BALLARD LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE

LANDMARK NUMBER: 5

KNOWN AS: Ballard School

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: 2425 School Street
Solvang, CA 93463

LOCATION: Intersection of Lewis and School Streets, Ballard

TYPE OF SITE: School

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 66-489

LANDMARK DATE: September 12, 1966

DESIGNATION OBTAINED BY: Nomination by the Santa Ynez Valley Historical Society

PAST OWNERS: None

CURRENT OWNER: Ballard School District
2425 School Street
Solvang, CA 93463

CHANGES/ALTERATIONS: See description

CONDITION: Excellent
DESCRIPTION:

Until 1882, school sessions were held first in a granary owned by George W. Lewis, the founder of Ballard, and then an abandoned saloon in Ballard. In 1882, the trustees met and decided to build a school to house grades one through eight.1

The little red schoolhouse was the first public school in the Santa Ynez Valley and has been in continuous operation since its inception. It has also served as a center for community gatherings and today houses the kindergarten class.2

Electricity was added to the school in the 1950s. The school was remodeled in 1973 to meet the Field Act (earthquake standards) requirements. Architect Robert Ingle Hoyt drew up the plans and included a wing-like addition to the north end of the building in the former stage area. The school was literally rebuilt from the foundation up though the original Santa Cruz redwood cladding was retained. The inside has been carpeted to cover the original floors and the plaster walls are now finished with a layer of plywood, cork, and vinyl. The added 2000 square feet now accommodates additional classroom space and indoor bathrooms.3

The school campus was expanded in the 1980s with new classroom buildings and an administration building adjacent to the original schoolhouse. In 1995, additional modular buildings for classrooms and a multipurpose room were constructed.4

Sign on the property reads:

BALLARD SCHOOL
1882
In Daily Use
Since 1883
Dedicated June 2, 1968
Santa Barbara County
Historic Landmark Committee
Marker No. 5

RESOURCES:

www.ballardschool.org/history

Application for Santa Barbara County Historic Landmark status by the Santa Ynez Valley Historical Society

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1 Ballard School website

2 Nomination application

3 website

4 website
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF

SEP 22 1966

SUPERVISORS
OFFICE

RESOLUTION NO. 66-489

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT THE BALLARD ) LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE IS AN HISTORICAL ) LANDMARK WORTHY OF PROTECTION UNDER ) ORDINANCE NO. 1716, AND PRESCRIBING ) CONDITIONS TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE ) BALLARD LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE.

WHEREAS, the Ballard Little Red School House located in the community of Ballard in Santa Barbara County has great historical significance and interest to the general public as a landmark and reminder of pioneer days in Santa Barbara County; and

WHEREAS, on August 11, 1966, the Santa Barbara County Advisory Landmark Committee declared the Ballard Little Red School House to be an historical landmark pursuant to the provisions of Ordinance No. 1716 of the County of Santa Barbara; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara deems the Ballard Little Red School House to be worthy of protection and preservation as such historical landmark;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Board of Supervisors, having duly set a public hearing for September 12, 1966, has heard all interested parties and has closed said public hearing, adopting the conditions set out in paragraph 2 of this Resolution.

2. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares the Ballard Little Red School House to be an historical monument pursuant to Ordinance No. 1716 and hereby imposes the following conditions on the Ballard Little Red School House pursuant to said Ordinance:

   a. Demolition, removal or destruction, partially or entirely, is prohibited unless express consent in writing is first had and obtained from the Santa Barbara County Advisory Landmark Committee. Such consent may impose all reasonable conditions deemed appropriate by the Committee to accomplish the purposes of
Ordinance No. 1718.

b. No alterations, repairs, additions or changes (other than normal maintenance and repair work) shall be made unless and until plans therefore have first been reviewed by the Santa Barbara County Advisory Landmark Committee and approved, or modified, and reasonable conditions imposed as deemed necessary, and that all such work shall be done under the direction and control of the Santa Barbara County Advisory Landmark Committee or other qualified persons designated by it.

3. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Santa Ynez Valley Historical Society.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 12th day of September, 1966, by the following vote:

Ayes: George H. Clyde, Joe J. Callahan, Daniel G. Grant, F. H. Beattie and Curtis Tunnell

Nees: None

Absent: None

JOE J. CALLAHAN
   Chairman, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

J. E. LEWIS
   Clerk

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA  

J. E. LEWIS, County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in and for the County of Santa Barbara, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original now remaining on file and of record in my office.

J. E. LEWIS
   County Clerk
   County of Santa Barbara

[Signature]  

Deputy County Clerk