

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

OHP

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1. Name of Property

historical name Ebell Society of Santa Ana Valley

other names/site number Ebell Clubhouse

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2. Location

street & number 625 N. French Street CRANK not for publication

city or town Santa Ana SA vicinity N/A

state California code CA county USA 05 zip code 92701

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3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

K. M. Egan 5/21/01
Signature of certifying official Date

California Office of Historic Preservation
State or 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 commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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4. National Park Service Certification

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register	<u>P. B. Jurgis</u>	<u>7/2/01</u>
___ 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): _____		

P. B. Jurgis Signature of Keeper Date
of Action

=====

5. Classification

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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

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 1 </u>	_____ buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
_____	_____ Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

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

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6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Social Sub: clubhouse

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Social Sub: clubhouse

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

 Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals
 subcategory: Spanish/Mediterranean Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete
roof terra cotta
walls stucco

other decorative elements include pilasters
 and cast moldings around the west and east entries

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

The Ebell Clubhouse was built in 1924 as clubhouse for the Ebell Society of Santa Ana Valley. The structure is one-story structure that includes a meeting hall, a large auditorium, a kitchen, several small meeting rooms, and an interior courtyard. It is Spanish/Mediterranean style with a red tile roof, stucco walls, and decorated entries. The building is located on a triangular parcel that is well utilized with the north portion of the structure built around the courtyard and with the south portion constructed to include the auditorium, assembly hall, and kitchen. An arching central corridor runs through the center of the building and connects with the entries on the east and west sides beneath the gable roof on the exterior of the building. (Continued on Page 7)

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8. Statement of Significance

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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.)

- a owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- b removed from its original location.
- c a birthplace or a 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)

Social History

Architecture

Period of Significance 1924-1951 Significant Dates 1924

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above) _____

Cultural Affiliation _____

Architect/Builder Eley, Frederick Architect
Preble, Samuel Builder

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

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9. Major Bibliographical References
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(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

- _x_ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
x Local government
___ University
x Other

Name of repository: South Central Coastal Information Center, located at California State University, Fullerton, Department of Anthropology

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10. Geographical Data
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Acreage of Property .9 of an acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Table with 4 columns: Zone, Easting, Northing, Zone, Easting, Northing. Row 1: 1, 11, 420020/3734660, 3, blank, blank, blank. Row 2: 2, blank, blank, 4, blank, blank, blank.

x See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) The Ebell Club building is located in the City of Santa Ana, bounded by Mortimer Street on the east, French Street on the west, Civic Center on the north, and by four residential buildings and one church on the south.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) These boundaries include the property where the potential historic resource, the clubhouse, is located and includes the land owned by the Ebell Society of Santa Ana Valley. Assessor's Parcel No. 398-237-1.

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11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Frances M. Laster, President

organization The Ebell Society of the Santa Ana Valley date JUNE 1998 - JUNE 2000

street & number 625 North French Street telephone (714) 547-6331

city or town Santa Ana state CA zip code 92701
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Additional Documentation
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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)

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Property Owner
=====

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

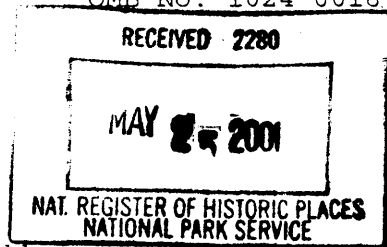
name Ebell Society of the Santa Ana Valley

street & number 625 North French Street telephone (714) 547-6331

city or town Santa Ana state CA zip code 92701
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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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.



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Ebell Clubhouse
name of property
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The original main entrance is on the west side of the building and faces French Street. This ornate double door entry is near the center of the building and serves as a focal point for the building. The northern half of the west side has two sets of three panel casement windows and four arched windows immediately to the left. The most northerly is a double door entry with a handicap ramp leading to it. Beyond this door, there are three panel casement windows extending toward the north end of the building. On the right of the original main entrance there are three small windows followed by five sets of French doors. Above these French doors are fan windows with sunburst glass. Iron grates decorate the lower portions of four of the French doors and three of the northerly arched windows. The most southerly set of French doors serves as a second entry on the west side and has a set of concrete stairs leading up to it. Four, paneled casement windows are located south of this entry.

