



STANFORD UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY ARCHITECT / CAMPUS PLANNING AND DESIGN

March 12th, 2020

Charu Ahluwalia and Kavitha Kumar
Planning Office
County Government Center, East Wing, 7th Floor
70 West Hedding Street
San Jose, CA 95110-1705

Re: Letter of Compatibility for Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS) Admin Building _____

Dear Ms. Ahluwalia,

HISTORICAL STATUS

1. More than 50 years old (new Admin building located in CASBS complex, for historic evaluation see attached DPR)

Yes

☒

No

- On the County Heritage Resource Inventory
- Evaluated and determined eligible for listing (2017 GUP application)
- Evaluated and determined not eligible for listing
- To be evaluated

SCOPE OF WORK (for new Admin Building project)

2. Major exterior modifications to original building

Yes

☐

No

3. Minor exterior modifications to original building

Yes

☒

No

4. Additions

Yes

☐

No

5. Within 75 feet of historically significant resources (new Admin building located in CASBS complex, for historic evaluation see attached DPRs)

Yes

☒

No



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As per the memorandum dated April 3rd, 2014, that was developed between County staff and Stanford to interpret the 2000 GUP EIR mitigation measures, whenever new development is proposed within 75 feet of a historic resource, Stanford prepares design guidelines and provides a letter to the County Planning Office confirming that the new building construction has been reviewed and is compatible (as defined by the Secretary of the Interior's Standards) with the historic resource.

Here, the proposed Admin Building is located within 75 feet of the Main building of the CASBS complex. CASBS was determined to be potentially eligible for the California Register on the basis of architectural merit in the Historic Resources Survey that Stanford submitted in connection with its 2018 GUP application. Therefore, this letter provides design guidelines for the new Admin building to be located within 75 feet of the CASBS complex and confirms that the building will be compatible with the CASBS complex, as defined by Secretary of Interior Standards.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Listed below is the scope of work for the exterior of the new Admin Building.

Existing design - The central **Main building** is the communal core of the CASBS campus and contains administrative offices, meeting rooms, kitchen/dining, a reading room and bathrooms in an orthogonal cross-axis plan. These spaces are connected by exterior covered walkways and the building and adjacent buildings define four distinct courtyards that are accessed via large sliding glass doors, the exterior walkways and other paths in the landscape. Generous windows on the east and west ends of the Main building frame views to the larger Stanford campus (east) and to the CASBS campus entry and parking lot (west). **Seven individual private study buildings** are to the perimeter with covered entries on their public sides and decks or patios on the other, more private side facing out to landscape views.

Proposed Design - The proposed project is the construction of a 1,689-sf new collaboration building at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS) and the demolition of two existing structures totaling 1,751 sf. The project will upgrade Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access and include other site improvements. The proposed new building will provide collaboration and support spaces, as well as an office for 2 staff and ADA restroom and shower facilities. Occupying a sloped grade, the wood framed building with concrete foundations ranges in height from 12 feet to 20 feet in height.

CONCLUSION

- STATEMENT OF COMPATIBILITY

Yes



N/A



The University Architect / Campus Planning and Design Office has reviewed the proposed design for the CASBS Admin building. Based on the analysis listed below, the architecture of the new building is compatible with and does not



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materially impair the significance of the CASBS complex, therefore we support the project.

Evaluation - The CASBS Complex was evaluated in the context of collegiate architecture of the San Francisco Bay Area in the Survey of Historic Resources that was prepared by Stanford and accepted by the County in April 2017. The Survey found the CASBS complex eligible for listing on the California Register. The property embodies Second Bay Tradition collegiate architecture in the region in the period 1950– 1974 and thus meets Criterion 3 of the California Register.

