



The City of Seattle

Landmarks Preservation Board

700 Third Avenue • 4th floor • Seattle, Washington 98104 • (206) 684-0228

REPORT ON DESIGNATION

LPB 242/03

Name and Address of Property: **Garfield High School**
400 23rd Avenue

Legal Description:

Lots 1 – 17, Block 3 Sanders-Bowman Real Estate Co.'s 1st Addition except that portion deeded to the City of Seattle for street widening Ordinance #71135 and Ordinance #83275. Lots 1 – 24, inclusive, Block 18 Gamma Poncins Addition together with vacated Terrace Court Vac. Ordinance #90486 and Vacated E. Jefferson Street Vac. Ordinance #89036 and Vac Ordinance #91638 Block 3 Gilt Edge together with vacated 24th Avenue Vac Ordinance #91638. Including property deeded from City of Seattle described as follows:

Beginning at a point 30 feet East and 4.83 feet North of the intersection of the centerlines of 23rd Avenue and vacated Jefferson Street thence South 89 degrees 55' 30" E. A distance of 171.11 feet thence South 0 degrees 05' 08" W a distance of 4.83 feet thence North 89 degrees 55' 30" West a distance of 171.11 feet to the point of beginning.

Except property deeded to City of Seattle described as follows:

Beginning at a point 201.11 feet South 89 degrees 55' 30" E. of the intersection of the centerline of 23rd Avenue and E. Jefferson Street thence S 0 degrees 05' 08" W. a distance of 4.83 feet thence S. 89 degrees 55' 30" E a distance of 171.11 feet thence N. 0 degrees 05' 08" E. a distance of 4.83 feet thence N. 89 degrees 55' 30" W. a distance of 171.11 feet to the point of beginning.

Includes easement for overpass described as follows:

Portion of Lots 1 to 3, inclusive, and portion of East Jefferson Street as vacated under Ordinance #89306, described as follows:

Beginning at the Northwest corner of said Lot 1; thence South along the West line of said Block 3, a distance of 75.21 feet; thence North 50 degrees 05' 30" East 61.97 feet; thence South 67 degrees 54' 30" East 9.00 feet; thence North 50 degrees 05' 30" East 67.27 feet to a line which is 4.30 feet North of and parallel with the South line of said East Jefferson Street; thence South 89 degrees 59' 15" West along said parallel line 107.35 feet to the production North of the West line of said block; thence South along said produced West line 4.30 feet to the beginning. Property trade, Field House/narrow strip of land not shown on legal description.

At the public meeting held on August 6, 2003, the City of Seattle's Landmarks Preservation Board voted to approve designation of Garfield High School as a Seattle Landmark based upon satisfaction of the following standards for designation of SMC 25. 12.350:

C. It is associated in a significant way with a significant aspect of the cultural, political, or economic heritage of the community, city, state or nation.

D. It embodies the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style, period, or of a method of construction

E. It is an outstanding work of a designer or builder

F. Because of its prominence of spatial location, contrasts of siting, age, or scale, it is an easily identifiable visual feature of its neighborhood or the city and contributes to the distinctive quality or identity of such neighborhood or city.

DESCRIPTION

Setting

Garfield High School is located at 400 23rd Avenue in the Central District neighborhood of east Seattle. The immediate neighborhood around the school is primarily comprised of single-family houses dating back to the 1890's. The school site is bound by Garfield Playfield on the north and East Alder Street on the south, and by 23rd Avenue on the west and 25th Avenue on the east. The primary view of the school is from 23rd Avenue, a four lane north-south arterial which curves to the west making the north portion of the site wider than the south. Downtown's high-rise office buildings are visible beyond the houses, apartments, Ezell's Famous Chicken and the R.J. Causey Memorial Learning Center on the west side of 23rd Avenue.

The campus of Garfield High School sits on an 8.93-acre roughly rectangular lot that slopes gradually down toward the north and east. The school consists of a 1923 original three-story building, a 1929 addition that is compatible in style to the original structure, and a 1962 gymnasium. The 1923 building and 1929 addition are located on the upper terrace in the southwest quadrant. The detached 1962 gym building is located on the lower terrace in the northwest quadrant. The 1963 parking lot, playfield and track occupy the east side of the site on the intermediate terrace.

Garfield Community Center is located immediately north of the school campus. It includes the Medgar Evers Pool, the community center building and parking lot which opened in the late 1990's, Garfield Playfield and a children's playground on E. Cherry Street.

The track and field are enclosed with metal cyclone fencing and bounded by E. Alder Street to the south and 25th Avenue East to the east. The track and field are approximately eight feet below E. Alder Street on the south and eight feet above the school's parking lot on the north. Concrete ramps lead down to the track at the southwest corner and up to the track at the northwest corner. A small equipment storage building is located at the northeast corner of the playfield.

A small triangular-shaped garden with three brick benches is located between the service drive and the southwest corner of the track and field. An ivy-covered slope at the east side of the 1929 building terminates at a brick retaining wall with terra cotta coping and finial to the north. A similar retaining wall is located at the west side of the school at the juncture of the 1923 building and 1929 addition. A small parking lot is located north of the retaining wall at the east side of the building.

Garfield's 1929 addition faces E. Alder Street which is lined with houses predating the present school. The school bus loading zone is located on the north side of E. Alder Street. There are two sets of concrete stairs leading to secondary entrance bays on the north side. A Peace garden elevated a couple of feet above the sidewalk wraps the south and west sides of the 1929 addition.

A service drive on the west side provides access from E. 23rd Avenue through a large door to an inner courtyard between the 1923 building and the 1929 addition. Narrow concrete steps, terraced garden beds and the school's greenhouse are located just north of the service drive. Further north, steps lead down to a lawn and picnic table at the southwest corner of the 1923 building. Lawn, landscaping and a concrete north-south walkway occur along the remaining length of the west side of the original building. There are two sets of concrete walkways and stairs leading from the sidewalk along 23rd Avenue E. to the 1923 secondary entrance bays. A dirt path at the northwest corner of the north-south concrete walkway leads to the portables at the northwest quadrant.

Currently, there are five single and two double portables on the campus, two double and one single located between the track and field and the 1923 building and another four single located on the northwest side of the 1923 structure.

Trees and Gardens

Oak trees between the track and the original building were planted prior to 1919 along the sidewalk on the west side of 24th Avenue E. Existing trees and shrubs were entirely removed from the remainder of the site when grading for the 1923 building occurred. Evergreen trees were planted at the corners of the new building and at each side of the main entrance. Evergreen trees at the south and west sides were removed for the 1929 addition and new trees planted after construction was complete. A Rhododendron Memorial Garden located on the north side of the 1923 building was planted in 1944-45 in honor of World War II veterans. Rhododendrons have been donated by alumni over the years. In 1961, a cherry tree was donated to Garfield by Japanese exchange teachers and is prominently located at the northwest lawn. Cherry trees, azaleas, rhododendrons and other shrubs were planted along the south side of the Gymnasium in 1962. A large Japanese maple at the east side of the gym and a large fir at the west side were existing trees.

Garfield Peace Garden, a student-led project supported by the Seattle Center Peace Academy, Central Area Development Association and the City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, was dedicated in 1997. The Peace Garden is located on the south and west sides of the 1929 addition. Rocks engraved with quotes about peace attributed to notable historical figures such as Mohammed, Benjamin Franklin and Black Elk, are placed in the landscaped garden.

Physical Description of the Buildings

The following two sections are drawn from 1989 *Seattle Public Schools Historic Building Survey* by P. C. Erigero.