The entry on the west side has a rectangular opening, with paneled pilasters on the sides and carrying a decorative facade above the opening. The name, "Ebell Club" is inscribed in the center, top section of the structural opening. Above, and centered over, the inscribed name and the cornice is a multiple pane window surrounded by pilasters with finials that are flush to the wall. Above, and centered over the multiple, pane window is another smaller cornice and a semi-circular opening. The paneled, wooden double doors are recessed into the west wall with three stairs leading into the building. Iron railings flank the stairs. On the north wall of the entry is a small rectangular window that the club members used as their window for taking tickets for the Society's events. A metal and glass carriage-style light hangs from the center of the wood, paneled ceiling in the recessed west entry.

The north side of the building has the chimney in the center with two double pane, casement windows on either side.

The east side of the building now serves as the main entrance because the club's parking lot is across Mortimer Street on the east side of the building. This entry is at the center and beneath the gable roof on the east side of the building. On the north side of this entry, there are seven paneled, casement windows with lug sills and a single door. To the south of the east side entry, there are six arched elevated windows at the second story level, arranged evenly in three sets of two windows and separated by flat pilasters. There are also two doors, a single and a sliding door, along the east wall that lead to the stage and loading areas of the auditorium.

This entrance on the east side has an semi-circular opening with columns and a molded arched frontispiece over the entry. Above, and centered over, the arch entry are three narrow, evenly spaced windows with lug sills. Above, and centered over, these three windows is a circular opening with narrow, horizontal lathes over the opening. The doorway is recessed from the opening and has a double, paneled door with semi-circular transom above. A metal and glass light hangs from the ceiling. The walls of the opening are paneled with tiles and the interior, semi-circular

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ceiling for the opening has molded, plain square panels. There are five stairs leading from the sidewalk up into the building. Iron railings flank the stairs. On the south side of the building, the back of the kitchen, auditorium, and assembly hall, there are from west to east, two pane casement windows with a canopy, a group of three pane windows, a small single pane window, and four more double pane casement windows with lug sills, and a single door entry.

The north side of the building is the gabled roof courtyard. The courtyard has a tiled floor, and a colonnade walkway on three sides. On the east, north, and south, there are sets of French doors that lead into the building. The central corridor or interior foyer reflects the outside gable roof line with a high arched ceiling.

The Ebell Clubhouse has served as a clubhouse since it was built and continues to serve this function. It has been maintained both inside and out over the years with few changes to its original design. Originally, there was a canvas awning over the arched entrance on the west side of the building which has been removed. In 1954-55, wrought iron railings were placed at the entrances. The ramp on the west side has also been added in 1980.

In 1984, the City of Santa Ana listed the Ebell Clubhouse in its Historical Register of Santa Ana, California and in 1997, the City of Santa Ana reviewed their listing of historic buildings and again listed the Ebell Clubhouse on the Santa Ana Register of Historical Property. The Historical Resources Review Committee ranked in importance the first 126 buildings and ranked the Ebell Clubhouse number 42. City Council Resolution No. 97-46A which placed this Register of Historical Property into the city records passed on November 3, 1997.

(8-86)

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The Ebell Clubhouse, built in 1924, is a product of the success of this women's club in Santa Ana and is an exceptional example of the Spanish Mediterranean style architecture of a locally prominent architect. The Ebell Society of Santa Ana Valley first met and organized in 1894 with 23 members. For over 100 years, the Ebell Society of Santa Ana has been involved with community service, and with the promotion of education and the arts for women. The clubhouse relates to the influence of the Spanish Mediterranean and Mission movements in California and in particular to Orange County. It also represents a successful achievement of the Ebell Society who continued to meet in members houses for 30 years before the club completed their building fund and constructed their own clubhouse in 1924. Today, the Ebell Society continues to serve the community. The Ebell Clubhouse meets the National Register Criteria A and C in the area of Social History and in the Area of Architecture as one of the best community examples of the Spanish/Mediterranean style in Santa Ana and as one of the last remaining public buildings of a prominent local architect, Frederick Eley.