It is possible to add new construction near historic properties without materially impairing the significance of the historic property if site conditions allow and if the design, density, and placement of the new construction respect the overall character of the site. Consistent with the guidelines provided by the Secretary of Interior's Standards for **New Construction within the Boundaries of Historic Properties** (<https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/applying-rehabilitation/successful-rehab/new-construction.htm>), the proposed CASBS admin building was designed based on the following principles:

Principle 1 – Protect Historical Setting and Preserve Significant Viewsheds: The new CASBS administrative building is designed to uphold and strengthen the legacy of the existing historic William Wurster buildings at CASBS. The proposed new Admin Building is carefully integrated into the site context, allowing the existing buildings of the complex to remain the focus of the site. (Exhibit A & B)

The formal and most public view of the existing CASBS complex is maintained. The proposed building will replicate the existing site conditions comprised of studio buildings arranged to define courtyards and create an additional courtyard between the existing collaboration building, dining hall and the new administrative building -

- Sited directly south of the historic Main Building, the new administrative building maintains and strengthens the existing arrival sequence.
- The original hierarchy of the Wurster buildings and campus is maintained, including courtyards.
- The new administrative building serves as subtle wayfinding for visitors entering the campus for the first time, directing them towards the historic complex.

Principle 2 – The existing building complex including the character-defining features remain unaltered: The Wurster buildings display distinctive characteristics of the **Second Bay Area Tradition** – European modernism combined with California vernacular – which is characterized by understated buildings based in nature with generous overhangs/eaves, large expanses of glass and use of redwood cladding.

The character-defining features of the existing Wurster are:

- Low pitched roof
- Horizontal massing



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- Wood frame construction
- Large expanses of glass forming window walls
- Wood cladding
- Plain and simple with a rustic appearance
- Overhanging eaves
- Woodsy texture
- Exposed soffit and rafters
- Linked to landscape through pergola and covered walkways

The proposed building is located in the parking lot and will not alter the character-defining features of the existing William Wurster Design.

Principle 3 – Maintain Material and Architectural Compatibility:

The new administrative building will relate to its neighborhood context by using compatible materials to establish continuity with the historic character, architectural style, and period. The massing, height, proportions, size, scale, and architectural features of the new building are respectful and compatible with the architecture of the existing CASBS campus (Exhibit C, D & E).

Massing

- The new building's size and proportions harmonize with the surrounding historic buildings, rather than compete with them.
- Plan dimensions (approximately 26 feet wide and 65 feet long) are similar in size and proportion to the wings of the Main Building and the surrounding structures.
- At approximately 12 feet high, the administrative building's thin, flat canopies are slightly lower than the Wurster buildings, allowing the strong horizontal datum of the Main Building to remain the focal point.

Materiality (Exhibit F)

- The new building is meant to honor Wurster's exposed wood framed buildings that have large windows and covered exterior walkways.
- The material palette is inspired from its neighbors. The façades will be predominantly composed of corten steel cladding with dark window mullions.
- Like the original Wurster buildings, the new building has large windows, a covered exterior walkway, and employs exposed framing elements in steel instead of wood.
- 9-by-10-foot window walls relate to the elevations of the Wurster buildings, echoing the original structures.
- The transparency, scale and materiality of this new building are intended to integrate into its context, allowing the existing architecture and mature landscape to remain the focus of the site.
- The building is meant to complement and dissolve into the existing landscape. Extensive glazing maximizes the experience of the surrounding landscape, integrating the new building with its context.



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University Architect / Campus Planning and Design office does not review projects for code compliance. Please contact me if you have any questions, I can be reached at (650) 644 9252.

Sincerely,

Sapna Marfatia, AIA, LEED AP.

