Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

	ONLY

DATE ENTERED

RECEIVED AUG 6 1985 SEP 1 6 1985

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS **TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**

1 NAME

HISTORIC

McKinley Park School AND/OR COMMON

City of Reno, Recreation Center

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

	Riverside Driv	e and Keystone Avenue	n/a_{NOT} for publicati	ON
CITY, TOW	/N		CONGRESSIONAL D	ISTRICT
	Reno	n/a VICINITY OF	2	
STATE		CODE	COUNTY	CODE
	Nevada	32	Washoe	031

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESI	ENTUSE
DISTRICT	-XPUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
_XBUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	X_PARK
STRUCTURE	ВОТН	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	n/a_IN PROCESS	XYES: RESTRICTED	X_GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
		NO	MILITARY	OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME			
City of Reno			
STREET & NUMBER			
P.O. Box 1900			
CITY, TOWN		STATE	
Reno	n/a_ VICINITY OF	Nevada	89505
5 LOCATION OF	LEGAL DESCRIPTION		
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEED S,ETC .	Washoe County Courthouse		
STREET & NUMBER			······································
	50 South Virginia Street		
CITY, TOWN		STATE	,
	Reno	Nevada	89501
6 REPRESENTAT	ION IN EXISTING SURVE	YS	
TITLE None			
DATE			۵۰، ۱۹۹۰ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱ ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ - ۱۹۹۹ -
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DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS			
CITY, TOWN		STATE	

7 DESCRIPTION

CON	DITION	CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	UNALTERED	X_ORIGINAL SITE
X_GOOD	RUINS	X_ALTERED	MOVED DATE
FAIR	UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The McKinley Park School is a one-story, stucco-surfaced institutional structure with a two-story central tower. The Mission Revival building stands on one square block surrounded by open space with a lawn and mature trees to the south and parking to the north. It stands just north of the Truckee River and is located at the base of the Newlands Heights bluff with Keystone Avenue as the western and Riverside Drive as the southern boundaries.

Constructed in 1909 to the designs of architect George Ferris, the multi-story structure is U-shaped with a central open court that faces south. A two-story central tower stands at the base of the U with a one-story wing extending to the north behind it. The roof is composed of intersecting gables. Scroll shaped parapets project from the facades of the wings that flank the central court.

The corners of the wings are marked by battered post forms indented at the eaveline and carrying capped projections that define the ends of the parapet scroll forms. Battered pilasters are centered in the south facades of each wing, flanked by paired windows. A raised design is centered beneath the scrolled gable. Paired and capped post projections flank side entries to each wing. These wings also contain rectangular windows on both east and west facades. Low walls, penetrated by circular openings and a stairway, define the courtyard area. An arcade with arched openings stands at the base of the U beneath the two-story tower and its scrolled parapet. The name of the school is written on a scrolled panel above paired windows in the south facade and the tower roof is gabled. A raised design ornaments the parapet above the name panel. A scrolled parapet that matches that of its facade surfaces the rear of the tower.

A rectangular wing extends to the north from the rear of the tower. This gabled wing contains rectangular windows, two canopied entrances, two newer doors, and stair access to the interior. A handicap access ramp has been constructed and a shed roof addition has been made to the rear of the wing on the west. A horizontal projecting belt course encircles the entire structure a few feet above the ground. Various chimney stacks and vents extend from the roof.

The structure is constructed in brick, covered with concrete stucco, and trimmed with concrete. The building is 150' x 160' and was almost identical in design to the Mt. Rose Elementary School which is already listed in the National Register.

The structure remains basically unaltered.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AR	EAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	X_EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
X1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SPECIFIC DATES 1909

The McKinley Park School is a particularly fine representative of the Mission Revival style. The school is one of the so-called "Spanish Quartet" of four Reno grammar schools constructed at virtually the same time and almost identical in design. The schools were highly lauded at the time for their modern convenience and tehnology, as well as their potential capacities to serve as community focal points. They represent a spurt in building intended to answer the growing needs of Reno. The principal town of Nevada was growing, becoming the financial and bureaucratic hub of the Newlands Reclamation Project and the Tonopah-Goldfield silver and gold strikes of central Nevada.

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

George Ferris

The school is an interesting and careful execution of the Mission Revival style. The plan appears to be well adapted to school needs with its ground floor access and the almost free standing placement of classroom wings to gain a maximum of natural light. The courtyard design with its arcade and decorative low walls is a particularly attractive feature. The design treatment of the facades and tower is both handsome and skillful.

The structure was designed by architect George Ferris and was constructed in 1909 at a cost of \$40,000. It was built at approximately the same time as the Orvis Ring School which was almost identical in design. Of the four schools constructed between 1909 and 1912, only two survive. The other, the Mt. Rose Elementary School, was listed by the National Register of Historic Places in 1977.

At the time of their construction, the schools were lauded for their design and planning "for the health, comfort and convenience of pupils and teachers, and to the demands of the industrial idea in modern education." The mechanical fan system of heating and ventilating was innovative. The schools were commended in publications of the Russell Sage Foundation for their modern construction and recreational capacities and, at the same time, the role they assumed as social centers for their respective communities.

Superintendent of Reno Schools at the time, B.D. Billinghurst, was said to have hired the architect, George Ferris, to employ the Mission Revival style because of his own interest in Spanish architecture. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction, however, had a different interpretation. In his report to the 27th Session of the Legislature (1915) suggested that mission architecture is "especially adapted to onestory structures." He added that "there is nothing better for school purposes than one-story buildings. The one-story plan eliminates the stair climbing so destructive to the nervous strength of pupils and teachers, and also renders danger from fire impossible."

The structure reverted to the City in September 1975. It continues to serve the function it was designed to serve - a social and cultural center for the community - and now operates as the office of the City Recreational Center.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Nevada State Journal, Vol. LVIII, No. 28, July 28, 1912. Nevada Newsletter, Nevada, Its Resources, Vol. 12, No. 23, January 10, 1980, Reno, NV. Interview: Rose Bullis, June 1982 Ed Parsons, June 1982

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.66 acres UTM REFERENCES

Quadrangle sclae 7.5' Quadrangle name Reno

A 1 1 25 7 2 6 0 ZONE EASTING	4,3,7,8,3,1,5 NORTHING	B ZONE	EASTING	

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Washoe County Assessor's parcel #11-084-02. Located on the block bounded by Riverside Drive on the south (268.96'), Keystone Avenue on the west (432.55'), Jones Street on the north (268.96'), and Vine Street on the east (432.55').

STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE
None		8		
STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE
FORM PREPARED BY	Revise	d by Ronald M. J	James, June	1985.
NAME / TITLE		.	·····, · ····	
Paula Boghosian				
ORGANIZATION			DATE	1000
Historical Environment Consu	<u>ltants</u>		June	1982
2306 'J' Street, Penthouse) 446-2447
CITY OR TOWN	······································		STATE	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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GPO 892-453