

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: 89000935
Lincoln, Abraham Elementary School
Property Name

Date Listed: 7/31/89
Los Angeles CA
County 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.

Gary Schragel
Signature of the Keeper

7/31/89
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

The number of acres for this property is 3.75.

Discussed and concurred in by the California SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

NR File
SHPO (w/o file)

JUN 16 1989

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL
REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Abraham Lincoln Elementary School
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 1200 N. Gordon Avenue N/A not for publication
city, town Pomona N/A vicinity
state California code CA county Los Angeles code 037 zip code 91768

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>4</u>	<u>6</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official *Kathryn Guethlein* Date 6-9-89

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. *Amy Schlager* 7/31/89
 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 _____ Date of Action _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Education

Elementary School

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Education

Elementary School

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th-20th Century Revivals

Spanish Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Stucco

roof Ceramic Tile

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Abraham Lincoln Elementary School, located in central Pomona, was built in 1936 on the site of an earlier school. The building is a single story, Spanish Colonial styled structure containing ten classrooms, a kindergarten department, an auditorium, administrative offices, cafeteria, and related facilities. The auditorium was constructed of poured-in-place concrete with the remainder of the building being frame construction. The building is representative of many standard school design features of the period, as well as containing numerous innovative elements such as an internal telephone system. The maintenance of the building has been exceptional in that the majority of the original interior and exterior features have been retained. Included within the resource are a brick wall fronting two sides of the property, a flagpole, and a sun dial all dating to the construction of the school. Six portable buildings (non-contributing), dating between 1956 and 1987, have been added to the grounds.

The Abraham Lincoln Elementary School is located at 1200 N. Gordon Avenue in Pomona, California on a 3.75-acre site adjacent to Garey Avenue, the primary north/south arterial through the City of Pomona. The site is the location of an earlier school, Garey School, which was razed to build Lincoln School. The bricks from Garey School were used for the school yard wall found along the southern and eastern property lines. The building is situated on the easterly portion of the site actually fronting a residential neighborhood on Gordon Street.

The building exhibits a modified cruciform design with the primary axis on a north/south orientation. This orientation minimized solar exposure within the classrooms and permitted maximum use of prevailing east/west winds for ventilation.

The single story building contains: an auditorium, an administrative office with reception area, principal's office and clinic, teachers' rooms, cafeteria, ten classrooms, a kindergarten area, two restrooms, a bookroom, janitorial and storage closets, and a partial (12' x 38') basement intended as a future boiler room.

The auditorium measuring 40' x 72' forms the northern section of the building and is made of reinforced concrete. The remainder of the building is wood frame construction. Exterior material is stucco with a gabled tile roof.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 16 1989

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

The main classroom section measures 60' x 250'. Eight of the classrooms and the kindergarten are located in this section. The classrooms are the "standard" room of the period, measuring 24' x 36', with a rear cloakroom and workroom. Each room has five large windows in the main classroom, and a smaller window in the workroom on the exterior, and three windows, one above the doorway opening into the central hallway. The building design relied primarily on unilateral natural lighting (i.e., the large exterior windows permitted the room to be flooded with light from one side). However, this was augmented with modern light fixtures which provided direct and indirect illumination. One classroom contained a sensor which turned the lights on automatically when it became too dark outside. Each room was connected to the principal's office by an internal telephone system.

At the southern end of the building is the kindergarten department. This includes the main room (35' x 38'), two group rooms (14' x 20'), a kitchen, and separate boys and girls cloak and restrooms. The entire kindergarten complex is sunken approximately four feet below the main school elevation.

The east wing of the school measures 60' x 113' and contains the administrative offices, cafeteria, teachers' room, and two standard classrooms.

Exterior features include the prominent bell tower, arched windows in the auditorium section and doric ornamentation on the auditorium and main entry. The original flagpole and matching sun dial remain on the front grounds. The brick wall was originally constructed on only the east and southern property boundaries and remains as constructed with limited repairs.

The building has been extremely well maintained with little modification. The interior doors, maple floors, woodwork, blackboards, cabinetry, light fixtures, coat hooks, telephones, interior and exterior drinking fountains and other elements all remain. Artifacts such as original maps, desks, and artwork are also found throughout the school. Alterations have been limited to the placement of acoustical tile on the classroom and hallway ceilings, replacement of six sets of exterior doors (the originals remain in storage), removal of the transom window above the main entry (the original window is stored at the school) and replacement of the original steam radiator heating system.