Director of Architecture

University Architect / Campus Planning and Design Office

Attachments:

2017 GUP – DPR

2020 Continuation Sheets

Exhibit A– Site Plan

Exhibit B – Isometric View

Exhibit C – Entry View

Exhibit D – Courtyard View

State of California The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
PRIMARY RECORD

Primary #
HRI #
Trinomial
NRHP Status Code 3CS

Other Listings
Review Code
Date

Reviewer

Page 1 of 2 *Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences

P1. Other Identifier: Stanford University Building 12-200 (main building), 12-210 (studios 1-6), 12-220 (studios 7-12), 12-230 (studios 13-16), 12-240 (studios 17-20), 12-250 (studios 21-25), 12-270 (studios 30-37), 12-280 (studios 38-54)

*P2. Location: ☐ Not for Publication ☐ Unrestricted

*a. County Santa Clara and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Palo Alto Date T ; R ; ☐ of ☐ of Sec ; B.M.

c. Address 75 Alta Road City Stanford Zip 94305

d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone 10, 572560 mE/ 4141728 mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

The Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (also known as CASBS) is a complex of thirteen buildings built in different phases: four were part of the Alta Vista farm, seven were built in 1954, one in 1955, and one added in 1999. All the 1950s buildings are one-story wood-framed buildings with a low-pitched composition shingle roof and deep eaves. The exterior walls are clad in wood siding interjected by large areas of glass that connect the outdoors with the indoors. The complex is unobtrusively set on the foothills with a larger administrative building at the entrance and a series of smaller rectangular studio buildings distributed around the site forming interior courtyards.

The administrative main building has a cross-shaped floorplan, and programmatically houses all the common spaces. The studio buildings surround it on three sides and house individual study spaces. The seven studio buildings are simple repetitive structures that share a common cross section but differ in length and orientation. Placement is determined by the site conditions to maximize views and maintain privacy. Each studio building comprises of two sides: the side facing the common areas is opaque with solid doors directly accessible from a covered colonnade. In contrast, the opposite side of the building is completely transparent with large metal sliding doors, directly leading to a terrace or a wood deck.

The eighth studio building incorporated on the complex is an older building (1899). It is a two-story structure, which was part of the Alta Vista Farm (12-260, Studios 26-29, commonly known as the Dairy); it has been surveyed separately. Additionally, the accessory structures: two 1906 storage sheds (12-290 duplicate and storage building) and the 1910 caretaker's cottage (12-295) have been surveyed separately as agricultural buildings. Finally, a (1999) small restroom building is located to the west of the sheds.

*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP15 Educational Building

*P4. Resources Present: ☒ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Object ☐ Site ☐ District ☐ Element of District ☐ Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession #) Top: View of main building from west, 2014 Bottom: View of building 12-230, 2014

P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source: ☒ Historic ☐ Prehistoric ☐ 1954, 1955 addition, 1999 addition

P5a. Photograph or Drawing (Photograph required for buildings, structures, and objects.)



*P7. Owner and Address:

Board of Trustees, 3160 Porter Drive,
Palo Alto, CA 94034

*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, and address)

Elena Angoloti, Sapna Marfatia, LBRE, 3160
Porter Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94034

*P9. Date Recorded:

1/23/2017

*P10. Survey Type: (Describe)

Intensive

*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.")

2017 Stanford University Historic
Resources Survey

*Attachments: ☐ NONE ☐ Location Map
☐ Continuation Sheet ☒ Building, Structure, and
Object Record ☐ Archaeological Record ☐ District
Record ☐ Linear Feature Record ☐ Milling Station
Record ☐ Rock Art Record ☐ Artifact Record ☐
Photograph Record ☐ Other (List):

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Page 2 of 2 *Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences

B1. Historic Name: Ford Foundation Research Center, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences

B2. Common Name: CASBS

B3. Original Use: Academic AC-T/R

B4. Present Use: Academic AC-T/R

*B5. Architectural Style: Second Bay Tradition

*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)

The site was originally part of an estate known as Alta Vista with multiple farm structures, some of which remain and are detached accessory structures. The main house along with other ancillary farm structures were demolished in 1954 to make way for the Ford Foundation Research Center, renamed CASBS. In 1955 the center was enlarged by the same team of architects. The main building was slightly enlarged by an addition to the kitchen and a new restroom building to the southwest. It received an AIA First Honor Award in 1956 for its design.

