# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 94001504

Date Listed: 12/29/94

Lanterman House Property Name Los Angeles <u>CA</u> County State

<u>N/A</u> Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

A Signature of the Reeper

12	·29	- 94	
Date	of	Action	

Location:

The "Not for Publication" and "Vicinity" blocks were inadvertently checked off on the original nomination form. The locational information need not be restricted in any way.

This information was confirmed with Cynthia Howse of the CA SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION: National Register property file Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

NPS Förm 10-900 (Oct. 1990)	and the second s	0MB No. 10024-0018
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service	2 11 1091	RÉCEIVED NOV 9 1994
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form	INTERA GENCY RESOURCES DIVI NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	
This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individua National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bull by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the prop architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only c entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use	letin 16A). Complete each item by marking perty being documented, enter "N/A" for "r categories and subcategories from the instru-	"x" in the appropriate box or not applicable." For functions, uctions. Place additional
1. Name of Property		
historic name Lanterman House		
other names/site numberEl Retiro		
2. Location		
	Υ	
city or town La Canada Flintridge		
state <u>California</u> code <u>CA</u> county <u>LO</u>	s Angeles code 037	zip code 91011
3. State/Federal Agency Certification		
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation so Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirement The meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recomm nationally statewide to locally. (Discontinuation sheet for Signature of certifying official/Title California Office of Historic Preservati State of Federal agency and bureau	standards for registering properties in the Nients set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinend that this property be considered signifier additional comments.) $\frac{1}{2}$	ational Register of nion, the property cant
In my opinion, the property	Il Register criteria. ( See continuation sh	eet for additional
Signature of commenting official/Title Da	ate	
State or Federal agency and bureau		
4. National Park Service Certification	····	
	ature of the Keeper	Date of Action

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Lanterman House Name of Property

Los Angeles, CA

County and State

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)			rty the count.)
private public-local public-State public-Federal  Name of related multiple p (Enter "N/A" if property is not part	building(s)     district     site     structure     object	1	of contr	1 1 1 ibuting resources p	sites structures objects Total
N/A		N/			
6. Function or Use					
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) DOMESTIC: single		Current Fun (Enter categorie RECREAT	es from in	structions) AND CULTURE :	museum
7. Description					
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Bungalow/Craftsman		Materials (Enter categorie foundation walls	CON	CRETE CCO	
		,			••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••
		roof other		HALT	

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

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
	ARCHITECTURE
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	
<b>B</b> Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	
<b>C</b> 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.	Period of Significance 1915-
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.)	Significant Dates
Property is:	
A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	
<b>B</b> removed from its original location.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
C a birthplace or grave.	
<b>D</b> a cemetery.	Cultural Affiliation
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	
<b>F</b> a commemorative property.	
□ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	Architect/Builder Haley, Arthur L.
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation shee	ets.)

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

#### Primary location of additional data:

- □ State Historic Preservation Office
- □ Other State agency
- E Federal agency
- □ Local government
- University
- 🛛 Other

Name of repository:

Lanterman House

Lanterman House

Name of Property

#### 10. Geographical Data

1.4 Acreage of Property

#### **UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	11	3 8 8 9 2 0	3 7 8 5 2 9 0	
	Zone	Easting	Northing	
2				

#### 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 Tim Gregory DBA The Building B	iographer
organization Lanterman Historic Museum Foun	dation date <u>October 4, 1994</u>
street & number 4420 Encinas Drive	telephone (Gregory)
city or town <u>La Canada Flintridge</u>	
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form:	

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.)			
City of La Canada Flintridge			
street & number 1327 Foothill Blvd.	telephone	818-790-	8880
city or town <u>La Canada Flintridge</u>	stateCA	zip code _	91011

