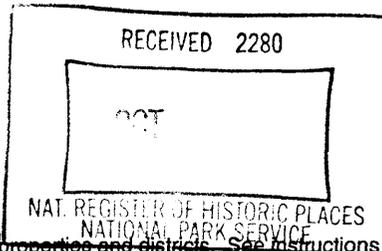


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name California Memorial Stadium

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number (see continuation sheet) \_\_\_\_\_ NA  not for publication

city or town Berkeley NA  vicinity

state California code CA county Alameda code 001 zip code 94720

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Steph D. Mitchell  
Signature of certifying official/Title

10/19/06  
Date

California Office of Historic Preservation  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  
 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

[Signature]

11/27/2006

California Memorial Stadium  
Name of Property

Alameda County, CA  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
1	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	0	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/sports facility

EDUCATION/education-related

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/sports facility

EDUCATION/education-related

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival

MODERN MOVEMENT (press box)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

roof ASPHALT

walls CONCRETE

METAL

Other METAL

WOOD

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

California Memorial Stadium  
Name of Property

Alameda County, CA  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.) N/A

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):** N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

ENGINEERING

**Period of Significance**

1922-1923

**Significant Dates**

1923

1922

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Howard, John Galen (architect)

Carpenter, Edward E. (engineer)

**Primary Location of Additional Data**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

(See continuation sheet.)

California Memorial Stadium  
Name of Property

Alameda County, CA  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 14

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	10	565740	4191880	3	10	566070	4191280
2	10	566270	4191590	4	10	565810	4191380

See continuation sheet.



**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title John S. English (consultant for Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association)

organization Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association date Revised August 28, 2006

street & number 2500 Hillegass Avenue, Apt. 3 telephone (510) 845-6116

city or town Berkeley state CA zip code 94704-2937

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, c/o REAL ESTATE SVCS; attn.: Gordon Schanck

street & number 1111 FRANKLIN ST, FL 6 telephone (510) 987-0802

city or town OAKLAND state CA zip code 94607-5201

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

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California Memorial Stadium, Alameda County, California

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**Street & Number**

Between Piedmont Avenue, Stadium Rim Way, Canyon Road, Bancroft Way, and Prospect Street.

**Materials (Continued)**

*roof:*

CONCRETE  
METAL  
OTHER

*walls:*

WOOD  
STUCCO

*other:*

METAL  
WOOD  
GLASS

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

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California Memorial Stadium, Alameda County, California

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**Narrative Description**

**Summary.** The 14-acre nominated property has one contributing structure and one contributing site: a large elliptical stadium and an importantly complementing girde of open space (of varying width) that borders the structure. The stadium itself is a combination of the earthen-bowl and coliseum types. Its architectural style is a Roman version of Classical Revival. The property has retained a generally substantial to high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The property straddles the active Hayward Fault and at some points gives evidence of tectonic creep. It appears to be in fair condition overall. The stadium's monumental reinforced-concrete facade has Memorial Arch in its northwest portion, and elsewhere typically has a rusticated base with rectangular openings below a main portion with arched openings, topped by a cornice and then a paneled parapet. Openings rhythmically alternate between groups of three and single ones, with the latter emphasized by placement in slightly projecting rusticated bays generally with bracketed balconies. The glass-and-metal window walls that have been inserted at most of the arched openings respect the openings' historic reveal. Tall flagpoles rise from the facade. Behind the facade there is—beneath the upper part of the northwest, west, and south stands—a crescent-shaped area containing multiple entry stairs, a circulation corridor, and many rooms of generally lightweight infill construction. Significant elements here include original restrooms and visiting-team quarters, as well as sizable unwallled spaces where the reinforced-concrete structural system is still dramatically visible. The stands now have wooden seating in some sections and metal seating in others. At each end a large scoreboard rises above the stadium rim. At the southwest side there is a sheet-metal-walled press box. The stadium's playing field has artificial turf and a historic commemorative bench. The property's contributing site includes a broad wooded portion—with promenades, radiating pedestrian paths, rock walls, and generally a distinctive rustic character—that slopes west to Piedmont Avenue. Sitting in between two of the paths is an old board-and-batten ticket booth. The contributing site also includes a prominent densely wooded embankment, and historic open steps that directly adjoin the stadium facade, near Memorial Arch—as well as original planting areas, and open steps adjoining the facade, near the stadium's south end. The contributing site additionally includes the inner circumferential promenade's segment that lies between Stadium Rim Way and the top of the stadium's east and northeast seating. The nominated property is located where the Strawberry Canyon/Strawberry Creek vector crosses the historic Piedmont Avenue/Greek Theatre corridor. It is adjacent to the Panoramic Hill National Register Historic District, the University's central campus, and Berkeley's densely developed Southside neighborhood. It is located within the older part of the urban East Bay.

**General Description of the Property.** The nominated property has a contributing structure and a contributing site (see Map 1). The structure is a large stadium. The contributing site is a girde of open space, of varying width, that borders the stadium and importantly complements it.

*Type, Layout, and Size.* The stadium (see Photograph 1) is a hybrid that combines the earthen-bowl and coliseum types. The east and northeast seating is supported by concrete slabs that themselves rest directly on an artificially shaped earthen embankment. The same is true of about the lower half of the seating rows in the northwest, west, and south sections. But the slabs for the latter sections' higher rows rest on a colossal system of reinforced-concrete posts, beams, and girders that rises to considerably above ground level. The stadium's basic architectural style is a Roman version of Classical Revival.

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California Memorial Stadium, Alameda County, California

**Narrative Description (Continued)**

Elliptical in shape, the stadium has overall dimensions of about 760 feet by 570. Its major axis runs generally northwest to southeast, aligned so that the sun's mid-afternoon rays will be perpendicular to the direction of play on the approximate day of the Cal-vs.-Stanford Big Game. The stadium's present seating capacity is roughly 73,000.

The playing field is more than 400 feet above sea level. Outside the stadium itself, finished grade slopes generally westward. Elevation is as high as about 470 feet along part of Stadium Rim Way and as low as about 375 feet along part of Piedmont Avenue. Counting both the stadium and the contributing site, the nominated property amounts to 14 acres.

*Integrity and Condition.* Although near the stadium's north and south ends some portions of the original stadium grounds and/or related roadways have suffered major loss of integrity, the nominated property's boundaries have been drawn so as to exclude those portions. Within the nominated property as such, there have over the years been a number of changes; see various passages below for specifics. But neither those changes nor physical deterioration has greatly affected historic integrity. The nominated property has retained a generally substantial to high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Integrity is also addressed on various pages below.

Condition varies from place to place within the property; see assorted passages below for more about this. Overall, the property appears to be in fair condition.

*Geologic Problems.* The nominated property is located in an earthquake fault hazard zone as mapped by the State Geologist under the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act (APEFZ).<sup>1</sup> The evident main trace of the active Hayward Fault bisects the stadium lengthwise, and is aligned closely to the latter's main axis. The stadium has already been affected by tectonic creep with half of it moving gradually northwestward in relation to the other half. At some places cracked concrete or displacement of columns gives evidence of this movement.<sup>2</sup> The eventual major quake will cause widespread and very intense ground shaking.

The California Geological Survey has mapped much of the property as being in a liquefaction hazard zone.<sup>3</sup>

Water from Strawberry Creek has since 1923 run underneath the stadium through a buried box culvert. From time to time this culvert has been inspected, found wanting, and to some degree repaired. It is intersected by the Hayward Fault and so is the bypass culvert (running somewhat north of the stadium structure) that was built in 1954.

**The Facade.** Though the stadium's seating mostly rests on earthen mounding, its classically designed facade

<sup>1</sup> Design, Community & Environment, *Draft Environmental Impact Report*, 4.3-5.

<sup>2</sup> Siegel & Strain, *Historic Structure Report*, 55-56.

<sup>3</sup> Design, Community & Environment, *Draft Environmental Impact Report*, 4.3-8, 4.3-9.

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California Memorial Stadium, Alameda County, California

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**Narrative Description (Continued)**

reads strongly like that of a coliseum. Between the end points where it merges into the mounding, the monumental facade is well over 1,000 feet long. Height above adjacent grade varies but at maximum (aside from the scoreboards) it measures about 67 feet.

*Materials and Condition.* The basic facade material is reinforced concrete. According to the 1999 *Historic Structure Report*, this appears to be generally in fair condition.<sup>4</sup> Over time large areas of the facade's original unifying light-colored dash coat of stucco or cement have weathered away, thereby at those places leaving a mottled appearance and exposing the concrete's board-form impressions. At various locations concrete has spalled from features such as the underside of moldings. (To combat moisture retention that may contribute to that, painted sheet-metal flashing has been added above the stringcourse at some places.) At some locations there is superficial discoloration by patches of biological growth. But despite these problems, the concrete facade and its elaborate ornament remain basically quite intact. Historic integrity has not been greatly affected. The facade's metal railings appear to be in good condition. And in general so does the glazing or other infill material (see below) that has been inserted at various of the facade's openings.

*General Composition.* For most of its length the classically designed facade has an essentially two-part vertical composition (see Photograph 7). The base is rusticated and has rectangular openings. A slightly projecting stringcourse—expressing the interior's concourse floor level—divides the base from the facade's main portion, which has high arched openings with voussoirs. Then along the top of the facade's main portion there is a prominent molded cornice, which in turn is topped by a classically designed parapet.

The rectangular openings in the base precisely align with the arched openings above. And at each level, the openings rhythmically alternate between groups of three and single ones. The single ones are emphasized by placement in slightly projecting bays that are rusticated even in their main portion. The single arched openings, except for some located near the ends of the concourse, are further emphasized because they have always had a balcony that projects outward (see Photograph 6).

*Memorial Arch and Its Scoreboard.* One prominent exception to the general pattern is at the northwest end of the stadium's major axis. Placed here is Memorial Arch (see Photographs 2–4), which is much taller than the facade's other arches because it starts at ground level. This arch's monumental surround is visually continued upward by a scoreboard—essentially a giant concrete tablet—that rises more than 30 feet above the stadium's cornice.

The overall assembly, some 50 feet wide, projects noticeably forward from the facade's regular main surface. The facade's stringcourse (except right at the arch) and its cornice wrap their way around it. Below the cornice line the outer surface around the arch is rusticated, and the arch's voussoirs include an emphasized keystone.

Above a level corresponding to the concourse's floor, the arch's unusually deep inner surfaces have coffering with a pattern of joined octagons. Below that level, the arch's facing inner sides bear framed tablets. One of them is blank but the other has a dedication to Californians who died in World War I. Just outside the arch

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<sup>4</sup> Siegel & Strain, *Historic Structure Report*, 55–56.

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California Memorial Stadium, Alameda County, California

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**Narrative Description (Continued)**

there is a small bronze plaque that commemorates President John F. Kennedy's 1962 speech in the stadium.

Except for recessed metal gates that can be closed, the arch is fully open below concourse level. But at that level, and somewhat recessed from the arch's outer surface, there are now a plain metal railing and a simple concrete or stuccoed balcony. Rising behind them, a window wall of tinted glass and anodized-metal sash fills the rest of the arch (and contains within it a pair of sliding doors that give access to the balcony). Originally the arch was open for its full height. The railing, balcony, and window wall probably were inserted at the time when an adjacent room was constructed in 1963.

The outer face of the concrete scoreboard as such retains its original appearance. Classically detailed with moldings and its own cornice, it has ornamental treatment even on its left and right edges. Its main panel has inscribed giant Roman letters spelling out "CALIFORNIA MEMORIAL STADIUM."

Peeking over the concrete's top is a rectangle of blue sheet metal that was constructed at some undetermined time after 1950. This is the back of part of a scoring or advertising display that faces the playing field.

*South Scoreboard.* Meant to visually balance the one above Memorial Arch, a second concrete scoreboard rises at the other end of the stadium's major axis. It has the same basic size and shape, a rather similar scheme of moldings, panels, and its own cornice, and similar decorative treatment of its left and right edges. But unlike the concrete scoreboard above Memorial Arch, this one—whose base is at grade—contains an opening for spectator access to the seating behind it. The smallish rectangular opening itself is plain but is set within a centered projecting bay (see Photograph 10) that is rectangular and has rusticated side and upper portions and a cornice of its own. This scoreboard's outer face otherwise lacks rustication and it does not replicate the stadium's main cornice line. Its biggest flat surface has no inscription, and indeed the projecting bay cuts well up into it.

Now extending up from behind the concrete there is broad, stepped blue sheet metal (visible in the middle right of Photograph 27). This is the upper back of scoring or ad displays directed toward the playing field, and was erected sometime after 1950.

*Rectangular Openings at Ground Level.* Framed by classical molding set within the regular facade's rusticated base are 24 rectangular openings of uniform width (see for example Photograph 7). Some of them are actually infilled but in these cases the infill material is held back significantly behind the facade's main wall surface.

Sixteen of the rectangular openings are fully open and lead immediately to stairways for entering spectators. All of these, however, are now equipped with blue-and-gold metal plates that announce the relevant seating sections. The identification plates are not original, though it is not known when they were added.