Date Scope

1954 Construction

1955 Addition

1999 Accessibility Adaptations, new restroom building

Architect

Wurster, Bernard and Emmons Architects

Wurster, Bernard and Emmons Architects

Cody Anderson Wasney Architects

*B7. Moved? ☒ No ☐ Yes ☐ Unknown Date: _____ Original Location: _____

*B8. Related Features: Part of the center but built outside the period of significance Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences-Studios 26-29, 12-260

Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences-storage and duplicate, 12-290

Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences-detached restroom

Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences-Caretaker's house, 12-295

B9a. Architect: Wurster, Bernard & Emmons Architects (1954, 1955), Cody Anderson Wasney Architects (1999)

b. Builder: Unknown

*B10. Significance: Theme Regional Modernism Area San Francisco Bay Area

The property was evaluated in the context of collegiate architecture of the San Francisco Bay Area and found eligible for listing on the California Register. The property displays the distinctive characteristics of Second Bay Tradition style. The property therefore embodies Second Bay Tradition collegiate architecture in the region in the period 1950– 1974 and thus meets Criterion 3 of the California Register.

The character-defining features of the property are:

- Low pitched roof
- Wood frame construction
- Wood cladding
- Overhanging eaves
- Exposed soffit and rafters
- Horizontal massing
- Large expanses of glass forming window walls
- Plain and simple with a rustic appearance
- Woodsy texture
- Linked to landscape through pergola and covered

The 1955 addition, constructed during the period of significance, was evaluated and found to be compatible and a character-defining feature of the property. The early detached accessory structures, built before the period of significance, have a utilitarian character and were evaluated and found to be compatible but not character-defining feature of the property. The 1999 restroom building, built after the period of significance, has a utilitarian character and was evaluated and found to be neither compatible nor a character- defining feature of the property.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) _____

*B12. References:

2017 Stanford University Historic Resources Survey

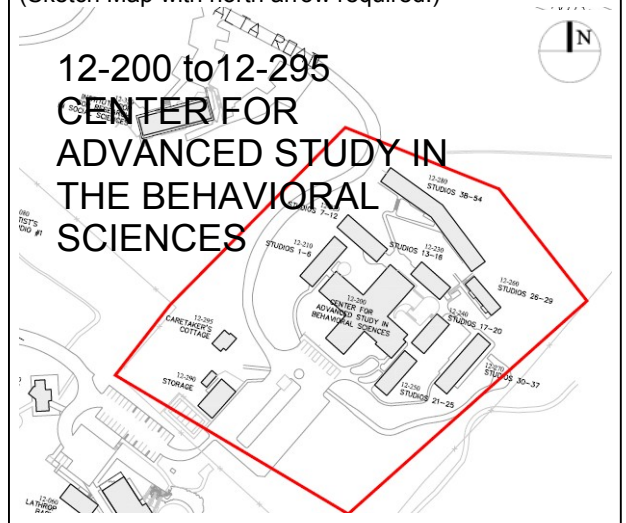
Remarks:

*B14. Evaluator Elena Angoloti, Sapna Marfatia

*Date of Evaluation: 1/23/2017

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)



CONTINUATION SHEET

Property Name: Center For Advanced Study in Behavioral Sciences (2020 update)

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B10 Significance (continued) for
the 2 shed buildings

