



MP 3409

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 any 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 BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB

other names/site number N/A, MA00706

**2. Location**

street & number 1705 Manatee Avenue West N/A  not for publication

city or town Bradenton N/A  vicinity

state Florida code FL county Manatee code 081 zip code 34205

**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.)

Alissa Sotane, Deputy SHPO 12/13/18  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Bureau of Historic Preservation, Division of Historical Resources, Florida Dept. of State  
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 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  See continuation sheet.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

Jan Walker  
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

2.4.2019

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)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	total

Name of related multiple property listings

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

CLUBHOUSES OF FLORIDA'S WOMAN'S CLUBS

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL/Clubhouse

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL/Clubhouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete Block

walls Concrete Block

roof Tile

other

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

**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 36) 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

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

SOCIAL HISTORY

**Period of Significance**

1923-1968

**Significant Dates**

1923

**Significant Person**

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Arch: Kermode, Fred W.

Bldr: Price, Carl L.

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of Repository

# \_\_\_\_\_

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one

UTM References

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1   7	3   4   4   0   6   3	3   0   4   2   2   8   6
	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 W. Carl Shiver, Historic Preservationist

organization Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation date July 2018

street & number 500 South Bronough Street telephone (850) 245-6333

city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-0250

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 Rebecca Biro Treasurer Bradenton Woman's Club

street & number 1705 Manatee Avenue West telephone (941) 747-6222

city or town Bradenton state Florida zip code 34205

**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 amend 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.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1

BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
BRADENTON, MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
DESCRIPTION

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**SUMMARY**

The Bradenton Woman's Club at 1705 Manatee Avenue West, in Bradenton, Florida, constructed in 1921 (Photo 1), is a two-story Colonial Revival style building designed by architect Fred W. Kermode, who in 1930 also designed the Mediterranean Revival Style Palmetto Woman's Club. The two-story building is located on the two lots for a total of 100 X 120 feet at the corner of Manatee Avenue and Virginia Drive just across Ware's Creek from the business center of Bradenton. It is constructed of stucco-covered concrete block with a green-metal Mansard roof which has wide eaves and a smooth flat top surface. The main facade fronts on Manatee Avenue. The facade has two one-story flat-roofed wings. The fenestration of the building is 6/1-light double-hung wood sash windows. The club house features a receding one-story open porch in the center of the main facade. It has a two-step concrete stoop that fully extends between the wings. The east elevation of the Woman's Club, which serves as the main entrance to the clubhouse has a one-story, one-bay porch with an entranceway of double wood and glass doors in the middle. Boxed columns support a pent roof surfaced with green metal that rests on the two-step concrete stoop. The south elevation of the building has a paved parking lot and a metal fire escape stairway that descends from the second floor. The first story features tall casement and 6/1-light double-hung windows. The west elevation is next to an unpaved alley with a secondary entrance to the kitchen.

**SETTING**

Bradenton is a city in Manatee County, Florida, United States. The U.S. Census Bureau estimated the city's 2016 population to be 54,437. Bradenton is a principal city of the Bradenton-Sarasota-Venice, Florida Metropolitan Statistical Area, which had a 2007 estimated population of 682,833. It is the county seat. The community which was originally named "Braidentown" and then amended to "Bradentown" was explored in 1539 by the Spanish during the famous expedition led by Hernando De Soto. Bradenton was established in 1842. The original town of Bradentown was incorporated in 1903. The city took the name of Dr. Joseph Braden, whose nearby fort-like house was a refuge for early settlers during Seminole Indian attacks. The current city of Bradenton was formed in 1943, when the Florida legislature merged the cities of Manatee (incorporated in 1888) and Bradentown

According to the United States Census Bureau, Bradenton has a total area of 14.44 square miles (37.4 km<sup>2</sup>), of which 12.11 square miles (31.4 km<sup>2</sup>) is land and 2.33 square miles (6.0 km<sup>2</sup>) (16.14%) is water. Bradenton is located on US 41 between Tampa and Sarasota. The area is surrounded by waterways, both fresh and saltwater. Along the Gulf of Mexico and into Tampa Bay are over 20 miles (32 km) of Florida beaches, many of which are shaded by Australian pines. Bordered on the north by the Manatee River, Bradenton is located on the mainland and is separated from the outer barrier islands of Anna Maria Island and Longboat Key by the Intracoastal Waterway.

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BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
BRADENTON, MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
DESCRIPTION

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**DESCRIPTION**

**Exterior**

The north facade fronts on Manatee Avenue, (Photo 2) which has a receding one-story open porch is found in the center of the elevation and features a stucco covered concrete chimney that rises through the forward slope of the green standing seam metal roof. The porch has a two-step concrete stoop that fully extends between the wings. The building is two stories in height, but it is flanked by two one-story flat-roofed wings. The north side of the wings has tripartite 6/1-light double-hung wood sash windows and a single 6/1-light window on the side elevations (Photo 3). The wings have projecting eaves, above which are rectangular roof cavities beneath the parapet. The roof deck that covers the one-story wings features a combination of multi-light casement and 6/1 light double-hung wood sash windows and two doors that provide access to the deck above the one-story wings (Photo 4). The Manatee Avenue entrance consists of a pair of aluminum and louvered glass doors flanked by three sets of four light aluminum awning windows. The second floor of the main facade features 6/1-light windows sheltered by the wide eaves of the Mansard roof whose front slope is covered with green raised seam metal roofing.

