALIAN GOTHIC DETAILING OF THE 13TH CENTURY. THE QUALITY OF THE ARCHITECTURAL DETAILING IS EVIDENT IN THE BANDED BRICK ENTRIES, THE DECORATIVE INVERTED CRENELATED FRIEZE AT THE THE END OF THE WING WALLS, FINE INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR CARVING OF THE WINDOWS, STAIRS AND DOOR FRAMES. IT IS ONE OF VERY FEW BUILDINGS OF THIS STYLE IN THE AREA AND REPRESENTS A MAJOR LOCAL EFFORT IN QUALITY OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION. BECAUSE OF THE LOCATION ON FREMONT BOULEVARD, A MAIN THOROUGHFARE, THE BEAUTY OF THE BUILDING IS ENJOYED BY THOUSANDS OF PASSING MOTORISTS.

THE ARCHITECT WAS HENRY H. MEYERS, A MEMBER OF A PIONEER CALIFORNIA FAMILY. HE WAS BORN IN ALAMEDA, CALIFORNIA IN 1868 AND RECEIVED HIS ARCHITECTURAL TRAINING IN SAN FRANCISCO. IN 1902 HE JOINED CLARENCE WARD IN PARTNERSHIP AND FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS CARRIED ON WORK UNDER THE NAME OF MEYERS AND WARD WITH AN OFFICE ON THE ROOF OF THE 12 STORY KOHL BUILD-ING AT CALIFORNIA AND MONTGOMERY STREETS, SAN FRANCISCO. THE KOHL BUILDING BELONGED TO PERCY & HAMILTON, WHO WERE THE ARCHITECTS OF THE ORIGINAL BUILDING. AFTER MR. PERCY'S DEATH IN 1890, MR. MEYERS COMPLETED THE STRUCTURE. SAID TO HAVE BEEN THE FIRST STEEL FRAME BUILDING IN SAN FRANCISCO, IT SURVIVED THE 1906 EARTHQUAKE AND FIRE. THE HAHNE-MANN HOSPITAL, ERECTED PRIOR TO 1904 WAS ANOTHER OF THE FIRM'S WORKS IN SAN FRANCISCO. RETURNING TO ALAMEDA IN THE EARLY 20°S, MR. MEYERS WAS APPOINTED COUNTY ARCHITECT AND SERVED IN THAT OFFICE UNTIL HIS RETIREMENT IN 1936. AMONG THE MANY COUNTY BUILDINGS FOR WHICH HE WAS RESPONSIBLE WERE THE HIGHLAND HOSPITAL, SEVERAL SCHOOLS, (WASHINGTON UNION HIGH SCHOOL WAS ONE), THE SUPER STRUCTURE OF THE POSEY TUBE AND THE VETERANS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, ONE OF HIS LAST WORKS. HE WAS ELECTED TO THE SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS IN 1917 AND CONTINUED HIS MEMBERSHIP UNTIL 1930. HE ALSO BELONGED TO THE CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS.

FOR 67 YEARS WASHINGTON WAS THE ONLY HIGH SCHOOL IN WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP WHERE 9 HIGH SCHOOLS NOW EXIST. THOUSANDS OF RESIDENTS OF THE CITIES OF FREMONT, NEWARK AND UNION CITY WERE GRADUATED FROM WASHINGTON HIGH AND MANY COMMUNITY LEADERS RECEIVED THEIR EDUCATION THERE.

Major Bibliographical References

HISTORY OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

PHIL HOLMES - HISTORIAN

PETER JACOBSOHN. A.I.A. - FORMER HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE/CITY OF FRE-**Geographical Data** 10. 4.6+ ACRES Acreage of nominated property _ Quadrangle name _ Quadrangle scale 7.5 MINUTE 1:24,000 **UMT References** 5818818 Verbal boundary description and justification A RECTANGLE 500'+ ON FREMONT BOULEVARD AND 400' + ON EGGERS DRIVE List all states and countles for properties overlapping state or county boundaries state county code state code county code Form Prepared By name/title ALLEN BOX, LEISURE SERVICES SUPERINTENDENT DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & LEISURE SERVICES organization CITY OF FREMONT MAY 1, 1981 telephone (415) 791-4333 street & number 39700 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE city or town FREMONT, CALIFORNIA state **State Historic Preservation Officer Certification** The evaluated significance of this property within the state is: X_ local national state 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service. State Historic Preservation Officer signature title Keeper of the Natio Chief of I

MONT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED AUG 2.1 1881

DATE ENTERED. UCT. 5 1981

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

7 PAGE 2

BRICK VENEER.

