

PH 0047201

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	California
COUNTY:	Alameda
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 4 1973

1. NAME

COMMON: Meek Mansion and Carriage House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 240 Hampton Road

CITY OR TOWN: Hayward

STATE: California CODE: 06 COUNTY: Alameda CODE: 01

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Hayward Area Recreation and Park District

STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box 698

CITY OR TOWN: Hayward STATE: California CODE: 06

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Alameda County Clerk-Recorder

STREET AND NUMBER: 1225 Fallon Street

CITY OR TOWN: Oakland STATE: California CODE: 06

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Meek Park

DATE OF SURVEY: June, 1972 Federal State County

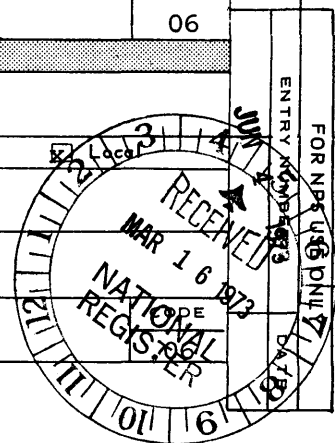
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Alameda County Clerk-Recorder

STREET AND NUMBER: 1225 Fallon Street

CITY OR TOWN: Oakland STATE: California

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: California
COUNTY: Alameda



(See attached 10-300a)

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

MEEK MANSION

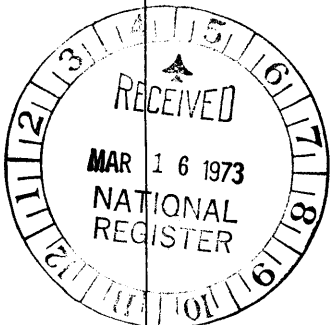
The Meek Mansion is substantially the same as when built in 1869. The first known physical changes occurred in 1907.

- a. The house was wired for electricity, thereby eliminating the gas lights used before that time.
- b. A glassed in solarium was added on the first floor on the southeast side.
- c. Two bedrooms and a bath were added on the third floor.

It is not recorded when running water was brought into the house, but bathrooms were changed at that time and again in 1925 at which time new tile and fixtures were put in.

- d. In the 1940's when Dr. Ream purchased the home, the following changes were made:
 - (1) The fireplace in the ballroom was enlarged and a full mirror wall was installed. This allowed for a full fireplace to accommodate wood.
 - (2) The kitchen was remodeled from a large farm-type kitchen to one with modern equipment and metal shelves and cupboards. The space used for a servant's dining area was converted into two rooms with adjoining bath for the use of an ailing relative who was unable to climb the stairs. This brought the number of rooms up to 23.
 - (3) The bath on the main floor adjoining the two above rooms and behind the library was modernized with new tile and fixtures.
 - (4) The bath off the morning room was updated.
 - (5) The bath off the second floor bedroom in the northwest corner was updated.
 - (6) The carport was added at west side.
- e. In 1965, the Recreation District closed off the end of the hall on the second floor behind the stairs in order to be able to close off the adjacent bedrooms from the general public. A door was placed at the opening of the hallway leading to the small bath and bedroom on the 2nd floor. This allowed for a bath and restroom area for men.

(See attached floor plan showing changes and dates)



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

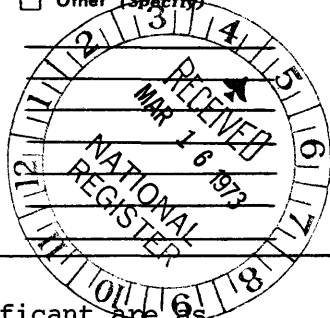
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Some of the characteristics that make this estate significant are as follows:

AGRICULTURE

a. "Oregon fruits, especially apples, have gained worldwide fame since pioneer times. But Oregon apples were highly valued in California early days. Apples of Henderson Lewelling and William Meek, grown in 1852 near Milwaukie on grounds of the later Waverly Country Club, from grafts brought to Oregon in 1847, praised by the San Francisco Whig Party."

--History of Oregon, Vol. III
Harvey C. V. Scott, 1924

b. William Meek brought first grafted trees to Pacific Coast. Was known as the model farmer of Alameda County. Practiced rotation of crops. Established a reservoir in the hills 3 1/2 miles away in foothills and brought water for irrigation to his land. "No man bestowed more care and attention to his land, or experimented more successfully."

--History of Alameda County, California
A. M. Crane, Published 1883

Meek brought first grafted trees to Pacific Coast. "He managed his land with skill and followed a system of rotation."

In 1864 Meek farmed 2,200 acres -- 20,000 almond trees, also sold that many trees that same year; 4,200 cherry trees; 3,000 plum and prune trees; 225,000 currant plants.

"No man bestows more care and attention on his land or experiments more successfully" . . . He has a water reservoir about 3 1/2 miles from his home and the water is conducted in pipes through his lands for irrigation."

