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

2) Campbell

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located on the northeast corner of Winchester Boulevard and Campbell Avenue on approximately 3.126 acres which includes front and side yard, Campbell Union Grammar School presently contains 38,200 square feet. It was originally in an E shape, open to the rear, but the architect who designed the school, William H. Weeks, designed two additions, one in June, 1926, and the other in March, 1929, that completed the enclosure of the E, thus forming an enclosed courtyard. The additions are of the same design and material as the original building. The single-story building has a second floor in the center of the E above the auditorium, which is directly behind the main entrance.

The building is located far enough from Campbell Avenue so that the front grounds provide an open space, park-like atmosphere. Included in the plantings is a 60 foot Sequoia gigantea which was planted in February, 1932, in conjunction with Campbell's Old Settlers' Day celebration, which has been held every year since 1895.

The building is of reinforced concrete with a low-pitched red tile roof that is a combination of hips and gables. The red tile roof is in evidence on the exterior elevations but not on the interior courtyard elevations.

The classically symmetrical facade was originally covered with a pinkish cream plaster. The front entry features a triple arched portico with dual attached columns. Across the whole portico is a series of four steps. Above the entry columns, the architrave area once exhibited the name of the school. These were removed in 1964 when the facility became known as West Valley College. A frieze area above the architrave features applied scroll panels in line with the applied columns below.

The windows are arranged in banks of three. The fenestration is intact, but the glazing has been vandalized. Above the banks of three windows in the front corner portions of the building, which housed the cafeteria on the west and the kindergarten on the east, are recessed arches with cast ornamentation resembling urns.

The central wing of the building has an enclosed hallway with skylights near both ends. The other wings have open arcades, and the classroom doors in these wings open into these arcades onto the interior courtyard which is in the shape of a U due to the intrusion of the auditorium. Two chimneys are in evidence, one to the rear of the auditorium and one on the east by the kindergarten.

Due to vandalism of the interior, the only significant feature remaining is the tile-lined fireplace in the kindergarten, with seats on either side of it. The kindergarten also included a unique feature known as the sun porch, which was located off the room to the east. With an 18" wall around it, it was considered an innovation for its day and provided an exterior entrance to the room.

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Although all doors and light fixtures have to be replaced, a September, 1978, report by consulting engineer Hugh B. Brewster indicates that the building is in excellent structural condition, with no evidence of settlement of the exterior walls or foundation. The condition, of the roof structure is excellent and little work would be required to bring its structural element to an acceptable level of safety. The floor system is of wood assembly, with joists and girders of acceptable condition and of a quality not available today, according to Brewster.

There is one modern intrusion to the building. It is a portion of a concrete arcade built in 1941 on the east side that joined additional classrooms to the original building. It was partially demolished in 1977 when Civic Center Drive was built, and the remaining part will be removed when the building is renovated. It can be removed without damage to the original building and definitely is not a part of this nomination.



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|--------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--|---------------------|
| PREHISTOHIC | ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | COMMUNITY PLANNING | LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | RELIGION |
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| 1600-1699 | X_ARCHITECTURE | X_EDUCATION | MILITARY | SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| 1700-1799 | ART | ENGINEERING | MUSIC | THEATER |
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| X_1900- | COMMUNICATIONS | | POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | OTHER (SPECIFY) |
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| SPECIFIC DAT | ES 1922 | BUILDER/ARCH | HITECT William H. W | eeks |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located on the northeast corner of what has become one of the busiest intersections in the valley, this school is significant because it was and still remains a focal point of identity for this community. Built in 1922, it became the first Campbell Union Grammar Schools as a result of the consolidation of four districts in this once rural agricultural area. The building's monumental size with its classical lines provides a strong visual impact on our city as it serves as the westerly entrance to the historic old downtown core. Architect William H. Weeks' use of selective plantings to soften the building and a large set-back create a park-like atmosphere on the front and side facing the two streets.

With the consolidation of Hamilton, San Tomas, Meridian and Campbell districts, which comprised about 14 square miles, the voters also approved a \$155,000 bond issue in 1921. Architect William H. Weeks, who was familiar to the Campbell community as he had built the previous grammar school which became the high school annex after 1922, presented plans which were more elaborate than those actually accepted. However, he revised these drawings to meet the feelings and needs of the community. This was a strong point of Mr. Weeks. He designed schools as his local clients wanted them. This is most evident in the auditorium of this school, which was much larger than needed by the student body. However, the trustees wanted what would become a meeting place for the community and, as a result, it became the community center. Since Campbell was not incorporated as a city until 1952, it needed this central point upon which to build community identity.