Three openings obviously involve entrances to minor tunnels leading toward the playing field. Another originally housed a tunnel entrance but was infilled—probably in the 1980s—with a window wall (of tinted glass and anodized-metal sash) containing entry doors for offices of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. One rectangular opening is backed by a stucco wall containing two metal doors that presumably

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**National Register of Historic Places  
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California Memorial Stadium, Alameda County, California

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**Narrative Description (Continued)**

access the elevator shaft for the press box. It is likely that this opening originally served a stairway for entering spectators but was altered in 1968.

Of the other three rectangular openings, one is infilled by a wooden wall with a pair of metal doors and a third door that is either metal or wood; another has a wooden wall with a pair of metal doors and some metal vents; and the third (used on game days as a police booth and first aid station) is infilled to about three-quarters of its height by a wooden wall that contains a wood door and two normally boarded-shut windows with wood counters. It is plausible that at least two of these rectangular openings never led to spectator stairways. It is not known what uses originally were behind them, nor when the infill attained its present character.

*Arched Openings at Concourse Level.* Not counting Memorial Arch, the facade's concourse level has a total of 32 uniformly sized arched openings, each with voussoirs. Glazing or other infill has been inserted at most of them, but in these cases the infill material is set back by the full depth of the opening's substantial reveal.

Six of the arched openings adjoin finished grade. Of these, two are fully open except for blue-and-gold metal plates that identify relevant seating sections; three have movable metal gates as well as identification plates; and one has movable metal gates but is not meant for spectator entry. The metal plates, and the metal gates, are not original but it is not known when they were installed.

The other 26 arched openings are all located where adjacent grade is lower. All of these have plain metal railings, which date from the facade's 1923 construction and appear to be in good condition. In the case of openings that are grouped into a trio, the railing is flush with the facade's adjacent main surface. But at nearly all of the openings that are placed singly, the railing is on a concrete balcony that extends prominently outward. (The exception is the one adjoining the visiting team's quarters, where the railing is flush with the facade's main surface.) Each projecting balcony has a coffered underside and, as illustrated by Photograph 6, is supported by a pair of ornate curving brackets with wedge-like dentils at their bases.

Of those 26 openings that have railings, one is otherwise completely open; one (adjoining the visiting team's quarters) is backed to about half its height by a stucco wall, which has one or two small metal-sashed windows and some metal vents; and one is completely backed by a wall that is likely stuccoed. The remaining 23 arched openings are infilled by window walls of tinted glass and anodized-metal sash.

Those window walls (see for example Photographs 5 and 6) have a basically uniform look, though there is some variation in the number of lights they contain. In most cases (perhaps 20) the lower part of the window wall appears to contain two pairs of glazed doors that can be opened, and this makes sense. Because the window wall is set back behind the arch's reveal, there is at least a shallow balcony space (maybe three feet deep) even in cases where the railing is flush with the facade's main surface.

Originally most of the 26 openings were fully open except for their railings. Photos from the 1920s do reveal apparent combinations of wood and glass occupying about the lower half of each of six arched openings, of which four adjoined the home team's quarters. It is not known when those were replaced. The sole arched opening directly adjoining the visiting team's space probably also was to some degree infilled from the start,

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Continuation Sheet

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California Memorial Stadium, Alameda County, California

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**Narrative Description (Continued)**

though it is not known when the present material here was installed. Elsewhere, the arched opening that now has a complete wall of apparent stucco was likely infilled in 1968. The window walls of the other openings plausibly were installed at the times when rooms behind them were constructed (see Figure 2).

*Parapet.* The parapet has a classical design that involves repeated trios of rectangular recessed panels (see for instance Photograph 9). On top, and scarcely noticeable from a distance, there is a continuous ridge of darker concrete. This is not original. It was added, at some undetermined time, to stop spectators' dangerous custom of sitting right on the parapet.

*The Facade's Uphill Portions.* Toward the extreme ends of the formal facade, its various strata terminate as the ground level outside rises up.

Viewed counterclockwise, the facade's last ground-level rectangular opening is near the visiting team's quarters. As the adjacent outdoor promenade climbs steeply, the stringcourse terminates at about the east end of those quarters. The last arched opening faces "Prospect Court" (described later), near the start of four flights of broad outdoor steps. About halfway up these steps, the facade contains a smallish square opening (see Photograph 9) that has a grille of metal rods within it and a concrete immediate surround that is itself rusticated. The facade's cornice, which actually gets very close to grade here, terminates at the edge of the south scoreboard. After taking a break for the width of that scoreboard the paneled parapet resumes, but then terminates about one and a half seating sections farther along.

Examined clockwise, the last ground-level rectangular opening faces "Tunnel Court" (see below), near the start of some broad outdoor steps. Near the top of these steps the stringcourse terminates. The last arched opening is a little farther along, near the start of more flights of outdoor steps. About halfway up these, the facade has a smallish square opening (exactly like the above-mentioned one) with metal grille and rusticated surround. The facade's cornice and paneled parapet continue beyond the topmost steps but terminate a couple of seating sections later.

Adjoining most of the northeast and east seating sections, there is no formal facade at all. As Photograph 29 illustrates, most of these sections' topmost rows are separated only by stretches of low chain-link fencing from the longitudinal promenade behind them.

*Flagpoles.* Positioned with a steady rhythm around the stadium's perimeter—even its at-grade northeast and east portions—are 15 pairs of tall flagpoles. These appear to date from the stadium's original construction. Each pole has a tapered wooden mast and a brass ball at its top. The wood reportedly appears to be in good condition but typically the paint on it is seriously flaking off.<sup>5</sup> Originally there was also another pair of flagpoles, located on the facade's portion adjoining section G/GG. That pair was removed when a lofty press box was built here in 1968.

Along the stadium's concrete facade, each pair of flagpoles flanks one of the *singly placed* arched openings

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<sup>5</sup> Siegel & Strain, *Historic Structure Report*, 57.

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California Memorial Stadium, Alameda County, California

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**Narrative Description (Continued)**

(or, in the case of the south scoreboard, that feature's rectangular sole opening). Nearly all of these rise from below the facade's cornice and penetrate through it. Above Memorial Arch as well as at the south scoreboard, the flagpoles are mounted higher up and rise accordingly higher.

The supporting corbels of all the concrete facade's flagpoles originally had acanthus-leaf ornament. That was likely removed in or soon after 1948.

*Projections above the Rim.* Originally nothing rose above the stadium's rim except for flagpoles and the two classically designed concrete scoreboards. The post-1950 protrusions above those scoreboards have already been mentioned. The massive press box that was built in 1968 and demolished in 2002 extended high above the rim. The existing press box is much less obtrusive. Although the metal framework of the big fence behind it is quite visible from outside the stadium, most of the fence's surface consists of lightweight netting that from a distance looks transparent.

**The Crescent under the Northwest, West, and South Stands.** Behind the formal facade there is—beneath the upper rows of the northwest, west, and south seating—a lengthy crescent (see Figure 2) composed of various spaces and facilities.

*Structural Framework.* Here the stands are supported by a colossal structural framework of reinforced concrete. The slabs that bear the seating span between beams that radiate outward from the top of the earthen mound to the stadium's facade. The beams span between a system of girders and columns. The columns themselves are arrayed in a triple colonnade that follows the crescent's longitudinal curvature. Laterally, the structural system divides the area into 24-foot inner, middle, and outer bays.

That is partially illustrated by Figure 1, which shows the fairly typical profile beneath one western seating section. (Incidentally, this drawing does not try to depict the steps within aisles of the stands per se.) But it must be remembered that finished grade right outside the stadium's facade varies—and along the crescent's end portions is at an elevation matching the stadium's concourse level. So of course in those portions the outer and middle bays do not have stairways. It must also be kept in mind that space which may be suggested by Figure 1 actually contains, at many specific places along the crescent, walled rooms.

The exposed concrete columns, girders, beams, and overhead slabs have been left unpainted.

*Stairs and Circulation Corridor.* The stadium's outer wall provides multiple entryways for spectators. Except toward the crescent's ends where the entry is at concourse level, flights of steps rise through the outer and middle bays as exemplified by Figure 1. The steps are of concrete and their railings are metal. However, a 1948 report by Walter T. Steilberg spoke of "wooden steps with light wooden railing each side."<sup>6</sup> Even if that accurately described all these stairways, it is not known when the wood was replaced by concrete and metal. At the top of a few stairways there are, though, metal newel posts and/or railings that may well be original.

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<sup>6</sup> Steilberg, "U.C. Stadium Proposed Repairs and Changes."

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**Narrative Description (Continued)**

Opposite each of the entrance stairways, a short flight of concrete steps with metal railings rises directly into one of the vomitories (portals) that face the playing field. These steps are located in the inner part of the cross section's innermost bay.

But the inner bay's *outer* portion, measuring some 9 or 10 feet, is reserved for a longitudinal circulation corridor (see Photographs 13 and 14) that extends throughout the crescent. The corridor—or "concourse"—opens to a greater width at various places, such as near the ends of the crescent. Used by small service vehicles as well as pedestrians, it is a kind of spine for the whole area.

For most of its length the corridor's outer edge originally had (between the stairways) only what Steilberg in 1948 called a "guard rail" between it and the raw earthen slopes descending from it.<sup>7</sup> This situation has since changed because of infill construction. Figure 2 shows at concourse level the approximate location of the original rooms and the stages of subsequent infill. Some of these facilities also include an upper floor fitted into the structural framework's outer, highest bay and/or some space below concourse level.

*Facilities along the Corridor's Inner Side.* Along much of the circulation corridor's inner side—in between the steps going up to vomitories—shallow rooms of lightweight construction are squeezed into the inner part of the structural framework's innermost bay. (See for example Photograph 13's right-hand side.) It is plausible that these locations were enclosed from the start. Some of them are restrooms, and even contain original partitions or fixtures. Others are used as concession booths or for miscellaneous purposes.

The five rooms nearest the crescent's south end and the two nearest the north end, all of which are for toilets, still have their original board-and-batten walls and high transoms for ventilation (see for instance Photograph 14). It is plausible that other rooms originally also had board-and-batten walls which were subsequently replaced, or covered, by stucco.

Condition of various elements along the corridor's inner side likely ranges from good to poor. According to the *Historic Structure Report*, dry rot at the bottom of boards is a problem.<sup>8</sup>

*Facilities along the Corridor's Outer Side.* The enclosures along the circulation corridor's outer side are basically of lightweight construction, though at least some involve metal and/or concrete decking. Walls seen from the corridor are generally stuccoed. Condition likely varies from excellent to fair.

While at many places the infill rises right up to the stands' sloping concrete slabs, at other places it is low enough that a slab's portion above the infill can be at least glimpsed. In some locations the walls go right down to grade. But in other places they exist only above the decking, with the result that exposed earthen slopes still adjoin various lower stairways (see for instance Photograph 19).

At the crescent's extreme northeast end a wooden fence screens an otherwise-exposed earthen slope

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<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Siegel & Strain, *Historic Structure Report*, 56.

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**Narrative Description (Continued)**

that is probably used for storage. Adjoining or nearby are two small facilities (likely cold box or concession space) that plausibly were added sometime since 1979.

Just northeast of Memorial Arch are the spacious quarters of the Travers Memorial Club Room, probably built in the 1990s. Adjacent to and now integrated with them is space—directly adjoining Memorial Arch itself—that was enclosed in 1963 as the Brick Muller Memorial Room.

Under the upper rows of about the first five sections southwest of Memorial Arch are athletic facilities that include the Cal football team's quarters. Much of this area was originally enclosed, though it has since undergone substantial remodeling including some addition of upper-floor space. As Figure 2 shows, it appears that one portion was enclosed considerably after 1923.

Beneath the upper rows of the next five sections are various facilities, including weight or training rooms, locker rooms, and coaches' offices, that were created in the 1980s.

At about a prolongation of the stadium's 50-yard line there is an area that at concourse level is decked but not walled off (see Photograph 18). This space, which has several concession counters within it, is called the Haas Lounge and apparently assumed its present form in the mid-1990s. Rising through it are supporting steel columns for the press box, and adjoining it is the elevator that serves the press box. The steel columns and elevator shaft as such apparently were installed in 1968.

Then under the upper rows of about the next four seating sections are various rooms (likely including some above or below concourse level). Facilities here include Department of Intercollegiate Athletics offices and the Hall of Fame. This area was enclosed in the 1980s.

A little farther along are rooms that include quarters used by the visiting football team on game days. Most of this area was originally enclosed. Its exterior walls may initially have featured board-and-batten (which was characteristic of original facilities under the stands) but are now stuccoed. The visiting team's quarters reportedly have retained much of their original character.<sup>9</sup> Their western wall still has six wood-framed double-hung windows and a paneled wooden door (see Photograph 12). From this door a special-purpose stuccoed staircase with wooden steps twists and turns, crossing *over* a spectator stairway and then touching ground by the gated mouth of the tunnel through which the visiting team traditionally enters the playing field.

Adjoining or east of the visiting team's quarters are a few small cold box or concession facilities, plausibly installed some time after 1979. Finally, at or near the crescent's extreme end are a couple of storage areas screened only by fences.

*Remaining Sizable Interior Spaces.* Despite the infill construction beneath the stands, there still are some spacious locations where the colossal structural system is dramatically visible.

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<sup>9</sup> Ibid., 47.

