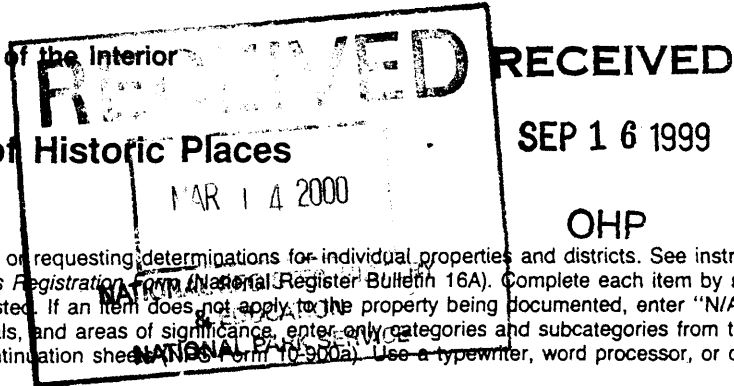


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Spillman Engineering 3 Abreast Carousel

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 139 B Eastridge Mall Not for publication

city or town San Jose N/A vicinity

state California code CA county Santa Clara code 085 zip code 95122

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Walter Abeyta Feb. 23, 2000
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State Historic Preservation Officer
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
4/13/00

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------|------------|
| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
| _____ | _____ | buildings |
| _____ | _____ | sites |
| _____ 1 _____ | _____ | structures |
| _____ | _____ | objects |
| _____ 1 _____ | _____ | Total |

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

_____ N/A _____

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

_____ 0 _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture: _____

Other: carousel _____

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture: _____

Other: carousel _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Carousel _____

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____ N/A _____

walls _____ N/A _____

roof _____ N/A _____

other _____ Wood _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Art

Period of Significance

1920

Significant Dates

1920

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Spillman Engineering Co.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

International Museum of Carousel Art

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property less than one

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

| | | | |
|---|------|-------------|---------------|
| 1 | 1 0 | 6 0 5 1 6 0 | 4 1 3 1 4 9 0 |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| 2 | | | |

| | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|
| 3 | | | |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| 4 | | | |

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jean Skinner/Head of Restoration

organization International Museum of Carousel Art date July 25, 1999

street & number 304 Oak Street telephone (541) 387-4622

city or town Hood River state Oregon zip code 97031

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Duane and Carol Perron (Carousel only)

street & number 4976 Alexander Drive telephone (541) 352-6820

city or town Hood River state Oregon zip code 97041

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Continuation SheetSpillman Engineering 3-Abreast
Carousel
Santa Clara, CaliforniaSection number 7 Page 1

The Spillman Engineering 3-Abreast Carousel, manufactured c. 1920 by the Spillman Engineering Company of North Tonawanda, New York, is located within the Eastridge Shopping Center, San Jose, California. The carousel was placed into operation at this site in 1993 and is open to the public during mall hours. The carousel measures 36 feet in diameter with a poplar wood center pole of 17 feet in height. The original flooring common to Spillman Engineering carousels consisted of planks with open spaces between each piece. To prevent shoe heels from catching in these slots, the original floor has been replaced with a solid clear fir platform for safety reasons. The original floor has been retained in the International Museum of Carousel Art's warehouse located in Hood River, Oregon. The carousel has 12 sections or sweeps, 30 all jumping hand carved wooden horses, two small chariots (benches), and 12 rounding boards and shield covers. It is believed that the carousel was used on the fair circuit along the eastern seaboard prior to its purchase by Whale's Tail Amusement Park of New Hampshire in about 1945. Exact dates of purchase and use are not known as such records were not kept on this machine. In 1989, the current owners purchased the carousel from Whale's Tail after the park had been closed for four years. This carousel is of American manufacture and was made during the period which spans much of the last half of the golden age of carousels (1835-1935), and the heyday of amusement parks. The common characteristics of these machines are wooden platforms, decorated wooden rounding boards, hand carved wooden animals, and a counter-clockwise rotation.

