National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received OCT 3 | 1984

date entered DEC 5 | 1984

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

Type all entries	s—complete applicable se	ections			
1. Nam	ie		· ·		
historic	J. M. Clark House				
and∉or common	N/A				
2. Loca	ation				
street & number	OCC III Humphicys	St reet	N,	∕A_ not for publication	
city, town	Flagstaff	N/Д vicinity of			
state	Arizona code	04 county	Coconino	code 005	
3. Clas	sification				
Category district X building(s) structure site object	Ownership public _X_ private both Public Acquisition N/A_ in process being considered	Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible X yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation X other:work in prog	g re s
4. Own	er of Proper	ty			,
name	Mario Coss				
street & number	503 N. Humphreys St	reet			
city, town	Flagstaff	N/A vicinity of	state	Arizona 86001	
5. Loca	ation of Lega	l Description	on		
courthouse, regis	stry of deeds, etc. Coconin			ice)	
city, town	Flagstaff		state	Arizona 86001	
	esentation i	n Existing S	Surveys	Artrina 30001	
	f, Arizona, Historic ty Survey Report	has this pro		igible?yes _X_ no	
date 1980			federal stat	e county _X local	
depository for su	rvey records State His	toric Preservation	Office		
city, town	Phoenix		state	Arizona 85007	

7. Description

Condition — excellent deteriorated X good ruins — fair unexposed	Check one unaltered _X_ altered	Check oneX_ original site moved date
tair unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY/CONTEXT

The J. M. Clark House, constructed in 1911, is sited on a corner lot in a historic neighborhood north of downtown Flagstaff, Arizona (see Attachment 1). Flagstaff is a city of 40,000, situated in a ponderosa pine forest at the southern base of the San Francisco Peaks in northern Arizona. The house faces North Humphreys Street, a main north-south thoroughfare. The streetscape is now a mixture of commercial and residential buildings. Most of the commercial buildings, however, are converted residences, and the street retains its historic residential scale. The Clark House is located at the rise of a small hill, and its appearance is dramatic when approached from the south.

The Clark House is a $1\frac{1}{2}$ story stone, wood, and stucco Craftsman Bungalow of basic rectangular plan, measuring approximately 50 feet deep by 60 feet wide. It has a cross-gabled roof, with the main gable oriented north and south, intersected by a broad main gable covering the porch. A smaller gabled dormer is located on the rear.

Overall, the exterior of the Clark House displays many classic Bungalow features: low-pitched roof with overhanging eaves detailed with exposed rafters and knee braces, expansive porch with battered columns, exterior chimney, double-hung and casement windows with multiple lights, and native stone and stucco construction. The second story exhibits half-timbered gable ends, a typical variation within the Bungalow style.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Exterior:

The front (east) facade is dominated by a broad gable roof finished with asphalt shingles. The roof has overhanging eaves with exposed notched rafter ends and knee braces on the sides and front, respectively. The east gable end is stuccoed and has widely spaced vertical wooden beams with projecting corbels which create a half-timbered Tudor effect. This gable end is dominated by a large, central, round-arched transom window. The two outside sections have ten lights each and flank the center twelve-light section.

The gabled roof surmounts a central, three-bay porch supported by four symmetrical battered columns with wood caps. The columns are constructed of local malpais rock, as is the entire first floor. The porch, with carpeted concrete deck and finished tongue-in-groove wood ceiling, is approached by three steps. The central main entrance to the house is flanked by two complex window units with fixed transoms and wood lintels. The transoms have diamond-patterned lights,

each side casement window has six lights, and the central fixed window is a 12/1 unit. Removable wood sash storm windows obscure the windows' sash patterns.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered DEC 5 1984
ULU ♥ 1004

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2

At the north end of the house, a single room is set back several feet from the main house. A small fixed six-light window is on the north corner of the main house. The lower story of this room is dominated by a second round-arched window which replicates the window in the gable end on the main facade. Malpais rock covers the foundation to about knee height; the remainder is stuccoed. This room once had a narrow, arched front entrance (now enclosed) to the left of the window. This entrance, with two approach steps and short rock column, was infilled with framing and stucco circa 1960. The offset and lowered gabled roof, with projecting eaves, knee braces, and notched rafters, was likely added over a lower flat roof between 1944 and 1957.