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

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

County and State

З Zone Easting Northing Δ

 See	continuation	sheet

Los Angeles, CA

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

#### Summary Description

The Lanterman House is a one-and-two-story reinforced concrete, Ushaped craftsman bungalow constructed in 1915. The multi-gabled roof has deep overhangs, large brackets, and exposed rafters. The space within the "U" is a concrete patio, which originally had a fountain. A concrete terrace, or walkway, surrounds the house and is covered by a heavy wooden beamed trellis resting on concrete columns of large diameter covered with stucco. Thirty-two pairs of wooden french doors, which are interspersed with tall wooden paired casement windows, open onto the patio and terrace and fill the interiors with natural light and fresh air. The interiors, which are richly decorated with painted Arts and Crafts designs, are wonderfully intact. The overall integrity of the house is very (In 1964 a room was added to the front of the house by high. enclosing the central patio. This addition was removed in 1992 and the patio was fully restored using the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and a \$500,000 grant from the Office of Historic Preservation.) The house now sits on 1.4 acres, down from its original eight acres. The original garage, which has been altered, is counted as a noncontributing building.

#### Narrative Description

The Lanterman House, built in 1915, is located on an oak-studded parcel of 1.4 acres amid a residential neighborhood in the city of La Canada Flintridge. The San Gabriel mountain range, less than a mile away, provides a backdrop on the property's north side. Before the surrounding area was intensively developed in later years, the original eight-acre site had a magnificent view of the La Canada Valley and the San Gabriel Valley, all the way to the The house is a one-and-partial-two story structure of 10,796 sea. square feet in fifteen rooms. The dimensions of the Lanterman House are 163 feet east to west and 82 feet north to south. It has a modified U-shaped floorplan with first-story rooms surrounding a central patio that is open on the west end facing the street. Walls and floors are of reinforced concrete, but the roof structure is wooden. It is in the California Craftsman style, surrounded by a continuous terrace with trellis. Almost all the original Arts and Crafts painted interior decoration and furnishings of the Lanterman House are still present and intact, their lushness creating a rather startling contrast to the house's more restrained exterior. The structure has been completely restored to its



# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

### Narrative Description (continued)

original 1915 appearance, thanks largely to a \$500,000 grant from the California State Office of Historic Preservation in 1990.

As stated above, the floorplan of the Lanterman House is largely Ushaped. The two one-story legs of the U are surmounted by gable The second floor begins about half-way from the front of roofs. the house (at the base of the U) and is topped by a cross-gable The street-facing (west) gable end is centrally positioned roof. between the two first-story gables and ends in a recessed, columned balcony overlooking the patio. The opposite (east) gable end opens onto a terrace built above the flat-roofed back of the house. This terrace was covered over with a flat shed roof only months after the house was built. The other ends of the second-floor crossgable have a stepped arrangement of multi-paned casement windows that give the ballroom (the only room on the second floor) a view of the gardens on one end and the mountains on the other. gable ends have wooden louvered vents beneath the eaves. The roofs are lowrise with broad overhanging eaves. Exposed beam ends, rafter tails, and brackets are all structural. Following a number of inappropriate reroofings, the current roof covering recreates the original rolled malthoid. Two exterior chimneys are at both sides of the house and have rough granite stone veneers, composed of stone from a local guarry. A third, concrete chimney, original to the house, serves as a kitchen vent and rises above the roof level just west of the upper-story terrace.

A concrete terrace, original to the house, extends from the patio and completely surrounds the house. It is covered by a heavybeamed wooden trellis on all sides, supported by round columns made of concrete covered with stucco. A portion of the terrace has been screened in at the southeast corner of the house. On the south side, the trellis extends out to another set of columns to form a porte cochere for the original driveway.

Thirty-two pairs of wooden french doors opening onto the patio or terrace are placed regularly along the walls, so that a main entrance is not readily discernible. Interspersed are tall wooden paired casement windows with projecting sills, divided into eight lights to match the french doors. The only exceptions are the casement windows on both ends of the U facing the street which are plate glass. Exterior lighting spaced regularly around the perimeter of the house is wall-mounted and takes the form of either

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

### Narrative Description (continued)

metal lanterns or glass globes resting in wrought-iron holders.

Toward the rear of the house on the south side, rounded concrete steps lead from the terrace to the exterior entrance of the basement which is below ground level. The steps are convex above the ground, and become concave below it. At the rear of the house, broad concrete steps with solid balustrade, topped with flower urns, descend to the back yard.