The main entrance of the Woman's Club is found on the east elevation (Photo 5) which has a one-story, one-bay porch with an entranceway of double wood and glass doors in the middle. Boxed columns support a pent roof surfaced with the green standing-seam metal roof that rest on the two-step concrete stoop flanked by pipe railings. The elevation has both double-hung and casement windows. The south elevation of the building (Photo 6) has a paved parking lot and a metal fire escape stairway with a solid wooden doorway next to 6/1-light double-hung wood sash window. The first story features tall casement and 6/1-light double-hung windows. The west elevation (Photo 7) is next to an unpaved alley with secondary entrances and window surmounted by a transom. There are also two low concrete stairways with concrete decks bordered by pipe metal railings.

**Interior**

From Virginia Drive you enter through the large plate glass doors into a foyer (Photo 8) which has a doorway to the large ballroom and a staircase that rises to an L-shaped mezzanine. The Woman's Club has a mezzanine, locally referred to as the "balcony." A mezzanine is an intermediate floor in a building which is open to the floor below. It is placed halfway up the wall on a floor which has a ceiling at least twice as high as a floor with minimum height. The shape of the mezzanine in the Woman's Club reflects the meeting room on the first floor. The most notable feature of the mezzanine is the rusticated stone fireplace like the one below in the meeting room. On the east side is a storage area and French doors that open onto the stair landing (Photos 9-10). At the west end of the mezzanine is another storage closet (Photo 11) and a hallway connecting to a flight of stairs that descends to the first floor behind the stage (Photo 12).

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BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
BRADENTON, MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
DESCRIPTION

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The ballroom is used for dances and festive dining celebrations (Photo 13). On entering the ballroom, one can see the large stage at the west end of the building (Photo 14). From Manatee Avenue one enters a tiled patio which provides access the ladies lounge in the east wing and a small office in the west wing (Photos 15-16). From the patio one enters a dining room called the "Meeting Room" (Photos 17-18). The area is dominated by a massive rubble stone fireplace, which is flanked by French doors and multi-light windows. The space rests under the floor of the mezzanine, which is supported by wooden posts. The view to the east shows the foyer and stairs that give access to the second floor. The west view shows the entrance to the kitchen. Looking north from the ballroom shows the dining room and wall of the mezzanine (Photo 19). The auditorium for public use seats 550 people; it can seat 700 people when combined with the adjacent Meeting Room. There is a stage 40 feet wide by 22 feet deep. Two dressing rooms are entered by steps at the sides of the stage. To the right of the auditorium, underneath the balcony is the Meeting Room. The west wall has windows that illuminate the auditorium. An orchestra's platform is found immediately in front of the stage.<sup>1</sup>

The west side of the ballroom looking east from the stage reveals the dropped ceiling containing the fluorescent light fixtures and air conditioning vents (Photo 20). The mezzanine level also features posts like those found on the ground floor that rise from the railing to the wide beam that extends the length of the mezzanine (Photo 21). The area features theater-style wooden seats (Photo 22) and provides access to the metal fire escape found at the south end of the corridor. That part of the mezzanine found directly above the east entrance to the ballroom is cantilevered from the wall and is accessed by the stairs in the east foyer (Photo 23). Natural light enters this section via the casement windows on the upper part of the south wall. On the first floor, south of the east entrance is the men's restroom and lounge (Photos 24-26). The women's lounge is found in the northeast wing of the clubhouse (Photos 26-27). The modern kitchen found on the west side of the building next to meeting room (Photos 27-29). The kitchen (Photos 30-31) has a variety of cabinets, sinks, and counters. Near to the south door is a stove-top next to an oven.

### ALTERATIONS

No major alterations were made to the Bradenton Woman's Club since it was constructed in 1923 until the original clay tile roof was severely damaged by Hurricane Irma on September 10, 2017. While most of the Bradenton area seems to have avoided the worst of Hurricane Irma's wrath, the Woman's Club the required the replacement of the clay tile roof with the new standing seam metal roof (Photos 32-33) and the repair of the wooden floor and ceiling (Photos 34-35). Although not damaged by the storm, the main staircase to the mezzanine rising from the foyer is not high enough at one point to allow easy access to the second floor, so the mezzanine is not open to the general public.

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<sup>1</sup> Bradenton Herald, April 1, 1921.

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BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
BRADENTON, MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
SIGNIFICANCE

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**SUMMARY PARAGRAPH**

The Bradenton Woman's Club is locally significant in the areas of Architecture and Social History. It has played a significant role in the cultural, social and civic history of the city of Bradenton and Manatee County. The Colonial Revival style building was constructed in 1921, designed by architect Fred W. Kermodé, who also designed the Palmetto Woman's Club in 1930, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on March 6, 1986. For a number of years, the Woman's Club was the only public facility large enough to accommodate the many diversified needs of the community. The period of significance for the Bradenton Woman's Club is approximately from 1923 to 1968, covering the period of its greatest activity in serving the city of Bradenton. The building has undergone only minor alterations since its completion in 1921 and has been restored from the damage done to the building by Hurricane Irma which struck Florida on September 10, 2017. The use of the Colonial Revival style for the design of the building was unusual for the Florida Boom period of the 1920s when the Mediterranean Revival style was popular for public buildings as well as residences. The clubhouse contributes to the **CLUBHOUSES OF FLORIDA'S WOMAN'S CLUBS** Multiple Property Submission under the Florida Land Boom, 1921-1926 Historic Context and the F.1 Property Type: Clubhouses.