The north elevation is punctuated by a third round-arched window on the east. The wall surface surrounding the window is inset and stuccoed. The remainder of the first story is rock-covered. To the right of the arched window are paired 6/1 wood sash windows with a broad wooden lintel. To the west of the windows is a small rock utility room addition with an entry door. Attached to this is an open garage with wooden frame and corrugated fiberglass siding and shed roof. Both the utility room and garage were added circa 1960.

The second story of this elevation, covered by the offset and lowered gable roof, is stuccoed and half-timbered. Beneath the gable apex are paired six-light casement windows with a knee brace between them.

The second story of the rear (west) elevation consists of a gabled dormer with wooden shingles and projecting eaves supported by knee braces and exposed rafters. A small stone chimney rises from the north end of the dormer which features a triple 9/1 wood sash window unit.

Notched rafter ends are exposed under the projecting eaves along this elevation. The rock wall beneath the roof is articulated with five windows. From south to north they are: two six-light fixed windows, beneath which is a short basement entrance at ground level; two large 12/1 wood sash windows; and a smaller 6/1 wood sash window. A small rectangular basement vent, filled in with wood, opens beneath these.

At the north end of the rear elevation a room projects some six feet from the main wall. The corner formed by the projection is dominated by seven 9/1 wood sash windows which run continously: two on the short (south) side and five on the long (west) wide. A shed roof, with projecting eaves supported by a corner knee brace and notched rafters, extends from the main roof and covers this projection. This projection was once an enclosed porch. It was enclosed circa 1960.

Another small 1/1 wood sash window is to the left of the 6/1 windows. It is in the utility room addition, added on to the projection. Attached to that is the corrugated fiberglass garage.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered DEC 5 1984

Continuation sheet

2

Item number

Page :

The south facade fronts Elm Street and is a primary elevation. It is comprised of the main north-south gable, below which is an offset smaller gable covering a slightly projecting room. Both gables have overhanging eaves with wooden knee braces and exposed notched rafters. The gable end continues the use of stucco and half-timbering found on the east and north elevations. An aluminum frame sliding glass window infills an original opening from the center of the upper story. A massive battered malpais rock chimney dominates this elevation and projects through the upper gable.

The lower floor is of malpais rock. Two small nine-light fixed windows are set high in the wall and flank the chimney, a typical Bungalow feature. The projecting room, covered by the lower gable, has a large triple window much like those in front, only without a transom. Two narrow eight-light casement windows flank a large 8/1 fixed window. Just west of this window is a small six-light fixed window. A small low rectangular basement vent is located below these windows. All the windows have broad wooden lintels.

Interior:

The interior of the Clark House is comprised of ten rooms, including a living/dining room, five bedrooms, a kitchen, two baths, and a utility room (see Attachment 2).

The entry opens into the long, narrow living/dining room. This was once two rooms, probably separated by partial dividers removed between 1944 and 1957. Wood inserts in the oak flooring indicate their former presence. The dining room was originally to the right through the divider.

This space exhibits the various hallmarks of Craftsman architecture. The south wall of the living room is dominated by a massive artificial stone (cast concrete) fireplace painted with a rust-colored glaze. These blocks are arranged in a pyramid and rise to the ceiling, flanked by the two nine-light windows. (A wood-stove now extends from the closed-off fireplace.) A built-in wooden cabinet is set into the north wall of the dining room.

Original board and batten wainscot covers the lower half of the walls; wallpaper covers the rest. The ceiling is geometrically coffered, emphasizing the structure, yet another Craftsman ideal.

Two bedrooms enter into the living room. Both have broad plank softwood (pine) floors. The first, in the southwest corner, apparently was not always used as a bedroom. Access to this room is gained through French doors, each with twelve lights extending the entire length. An overhead stationary transom has five lights, and four-light sidelights flank the doorway from the top of the transom to the top of the living/dining room wainscot (about waist level). At one time

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 4

this room had another doorway leading through a small hallway (with basement stairs) to the adjacent bedroom. It has now been framed in as another inset bookcase. Wainscot also covers the lower walls of this room.

The other bedroom is now entered only through the living room. A small brick fireplace is in the north wall. A door on the south side of the room enters a small hallway with stairs descending to the basement.

An entryway leads off the northwest corner of the dining room. Immediately to the right of this entry is a bedroom, once used as a breakfast nook. The two large arched windows are on the north and east sides of this room, creating an airy ambiance.