1923 Building Exterior

The original building was designed by the District architect Floyd Naramore in 1922. The building's exterior is three-stories tall, with a half-story higher projection above the stage area. The three-story gymnasium projects to the south, with the two-story U wrapping around it to the south. In 1929 a second two-story U was added further to the south, terminating in a three-story pavilion. All roofs are flat, with raised brick parapets and terra cotta coping. The reinforced concrete building is faced with a dark red burlap brick, some units of which are well burnt, giving the entire structure a dark hue. The bricks are laid in a running bond.

Garfield has some of the most elaborate and whimsical terra cotta detailing in the school district. All trim is executed in a buff-colored, tooled, matte-glazed terra cotta, speckled with black. The three-story elevations have a finely-molded terra cotta cornice and terra cotta string course at the first floor window lintel level. The two-story elevations to the south have a continuation of the string course. Main building corners are trimmed with terra cotta quoins, as are all major entry bays. Windows are primarily twelve-over-twelve double-hung wood sashes, organized in bays of three, with terra cotta sills and alternating bands of brick and terra cotta in the center piers. The three-story elevations have oval and curvilinear terra cotta strapwork ornaments in the parapet, centered above the window bays. The cornice below the ornaments has a terra cotta shield above each center pier. Entries are detailed with elaborate terra cotta panels with varying relief motifs, with terra cotta shields, finials, and tympanums, and with symbolic three-dimensional figures in the cornice.

The main (north) elevation has a centered entrance bay, executed entirely in terra cotta, framed by two bands of terra cotta quoins. The three-story bay has a two-story slanted bay window with nine-over-nine double-hung sashes with terra cotta mullions; the spandrel between the second and third floor sashes have terra cotta panels, each with a different ornamental relief motif, among them a globe, a harp, the medical shield, a lion and a lamp, and a sheaf of grain. The bay cornice has a panel with the school's name and date executed in relief, above which is a richly executed terra cotta panel extending up into the curvilinear terra cotta parapet, formed by the spread of a terra cotta eagle's wings. The bay window terminates at the base of the second floor in a balustraded balconet with three blind panels ornamented with geometric shapes and strapwork. The balconet tops a molded frieze, below which are three semi-circular arched portals with keystones and strapwork molding, springing from terra cotta pilasters embellished with geometric forms and strapwork. The portals lead to pairs of glazed entry doors with ornamental wood panels and semi-circular arched fanlights. A terra cotta balustrade flanks the concrete entry stairs.

The entry bay is flanked by three bays of double-hung windows; end bays, with single double-hung windows in each floor and a stepped, terra cotta-clad parapet with finial and figured shield, are defined by terra cotta quoining in the second and third floors, and terra cotta quoins and alternating panels of brick and terra cotta at the first floor.

The side elevations of the building's three-story portion are identical, with the exception of some terra cotta figure detailing at the entries. There are five bays of double-hung windows in the center,

flanked by secondary entry bays; the end bay to the north has no fenestration, while the one to the south has three double-hung windows. Each entry bay's form is identical: a semi-circular arched portal leads to a pair of recessed glazed and paneled doors with a terra cotta tympanum, framed by engaged pilasters embellished with geometric patterns and strapwork and topped with a dentilated entablature with triglyphs and metopes. Above the entablature is a pair of narrow eight-light casement windows, framed with terra cotta, with a terra cotta mullion. Above the windows is a triple-sash slanted bay window with terra cotta trim and mullions and narrow six-light casement windows. The bay's spandrel has richly-embellished ornamental terra cotta panels with tree and mountain scenes. The parapet follows the slant of the bay below; it has terra cotta quoins at each corner and an ornamental shield with symbols and scrolls identifying them located within the curvilinear coping edge. The cornice below the parapet has three-dimensional figures at the front corners of the slanted bay.

Each secondary entrance has its own motif in the parapet shield. The three-dimensional figures in the cornice of each vary as well. The southeast entry bay has an open book ("intelligence") in its shield, and a beaver and owl in the cornice; the northeast bay has an industrial scene ("industry") in the shield, and a woman's head and helmeted man's head (with a football) in the cornice; the northwest entry bay has a "science" shield and the owl and beaver in the cornice, and the southwest bay has an artist's palette ("arts and crafts") in the shield and the male and female heads.

The south elevation of the three story-portion has two banks of three double-hung windows lighting the projecting gymnasium block at the third floor. Classrooms within the main block of the building are lit on the third floor by four double-hung windows. The second story is masked by the wrap-around U, and the first floor at this elevation is below grade.

The south end of the building, consisting of the projecting gymnasium and the U-shaped two-story wing which wraps around it, has terra cotta coping and quoining at all corners. Fenestration on both elevations of the wrap-around wing is organized into three bays with three double-hung windows in each bay; like the main building, the center piers have alternating bands of terra cotta and brick. The second story windows have simplified versions of the terra cotta strapwork in the parapet of the main building. The wings base is exposed concrete. The gymnasium is lit by high paired double-hung windows on the east and west elevations. The west elevation of the two-story wing has a pair of glazed and paneled doors with a multi-light transom in the northernmost bay. The east elevation has a pair of paneled and glazed doors with a transom bar centered in the central bay.

1929 Addition Exterior

In 1928 Naramore designed an addition to Garfield, which included laboratories and classrooms; the structure was completed in 1929. The one-story addition has a U-shaped footprint, with the ends of the U adjoining the base of the two-story wrap-around wing to the north. A two-story pavilion is located adjacent to the base of the U, facing East Alder Street. The addition has similar materials to the original structure, but is not as elaborately detailed. The addition continues the banded pier motif between windows within each bay.

The two-story pavilion has a terra cotta coping and terra cotta cornice, with corners finished with terra cotta quoins. The south end bays are set back slightly from the building plane, emphasizing its

character as a pavilion. The main entrances to the building are at either end of the projecting center; they consist of one-story porticos with stepped parapets and alternating bands of terra cotta and brick, with semi-circular arched portals leading to glazed and paneled doors with semicircular arched transoms. Terra cotta panels within the parapets continued with the theme established in the entries of the main building; the door to the south has the theme, “trades.” Between the entries are five bays of double-hung windows. The westerly end bay has three double-hung windows; the easterly bay has four. The north elevation of the pavilion has pairs of small wood sash windows spaced regularly along the second story; the first story is covered by the one-story wing.

The west elevation of the addition has a door in the north, next to a large pair of paneled wood service doors, fronted by a narrow driveway. There are three pairs of double-hung windows, and the end bay of the pavilion, with one double-hung window in the first floor. The east elevation of the addition has five pairs of tall, transomed double-hung windows. The north elevation has pairs of narrow wood sash windows, and glazed and paneled doors with multi-light transoms located roughly in the center.

The following sections are drawn from 2003 *Garfield High School Building Historic Value Report* by *Cardwell Architects*.

1923 Building Interior

The original building is rectangular in footprint on the first floor. At the second floor the building configuration changes in plan with light courts flanking the sides of the three-story assembly hall space. Light courts at the sides of the gyms and the assembly hall, the upper area of the assembly hall and the two-story spaces of the boys’ and girls’ gyms at the south end of the second floor level reduce the floor area of the third floor. Major spaces such as the assembly hall, lunchroom, gymnasium and study halls are located on the north-south central axis with double-loaded north-south corridors on the east and west sides. East-west corridors terminate at stair bays extending through all three floors. There are four stair bays, two on the east and two on the west side.