Architecturally, the carousel has a 36 feet diameter platform. As stated above, the original platform was removed in 1992 and replaced with a solid wood flooring for the public safety. The carousel has an electric motor for its drive system, and a hydraulic fluid clutch to gearbox chain drive which engages a cheese-wheel, which in turn rotates the ring gear under the sweeps. The horses' jumping action is achieved via an overhead crank method where the horse's upward height is determined by the upward height of the u-shaped crank from which the horse is hung. The pole on which the horse is hung does not go beneath the platform but is held in place in a sleeve attached to the platform called a "high hat." The carousel prior to 1992 operated with an electric motor operated from the interior of the carousel. The old motor was replaced in 1992 with a new 3.5 horsepower electric motor which is operated from the outside of the carousel via a push button method as is required by California safety regulations. The motor and core mechanism are enclosed by a wooden housing which has a replicated band organ façade incorporated into the design. Recorded band organ music is played through this façade during the carousel ride. Band organs were not a part of the carousel's structure and, though strongly associated with carousels, were made by other factories and purchased

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Continuation Sheet**

Spillman Engineering 3-Abreast Carousel
Santa Clara, California

Section number 7 Page 2

separately by the amusement park owners. These changes are necessary for public operation today, and are done with as much historical accuracy as possible in order to allow the carousel to perform its historical function as an amusement ride.

The core of the carousel is its 17 feet high poplar center pole which is mounted on a wooden "X" shaped stabilizing base. An "A" frame assembly of metal rods from the center pole supports the drive shafts and gear assembly. The rods attach to the tops of beams or arms called "sweeps" which divide the machine into sections. Each section carries a row of animals. Wooden spreader bars separate the sweeps for stability. These spreader bars carry the crankshafts which allow the horses to raise and fall as the carousel turns. The carousel's center pole, sweeps, braces, machinery timbers, rims, and panels are constructed of wood, and are original to this carousel. With the exception of the motor itself, replaced in 1992, the original machinery, including the cheese-wheel, gears, crankshafts, and rods is still intact and functioning.

The original rim or cresting of the carousel is made up of curved wooden panels called "rounding boards", and the original framework of these pieces have been retained and restored in 1992. The original wood panel inserts of the rounding boards had been replaced with particle board paintings during its time at Whale's Tail Amusement Park. In 1992, these panels were removed and replaced with wooden panels and new oil painted scenes. Though not original, the paintings are of the themes and feel of paintings done during the carousel era, and have been reproduced in oil paints which was also the traditional medium of scenery panels. The 12 rounding boards of this carousel are very typical of a Spillman Engineering carousel. The framework surrounding the painted scenes are made of metal castings, and are original to the machine. The use of the eagle head was often used along with other patriotic symbols on carousels of this time. The rounding boards of the nominated carousel are connected by lighted wooden scroll carved shields with oval beveled mirrors at their center. All but two of the mirrors are original to the carousel. Mirrors were one of two traditional decorations used by the Spillman Engineering Company; the other was the use of carved face masques. The scenery panels at the center of the carousel have been refurbished and are original, but the paintings are reproductions of paintings typically found on vintage carousels. The original paintings had been painted over at some time in the carousel's past. Original oil paintings did not weather well on the smaller carousels because their operation was usually outdoors and did not have the protection of a building as did the larger park carousels. When the painting lost their appearance, the owners would simply paint over the old with new or replace the panels with something else. These carousels were working machines and

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Continuation SheetSpillman Engineering 3-Abreast Carousel
Santa Clara, CaliforniaSection number 7 Page 3

were purchased by parks to make money. Carousels were expected to be colorful and inviting. The loss of original artwork is very sad, but the historic function and importance of a carousel is not diminished when they are reproduced with historical accuracy.

The underside of the sweeps and the rounding boards along with the shields and scenery panels are lighted. Fluorescent lighting strips had replaced the original lights while in operation at New Hampshire. In 1992, the light was restored back to the historically accurate use of white porcelain sockets and clear light bulbs.