Stanford building 12-290, Center for
Advanced Storage Building

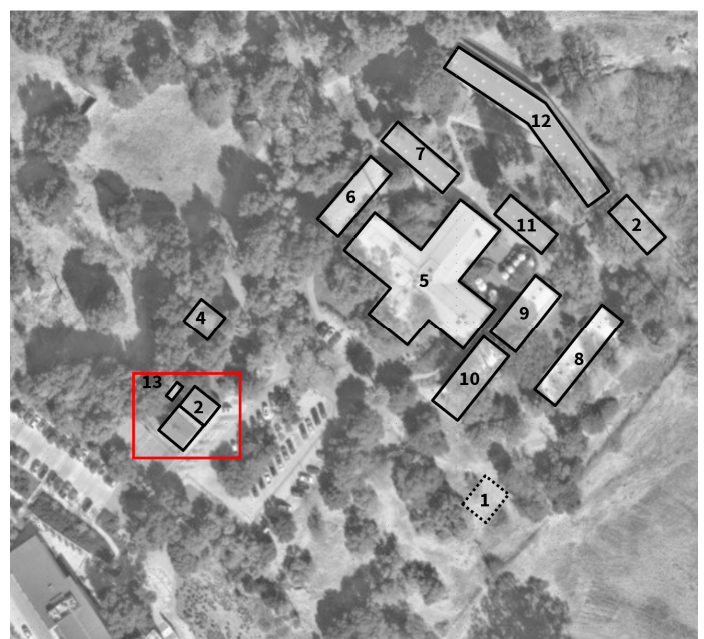
Major alteration, date: sheds were
moved, connected and new front
doors added, unknown date; south
shed exterior wall material changed,
unknown date

View of east façades, 2016

The north building is clad in exposed redwood siding, while the south is clad in corrugated aluminum siding. The buildings have large windows (many are boarded) with sliding steel doors that span from floor to ceiling. The front doors of both sheds have been changed and significantly enlarged. The roof lines are gabled overall. The slightly shorter southern shed is used for storage. The horizontal board connecting the two buildings serves as a carport. The building 12-290 lacks the distinctive characteristics of the Stick style. While it has a gabled roof with monitor and decorative trusses it lacks the characteristic of better examples of this style - horizontal trim bands, vertical strips at sides, decorative elements such as squared bay windows, and diagonal porch support braces. Additionally, the roof is not steep enough to be characteristic of the style. This building is a modest example of the Stick style with compromised integrity. The buildings were moved from a nearby location on the estate.

Location of Sheds

#	SU #	Date of Construction
1	Demo 1990	pre 1908
2	12-260	pre 1908
3	12-290	pre 1908
4	12-295	pre 1908
5	12-200	1954
6	12-210	1954
7	12-220	1954
8	12-230	1954
9	12-240	1954
10	12-250	1954
11	12-270	1954
12	12-280	1955
13	12-290	1999



Aerial view, February 2020

CONTINUATION SHEET

Property Name: Center For Advanced Study in Behavioral Sciences (2020 update)

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Two accessory buildings (12-260, #2) on the CASBS site have been attributed to the Charles G. Lathrop estate that was redeveloped for the Center for Advanced Study in 1954. These two structures are vernacular in design and of unknown construction date (they do not appear on the circa 1908 Lathrop Estate survey but do appear as “existing” buildings in 1954). Similar in design, both display a front gabled roof with small cupola vent, ornamental bracketing at the eaves and roof line, and four narrow pebbled-glass vertical window-lites on the front elevation. The current entry doors are each located at the front right corner of the facade. (Both buildings appear to have had much larger doors on the front elevation that were later filled in with plywood panels and narrow pebbled-glass window-lites.)

The two sheds have different roof slopes, and are constructed from differing materials. The shed on the left, Building 12-290B is clad in corrugated metal. The shed on the right, Building 12-290A, is clad in vertical board-and-batten wood siding.



Building 12-290B (corrugated metal siding)



Building 12-290A (wood board-and-batten siding)

Building 12-290B's back and sides are also clad in corrugated metal. Its south side displays an opening that has been filled in plywood (the building flanks the CASBS volleyball court and signs celebrating volleyball victories in the recent past are attached to the plywood). The rear of Building 12-290B also has in filled openings, that may have been windows at some time.



