

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: 88000563 Date Listed: 5/25/88

<u>Port Costa School</u>	<u>Contra Costa</u>	<u>CA</u>
Property Name	County	State

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.

for Patrick Andrews
Signature of the Keeper

5/25/88
Date of Action

===== Amended Items in Nomination: =====

Section 3 of the nomination inappropriately indicated education as a present use even though the building is currently unoccupied. Instead, "park" and "other:vacant" should be checked under present use. This change was confirmed with Marilyn Lortie of the California State Historic Preservation Office on 5/25/88.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received APR 15 1988
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Port Costa School

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Plaza El Hambre

N/A not for publication

city, town Port Costa N/A vicinity of

state California code 06 county Contra Costa code 013

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name John Swett Unified School District

street & number P.O. Box 847

city, town Crockett N/A vicinity of state California 94525

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Contra Costa County Recorder's Office

street & number 730 Las Juntas

city, town Martinez state California

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Preliminary Determination of Eligibility
National Park Service has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date October 1986 federal state county local

depository for survey records NPO WRO

city, town San Francisco state California

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1912–1938 **Builder/Architect** William Wilde

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Port Costa School is significant under criteria A and C. Under criterion A, the school has played a significant role in the education of generations of Port Costa children because, since 1912, the school has been the only school in Port Costa. (It succeeds two earlier schools which were demolished.) Port Costa is an unincorporated township with a population of 250. It has very few monumental buildings. The Port Costa School is the largest public building in the town.

On April 4, 1911, the residents of the Port Costa School District voted to incur a bonded indebtedness of \$15,000 for the erection of the school. Construction began in August 1911 and was completed in March of 1912. The school opened to students in August of 1912. It served as a grammar school for grades 1–8 until its closure in 1966. During its 54-year history as an active educational facility, approximately 600 children graduated.

Under criterion C, the building was designed by William Wilde, an architect who came to this country in 1907 from Copenhagen, Denmark. By 1908, Wilde was in practice in San Francisco. In 1910, he designed the grammar school in Martinez; in 1911–1912, the Port Costa School, and, in 1912 also, he won the competition for the now-demolished Martinez City Hall.

In 1912, the firm of Wilde & Schaeffer had an office at 1221 Broadway in Oakland. In 1913, Wilde designed the Travelers Hotel in Oakland in association with Otto Schiller. Wilde designed the Bank of Canton (later known as the Asian American Bank) at 500 Montgomery Street. This building has a "B" rating in the San Francisco Downtown Plan and is one of the City's notable "banking temples". All the buildings mentioned above were designed in the Classical Revival Style fashionable in the first decades of the 20th century. (Later works by Wilde from the 1930s and 1940s are outside of the State indicating that he may have moved in the later part of his career.)

The Port Costa School, while not a costly building as were most of the others mentioned above, is representative of the kind of dignified and well-planned building which was appropriate for rural community needs.

Because exceptional significance has not been shown, the period of significance (which extended into recent times) has arbitrarily been ended at the 50 year limit, 1938.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 2.2 acres

Quadrangle name Benecia

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	0	5	7	1	2	6	0	4	2	1	0	8	9	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Three parcels located on Plaza El Hambre in Port Costa. See continuation sheet.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sally B. Woodbridge, Architectural Historian and Mary Powell, Financial Secretary

organization Port Costa Conservation Society date August 3, 1987

street & number 2273 Vine Street telephone (415) 848-4356

city or town Berkeley state California 94709

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Kathryn Gueltner

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 4/4/88

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Patrick Andrews
Keeper of the National Register

date 5/25/88

Attest:

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

DESCRIPTION: PORT COSTA SCHOOL, ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER 368-133-007

The land referred to herein is situated in the State of California, County of Contra Costa, Unincorporated, described as follows:

Parcel One:

Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 in Block 8, Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 in Block 9; Lots 1 and 2 in Block 12, Section One, as said lots and block are delineated and so designated upon the map entitled, "Map of the Town of Port Costa", Contra Costa County, California, which map was filed in the office of the County Recorder of the County of Contra Costa, State of California on December 1, 1883.

Parcel Two:

Beginning at the most westerly corner of Lot 2 in Block 12, as said lot and block are delineated and so designated upon the map of the town of Port Costa; thence along the southerly line of Block 12 and the westerly line of Blocks 9 and 8, South $71^{\circ} 28'$ East, 69.58 feet; South $14^{\circ} 17'$ East, 65.54 feet; and South $29^{\circ} 59'$ West, 207.81 feet to the most Westerly corner of Lot 8 in Block 8; thence South $60^{\circ} 01'$ East, 100 feet to the most Southerly corner of Lot 8 in Block 8; thence South $29^{\circ} 59'$ West, 60.00 feet; thence South $60^{\circ} 01'$ East, 151.81 feet; thence South $08^{\circ} 54'$ West, 45.11 feet; thence South $68^{\circ} 09'$ West, 144.39 feet; thence South $42^{\circ} 06'$ West, 71.66 feet; thence North $27^{\circ} 31' 50''$ West 282.80 feet to a point on the Easterly boundary line of the state highway leading from Crockett to Martinez, and from which point the center of a curve to the left with a radius of 255 feet bears North $47^{\circ} 45' 50''$ West; thence Northeasterly and Northwesterly along said curve, through an arc of $63^{\circ} 42' 46''$, a distance of 283.56 feet; thence leaving said highway boundary line North $48^{\circ} 33'$ East, 132.79 feet to the point of beginning.