The school grounds have not been extensively modified with the exception of the addition of portable classrooms. Six buildings containing ten classrooms have been added between 1956 and 1987. The property boundaries have not been modified. The portable classrooms are wood frame with plywood and stucco exteriors.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
 Architecture

Period of Significance
 1936

Significant Dates
 N/A

Cultural Affiliation
 N/A

Significant Person
 N/A

Architect/Builder
 Marston, Sylvanus B.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Abraham Lincoln Elementary School is significant in the architectural history of the Pomona area under Criterion C as a very good example of a specific building type. Designed by Pasadena architect Sylvanus Marston in 1936, it is the only Spanish Colonial Revival school building remaining in Pomona. The architectural design of the building, its scale and detail represent a quality no longer found in the public school design. With wide halls, high ceilings, and lovely woodwork, it is a building of exceptional beauty and charm that conveys a strong sense of time and place.

What was to become the Pomona Unified School District began informally in the mid-1800s with a school for the early Spanish families in the valley. This school was taught by Josepha Palomares de Arena, sister of Ignacio Palomares, first owner of the 22,000-acre Rancho San Jose. In 1871, the Palomares (School) District was formed, providing instruction in English and Spanish, with classes in a room in the Alvarado adobe. In the fall of 1871, the first school, a small wooden building was erected at the corner of Park Avenue and Orange Grove Avenue in Pomona (Pomona Unified School District, 1957). In 1888, the Palomares District became the Pomona District and eventually the Pomona Unified School District in 1954 (Pomona Unified School District, 1965). Today, the District has an enrollment of 22,800 students and operates 31 school facilities.

While there has been a continual replacement of the earlier facilities, perhaps the most important date with respect to historic school facilities in the District, as well as other districts is 1933, the year of the Long Beach earthquake. Building codes were substantially modified by the Field Act of that year and subsequent State legislation in 1968 requiring structural improvements resulted in the eventual replacement of all remaining pre-1933 schools within the District.

Early schools within the District included: Central (1876/1892); Spadra (1876); Sixth Street, later called Lincoln (1892); Fifth Street (1884); Tenth Street, became Hamilton (1884); Kauffman, originally Fourth Ward (1903); Emerson (1903); San Antonio (1907-1908); Hamilton (1909); Garey (1909);

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 16 1989

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

Emerson Science and Mechanics Arts Buildings (1909-1910); Washington (1913); Alcott (1914/1927); and Roosevelt (1929). None of these remain.

Two pre-1933 school structures are extant. The Arroyo School Kindergarten Bungalow (1908), now referred to as the Barbara Greenwood Kindergarten Bungalow, has been moved from District property and is undergoing restoration. The Fremont Jr. High School (1930) has been extensively modified and now serves as the District administrative offices. The Abraham Lincoln Elementary School (1936) is the oldest school facility still used as a school.

The Abraham Lincoln Elementary School was designed by Pasadena architect Sylvanus Marston (1883-1946). Marston was a fifth generation architect whose grandfather designed many of the lighthouses on the California coast between Eureka and Big Sur as well as the first United States Federal buildings at the Presidio. Sylvanus Marston himself was a prominent architect with one of the largest architectural offices in Southern California in 1925. He was twice President of the American Institute of Architects, President of the State Association of California Architecture in 1932, and a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. Some of Marston's more prominent works include the cottages for the Vista Del Arroyo Hotel, the Grace Nicholson Buildings, the Pasadena YMCA, the Pasadena American Legion Building, the Shakespeare Club, the G. L. Morris Building, the French chateaus at 243 N. San Rafael and 1199 Chateau Road in Pasadena and several Pomona schools. (Pasadena Heritage, n.d.).

The Lincoln School was designed in the Spanish Colonial Revival style, a dominant style in Southern California in the twenties and thirties. Sylvanus Marston is recognized as one of the leading architects of that style (Gebhard, 1984). The Lincoln School is an excellent representation of the simplicity inherent in the character of that style. The stylistic elements are presented in a cohesive and understated manner: the tile roof; the stucco exterior; the bell tower; the arch represented in the auditorium windows, the tower and attic vents; and the low-relief doric capitals and entablature on the main entry and auditorium.

The interior of the building includes standard as well as several innovative design components. The "standard" classroom (24' X 36'), wardrobe rooms, unilateral lighting design, and many smaller items such as the ventilated lunch storage closets were common school features. Items considered amenities at the time include light fixtures providing direct and diffused lighting, telephones in classrooms, operable sash which could be kept open even during storms to provide ventilation, and indoor and outdoor drinking fountains (Progress Bulletin, August 7, 1936). The building orientation and ventilation design were so successful that air conditioning has not been required.