The grounds are lawn, studded with oak trees. Landscaping is generally grass through which curving concrete walks have been The house was sited for energy efficiency. laid. The trellis supporting deciduous vines and climbing roses shaded the walls and floors for summertime cooling while permitting wintertime solar heating. All major rooms have at least two exterior walls for natural light and ventilation. The U-shaped patio captured the west prevailing breezes, and the entire house was oriented with the broad dimension east-west for maximum winter insulation and minimum summer heat gain. The amphitheater-like arrangement of concrete stairs adjacent to the south side of the house also collected and focused the sun through windows and french doors, providing heat for the basement and drying power for its laundry area. Mechanical heating for the house was generated by a multizone single unit central gravity-flow under-slab perimeter duct system, almost unheard of in houses of the time.

The house has been altered very minimally. As already noted, a few months after the house was built, the shed roof was added to the terrace above the kitchen to form a sleeping porch. The original driveway was replaced in 1939. The new one was built 30 feet south and was linked to the house by an extension of the trellis, forming an arbor-like porte cochere. This driveway was slightly expanded in March 1994 to provide additional parking and access for fire equipment. Only six windows were removed during the restoration process and replaced with replications. They were located on the basement level and in the ballroom.

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

### Narrative Description (continued)

In 1964, a 2,460-square-foot room was added to the front of the house which enclosed the central patio. It housed the mighty 1923 Wurlitzer Pipe Organ from the San Francisco Fox Theater. In 1992 the organ was removed and the addition demolished. The patio has since been fully restored following the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. The surviving original architectural rendering and historic photographs served as guides. The original patio fountain has been lost but there are currently plans to recreate both it and the concrete planter that surrounded it.

The interior of the house is of sufficient significance to be mentioned here, since it has never been changed or redecorated since 1915. It contains all the family's original furniture, books, paintings, draperies, rugs, china, silver, accessories, kitchen utensils, and linens. Even the Lantermans' clothes still occupy the closets. Walls of the public rooms are paneled and ceilings are coffered. Gas lighting (installed in combination with electricity) still functions. The feeling of the interior is much more reminiscent of English Arts and Crafts than California Craftsman. In fact, the contrast between the house's restrained exterior and its lush, traditional, almost Victorian, interior is quite startling.

The undisturbed painted decoration in the Lanterman House is an invaluable document from an era and geographic area in which very little original work survives elsewhere. The Arts and Crafts period wall, frieze, and ceiling decoration is unique in that so much of its quality, quantity, and detail are still viewable. The Mediterranean-influenced motifs borrowed from nature followed a unified plan and seem particularly suited to the early Southern California lifestyle, exquisite in their delicacy and detail. Not only is the artwork of unique esthetic value, it is a one-of-a-kind practical illustration of the two completely different paint mediums and application techniques of the period: oil-based applications on canvas in the public areas, and Calcimine/waterbased applications on paper in the rest of the house, including the ballroom. Evidence of the charcoal pounce pattern and stencil techniques of application are also easily observable.

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

#### Narrative Description (continued)

The house shares the property with a garage--a non-contributing resource, since it was substantially rebuilt in the last two years. However, its west (front) facade was restored as much as possible to its original look. The structure, also of reinforced concrete, occupies the southeast corner of the property and is described here for informational purposes only. The garage has 1,800 square feet and is of similar style to the house. A tall pair of casement-type garage doors, part wood and part glass, is flanked by two identically-styled smaller pairs on each side. The garage building contained a machine shop, woodshop, and apartment which served as the Lanterman family's home while the house was being built. The structure has now been adaptively reused for the offices of the Foundation, the Sue Schechter Visitor's Center, and a caretaker's apartment.