Rear (west) elevation of Building 12-290B



South side of Building 12-290B

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Property Name: Center For Advanced Study in Behavioral Sciences (2020 update)

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View of carport from rear elevation



Rear elevation of Building 12-290A

The two sheds are joined by a flat roofed open carport at the center. The roof of the carport appears to be plastic. Building 12-290A has three-over-three paned wood sash windows. These windows are inoperable and have no visible hardware but may have been hopper or awning windows. One window is centered on each side, and two windows appear on the rear elevation. (The side elevations are difficult to see and not shown due to overgrown plants and the carport.)

In addition to these two sheds, there is a detached concrete block restroom building (12-290 #13), built to serve the volleyball court. The restroom has a flat tar and gravel roof, exposed wood rafters, and clerestory windows. The restroom building does not appear on the 1954 construction plan and no construction documents have been located for this structure.



Concrete block restroom building (construction date unknown but after 1954)

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Property Name: Center For Advanced Study in Behavioral Sciences (2020 update)

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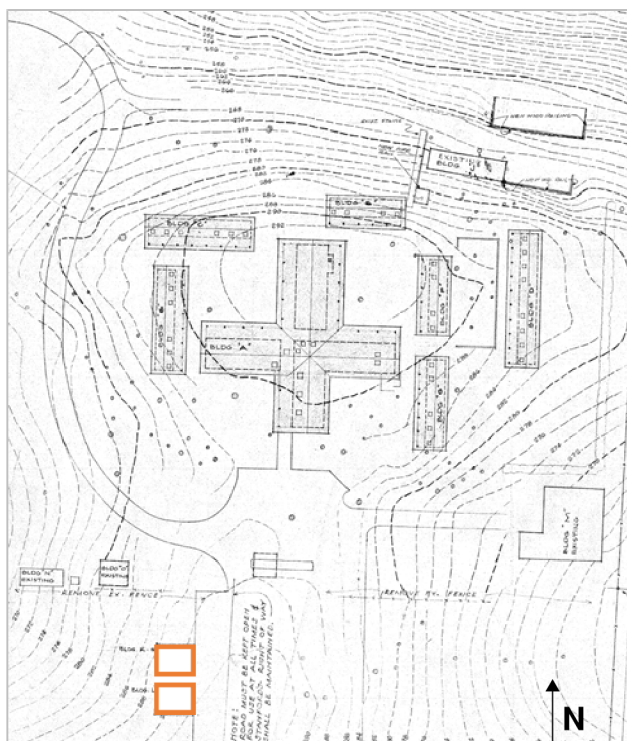
The two sheds were likely constructed by the Lathrop family, who continued to occupy the estate until 1949. The 1908 survey map shows no structures at this location, however.



Aerial view, February 2020

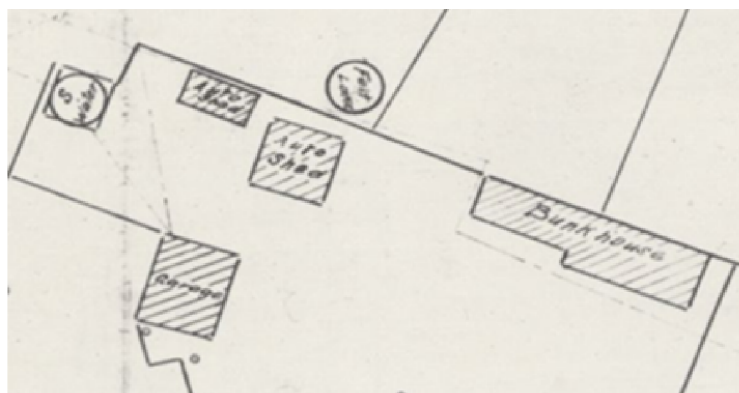


Circa 1908 Survey of Charles Lathrop Estate. Surviving buildings shown outlined in red; subject sheds in approximate location in orange.