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

JUN 16 1989

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

In comparison to other buildings within the District, there are none which have retained the original architectural character and integrity as exhibited by Lincoln School.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

MAY 16 1989

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Gebhard, Richard and Robert Winter. 1984. Architecture in Los Angeles, Peregrine Smith Books.

Marston, Keith. 1983. Architectural Works of Sylvanus B. Marston, et al. revised 5/5/83. On file at Pasadena Historical Society Archives Library.

Marston and Maybury, 1936. Lincoln School Architectural Drawings and Specifications. On file at Pomona Unified School District.

Pasadena Heritage. n.d. File on Sylvanus B. Marston.

Pomona Unified School District. April 1965. Progress Report.

Pomona Unified School District. 1957. Fifty Years of Parent Teachers Association in Pomona Council, 1905-1957.

Progress Bulletin. August 7, 1936. "New \$118,000 Lincoln School Plant Ready to be Furnished".

Robertson, Doug. June 2, 1976. A History of Pomona Schools. On file Pomona Library, Special Collections.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 16 1989

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 2

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 6 and 16, Block "B": of Firey, French and Rhorer's Subdivision of the South 20 acres of the Burbank Tract, in the City of Pomona, as per map recorded in Book 15, page 36, Miscellaneous Records, Los Angeles County; and Lots 1 and 2, Block "B", Subdivision of the North 10 acres of the Burbank Tract, in the City of Pomona, as per map recorded in Book 15, page 36, Miscellaneous Records, Los Angeles County.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 16 1989

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Photographs _____ Page 1

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Name of property - Abraham Lincoln Elementary School
1200 N. Gordon Street
City and State - Pomona, CA
Photographer - Charles Pilcher
Date of Photographs - 6/88, except as noted
Location of original negative - The Pilcher Group, 269 S.
Gibbs, Pomona, CA 91766

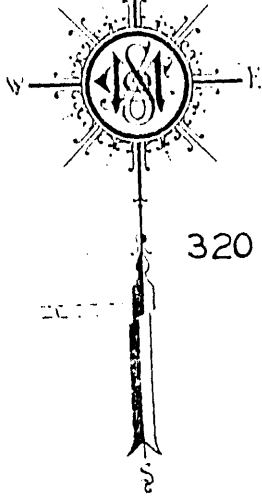
The view description for each photo is noted below.

1. Exterior elements, west side; NE view.
2. Entrance with doric ornamentation; E view.
3. Auditorium windows; NE view.
4. Classroom exterior windows; E view.
5. Brick schoolyard wall; S view.
6. Main hallway; S view.
7. East wing; E view.
8. Fireproof doors, center of main hallway; E view.
9. Administration Office; NE view.
10. Classroom #2 interior; E view.
11. Classroom #2 interior; SW view.
12. Classroom #2 interior; NW view.
13. Kindergarten stairs; NE view.
14. Kindergarten cloakroom; E view.
15. Classroom lighting fixture.
16. Classroom door with original hardware; W view.
17. South interior drinking fountain; W view.
18. Exterior "gang" fountain; W view.
19. Original telephone, kindergarten; W view.
20. Boys' restroom; SE view.
21. Ventilated lunch storage closets; NE view.
22. Artifact - original relief maps.
23. Artifact - original artwork, Principal's Office; E view.
24. Portable classrooms on grounds (1969, 1979); S view.
25. Portable classrooms (1984-1987); NE view.
26. Portable classrooms (1957).
27. West exterior; NE view. 12/88
28. East exterior; NW view. 12/88
29. North exterior; SW view. 12/88
30. South exterior; N view. 12/88

Fire Map
updated 1945
Sanborn Map Co.

Abraham Lincoln Elementary School
1200 N. Gordon Ave.
Pomona, California
Los Angeles County