#### Summary Statement of Significance

The Lanterman House is significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture as a very good example of Craftsman architecture in the vicinity of the La Canada Valley. The house is highly reflective of modern trends in housing during the teens, illustrating a melding of both safety and health concerns. Concrete became a popular building material to protect against earthquake and fire. The many windows and french doors illustrate the importance of fresh air and light; the easy to clean tile interiors of kitchen and baths illustrate the importance of cleanliness and hygiene. The beautifully painted Arts and Crafts interiors show that esthetics were also valued in the modern home.

It is possible the property is significant under Criterion B and Criteria Consideration G: Properties That Have Achieved Significance Within the Last Fifty Years for the association with Frank Lanterman who lived in the house from 1915 until his death in 1981. Lanterman was elected to the California State Assembly in 1950 and authored legislation in 1967 which ended custodial

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

#### Summary Statement of Significance (continued)

warehousing of mental patients in California, reintroduced civil liberties to the involuntary commitment process, and provided community-based treatment for persons with mental disorders. Preparing a statement of Lanterman's exceptional importance in the area of mental health care is being considered by the applicant at this time and may result in an amended National Register nomination in the near future.

#### Statement of Significance

Although in later years the Lanterman House will undoubtedly gain historical significance from its association with the locally prominent Lanterman family (especially former California Assemblyman Frank Lanterman), as discussed in the addendum below, the property, at this point in time, gains its greatest significance from its architecture (Criterion C). (Theme: architecture; years of significance: 1915-present.) Its exterior is a fine example of the California Craftsman style, understated in decoration but with a fine attention to detail. The use of wood, stone, and stucco offsets the magnitude of concrete that otherwise would have given the house a cold, severe appearance. Its structure's siting on the lot to capture the maximum effects of natural heating and cooling is the epitome of the Craftsman philosophy of a closeness to nature. The Arts and Crafts interior, with its painted decoration, is original from 1915--a rarity in Southern California. Thus, the Lanterman House is of interest due to its largely reinforced concrete construction, central patio floorplan, and intact interior--rare for residences in Southern California, but certainly unique in the La Canada Valley. At the time the house was constructed, the La Canada Valley was a world unto itself, cut off from Pasadena and the San Gabriel Valley by the Arroyo Seco and from Glendale by the Verdugo mountain range. La Canada Flintridge was an agricultural area and did not develop nor share the architectural trends of its neighbors until the 1920s. In fact, the Lanterman House is the only known, and

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

### Statement of Significance (continued)

certainly best, example of Craftsman architecture in the Valley. Its exterior, interior decoration, and original furnishings all remain exceptionally well preserved, making the house a noteworthy artifact of its time, unusual in its integrity.

The Lanterman House is a large Craftsman-style residence in an appropriate oak setting, built by Dr. Roy Lanterman, the son of the first Lanterman to settle in La Canada. Its design, with reinforced concrete floors and walls and a continuous perimeter terrace with trellis, is an outstanding example of architecture meant to take advantage of the micro-climate for optimum air circulation and sun exposure in this inland valley area. Such central-patio oriented floorplans are more commonly found in the earlier Mission Revival style, and few have survived. Thus, this house is significant for the restored integrity of its original California Craftsman, central-patio floorplan design, examples of which are now rare in Southern California.

The Lanterman House was designed by Los Angeles architect Arthur L. Haley. He was born in Malone, New York in 1865, but at present little more is known about his personal life. Although he designed several homes, his practice was centered mainly on large commercial/office blocks in downtown Los Angeles and apartment buildings. He apparently was a highly competent architect with standard training in the Beaux Arts tradition, who worked in many different styles. His other known extant works include a Chicagostyle skyscraper, a brick apartment block with a Colonial Revival portico facade, and a house in exuberant Mission Revival style. He also designed and patented the "Sanitary Concealed Metal Wall Bed" which significantly altered the layout of apartment units on the West Coast. His buildings were advertised as "absolutely fireproof". (Dr. Lanterman was no doubt concerned about fire safety based on his observation of the fate of wooden houses near his home during Southern California wildfires and his first-hand witnessing of the aftermath of the San Francisco earthquake and fire.) Dr. Lanterman did not have to search far for his architect

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

#### Statement of Significance (continued)

since Haley's office was near his in downtown Los Angeles. After designing the Lanterman House, Haley moved to the Seattle area. Only one of Haley's drawings for the Lanterman House--the west (front) facade--is currently extant.