The kitchen, west of this room, forms the northwest corner of the house. The rear of the kitchen is built into the projecting bay. This was originally a separate porch, but the dividing wall was removed and the porch enclosed circa 1960 to enlarge the kitchen. The kitchen has linoleum floors.

A small (ca. 7x12 foot) utility room is adjacent to the bay and leads to the covered garage. Both were constructed circa 1960.

A small spiral stairway leads to the second floor which has a simple floor plan. Three bedrooms and a bath lead onto a central hallway. An unfinished attic is attached to the bath. This room is part of the north addition, and a portion of the original eaves and gable end is readily visible from within. All of the ceilings on this level are sloped because of the gabled roofs. The front bedroom is dominated by the large arched window. The rear bedroom features a built-in dresser. The floors are covered with linoleum, possibly over oak. The linoleum is patterned in a ca. 1940s style.

The street fronts are paralleled by malpais rock retaining walls which frame the hill on which the house is sited. These walls accentuate the setting of the property.

A wide, nine-step concrete stairway rises toward the house at the juncture of the retaining walls. Another concrete stairway opens off Elm Street and leads to a rear flagstone and concrete terrace located adjacent to the projecting window bay. The rear yard features a flower garden and large elm trees.

Also in the rear yard, behind the recently constructed garage, is an early garage. It measures some 14 feet wide by 20 feet deep, has wooden clapboard sides and a pyramidal hip roof. While its age is unknown, it appears to be at least fifty years old and was definitely constructed before 1943.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
cate entered DEC 5 984

Continuation sheet 4

Item number

7

Page 5

A small rental house is sited on the rear of the property. It is a wood frame structure measuring 37 feet wide and 19 feet deep. It has creosoted wood plank sides and a gabled roof with asbestos shingles. It is a recent addition to the property and was constructed circa 1960 by Bertrand Babbitt to house sheepherder employees.

A recently built asphalt basketball court is located at the northeast corner of the property.

INTEGRITY

The J. M. Clark House retains much of its historic architectural integrity. Modifications (ca. 1960), primarily the enclosure of the rear porch and side arched door, as well as the addition of the utility room, harmonize with the original style of the house. The fiberglass paneled garage, however, detracts visually from the overall character of the property but is easily reversible.

The shed or garage with clapboard siding is a very early improvement. Though in need of some maintenance, particularly painting, it is associated with the early history of the house and contributes to its historical character.

The rental house and basketball court are recent additions to the property and are not considered significant for purposes of this nomination. They are set apart from the Clark House and, therefore, do not significantly detract from its appearance.

The building suffers somewhat from lack of proper maintenance. A purplish mortar was used to crudely repoint the walls but appears reversible. Small portions of the front and side walls are deteriorating, as are the concrete steps. The stucco is in need of painting. The front door, not original, is of plain board and detracts somewhat from the Craftsman style exterior features. Despite these conditions, the overall quality of the exterior is good.

The interior retains a high level of integrity; however, most of the original light fixtures are missing, and the removal of the living/dining room divider resulted in a minor change in the original floor plan.

Offsetting these changes are the many distinctive original interior features which remain, such as the built-in wooden cabinetry, coffered ceiling, wainscot walls, window and door trim, the fireplace, and the interior French doors. With anticipated rehabilitation, the J. M. Clark House will once again be a showplace in Flagstaff.

8. Significance

1700–1799 1800–1899	X architecture	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement	music	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation X other (specify)
Specific dates		Builder/Architect Bail	ev and Mullen	history

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SUMMARY

The J. M. Clark House is architecturally significant as a locally distinctive interpretation of the Craftsman Bungalow style. The importance of the house is enhanced by its status as the first home in Flagstaff to be constructed primarily of malpais rock, a volcanic building material which became quite popular in the area and is still used today for aesthetic purposes. The house is also historically significant for its association with J. M. Clark, an individual important in the early twentieth century business and political affairs in the region.

HISTORIC BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

Flagstaff, Arizona was founded in 1882, largely as a result of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad line, constructed through the region in that year. Before the railroad arrived, the area was sparsely settled by hardy pioneers -- largely farmers, prospectors, and ranchers. The family of J. M. Clark was among the first Euroamerican settlers in the region.

John Milton Clark was the son of Asa Clark and nephew of John Clark, twin brothers. John Clark brought 3,000 sheep to Arizona from California in 1875 and originally settled in the Williams, Arizona area before moving to Flagstaff in 1877. His brother Asa and family arrived in 1883 to join him in the sheep ranching business.