The carousel has 30 all jumping style horses which have been carved from basswood, and feature glass eyes, colored glass jeweled trappings, cast metal horseshoes, and carved wooden tails. The horses exhibit proportionately carved bodies with gentle looking faces for which Spillman carved horses are noted. All horses are original to this carousel and under went a restoration in 1992. Each animal was stripped of layers of park paint, primed, and painted in bright enamel colors. Historically, carousel painters used a lead based paint called "Japan" paint. They were bright primary colors that were mixed to the desired shades. The objective was to attract riders from a distance, and show off the horse's carving. The colors used on this carousel are based on this historical idea rather than the use of color to indicate that it is an antique. Historically, the horses had metal bridle bits and leather reins, and metal stirrups attached to leather straps; both were attached then to the carved horse. These pieces were removed during the restoration of the horses and were not replaced as they cause severe damage to the wooden figures. Two small bench style chariots are also on this carousel. These are simply carved with scrolling around the outside edges on the right side of the seat. The smaller plain bench style seats were very typical of the portable carousel because of the ease of hauling. The chariot benches are original to the carousel and were restored in 1992.

All original pieces which had to be replaced for safety reasons, or because of extensive damage, have been retained and are in storage at the International Museum of Carousel Art's warehouse located in Hood River, Oregon. Any replacement parts have been duplicated from the originals. This carousel has been restored to its historic appearance via the use of historic photos, and from another original intact Spillman Engineering carousel of the same year in the current owner's possession.

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Continuation SheetSpillman Engineering 3-Abreast Carousel
Santa Clara, CaliforniaSection number 8 Page 4

The Spillman Engineering 3-Abreast Carousel is of American manufacture and dates c. 1920. The carousel meets National Register Criterion C as a well-preserved example of a recreational genre illustrative of the development of animal carving as a "functional" art form wherein the carvers competed to create the most novel and colorful attractions. This carousel also meets Criteria Consideration B as the carousel was built as a small portable carousel whose historic function was to be moved from place to place. This Spillman Engineering Carousel is considered to be one of the finest "portable" machines crafted during this era.

The Herschell-Spillman Company was started by Edward Spillman, along with his brother-in-law, Allan Herschell, in 1903. In 1920, after Allan Herschell had left the company, Edward Spillman reorganized the Herschell-Spillman Company into the Spillman Engineering Company. The carousel plant was located in North Tonawanda, New York. Spillman Engineering Company initially used Herschell-Spillman designs, but in a short time, the newly formed company had developed its own style of carousel horse design featuring a longer head, a heavier body with more well-proportioned features, and their trademarked gentle faces. Spillman Engineering Company produced some of the most elaborate and artistic carved figures placed on portable machines. This artistic styling is exemplified by the nominated carousel in the form of the "armored" horse and the three other "fancy" outside jumping horses. The three "fancy" animals include a striking head-up positioned horse; a rare "roach" mane head-down horse; and a sweet faced head down horse. The "armored" and "fancy" horses are somewhat larger in size than the standard horse placed on the typical Spillman machine. Another feature of the Spillman design was the use of faceted color glass jewels for embellishment on the animals' trappings.

The Spillman Engineering Company made many 2-3 row carousels for the traveling carnivals which toured America's fair circuit. Ease of set up and moderate size of the all jumping horse carousel made it very popular for this purpose. But due to the hard life of a "carny" carousel, many of the machines made in the 1920's have been damaged, destroyed, or sold in pieces in favor of the newer fiberglass reproductions. This Spillman Engineering Carousel was used both on the fair circuit along the east coast, as well as an attraction at an amusement park called Whale's Tail located in New Hampshire, exact dates are unknown. After its most recent purchase in 1989 by the current owners, and its restoration in 1993, this carousel was placed into operation at Eastridge Shopping Center, San Jose, California. One other Spillman Engineering Carousel operates in California at

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Continuation Sheet**

Spillman Engineering 3-Abreast Carousel
Santa Clara, California

Section number 8 Page 5

Griffith Park, Los Angeles, and it is a mixed machine containing both Spillman and Charles Looff carved horses.