The entrance hall located on the north side of the first floor has tri-partite entry doors with fan-shaped lites. The entry doors to the assembly hall are on the south wall. A clock set within an ornamental plaster surround with a floral theme is located above the doors to the auditorium. The entrance hall floor finish is two-toned terrazzo in a square pattern oriented diagonally, similar to Roosevelt High School’s entry lobby floor. Walls and ceiling are painted plaster finish. The ceiling has a plaster ribbed geometric Jacobean-style pattern with plaster floral relief borders. A door to the main office is located on the east wall (now removed) and to a girl’s advisory room and nurse’s office on the west wall. Ornamental plaster wall medallions with rose and thistle themes are on all of the entrance hall walls.

The main office located east of the entrance hall contains the original master clock.

Entry doors to the assembly hall are centered on the south wall of the entrance hall under an arched opening. The original assembly hall seated 867 at the first floor and 354 at the balcony. The proscenium arch was surrounded with an ornate foliated plaster band that has been demolished. Side exit doors were framed with monumental plaster surrounds decorated with plaster vases filled with flowers and rose and thistle ornamentation in rectangular panels over the side doors. The ceiling

was suspended plaster with plaster beams with end brackets. The ceiling had ornamental plaster floral relief. Fixed opera-style seating was provided by A.H. Andrews Company.

An east-west corridor intersects the entrance hall at arched openings. The east-west corridor terminates at each end in stairwell entry bays. Double-loaded north-south corridors with classrooms on the exterior side are located on the east and west sides of the first floor.

Arched openings to the assembly hall side entrances occur at the north-south corridors on the east and west side of the first floor.

The kitchen, lunchroom and boiler room are located along the north-south central axis at the south end of the first floor. A second east-west corridor is located between the stage and kitchen, lunchroom, locker rooms and storage rooms. The east-west corridor terminates in stair entry bays at each end. A freight elevator is located at the east end of the corridor.

Boys and girls locker rooms originally flanked the sides of the assembly hall at the first floor. The boys' dressing room, shower and athletic team rooms were located at the southeast corner of the first floor and the girls' dressing room and showers were located at the southwest corner. A cooking room, dining room and two classrooms were located on the west exterior wall. A music room was located at the northeast corner.

The library and study rooms were located at the north end of the Second floor. Science laboratories were located at the east side and classrooms at the west side. An east-west corridor and boys and girls gyms are located south of the upper area of the assembly hall. A botany lab, potting lab, two wood-framed green houses and a manual training shop were located at the south end of the second floor. Two light courts flank the sides of the assembly hall at the second floor. Second floor north-south corridors receive daylight from windows facing light courts.

A mechanical drawing room, art room, bookkeeping room, and typewriting room were located on the north side of the east-west corridor at the third floor. A moving picture booth and doors to the assembly hall balcony were located on the south side of the corridor. Sewing, laundry and sewing design rooms were located at the west exterior wall. Chemistry and convertible laboratories were located on the east exterior side. The upper parts of the boys and girls gym and the assembly hall are located in the center of the building. Light courts are located at the west side of the upper part of the girls gym and east side of the boys gym. The gyms also receive daylight from skylights. Third floor corridors have ceiling lights to skylights above.

Floor finishes include terrazzo at the entrance hall, general office and toilet rooms; Armstrong "Heavy Battleship" linoleum in the corridors, cement at locker rooms and tile at showers. Armstrong "XXX Unpolished" cork flooring is provided at the mezzanine running track in the boys gym. The storeroom, classrooms, dining room and boys and girls gymnasias are bagnac wood. Bagnac was a substitution for maple recommended by Naramore as it was considered superior to maple for less cost. The assembly hall stage floor is fir.

Stairs have alundum tile (aluminum oxide abrasive material set in clay) treads set in concrete. Guardrails are low plaster walls with fir caps and handrails. Garfield's stair details are the same as those at Roosevelt High School.

Ceilings are typically suspended plaster. Interior partitions are hollow clay tile with painted plaster finish. Keene's cement plaster was typically provided as wainscot finish.

Windows are 1-3/4" thick vertical grain Douglas fir, primarily double-hung with some casement windows at the stairwells. Interior doors were specified as 1-3/4" solid fir paneled doors. Interior trim is No. 1 Clear Vertical Grain Douglas Fir. Classrooms typically have fir base, picture rail, chair rail, wood trimmed bulletin boards and chalkboards. Door casings are fir with an architrave style frame and plinth blocks. Wood finishes are typically clear varnish finish except at toilet rooms, shower rooms, kitchen and lunch room where wood received an enamel paint finish.

Shower partitions were Alaska Tokeen marble. Shower floors were vitreous ceramic mosaic tile. Finish hardware is typically dull brass finish, except at toilets and showers where it is polished nickel finish. Schoolhouse style pendant light fixtures were supplied by Perfeclite Manufacturing Company.

1929 Addition Interior

The 1929 addition is a two-story building located to the south of the 1923 building. An inner courtyard separates the two parts of the building. The 1929 addition starts at the Second floor level of the 1923 building. The 1923 building's north-south corridor at the east side extends through the 1929 addition. The 1923 north-south corridor at the west side stops at the 1923 building and becomes a ramped, enclosed exterior brick passage between the two buildings. The ramp slopes down from the 1923 building to the inner court level and back up to the 1929 building. A concrete service drive from 23rd Avenue East and a greenhouse are located on the west side of the passage. Access to the inner court from the service drive is provided with large wood doors on the east and west sides of the passage. The 1929 addition at the second floor has a double-loaded east-west corridor with boys' and girls' toilet rooms and an electrical and sheet metal shop on the north side and classrooms on the exterior south side. There are two secondary school entrances on the south side. A mechanical drawing room and classroom are located on the west exterior wall. A study hall and journalism room are located on the east exterior side.

The third floor of the 1929 addition has a single loaded corridor with windows facing the inner court on the north and classrooms on the south exterior side. Classrooms and a band and orchestra room are located on the third floor. The corridor terminates in stairwells at the east and west. The stairwells do not have windows.

The 1929 building interior matches the materials of the original building; the major difference being linoleum flooring was provided at 1929 classrooms and suspended ceilings were not.

1962 Gymnasium Addition (not designated)

Bassetti and Morse Architects' design analysis presented to the School Board in 1961 stated the gymnasium was to provide more adequate physical education facilities for Garfield High School. This would be accomplished in two ways: (1) by adding a new gymnasium with locker and dressing

room accommodations for the boys' physical education department and athletic departments, and (2) remodeling the existing building to accommodate an expansion of the girls' physical education program.

Siting the building presented problems as the school property was not adequate in size to provide space for a gymnasium. East Jefferson Street was vacated by the City to provide the required area. The location of the gymnasium was dictated by the necessity for good access to the existing building, minimizing encroachment on the Parks Department's property to the north and interfering as little as possible with the existing building.

The gymnasium, a two-story, 34,900 s.f. building utilizes the downward slope of the site to the north. The second floor provides the primary student access as it is closest in elevation to the existing building. The second floor contains the main gymnasium and stairs to the locker rooms at the Ground floor. The ground floor provides the primary access for the public from both 23rd and 25th Avenues. There is a joint-use public corridor at the ground floor serving both the main entrance to the Parks Department's field house and the main stairway to the second floor gym.

Bassetti and Morse's design analysis also states that they strived to maintain the minimum amount of conflict with the existing building. This was accomplished by reducing the apparent mass of the gymnasium building by recessing the exterior walls of the lower floor in from the upper floor walls and by specifying similar materials, color and landscaping as the existing building.

The gymnasium building structure is precast concrete. Prestressed concrete "T-shaped" roof beams are supported on precast concrete columns from the upper level to the roof. The lower level has poured in place concrete columns. The exterior walls are brick veneer over concrete block at the main gym, precast concrete at the student entry on the second floor and poured-in-place concrete at the ground floor. Windows are aluminum single-glazed.

