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

<u> 1. Name</u>					
historic Garfield					
and/or common Be	akalaw Unifiad Sak	ool District Admi	nicmation Ruilding	1	
		1001 DISCRICE Admit	nisration Building	····	
2. Locati	<u>on</u>				
street & number	1414 Walnut St reet	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~		not for publication	
city, town Berkele	∍ y	vicinity of	congressional district	8	
state California	a code	06 county	Alameda .	code 001	
3. Classif	fication				
districtX		Status _X_ occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted _X yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercialX educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:	
4. Owner	of Propert	Y			
•	Unified School Dis	strict	·		
city, town Berkele	 y	vicinity of	state	California 94704	
5. Locati	on of Lega	Description	on		
courthouse, registry o	of deeds, etc. Alamed	la County Courthou	se		
street & number 12	225 Fallon Street				
city, town 0a	akland		state	California	
6. Repres	sentation in	n Existing S	Surveys		
	istorical Resource / Landmark Status	es Inventory has this pro	perty been determined el	legible? yes <u>x</u> _ no	
date 2. April 4.	-		federal <u>l.</u> sta	ite county <u>2.</u> loca	
depository for survey		Office of Histori			
	records 2. Depart	ment of Housing a	nd_Developement		
	rkelev		state	California	

7. Description

Condition excellent good	deteriorated	Check one unaitered _X_ altered	Check oneX_ original site* moved date
X_ fair	unexposed		X (bungalows moved to site in 1917)

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The one-story rectangular building is Spanish Colonial Revival in design. The simple facade belies the serene beauty of its interior. Classrooms around the periphery open onto wide arcaded corridors with vaulted ceilings. Two sunny enclosed courtyards designed to serve as outdoor classrooms are located beyond the corridors. The courtyards are separated by a 400-seat auditorium which opens onto them through large French windows. Friezes of bundled laurel leaves and smiling cherubic faces ornament the classical entrances to the building.

The wood-frame building is finished in cement plaster which, unfortunately, has fallen from some places. The west facade, in particular, suffered quite a bit of damage when the school's playground was converted into a supermarket parking lot. Large pieces of plaster were knocked off and the lath below has been exposed to the weather for many years. The roof is covered with red clay tiles, except over the auditorium, where the original tile covered hip roof has been covered with a composition gable roof. There are three entrances to the building; one on Rose Street, one on Walnut Street and one on the parking lot, plus two sealed arches on the west facade that once led to the playground. Three tiered, Haser reversible windows, in groups of six, line the walls bringing in plenty of natural light and providing the means of converting the the rooms into open air classrooms. The rectangular floor plan contains eleven classrooms, six other rooms, the auditorium, and a reinforced concrete basement and boilerroom. The total area is 26,000+ square feet, nearly half of which is covered walkways and courtyards.

Two wooden bungalows sit at the south end of the site, near the parking area. Built in 1913 for sixth grade classes at Whittier School, the bungalows were moved to Garfield School in 1917 to alleviate overcrowding. The buildings, first used as classrooms, were later used as additional office space when the School District offices occupied the site. The "temporary" buildings are of wood-frame construction with plywood siding. The interiors have been modified with accoustical tile and additional partions. The buildings are in rather poor condition, suffering from age; and weather.

One of the highlights of the site is an huge elm tree on the southeast corner; the seventy-year old tree shades much of the parking lot.

Garfield School is located on the southwest corner of Walnut and Rose Streets. It now acts as a buffer between a neighborhood of well-maintained homes, built during the same period, and a growing commercial strip along Shattuck Avenue to the west.

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8. Significance

art commerce communications	engineering exploration/settlement industry invention	music philosophy politics/government Jobbook (a. 1)	humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
1915	Builder/Architect	Ernest Coxhead	
	commerce communications	commerce exploration/settlement industry invention 1915 Builder/Architect	commerceexploration/settlementphilosophyindustrypolitics/governmentinvention

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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Garfield Intermediate School is one of the last examples of the institutional work of recognized architect Ernest Coxhead. The building of Spanish Colonial Revival design is a fine early example of the California "outdoor" school. The Garfield is part of a 1915 building program initiated by the City of Berkeley. Five prominent bay area architects designed five schools, to be built on a limited budget.