Also, because of the carousel's moderate size, and it was less costly than a typical "park" carousel, many of the Spillman Engineering carousels found homes in rural town parks and became the center of the town's social events. Some of these carousels still exist today in towns across America.

The nominated Spillman Engineering 3-Abreast Carousel is one of the last carousels produced by hand from basswood by the company. Competition for the "portable" carousel business created the need for newer manufacturing methods done by machines to supply the demand.

After years of neglect and four years of non-operation, Whale's Tail Amusement Park closed, and this carousel was placed on the open market. In 1989, the current owners purchased the damaged machine, and in 1992, restored the carousel back to its historic appearance. In 1993, the carousel was placed back into operation within the Eastridge Shopping Center, San Jose, California where it continues to operate today. Neither the carousel's physical character nor its artistic qualities have been altered or affected by its move to California. A great many historic wooden carousels were designed as "portable" and are, by nature and historic function, moveable. Carousels of the early 1900's were usually placed in parks or ran at fairs, anywhere people gathered for relaxation and companionship. Parks and fairs provided a steady stream of riders needed to support the carousel's operation. Today, malls have become the "parks" of the 1990's, providing the "people" as well as a secure and climate controlled atmosphere allowing for the preservation of the vintage wooden carousel for another 100 years. The historic function of a carousel has always been to bring a few minutes of enjoyment to its riders. Mall locations in no way change the purpose or integrity of a carousel, in fact, these locations fulfill its overall historic function to operate as "functional art".

Many carousels, and this Spillman Engineering Carousel is no exception, have suffered from use and abuse throughout their historic existence. The traditional vintage carousel was mainly made of wood, a substance vulnerable to weather and poor handling. The carousel's historic function was to operate, and carousel owners did whatever they deemed necessary to continue the machine's operation. This sometimes meant the original carousel was altered in some way, but the historic features, architectural values,

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Spillman Engineering 3-Abreast Carousel
Santa Clara, California

Section number 8 Page 6

feelings, and design remained in spite of the minor physical changes made to the carousel. This Spillman Engineering Carousel had such minor alterations made to it during its history, and still functioned as a "carousel". Today, through dedication by a few, the carousel has been returned to its traditional appearance, and it still functions as a "carousel". Restoration of a carousel to its original glory when the majority of the original is still intact and functioning, in no way impairs the carousel's ability to convey its historical significance.

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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

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Spillman Engineering 3-Abreast
Carousel
Santa Clara, California

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Spillman Engineering 3-Abreast Carousel
Santa Clara, California

Section number 10 Page 8

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Starting at the SE corner of the Macy's Building located within the Eastridge Shopping Center, San Jose, Santa Clara, County, California; thence west aprox. 90'; thence south aprox. 124'; thence west aprox. 66'; thence north aprox. 66'; thence east aprox. 66' to the point of begining, containing in all 908 square feet to include the carousel and it's immediate site.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The Carousel and its footprint.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