The interior walls are painted concrete block with ceramic tile in the shower areas. The ceilings are suspended acoustical ceiling tile in the lobby area, suspended plaster and concrete in the locker area and precast concrete with glued on 12x12 acoustic tiles at the gymnasium. The gymnasium has a built-up roof over rigid insulation over precast roof panels. The gym and exercise room floors are wood strip on sleepers. The entrance lobby floor is vinyl composition tile. Other floors are cement. The gymnasium has retractable wood bleachers and a folding partition to divide the gymnasium into two for classes.

Bassetti and Morse also designed the Park Department's Field House (5,600 s.f.) attached to the north side of the gymnasium. It was designed to be operated completely separately from the gymnasium with only the main entrance lobby as the common space. It was placed on the north side to relate to the playfield and to provide easy public access. The design is compatible with the gymnasium portion of the building while maintaining a distinct appearance that indicates a separate function from the School's gym. The structure is precast, tilt-up concrete walls with poured-in-place pilasters supporting "T" beam roof panels similar to the gym but smaller. Glass was kept to a minimum because of the proximity to the playfield.

The estimated cost for the gymnasium was \$676,500 plus \$33,000 for retractable bleachers. The estimated cost for the Parks Department's recreational area was \$99,990.

A concrete canopy designed by Bassetti & Morse's with the gymnasium design is attached to the 1923 building at the northeast entry bay. The design for a proposed concrete breezeway between the new gymnasium and the 1923 building was not built. The School District provided a metal-framed breezeway after the gymnasium construction was complete.

Alterations and Current Condition

Site

In 1960 E. Jefferson Street was vacated for the new gymnasium. The original entry sequence of broad stairs and terraced lawns to the main entrance at the north of the 1923 building was altered with grading and landscaping associated with the construction of the gymnasium. The gymnasium partially obscures the original main entrance. A concrete path and stairs along the west side of the gymnasium now provides access from the north to the school's main entrance. Evergreen trees, cherry trees, rhododendrons, ivy and other shrubbery were planted along the west and north sides of the gymnasium.

Four portables, located at the northwest quadrant of the site are visually prominent from 23rd Avenue. The portables and the Parks Department's 1970 Medgar Evers Swimming Pool partially block views of original building from 23rd Avenue east when heading south.

In 1963, 24th Avenue E. was vacated for a new track, playfield and service drive at the east half of the site. The track and playfield retaining wall facing the parking lot was painted with a mural by the class of 2000. Two double portables and one single portable are now located between the 1923 building and the track and field to the east. A small masonry bench is located adjacent to the track and on axis with the southeast secondary entry bay of the 1923 building.

The metal breezeway between the gymnasium and the 1923 building is rusting and in disrepair. Roofing needs replacement at the 1962 concrete canopy in front of the northeast entry bay to the 1923 building. The canopy and metal breezeway block views of brick and terra cotta exterior detail at the 1923 building.

The original fir flagpole at the northwest lawn has been replaced with a metal pole.

In general, walkways are cracked and in need of repair or replacement. Trees and shrubs have matured and need pruning and regular care.

The 1923 and 1929 Buildings

The most significant change to the 1923 building is alterations made to the original assembly hall in 1975 for the addition of the Learning Resource Center at the upper area of the assembly hall. Design was provided by the School District Facilities Department. The assembly hall balcony was removed and the plaster ceiling demolished. Windows to light courts on the east and west elevations were removed and wall openings filled in. The original ornamental plaster band at the proscenium arch

was removed. The original opera-style seating was replaced with the existing seating. Modern-style wood tambour panels were provided on the sidewalls and acoustic ceiling tile installed at the ceiling. The volume of the assembly space was reduced with the lower ceiling. A mural of notable alumni was painted in the auditorium by students. The entry doors to the auditorium from the lobby were replaced with the modern-style glazed doors that exist now. Only the original assembly hall side exit doors and wood trim remain.

The learning resource center is an obvious 1970's modern-style infill. It is located a few feet above the second floor level of the 1923 building. Stairs and ramps to the second floor corridor are located at the north side of the space. The original assembly hall window sash was replaced with lozenge-shaped metal sash glazed openings. The center's ceiling is a suspended modular ceiling system with fluorescent light fixtures. The librarian's offices are located behind hollow-metal store-front, glazed partitions. Rectangular painted acoustic panels of varying sizes create a modern-style wall finish.

The original assembly hall entry doors located at the south wall of the entrance hall were replaced with glazed doors when the assembly hall was remodeled. The original door and trim at the east elevation of the main entrance lobby has been removed. The door frame and arched opening and the ceiling have been painted with purple paint. A tile mural is installed where the door opening was located.

The main office was significantly remodeled and enlarged taking over the original music room. The music room moved to the southeast side of the 1929 addition at the second floor. The office at the west side of the entrance hall has been remodeled to provide a teen health center.

The girls' locker room at the west side of the assembly hall was remodeled to provide a commercial foods kitchen. The girls' dressing room and showers were renovated to provide new fixtures and finished in 1962 when the new gymnasium was constructed. The boys' physical education and athletic program locker rooms and showers were remodeled to provide an art room when the gymnasium was constructed. The boys' locker room at the east side of the assembly hall was remodeled to provide a teen activity center.

Rolling wood doors between the girls' and boys' gymnasium were removed and the openings closed in. Some south-facing window panes have been painted over presumably to reduce glare. The boys' gymnasium has been converted to a weight training room.

The original library at the second floor was remodeled to provide counseling offices when the learning resource center was constructed above the auditorium in 1975. The original fir trim, including a fine ornate wood-carved over door and surround at the entrance and fir bookcases are intact. Acoustic tiles were glued to the library ceiling between the original bracketed beams. Original pendant light fixtures have been replaced with fluorescent fixtures. Electrical wiring for communications and computers is surface mounted on the wall.

The two original cedar-framed greenhouses were removed in 1949 and a new steel-framed greenhouse was constructed at the west side of the building just north of the service entrance to the inner courtyard. A pottery kiln room donated by Howard Wright Construction in 1968 was added to the north side of the inner court. The craft shop has been converted to a computer lab. A light court

on the east side of the boys' gymnasium at the second floor was filled in to create a book storage room.

The art room at the third floor (currently room 310) has been converted to a computer room. A mural frieze of circus characters painted by Irwin Caplan in 1937 exists above the original casework. A mural frieze by Irwin Caplan in 1937 is also located in the former mechanical drawing room (currently room 312) Acoustic ceiling tiles have been glued to the ceiling and the original light fixtures replaced with surface mounted fluorescent fixtures.

The 1929 addition second floor rooms facing the inner court have been remodeled to provide engineering manufacturing technology labs and multi-media labs.

The 1923 building and 1929 addition have had a number of minor interior alterations over the years requiring removal of partitions, casework, trim and replacement of floor, ceiling and wall finishes primarily for programmatic changes. Classrooms typically have retained wood trim around slate chalkboards and wood base. Original wood casework, wainscot cap and picture rail have been retained at some classrooms. Original wood windows, sills and liners have deteriorated and are in need of replacement. Some of the original slate chalkboards still exist and some have been replaced with white boards. Floor finishes have been replaced with vinyl tile at many of the classrooms that have been remodeled. Acoustic ceiling tile has been applied to most ceilings. Original "schoolhouse" style pendant light fixtures have been replaced with fluorescent light fixtures.