The Ebell Clubhouse is original in its design and structure, except for minor alterations during the past 76 years. It was designed by architect Frederick Eley and built by contractor, Sam Preble in 1924. Frederick Eley came to Santa Ana in 1911 and started as Orange County's first architect and continued to design and build in Orange County until 1937. He advertised in the Santa Ana Register, I am

"pleased to confer with any who are contemplating building operations of any descriptions as the result will doubtless tend toward the mutual satisfaction of those concerned. Residences and bungalows a speciality."

In the early development of Orange County, building designs were handled by building contractors who relied upon catalogs and preliminary plans for building construction. Eley began to convince potential clients of the need to hire someone who could integrate the client's desires into a real home. Clients became convinced that an architect was needed to design buildings and Eley became Orange County's pioneer architect.

Eley was born in Colchester, England on January 30, 1884. He attended English public schools and continued into secondary schooling at the London Polytechnic Institute. He continued his education at Birkbeck College (London University) and received honors in 1903 in "Strength and Design of Materials" and "Building Materials." He left England for Canada and became a member of the Ontario Association of architects in 1906 and became an Associate Member of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada the following year. He left Canada though in 1907 and began working for various firms along the Pacific Coast. He worked for the Los Angeles County firms, Eager & Eager and Hunt & Burns. In February, 1911, Eley passed the California architect's written exam. That same year, he started his own firm in the Hervey-Finley building at 4th and Bush Streets in Santa Ana.

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He started his business in Orange County with two houses (one in Anaheim and one in Santa Ana) and three school buildings (Placentia Grammar School, Capistrano Grammar School, and Olinda Grammar school). One of these houses, the Bloodgood residence at 918 N. Lacy, is recognized today as an excellent Orange County example of the California type bungalow and is a notable part of Santa Ana's Historic French Park neighborhood, listed on the National Register.

The three school commissions gave Eley community wide recognition which expanded his business. Two members of the Placentia school board hired him to design buildings for them. By 1913, Eley was handling 24 projects from one end of Orange County to the other. Throughout his career, he not only designed his projects, but he also supervised the construction of his buildings in Orange County. Clearly, his business kept him very busy.

Among the prominent designs of 1913 were the Auditorium Theater and the Santa Ana Athletic Club, both in Santa Ana. Both of these buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Theater has a grand cast metal pediment on the exterior supported by four decorative pilasters that the local papers of day labeled Grecian style. He also designed the Orange County Hospital project which today is the site of the UCI Medical Center. The main building features a classical pediments supported by columns, the exterior is stucco with cast metal trim and cornices. He also designed the superintendent's house, foreman's bungalow, and four cottages for the County Farm. He also designed and built several churches including the education wing for the First Presbyterian Church in Santa Ana.

In 1914, he designed several residences in Santa Ana including the Chris McNeill home at 1103 No. Broadway. This home has been recently reviewed and is considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. It is listed on the Santa Ana Register of Historic Property and ranked as no. 52. He also built and designed a new home for his family at 206 W. 18th Street in Santa Ana. This home is also listed on the Santa Ana Register of Historic Property and ranked as no. 17. The First Baptist Church of Santa Ana selected Eley to design and built their third church at the corner of Church and Main Streets. He also designed the German Lutheran Church of Orange and it remains standing as St. John's Lutheran Church. This church is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The pace of business slowed for Eley from 1917-1920 as for many during the war years and immediately following. He served in Long Beach during the war for the Naval Architect. He did build two houses in 1919 and in 1920: one in Santa Ana and one in Orange. In Santa Ana, he built the A.T. Armstrong residence at 1008 N. Broadway and this house is listed on the Santa Ana Register of Historic Property and ranked as no. 55. It is considered an excellent example of the Dutch colonial revival style and features a gambrel style roof, brick driveway, and a pediment entry way.