IN 1935 A HORIZONTAL WOOD TRUSS WAS INSTALLED IN THE ATTIC SPACE JUST OVER THE LOWER CHORD OF THE ROOF TRUSSES IN THE SECOND FLOOD CORRIDOR AREA. THIS BRACKING SYSTEM IS CONNCECTED TO THE TRUSS LOWER CHORD AND TO THE END CONCRETE WALLS. (THE ROOF FRAMING WAS ALSO STRENGTHENED FOR VERTICAL LOADING). A HORIZONTAL STEEL TRUSS WAS INSTALLED IN THE CEILING OF THE CORRIDOR OF THE FIRST FLOOR, JUST UNDER THE JOISTS. THIS BRACING IS CONNECTED TO THE JOISTS AND CONCRETE WALLS. A NEW METAL LATH AND PLASTER CEILING WAS INSTALLED IN THIS AREA AFTER PLACING THE BRACING.

SCIENCE AND HOME ECONOMICS WINGS

THE SCIENCE AND HOME ECONOMICS CLASSROOM AREAS ARE WINGS EXTENDING TO THE SOUTHWEST AND SOUTHEAST OF THE PRINCIPAL STRUCTURE. EACH IS ONE STORY ABOUT 20 FEET HIGH, WITH STUCCOED EXTERIOR. THE DESIGN OF EACH COMPLEMENTS THE ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES OF THE TWO_STORY CLASSROOM AREA. EACH IS CONNECTED TO THE CLASSROOM AREA BY 10 FEET HIGH CORRIDORS. THE ROOF AREA IS MADE OF COMPOSITION ROOFING MATERIAL RESTING ON PLANKS AND WOOD TRUSSES SPACED AT 32-INCH CENTERS, SPANNING THE EXTERIOR CONCRETE WALLS AND BEARING ON INTERIOR PARTITIONS. THE FLOOR IS MADE UP OF PLANK AND HARDWOOD FINISH RESTING ON JOISTING SUPPORTED BY WOOD GIRDERS AND CONCRETE PIERS. THE CEILINGS ARE MADE OF WOOD LATH AND PLASTER APPLIED TO THE JOISTS.

IN 1935, A HORIZONTAL STEEL TRUSS WAS INSTALLED IN THE ATTIC SPACE OF THESE AREAS AT THE TOP OF THE LOWER CHORD. THIS BRACING IS CONNECTED TO THE TOISTS AND END CONCRETE WALLS. THE ROOF HAS TILE OVER HALF THE ROOF AND COMPOSITION MATERIAL OVER THE OTHER HALF.

IN 1936 AN ADDITION AT THE NORTH END OF THE BUILDING WAS PREPARED BY BIRGE M. CLARK AND DAVIS B. CLARK, ARCHITECTS, AND KNOWN AS THE VISUAL EDUCATION ROOM, AGRICULTURE ROOM, AND ENLARGEMENT OF THE MACHINE ROOM.

OTHER STRUCTURES

TWO ADDITIONAL STRUCTURES ARE LOCATED ON THE NOMINATED PROPERTY. NEITHER IS STRUCTURALLY LINKED TO THE MAIN BUILDING BUT BOTH CONTRIBUTE TO THE HISTORICAL CHARACTER OF THE SCHOOL. IMMEDIATELY WEST OF THE AUDITORIUM AREA IS A ONE-STORY WOOD FRAME STRUCTURE WITH GABLED ROOM, WITH APPROXIMATELY 2100SQUARE FEET FLOOR SPACE. THIS STRUCTURE WAS CONSTRUCTED Ca. 1895 AND WAS PART OF THE ORIGINAL WASHINGTON UNION HIGH SCHOOL OF THE 1890s. THE STRUCTURE WAS MOVED TO ITS PRESENT LOCATION SOME TIME AFTER 1924 AND IS CURRENTLY USED FOR STORAGE.

A SECOND STRUCTURE WAS CONSTRUCTED BY THE FEDERAL WORKS PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION Ca. 1937. IT IS OF CONCRETE WALLS WITH STUCCOED EXTERIOR. THIS STRUCTURE REPEATS SOME OF THE DESIGN MOTIFS OF THE PRINCIPAL BUILDING, WITH ROMANESQUE ARCH WINDOWS, CRENELATED DEOCRATION, AND OFFSETTING RED BRICKS AT THE CORNICE LINE. ALTHOUGH

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED AUG 2 1 1901
DATE ENTERED.

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 3

CONSTRUCTED A DECADE AFTER THE PRINCIPAL STRUCTURE, IT IS ARCHITECTURALLY CONSISTENT WITH THE ORIGINAL.