The following is a list of major alterations and improvements made to the 1923 building, 1929 addition and 1962 gymnasium:

- 1937 Enclose passage between 1923 building and 1929 addition
- 1944 Install outside door at locker room
- 1945 Remodel for boys' club quarters
- 1946 Acoustical improvements – entire building
- 1949 Industrial Arts program improvements – woodworking, botany lab and greenhouse, photo lab and machine shop
- 1950 Boiler Room and Kitchen improvements
- 1950 Switchboard
- 1953 Woodworking Shop dust collection system
- 1954 Arts and crafts room facilities provided
- 1955 Audio-visual and library alterations to Room 230
- 1959 Biology lab addition
- 1959 Steam engine and pump replacement
- 1960 Relighting
- 1960 E. Jefferson Street vacation
- 1960 Counseling room expansion
- 1960 Metal Shop improvements
- 1960 Convert locker room to Teen Activity Center
- 1962 Remodeling associated with Gymnasium Addition including
 - Boys and girls locker and shower room, teacher's lounge,
 - book storage, concrete canopy at southeast entrance
- 1963 Construct retaining wall, ramp, stairs, erect fence and develop playfield

- Audio-visual center - wireless electronic teaching facilities
- Infill of light court at Second Floor to create teaching station.
- Remodel of office to provide teen health clinic
- 1968 Pottery kiln room infill at inner court
- 1975 Remodel of assembly hall and addition of learning resource center
- 1978 Elevator modification
- 1979 Phase II Seismic improvements
- 1980 Accessibility improvements
- 1981 Boys gymnasium renovation
- 1984 Replace domestic hot water generator
- 1962 Gymnasium Bleacher Renovation
- 1985 Windows, pathway lighting, clock and bell
- 1986 Locker replacement
- 1987 Replace domestic cold/hot water
- 1988 Retubed boiler #2 and installed de-aerator
- 1989 Replaced auditorium stage fire curtain
- 1992 Teen Health Center remodel and metal shop improvements
- 1993 Applied technology lab improvements
- 1995 Reroofing – (1st half) and improvements to metal shop
- 1998 Telephone, intercom and computer upgrades
- 1999 Reroofing, window replacement, and Arts/Sciences improvements
- Provide wide area network
- 2000 Replace 1962 Gymnasium athletic scoreboards
- 2001 Accelerated technology improvement program

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Property Acquisition and East High School

Garfield High School started as East High School. In October 1917, the School Board authorized purchase of Block 18, Gamma Poncin's Addition for a site for East High School. Block 18 was a tract on the west side of 24th Avenue, between E. Alder and E. Jefferson Streets. The property had been suggested by the Board Secretary, Ruben Jones as a location suitable for a school because it was on a hill and the school would stand out. Houses existed on parcels in the block west of Gamma Poncin's Addition facing 23rd Avenue.

Construction of a permanent school building for East High School was delayed due to World War I. In 1920, a temporary, twelve room, one-story wooden building opened on the present site at E. Jefferson and 24th Avenue East. East High School was built to relieve overcrowding at the District's four other high schools – Ballard, Broadway, Franklin and Lincoln High Schools. 282 students transferred to East High School from Broadway High School. Midway through the year, 140 more students entered East High. Portables were added. There were twenty-seven temporary buildings including "Alderwood Annex" two blocks away and enrollment had grown to over 900 students by 1922-23.

Garfield High School – 1923 Building

In October 1921, all of Block 3 Sanders Bowman Addition (17 lots valued at a total of \$27,000) adjoining the East High School site on the west was condemned for additional grounds for the permanent school building. In November that year, at the recommendation of the school's first Principal, George N. Porter, East High School was renamed James A. Garfield High School after the 20th President of the United States. Porter also selected the bulldog as the school's mascot and the school colors, purple and white. East High School's temporary building was sold to a private individual for \$1,155 and removed from the site.

During 1921-22, School District Architect Floyd A. Naramore designed a new permanent 3-story, brick and terra cotta high school. It was the only Seattle High School designed by Naramore in the Twentieth Century Jacobean style. Dougan & Chrisman general contractor was the low bidder at \$452,374 for Garfield High School. The new James A. Garfield school building opened in September 1923 with 1,200 students. It was the only new school building to open that fall. In honor of the new building, Garfield held its first all-school meeting that they had been able to have for over two years.

1929 South Addition

Garfield's enrollment increased to over 1,500 during the 1920's. In 1929, only six years after the opening of the new building, a bond issue provided funds for a two story, south wing addition. Naramore designed the addition in the same style and materials as the 1923 building. The addition provided laboratories and classrooms for 680 additional students.

Enrollment continued to grow to a peak of 2,300 students in 1939. In 1955, 9th grade students were transferred to junior high schools to reduce enrollment.

1962 Gymnasium

In December 1946 the School Board approved assignment of Garfield Gymnasium to Naramore, Bain, Brady & Johanson Architects for a fee of \$250,000. NBBJ was also awarded Roosevelt, Lincoln and Franklin high schools' gymnasiums for a fee of \$250,000 each. NBBJ ultimately did not provide the design for Garfield's gymnasium.

In March 1947, the School Board met at Garfield High School to discuss the location of a new gymnasium. The question posed was whether the gymnasium should be on the present site of Garfield School or if a new site should be purchased. The obvious advantages of building on the present site were the proximity to the main school building and ease of control, both resulting in a probable increase of use. There is the question of effect of an addition upon the present building, the question of appearance, of cutting off light, or architectural harmony with the building. Principal Hanselman was in favor of locating the gymnasium close to the present building to keep to the schedule of a five-minute recess between classes and also because of the inconvenience during rainy weather.

Up until the 1962 Gymnasium was completed Garfield High School used the City's playfield located to the north of the school for its physical education and athletic activities. Garfield also used a

School District property at Temple Place and E. Jefferson Street, three blocks east of Garfield, for a playfield. In February 1957, the Seattle Parks Department requested the School Board establish the location for the future gymnasium prior to the Park Department proceeding with final plans for the development of a playfield for Garfield District. In April 1957, gymnasium location sketches prepared by NBBJ were inspected by the School Board and the gymnasium's present location was cited as the choice of the building committee and joint school-park staff for the gymnasium to be constructed at some future date.

In May 1959 the School Board approved the Building and Grounds Committee's recommendations for building assignments to architects. They were based on the committee's careful analysis of the various architects' work already done for the School District, the qualifications of new applicants and the capabilities of each firm. The recommendation was that assignments for three high school and high school gymnasiums projects out of a \$24,500,000 bond program be made to the following architects:

Naramore, Bain, Brady & Johanson
Naramore, Bain, Brady & Johanson
Decker & Christianson
Bassetti & Morse

West Seattle High School
Queen Anne Gymnasium
Roosevelt Gymnasium
Garfield Gymnasium

In 1960, the Board of Public Works had approved the School District's petition for the vacation of East Jefferson Street between Garfield High School and Garfield Playfield for the construction of the gymnasium.

In May 1961 the Board reported that architect Bassetti and Morse's design provides for a physical education plant comparable to Roosevelt and Queen Anne High Schools and with remodeling in the existing gymnasiums provides adequate facilities for girls' physical education. Bleacher seating was being considered as an alternate as the problem of providing off-street parking for spectators attending sports events had not been solved.

Farwest-O.E. Turnquist Company's joint venture was awarded the contract for construction in October 1961. The bid for the Gymnasium unit was \$552,665 (\$15.90/s.f.). Thorgaard Plumbing and Heating Company provided mechanical work and Keystone Electrical Company provided electrical work.

In September 1962, the School Board approved an agreement with the Board of Park Commissioners for joint use of Garfield High School gymnasium with the understanding that priority would be given for use by the High School. East 24th Avenue was vacated in 1963 for the construction of Garfield's track and playfield and houses between E. 24th Avenue and E. 25th Avenue were removed.