**HISTORIC CONTEXT**

In 1821, Florida officially became a United States territory after being acquired in 1819 through the Adams-Onís Treaty with Spain. It initially contained only two counties, Escambia and St. Johns. Gadsden County was formed from St. Johns in 1823. In 1824 Mosquito County was created from Gadsden County and included the Tampa Bay region, and in 1834, the bay area was named Hillsborough County. Manatee County was formed in 1855, encompassing the area between Tampa Bay and Charlotte Harbor and inlet to the Kissimmee River and Lake Okechobee. DeSoto County was divided from Manatee in 1877, and finally Sarasota County was created in 1921.<sup>2</sup>

The first settlement activity in the vicinity of what would become Bradenton took place in 1841 when Josiah Gates and his brother-in-law, Miles Price, took a cruise up the Manatee River to scout for land that would soon become available for homesteading. Upon their arrival, they came upon palmetto shacks occupied by Cuban fishermen. Ancient ruins left by the Spanish from years earlier could be seen. Josiah Gates returned to his home in Ft. Brooke (Tampa), Florida, and collected his family for a move to a parcel of land on the south shore of the Manatee River already cleared of timber and brush. The Armed Occupation Act of 1842 allowed citizens 160 acres for a homestead on land selected in those parts of Florida cleared of Seminole Indians. Gates built a log house with six spacious rooms, a passage and a detached kitchen. Soon a few other settlers began to arrive

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<sup>2</sup> Charlton W. Tebeau, A History of Florida (Coral Gables: University of Miami Press, 1971), pp/ 114-115.



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BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
BRADENTON, MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
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and vegetable farming and raising sugar cane for the production of molasses became the primary means of livelihood.<sup>3</sup>

An economic depression struck the nation in 1857, and the settlers found that they were no longer any northern markets for their products. Many of the settlers in the area suffered severe financial circumstances, including the loss of their lands. In 1867, Manatee County was beset by yellow fever and the whole county was paced under quarantine.<sup>4</sup> Development of the area lagged until after the Civil War when a number of changes began to take place and many new families came to the area seeking prosperity. Agriculture continued to play the primary role in maintaining a living for these families, and the sugar and molasses industries began to grow again. Other agricultural activities such as the cultivation of citrus and the cutting of virgin forest to produce lumber also sprang up.<sup>5</sup> Steamships travelling on the Gulf of Mexico brought mail and supplies from Cedar Key and Tampa to the Manatee River, landing at Palmetto, where mail and goods were transferred to a small sailboat and carried to Bradenton and post offices along the river.<sup>6</sup>

Following the Civil War, the Fogarty family was among many new families to settle in Manatee County. Bartholomew and John Fogarty established a home and boat works on the south side of the Manatee River under the Homestead Act. This area became known as Fogartyville, now part of west Bradenton.<sup>7</sup> The following years brought a burst of activity with the expansion of the agricultural economy. On May 5, 1888, the Village of Manatee was incorporated and Josiah Gates was elected the town's first mayor. In the same year, the citizens of Manatee County voted to move the county seat from Pine Level to the small town of Braidentown, a neighbor community of Manatee Village. The following year saw a ferry linking Palmetto to Braidentown.<sup>8</sup> In May of 1903, Braidentown was incorporated and one of its first official acts was to remove the "i" from its name, and by 1924, the "w" was dropped.

The 1920s brought boom to Bradenton as they did to many other communities in Florida. Major construction took place in both Bradenton and Manatee County. The agricultural industry was prosperous and the Manatee Crate Mill became a major industry, changing the Manatee neighborhood with the addition of small utilitarian housing for its workers. The current City was formed in 1943, when the Florida Legislature merged the cities of Manatee (Incorporated in 1888) and Bradenton (Incorporated in 1903). The most recent comprehensive historic survey was completed in 1980. The 1981 historic survey covered approximately 3.6 square miles

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<sup>3</sup> Lillie B. McDuffee, Lure of the Manatee: A True Story of South Florida's Glamours Past. (Nashville: Marshall and Bruce Co., 1933), pp. 24-25.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., p. 216

<sup>6</sup> Herman Simpson, "History of Manatee County, Florida, <http://www.sarasotahistoryalive.com/history/articles/history-of-manatee-county-florida-chapter-16-part-1/>.

<sup>7</sup> Fogarty, Ollie Z. They Called it Fogartyville. n.p., 1972.

<sup>8</sup> McDuffee, p. 285.

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primarily within the City limits, extending from 34th Street West to the Braden River and south from the Manatee River to 13th Avenue. The purpose of the survey was to determine what properties have characteristics worth preserving, to stimulate the interest of the community in preserving those properties, and to establish, if warranted, an historic district. Approximately 200 structures were included in the survey and 85 were chosen to be included in the Florida Master Site File, an inventory of historic structures maintained by the Division of Historical Resources.<sup>9</sup>

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE—SOCIAL HISTORY**

In March 1913, sixteen women met at the Juplinor Hotel in Bradenton to organize a club dedicated toward improving the quality of community life in their home town. By June the articles of incorporation were signed by 19 women giving the club the official name the Woman's Club of Bradenton. By 1914, the club united with the Manatee County Federation of Woman's Clubs and by 1924 joined the General Federation of Woman's Clubs which had been founded in 1868. It became the model for the nationwide GFWC in 1890 and now has nearly 100,000 members. Not having a permanent home, club members met in whatever location that could be offered to them. On November 30, 1916, the Bradenton group met in the Presbyterian Church on December 4, 1916 with members of the Sarasota Woman's Club which had been built in 1915.<sup>10</sup>

By 1918, membership had grown and the club sought to establish a proper meeting place with space to support club activities. Bazaars, dinners, and plays were held with all of the proceeds devoted toward the debt. The club ran an ad in the Manatee River Journal newspaper advertising a fund-raising meeting to take place on March 16, 1920, to offer subscriptions to raise \$15,000 for the construction of a clubhouse. The Woman's Club lot was purchased for \$110 March 25, 1920. A ground-breaking ceremony took place at the property at the corner of Manatee Avenue and Virginia Drive early in 1921.<sup>11</sup> Construction of the building began in April 1921. The newspaper article describing the work gave an account of what the finished building would look like. Construction of the building would cost \$22,000, not counting the furnishings.<sup>12</sup> In 1920, the members voted to build the clubhouse for \$20,000. The building was complete in 1921, with a dedication ceremony on November 23, 1921. Following a series of bazaars, luncheons, dinners, fund-raising activities, and with the help of the Kiwanis Club and others in the community, the clubhouse debt was retired and the mortgage burned in 1925.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Phillip A. Werndli, A Historical, Architectural, and Archaeological Survey of the City of Bradenton, City of Bradenton, MS735, 1981.