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By 1920, the building boom for Orange County returned and Eley returned to his architecture business full time. Eley spent most of the 1920-25 designing and building schools. He designed six Santa Ana elementary schools, additions to three Santa Ana schools, Lathrop Junior High School, and the Santa Ana High School Gymnasium. All but one school were built in the Spanish/Mission style popular by the 1920s. Three other buildings also built during this time and remain standing today. These include: the Ebell Clubhouse, the Santa Ana YMCA building, and the Leo Borchard house. The Santa Ana YMCA building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is an example of the Spanish/Mediterranean style architecture. According to information supplied by the Ebell Club, one of the two live oak trees planted upon the Ebell Clubhouse completion was dedicated to Frederick Eley's daughter, Dorothy, born in 1924.

By 1929 the pace of building had slowed again and Eley's business grew more slowly too as the depression reached Orange County. He continued though to build residences, schools, and fire houses. The Fire Station at 1322 No. Sycamore Street in Santa Ana that he built is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. After 1930, Eley built a few residences and schools. In the 1933 Long Beach earthquake, none of his schools suffered any damage. In 1934, he built the Spurgeon Elementary School at 210 W. Cubbon Street in Santa Ana. This building, Mission style, is listed on the Santa Ana Register of Historic Property and ranked as no. 99. However, Eley became very upset when local school boards hired architects whose previous buildings had suffered damage in the earthquake. Eley felt that he should be hired instead and by 1937, Eley decided to move his architecture practice to the northwest. He continued his practice in Salem, Oregon until the mid-1950s. After his wife died in 1971, he relocated to Des Moines, Washington to be close to his children. Frederick Eley passed away in 1979.

Many examples of his work and contribution to Orange County's early days still remain. As noted several structures are listed on the National Register of Historic Places as significant to local history and architecture. These buildings include civic, religious, and recreational structures. That these structures remain is evidence of their integrity of design and construction and of their adaptability for new uses over the years. Eley's importance as a pioneer in Orange County's early 20th century development is clear. As a prolific architect, he helped shape communities and set a standard for architectural design. The Ebell Clubhouse is part of his legacy of the Spanish/Mediterranean style architecture for Orange County.

In the context of the social history of City of Santa Ana and Orange County, the Ebell Society of Santa Ana Valley holds a unique place. While there were other social clubs organized in Santa Ana, few organized for " the advancement of women in intellectual culture, and industrial pursuits." In 1894, the Ebell Society of Santa Ana Valley was formed by Amanda Blee in her home. Mrs. W. S. Barlett was elected as

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the first President to lead the group of women most of whom had moved recently from the Oakland area. The Ebell Club in Santa Ana owes its formation to the Ebell Club of Oakland which had been founded in 1876 by Dr. Adrien Ebell from Berlin, Germany. Dr. Ebell had been convinced that women needed education in the systematic study of the exact sciences, including music, art, and languages. He established an "International Academy" with headquarters in Berlin and planned to build chapters all over the world. The first of these founded in Oakland formed after one of his lectures. The following year a system of study classes was developed. When some of the members of the Oakland club moved to Santa Ana, they brought the club and its organization with them. The motto of the club is "That is only true living which ever is learning."

Over the next 100 years the Ebell Society grew, changed, and thrived in Santa Ana. The members not only have arranged parties, entertainment, and lectures, but also have managed a day nursery for the community from 1911-1945, assisted in erecting the Carnegie Public Library at Sycamore and Fifth Streets, supported several relief efforts for the armed services during WW I and II, published eighteen booklets on local history, and have given financial aid to many local organizations including the Salvation Army, the Y.W.C.A., the Y.M.C.A., Orange County Hospital, Orangewood Home for Children, and the Boys and Girls Clubs over the years. In 2000, the Ebell Society organized a rummage sale and donated the proceeds to the Freeman Outreach, a rehabilitation center as well as awarded donations to Operation Santa Claus, Y's Place (formerly YWCA), and to the Episcopal Service Alliance.

