2.2.31 Washington School Historic District

Ordinance # 85-076 July 30, 1985

SACRAMENTO REGISTER OF HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Washington School Historic District

The Washington School Historic District is similar to the north side Washington Historic District to in its general character, although it is also a transitional neighborhood architecturally. Like the others, the Washington School District predominantly consists of working class cottages, but of a somewhat later date. There is also a mixture of larger and more imposing houses and apartments on F Street, which is the main artery of the neighborhood.

Construction began in significant numbers in the 1880s and continued through 1905 with the high basement Eastlakes, Queen Anne's, Colonial Revivals, and vernacular buildings. After about 1905, there were Cube types and bungalows built in the eastern end, principally along F Street. The District as two principal focuses, one of them being the Washington School itself, which is fronted by impressive rows on F and 18th Streets. The large trees on the streets around the school give it further unity. The other focal point of the area is F Street, which runs past the school and has many larger houses and apartment buildings, which demonstrate an evolution in styles as the construction moved east. The mixture of newer styles here is nicely integrated with the predominant 19th century high basement structures because they are located principally in larger buildings on the main thoroughfare and in that way are highlighted and allowed to assert themselves.

The Washington School Historic District is bound on the north and east by the railroad and related industrial land uses. Its boundaries to the west and south are less distinct. The neighborhood used to extend in those directions but has been eroded by commercial spillover from 16th Street and modern apartments on the west and by office, commercial and institutional land uses on the south.

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