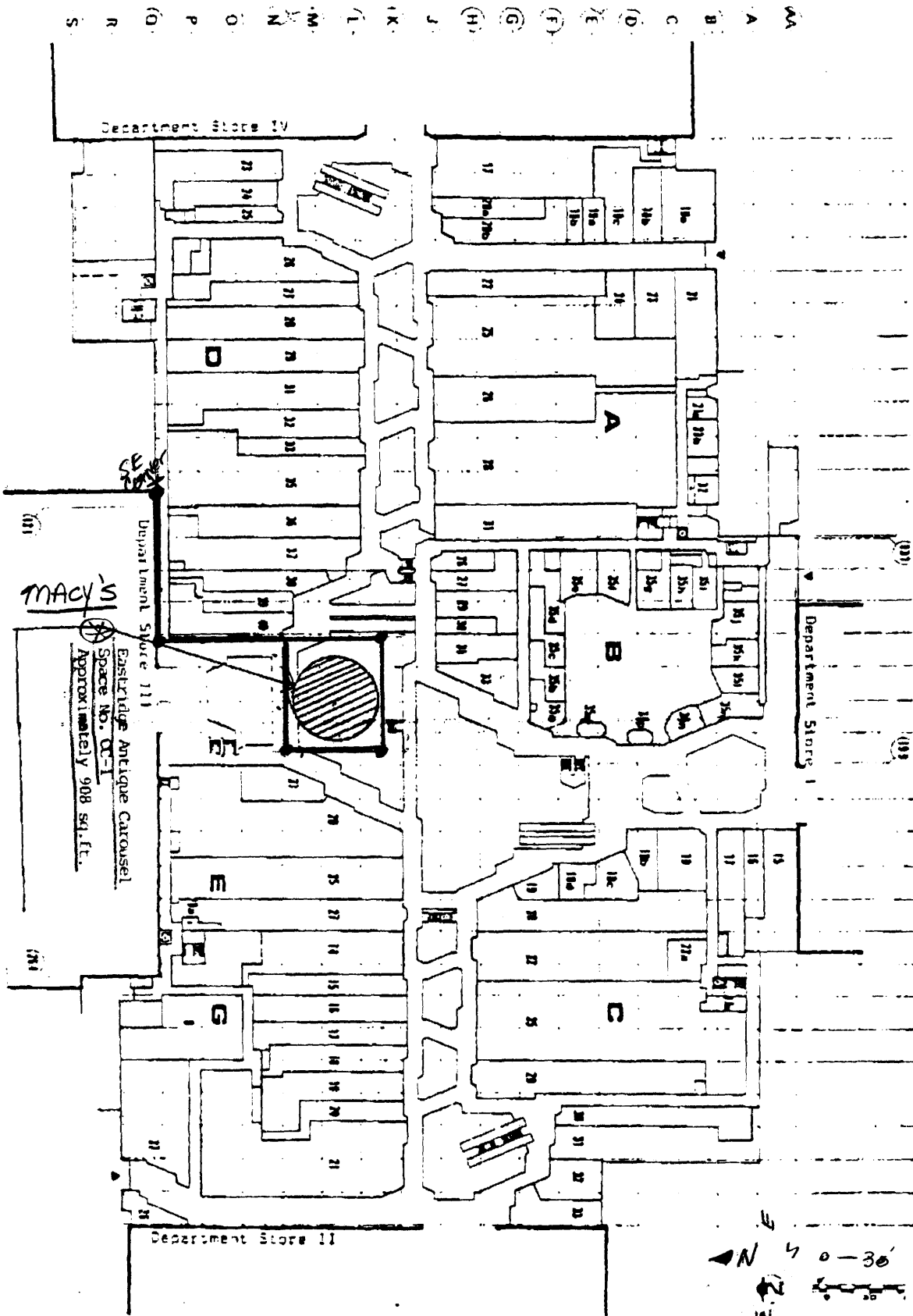
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Spillman Engineering 3-Abreast
Carousel
Santa Clara, California

Owner of the Land:

Equitable Life Assurance Society of USA
1 Eastridge Center
San Jose, California 95122