John M. Clark, born in New Hampshire in 1871, accompanied his parents to Flagstaff from New England. After attending school in Flagstaff, John went to Yuma where he was the Captain of the Guards at the Yuma Territorial Prison. There he gained recognition for his role in quelling two major prison outbreaks. When he was appointed U.S. Deputy Marshall in 1895, he moved to Tucson. There he met Agnes Martin.

Agnes' father, George Martin, was an early businessman of Yuma and served in numerous local government positions. He moved his family to Tucson in 1884 where he was also a prominent businessman. He was a primary force in Arizona's statehood efforts. Agnes' grandfather, Stefan Rodondo, was a Sonoran rancher with many interests in the Yuma area. He served in the First Territorial Legislature.

Agnes and John Clark were married in 1905 and moved to Flagstaff in 1906. John found success as a businessman in Flagstaff, operating a clothing store on Leroux Street with his brother Charles. He also became involved in the political developments of the region after Arizona achieved statehood in 1912.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet No. 8

10. G	eographica	al Data	<u></u>		
Acreage of no	minated property Les	s/one			
Quadrangle n UT M Reference	ame <u>Flagstaff We</u> es	st		Quadranç	gle scale 7.5'
	4 ₁ 0 9 ₁ 4 ₁ 1 3 ₁₈ sting Northi	9 ₁ 5	BZon	e Easting	Northing
C			D F		
G L			н 🗀		
Verbal boun	dary description and	justification			
Flagstaf	f Townsite, Lots	1- 5 and E 1 5	ft. of Lot 6	in Block 6-B.	
List all state	es and counties for p	roperties overl	apping state or	county boundaries	•
state N/	1	code	county		code
state		code	county		code
11. Fo	orm Prepai	ed By			
name/title	Teri Cleeland a	and Nancy W.	Hoffman Ed	ited by Bill Per	rreault, SHPO Staff
organization	Northern Arizor			date May 15, 19	
street & numb	er 188 E1k Ovi		100000000000000000000000000000000000000	telephone 525-18	
city or town	Flagstaff			state Arizona	
12. St	ate Histor	ic Pres	ervation	Officer C	ertification
The evaluated	significance of this pro	perty within the	state is:		
	national _	state	X_ local		
665), I hereby	ated State Historic Pres nominate this property he criteria and procedu	for inclusion in th	ne National Regis	ter and certify that it h	ct of 1966 (Public Law 89– nas been evaluated
State Historic	Preservation Officer sig	nature 🔏	Ma	Della	ber
title Stat	te Historic Prese	rvation Offic	cer	date (24 ober 24, 198
For NPS u				M	
I hereby	certify that this propert	•	ne National Regis	ter	12/4/
Juda	Marianal Basistar	rd		date	12/5/84
, -	the National Register				•
Attest:	anistration			date	
Chief of Re	sylstration				

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page :

The Clarks purchased property in 1910 for their homesite on the corner of Humphreys and Elm Streets, adjacent to land previously known as the Clark Ranch. This consisted of 360 acres originally purchased by Asa Clark, John's father. Asa later transferred ownership of this property to his brother John (J. M. Clark's uncle). In 1922 the southern half was purchased by the City of Flagstaff as a site for a high school and city park. Flagstaff High School and the neighborhood surrounding the Clark House are located within this tract of land.

The J. M. Clark House was built in 1911, and Clark lived there until his death in 1926. His wife Agnes retained ownership until she sold the property to Edward D. Mays in 1944.

Mays owned it for thirteen years, until 1957. Bertrand H. Babbitt and his wife Jessie, mother of local historian Platt Cline, then bought the house. Bertrand Babbitt preceded his wife in death, and she lived alone in the Clark House for many years, until her own death in 1976. As executor of her estate, Platt Cline sold the house to the Mount Calvalry Lutheran Church of Flagstaff. They used the house as a fellowship hall and meeting place. Mario Coss purchased the property only a year ago. He intends to rehabilitate the building and locate a fine restaurant on the premises.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Flagstaff <u>Coconino Sun</u> chronicled the construction of many homes in the young town, particularly the more noteworthy ones. The J. M. Clark House was one of these, and references to it appeared several times in the newspaper.