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Two of them are where the circulation corridor widens out at the ends of the crescent. But because at these places the corridor is level with finished grade, neither of them is a full-height space. The Haas Lounge (see Photograph 18) gives a broad view of the structural framework overhead, though the lounge's own decking mostly blocks downward views.

Some of the entry-stairway locations provide lofty, albeit narrower, views up and/or down. A prime example (again see Photograph 12) adjoins the visiting team's quarters. Here the spatial experience is enhanced because the stadium facade's adjacent arched opening (see also Photograph 11) is still unglazed and even frames a vista toward nearby International House.

At some locations *under* infill decking, substantial views are possible of the structural framework's lower members and adjoining earth fill (see for instance Photograph 19).

*Tunnels and Miscellaneous Facilities.* The North Tunnel leads clearly from the outside through the lower part of Memorial Arch toward the playing field (see Photographs 2 and 3). In contrast, access to the South Tunnel is restricted and circuitous. Near the end of the circulation corridor, the South Tunnel's entry is barred by a metal gate. Beyond this gate the tunnel slopes downward for some distance, then turns sharply left to align with the stadium's major axis.

Under the west or south stands there are four minor tunnels. As mentioned earlier, one such tunnel is used by visiting teams to reach the playing field. Another has at its entrance a metal gate, which permits a view through to the playing field, but is used for storage. A third tunnel has its mouth infilled by a wooden wall, with a wooden door, and is also used for storage. That infill presumably was not original, but it is not known when it occurred. As mentioned above, the fourth tunnel's mouth was replaced (likely in the 1980s) by an entrance leading to offices.

Branching off from the North Tunnel, there is a minor tunnel that had been intended to connect with a freestanding home-team building that never got built. Much of it is now used for storage. Near the concourse-level entry to the South Tunnel, a rolling-type metal door fills the mouth of a minor tunnel that had been meant to link with a separate visiting-team building that was never built.

A couple of storage or service rooms adjoin the sides of the North Tunnel. Elsewhere at ground level there are a few rooms accessed directly through openings in the stadium's facade. One of them is a police booth and first aid station. It is not known how old the functions or exterior of these rooms are.

**The Stands.** The playing field is completely surrounded by sloped seating, generally with a horizontal depth of some 150 feet (see Photographs 21 and 22).

*Access.* On game days spectators enter from multiple directions.

The top of the northeast and east seating adjoins a longitudinal promenade (described later on) that in turn adjoins the road called Stadium Rim Way. From the path, straight aisles of concrete steps descend to the

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**Narrative Description (Continued)**

bottom row. Row numbers are incised right into the relevant steps. The aisles divide the seating into numerous sections of roughly equal size, and a wide combined section S/SS that faces the 50-yard line.

The stands elsewhere (see for instance Photograph 20) are pierced halfway up by a series of 28 vomitories: portals for the steps that rise up from the crescent-shaped area beneath the higher seating rows. From these portals, which have blue-and-gold enameled metal signs identifying their respective seating sections, aisles descend to the bottom row and rise to the top row. For rows downslope from the vomitories, row numbers are incised into the relevant steps; for upslope rows, the numbers are painted onto steps.

(Combined section S/SS may initially have been separated in two by an aisle. And wide section G/GG may originally have been divided up by an aisle and vomitory. If so it is not known exactly when these sections were combined, though it would likely have been in the 1920s or 1930s.)

The bottom row of all seating sections adjoins a narrow, continuous paved path that runs immediately outside the playing field's low concrete wall. This path can be accessed via the North Tunnel.

*Seating.* The northeast and east seating is on concrete slabs whose upper surface has, except in the aisles, continuous steps of substantial height that serve either of two purposes. Every second "step" has, bolted into it, metal uprights that support benches as such—and every other "step" acts as the footrest for those benches. In each aisle, more numerous and of course shallower concrete steps comprise a literal stairway. The same scheme is also used for about the lower half of the rows in the stadium's northwest, west, and south sections.

However, the latter sections' upper part is designed differently. Here the slabs do present themselves as shallow concrete steps in the aisles as such. But within each seating section here, the slab has a continuous slope with periodic low ridges running down it—and is generally surfaced with asphalt weatherproofing. (The 1999 *Historic Structure Report* reported serious deterioration of the asphalt weatherproofing system<sup>10</sup>; it is not known whether or not this has since been remedied.) Metalwork spanning between the ridges supports benches and separate footrests for them.

Of the stadium's benches as such, about half are wooden. The ones closer to the 50-yard line generally are of aluminum. Where there are footrests distinct from the concrete slab's own surface, these usually are of the same material as the benches they accompany.

The wooden seats of nine sections near the South Tunnel are presently painted blue. All the other regular seats are more or less gold-colored. Within wide section S/SS, though, benches are selectively colored so as to present a huge blue "C" against the gold background.

Along the top of section S/SS a projecting concrete platform, with metal railings, provides a viewing area that is accessible for wheelchairs. Along the top of two other east or northeast sections there are projecting platforms, with stucco or concrete sides and chain-link railing, that are also usable by persons in wheelchairs.

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<sup>10</sup> Siegel & Strain, *Historic Structure Report*, 56.

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**Narrative Description (Continued)**

None of these platforms is original; at least one of them apparently was built in 1981. In two northeast sections, the lowest couple of rows have been removed so as to provide wheelchair-accessible space. This probably was done in 1994. High on the southwest side adjoining the press box, there are smallish clusters of chair-type seating with apparently plastic backrests and metal armrests. These are not original but it is not known specifically when they were installed.

While the aluminum benches and footrests appear to be in good shape, the wooden ones tend to be in fair or poor condition.

Deterioration, from constant exposure to the elements, has led to replacement of earlier wooden benches and footrests. The original ones consisted of 2 inch x 12 inch planks, and were uniformly painted a light color. By about 1951 all those were replaced, using 2 inch x 6 inch planks.<sup>11</sup> In subsequent decades at least many of these were themselves replaced, largely by aluminum versions. It is not known when the present color scheme was implemented.

*Scoreboard Faces.* Prominently visible from the stands are the inner faces of the stadium's big scoreboards (see Photographs 21 and 23). They now sport electronic scoring displays and advertisements. The metal or other lightweight materials for these are superimposed on the inner face of the scoreboards' concrete—and, mostly at the southeast scoreboard, they protrude above the concrete.

The original scoring displays were mechanically operated, and modestly designed to fit within the concrete's classically detailed framework. That situation evidently did not substantially change till sometime after 1950.

*Press Box.* Centered opposite the 50-yard line, a press box (see Photograph 22) with an exterior largely of corrugated sheet metal occupies the top of several seating sections, and is flanked by open metal-railed decks at the top of adjacent sections. Its design is Modern, its color scheme is more or less gold and blue, and it appears to be in good or excellent condition.

From each of the flanking decks, metal steps lead to a lengthy upper deck that has a floor and open railings of metal. Immediately behind the upper deck and the flanking decks is a very long, metal-framed fence which has blue canvas strung across its lower portion but whose 11 tall upper openings have cord netting that from a distance seems transparent. The upper deck largely extends over (and serves as a roof for) the press box's story of enclosed space. The latter actually is divided, by breezeways and steps, into two large enclosed segments and five smaller ones, including an elevator house. The sheet-metal facade looking toward the gridiron features 10 large windows. The press box also has, at various places, about eight smaller windows and 16 metal doors. In front of the press box's main portion, but at a lower level, there is a long deck (with overhead metal canopy) that has a nearly continuous counter at which portable chairs can be set out. This deck has a metal floor, and metal railings with attached panels.

The existing press box, built in 2002, is the latest of several versions to have been located approximately here.

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<sup>11</sup> Ibid., 41.

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**Narrative Description (Continued)**

Originally there was just a simple low-walled open platform or side-by-side series of platforms, to provide seating and presumably writing tables or counters. By the late 1940s there apparently was a version with board-and-batten construction, a camera loft, and canvas awnings. That version was altered in 1954—and totally replaced in 1968 by a much larger press box, accessible by an elevator that was installed then just inside the stadium's facade. The steel-framed 1968 edition had two stories plus a roof level, and dark steel cladding. It was visually domineering, especially as much of it rose above the level of the stadium's rim. The 1968 press box was removed in 2002. That same year the existing press box was built.

*Lighting.* Lights mounted on a series of thin metal electroliers march along the low wall surrounding the playing field, and illuminate the stands. Lights located at four of the southwest stands' vomitories illuminate the field itself. Evidently none of the present lights are original. The *Historic Structure Report* appears to say that “[n]ew recreation lighting” was installed in 1993.<sup>12</sup>

When games are televised in low-light conditions (with start times in the late afternoon or evening), portable high-intensity lights are brought in. The first evening broadcast was during the 2005 football season.

**The Playing Field.** Centered within the stadium is a playing field that is elliptical in shape (see Photographs 21 and 22). The ellipse, which of course includes within it a standard football gridiron, measures some 460 feet by 268. The area appears to be in good or excellent condition.

The field now has synthetic turf, though even seen close-up much of this resembles grass. There are blue-and-gold end zones, one of them emblazoned with “CALIFORNIA” and the other with “GOLDEN BEARS,” and a “Cal” insignia on the 50-yard line. The field originally had a grass surface. That was replaced in 1981 by synthetic turf, which was itself replaced by a similar artificial surface in 1989. The surface did revert to grass in the mid-1990s, but the present synthetic turf was installed in 2003.

Midway along the field's northeastern side, and adjoined by brick-and-granite paving, there is a classically designed granite bench for the home team. (This can be seen near the right side of Photograph 21.) Carved into the backrest is the wording, “In Tribute to Andrew Latham Smith - Coach - 1916–1925.” The bench was dedicated in 1927.

Along one side of the field there are four pairs of concrete open stairways, adjoined by metal guardrails. Each pair was designed to connect with one of the four minor tunnels beneath the stadium's west or south portions.

The playing field is bordered by an almost continuous low concrete wall (see Photograph 21). This wall is interrupted by periodic gaps equipped with metal gates—and, at the ends of the field's major axis, by the wider openings coming in from the North Tunnel and the South Tunnel.

**The “Contributing Site”: a Girdle of Open Space.** The stadium is bordered by a veritable girdle of open space, of varying width. This “contributing site”—the extent of which is shown by Map 1—importantly

<sup>12</sup> Siegel & Strain, *Historic Structure Report*, 53.

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**Narrative Description (Continued)**

complements the stadium as such. While the contributing site is analyzed below segment-by-segment, these all work together as an integral part of the overall stadium complex.

This contributing site does *not* include all of the stadium's original grounds. In particular it excludes certain originally stately areas—northwest of Memorial Arch and at Prospect Court—that have suffered drastic loss of integrity. But to quote from the pertinent *Historic Landscape Report* that was recently completed for UCB:

The original landscape features that remain are largely intact, such as the landscape on the west side of the stadium.<sup>13</sup>

[S]ignificant elements of the landscape do retain sufficient integrity to be listed as contributors to a potentially eligible National Register property, in this case, the California Memorial Stadium complex.<sup>14</sup>

The present nomination proposes its “contributing site” as a contributor to the overall nominated property, rather than as something individually eligible for the National Register. The contributing site was developed with, and has always been associated in use with, the stadium itself. And as Map 2 and Illustrations 31 and 34 from the 1920s help to demonstrate, it has retained a quite substantial degree of historic integrity.

*Portion along Piedmont Avenue.* From the stadium's facade between Memorial Arch and the press box's southeast end, a broad and mostly well-wooded stretch of open space descends to Piedmont Avenue (see especially Photographs 24 and 25). This generally has a quite distinctive rustic character.

Immediately adjoining the stadium itself here, a paved promenade—informally called “Piedmont Plaza”—curves continually along the facade. This is part of an inner circulation ring, with gated chain-link fencing at its outer edge, that completely surrounds the stadium and bears heavy foot traffic on game days. The inner promenade's segment here is surfaced with asphalt, and (plausibly since the mid-1950s) normally provides parking for cars. In between multiple gates in it, the fence is bordered by a series of strips—or, at one place, a sizable oval island—planted with trees and/or shrubs. Just beyond that planting, a second curving paved promenade (much of it now also normally allowing parking) parallels the inner route.

Then below that lower promenade, large unpaved sections sweep west to Piedmont Avenue. These contain numerous trees arrayed quite informally. Much of the ground surface as such is left unplanted, but there are two expanses of lawn. On one of them there is a rampant bear sculpted in metal by Douglas Van Howd. In one vicinity giant logs lie on the ground.

Directly adjoining much of Piedmont Avenue's sidewalk here, there are distinctive rhyolite rock retaining walls (one of them visible near the lower right corner of Photograph 25). According to the *Historic Landscape Report* that was done for UCB:

These retaining walls predate the construction of the Stadium and likely date from the earliest residential

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<sup>13</sup> Page & Turnbull and PGAdesign Inc., *Historic Landscape Report*, IV-2.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, V-5.

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development along Piedmont Avenue . . . The stone is no longer available. . . . Similar walls were built nearby along Hillside Avenue and Hillside Court in the late 1890s and early 1900s . . .<sup>15</sup>

From gates in the gradually curving fence line, seven footpaths (see Map 1) radiate out toward the avenue. One path branches into two before reaching Piedmont, though, and the very endmost paths do not literally reach the avenue but, instead, lead to parking lots which themselves abut Piedmont. Each path has asphalt paving and, at one or more points along it, short flights of concrete steps with metal handrails. Most of these paths have such steps at two or three points.

