

26. "H" STREET FAÇADE OF
MODESTO HIGH SCHOOL
18 H Street (1918)



Landmark Preservation Commission Resolution: June 19, 1995
Designated by City Council: July 25, 1995

Historic Significance: Modesto High School, which had previously been housed in a building at 12th and L streets, opened on the First and H Street campus in September 1918 after two years of construction. The building was christened in June of that year with a student performance of *Green Stockings*, the senior class play. W. E. Faught was principal with C. S. (Jum) Morris as vice principal. Initial enrollment was 545 students. By 1940, enrollment had increased to more than 1,800 students.

In 1944, after a minor earthquake, major portions of the structure were condemned. Rebuilding of the school lasted from 1947 through 1951. In 1950, the enrollment topped 2,500 and Thomas Downey High, which opened in 1951, was built to relieve some of the overcrowding problems.

This designation covers only the façade of the H Street side of Modesto High School and no other portions of the building or other buildings on the campus.