<sup>10</sup> Manatee River Journal, November 30, 1916.

<sup>11</sup> Manatee River Journal, January 14, 1921.

<sup>12</sup> Manatee River Journal

<sup>13</sup> Sarasota Herald Tribune, February 18, 1988.

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Among of the continuing events at the Woman's Club were bridge tournaments, a card game that had become very popular in the 1920s. The games usually took place after a luncheon for which there was a modest charge. The number of tables varied but the parties usually took place during the fall and winter season. Participants were members of the club, residents of the city, and invited visitors to the city.<sup>14</sup> Contract bridge playing did not become popular in the U.S.A. until the late 1920s. It took off largely after 1927, thanks initially to the refinement of the rules by Harold Vanderbilt, the great-grandson of the shipping and railroad tycoon Cornelius Vanderbilt, whose variant of the scoring system took the game well beyond the elite to the broader American middle classes.<sup>15</sup>

Since 1930, when a new charter was drawn up, the official name of the organization became the Bradenton Woman's Club (BWC), a nonprofit organization devoted to the betterment of the community. There have been dozens of worthwhile projects undertaken by the Bradenton Woman's Club over the years, among them the establishment of Bradenton's first baseball diamond and the equipping of the community's first public playground. In 1924, the group sought out and hired the county's first public health nurse.<sup>16</sup> During its early years, the group was a major help toward establishing the Bradenton Public Library, local playgrounds and a baseball diamond. Good works continue with their attention to Boys & Girls club, FELT (Feeding Empty Little Tummies), Hope Family Services, Habitat for Humanity and Manatee Operation Troop Support. The club was continually looking for way to provide help in terms of community health, education, and recreational needs. The BWC provided free use of space to the League of Women Voters and other nonprofit community organizations, and modest rental rates to dance groups, birthday and baby shower celebrations.<sup>17</sup>

Continuing its service to the community, a range of projects involved the BWC membership. Among them were the beautification of public areas that included the planting of oleanders near Ware's Creek and numerous tree plantings in local public areas. Also, untended vacant lots were cleaned up by teams of members armed with rakes, trash bags, and gloves. Cleanup by the women (occasionally with male family members) embarrassed many property owners, persuading them to better maintain grounds in public view.<sup>18</sup> Dances and other entertainments were held in the club's ballroom, including performances from the large stage.<sup>19</sup> Among the charitable activities performed by the Woman's Club during the 1930s was the distribution of donated clothing to destitute children, such as underwear, socks and shoes and warm sweaters and coats for winter wear. Also donated were cases of canned food, such grapefruit and oranges.<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> Ibid., November 29, 1929.

<sup>15</sup> The Development of Bridge, a Brief History, <http://www.abf.com.au/education/history/>

<sup>16</sup> Sarasota Herald Tribune, February 18, 1988.

<sup>17</sup> Bradenton Herald, December 4, 1929.

<sup>18</sup> Bradenton Herald, November 24, 1929

<sup>19</sup> Ibid., December 22, 1929.

<sup>20</sup> Annual Report of Welfare Committee, Bradenton Woman's Club, 1937-1938.

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During World War II, numerous clubs, including the Bradenton Woman's Club, were opened to assist in the war effort, especially for Red Cross work and events sponsored by the USO, a nonprofit organization that provided live entertainment, such as comedians and musicians, and other programs to members of the United States Armed Forces and their families. The federation of woman's clubs supported the voluntary enlistment of women in the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (WACS). Clubs sponsored scrap metal and rubber drives, developed "victory gardens" in municipal parks and around clubhouses, and sold war bonds.<sup>21</sup> By January of 1942, the Bradenton Woman's Club members had purchased \$23,800 worth of Defense Savings Bonds.<sup>22</sup>

The club undertook "bond selling days," attended by a representative of defense bonds of all denominations to sell to the members. This was done in conjunction with entertainment activities at which refreshments were served.<sup>23</sup> Other activities included British War Relief contribution, first aid classes, home nursing classes, and Red Cross volunteer classes.<sup>24</sup> One of the more unusual salvage activities undertaken by the club (it seems to us today) was the silk stocking salvage drives to collect discarded horsey to make gunpowder bags to be used in naval guns. Silk, nylon, a mixture of the two, and cotton would be deposited at local depots set up for that purpose.<sup>25</sup>

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE—ARCHITECTURE**

The Bradenton Woman's Club is a two-story Colonial Revival style building designed by architect Fred W. Kermode (1882-1940), who also designed the Palmetto Woman's Club which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on March 6, 1986. Kermode is thought to have been Palmetto's first architect. He was born in Pio, on the Isle of Man, Great Britain, December 10, 1882. He immigrated to the United States as a boy and lived with his family in Cleveland, Ohio. In the spring of 1906, he received a certificate of architecture from Mechanics Institute, a forerunner of the Rochester Institute of Technology. Kermode designed several warehouses and at least 15 residences and commercial buildings in Palmetto. The use of Colonial Revival style for the design of the Bradenton Woman's Club is unusual for the period in which it was constructed, since Spanish Colonial style and Mediterranean Revival style was popular for a wide variety of buildings, including clubhouses. The use of a large balcony or mezzanine was also unusual, particular in reserving that portion of the mezzanine directly opposite of the stage for theater style seats in the manner of a loge. The clubhouse has a modern kitchen and modern men's and women's bathroom. The rusticated stone fireplaces were closed off because of being occupied by vermin and now contain lights to illuminate the dining area on the first floor. The mezzanine area is at present being used for storage, since the clubhouse is still recovering from Hurricane Irene.

