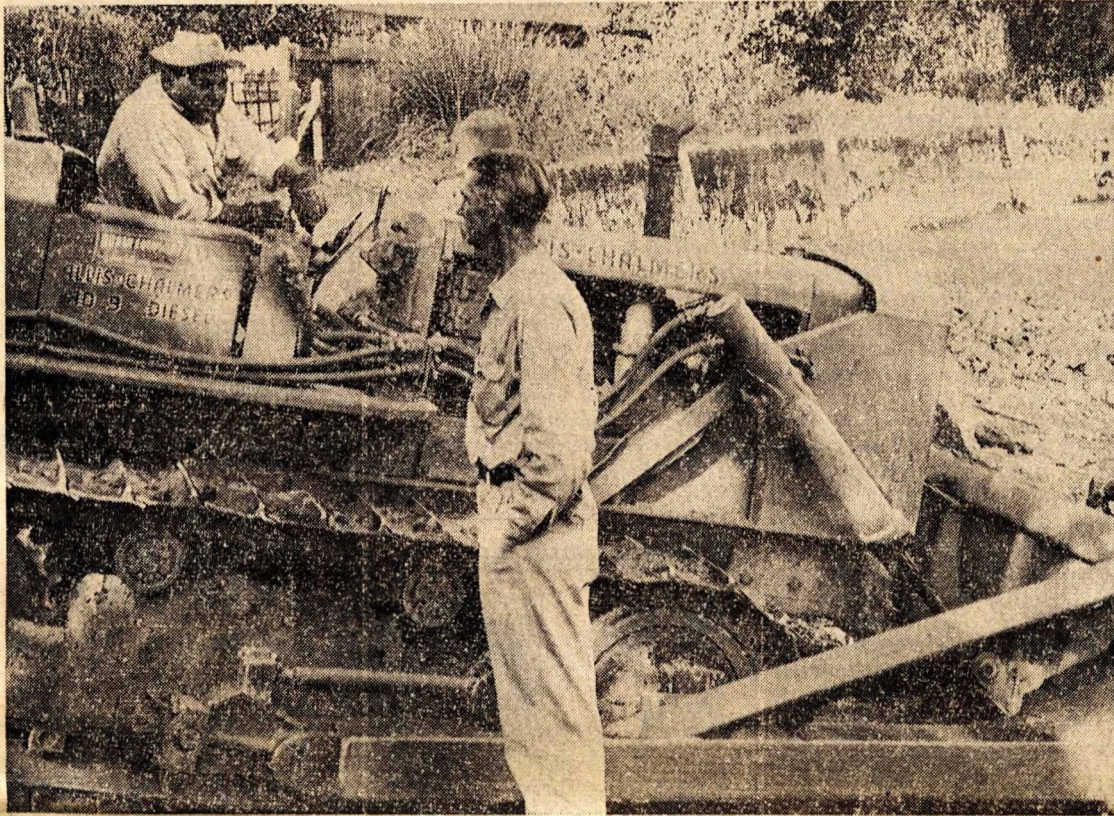


# Architect Guess: School Needs Cost \$650,000



## Final Push . . .

. . . in the demolition of the Palo Alto Park swimming pool was given this past weekend by grader equipment from Gillespie Bros. Harry Wilcoxon, standing, superintendent of the Palo

Alto Park Mutual Water District discusses work with company operator. Last wall of the pool shows in the background.

—Ravenswood Post photo

Present building needs of the Ravenswood Elementary School district will cost between \$600,000 and \$700,000, according to a "rough guess" of architects working for the district.

Walter L. Keller, of Janssen, Daseking and Keller, Menlo Park architects, told trustees Tuesday night that his figure of approximately \$650,000 was based on the number of classrooms asked by the board, and did not include exact information on such details as floor plans, furnishings, site requirements or pavement.

"At your next board meeting, I can be more definite," Keller promised.

Trustees, with an eye to proposing a bond issue next spring, have been outlining needs for classrooms in the rapidly expanding district. Their request for a cost estimate had been based on the following list of classroom needs.

**Belle Haven, 8 classrooms; Menlo Oaks, 6; new school at Siri property (now under negotiation for purchase), 10 classrooms; Menlo Oaks multi-purpose and locker rooms.**

Supt. Stanley O. Schneppe reported that a new appraisal should be obtained by the district before purchase of the Siri property, adjacent to Green Oaks School, since the county Planning Commission has claimed there is too much commercially zoned land in the East Palo Alto unincorporated area. He advised that the property should be considered for triplex residential, rather than commercial use and value.

A joint meeting between the directors of the Costano Parent-Teachers Association and the trustees will not be held. Trustees had advised the PTA that they could not change their regularly scheduled meeting nights, and the PTA wrote, Tuesday, that their board couldn't change their schedule, either.

Schneppe was asked to go ahead with making arrangements with trustees of the Sequoia Union High School district, as requested by Dr. Rex Turner.

**Low square foot cost of the Costano School, designed by Peter Kump, architect, received national recognition in the August issue of Architectural Record.** Schneppe advised the board that pictures and technical description in the trade magazine would be preserved as part of a permanent record in the architectural field.

Mrs. Fredone Nielsen, of the Ravenswood School district, also received recognition this week as one of three elementary faculty members working on a Committee on Educational Policies for the California Teachers Association on a new statement entitled, "The School and Its Program."

In other action, Neil Moore, 5-year-old son of Merle Moore, was allowed to enroll in the kindergarten at Belle Haven School, despite partial sightedness.

## In Palo Alto Park:

# Contractor Completes Filling Old Swim Pool

Once the center of activity for more than 300 swimmers daily the large swimming pool in Palo Alto Park, near Addison street, East Palo Alto, became a covered-up memory last weekend.

Work on filling the pool was sponsored by the Palo Alto Park Property Owners Association, who took on the responsibility in 1955 when the county health department ordered the pool closed.

Last weekend, the project was finished by Gillespie Bros., contractors. Now that the large hole is filled, the Palo Alto Park Mutual Water Co. will get to work on construction of a needed sump hole for use when draining one of the five company wells.

Reportedly built in 1863, the pool was fed from redwood pipes tied together with wire, and was lined with large cement blocks. Its sloped walls enclosed an area 75 feet by 175 feet long. In the early days of East Palo Alto, the pool served as a source of irrigation water for the large prune orchards nearby.

Harry Wilcoxon, superintendent of the Palo Alto Mutual Water Co., reports that 14-inch cement irrigation pipes leading from the pool are all around the district.

"Whenever we come to them we just take a sledge hammer and go right on through," explains Wilcoxon when speaking of the placement of modern lines.

During World War I, the pool was used by the horse and mule depot of Camp Remount, in connection with Camp Fremont (located at Menlo Park). Records show that the cavalymen used the pool for recreational swimming.

In 1925, the Koff Realty Co. made an unsuccessful attempt to make the pool the center of a community development. Four years later they turned it over to the

the pool was used as a swimming and recreational area. The property owners group was in charge of the recreation program.

The year before it was closed, the pool boasted an average of more than 300 swimmers daily. Lack of automatic chlorination facilities was the major reason the county declared the pool unhealthy. Its use was abandoned in favor of the new pool built by Ravenswood Recreation and Park district at University avenue and Bell street.

Future for the almost 100 year old pool site is indefinite. Once the sump is finished, the Property Owners hope to erect barbecue pits and plant turf for general community use.

## Grange Plans Pot Luck Dinner for Booster Program

Booster Night for the East Palo Alto Grange has been scheduled for next Tuesday, Sept. 16, at the

## Villagers Elect Will Dodds New President