Heaton School

This school is now located at 1533 North San Pablo. The site was purchased in 1920 and the first structure was built in 1925-26. This was what was known as the "east wing" of the old building. The north wing was constructed in 1927-28 and the west wing in 1928-29. This building was funded through the 1925 bond issue. It was a brick and concrete slab structure.

The present single-story structure with "pod" classrooms was required because the older two-story structure building was considered "unsafe" in case of a severe earthquake.

For many years the Heaton School served as a demonstration and teacher training facility for the California State University Fresno. This was a cooperative venture between the University and Fresno schools with staff jointly employed by both entities.

The site was named for T. L Heaton, who was the first teacher and principal at Fresno High School and the first Superintendent of Fresno Schools, serving as Superintendent from 1889 to 1896. He left Fresno to join the faculty of the University Of California School Of Education and later became the Assistant Superintendent in San Francisco City Schools.

Heaton planned the building and supervised the construction of the Fresno High School plant located for many years on "O" Street between Tuolumne and Stanislaus Streets. Later this building was long known as Fresno Technical High School and at one time also housed both the original Fresno Junior College and Fresno State Normal School. Heaton died in 1919 in San Francisco.
Front entrance of Heaton Elementary, facing McKinley Avenue

Rear of the school and the toilet buildings prior to demolition