Parcel Three:

Beginning at the point of intersection of the Southerly line of Lufkin Street with the Westerly line of the Plaza El Hambre, as said street and plaza are delineated and so designated upon the map hereinabove referred to under Parcel 1; thence along the Westerly line of Plaza El Hambre and the Easterly line of Block 9, South $14^{\circ} 17'$ East, 160.70 feet; thence leaving said line, North $29^{\circ} 59'$ East, 164.47 feet; thence North $83^{\circ} 47'$ East, 122.56 feet to the point of beginning.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 2

Boundary Justification: Port Costa School

The Port Costa School District purchased Lots 3, 4, and 5 in Block 9 of the town of Port Costa from Mary A. Bowler on April 10, 1886 for the establishment of the first Port Costa School. Additional property which had served as the Port Costa School Playground and ball field since 1886 was deeded to the Port Costa School District on June 13, 1941 by the G. W. McNear Corporation. The John Swett Unified School District, successor by law to the Port Costa School District, has continued to maintain the property as an integral part of the Port Costa School.

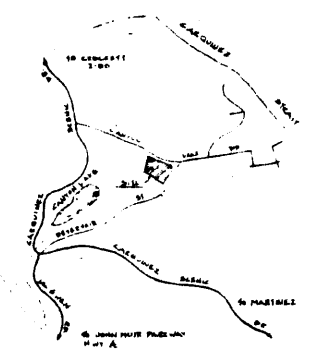
Contra Costa County Recorder's Office: Port Costa School Deeds

Deed for Lots 3, 4, and 5 recorded April 19, 1886 in Book of Deeds, Book 49, Page 357.
Deed for additional property recorded August 30, 1941 in Book of Deeds, Book U15, Page 357.

GENERAL NOTES

1. VERIFY ALL DIMENSIONS AND EXISTING CONDITIONS BEFORE COMMENCING ANY WORK.
2. DO NOT SCALE DRAWINGS.
3. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE APPROXIMATE

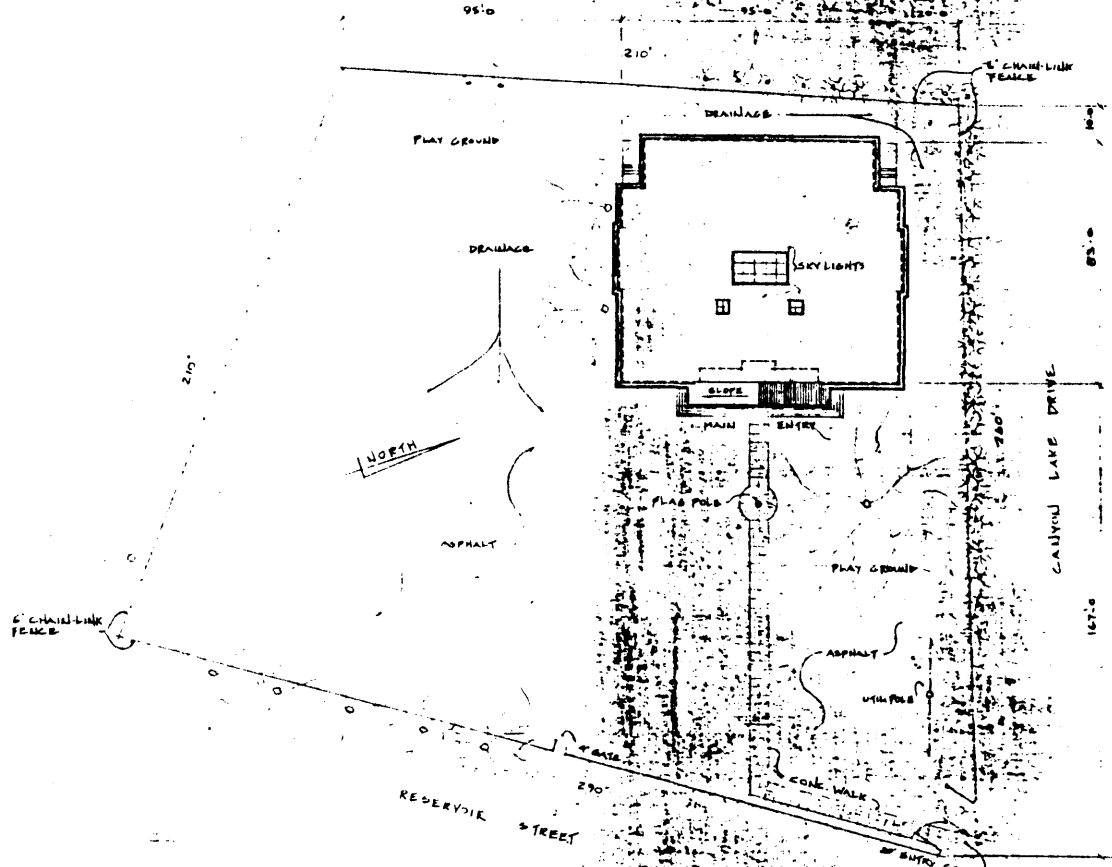
Port Costa School
 Plaza El Hambre
 Port Costa, Contra Costa Co.
 California