In between the southernmost two of the radial footpaths there is a little board-and-batten ticket booth (see Photograph 26) with a hipped roof, a normally boarded-shut single window in front, and a wooden door at the back. This may be in fair condition. Although it is an important feature within the open space, it is too small and incidental in nature to be counted separately as a "resource." The ticket booth seems to be its specific type's sole survivor from the stadium's early decades. It rests on a small concrete platform—and slightly southwest of it there is a row of five similar platforms, presently *without* ticket booths on them.

The general area along Piedmont has well over 100 trees. Some 40 percent of them are Coast Live Oaks (*Quercus agrifolia*), which include an extensive and distinctive grove that dominates much of the area. Several of the oaks predate development of the stadium. About 27 percent of the area's trees are Victorian Box (*Pittosporum undulatum*), which are nearly all clustered between two of the more northerly radial paths. The area as a whole also contains within it 17 other types of tree. Among them are Coast Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), Blue Atlas Cedar (*Cedrus atlantica* "Glauca"), Hinoki False Cypress (*Chaemaecyparis obtusa*), Western or Pacific Yew (*Taxus brevifolia*), Oriental Spruce (*Pinea orientalis*), and Golden Giant Arborvitae (*Thuja plicata* "Aurea").<sup>16</sup>

Reportedly the condition of the area's planting ranges from fair to excellent, and that of the paving from fair to good, while the concrete steps are in good condition and the fence is in fair condition.<sup>17</sup>

Some alterations have occurred within the area. The lower promenade may have been widened at some time after 1923. It is possible that the short flights of steps along the radial footpaths originally had wooden steps and railings. Various unpaved surfaces that now lack ground cover as such, or now sport a lawn, may have originally contained shrubs. (If so, it is not known specifically when that changed.) During one long period the above-mentioned row of five little concrete platforms held five ticket booths (likely similar to the nearby existing hip-roofed one)—and these apparently faced into a small paved plaza where people would line up to buy tickets. Judging by old maps and photos it appears that the plaza paving and now-missing ticket booths were not original, were installed at least by 1942, and were not removed till about the 1990s. Elsewhere, the bear sculpture was dedicated in 1996. According to the *Historic Landscape Report*:

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<sup>15</sup> Ibid., III-4.

<sup>16</sup> Design, Community & Environment, *Appendices* (Appendix G-2), III-10, III-11, III-13, III-14, X-3 through X-6. X-10.

<sup>17</sup> Page & Turnbull and PGAdesign Inc., *Historic Landscape Report*, III-4, III-5.

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**Narrative Description (Continued)**

During the 1920s and 1930s, there appears to have been no fencing on the west side of the Piedmont Plaza promenade. Chain link fencing and gates . . . [were] at this location in the 1940s . . .<sup>18</sup>

But the alterations have been relatively minor. Back in the 1920s when the stadium was brand new, the area along Piedmont as a whole looked largely as it now does, except of course that only a few of the trees were yet mature.

*Prospect Court Vicinity.* Near the stadium's south end the above-mentioned inner-ring route and a parallel lower paved route—or "firelane"<sup>19</sup>—go through what is a narrow part of the overall contributing site (see Map 1 and Photograph 8). But the feeling of greenery is continued by hedges at the fence line, by the sight of large trees behind or ahead, and by the substantial trees or shrubbery planted on adjacent land including a back yard of International House.

The outer route terminates at Prospect Street but the inner promenade continues onward across the north side of what is informally called "Prospect Court" (see Photograph 27). The route then ascends four flights of broad concrete steps (which are in fair condition, exhibiting some cracks) before reaching the vicinity of the south scoreboard.

Extending southward from those steps there is a steeply sloping approximate triangle of land with a massive clump of trees (see middle of Photograph 27). This planting area appears to date from the stadium's original development (for comparison see Illustration 34). It includes several California Live Oaks—and four Italian Stone Pines (*Pinus pinea*)<sup>20</sup> whose broad crowns include heavy branches stretching far westward. Between that triangle and Canyon Road there is a sloping parking area with a switchback circulation pattern (see middle and right of Photograph 27). This, too, retains its basic character as established during the stadium's original development. It has a planted median, and along its Canyon Road side there are a number of trees including several Lombardy Poplars (*Populus nigra "Italica"*).<sup>21</sup>

This general vicinity's hardscape is in fair condition, and its planting in fair to good condition.<sup>22</sup>

*Tunnel Court Vicinity.* The contributing site's portion north of Memorial Arch includes part of what has been informally called "Tunnel Court" (see Photographs 2, 4, and 28).

Along the stadium's facade here, the inner-ring promenade continues eastward past Memorial Arch, with gated chain-link fencing at its outer edge. The route climbs two flights of broad concrete steps, then soon ascends four more. (The concrete of these steps reportedly is in good condition.<sup>23</sup>) The parallel second promenade ends near Memorial Arch—but in a sense is continued by the series of timber-over-dirt steps (in fair

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<sup>18</sup> Ibid., II-24.

<sup>19</sup> Design, Community & Environment, *Appendices* (Appendix G-2), III-13, III-14.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid., III-10, III-14, X-9, X-10.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid.

<sup>22</sup> Page & Turnbull and PGAdesign Inc., *Historic Landscape Report*, III-8, III-9.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid., III-7.

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**Narrative Description (Continued)**

condition<sup>24</sup>) with wooden handrails that ascend, just outside the fencing, up to Stadium Rim Way.

(It seems that the fencing generally follows an original alignment but that at some time an early version of the fence itself got replaced by a taller one.)

Continuing northwestward from the concrete steps is a prominent densely wooded embankment (see Photograph 28) that forms a giant approximate triangle bounded by the inner route's chain-link fence, Stadium Rim Way, and the parking area at the embankment's foot. The planting here is in good to excellent condition.<sup>25</sup> Cutting across the triangle there is an asphalt-paved service drive designed to be useful both for pedestrians and for delivery or service vehicles going to the stadium's concourse level. Between that path and Memorial Arch there are clusters of Mayten Trees (*Maytenus boaria*) and Brush Cherry (*Syzygium paniculatum*), but elsewhere the embankment's many trees are virtually all California Live Oaks.<sup>26</sup> The wooded triangle, including even the service drive across it, retains essentially unaltered its original intended character. A few of its trees even predate the stadium's development.

Now there are usually no ticket booths near Memorial Arch; it seems that portable ones are set out for the football season. Evidently in the 1920s and later decades there were either permanent or temporary freestanding booths here. They likely resembled the previously mentioned hip-roofed, board-and-batten one that still exists farther south. Their number varied from time to time, but an apparently mid-1990s photo showed three similar booths near Memorial Arch.

*The Inner Promenade's Uphill Segment.* As Map 1 shows, the contributing site also includes a long, thin strip of land where the circumferential inner promenade (see for example Photograph 29) runs in between Stadium Rim Way (or, briefly, Canyon Road) and the top of the stadium's east and northeast seating. This segment's inner edge adjoins the top row of the stadium's spectator benches. Its outer edge is defined by a chain-link fence that mostly abuts Stadium Rim Way and contains a number of gates for access therefrom. It seems that this fencing follows the original alignment (for comparison see Illustration 33) but that the present fence itself at some time replaced a lower version. Along some stretches of the fence there are narrow planting strips with smallish trees (mostly California Live Oak) and/or shrubbery, reportedly in good condition.<sup>27</sup> The promenade itself is paved mostly with concrete, which apparently is in fair condition.<sup>28</sup> Vehicles are often parked along much of it. At two points along the promenade there are flights of five or six steps.

Within the promenade's portion near the south scoreboard a big freestanding, metal-backed panel with a

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<sup>24</sup> Ibid., III-6.

<sup>25</sup> Ibid., III-7.

<sup>26</sup> Design, Community & Environment, *Appendices* (Appendix G-2), III-10 through III-12, X-6 through X-9.

<sup>27</sup> Page & Turnbull and PGAdesign Inc., *Historic Landscape Report*, III-9.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid., III-8.

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**Narrative Description (Continued)**

television screen facing the stands (see lower left of Photograph 23) has in very recent years been temporarily set up for the football season. Elsewhere along the promenade there are several freestanding small structures or buildings. (These may be in fair condition, but they are all too small and incidental in nature to be counted as “resources.”) Among them are four essentially identical concession facilities, each with wooden walls, four normally boarded-shut wooden counter windows facing the stands, and a wood or metal door on one side.

The promenade and steps themselves are original, but the freestanding structures or buildings date from some time after 1957. Starting in 1924, big lightweight bleachers were installed *on* the promenade, with capacity for several thousand spectators. Illustration 34 shows the bleachers (divided into sections generally echoing those of the regular stands) extending far along the stadium’s east and northeast sides. Though for some years the bleachers were set up only for the football season, they later came to be regarded as permanent. But partly due to safety concerns they were demolished in 1957.

**The Nominated Property’s Surroundings.** The nominated property is in a very sensitive location in terms of geologic conditions and nearby historic and natural resources—and in terms of proximity to large amounts of housing. It not only straddles the Hayward Fault but also sits where the historic Piedmont Avenue/Greek Theatre corridor intersects the critical Strawberry Canyon/Strawberry Creek vector, and it directly adjoins historic Panoramic Hill. It is in the path of important views to and from the canyon and Panoramic Hill. And it is right next to the densely populated Southside residential area.

*Stadium Rim Way.* Crossing the canyon is the University-owned road called Stadium Rim Way (see for instance Photograph 30). This curves alongside the fence line of the inner promenade’s uphill segment and then extends far northwestward. Travelers along it enjoy at many points dramatic views toward Sather Tower and Marin County’s Mount Tamalpais. The road was created in connection with original development of the stadium and has remained basically unchanged. In its portion alongside the fencing, where there is no regular sidewalk, metal stanchions have been installed (at some undetermined time) a few feet beyond the fence line to provide a safety zone for pedestrians.

*Prospect Court’s Main Parking Area.* Partly visible in the lower left of Photograph 27 is Prospect Court’s flat main parking area. It appears to include, in addition to UC property, some land that is still a public right-of-way: the dead end of Prospect Street.

This area originally looked quite different. Back then, pavement was interrupted by a large elliptical lawn (see Illustration 34) and the area seems to have been used more for passenger drop-off and loading than for parking. The ellipse was paved over sometime between 1945 and 1948.

*Concrete-Block Ticket Facilities.* Near one end of Prospect Court (and visible behind the parking at the lower left of Photograph 27) there is a set of four concrete-block ticket booths which, though separated from each other by breezeways, are connected by a concrete-slab roof that covers all four. Just east of that, there is a small ticket office (or “program distribution”) building with concrete-block walls, a concrete-slab roof, and five windows (usually closed up) with wooden counters. Both of these facilities were built in 1949.

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California Memorial Stadium, Alameda County, California

**Narrative Description (Continued)**

*Northern Parking Areas and Maxwell Family Field.* Near Memorial Arch there are now asphalted parking areas forming an L-shaped pattern that extends northwest to Stadium Rim Way, and southwest to meet Piedmont Avenue where the latter becomes Gayley Road. Embraced on two sides by that “L,” Maxwell Family Field—formerly known as Kleeberger Field—sits on an artificially shaped rectangular mound. Along the fencing that surrounds the field, there are shrubs and a number of trees.

This general area looked very different when Memorial Stadium opened in 1923. Piedmont Avenue had once dead-ended near the northern end of its present median strip. But the stadium development project included extending Piedmont (albeit apparently under a different name) as a parkway, with planted medians, in a sweeping semicircle (see Map 2 and Illustration 34) northwest of Memorial Arch. Peeling off southeastward from that curve’s uphill portion, a straight roadway—including a median strip with lawn—impressively aimed directly toward Memorial Arch. That straight roadway met, near the arch, a short roadway that curved in eastward from Piedmont. The roughly triangular space in between the three roadways was planted with lawn. The roadway segments near Memorial Arch seem to have been intended for circulation and passenger drop-off/pickup rather than parking as such.

But they apparently came to be used for parking at least by the time in the 1940s when the parkway’s uphill curve was made redundant by the cutting-through of Gayley Road along the latter’s present alignment. That change enabled creating Kleeberger Field, which was built in 1954. And the “L” of parking areas plausibly attained its present basic form in about that same year.

*The Historic Piedmont Avenue/Greek Theatre Corridor.* Gently curving Piedmont Avenue itself, which till 1900 was called “Piedmont Way,” is a California Registered Historical Landmark. It was conceived in 1865 by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, as a fine parkway highlighting his plan for the surrounding residential subdivision called the Berkeley Property. Despite subsequent major changes in the area, his essential concept for the parkway has been maintained. Today’s Piedmont Avenue has a strong landscaped character—and has a distinctively rustic feel in the segment that directly adjoins the nominated property.

Although Gayley Road has no landscaped median, most buildings along it—such as the Haas School of Business—have substantial setbacks and it is adjoined by planting that includes numerous trees. This helps it read as a proper extension of Piedmont Avenue.

