Constructed in 1924, the Historic Alameda High School campus served to educate the youth of Alameda until the 1970s. Students were relocated to a new facility while much of the original structures were deemed unsafe for student occupancy for failure to meet requirements of the California Field Act.

The original campus included a 3-story classroom building, a 3-story auditorium with two 2-story classroom wings, a gym, and two locker rooms, providing over 100,000 square feet of total floor area, and were designed by architects Carl Werner and Matthew O’Brien in the neoclassical style. The buildings were placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977.

With the goal of minimizing alterations to the look and feel of the structure while providing building performance equivalent to current code standards, the existing gravity system (wood-framed floor and roof systems with concrete beams, walls, and columns) was utilized and new lateral elements were “fished in”. Steel braced frames were chosen as an economical, stiff, and compact seismic force resisting system. Steel tube collectors were recessed into the topside of existing floor joists, while wide flange roof collectors were hidden within the attic. To limit the size of new interior concrete foundations and limit disruption to existing ground floor framing, helical piles were utilized at braced frames. Where possible, existing structural material strengths were tested and confirmed for reuse.

Classrooms were upgraded to provide a modern learning experience within the historic structure. The rehabilitation mirrored this sentiment as the building exterior, corridors, and stairwells all maintain allegiance to their original style while new steel braces remain exposed within the classroom.

In 2019, construction was completed on the historic Alameda High School and the restored structures will remain a community landmark for years to come.