On July 28, 1911, the paper stated: "John M. Clark has started to improve his residence lot on the hill and has a stone fence built around it for a retaining wall with cement steps leading up to it and will soon commence the erection of a handsome residence." (These features remain today.)

By September 22, 1911, the paper announced that "John M. Clark has completed the details for his new home and has let the contract to Bailey and Mullen for a seven-room bungalow to be built entirely of malpais boulders. It will be the only thing of its kind in the city." According to the article, the house represents the earliest use of malpais stone in Flagstaff home construction, and it was apparently unique in the city at the time it was built.

It is not now known who the contractors Bailey and Mullen were, but they were part of a booming building industry in Flagstaff. The city grew rapidly in the years following its establishment, becoming the hub of regional industries such as ranching, logging, tourism, and commerce. Flagstaff was expanding in size, and the Clark residence was then located on the outskirts of the town in what was to become one of its two first neighborhoods.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered DEC 5 1984

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 3

The built environment in Flagstaff mirrored closely the contemporary national trends in architecture, although those trends were often subject to vernacular interpretations and the use of locally available materials. It is evident that the popularity of Victorian period styles for residential construction began to wane after the turn of the century in favor of the more utilitarian Bungalow form. The Craftsman movement, led by Gustave Stickley and others, began in about 1900 and established the new philosophical ideals for residential architecture. Houses meeting these ideals were to be comfortable, utilitarian, and unpretentious. Furthermore, they were to make use of natural materials and be well integrated with their surroundings.

With its expansive open porch supported by battened rock columns, expressed structural elements (sculpted rafter ends, knee braces, etc.), and the use of stucco, diamond sash windows, functional floor plan, built-in cabinetry, board and batten wainscoting, artificial stone fireplace, and coffered ceilings, the Clark House embodied these ideals. Furthermore, the rock walls framing the property must be taken into consideration because they exemplify Stickley's recommended use of natural materials to create an effective link between house and landscape.

The Bungalow house form was popular in Flagstaff through the Depression years, and many are extant today. However, the vast majority may be classified as "Builder's Bungalows" which lack the signature features and details found within the Craftsman Style. The Clark House is one of only a few houses remaining in Flagstaff which so clearly demonstrates the hallmarks of the Craftsman Style.

The Clark House is further distinguished by the use of half-timbering, borrowed from English medieval architecture, which is found rarely in Flagstaff, and its appearance on the Clark House is likely to be the earliest in the community. The nearby Church of the Epiphany (one block to the east on the corner of N. Beaver and Elm Streets), built in 1912-1913, is another example of its use. Also, two large Gallup brick bungalows thought to have been built before 1916 in Flagstaff's Westside neighborhood have half-timbering gable ends. The design of these buildings was quite likely influenced by the Clark House.

Finally, it is important to note that the Clark House, according to the newspaper article cited earlier, was the first residence in town to have been built primarily of malpais rock. As such, it was a forerunner in a building tradition which continues today, nearly seventy-five years later. Indeed, the recently constructed Flagstaff Municipal Complex made extensive use of malpais rock, primarily as a veneer material.

When evaluating its qualities within the context of Flagstaff's historic residential architecture, the J. M. Clark House can be seen as a significant local example of a Craftsman Style Bungalow.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered DEC 5 1984

Continuation sheet

7

Item number

Page 4

HISTORIC ASSOCIATION/SIGNIFICANCE

Additional significance is given to the Clark House for its association with John M. Clark. Clark was a prominent citizen of Flagstaff whose contributions were important enough to be listed in his biography published in Volume I of Who's Who in Arizona. This was in 1913, one year after Arizona had achieved statehood. He was particularly noted for his managerial skills in C. A. Clark and Company, General Outfitters to Men, the clothing store he founded in Flagstaff with his brother Charles. The store operated on Leroux Street for many years. At about the time John M. Clark built his house, company control was turned over to him by his brother.

The Clark store was described as "one of the largest and best known mercantile establishments in Arizona ... The company has ... built up a trade which compares well with that of the largest in the state. ... C. A. and John M. Clark ... have large acquaintance among the men prominent in the affairs of Arizona" (Conners 1913:411).

The biography further describes John Milton Clark as a man "... without political aspirations, (nevertheless) he has been prominent in the affairs of the Republican party, wields a large influence, and although refusing office, has been chairman of the county central committee of the G.O.P." (Conners 1913:411). Clark's influence in the Republican party came at an important time, considering Arizona had become a state only a year earlier.