The Ebell Clubhouse became the focal point for the club in 1924 after its construction. They raised money for the clubhouse starting in 1902 under Mrs. Victor Montgomery's administration and reaching its financial goal with 412 members in 1920. By the mid-1930s the Ebell Society grew concerned about future membership. They organized a Junior Ebell Society for woman ages 18 to 30 (later to 45 years) and a Girls Ebell for junior and seniors in high school in 1931. The Junior Ebell organization merged with the older group in 1988 and continued as did the Girls' Ebell until 1990. Overall the Ebell Society and its activities has provided many opportunities for its members including community outreach, leadership, funding and organizational skills. The list of past and current Presidents includes many women known as Orange County's community supporters and local leaders for the arts and education. Membership requires a one time fee of \$50 and annual dues of \$100. Today, the facility is popular for parties, weddings, and receptions as well as serving its members. The Ebell Society continues to enrich the lives of its members and friends and preserves for Orange County a wonderful example of how a cultural club can benefit its community.

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Ebell Society of Santa Ana Valley

1994 Ebell Centennial Chronicles 1894-1994. Maureen McClintock Rischard, editor.
Published by The Printing Post, Orange, California.

Les, Kathleen

1980 . Historic Resources Inventory Form for the Ebell Clubhouse. on file at the
South Central Coastal Information Center, California State University,
Fullerton, Department of Anthropology.

Masterson, Robert

1999 Frederick H. Eley, Orange County Projects 1911-1937 and Historical Review.
Manuscript on file with Fran Laser, President of Ebell Society of Santa Ana
Valley.

Santa Ana Register Of Historical Property

1997 Resolution No. 97-46 A, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of
Santa Ana and Designating Certain Property as Historical Property for
Inclusion in the City of Santa Ana Register of Historic Property. Copy of
resolution on file with the City of Santa Ana Planning Division.

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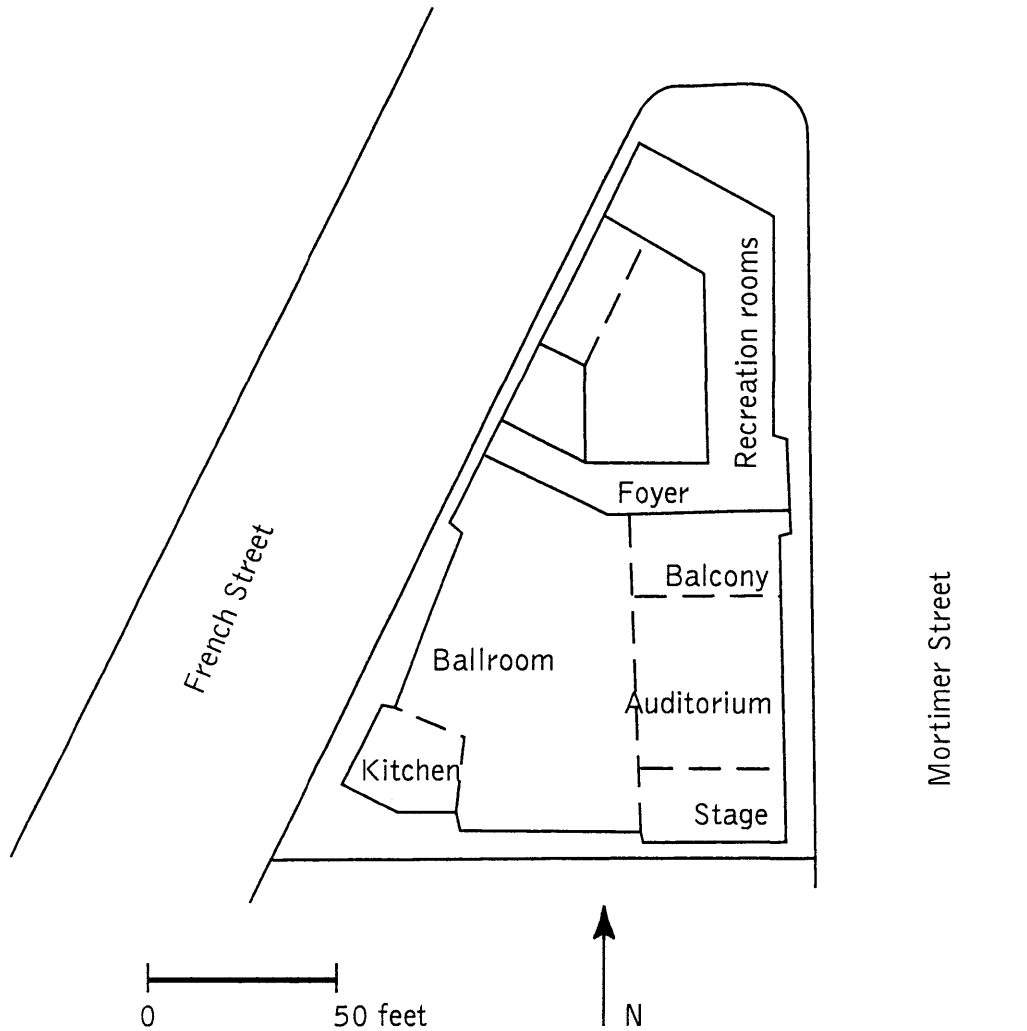
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Photograph Inventory