Construction site plan, circa 1954 (sheds outlined in orange)

DPR 523L (Rev. 1/1995)(Word 9/2013)



Closeup of auto sheds and garage from 1908 map

The sheds are located between 50-100 feet south of a cluster of "auto sheds" and a garage on the 1908 survey map. It is not unlikely that the two buildings were the larger auto shed and garage and were moved to their current location.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Property Name: Center For Advanced Study in Behavioral Sciences (2020 update)

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The six surviving buildings of the Lathrop Estate were evaluated as agricultural buildings, using the County of Santa Clara's Historic Context Statement, in the 2016 Historic Survey of the Stanford University Campus. One structure, the Lathrop Gate House, was found eligible for listing on the California Register for its representation of Craftsman style architecture. (The 1954 buildings of the CASBS were also found eligible for listing under the context of Regional Collegiate Architecture.) The sheds and restroom building were found ineligible under any context.

Briefly, the two sheds are vernacular examples of Stick style architecture. Several fine examples of Stick style have survived on the Stanford campus: in particular the Stanford Stock Farm Stable ("Red Barn") is listed on the National Register. (All of the photographs of the Lathrop estate show that the buildings were painted white.)



Stanford Stock Farm Stable, constructed 1876

The two farm sheds, 12-290A and 12-290B, constructed between 1908 and 1954, may have imitated some features of the "Red Barn," but clearly lack distinction. The two sheds do display the gabled roof with monitor and decorative trusses of Stick style, but lack the fine lap siding, horizontal trim bands, vertical strips, diagonal braces and other decorative features of better examples of the style.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Property Name: Center For Advanced Study in Behavioral Sciences (2020 update)

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The Lathrop Sheds are not eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources at the National, State or Local level.

Criterion1(Association with Events and Significant People)

The sheds may have been associated with Charles Gardner Lathrop, or may have been added after his death in 1914. Charles Lathrop, brother to Stanford University co-founder Jane Lathrop Stanford, was Stanford University's business manager. He leased 20 acres from his sister and built a large home (demolished in 1954) and small farm on the site, raising cows, pigs, chickens, ducks, turkeys and peacocks. Mr. Lathrop is only mentioned in historical sources as Mrs. Stanford's brother. Charles Lathrop does not appear to be a significant figure in local, state or national history and the sheds do not appear eligible for listing on the California Register for association with Mr. Lathrop.

The two sheds and the restroom building are vernacular support buildings. No record of significant historical events taking place within any of these buildings was found in a review of newspapers archives. None of these buildings are eligible for listing on the California Register for association with important events in local, state or national history.

Criterion 3 (Architecture, Design, Workmanship)