Clark died in 1926 at the age of fifty-five. It is not known when his wife Agnes left Flagstaff, but when she sold the house in 1944, she was living in Los Angeles.

John M. Clark, a prominent local businessman, was one of the proverbial pioneers who contributed to the economic development of the infant city of Flagstaff. Although Clark never sought political office, he was nevertheless an influential and prominent participant in regional political activities.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered DEC 5 1984

Continuation sheet 8

Item number

Page 1

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Blumenson, John J. G. <u>Identifying American Architecture</u>. American Assoc. for State nad Local History, Nashville. 1977.

Cline, Platt. They Came to the Mountain. Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff. 1976.

Coconino Sun. July 28, 1911, September 22, 1911, April 12, 1912, November 26, 1926, January 14, 1927.

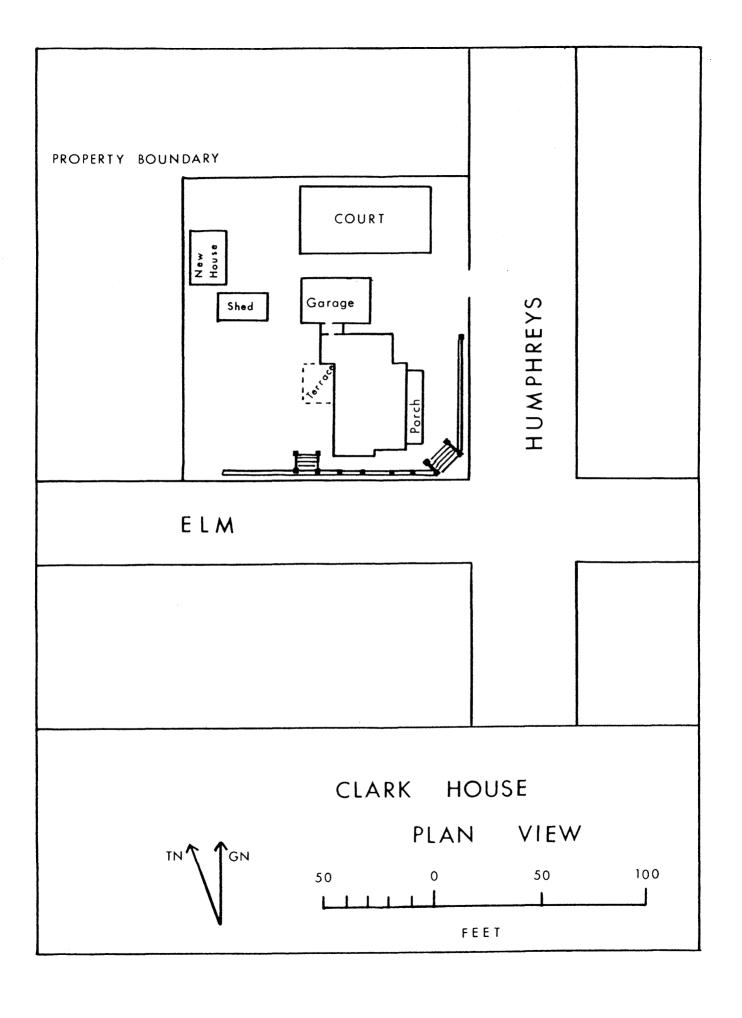
Labine, Clem and Patricia Poore. "The Comfortable House, Post-Victorian Domestic Architecture". The Old-House Journal, Vol.X, No.1, pp.1-8. The Old House Journal Corporation, New York. 1982.

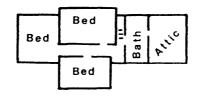
Stickley, Gustave. <u>Craftsman Homes</u>. Dover Publications, Inc., New York, N.Y. 1979 (Reprint of 1909 edition)

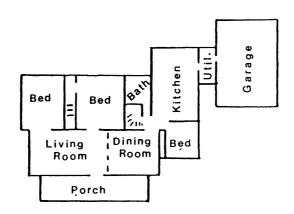
Who's Who in Arizona. Vol.I. 1913.

Winter, Robert. The California Bungalow. Hennessey & Ingalls, Inc. Los Angeles, CA 1980.

Coconino County Courthouse Records. Mrs. Platt Cline, personal communication, 1984. Sanborn Insurance Maps: 1916, 1943.







J.M.CLARK HOUSE FLOOR PLAN SKETCH