In 1968, after the dissolution of Bassetti and Morse's partnership, the School Board approved preliminary plans by John Morse & Associates Architects for a \$930,000 addition to the southeast corner of the 1929 addition. It was to include a cafeteria, music hall and learning resource center. Bids were to be called for in March and the addition completed within a year. Morse's addition was never constructed, however in 1975 the School District Facilities Department designed the learning resource center and auditorium remodel that exists now.

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department in conjunction with the School District constructed Medgar Evers Memorial Swimming Pool in 1970. The architect was John Morse & Associates Architects. Medgar Evers Memorial Swimming Pool was a Forward Thrust – Model Cities Project. Medgar Evers (1925-63) was an activist in Mississippi devoted to the advancement of black people and their struggle to attain equal rights. He was shot and killed in 1963. Garfield High School uses Medgar Evers Swimming Pool for swim classes and competitive swimming events.

Garfield High School's buildings were evaluated in 1993 as part of an overall process to reassess Seattle Public School's Capital Improvement Program, Phase II to ensure the building deficiencies were corrected to meet the projected growth in the student population, to support new methods and technology in education and to accommodate increasing community use of schools. The consultant team CRSS/TRA recommended Garfield's 1923 building, 1929 addition and 1962 gymnasium be demolished and a new school built at the location of the existing athletic field to optimize use of the site.

Garfield High School now has the largest enrollment of any high school in the district and is scheduled for a major renovation in the near future.

Garfield High School's Relationship and Significance to the Community

Garfield High School is located in the heart of Seattle's Central District and is the neighborhood's only high school. Throughout much of Garfield's history it has been known for its ethnic and racial diversity, reflecting the population and development of the Central District.

The Central District was developed for housing in the mid-1800's because of its proximity to the Central Business District. In 1888, the Leschi Cable Car line ran on Yesler Way to Lake Washington. Another cable car ran along 23rd Avenue to Yesler Way. The Central District is Seattle's oldest residential neighborhood with many houses dating from the 1890's to the 1930's.

Three ethnic groups – Jewish, Japanese and Japanese Americans, and African Americans were influential in the early development of the Central District and have been well represented in the Garfield student population. The first Jewish immigrants were German born merchants who reached Seattle in the late 1850's. They were followed by Yiddish-speaking Jews from Russia and Poland, Sephardic Jews from the Isle of Rhodes and Turkey. Each immigrant group established separate synagogues and added to the variety of small commercial businesses in the district.

In 1890 black pioneer William Grose from Washington, D.C. was asked by Washington's Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens to open a hotel in Seattle. His hotel, named "Our House" was the City's second largest hotel at the time of its opening. In 1890, Grose was given a large section of the hill between 21st and 23rd Avenues near Madison Street as payment for a debt. After Grose settled on the hill with his family, other black families moved to the area. The area quickly became Seattle's most important and stable black community. There is no particular reason to believe that the black community would have moved to the Madison Street area except for the position of William Grose in the community. The black churches followed their congregations.

In the 1920's the Central District was an affluent community and many houses were built. From the 1920's to the Second World War, the black population increased slowly especially in Garfield High School's immediate neighborhood, along 23rd Avenue and E. Cherry Street. Garfield Community Center and a small business district are now located at 23rd Avenue E. and E. Cherry Street.

By the 1930's Japanese were the major immigrant group in the Garfield neighborhood. The Japanese represented only 2% of Seattle residents but operated 63% of the greenhouses, 63% of the hotels and apartments, 45% of the restaurants, 19% of the dry cleaning businesses and 17% of the city's grocery stores. In the 1940's the Central District saw a tremendous amount of activity both positive and negative. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941 the Japanese residents were interred at Puyallup. By May of 1942 there were no Japanese in the city.

After the Second World War, increasing prosperity and racial tension produced a Jewish exodus from the Yesler area. Sons and daughters of the original Jewish immigrants moved to Seward Park, the eastside and the north end as more blacks moved into the area. African Americans became the majority population in the Central District. Rainier School closed. The Yesler cable car was replaced by a bus. Seattle's African American population grew 413% between 1940 and 1950. The *Christian Science Monitor* featured Garfield High School in 1946, referring to it as a school of many races, but no racial conflicts.

Garfield's athletics' successes in the 1950's were numerous and included four city football championships, two tennis titles, two baseball championships and a state AA tournament trophy in basketball. Garfield High School was referred to as the incubator for new semi-pro baseball

players. In 1959, Garfield High School was the most integrated school in the District with 33.9% black, 10.7 % Japanese, 4.8% Chinese and 48% white student population. Garfield also continued a tradition of community involvement in the 1950's when the art department worked with Harborview and the Veteran's Administration hospitals to create murals. The memorial wall at the east entrance to Memorial Stadium was designed by a Garfield student.

In the 1960's the Central District became the stage for marches, riots and civil disobedience. Garfield was not immune to the violence and unrest, but the community held great pride in Garfield as there were more people getting Ph.D's that were graduates of Garfield than any other Seattle high school. In 1962, Garfield became the first predominantly black school in the state with 871 black students and 141 Japanese students. In 1963, Seattle was the first major city in the United States to undertake a district-wide school desegregation plan. Black activist Stokely Carmichael spoke to a crowd of 4,000 at Garfield High School in 1967 about how the integrationists were destroying the black community. The Central Area Motivation Program (CAMP) was birthed to combat poverty and promote equal rights and self-sufficiency for the African-American community. In 1968, Howard Wright Construction donated materials and arranged for construction by the Urban Construction Company for a kiln for Garfield's Magnet Plan.

In the 1970's Seattle School District enrollment shrank dramatically. Garfield enrollment was less than 1,000. A special Central Region within the school district was formed with the intent of re-establishing quality education in troubled schools. Seattle became the largest city in the country to desegregate schools without a court order. 12,000 of the District's 55,000 students were bused out

of their neighborhoods. Garfield became a four-year high school once again and the former Washington Junior High School became a Garfield annex, housing music, advanced science, industrial arts, home economics and career and vocational programs. Garfield's reputation in the community improved. PONCHO (Patrons of Northwest Civic, Cultural and Charitable Organizations) donated \$10,000 to Garfield's Magnet fine-arts program. Garfield's assembly hall was remodeled to provide a modern auditorium and a new learning resource center. A new community facility the Medgar Evers Memorial Pool building located immediately north of the Garfield campus, opened in 1970. It was a joint School District and Parks Department Forward Thrust Project. In 1996, the School Board voted unanimously to end mandatory busing. Currently, Garfield has 1,688 students enrolled at grades 9-12.

Garfield High School has earned a reputation for its superior music program. Its choral groups, marching band, and orchestra have performed at many community events. Clarence Acox and the Garfield Jazz Ensemble have contributed significantly to Seattle's thriving jazz scene. Garfield and Roosevelt High Schools have been engaged in friendly rivalry for years, both being finalists in the Ellington jazz competition at Lincoln Center in New York. In 2003, the Garfield Jazz Ensemble won the prestigious Ellington Jazz competition.

Garfield High School has historically been viewed as an important contributor to the vitality, In 2002, an anonymous donor gave the Seattle Parks Foundation a gift of \$1.3 million to create a half-acre park in Homer Harris's honor. Homer Harris was a Garfield High School football star in the 1930's that became the first African-American captain of a Big Ten football team. He then went on to become a pioneering dermatologist in Seattle. In 1976, The Seattle Post Intelligencer named Harris as one of three greatest athletes ever in Seattle high school sports. The new park will be located at 24th Avenue East and East Howell, not far from Garfield High School.

Garfield High School has historically been viewed as an important contributor to the vitality, diversity and promise of the Central District. Garfield High School is scheduled for a major renovation in the near future which should contribute to the ongoing revitalization of the Central District.