Atten: Mr. Greg Cantrell

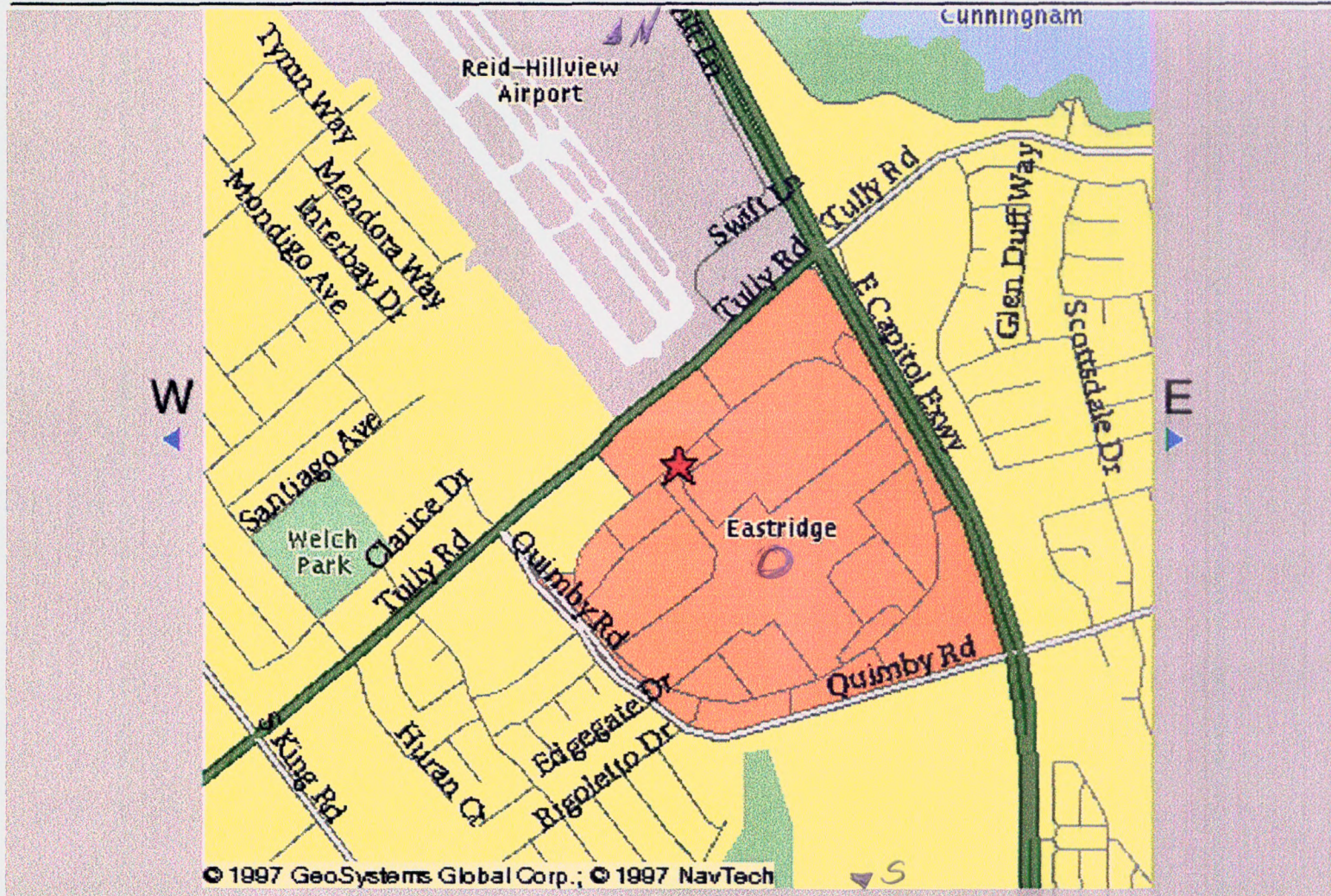


*Spillman Engineering 3 Albrecht + Carrousel
 139 B Eastridge Mall
 San Jose, Santa Clara Co., CA*

This exhibit is not a representation as to size or location of any tenant or occupant of buildings at Eastridge Mall.

EASTRIDGE MALL
 San Jose C.
 Upper Level
 Exhibit A Sheet 2 of 2

*Spillman Engineering 3-Albrecht Carrousel
 8.2.99*



EASTRIDGE SHOPPING CENTER
1 Eastridge Mall
San Jose, California
95122

Santa Clara County