Another example of the attention Mr. Weeks paid to his clients' needs was exemplified in the kindergarten on the southeast front corner. Because many of the children had to be bussed from a great distance, the room contained many features to make them feel at home, such as the alcove with the fireplace and low seats around the tile-lined hearth, so that they could warm their hands and feet.

This school was so important to this community that, on the day of the laying of the cornerstone, all business houses in town closed so that the entire community could attend the ceremony. A historic photo shows numerous people and automobiles, indicating that they came from all over the area to witness the event.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet.

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| 10 GEOGRAPHICAL | DATA | | 2. |
| | PERTY 3.126 acres, app | roximately | |
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| ORGANIZATION | ····· | | DATE |
| Campbell Hist | orical Museum | | December 29, 1978 |
| STREET & NUMBER | | | TELEPHONE(408) 378-7367 or |
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ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

There was much discussion as to the location of the school. The site selected was directly north of the old high school. Later a new high school would be built in 1936 on the northwest corner, also designed by William H. Weeks. This area became known as the "schools' corner" and still is.

The building is of reinforced concrete, which Mr. Weeks had worked in for many years. Even though he is little recognized, he built more schools in northern California during the period from 1894-1936 than any other architect. Schools were only a part of his achievements, as he also built many libraries, churches, the Casino and Natatorium in Santa Cruz, and many hotels, including the De Anza Hotel in nearby San Jose.

Mr. Weeks later used plates of his Campbell school to illustrate his work in journals and books. The school served as a grammar school from 1922 until 1964, at which time it became the first campus of West Valley Junior College. The junior college continued using the facility until 1976. Since that time, it has been vacant. It should be noted that between 1922 and 1946 this was the only grammar school in the district.

This monumental structure represents the middle period of architect Weeks' long career in public school building. According to David Gebhard, architectural historian at the University of California at Santa Barbara, Campbell's grammar school is a type of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture called Mediterranean Revival, characterized by many classical elements from the Mediterranean world. The spartan, clean lines resulted because of Campbell's desire to economize and Weeks' genius to create a blend of styles in keeping with the popular architecture of the early 1920's. Form No 10-300a (Hev. 10-74) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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PAGE 1 ITEM NUMBER 9 CONTINUATION SHEET

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES 1922 Campbell Union Grammar School

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ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: 1922 Campbell Union Grammar School

BEGINNING at a point on the easterly line of Winchester Boulevard (formerly Santa Clara and Los Gatos Road) (45.00 foot half-street) as said easterly line was established by that certain Grant of Easement recorded January 22, 1962, and filed in Book 5440 of Official Records at page 117 in the office of the County Recorder, County of Santa Clara, State of California, said point being North 0° 12' 45" West 96.06 feet from the centerline of Campbell Avenue as said Campbell Avenue is described by said Grant of Easement;

THENCE, along said easterly line of Winchester Boulevard North 0⁰ 12' 45" West 316.94 feet to its intersection with a line that is parallel with and 413.00 feet northerly, measured at right angles, from said centerline of Campbell Avenue;

THENCE, along said parallel line North 89⁰ 42' 00" East 395.00 feet to its intersection with a line that is parallel with and 395.00 feet easterly, measured at right angles, from said easterly line of Winchester Boulevard;

THENCE, along last-mentioned parallel line South 0° 12' 45" East 281.26 feet to its intersection with a curve that is concave northwesterly and has a radius of 275.00 feet;

THENCE, from a tangent bearing South 46° 08' 05" West southwesterly and westerly along the arc of said curve 209.10 feet through a cental angle of 43° 33' 55" to its point of tangency with a line that is parallel with and 56.00 feet northerly, measured at right angles, from said centerline of Campbell Avenue;

THENCE, along last-mentioned parallel line South 89° 42' 00" West 165.53 feet to its point of tangency with a curve that is concave northeasterly and has a radius of 40.00 feet;

THENCE, along the arc of last-mentioned curve westerly, northwesterly, and northerly 62.89 feet through a central angle of 90 $^{\circ}$ 05' 15" to the POINT OF BEGINNING.

CONTAINING 3.126 acres, more or less, and being a portion of Section 26, Township 7 South, Range 1 West, M. D. B. & M.