Piedmont and Gayley are closely bordered by a whole series of historic resources, big and small. Several of them are already on the National Register, including among others:

- Tudor-styled Bowles Hall (see the left background of Photograph 28) on a hillside above Stadium Rimway, designed by George W. Kelham and built in 1928–1929 as the University’s own first residence hall; and
- Hearst Greek Theatre on Gayley Road’s uphill side, designed by John Galen Howard with the aid of Julia Morgan and constructed in 1902–1903.

Both of those are on the SHRI (State Historic Resources Inventory) and are City-designated landmarks. Hearst Greek Theatre is a California Registered Historical Landmark.

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California Memorial Stadium, Alameda County, California

**Narrative Description (Continued)**

Many other buildings along Piedmont or Gayley are also on the SHRI. The biggest is Spanish/Moorish-styled International House, which gets especially close to the stadium's facade—and whose lofty signature dome (see Photographs 9 and 22) is prominently visible from inside the stadium. Familiarly called "I-House," it was designed by Kelham and constructed in 1928–1930. Much smaller but also especially relevant are the five former homes, now used for various purposes by UCB, that are located at 2222 through 2240 Piedmont directly facing the nominated property.

*Strawberry Canyon and Creek.* As UCB's Campus Planning Study Group said in a 1980 report about it, "The stadium is set into the mouth of Strawberry Canyon much like a cork in a bottle."<sup>29</sup> Before the stadium was built, Strawberry Creek's south branch flowed out of the canyon freely aboveground. The stadium's construction involved replacing a long stretch of the creek with a 1,450-foot-long buried culvert.

UCB's Long Range Development Plan recognizes the canyon as an important open space and ecological study area. Some of it is actively used for recreation. Starting at the east edge of Stadium Rim Way, a series of recreational facilities extends along Centennial Drive for quite some distance up the canyon.

*Panoramic Hill Historic District.* The nominated property's southeast edge directly abuts steep Panoramic Hill (see background of Photograph 23 and center background of Photograph 1). Here, a large area that includes about 70 contributing buildings and structures was in 2005 designated as a National Register Historic District. To quote from the nomination for it, "The Panoramic Hill Historic District is a woodsy, hillside residential neighborhood consisting primarily of single-family detached houses built from 1895 to 1951 in various stages and manifestations of the Bay Area Tradition."<sup>30</sup>

A number of Panoramic Hill's individual houses are on the SHRI. One of them, which is also a City-designated landmark, is the Ernest Coxhead-designed Rieber House at 15 Canyon Road (just right of the scoreboard in Photograph 23).

*Charter Hill.* Across the canyon from Panoramic Hill is Charter Hill (see background of Photographs 21, 29, and 30). Near the top of its western side the hill displays an important historic focus of school spirit: the Big C. Built by students in 1905 and meant to be seen from afar, this giant reinforced-concrete letter—painted in yellow ochre—conforms to the slope but is so shaped that from a distance it looks like a normal C.

*The Central Campus and the Southside.* Directly across Piedmont Avenue from the nominated property is the southeast part of UCB's central campus, with its complex layout of big and small buildings and open spaces. Adjoining the central campus—and extending eastward to the edge of Panoramic Hill—is Berkeley's Southside neighborhood. Today most of the Southside is quite densely developed. This is especially true of the large residential structures which abound along streets such as Prospect and Warring that run especially close to the stadium.

<sup>29</sup> UCB Campus Planning Study Group, *California Memorial Stadium*.

<sup>30</sup> Thomas and Drotos, *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*, continuation sheet 1.

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**Narrative Description (Continued)**

*Metropolitan Setting.* The nominated property sits near the eastern city limit of Berkeley, at an elevation that gives panoramic views toward San Francisco Bay and the Golden Gate. Berkeley has a population of roughly 110,000. It lies within the East Bay's largely long-developed bay-facing side. The two-county East Bay as a whole has been growing rapidly, while even it is just part of the growing, nine-county Bay Region that already has some seven million residents.

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**Architect/Builder (Continued)**

Buckingham George E. (engineer)

Clinton Construction Company (general contractor)

Bates and Borland Company (excavation contractor)

Chace, Thomas F. (structural engineer)

MacRorie and McLaren Company, Landscape Engineers

Weir, Walter F. (Assistant Professor of Soil Technology)

Albert, Wesley (hydraulic engineer)

The preceding names are for the *original* design or construction. Architects for various subsequent changes include the following:

Steilberg, Walter T. (for 1947 and 1954 press box work)

Goodman, Michael (for 1963 construction of Brick Muller Memorial Room)

Ratcliff, Slama & Cadwalader (for 1968 press box)

Hansen, Murakami, Eshima, Inc. (for 1981–1990 infill and remodeling under various stands)

Noll & Tam (for 1994 remodel of team meeting room)

Swatt Architects (for 1996 Travers Club Room)

Studios Architects (for 2002 press box)

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California Memorial Stadium, Alameda County, California

Narrative Statement of Significance

**Summary.** California Memorial Stadium, originally completed in 1923, is significant at the State level under National Register Criterion C in the areas of architecture and engineering, and the theme of design and construction of major athletic facilities. The significant dates were 1922 and 1923, and the period of significance was 1922–1923. The property well embodies distinctive characteristics of a type, period, and method of construction, as an early large stadium particularly suitable for viewing football and deftly combining the earthen-bowl and coliseum types, designed with a Classical Revival style characteristic of its period, and achieved through skillful engineering and a spectacular feat of earth moving and construction on what has been called “the world’s most difficult stadium site.”<sup>31</sup> Among the important features conveying this is the survival, beneath some of the stands, of spaces ample enough to compellingly display those stands’ dramatic structural system. The stadium’s lengthy Roman facade is majestically composed, carefully detailed, and essentially unaltered. The property’s “contributing site”—a girdle of open space, of varying width, that borders the stadium per se—vitaly complements the horizontally massive structure and mediates between it and very sensitive surroundings. The contributing site includes the wooded slope, with rock walls, radiating paths, and a generally rustic character, that adjoins historic Piedmont Avenue; a portion, near Memorial Arch, that has a large, steep, and densely wooded embankment; a portion, between the stadium’s south end and historic Canyon Road, that has a smaller densely wooded embankment as well as other planting; and a promenade segment that runs behind the stadium’s east and northeast seating. It is character-defining that along the east and northeast sides the stadium’s top is essentially at grade with the adjacent roadway. It is also character-defining that along the other sides the stadium presents a monumental classical facade that has its elegant original proportions with basically uninterrupted sight lines across the historic rim. The stadium is in an unusually spectacular setting. The property represents work of a master, as the largest and most controversial project (and one of his last projects worked on for UC) of the outstanding architect John Galen Howard. In comparison with pertinent other properties of its type, California Memorial Stadium is strongly representative and is in some ways outstanding. The State Historic Resources Inventory done in Berkeley in the late 1970s and the *Historic Structure Report* done for UCB in 1999 rated it as appearing eligible for the National Register.

**Chronology of the Property.** The following text outlines the history of the nominated property.

*Early History.* Around the start of the twentieth century, long before the stadium was proposed, Piedmont Avenue dead-ended near what is now called Tunnel Court. Strawberry Creek flowed freely where the stadium structure now sits. Only a portion of the nominated property was then owned by the University. The rest of it had long ago been sold off as part of a tract called the Berkeley Property, and had been developed with several large one-family dwellings.<sup>32</sup> Then in February 1922 the University’s Board of Regents, after considering alternative sites for a memorial stadium, decided that it should be located here.

*Design and Construction of the Stadium.* In August of 1922 the Regents determined that the stadium should be a combination of the earthen-bowl and coliseum types—and appointed a California Memorial Stadium Commission to design it. The three-member commission was chaired by the University’s Supervising Architect John Galen Howard and also included Edward E. Carpenter (an engineer with expertise regarding

<sup>31</sup> Steilberg, “U.C. Stadium Proposed Repairs and Changes.”

<sup>32</sup> Page & Turnbull, *Historic Landscape Report*, II-7 to II-8.

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California Memorial Stadium, Alameda County, California

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**Narrative Statement of Significance (Continued)**

earthworks) and George E. Buckingham (an engineer having expertise in reinforced concrete). The commission's secretary was Robert Gordon Sproul, who at the time was UC's Comptroller and Secretary to the Regents.

In November clearing of the property began.<sup>33</sup> (Clearance included moving away six large houses.) Then in January 1923 the Bates and Borland Company, which had the excavation contract, started work. Using a huge amount of fill material brought onto the property, it comprehensively reshaped the terrain. This phase of the project also saw construction of the future stadium's own tunnels and a lengthy buried culvert for the waters of Strawberry Creek. Bates and Borland completed its work in June. The Clinton Construction Company secured the general contract for the stadium in May and apparently began working in June (with William H. Cagle being the supervisor of concrete construction). This phase required great amounts of steel, wood, and especially concrete. To facilitate this a temporary concrete plant was erected near the stadium's south end.

Construction was finished just in time for the stadium to be dedicated on November 23—and for a packed house to see Cal beat Stanford in the next day's Big Game.

*Later Changes.* Starting in 1924, a lengthy row of lightweight bleachers was placed atop the promenade along the stadium's northeast and east sides. For some years thereafter the bleachers were set out only for football seasons, but later on they got left up year-round. Otherwise, the property saw little alteration till after World War II.

A new or rebuilt press box was constructed in 1947 and altered in 1954. By about 1951 all the original wooden benches had been replaced. Apparently in 1954, the home team's quarters were moderately expanded. In 1957 the lightweight bleachers were demolished.

During the 1960s and 1970s the biggest change was the 1968 replacement of the previous press box with a big new one. A much smaller alteration was the 1963 insertion of a concourse-level room, with balcony, behind the surface plane of Memorial Arch.

At some undetermined time or times after 1950, large sections of wooden seating were replaced with aluminum seating—and scoring and advertising displays were superimposed on the inner faces of the north and south concrete scoreboards.

Between 1980 and 1999 (particularly in the 1980s) there was extensive infill construction and/or remodeling of rooms underneath various stands, especially southwestern ones. On the playing field synthetic turf replaced grass in 1981, though grass came back in the mid-1990s.

In 2002 the press box's 1968 version was demolished and replaced by the existing one. In 2003 the playing field was resurfaced with artificial turf.

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<sup>33</sup> Cavagnaro, "Carving Out Bear Territory," 20.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance (Continued)**

**Significance regarding Architecture and Engineering.** California Memorial Stadium is significant at the State level under National Register Criterion C in the subject areas of architecture and engineering. The relevant theme is design and construction of major athletic facilities.

In this regard the significant dates were 1922, when site clearance began, and 1923, when construction was completed. As framed by those events, the period of significance was 1922–1923. The nominated property retains from that period quite sufficient integrity to convey its significant qualities as to architecture and engineering. This is true of both the stadium structure itself and those portions of the grounds that are included within the nominated property.

The relevant property type consists of large stadiums suitable for football. As will be discussed more specifically below, California Memorial Stadium is strongly representative of this type and in some ways is outstanding.

*Background.* Creation of Memorial Stadium was powerfully influenced by the growth and development of California itself, of the University, and of intercollegiate athletics including especially football.

During the early 20th century the State was growing quite rapidly. California's population increased from about 1,485,000 in 1900 to 3,427,000 in 1920<sup>34</sup>: a 131 percent growth rate.

The State also saw a big surge in college attendance. In particular, the Berkeley campus's regular enrollment (undergraduates plus grad students but excluding summer and extension students) increased from 2,229 in 1900–1901 to 10,796 in 1920–1921<sup>35</sup>: a spectacular jump of 384 percent. The growing prestige of UC and other institutions of higher learning in the State, and of their football teams, in some ways reflected the State's growth. In turn it may well have helped stimulate the latter, by enhancing perceptions of California among potential residents and investors.

Now on regular class days the overall campus (including nearby UCB facilities) draws in a total of roughly 50,000 students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

Berkeley as a whole, and its areas near the campus, experienced major population increase and construction during the twentieth century's first three decades. One factor in this was the 1906 earthquake and fire that devastated San Francisco and indirectly stimulated growth in the East Bay. Today, Berkeley is an essentially built-out city. One of its most densely developed parts is the Southside, or "South of Campus," area.

Back in the mid-nineteenth century, Strawberry Creek and its beautiful canyon backdrop, together with the view toward the Golden Gate, had been the compelling reasons *why* the campus's Berkeley location had been chosen. The campus's first buildings opened in 1873 but in the ensuing early decades enrollment increased just

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<sup>34</sup> Bureau of the Census, *Historical Statistics of the United States*, 25. Since 1920 California has of course continued to grow massively.

<sup>35</sup> Stadtman et al., *The Centennial Record*, 216, 218.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance (Continued)**

slowly. In the 1880s the campus's southern boundary was Strawberry Creek. Although the huge landholding of the College of California (the University's predecessor) had once extended much farther south, the portions south of the creek were subdivided early on for private development in tracts such as the Berkeley Property. Then step by step, nearly all during the twentieth century, the University expanded southward. This massive expansion displaced or otherwise affected countless homes, rooming houses, businesses, and other uses—which themselves had been attracted to the area partly because of proximity to campus.

(See also the description of the nominated property's surroundings in section 7 above.)