The Lanterman House also gains significance from the fact it is the largest and most elaborate Craftsman residence in the La Canada The Valley was unsettled or devoted to small-scale Valley. agricultural uses until the early 1920s when the Alta Canyada real estate development began in the northern foothills and the estate area of Flintridge, centered on the Flintridge Golf Course, was developed by Senator Frank Flint. Sophisticated country residences built by wealthy families, although frequently found in the early nearby foothill communities of Pasadena, Altadena, and Sierra Madre, were not built in the La Canada Valley, probably because it was then considered too distant from a central urban area and had no ready sources of plentiful water. In addition, the La Canada Valley was physically cut off from its neighboring communities. The Arroyo Seco on its east side was not effectively bridged until the early 1910s, so that in earlier days the Valley was closed off from Pasadena and the rest of the San Gabriel Valley except to intrepid horsemen. The Verdugo mountain range formed a barrier to the south, cutting the Valley off from the influence of Glendale, again, until the 1920s. The San Gabriel Mountains and the Angeles National Forest to the north and the vast undeveloped reaches of the San Fernando Valley to the west were further impediments to the development of La Canada. The Lanterman House was the grand exception to this lack of distinguished early architecture in the local area.

Although the La Canada Valley has not been formally surveyed as to architectural and historical resources, it is the opinion of longtime residents and local historians that, although some smaller rustic-type residences (mostly former farmhouses) do exist in the Valley, none come close to the Lanterman House either in integrity of design, size, original setting, or wealth of architectural

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

#### Statement of Significance (continued)

detail. (It should be noted that the construction of the I-210 freeway though the center of La Canada in the 1970s probably eliminated a number of potentially significant properties.)

The Lanterman House is an indisputably unique time capsule with its original furniture and interior decoration still in place and its 1915 appearance fully restored.

### Addendum

The following narrative is included in the interest of context and to document the achievements of the Lanterman family, the original owners of the Lanterman House. Although this history is too recent to meet Criterion B of the National Register process, it is recorded here as further evidence of the significance of the house and as a basis for a possible revised assessment in future years.

The Lanterman House was built on the lands of the Rancho La Canada, owned by the Lanterman family since 1875. By the time family ownership ended in 1987, it was one of the few sites in California still remaining in the hands of its first pioneer ranch owners of the American period. As the first U.S. citizens to settle on the ranch, the Lantermans were responsible for spurring the social and economic growth of the La Canada Valley. As probably the first substantial residence in the area, their house became a cultural and social center in the community's early years.

The builder of the house was Dr. Roy Stanley Lanterman, the first practicing physician in the La Canada Valley. But perhaps its most well-known resident was Dr. Lanterman's son, Frank Dexter Lanterman, who, as a celebrated California Assemblyman for 28 years (1950-1978), made a lasting contribution to the State's progressive policies on water and particularly mental health.

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

Addendum (continued)

The land on which the Lanterman House sits is the last remnant of Rancho La Canada, which was a late Mexican grant to Ignacio Coronel in 1843. After the Mexican War, a patent for this grant was issued in 1870 by the U.S. Land Commission and signed by President Andrew Johnson. The patent map was prepared by Henry Hancock in 1858. (Both the patent and the map were found in the Lanterman House.)

In 1875, Rancho La Canada was purchased by Dr. Jacob Lanterman, a dentist, and his partner Colonel Adolphous Williams, both of East Lansing, Michigan. The Rancho was then 5,830 acres. The new owners had been attracted to the dry climates of this valley, for they were both health-seekers suffering from lung ailments. In fact, Colonel Williams did not survive long after his arrival.