1. Overall view of the west side of the Ebell Clubhouse, taken from French Street.
2. Close-up of the west entry.
3. Detailed view of the west side, north portion of the clubhouse. Shows the French doors on this side.
4. Detailed view of the west side, south portion of the clubhouse. Shows the second entry on the west side that leads into the kitchen area.
5. Detailed view of the south portion of the west side. This photo shows the arched, sunburst windows and secondary entry on this side of the building.
6. Detailed view of the south portion of the west side. This shows the casement windows under the canopy that look into the kitchen.
7. and 8. Show the south wall from the west to the east. Photo 7 shows the back entry door into the kitchen.
9. Overall view of the east side of the Ebell Clubhouse, taken from Mortimer Street.
10. & 11. Show close-up views of the south portion of the east side. This wall shows the pilasters and windows that decorate the outside wall of the auditorium.
12. Shows the meeting room wing and the north portion of this east side of the clubhouse. The photo shows another entry at the far north end of the east side.
13. Detailed view of the east side entry. The arched opening with molded columns.
14. Detailed view of the columns and its decorative elements. The tiled and paneled wall and ceiling of the entry are also pictured.
15. Detailed view of the tile work that lines the walls of the east side entry.
16. Detailed view of the north end of the clubhouse. This photo shows the chimney that is part of the assembly room.
17. and 18. These photos show the interior courtyard with the several sets of French doors that lead to the inside of the building.
19. This photo shows the colonnade walk-way that forms on three sides of the courtyard. The walk-way is tiled and covered.
20. This 1924 photo, taken by the architect, Frederick Eley, is part of his portfolio on file at the Santa Ana History Room, Santa Ana Public Library, Santa Ana.

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(Sketch Map)



Sketch map traced from the Santa Ana, Orange County Sanborn Maps, dated 1925 (1906 with additions to 1925), on file at the Santa Ana History Room, Santa Ana Public Library, Santa Ana.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Ebell Society, Orange Co., CA

Section number Photos Page Addendum

Additional Photos

Photos taken June, 2001 by Frances Laster. Negative located at Ebell Society of the Santa Ana Valley, 625 North French Street, Santa Ana, CA 92701.

Photo #1: Main elevation

Photo#2: Rear elevation