UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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

NAME			
HISTORIC			
Kossuth Street School			
	hip School #5, Manche	ster School #2	
	hip benoor #5, Hanene		
LOCATION			
STREET & NUMBER 47 Kossuth Street		NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN	•	CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	ICT
Haledon		8th	
STATE Norr Jongow	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
New Jersey CLASSIFICATION	034	Passaic	031
CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENTUSE
	OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X.BUILDING(S)PRIVATE		COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTUREBOTH	WORK IN PROGRESS	<u>X</u> EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDEN
SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION OBJECT IN PROCESS	N ACCESSIBLE X_YES: RESTRICTED		RELIGIOUS
OBJECTIN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED			
BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED NO	INDUSTRIAL MILITARY	TRANSPORTATION OTHER:
NAME Haledon Board of Education STREET & NUMBER 120 Barbour Street	31 AVET HALE	MCENTEE Not-B Done, NJ 0150	, /25/80 8
CITY, TOWN		STATE	··•••
Haledon	VICINITY OF	New Jersey	
LOCATION OF LEGAL DESC	RIPTION		
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Passate County			
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Passaic County STREET & NUMBER	Courthouse		
CITY, TOWN		STATE	
Paterson		New Jersev	
<b>REPRESENTATION IN EXIS</b>	TING SURVEYS		
New Jersey Historic Sites In	ventory		<u></u>
1979	FEDERAL XS	TATECOUNTYLOCAL	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Office of Historic P	reservation		
CITY, TOWN		STATE	
Trenton		New Jersey	



	CONDITION	CHECK ONE	CHECK C	DNE
EXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	UNALTERED	<u>X</u> ORIGINAL	SITE
<u>X</u> GOOD	RUINS	XALTERED	MOVED	DATE
FAIR	UNEXPOSED			

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Kossuth Street School is a strong statement of the Romanesque Revival tradition in American public architecture, with an array of eclectic details. From foundations of rusticated brownstone (now buttressed with concrete) the school rises 2 stories to a hipped roof of gray slate and is topped by a unique belltower: a steep domical vault (of gray slate, sporting an elaborate finial) is raised by a circle of 8 metal-sheathed columns over a square base. The facade of the 1894 section is symmetrical and organized into three bays. The end bays are capped by Flemish-style corbie-stepped gables, while the central bay, slightly recessed, terminates in a simple wood cornice, white fascia, dentils. The imposing entry is semi-elliptical steps (now concrete) rise to an open porch below: recessed behind the facade. The opening is a broad sandstone arch which springs from lintels supported by pairs of Richardsonian Romanesque columns. Curved walls of painted metal project from the side walls of the porch, directing eyes to the central pair of doors.

The facade of the 1900 addition is identical to the 1894 (minus belltower and entry) with three windows per bay (double sash with transom). The sides and rear suggest simple tripartite divisions, with slightly different fenestration. The rear of the 1894 sections takes a contrasting triangular form, with pitched roof reaching the first story. The 1894 and 1900 sections are joined by a central corridor which leaves narrow courtyards in front and rear. Exterior walls are pressed brick, mostly red in color, bonded in one course of headers to five of stretchers. The mortar is a careful pink. Trim is of brick and various sandstones (including brown-stone). Of particular interest are the quoins which define the bays of the front facade: rock-faced and irregular in shape, they are honed to a continuous sharp edge an inch from the corners. Other details of note include two massive chimneys relieved by decorative brickwork and attic vent dormers crafted in iron with chess-piece finials. Exterior alterations are minimal: brick sheds encase side and rear entries (date uncertain) and glass block fills stairway windows (1959?). Painting and pointing are needed in places.

On the interior, classrooms are arranged on either side of a spacious corridor, stairways at both ends and in center. Wood stair balustrades are in fine condition. Most important is the pressed sheet metal which covers every wall and ceiling in classrooms, halls and stairwells. More than a dozen elaborate patterns are used, making this interior a showplace for this decorative art.

#### 8 SIGNIFICANCE PERIOD **AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW** \_\_\_PREHISTORIC \_\_\_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC \_\_COMMUNITY PLANNING \_\_\_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE \_\_\_RELIGION -ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC \_\_LAW \_\_1400-1499 \_\_CONSERVATION \_\_\_SCIENCE \_\_\_AGRICULTURE \_\_1500-1599 \_ECONOMICS \_\_\_LITERATURE \_\_\_SCULPTURE • 2 X\_ARCHITECTURE X EDUCATION \_\_\_1600-1699 \_\_\_MILITARY \_\_\_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN \_\_1700-1799 \_\_\_ART \_\_\_ENGINEERING \_\_\_MUSIC \_\_\_THEATER $X_{1800-1899}$ \_\_\_COMMERCE \_\_\_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT \_\_\_PHILOSOPHY \_\_\_TRANSPORTATION <u>\_X</u>1900-\_\_COMMUNICATIONS \_INDUSTRY \_\_\_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT \_\_OTHER (SPECIFY)

\_\_INVENTION

·····			
SPECIFIC DATES	1894, 1900	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Unknown

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Kossuth Street School merits recognition as a superlative expression of public architecture, a monument to the history of education in its community and a symbol of the development of Haledon within the pattern of American urbanization.