Starting around the end of the 19th century, American intercollegiate sports competition was a major impetus for development of stadiums. Even by 1920, though, the United States had only about nine truly large stadiums suitable for football. That would change suddenly, for the period from 1920 to 1922 saw a burst of planning and construction for collegiate and municipal stadiums throughout the nation.<sup>36</sup> In California these included big stadiums for Stanford University and the cities of Pasadena and Los Angeles—and for UC.

Of the early 1920s, one could say that “college football ruled.” In an America with no television and no pro football, the only major commercial sports were boxing and baseball. And baseball's image had suffered from the “Black Sox” scandal of 1919.

By then, Cal's football team had acquired customary opponents like the University of Oregon and the University of Southern California. Jousts with Stanford University had become a great annual event: the Big Game, usually played in late November.

In Berkeley a facility suitable for football called California Field had been built in 1904, and expanded in 1906, approximately at and west of Hearst Gymnasium's present location. But that field was regarded as just an interim facility. Its inadequacy was starkly revealed when a crowd packed it full for the Big Game in 1920. The next year a statewide campaign was launched to fund a new stadium by selling subscriptions. Doubtless aided by the great success of Cal's football team during that period, the campaign raised a very large sum in a remarkably short time.

When by 1921 demands for a big new football stadium had become urgent, several alternative locations were studied. Among them were:

- a site between Strawberry Creek and Bancroft Way, west of Dana Street, that was then off-campus but roughly corresponded to UCB's present Edwards Stadium-Evans Baseball Diamond-Haas Pavilion complex; and of course
- California Memorial Stadium's present location.

The latter option was highly controversial. Some of the land involved was privately owned and contained substantial homes. The University-owned portion had initially been bought for future reservoir uses, currently contained a UC nursery and botanical garden, and for Berkeleyans was a popular place to hike and convene

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<sup>36</sup> Siegel & Strain, *Historic Structure Report*, 7-8.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance (Continued)**

with nature. Furthermore, a rustic neighborhood had formed on Panoramic Hill enjoying the unspoiled outlook. But despite much community opposition the Board of Regents (as noted above) in early 1922 chose this location.

*Pertinent Other Stadiums.* The following text describes several comparable stadiums that existed in the State during the 1922–1923 period of significance. They will be referred to again during subsequent discussion of why and how California Memorial Stadium is significant.<sup>37</sup>

- *Stanford Stadium.* Leland Stanford Jr. University's stadium was built in 1921 with an original seating capacity of some 60,000. It opened in time for that year's Big Game with Cal. It was done as a "dirt stadium": one of the earthen-bowl type, with wooden seating resting on mounds built up with material excavated for the athletic field. It was developed with overall dimensions of about 840 feet by 620, with its flat field measuring some 562 feet by 355. It was provided with a quarter-mile running track including a 220-yard straightaway, which extended outward where a large gap was left open at one end of the stands. The stadium sits rather near the eastern edge of Stanford's huge campus, in a largely open portion where there are now thousands of parking spaces interspersed with trees. The outer faces of the stadium's embankments were heavily planted and meant to blend into the open surroundings. In 1927 the stadium was enlarged so as to accommodate 90,000. Further alterations were made later on, reducing the seating capacity to some 85,000.

But in 2005 Stanford's Board of Trustees approved a project to radically change the stadium by closing its open end, removing the track, lowering the playing field, demolishing the old bleachers, and reducing the seating capacity to about 50,000. (The outer berm and its trees have been retained, though.) The work began after that year's final game, and the resulting "cozier" bowl is targeted for play to resume in September 2006.<sup>38</sup>

- *Rose Bowl.* Owned by the City of Pasadena, the Rose Bowl—or "Tournament of Roses Stadium"—was constructed in 1922 with a seating capacity of 53,000. Much like Stanford Stadium, it is basically an earthen bowl. The Rose Bowl was designed with overall dimensions of roughly 1,000 feet by 790. It included a running track, with 220-yard straightaway, and apparently at first had one end open. The open end was closed at some later time, presumably when stands were extended to increase seating capacity. (However, there are now two tunnels big enough to let even large vehicles get through to the field.) Seating capacity is presently 92,000. The Rose Bowl is simply designed and unpretentious, with a modest raised gateway feature at one end. The outer slopes of its earthen embankments are for the most part substantially planted. Though residential neighborhoods are nearby, the stadium sits practically in the center of a vast public park, within which there now are abundant parking spaces.

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<sup>37</sup>Within the State during the 1922–1923 period of significance, there were stadiums suitable for football other than those listed here. But it appears that they were much smaller in seating capacity—less than half that of Cal's stadium—and not really comparable.

<sup>38</sup>"Stadium, Seating Take Shape," 35.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance (Continued)**

(The Rose Bowl was designated in 1987 as a National Historic Landmark.)

- *Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.* Another municipal stadium is Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, originally built in 1921–1923. Cal's Golden Bears were the visiting team for the Coliseum's first large football game in October 1923 (the month before California Memorial Stadium opened). The Coliseum's initial capacity was 76,000. But in 1930 upper seating was added to increase the total to 105,000—and enable the Coliseum to host the 1932 Olympic Games. (A half century later, the Coliseum was the central venue for the 1984 Olympics.) As of 1931 the Coliseum's flat space, for football games and other events, measured 684 feet by 345. There is a quarter-mile running track, but apparently the 220-yard straightaway partly involves a tunnel. Present capacity reportedly is 92,000. Though its initial construction involved major excavation and creation of earthen mounds, the Coliseum has at least since 1930 presented a substantial aboveground facade all around its periphery. The upper seating that was added in 1930 is supported by an aboveground structural framework. An important original feature of the Coliseum is the great peristylar gateway at one end. This has a lofty central arch flanked by series of lower arches that lead to pylons set against the ends of adjacent seating. The Coliseum's location (which is where there once was a gravel pit) is in the midst of huge and much visited Exposition Park—which also contains diverse facilities including two museums, an indoor sports arena, and reportedly thousands of parking spaces.

(L.A.'s Coliseum was designated in 1984 as a National Historic Landmark.)

*Type, Period, and Method of Construction.* California Memorial Stadium well embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, and method of construction.

When it opened it was one of America's very largest. The figure of some 73,000 spectators in the brand-new stadium for the 1923 Big Game was greater than at any previous football game in the western United States. At that time within the State, the seating capacity of California Memorial Stadium was exceeded only—and only slightly—by that of Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

Cal's stadium was (and remains) well-oriented and particularly suitable for viewing football. While Stanford Stadium, the Rose Bowl, L.A.'s Coliseum, and many other American stadiums of the time were built with a running track surrounding the playing field, California Memorial Stadium has never had such a track. The result was a capacious but compact—even intimate—stadium in which spectators were significantly closer to the gridiron action.

As noted in section 7, the stadium's original non-hierarchical and uniformly colored wooden seating has been replaced with noticeably differentiated colors and materials. Yet the stands as a whole and their relation to the playing field are still able to convey their original basic character.

California Memorial Stadium skillfully combines the earthen-bowl and coliseum stadium types and well exemplifies such combination. John Galen Howard had proposed a literal "coliseum" version with a classical facade all around its periphery. But Edward E. Carpenter, whose firm Baker and Carpenter had recently

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**Narrative Statement of Significance (Continued)**

supervised building of Stanford University's stadium, argued that an earthen bowl like Stanford's would be more economical and could seat more people. Finally, George E. Buckingham proposed, and persuaded the Regents to endorse, a blend of the coliseum and earthen-bowl concepts.

As seen from outside the stadium's wall, that blend can still be readily grasped, especially near the broad outdoor steps where layers of the formal facade terminate as the ground rises up. Within the crescent-shaped area underneath the upper rows of the northwest, west, and south stands, the combination of types is conveyed by character-defining interplays between circulation routes, the earthen mound's slope, and the colossal, gradually curving system of unpainted concrete posts, beams, girders, and slabs that holds up the seating. Although over the years much infill construction has occurred within this area, there still are some spaces ample enough to compellingly display such interplays. Furthermore the infill is generally of stuccoed, lightweight construction and thus both distinguishable from the basic structural framework and potentially reversible.

California Memorial Stadium was designed with a Classical Revival style characteristic of many stadiums, and other facilities, of the period.

The lengthy and rhythmic progression of its arched and rectangular openings in combination with the rustication, cornice, parapet, and related details add up to a majestic and unified facade in which all the classical elements are significant.

This unified composition of arches, moldings, cornice, parapet, and related features remains essentially quite intact. Though infill has occurred behind many of the facade's openings, the effect has been mitigated by recessing the infill material from the facade's main surface and in most cases by using tinted glass set within bronze-anodized metal sash. The enormous yet carefully detailed facade retains its character and its power.

The facade represents a high level of craftsmanship. The task of producing wooden formwork—against which concrete would be poured—was especially challenging due to the profusion of classical moldings, recesses, and other shapes together with the facade's curvature at varying radii. This required using very skilled carpenters.

The basically unaltered Roman facade of California Memorial Stadium relates well stylistically to the campus's fine Classical Revival academic buildings.

That contrasts favorably with the situation at Stanford, where no serious attempt was ever made to architecturally relate that institution's stadium to its academic buildings. Stanford Stadium's sloping outer berm was profusely planted. While this related pleasantly to the tree-studded open surroundings, it made it hard for unfamiliar visitors to identify the facility as a stadium.

The substantial planting on embankments of the Rose Bowl relates that facility well to the surrounding public park. However, the Rose Bowl's modest architecture as such is far less impressive than the majestic Roman

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**Narrative Statement of Significance (Continued)**

facade of Cal's stadium.

Stylistically, California Memorial Stadium at least equals and arguably outshines Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. The latter's peristylar gateway is distinctive and impressive, but the rest of its concrete facade is routine in character.

A December 1923 article in *The Detonator* described Cal's completed stadium project as "a triumph of engineering skill."<sup>39</sup>

It took place on what architect Walter Steilberg subsequently called "the world's most difficult stadium site."<sup>40</sup> The unevenly sloping terrain lay at the mouth of a canyon, traversed by a major creek and the Hayward Fault. This was a site much more challenging than those of Stanford Stadium, the Rose Bowl, and Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

For the project a broad range of expertise was used. Thomas F. Chace designed the important structural steelwork. (Several years later he did engineering for UCB's impressive George C. Edwards Stadium, which is designed for track and field events.) Another major concern was drainage for the playing field, as the University could not afford to cancel games due to soggy turf. The matter was unusually challenging because, for this particular stadium, the basic fill would include very fine-grained, highly impervious material. Customized systems were employed as recommended by a committee (chaired by Walter W. Weir) whose four members specialized in drainage, irrigation, soils, or grasses.<sup>41</sup>

The stadium project was realized through a heroic feat of earth moving and construction. Contemporary journalist William Henry Smyth accurately called the overall project "the most spectacular constructive undertaking in the history of Berkeley."<sup>42</sup> The gigantic task was done under extreme time pressure. The plan drawings were not completed till November 1922 and the stadium had to be ready by the next November's financially crucial Big Game.

Excavation contractor Bates and Borland used a workforce of several hundred men, of whom some 150 camped in tents on Charter Hill.<sup>43</sup> For Strawberry Creek, a four-foot concrete box culvert was installed running beneath the middle of the future stadium. Over part of the culvert, a flat surface—to hold the playing field—was created at an elevation several meters higher than that of the old creekbed. Surrounding the flat surface, the contractor sculpted massive earthen mounding on which seating would later be placed.

In the course of its work, Bates and Borland moved some 280,000 cubic yards of soil and rock.<sup>44</sup> Most of that

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<sup>39</sup> "California's Memorial Stadium," 46.

<sup>40</sup> Steilberg, "U.C. Stadium Proposed Repairs and Changes."

<sup>41</sup> Siegel & Strain, *Historic Structure Report*, 15.

<sup>42</sup> Smyth, *Story of the Stadium*, 29.

<sup>43</sup> *Ibid.*, 25.

<sup>44</sup> *Ibid.*, 25.

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Narrative Statement of Significance (Continued)

came from Charter Hill's lower slopes. The ground there was loosened by dynamite or black powder, and rock was crushed into silt and gravel. Water diverted from Strawberry Creek or brought in by wagon, and reused via electric-powered pumps, was shot through wide nozzles forcefully against the hillside. Roughly 50,000 cubic yards of material was moved onto the stadium property by tractors or horse-drawn wagons. But the rest was conveyed hydraulically by a giant, partly trestled network of sluice boxes.

When in June the site was handed over to the Clinton Construction Company to build the actual stadium, it was only five months before the upcoming Big Game. During those hectic months, a work force averaging some 250 men used about 7,500 cubic yards of concrete and 600 tons of reinforcing steel. Formwork for the concrete took roughly 1,000,000 board feet of lumber, and 750,000 or more board feet were used for the stadium's seating.<sup>45</sup> Almost miraculously, the job was completed on time.

In terms of historic integrity in general, California Memorial Stadium compares very favorably with pertinent other stadiums. As noted above, Stanford Stadium has been largely redeveloped and substantially downsized. Both the Rose Bowl and Los Angeles Memorial Stadium have had major additions of permanent seating. In contrast, Cal's stadium now has the same basic capacity and configuration as when it first opened in 1923.