Notable Alumni

Garfield is rich in its diversity of accomplishment. Many notable alumni have influenced nearly every major field of endeavor. Garfield is especially known for its athletic, science and music departments. In 1979, the Advance Placement Program for highly gifted students was placed at Garfield, initiating an academic surge. For several years Garfield has produced the highest number of National Merit Scholars in the region.

Clarence Acox	Jazz drummer and long-time director of the Garfield High School Jazz Ensemble
Debbie Armstrong	Ski racer and Olympic gold medallist
Fred Bassetti	Architect of the Federal Reserve Building and the AT&T Gateway Tower in Seattle. His firm Bassetti & Morse Architects designed Garfield High School's gymnasium building. Class of 1936.
Howard Cady	Professor of Atomic Chemistry, Los Alamos Project, New Mexico

Irwin Caplan	Fine artist and cartoonist – creator of the “Famous Last Words” cartoon series. A mural with a circus theme is located at Garfield High School in the original art room on the 3 rd Floor of the 1923 Building.
Charles Carroll	Prosecuting Attorney
Joe Diamond	Attorney
Dick Foley	Singer with the “Brothers Four”
John Franco	Long-time Seattle restaurateur. Owner of Franco’s Hidden Harbor.
Homer Harris	Former Garfield High football star. First African-American captain of a Big Ten team. Became a pioneering dermatologist in Seattle.
Jimi Hendrix	Rock guitarist
Donald Jones	Former professional baseball pitcher for the Dodgers. Credited with vastly improving the safety and corporate sponsorship of hydroplane racing.
Quincy Jones	Internationally renowned musician, composer, arranger, bandleader and producer. Spoke at Garfield in 1982.
Henry Kotkins	Suitcase tycoon, started Seattle Suitcase, Trunk and Bag Mfg. now known as Skyway Luggage Company.
Bruce Lee	Martial Arts expert
Marshall Luban	Professor of Physics, Yeshiva University, New York
Mary McCarthy	Writer
Helen McFadden	Dancer
Charles Mitchell	President of Seattle Central Community College District
William Nakamura	World War II hero killed in combat, received Medal of Honor posthumously. A U.S. Courthouse in Seattle is named after Nakamura.
Irving Petite	Author who wrote <i>Mr. B.</i>
Michael Preston	Seattle School Board Member
Ted Rand	Illustrator for national magazines
John S. Robinson	Author, attorney and “literary gent” who chronicled the lives of Seattle’s old guard for local publications. Class of 1938.
Ethel M. Rosellini	Wife of former Washington governor Albert D. Rosellini
Ron Sims	King County Council member
Yasser Seirawan	International chess champion
Minoru Yamasaki	Architect of New York City’s World Trade Center buildings which were demolished on September 11, 2001 when terrorists flew a 757 and 767 jet into the buildings. Yamasaki was also the architect for Seattle Center’s Science Pavilion, the Rainier Tower and the IBM building in downtown Seattle. Class of 1929.

Similar Seattle High Schools in the 1920’s

Two other Seattle high schools were designed by School District Architect Naramore that are similar to Garfield and opened during the same decade; Roosevelt High School (1922) and Cleveland High School (1927). All three high schools have similarities in plan and interior finishes. The plan similarities include square entrance halls with tri-partite entry doors and fan-shaped lites. Intersecting main halls run the length of the building. Assembly rooms are aligned with the center of the entrance hall. Assembly room entrance doors are located opposite the building’s main entry doors. Garfield and Roosevelt have secondary entrance bays at both ends of their main hallways.

Rose and thistle plaster wall plaques and geometric ribbed ceiling ornamentation at Garfield's lobby are in keeping with Garfield's Twentieth Century Jacobean exterior whereas Roosevelt's lobby ornamentation is neo-classical in keeping with Roosevelt's Georgian exterior. Garfield and Roosevelt High School also share the same stair and railing details and similar boys and girls gymnasias. Both high schools have a mezzanine running track at the boys' gymnasium. Garfield's original assembly hall was similar to Roosevelt's in that both had balconies and large windows facing light courts at the sidewalls.

Architects

Floyd Naramore (Architect for the Seattle Public School District, 1919-1932)

Floyd Naramore was born in Illinois in 1892 and graduated from MIT in 1907 with a degree in architecture. The Seattle School board brought Naramore from Portland where he had been Architect and Superintendent of Properties for the Portland School System and gained national attention for his design of Couch Elementary School (1914-15) and for his ability to control costs. Naramore's first project with the Seattle School District was the design of the Highland Park Elementary School (1919-21). He went on to design multiple school buildings for the Seattle School District. During this phase of his career, he was known for his modernized Twentieth Century Georgian style in his buildings. This style was popular on the East Coast. Garfield High School is one school where he strayed from this approach and applied the Twentieth Century Jacobean style to the building's exterior using Elizabethan and Tudor details at the buildings exterior. Garfield High School has similarities, both exterior and interior to Naramore's Twentieth Century Georgian style Roosevelt High School in Seattle. These are described in the previous section "similar Seattle High Schools in the 1920's".

A chronology of Naramore's projects for the Seattle School District includes:

- 1919 Highland Park Elementary School
- 1920 Brighton Elementary School
- 1921 John Hay Elementary School
- 1921-22 Roosevelt High School
- 1922 Columbia Elementary School
- 1922-23 James A. Garfield High School
- 1924 Dunlap Elementary School
- 1924 Montlake Elementary School
- 1926 Bryant Elementary School
- 1926 E.C. Hughes Elementary School
- 1926-27 Alexander Hamilton Junior High School
- 1927 Grover Cleveland High School
- 1927 John Marshall Junior High School
- 1927 Magnolia Elementary School
- 1928 Whittier Elementary School
- 1929 Daniel Bagley Elementary School
- 1929 Addition to James A. Garfield High School
- 1929 James Madison Junior High School

1929 Laurelhurst Elementary School
1930 James Monroe Junior High School
1931 Loyal Heights Elementary School

In the 1930s he sought more collaborative work, and teamed up with Grainger & Thomas and Bebb & Gould to complete Bagley Hall at the University of Washington (1935-36). In 1939 he joined Clifton Brady and designed T.T. Minor Elementary School (1940-41). By the mid-1940s, Naramore had been part of several collaborative design partnerships: Naramore & Brady; Naramore Grainger & Thomas; Naramore Grainger & Johanson; and Naramore, Bain, Brady & Johanson, which outlasted the other ventures, and became known as NBBJ. Naramore was AIA Seattle President from 1939 to 1941. Floyd Naramore died October 29, 1970.

Bassetti & Morse (1945-62)

Fred Bassetti and John Morse formed Bassetti & Morse Architects in 1945. The firm's projects were primarily residential for the first ten years. In the late 50's their practice expanded to include schools, office buildings and commercial structures. Although Bassetti & Morse is the architect of record for Garfield's 1962 Gymnasium, the firm was in the process of dissolving its partnership. Fred Bassetti attributes the design of the gymnasium to John Morse.

Fred Bassetti is a native of Seattle and a Garfield High School graduate, class of 1936. He received a B. Arch in 1942 from the University of Washington and an M. Arch from Harvard University in 1946. He apprenticed with Paul Thiry in Seattle in 1943; Naramore, Brady, Bain & Johanson and with Alvar Aalto in Cambridge, Massachusetts in 1946. He returned to Seattle and established an architectural partnership Bassetti & Morse with John Morse a Harvard architectural colleague.