The school exhibits a soundness of construction and sophisticated attention to detail rarely found in the small towns of New Jersey (and elsewhere). Its use of Flemish detail celebrates the area as one of the two prime centers of Dutch/Belgian immigration to America. The extraordinary collection of industrial metalwork within shows an admirably unified thinking toward utility and beauty. The finest attributes of public architecture are here: a noble scale, a sense of quality in materials and workmanship, plus an overall exuberance and warmth which is pleasantly inviting.

The school served as the only educational facility in Haledon 1895-1932. Its sole predecessor (1873) stood on the site of the 1900 addition and upon demolition (1895) ceremoniously gave up its bell to the new tower, where it remains. The nearby Grundy School (1932) was constructed to house the upper grades, but anyone who attended elementary level in Haledon 1895-1979 used the Kossuth Street School. Dropping enrollment, construction of a regional high school and an architectural report biased toward costly modernization caused all facilities to be consolidated in the Grundy School, closing Kossuth Street School.

The school is the only extant reminder of the forces which transformed Haledon from farms to a modern suburb. Paterson industrial interests acquired and subdivided Haledon, built streetcar service to Paterson and the first school 1872-74. The success of their venture in creating a Paterson suburb was confirmed by the dedication of the "permanent" school on 30 January 1895. The school has since served as center for the community. Oddly, Haledon (incorporated as a borough 1908) has no other public structures of note, other than the Grundy School; all other facilities are housed in makeshift buildings and blockhouses. When a Memorial Tablet to World War I veterans was created (by prominent Paterson sculptor Gaetano Federici, 1921), it was placed in the only logical location: the entry to the Kossuth Street School.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Borough of Haledon Fiftieth Anniversary, Haledon, NJ: Fiftieth Anniversary Committee, 1958.

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ORGANIZATION	<u></u>	······	DATE	<u>bs</u>
	e Preservation of Koss	suth Street Schoo		
STREET& NUMBER 430 Hobart Street		(E.M	TELEPHONE 201-746-4075	
CITY OR TOWN			STATE	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Haledon	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		New Jersey	
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FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT TH	IS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN	I THE NATIONAL REGIS	TER	
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FHR-8-300A (11/78) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

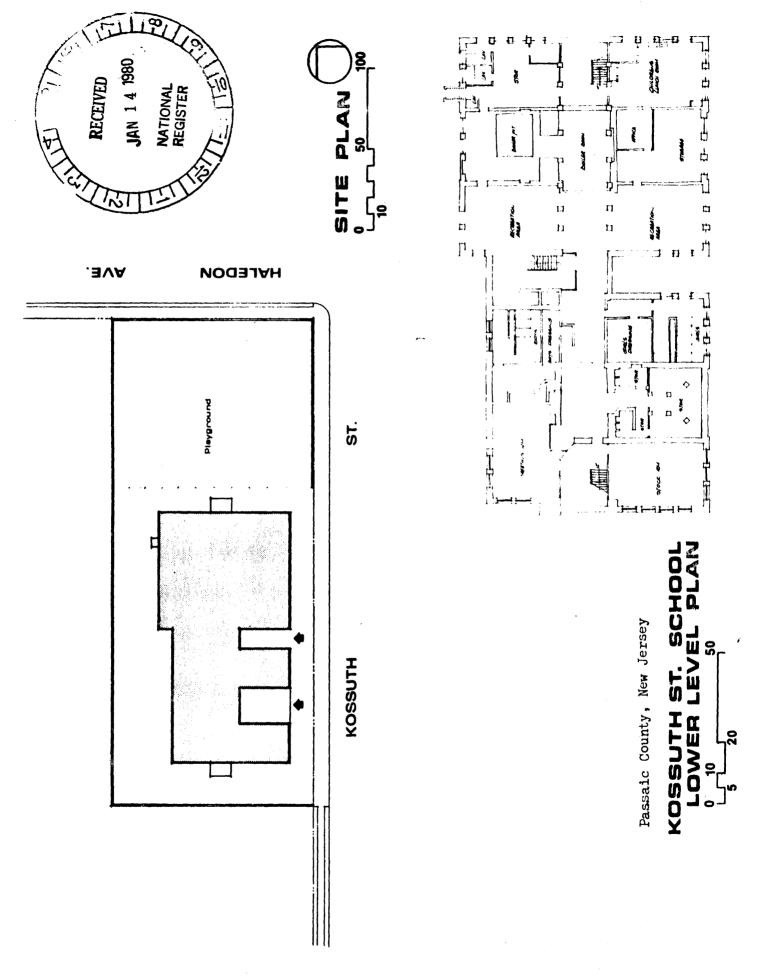
Kossuth Street School Passaic County, New Jersey FOR HCRS USE ONLY RECEIVED JAN 1 4 1980 DATE ENTERED, APR (1 0 1980

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER PAGE

Description (continued)

Only one classroom has the formica treatment. A roof leak has damaged some metalwork. Other alterations are: replaced light fixtures, divided rooms, wired glass partitions for stairwells and a restroom placed in the second floor hall.

The (roughly) one-third of the site not physically occupied by the school is asphalted for playground use. The playground faces the low-density commercial strip of Haledon Avenue. The other 3 sides of the site face small suburban homes of the early 20th century.



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