Jacob Lanterman, however, thrived. He and his wife Ammoretta and their three children and four grandchildren developed the valley economically and socially, guiding it from raw, chaparral-covered land to the residential community it is today. The Lanterman family helped build the first school and church and water system, and also sponsored the construction of roads and bridges. The Lantermans were also involved in the building of a railroad which transported granite from the San Gabriel Mountains to San Pedro used in building the breakwater for Los Angeles Harbor. Their original house "Homewood" still stands in La Canada Flintridge but has been radically altered from its original appearance. All the family papers and effects were removed to the current Lanterman House after Jacob's death.

The family papers reveal that the history of the Lantermans is a capsule of the history of many ranchos and early families of the Los Angeles Basin and the State of California. The many photographs, court records, survey notes, etc. define the problems of the migration of ailing healthseeking citizens to the warm, dry climate of Southern California, the confusion caused by the poor record-keeping of the Mexican land grant period, the partition of the ranchos, the real estate boom of the 1880s, and agricultural activities through the pastoral, deciduous, and citrus periods as the pioneers coped with fire, flood, and drought.

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

#### Addendum (continued)

Roy Stanley Lanterman, Jacob's son, a medical doctor for whom the Lanterman House was built, was the director of the emergency hospital which traveled from Los Angeles to San Francisco to treat victims of the earthquake and fire in 1906. He was appointed Coroner of Los Angeles County later that same year. He was the only practicing physician in the La Canada Valley. Dr. Lanterman gained the respect of the community for treating many patients at his home without pay especially during the Great Depression of the 1930s. His wife Emily maintained their home as a social and cultural center for the community throughout her life. The ballroom was the scene of many concerts and plays presented by local clubs and families. Dr. Lanterman died in 1948, his wife in 1949.

Roy's son, Frank Dexter Lanterman, moved with his parents and brother Lloyd into the house after it was built in 1915 and lived there until his death in 1981. Having spent his younger years as a professional touring theater organist, playing in silent movie houses, Frank Lanterman eventually came home to manage his family's business and real estate interests. In 1950 he was elected to the California State Assembly by a large majority. He served for 28 years (14 consecutive terms) with tireless energy. He had a broad interest in all State issues, sponsoring almost 400 successful bills in such areas as local home rule preservation, transportation, and fiscal affairs.

Frank Lanterman is most celebrated, however, as the father of modern mental health treatment in California. He authored and shepherded through to adoption the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act of 1967 (effective 1969) which ended custodial warehousing of mental patients in California, reintroduced civil liberties to the involuntary commitment process and provided community-based treatment for persons with mental disorders. This statute has been termed historic (a "Magna Carta for the mentally ill", according to one writer) (Muir, p. 93), and it has served as a model for humanitarian law throughout the nation. Its implementation in

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

#### Addendum (continued)

later years was hampered by budget cuts and the disinterest of some of Lanterman's successors, but Lanterman's own custodianship of the bill has been termed "superlative" and "his principal claim to immortality" (Bardach, p. 297). The Lanterman-Petris-Short bill was only one of many in the area of mental health that Lanterman successfully initiated, including community centers for retarded children and expanded educational services for the handicapped.

Although a conservative Republican, Lanterman was characterized as one of the most non-partisan of campaigners for the concepts he believed in. Of importance locally was the Municipal Water District Act which Lanterman co-authored in 1951, allowing unincorporated areas, which at that time included La Canada Flintridge, to create their own water districts. Prior to this legislation, such areas were under the thumb of large urban regional or municipal water districts that could discourage their growth and prosperity by withholding water, especially when that precious commodity was in short supply.

Upon his retirement, Frank Lanterman (called "Uncle Frank" by his colleagues) was judged as a deeply compassionate man by both sides of the aisle, having done more than possibly any other individual in the state ever had for "sick people, handicapped people, people trapped in real and bureaucratic cages, people trampled by corporate giants, people lied to and cheated and ignored by government." (Los Angeles Times, 11/12/78). Indeed, "Lanterman devoted a quarter-century reshaping a huge part of California's public policy" (Muir, p. 93).