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<sup>21</sup> Jessie Meyer, Leading The Way: A Century of Service; GFWC Florida Federation of Women's Clubs, 1895-1995. Lakeland: GFWC-Florida Federation of Women's Clubs, 1994, 129-130,134.

<sup>22</sup> Bradenton Herald, January 18, 1942.

<sup>23</sup> Bradenton Herald, January 11, 1942.

<sup>24</sup> Bradenton Herald, March 26, 1942

<sup>25</sup> Bradenton Herald, November 18, 1942.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number     8     Page     6    

BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
BRADENTON, MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
SIGNIFICANCE

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The Bradenton Woman's Club is the only one in Florida to have a mezzanine allowing an open two-story vertical space. Some NR listed woman's clubs in Florida are more than one story in height and most of them have stages, usually on the first floor. Florida's woman's clubs range in size and appearance from small wood frame vernacular buildings to the monumental Tudor Revival Jacksonville Woman's Club constructed in 1927. The Bradenton Woman's has some interior features similar to the second floor of Addison Mizner's Mediterranean Revival style Boynton Woman's Club constructed in 1925. It has an open theater (ballroom) area, a stage flanked by dressing rooms, a meeting hall with a fireplace and banquet room. It does not have a mezzanine or balcony overlooking the stage floor.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

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BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
BRADENTON, MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number   9   Page   2  

BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
BRADENTON, MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
BRADENTON, MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

---

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**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 10 Page 1

BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
BRADENTON, MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

LOTS 1,2,3, N 31.3 FT OF LOT 4 INCL 50 FT PARKWAY IN FRONT OF SAID LOTS BETWEEN ST & SEA-WALL, ALSO RIP RTS LESS RD R/W BAY VIEW PARK PI#33708.0000/9

Parcel no. 3370800009; 34South, Range 17 East, Section 26,

Zip Code: 34205 5924

**Boundary Justification**

All of the historic resources associated with the Bradenton Woman's Club are contained within the above boundaries.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Photos \_\_\_\_\_ Page 1

BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
BRADENTON, MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
LIST OF PHOTOTRAPHS

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**LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS**

1. Bradenton Woman's Club
2. 1705 West Manatee Avenue, Bradenton, Manatee County, Florida
3. Color Postcard Stock #420211
4. c. 1925
5. Publisher E.C. Kropp Company
6. North Elevation, Looking Southwest
7. Photo 1 of 35

1. Bradenton Woman's Club
2. 1705 West Manatee Avenue, Bradenton, Manatee County, Florida
3. Rebecca Brio, Treasurer
4. May 2018
5. Bradenton Woman's Club
6. North Elevation, Looking Southwest
7. Photo 2 of 35

**Numbers 1-5 are the same for the following photos unless otherwise indicated**

6. East and North Elevations, Looking Northwest
7. Photo 3 of 35

6. North and East Elevation, View of the Roof Deck
7. Photo 4 of 35

6. Entrance Porch on Manatee Avenue Elevation, Looking Northwest
7. Photo 5 of 35

6. East Elevation, Looking Northwest
7. Photo 6 of 35

6. South Elevation, Looking Northwest
7. Photo 7 of 35

6. West Elevation, Looking Northeast
7. Photo 8 of 35

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Photos \_\_\_\_\_ Page 2

BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
BRADENTON, MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
LIST OF PHOTOTRAPHS

---

6. Interior, Foyer, Looking North at Staircase

7. Photo 9 of 35

6. Interior, East Side, Looking toward French Doors that Open onto the Stair Landing

7. Photo 10 of 35

6. Interior, Looking West of the Mezzanine toward a Storage Closet

7. Photo 11 of 35

6. Flight of Stairs, Behind the Stage

7. Photo 12 of 35

6. Ballroom, Looking East toward Entrance

7. Photo 13 of 35

6. Large Stage at West End of the Building

7. Photo 14 of 35

6. Tiled Patio, Looking East

7. Photo 15 of 35

6. Tiled Patio, Looking West

7. Photo 16 of 35

6. Meeting Room, Looking East

7. Photo 17 of 35

6. Meeting Room, Looking West

7. Photo 18 of 35

6. Looking North from the Ballroom to the Meeting Room

7. Photo 19 of 35

6. Ballroom Looking East from the Stage

7. Photo 20 of 35

6. Wide Beam that Extends the Length of the Mezzanine

7. Photo 21 of 35

**United States Department of the Interior  
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CONTINUATION SHEET**

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BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
BRADENTON, MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
LIST OF PHOTOTRAPHS

---

- 6. Seating Area of Mezzanine, Looking Southeast
- 7. Photo 22 of 35
  
- 6. Stairs to Mezzanine, Looking North
- 7. Photo 23 of 35
  
- 6. Men's Restroom with Urinals, Looking Northeast
- 7. Photo 24 of 35
  
- 6. Men's Restroom with Sink, Looking Southwest
- 7. Photo 25 of 35
  
- 6. Men's Restroom with Toilet, Looking East
- 7. Photo 26 of 35
  
- 6. Women's Lounge Looking East
- 7. Photo 27 of 35
  
- 6. Women's Lounge, Looking South
- 7. Photo 28 of 35
  
- 6. Women's Toilet, Looking East
- 7. Photo 29 of 35
  
- 6. Kitchen, Looking East
- 7. Photo 30 of 35
  
- 6. Kitchen, Looking West
- 7. Photo 31 of 35
  
- 6. View of Damaged Roof with Green Clay Tile
- 7. Photo 32 of 35
  
- 6. View of Water Damaged Roof, Looking West
- 7. Photo 33 of 35
  
- 6. View of Water Damaged Ceiling, Looking North
- 7. Photo 34 of 35

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Photos \_\_\_\_\_ Page 4

BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
BRADENTON, MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
LIST OF PHOTOTRAPHS