Football would imbue the stadium with vivid memories and long traditions. The home team and the California Marching Band would enter dramatically through the North Tunnel. The visiting team would usually reach the field through the small tunnel near its locker room, and the visiting band would emerge from the South Tunnel. All these traditional routes are still essentially intact.

The girdle of open space that Map 1 identifies as a "contributing site" vitally complements the stadium structure, and mediates between the structure and very sensitive surroundings. For example, large segments of it adjoining the classical facade are wooded enough to effectively soften and offset the stadium's horizontally great scale.

The stadium project's original landscape plan was shaped at least partly by the firm of MacRorie-McLaren, Landscape Engineers—whose work was characterized by Irving F. Morrow<sup>46</sup> as being "naturalistic." This is hardly surprising, as partner Donald McLaren was the son of John McLaren, the longtime guiding genius of San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

To quote from the *Historic Landscape Report*:

The plan for the landscape, likely the work of John Galen Howard and MacRorie & McLaren, was an innovative solution to a very complex and challenging site. The construction . . . caused immense damage to Strawberry Canyon, necessitating a landscape plan that would quickly mask the scars and retain some of the natural beauty . . . In addition, the Stadium was built in an existing residential neighborhood, and the design incorporated features of the former residential development, including the stone retaining wall on Piedmont Avenue, some

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<sup>45</sup> Ibid., 27.

<sup>46</sup> Morrow, "The Work of the Landscape Engineer."

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Narrative Statement of Significance (Continued)

existing trees, and the open grounds directly facing the east side of Piedmont Avenue.<sup>47</sup>

It is true (as the *Historic Landscape Report* also says) that some prominent parts of the stadium's original grounds have suffered major change of character. As pointed out on page 15 of this nomination, the "contributing site" does not include all of the original grounds. In particular it *excludes* areas northwest of Memorial Arch and at Prospect Court where there has been drastic loss of integrity. The changes there are described on page 20, under the heading "Northern Parking Areas and Maxwell Family Field," and page 19, under "Prospect Court's Main Parking Area."

(It is in certain cases due to those particular exclusions that the contributing site is—as Map 1 depicts—shallow alongside some segments of the stadium's perimeter.)

However, the parts that are included in Map 1's contributing site have basically retained a quite substantial degree of integrity.

The contributing site's rustic slope along Piedmont Avenue significantly protects and complements this historic parkway, which was conceived long ago by America's greatest landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted. It also importantly relates to the UCB-occupied row of five former homes which is located directly across the avenue from it, and which makes up the central campus's last remaining residentially scaled edge.

One of that rustic slope's significant elements consists of its rock walls that adjoin the Piedmont Avenue sidewalk. These walls themselves, which probably sit on what is now University land, predate the stadium's construction. They fronted residential properties that used to exist here.<sup>48</sup>

The contributing site's portion near Memorial Arch has a steep and densely wooded embankment that significantly helps relate the stadium to Bowles Hall, Charter Hill, and Strawberry Canyon. The contributing site's portion between the stadium's south end and Canyon Road has a smaller but also prominent steep and densely wooded embankment as well as other planting—and importantly interfaces between the stadium and historic Canyon Road and Panoramic Hill.

Also helping relate the structure to its surroundings are important facts about the stadium's profile. It is character-defining that along the east and northeast sides the stadium's top is essentially at grade with the adjacent segment of Stadium Rim Way: a result enabled by and clearly expressing the stadium's intrinsic nature as partly an earthen bowl. It is also character-defining that along the west, northwest, and south sides the stadium presents a monumental classical facade that has its elegant original proportions with basically uninterrupted sight lines across the historic rim. The stadium profile is important partly because of the stadium's sensitive location at the very mouth of Strawberry Canyon and right next to the view-sensitive neighborhood on historic Panoramic Hill. Another reason for its importance is that the stadium's lofty elevation makes it potentially so visible from far and wide within the inner Bay Area's urban arena.

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<sup>47</sup> Page & Turabull and PGAdesign Inc., *Historic Landscape Report*, V-3.

<sup>48</sup> *Ibid*, III-4.

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Past protrusions above the stadium's original rim harmed both the stadium's own integrity and views from the surroundings. Fortunately the lightweight bleachers were taken down in 1957 and the huge 1968 press box was removed in 2002. The tall fence behind the present press box and the existing metallic projections above the concrete parts of the north and south scoreboards are less obtrusive, although they do detract to some degree from the stadium's integrity. The *Historic Structure Report* concluded that "[n]o additions or alterations should project above the historic rim of the stadium."<sup>49</sup>

With its canyon-mouth location several hundred feet above sea level, the setting of Cal's stadium is unusually spectacular—indeed considerably more so than the settings of Stanford Stadium, Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, and even the Rose Bowl.

*Work of a Master.* California Memorial Stadium is also outstanding because it represents work of a master: the distinguished architect, and architectural educator, John Galen Howard (1864–1931).

He had initially opposed the proposal to locate the stadium at the mouth of Strawberry Canyon. But after the Board of Regents chose this location he made the best of the situation, and magnificently so.

He chaired the California Memorial Stadium Commission that was responsible for the facility's design—and he was this commission's *architect* member. The other two members were engineers. The stadium's classical facade in particular clearly and profoundly reflects Howard's own thinking.

He had come to Berkeley with fine credentials. After studying architecture at MIT, Howard apprenticed in the office that legendary H.H. Richardson had founded. He subsequently worked for the renowned classicists McKim, Mead and White. He then attended the École des Beaux-Arts itself in Paris, before opening an office in New York with engineer partner Samuel M. Cauldwell.

In the late-1890s international competition for a new campus plan, one of the entries came from Howard and Cauldwell. Their entry finished only fourth. But when in 1900 the Regents officially adopted a refined version of the winner's entry, they simultaneously appointed Howard to a four-member advisory board of architects to oversee its implementation. Then in 1901 President Benjamin Ide Wheeler named him as the University's Supervising Architect—a powerful post he would hold for nearly a quarter century, during a period of huge enrollment growth and major on-campus construction.

In that role, and as designer of many of the finest individual buildings, Howard firmly and brilliantly refined and implemented a distinguished campus plan. As Loren Partridge wrote about him:

Howard worked under severe financial constraints yet produced a masterpiece of unity and vitality.<sup>50</sup>

The unique architectural character of the Berkeley campus . . . is largely of his making.<sup>51</sup>

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<sup>49</sup> Siegel & Strain, *Historic Structure Report*, 60.

<sup>50</sup> Partridge, *John Galen Howard*, 1.

<sup>51</sup> *Ibid.*, 3.

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The core of the Berkeley campus by John Galen Howard is one of the largest, most complete Beaux-Arts ensembles ever to be executed in permanent materials in the history of American architecture.<sup>52</sup>

Howard's own superb campus buildings embodied the wide range of possibilities in material and style within the Beaux-Arts framework of the School of Architecture.<sup>53</sup>

Indeed he was one of the State's most significant architects of his generation. Besides projects for UC, he designed many commercial and residential buildings. He was also a distinguished architectural educator. In 1903 he was appointed as the first director of UC's new department of architecture, which in 1913 became the School of Architecture, and he remained its head till at least 1926. Howard developed it into one of America's best. There or in the office of his private practice, important architects like Henry Gutterson, Julia Morgan, and William Wurster got some or all of their training under his tutelage.

California Memorial Stadium was the largest individual project that Howard ever did. Its facade was his most purely Roman one.

It was the most controversial project he ever worked on. And it turned out to be one of his last building projects for UC. Tensions between him and the Regents had already developed and in November 1924, one year after the stadium opened, the Regents abruptly terminated his contract as Supervising Architect.

**Previous Historic Ratings of California Memorial Stadium.** Earlier evaluations of the stadium have included those mentioned below.

*State Historic Resources Inventory.* The stadium is on the SHRI that was done in Berkeley in 1977–1979, and which rated it as appearing eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. In the survey form for it, architectural critic Gray Allan Brechin acknowledged problems of tectonic creep and inadequate parking but then wrote, "Despite all objections, [the] Stadium is tremendously impressive as a structure in its site."<sup>54</sup>

*City Landmarking.* Under the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance, the City of Berkeley's Landmarks Preservation Commission determined in June 2006 that California Memorial Stadium should be designated as a landmark.

*Historic Structure Report for UCB.* The extensive *Historic Structure Report* that was completed for UCB in 1999 concluded that California Memorial Stadium appears eligible for the National Register.<sup>55</sup>

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<sup>52</sup> Ibid., 1.

<sup>53</sup> Ibid., 5.

<sup>54</sup> Brechin, State Historic Resources Inventory form.

<sup>55</sup> Siegel & Strain, *Historic Structure Report*, 3.

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W.F. Boardman Co. "Map of a Portion of the Berkeley Property Situated Between the University of California and the State Deaf, Dumb and Blind Asylum, Oakland, Alameda Co. As Laid Out by F.L. Olmsted." Officially adopted by the Board of Trustees of the College of California, 5 May 1868. Recorded 26 May 1868. A copy is at Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association.

Woodbury, William N. *Grandstand and Stadium Design*. Foreword by T.R. Higgins. New York: American Institute of Steel Construction, Inc., 1947.

**Primary Location of Additional Data**

The majority of the additional documentation is in the library system of the University of California, Berkeley. Among the relevant components of that are the Bancroft Library and the Environmental Design Library.

The nonprofit Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association also has substantial documentation. Its archives are located at 2318 Durant Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94704.

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundaries of the nominated property are indicated on the accompanying base map entitled "The Nominated Property."

**Boundary Justification**

The boundaries are drawn so as to include:

- the "contributing structure," which is the stadium as such; and
- the "contributing site," which is a girdle of open space (of varying width) that borders the stadium.

The contributing site was developed with, and associated in use with, the stadium itself—and importantly complements it. As Map 2 and Illustrations 31 and 34 from the 1920s help to demonstrate, it has retained a quite substantial degree of historic integrity. To quote again from the *Historic Landscape Report*, "The original landscape features that remain are largely intact, such as the landscape on the west side of the stadium."<sup>56</sup> (See also further discussion of the contributing site on pages 14–19.)

The nominated property excludes:

- Maxwell Family Field and the adjacent L-shaped pattern of parking areas, because radical physical change occurred there in the 1940s and/or 1950s;
- the main parking area at Prospect Court, because there has been major loss of integrity there, especially with the paving-over by 1948 of an important original planting ellipse;
- the concrete-block ticket facilities at Prospect Court, because those were not built until 1949;
- all of Stadium Rim Way, because it serves as a general-purpose road and carries through traffic bound for destinations such as Lawrence Berkeley Lab;
- the other adjoining streets such as Piedmont Avenue, for similar reasons;
- International House and the UC-owned yard spaces that now relate to it, because International House is visually quite distinct from California Memorial Stadium and was built later;
- the southern portion of the parking lot paralleling International House's north side, because the land corresponding to that portion likely was not acquired by UCB till several years after the stadium's construction and has since undergone major physical change; and
- adjacent privately owned land as such.

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<sup>56</sup> Page & Turnbull and PGAdesign Inc., *Historic Landscape Report*, IV-2.

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**Name, Address, and Phone Number**

The address and phone number shown in section 11 of NPS Form 10-900 are those of John S. English himself, who as a consultant prepared the application for the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association.

That organization's mailing address is P.O. Box 1137, Berkeley, CA 94701. Its office and archives are at 2318 Durant Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94704. Its phone number is (510) 841-2242.