Several times Frank Lanterman was selected as the most effective legislator by his peers and received an 80-minute tribute on the floor of the Assembly upon his retirement. He received many other honors. A stretch of the Glendale Freeway, a regional health center, and a state hospital were all named after him. He also received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Southern California in recognition of his notable legislation

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

#### Addendum (continued)

promoting State scholarships and graduate fellowship grants and for the national recognition afforded him in the field of mental health and mental retardation legislation. The Lanterman House contains all his personal and official papers--correspondence dating from his childhood, diaries, manuscripts, blueprints relating to real estate development of what had been the family's original ranchlands, and numerous plaques and awards and filing cabinets full of documents from his years in the State Legislature.

A few words should be added here about Frank's brother Lloyd Lanterman. He worked as a mechanical engineer after graduation from USC in 1923 and is most widely known for designing the winning car at the Indianapolis 500 auto race in 1930, driven by Billy Arnold. He spent his later years experimenting with steam-driven automobiles in the garage on the Lanterman House grounds. Frank and Lloyd, both bachelors, lived together after their parents died. Lloyd was the last surviving Lanterman to occupy the house. He died in 1987. The Lanterman House and most of its furnishings were willed to the City of La Canada Flintridge.

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

### Bibliography (continued)

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Primary source material at the Lanterman House, including maps of Rancho La Canada, material documenting Frank Lanterman's government service and his earlier life as an organist, and original papers and artifacts owned by the Lanterman family.

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### Verbal boundary description

Lot 2 of Tract 41508 as recorded in the office of the County Recorder of Los Angeles, in Book 995, Page 85 of Maps.

#### Verbal boundary justification

Since 1978, the Lanterman House has occupied this city lot of 1.35 acres. All the remaining property associated with the house and the La Canada Rancho were long since sold off and developed.

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

#### Photographs

All photographs are of the Lanterman House in La Canada Flintridge, Los Angeles County, California. The negatives are in the possession of the Lanterman Historic Museum Foundation. The photographers' names are unknown.

The following photographs, numbered 1 through 5A, were probably taken soon after the house was completed in 1915:

- #1 West side (front) of house, camera facing east
- #2 North side of house, camera facing southeast
- #3 South side of house, camera facing west
- #4 East side (rear) of house, camera facing northwest
- #5 Close-up of chimney and timbering, south side of house, camera facing north
- #5A Close-up of patio, camera facing southeast

The following photographs of the exterior, numbered 6 through 14, were taken in 1994:

- #6 West side (front) of house, camera facing east
- #7 Northwest corner of house, camera facing east
- #8 Southwest corner of house, camera facing northeast
- #9 South side of house, camera facing north
- #10 East side (rear) of house, camera facing west
- #11 Northeast corner of house, camera facing southwest

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

Photographs (continued)

#12 Close-up of trellis surrounding the house--north side of house, camera facing northwest

#13 Close-up of structure where one-story section meets two-story section in southeast corner of central patio, camera facing southeast

#14 Front (west) side of garage/apartment structure, now the Visitors' Center and caretaker's quarters, camera facing east

The following photographs of the interior, numbered 15 through 31, were taken in 1994:

#15 East wall of living room, camera facing east

#16 Fireplace, south wall of living room, camera facing southeast

#17 Ceiling panel in living room, camera facing up

#18 Billiard room, camera facing northeast

#19 Staircase from billiard room to ballroom, in northeast corner of billiard room, camera facing northeast

#20 Dining room, south wall, camera facing south

#21 Dining room, north wall, camera facing northeast

#22 Dining room ceiling, closeup of decoration, camera facing up

#23 Guest bedroom, west wall, camera facing northwest

#24 Guest bathroom, west wall, camera facing northwest (note faint decoration on upper wall)

#25 Guest bathroom, northeast corner, camera facing northeast

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Lanterman House Los Angeles County, CA

### Photographs (continued)

#26 Kitchen, built-in icebox, north wall, camera facing north

#27 Kitchen, vegetable sink, south wall, camera facing south

#28 Kitchen, annunciator, northwest corner, camera facing northwest

#29 Ballroom, north wall, camera facing north

#30 Ballroom, east wall, camera facing northeast

#31 Ballroom, wall sconce, south wall, camera facing southeast