ABRAHAM LINCOLN SCHOOL
- BUILT 1936 -

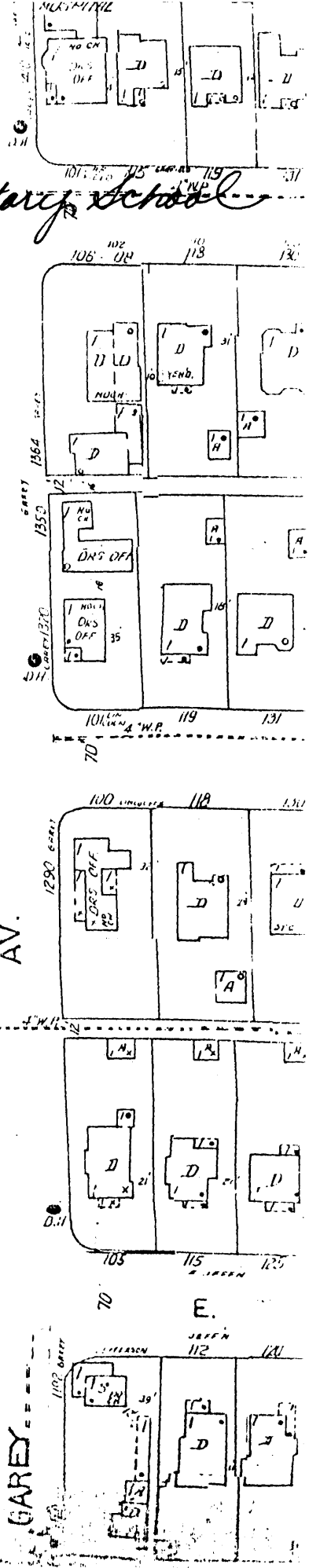
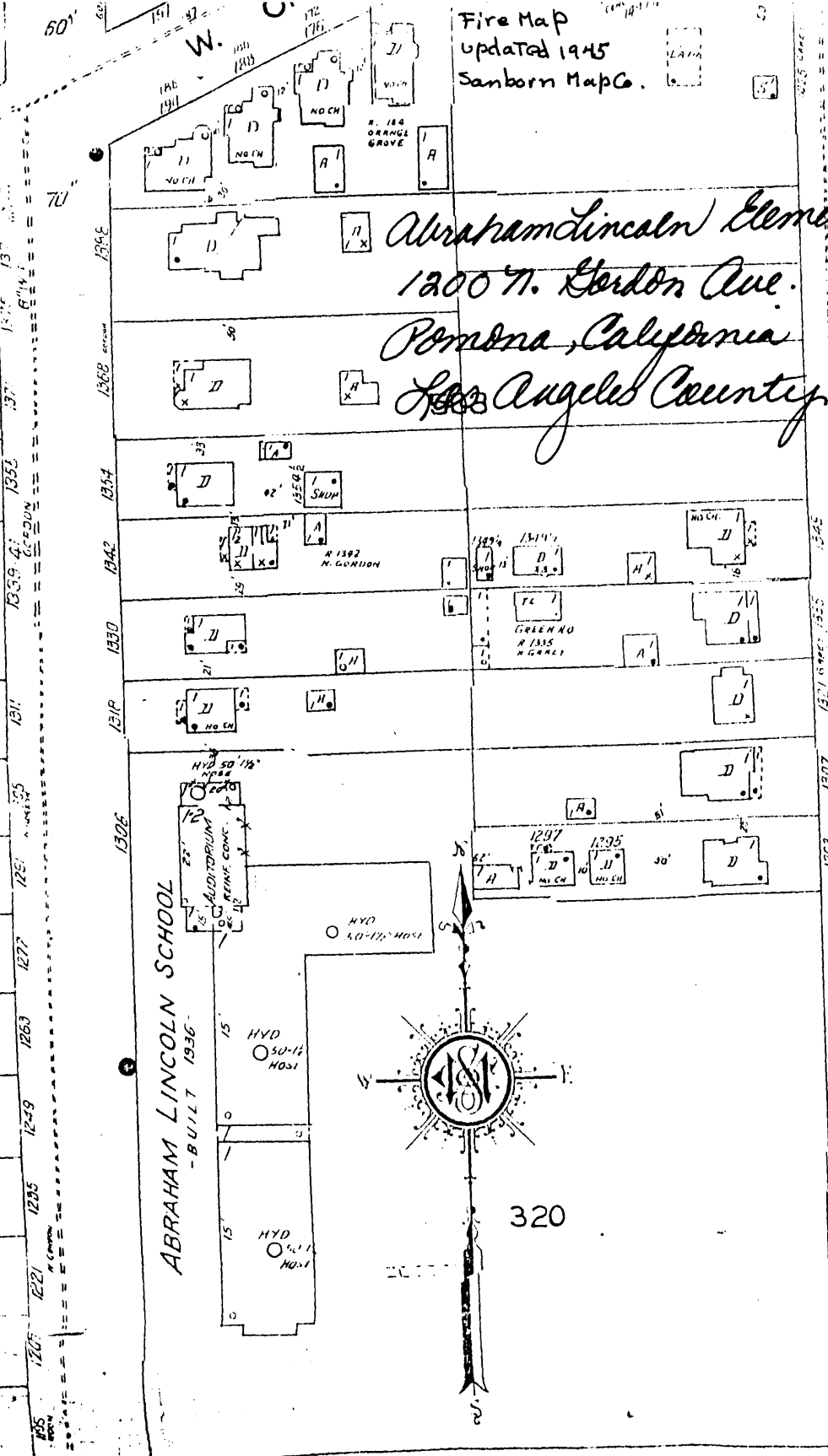