VICINITY MAP
 NOT TO SCALE

SITE & ROOF PLAN

1" = 20'-0"



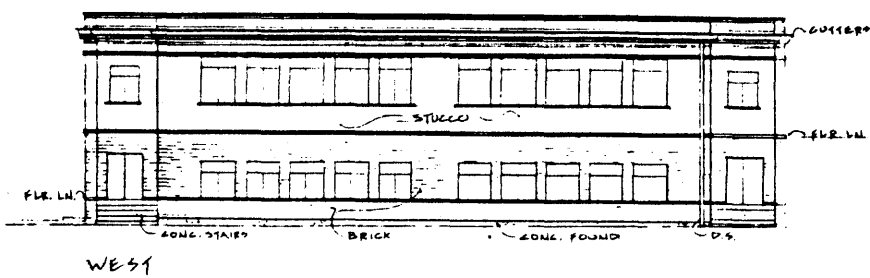
PORT COSTA SCHOOL
 AS BUILT
 1988

MEGORA ROBERTSON / AIA
 ARCHITECT / PLANNER
 (415) 787-3021
 885 LORING AVE. CROCKETT CA 94525

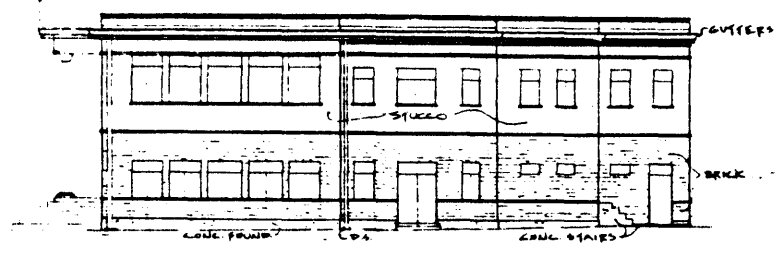
AS BUILT OF PORT COSTA SCHOOL FOR
 PORT COSTA CONSERVATION SOCIETY
 PO BOX 36 PORT COSTA CA 94567

GENERAL NOTES
 SITE & ROOF PLAN
 VICINITY MAP

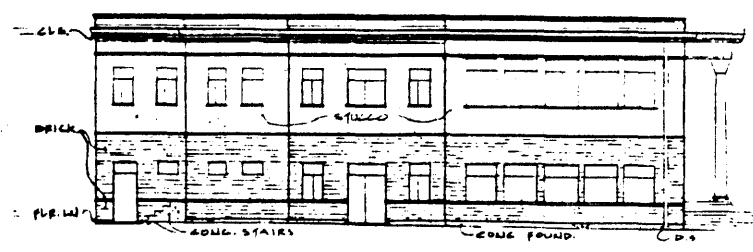
SHEET
 1
 OF 3



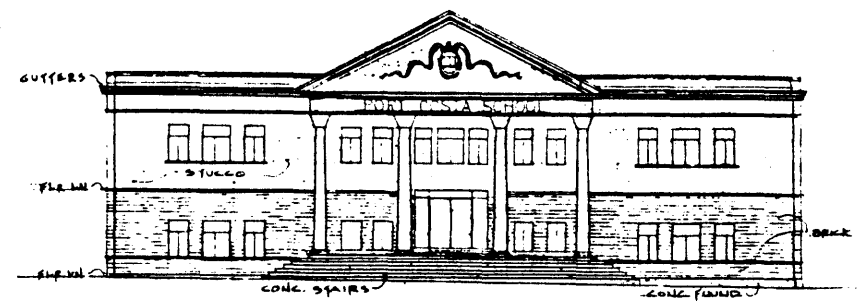
WEST



NORTH



SOUTH



EAST

EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS

1/8" = 1'-0"

EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS

SHEET

3

OF 3