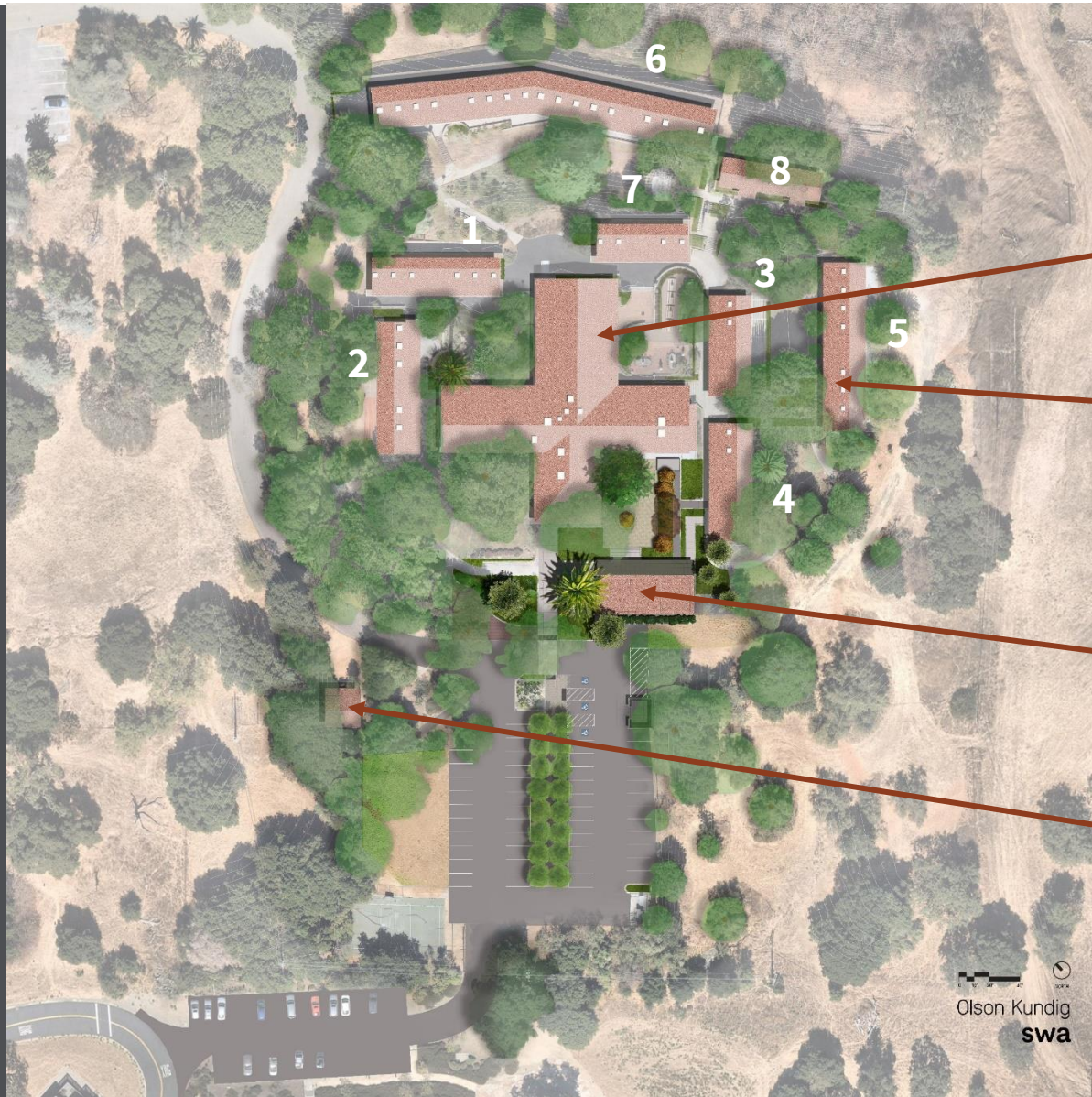
None of the three buildings meet the criteria for listing on the California Register, and furthermore the two sheds in particular demonstrate lack of integrity to the period of their use on the Lathrop estate and farm. The original garage or auto doors have been filled in with incompatible materials (plywood and pebbled glass) on both sheds, the windows have been filled in on Building 12-290B, and the setting of both buildings on the parking lot does not convey agricultural heritage.

The property was evaluated in the context of the County of Santa Clara and found not eligible for listing on the California Register. The property lacks important characteristics of Stick style architecture. While it has a gabled roof with monitor and decorative trusses in the front gables, it lacks the horizontal trim bands and the vertical strips at sides as well as decorative elements such as squared bay windows, and diagonal porch support braces characteristic of better examples of the style. Additionally, the roof is not steep enough to be characteristic of the style. This building is a modest example of the Stick style with compromised integrity. The buildings were moved from a nearby location on the estate, the south shed has corrugated aluminum siding, and the front doors of both sheds have been changed and significantly enlarged. The property therefore cannot embody ***Building in the Twentieth Century in the County of Santa Clara in the period 1900 – 1945*** and thus fails to meet Criterion 3 of the California Register.

Criterion 4 (Information Potential)

Neither of the sheds, or the restroom building, demonstrate any potential to yield important scientific information.

Exhibit A - Site Plan



Main Building

**8 Study
Buildings**

**New
Administrative
Building**

**Caretaker's
Cottage**

Exhibit B - View



Exhibit C - **Proposed Admin Building**



Exhibit C - Courtyard View From New Admin Building