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California Memorial Stadium, Alameda County, California

## Photographs and Illustrations

<i>Number (Item 7)</i>	<i>Name of Photog- rapher (Item 3)</i>	<i>Date (Item 4)</i>	<i>Location of Original Negative (Item 5)*</i>	<i>Description (Item 6)</i>
1	John S. English	25 August 2005	BAHA	View looking east, from Sather Tower, toward stadium and mouth of Strawberry Canyon
2	John S. English	25 August 2005	BAHA	View looking southeast, through parking lot, toward Memorial Arch
3	John S. English	25 August 2005	BAHA	Close-up view looking southeast into Memorial Arch
4	John S. English	25 August 2005	BAHA	View looking east toward Memorial Arch and vicinity
5	John S. English	25 August 2005	BAHA	View looking southwest along northwest part of stadium facade, with adjacent trees
6	John S. English	25 August 2005	BAHA	Close-up view looking east toward projecting balcony on southwest part of stadium facade
7	John S. English	25 August 2005	BAHA	View looking southeast along southwest part of stadium facade
8	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking east along south part of stadium facade and adjacent fencing
9	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking west along south facade and adjacent open steps
10	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking north toward outer face of south scoreboard
11	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking north or northeast toward facade openings near visiting-team quarters

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**Photographs and Illustrations (Continued)**

<i>Number (Item 7)</i>	<i>Name of Photog- rapher (Item 3)</i>	<i>Date (Item 4)</i>	<i>Location of Original Negative (Item 5)*</i>	<i>Description (Item 6)</i>
12	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking south or southwest along stairs beside visiting-team quarters under south stands
13	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking northeast along circulation corridor under northwest stands
14	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking east along series of original restrooms beside circulation corridor under south stands
15	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking southeast along circulation corridor and service area under south stands
16	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking northeast at structural framework under part of south stands
17	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking west or southwest along circulation corridor and service area under north stands
18	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking west into Haas Lounge under south or west stands
19	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking north at stairs and earthen slope below some infill decking under west stands
20	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking northwest up stands near North Tunnel
21	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking northwest along playing field toward north scoreboard

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California Memorial Stadium, Alameda County, California

**Photographs and Illustrations (Continued)**

<i>Number (Item 7)</i>	<i>Name of Photog- rapher (Item 3)</i>	<i>Date (Item 4)</i>	<i>Location of Original Negative (Item 5)*</i>	<i>Description (Item 6)</i>
22	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking west or southwest across playing field toward press box
23	John S. English	25 August 2005	BAHA	View looking east toward south scoreboard and Panoramic Hill
24	John S. English	25 August 2005	BAHA	View looking east or northeast from campus building, across Piedmont Avenue, toward wooded area, parking lot, and stadium facade
25	John S. English	25 August 2005	BAHA	View looking east or northeast, across Piedmont Avenue, toward path through wooded area
26	John S. English	25 August 2005	BAHA	View looking northeast toward old ticket booth in wooded area near Piedmont Avenue
27	John S. English	25 August 2005	BAHA	View looking north across Prospect Court toward south part of stadium facade
28	John S. English	25 August 2005	BAHA	View looking north or northwest, from beside Memorial Arch, toward wooded slope and adjacent parking
29	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking north along paved path behind top of eastside seating
30	John S. English	26 August 2005	BAHA	View looking northwest along Stadium Rimway toward Charter Hill
31**	Unknown	C. 1923	Unknown	Postcard view looking east, from Sather Tower, toward stadium and mouth of Strawberry Canyon

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Photographs and Illustrations (Continued)

<i>Number (Item 7)</i>	<i>Name of Photog- rapher (Item 3)</i>	<i>Date (Item 4)</i>	<i>Location of Original Negative (Item 5)*</i>	<i>Description (Item 6)</i>
32**	Gabriel Moulin	C. 1923	Unknown	View looking west, from Panoramic Hill, over stadium and toward San Francisco Bay
33**	Gabriel Moulin	C. 1923	Unknown	View looking south, from Charter Hill, into stadium
34**	U.S. Army Air Corps, 15th Photo Section	C. 1928	Unknown	View looking down on stadium and adjacent areas (part of aerial mosaic of campus)

\* "BAHA" is the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association, whose archives are located at 2318 Durant Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94704.

\*\* Numbers 31-34 (shot in the 1920s) are digitized copies rather than prints from negatives. So these graphics are called "illustrations" rather than photographs. However, their numbering continues that of the "photographs."

**California Memorial Stadium  
Berkeley, Alameda County  
Staff Evaluation**

The California Memorial Stadium nomination includes one contributing structure and one contributing site: a large elliptical stadium and a complementing apron of open space with landscaped character that was developed with the stadium. The 1922 stadium is dedicated to the memory of Californians who lost their lives in World War I.

Over the years a number of changes have taken place to the property. Glass and metal window walls have been inserted at most of the arched openings. Seating has been replaced in kind (wood) or with metal. A new press box was constructed in 2002. But overall, the property retains good integrity.

The property is being nominated to the National Register under Criterion C at the state level of significance in the areas of architecture and engineering as a distinctive example of type, period, and method of construction and as the work of a master architect. The stadium's basically unaltered Roman façade – with its arches, rustication, and other classically designed elements – is an excellent example of Beaux-Arts design and academic building. The combined earthen-bowl and coliseum type stadium on the side of a hill was achieved through skillful engineering of earth moving and construction. The nomination includes an apron of landscaped open space that was developed along with the stadium. The stadium was designed by the University Architect John Galen Howard who was responsible for revising the University's original master plan, designing a number of University buildings, including the Hearst Mining Building, and founding the Department of Architecture. Howard had a profound effect on the University's built environment. The stadium was Howard's largest project on campus and one of his last.

The property is nominated by the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association. The nomination has the support of the East Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society and Panoramic Hill resident Janice Thomas who has submitted two letters to the Commission. The property owner is the University of California, Regents. A copy of the first draft was sent to the University for comment. The University responded, "The campus generally agrees that California Memorial Stadium is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C with respect to Architecture and Engineering." The University had questions about other areas of significance, the proposed boundaries, and the description of some of the property features. The nomination before the Commission was revised in response to the University's comments and those of the Office of Historic Preservation.

The University submitted a second letter on July 24<sup>th</sup> (copies sent to Commissioners) which identified its concerns with the revised nomination. This

letter was forwarded to the applicant who is in attendance and prepared to address the University's concerns. The University's concerns are minor and do not undermine the nomination's overall adequacy or they relate to the University's plans to retrofit and modernize the stadium and are outside the scope of the National Register nomination. Representatives from the University are also in attendance and wish to address the Commission.

Staff recommends listing the California Memorial Stadium under Criterion C at the state level of significance.

Cynthia Howse  
Historian II  
July 12, 2006

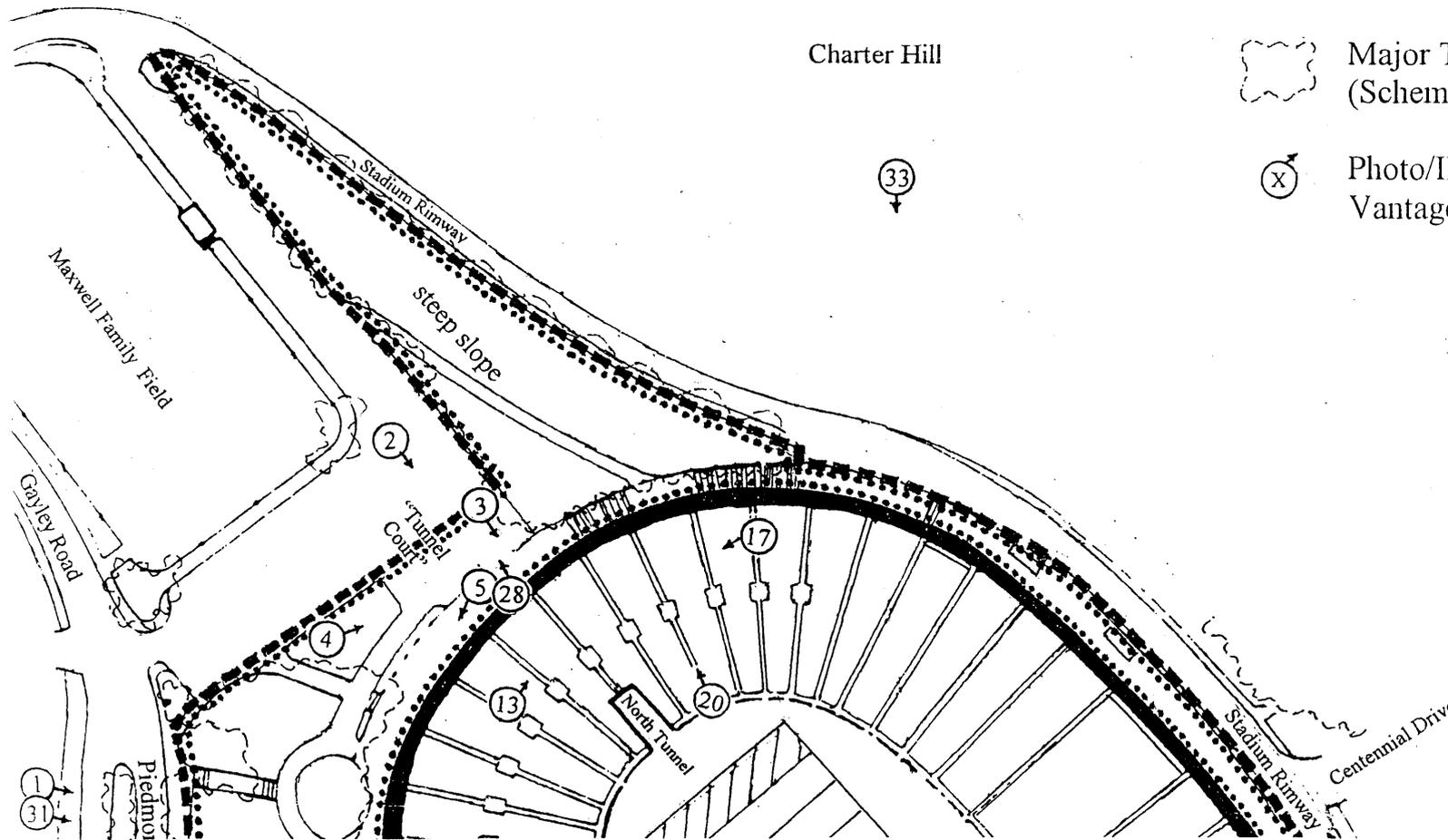
# Map 1

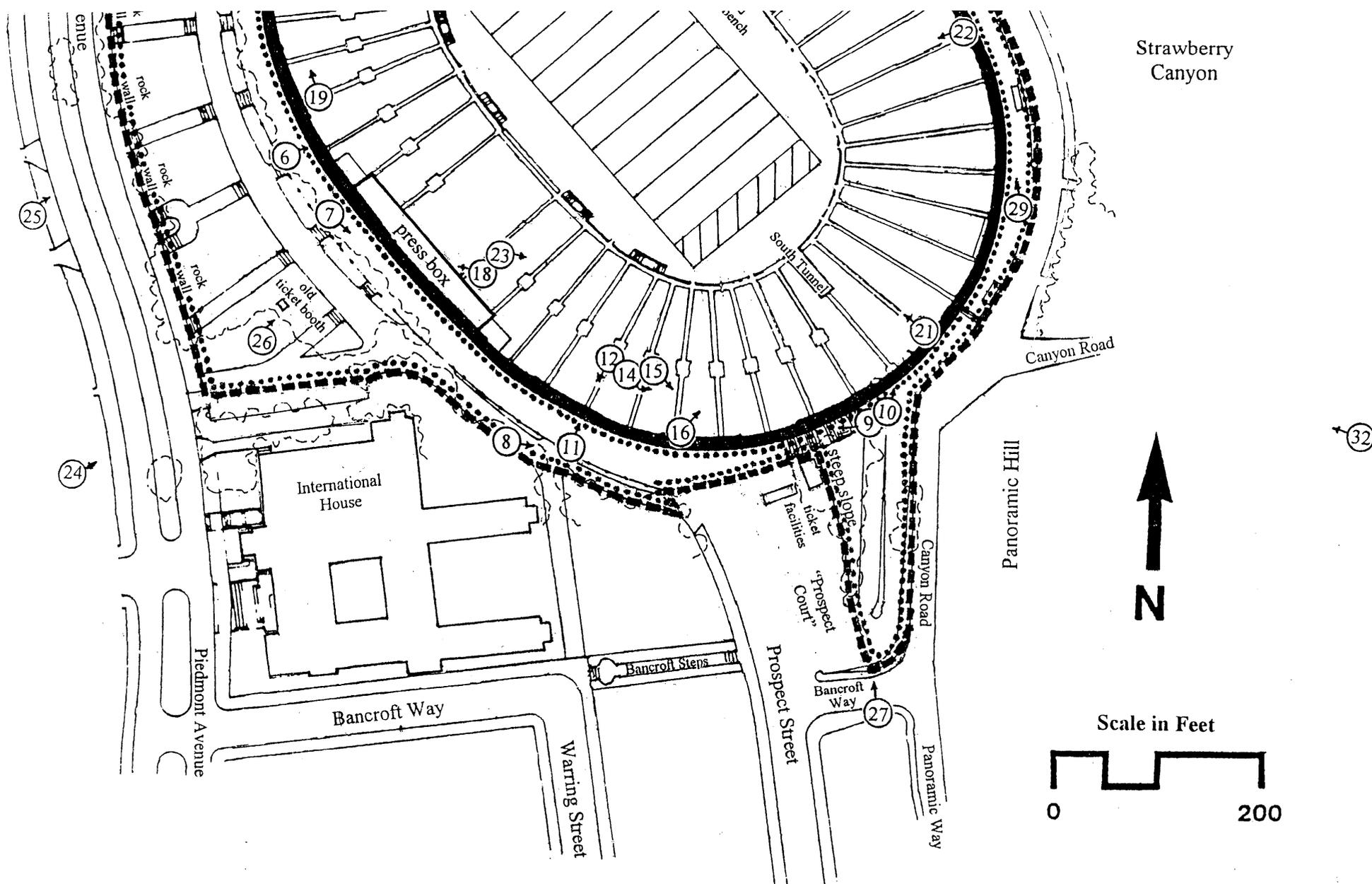
## THE NOMINATED PROPERTY

Notes re photographs or illustrations:

- Photographs 12-19 were taken beneath the stands.
- Photograph 1 and Illustration 31 were shot from Sather Tower, which is beyond the edge of this map but is indicated on Map 2.
- No particular vantage point or direction can be given for Illustration 34, which is part of an aerial mosaic done in the 1920s.

-  Boundary of Nominated Property
-  Contributing Structure (the Stadium Itself)
-  Contributing Site (Girdle of Open Space)
-  Major Tree Cover (Schematic)
-  Photo/Illustration Number, Vantage Point, & Direction





California Memorial Stadium, Alameda County, CA