320

W. E. JEFFERSON AV. S.W.P. 13

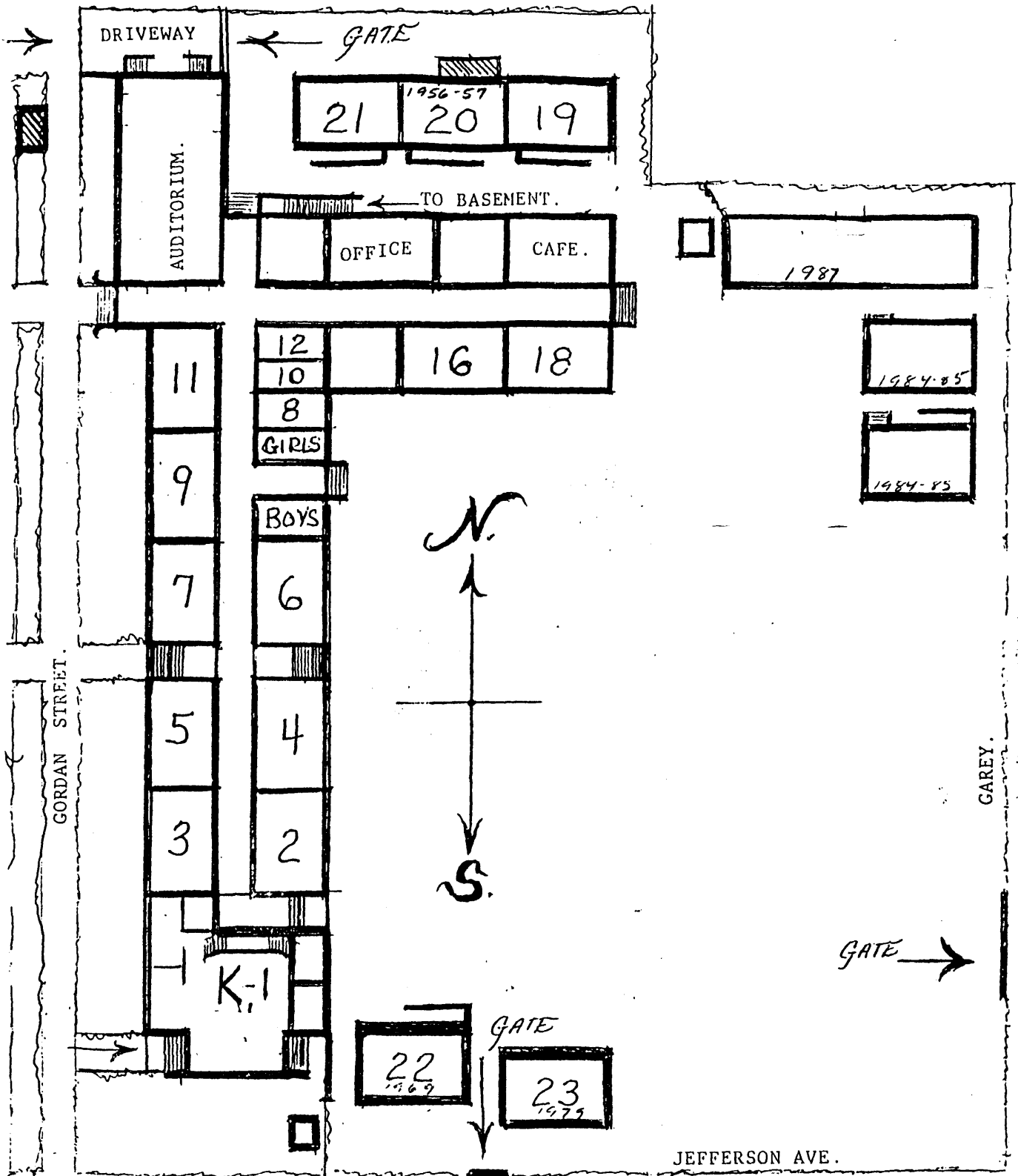
AV.

GAREY



Abraham Lincoln Elementary School
 1200 N. Gordon Avenue
 Pomona, California Los Angeles County

6 1990



ABRAHAM LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - CURRENT SITE PLAN