Bassetti was also a partner in Fred Bassetti & Co. (1962-85); and Bassetti, Norton, Metler, Rekevics (1985-92), all in Seattle. Significant projects include Ridgeway Dormitories, Western Washington University (1963-70); Federal Office Building, Seattle (1965-71) and the AT&T Gateway Tower (now Key Tower) (1981-91). Fred Bassetti has won local, regional and national design awards. He is a former AIA Seattle President (1967), an AIA Fellow and has been a visiting faculty member at Columbia, Rice and the University of Washington. He is currently retired and resides in Seattle with his wife Gwennyth.

John Morse was also a Harvard trained architect. Previous to forming Bassetti & Morse, Morse was a construction supervisor for C.B. Ross (1941-42), Boeing engineer (1943-45) and designer for Chiarelli-Kirk in Seattle (1945). In 1968, the School Board approved John Morse & Associates Architects' design for a Learning Resource Center building addition at the east side of 1929 addition to Garfield High School. Morse's Design Analysis submitted to the School District described the Learning Resource Center as the second phase of improvements to Garfield, the first being the Gymnasium addition. The Learning Resource Center was to include a Food Service area and a Music Hall, but the building was never built, most likely due to the District's shortage of funds.

Morse & Associates designed the 1970 Medgar Evers Memorial Swimming Pool building, a joint Parks-School Department project located immediately north of the school on 23rd Avenue. Other projects designed by Morse include Meany Hall Remodel (1958) and the award-winning Lake City

Branch Library (1965). John Morse was a member of the King County Planning Commission, AIA Seattle President (1960), Director of Washington State AIA, Northwest Representative on the National AIA School Building Committee, Board Member of the Civic Unity Committee of Seattle. John Morse died in July 2000.

Other schools designed by Fred Bassetti and John Morse include:

Glendale Junior High, Highline School District

Lakeview Elementary School

Island Park High School for the Mercer Island School District

Architectural Significance

Garfield High School has been and continues to be a significant contributor to the unique development, heritage, and diverse cultural character and promise of the Central District. The history of Garfield High School's population and programs mirrors the history of the residents and developments within the Central District. Garfield High School is an anchor for other civic and educational developments in the Central District as is evident from the neighboring Garfield Playfield, Garfield Community Center, Medgar Evers Swimming Pool and Causey Memorial Learning Center. The Central District is proud of Garfield High School's academic achievements and values the school's civic contributions.

Garfield High School is one of three high schools designed by School District Architect Floyd Naramore. It is the only Seattle high school detailed in the Twentieth Century Jacobean interpretation of Elizabethan and Tudor elements such as angled bay windows with terra cotta strapping, alternating courses of terra cotta and brick at entry bays, terra cotta quoin shields, finials and tympanum. Garfield's exterior terra cotta detailing is some of the most elaborate and whimsical in the Seattle School District and is the only high school to feature didactic terra cotta panels.

Garfield High School's original interior spaces which best conveyed the Twentieth Century Jacobean character expressed at the building's exterior include the entrance hall, the assembly hall and to a lesser degree, the library. The assembly hall has been significantly remodeled and the library moderately remodeled. The entrance hall has had relatively minor alterations. The entrance hall retains a strong sense of its original character in spite of minor remodels which include the removal of a door to the main office and an ornamental plaster wall plaque at the east wall, installation of a tile mural created by students at the east wall and replacement of the original assembly hall entry doors with modern-style glazed doors at the south wall. The character-defining elements remaining in the entrance hall include the original plaster ribbed ceiling ornamentation in a geometric design, plaster ornamental ceiling border with foliated relief, ornamental plaster wall plaques decorated with roses and thistles on shields, plaster arched opening at the assembly hall entrance, plaster arch over the door at the west wall, multi-paneled wood doors at the building entrance and west elevation, arched side openings to east and west main corridors and the two-toned terrazzo floor in a square pattern laid on the diagonal.

The assembly hall no longer retains its original character due to a modern-style remodel which occurred when the learning center addition was added at the assembly hall's upper area in the early 1970's. The original ornate proscenium arch, windows to light courts at side walls, suspended

plaster ceiling and beams, plaster door surrounds with vases at side exit doors, and the balcony were removed. The only remaining character-defining elements in the auditorium are the multi-paneled wood side exit doors which have ornamental cartouches above their frames.

The original library has been partitioned into small offices, acoustic ceiling tiles have been applied to the plaster ceiling, the original casework modified in several places and the original pendant light fixtures replaced with fluorescent fixtures. The library's original character has been diminished by these changes even though the character-defining elements including the ornamental entry door and side door frames and bracketed ceiling beams remain.

Other interior spaces and elements which are representative of Naramore's high school interiors of the 1920's include the layout and arrangement of major spaces on the central axis, secondary entry stair bays at the intersections of corridors, classrooms on the exterior side of double loaded corridors; the volume of spaces resulting from high ceilings; plaster and wood finishes and detailing at the entrance hall, stair bays; wood trim and casework details at classrooms; the boys' and girls' gymnasiums including the mezzanine running track; the lunchroom serving station; corridor borrowed lights and windows facing light courts, and ceiling lights under skylights. Garfield's stair bay windows convey a sense of thick walls characteristic of the Jacobean style however other elements of the stairs including the wood wall cap handrail, tread and base details are not unique as they match Roosevelt High School's stairs. As the interior elements described above are typical to other schools designed by Naramore, they are not distinguish characteristics.

Garfield High School's 1923 building by School District Architect Floyd Naramore is prominently sited on a hill giving it a monumental presence on 23rd Avenue, a major arterial in Seattle's Central District. Garfield High School's scale, age and architectural detail make the school easily identifiable within the primarily residential neighborhood and among the nearby community and public facilities. The Twentieth Century Jacobean detailing, especially the terra cotta ornament give the building a unique and impressive character that contributes significantly to the quality of the neighborhood. The Garfield community has a strong affinity for the exterior façade of Garfield's 1923 building. The 1929 addition is compatible to the 1923 building.

Bassetti and Morse Architects strived to locate and mass the modern functionalism styled gymnasium building so as to minimize interference with views of the 1923 building and selected materials, colors and landscaping to be complementary to the 1923 building, however the gymnasium does partially obstruct the primary view of Garfield's main entrance at the north elevation. Bassetti and Morse's concrete canopy at the 1923 building's northeast stair entry bay visually obstructs the detailing of the terra cotta at the stair entry bay. The gymnasium is not a notable building within the body of public school work of either Fred Bassetti or John Morse. Two of Bassetti and Morse's school designs from the 1950's, Lakeview Elementary School and Island Park School won AIA awards.

Two other Seattle School District high school gymnasium buildings opened in the 1960's-70's, Roosevelt High School gymnasium (1961) by architect Ralf Decker and Cleveland High School gymnasium (1970) by architect Edward Mahlum. All three are of reinforced concrete with brick veneer in the Modern Functionalism style, Naramore also designed the main buildings for Roosevelt and Cleveland High School in the 1920's. The Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board determined

both gymnasia to be non-significant. Cleveland High School's gymnasium received a determination of non-significance in 1981 and Roosevelt High School's gymnasium in 2002.

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Garfield High School 2002 Annual Report

The features of the Landmark to be preserved, include:

- The exterior of the 1923 building and the 1929 addition;
- The following features of the interior of the 1923 building: the main entrance hall, the former art room (currently room 312), the murals in the former mechanical drawing room (currently room 310), the interior of the former library (currently Room 229); the four interior bay stair towers, the master clock in the administrative area, and the boys' and girls' gyms; and
- The site, excluding the 1962 gymnasium and Parks Department fieldhouse, the breezeways, the portables, the two north parking lots, and the playfield and running track area.

Issued: August 21, 2003

Karen Gordon
City Historic Preservation Officer

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