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6. View of Water Damaged Ceiling, Looking East
7. Photo 35 of 35

# Bradenton Woman's Club


1705 Manatee Ave. West  
Bradenton, Manatee Co.  
Florida, 34205

UTM:  
17R 344063 3042286

USGS Quad: Bradenton

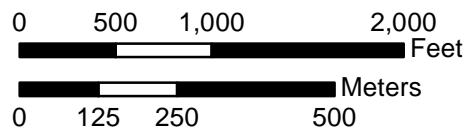
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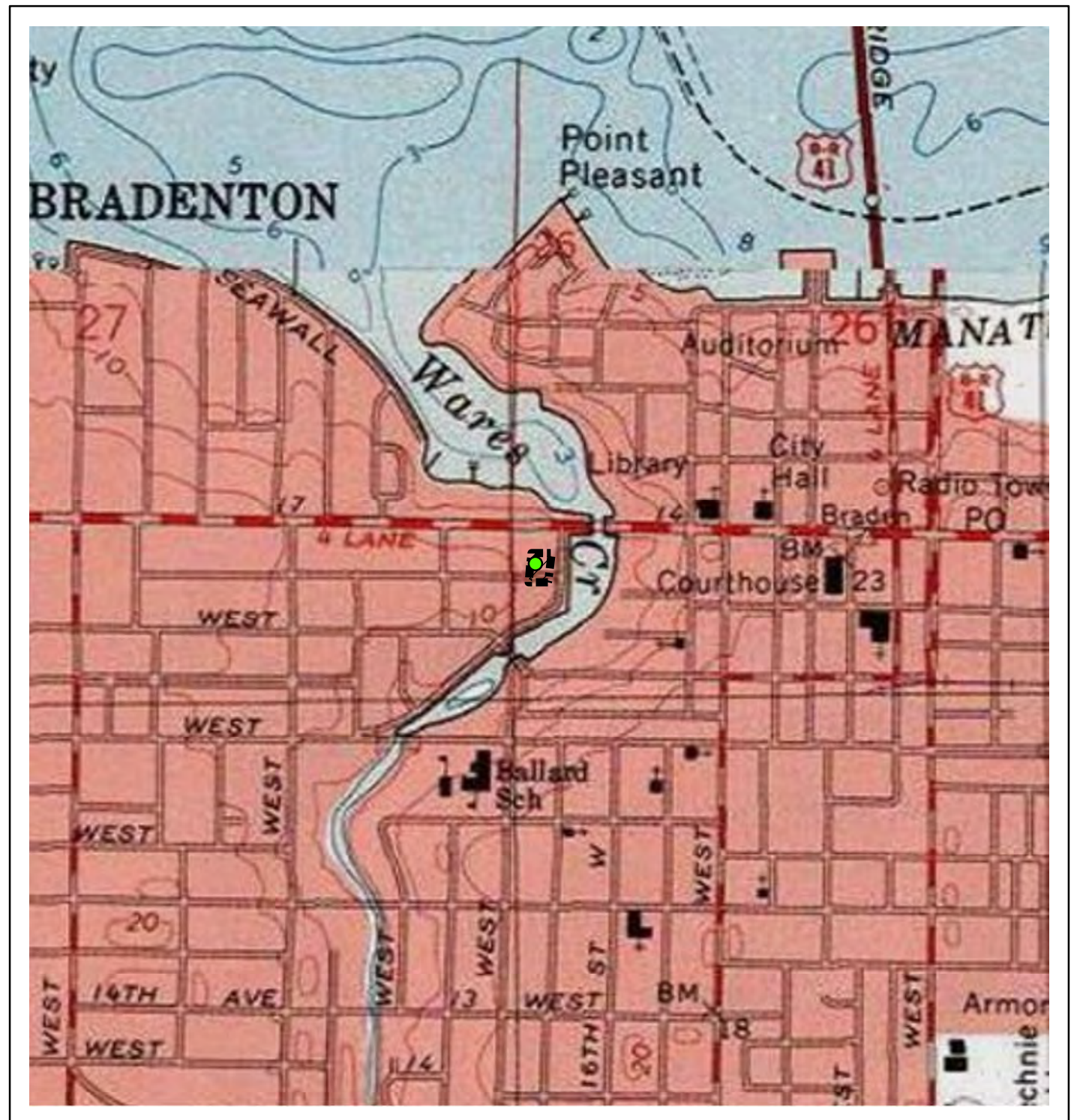
 Bradenton Womans Club

Date: 12/11/2018

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Source: Copyright:© 2013 National  
Geographic Society, i-cubed




# Bradenton Woman's Club

1705 Manatee Ave. West  
Bradenton, Manatee Co.  
Florida, 34205

UTM:  
17R 344063 3042286

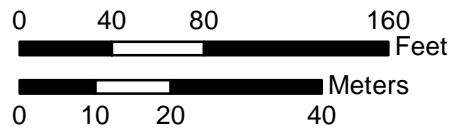
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## Legend