Ernest Coxhead, along with Julia Morgan, Bernard Maybeck and others, designed buildings defined as the First Phase of the Bay Area Tradition. Born in England and educated at the Royal Institute of British Architects, Coxhead immigrated to Los Angeles in 1886 and to the Bay Area in 1890. The West greatly impressed Coxhead with its spaciousness, lack of tradition in the willingness of its people to try new things. Many of his early works for the Episcopal Diosese have been described by John Beach, a noted local architectural historian, as "one of the most fascinating series of buildings of the period; a group of powerful, original (and occasionally unsettling) church designs". After the mid-1890's Coxhead concentrated on residential design, where as with his churches, he played with space and scale. Of the four schools that Coxhead designed in his career, Garfield Intermediate is the only one remaining. It is one of the few Coxhead buildings remaining in the East Bay.

Garfield School is a fine and early example of the "outdoor" school. Many Californians felt that the state's benevolent climate called for a more open school plan than was traditionally accepted. The sunny sheltered courtyards and cool arched walkways of Garfield School provide a tranquil atmosphere conducive to thought and study, to California weather, openess and pleasant sun protection. The lightening auditorium opens onto the courtyards through large French windows and the classroom windows can be opened wide to let the outdoors in. Garfield School has been called the most sophisticated version of the outdoor school in Northern California at the time of its construction.

The building's arcades and courtyards show a quiet delight in the play of light and shadow as well as a sensitivity to the use of materials. There is a timeless, almost poetical, quality here, likened by B. J. S. Cahill to a quality found in the original California missions. A quality he describes as "a largeness, seriousness, austerity and restraint coupled with a mellow decorm that can best be paralleled in the monastic solemnity of the Gregorian chant or the plains song of Palestrina".

iographical References See Continuation Sheet **Geographical Data** 10. Approximately 1 Acre Acreage of nominated property _ Quadrangle name Richmond, Quadrangle scale 1:24000 **UMT References** 110 | 5 | 614 | 41310 Verbal boundary description and justification : Block Number: 2261 Lot Number: located on the northeast corner of the block bounded by Walnut Street on the east, Vine Stree on the south, Shattuck Avenue on the west, and Rose Street on the north. List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries code state county code N/A code state county code Form Prepared By name/title Anthony Bruce and Kathleen Johnson date December 15, 1980 organization Berkeley Architectural Heritage street & number P.O. Box 1137 telephone (415) 845-6591 Berkeley California 94701 city or town 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. un 9200 State Historic Preservation Officer signature APR 2 6 1982 title date

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

9 PAGE

Architect and Engineer. "The City of Berkeley's New Public School Buildings", May 1916.

Beach, John. "Ernest Coxhead and the Regional Scene", San Francisco Heritage, 1974.

Beach, John. oral interview, December 1 and 10, 1980 in Atlanta, GA.

Beach, John. "Coxhead Tour Announcement" Berkeley Architectural Heritage Assn., 1978.

Berkeley Gazette. "Berkeley's Architectural Heritage", February 24, 1978.

California State Historical Inventory Form - March 23, 1978.

City of Berkeley Landmarks Commission Report - September 1980.

City of Berkeley Request for Designation as a Landmark - April 1980.

Waterman, S.D. History of the Berkeley Schools. Berkeley: The Professional Press, 1918.

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CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE (Sketch map)

ROSE ST. GARFIELD INTERMEDIATE School (FORMER PLAYGROUND) PARKING LOT FOR SUPERMORKET COURT <u>AUDITORIUN</u> SUPERMARKE wes WALKU AREA MAP O RESIDENTIAL PARKING