THE LARGER CAMPUS OF WASHINGTON UNION HIGH SCHOOL IS TODAY OCCUPIED BY A LARGE NUMBER OF RECENT STRUCTURES, MOST OF WHICH ARE ONE STORY "TEMPORARY" STRUCTURES. ONLY THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE CAMPUS IS INCLUDED IN THIS NOMINATION. THE ENTIRE CAMPUS, OLD AND NEW, IS CONNECTED BY A SERIES OF FREESTANDING CAMPPIES OR COVERS FOR THE SIDEWALKS. THESE WALKWAYS CONNECT TO THE NOMINATED PROPERTY ON THE NORTH AND EAST.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY AUG 2 1 1000
RECEIVED AUG 1 1000
UCT 5 1981
DATE ENTERED.

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL IS HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT AS THE "COMMUNITY CENTER" FOR WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP. CITIZENS REFERRED TO THE SCHOOL AS THE "THE HUB OF THE TOWNSHIP" AND "THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY". ALL OF THE IMPORTANT SOCIAL, MUSICAL, DRAMATIC, CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY EVENTS WERE HELD THERE FOR THIS WAS THE ONLY FACILITY CAPABLE OF HANDLING BIG AUDIENCES. ITS AUDITORIUM IS STILL THE LARGEST IN THE AREA AND IS THE ONLY THEATER WHICH CAN HANDLE MAJOR PRODUCTIONS. TOWNSHIP CITIZENS HAVE MAINTAINED THEIR WARM AFFECTION FOR THE SCHOOL. THEY ARE WORKING THROUGH A JOINT PROJECT OF THE CITY OF FREMONT AND THE FREMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TO FORM A COMMUNITY EVENTS CENTER AND RESTORE THE SCHOOL TO ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE AS THE HUB OF THE COMMUNITY. IT WAS THE SITE FOR THE SIGNING OF INCORPORATION PAPERS FOR THE CITY OF FREMONT ON JANUARY 23, 1956.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE HIGH SCHOOL WAS THE MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE SCATTERED POPULACE OF THE RURAL AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY. WE ARE FORTUNATE THAT IT HAS SURVIVED THE DEVELOPMENT THAT HAS CREATED THE METROPOLITAN AREA THAT NOW SURROUNDS IT. IT IS THE ONLY REMAINING LINK OF A PUBLIC ENTITY FROM THE RURAL PAST TO THE PRESENT URBAN COMMUNITY.

THE WASHINGTON UNION HIGH SCHOOL SERVED AS THE HOME AND MEETING PLACE FOR THE WASHING-TON TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY, FOUNDED IN 1949, FOR OVER TEN YEARS. HISTORICAL EDU-CATIONAL DISPLAYS WERE MAINTAINED IN THE UPSTAIRS HALL BY THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY. THIS SERVED AS THE FIRST MUSEUM FOR THE TOWNSHIP. MANY OUTSTANDING PROGRAMS, E.G., RAILROAD DAYS AND HISTORICAL EVENTS, WERE STAGED IN THE AUDITORIUM.

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL STANDS AS A MONUMENT TO THE UNION HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM. STUDENTS WHO LIVED IN WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP HAD TO TRAVEL TO OAKLAND OR SAN JOSE IF THEY WANTED TO ATTEND HIGH SCHOOL. THEN IN 1890 THE CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE PASSED THE UNION HIGH SCHOOL LAW TO PROVIDE HIGH SCHOOLS FOR RURAL AREAS. CITIZENS OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CIRCULATED PETITIONS IN THE 14 ELEMENTARY DISTRICTS FOR AN ELECTION TO FORM A UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT. TWELVE OF THE DISTRICTS VOTED IN THE ELECTION OF SEPTEMBER 12, 1891 TO FORM UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2. CLASSES WERE HELD IN THE MASONIC HALL UNTIL A SCHOOL BUILDING COULD BE BUILT. ALVARADO JOINED THE UNION IN 1901 AND THE STUDENT BODY GRADUALLY OUTGREW THEIR QUARTERS. THE 1924 BUILDING STANDS TODAY AS A MONUMENT TO THE SUCCESS OF THIS SECOND SCHOOL UNDER THE UNION HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM.

DIAGRALI OF BUILDING AREAS HOJECT WASHINGTON - UNION HIGH _SCHOOL EXISTING (IA) ___SCHOOL DISTRICT BASIC PLAN (AS) ALAMSTA COUNTY CALIF. ☐ FINAL PLAN MACK & POOTBALL BIELD Washington Union High School Fremont, Alemada County, California N 87° 60 W 7074年 五名三五 · 217,164日 & BOOTH ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS e is deadonce in accountact with

would acknowled ASCHITELL OFFICE

DATE 6 (17) 66 SHEET 1 OF 20 SHEETS OFFICE OF SCHOOL PLANNING