 Bradenton Womans Club

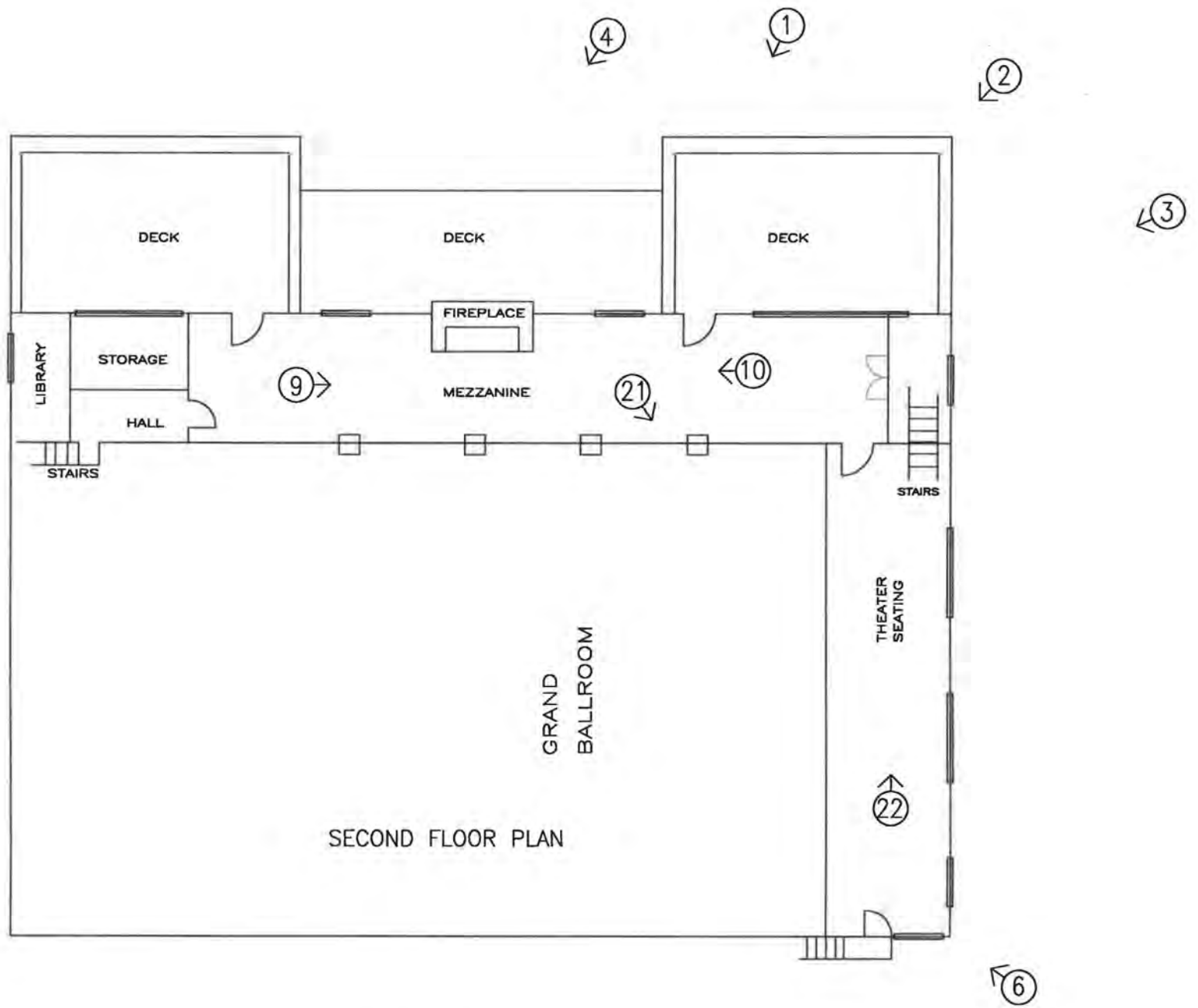
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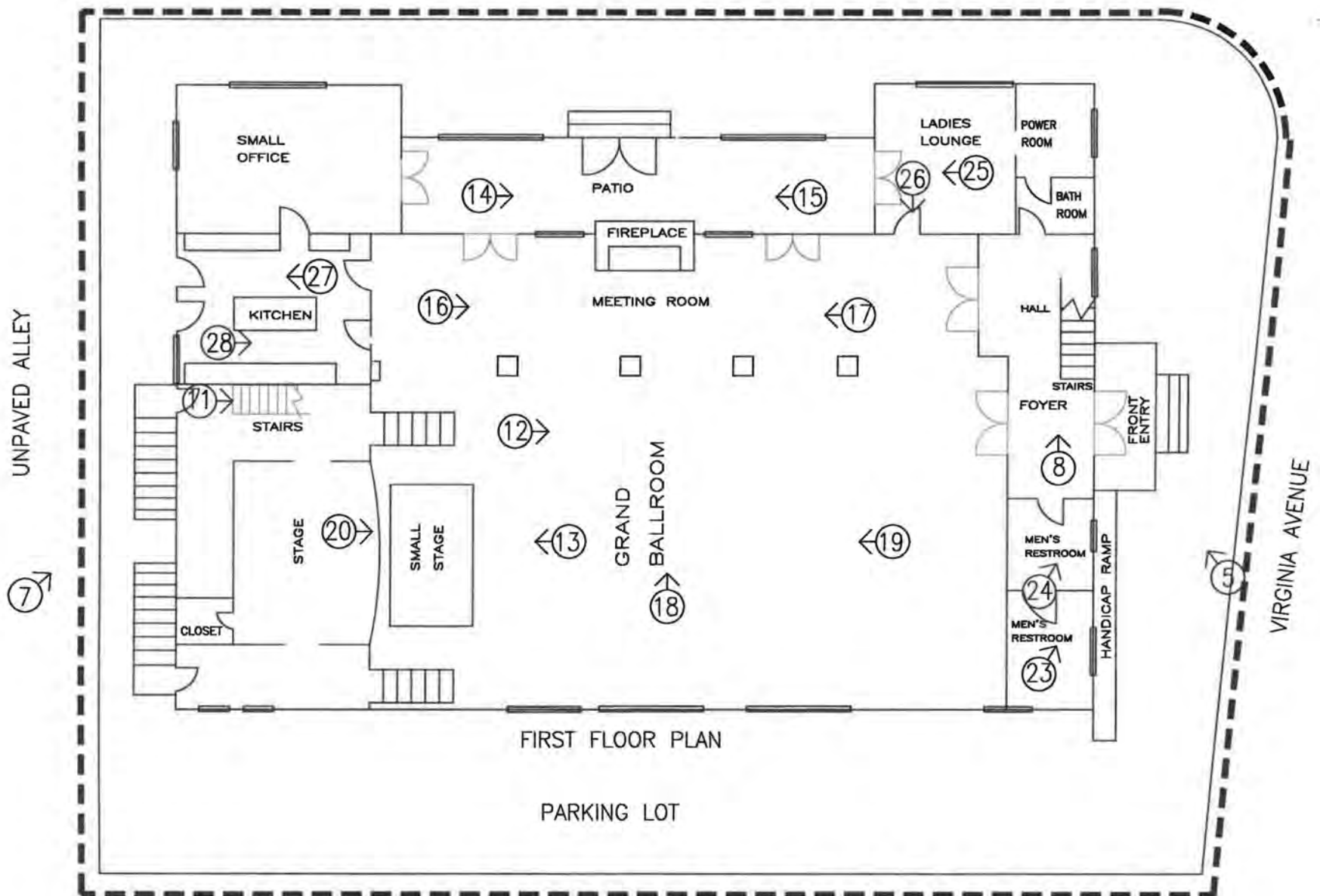


Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye,  
Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus  
DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping,  
Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the  
GIS User Community



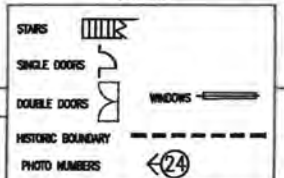


WEST MANATEE AVENUE

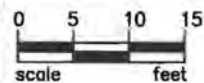


PARKING LOT

LEGEND



BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
1705 MANATEE AVENUE, WEST  
BRADENTON (MANATEE COUNTY), FLORIDA



ORIGINAL MAP PREPARED BY:  
BILL ORR  
BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
1705 MANATEE AVENUE WEST  
BRADENTON, FLORIDA 34206  
Tel: (813) 896-8341

OWNER: W. V. CARL, BRADENTON  
PROJECT: BRADENTON WOMAN'S CLUB  
DATE: 1984

DRAWING NUMBER: N/A  
SHEET NO. 1 OF 1



B-24. WOMEN'S CLUB BUILDING, BRADENTON, FLA.





B  
W  
C

WALKER  
BROTHERS  
INC.  
1000 W. 10TH AVE.  
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32304

WALKER  
BROTHERS  
INC.

175

















































HOW CAN A  
MAN WHO CAN  
HIT A DEER AT  
250  
Yards  
KEEP MISSING  
THE TOILET?





250  
YEARS  
OF  
THE  
TOILET

NO SMOKING























UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Bradenton Woman's Club

Multiple Name: Clubhouses of Florida's Woman's Clubs MPS

State & County: FLORIDA, Manatee

Date Received: 12/21/2018      Date of Pending List:      Date of 16th Day:      Date of 45th Day: 2/4/2019      Date of Weekly List:

Reference number: MP100003409

Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason For Review: \_\_\_\_\_

X Accept       Return       Reject      2/4/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: Meets the registration requirements of the MPS. Locally significant in social history and architecture; loss character-defining tile roof in a hurricane, but otherwise remarkably intact.

Recommendation/ Criteria: Accept / A & C

Reviewer Jim Gabbert      Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275      Date \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION:      see attached comments : No      see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



# Angelina "Angel" Colonnese

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER OF MANATEE COUNTY

1115 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida 34205 - Phone (941) 749-1800 - Fax (941) 741-4082  
P.O. Box 25400, Bradenton, Florida 34206 - [www.manateeclerk.com](http://www.manateeclerk.com)

July 25, 2018

Dr. Timothy Parsons  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Bureau of Historic Preservation  
R.A. Gray Building  
500 South Bronough Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Dr. Parsons:

This letter is in support of an application to the National Register of Historic Places from the Women's Club of Bradenton. This historic building is located at the western gateway into downtown Bradenton and is an important landmark for our community.

Local records show that the Woman's Club of Bradentown was incorporated on August 18, 1913. After the construction of the Carnegie Library, they met in that building until a clubhouse could be constructed on Virginia Drive near Ware's Creek in 1922. The club is one of the oldest civic organizations in Manatee County. In 1925, it had three hundred members with standing committees in Civics, American Citizenship, Welfare, Conservation, Education, Home Economics, Music, Programs, Calendar and Home.

The club has struggled to maintain this building and designation of its historic nature would help generate local and statewide support for its preservation.

Sincerely,

Angelina M. Colonnese  
Manatee Clerk of Circuit Court and Comptroller

2018 JUL 31 P 2:53

"Pride in Service with a Vision to the Future"

Clerk of the Circuit Court - Clerk of Board of County Commissioners - County Comptroller - Auditor and Recorder



## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

**RICK SCOTT**  
Governor



**KEN DETZNER**  
Secretary of State

December 13, 2018

Dr. Julie Ernstein, Deputy Keeper and Chief,  
National Register of Historic Places  
Mail Stop 7228  
1849 C St, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Dr. Ernstein:

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the nomination for **Bradenton Woman's Club (FMSF#: 8MA00706) in Manatee County**, to the National Register of Historic Places. The related materials (digital images, maps, and site plan) are included.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (850) 245-6364 if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Ruben A. Acosta  
Supervisor, Survey & Registration  
Bureau of Historic Preservation

RAA/raa

Enclosures