In 1870 Meek had 90 head of horses including 50 work horses and mules; a dozen cows; 800-1600 sheep; 80 acres of corn producing 70 bushels, shelled, to the acre.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

History of Oregon, Vol. III, Harvey C.V. Scott, 1924
 Historic Spots in California -- Hoover & Rensch, Stanford Univ. Press
 History of Alameda County -- Pacific Press, 1893, A.M. Crane
 Thompson and West History
 The Centennial Year Book of Alameda County, Wm. Holley, 1876
 Frank Hinckley, California Engineer and Rancher, Edith Parker Hinckley
 History of the State of California, Professor J.M. Guinn, A.M.
 Hayward Daily Review -- 9/17/61; 9/20/64; 9/27/64; 10/4/64
 Oakland Tribune Knave -- 2/26/61
 San Francisco Examiner, 1/22/10
 Hayward Heritage Day Program, History of Hayward, John Sandoval, 1964

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

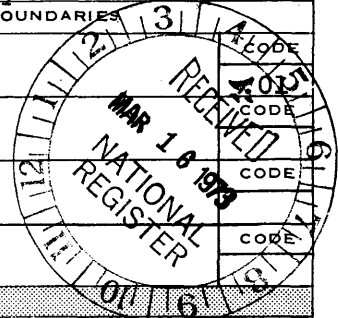
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	37° 41' 11"	122° 6' 50"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	37° 41' 11"	122° 6' 41"		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	37° 41' 01"	122° 6' 41"		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	37° 41' 01"	122° 6' 50"		° ' "	° ' "	

10/57826
 4171030
 CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 10 acres approximately

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY
California	06	Alameda
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: L. A. Critzer, Jr., General Manager

ORGANIZATION: Hayward Area Recreation and Park District DATE: 1/4/72

STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box 698

CITY OR TOWN: Hayward, STATE: California 94543 CODE: 06

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>[Signature]</u></p> <p>Title <u>State Liaison Officer</u></p> <p>Date <u>FEB 12 1972</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>6/4/73</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>5/31/73</u></p>
--	--

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE California	
COUNTY Alameda	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 4 1973

(Number all entries)

6. Representation in Existing Surveys (Continued)

The Meek Estate was included in the Junior League of Oakland, Inc. Historic Sites Project, and was included in their tour of June 25, 1971, for the Conference of California Historical Societies.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM



STATE California	
COUNTY Alameda	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 4 1973

(Number all entries)

7. Description

MEEK MANSION (Continued)

William Meek moved from Oregon to California in 1859 and by 1866 he had acquired about 2,000 acres, most of which were former grounds of the Lorenzo Rancho Spanish Land Grant held by DeSoto. Three years later, in 1869, by the time he was ready to move his family into the palatial new 19-room home on the south bank of San Lorenzo Creek, Mr. Meek had title to 3,000 acres of fertile orchard land. This established one of the oldest estates in Alameda County, and included all of the land from which is now Mission Boulevard to Hesperian Boulevard, and from Lewelling Boulevard to just past Winton Avenue. Part of this added area was the Guillermo Castro Land Grant. This vast area became known as "Cherryland", because of the Bing and Royal Anne cherry orchards of Meek and Lewelling, whose early large scale agriculture development helped to establish the modern commercial fruit industry in California.

Mr. Meek continued management of his vast estate until his death in 1880 at the age of 63 years. His two sons, Horry and William, and their families continued management of the estate for a number of years. Eventually, the land was sold in small parcels up to the last ten acres, including the mansion, which were acquired by Dr. Milton P. Ream in 1940.

The Hayward Area Recreation and Park District purchased this last remnant of the fabulous Meek Estate from Dr. Ream in 1964, and proceeded to clear the heavily thicketed grounds for a park area and to restore the fine old mansion to something of its former elegance.

The mansion was planned and built by William Meek in 1869 and is characteristic of the affluent agricultural society in Victorian California.

Although principally Italian Villa in style, there are many Second Empire features -- mansard roof, the Oeil de Boeuf (Bull's Eye) window in the central tower, and paired arched windows. The bisymmetrical plan and the bay windows with their elongated colonettes are distinctly California.

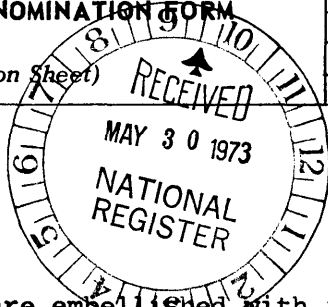
The house consisted of 19 rooms on three floors, plus a partial basement. It is a wood frame structure, approximately 7,000 square feet, exclusive of the attic and basement areas.

The main entrance is recessed between two pavilions and is included in composition with an ornately handsome cupola with mansard roof and bull's eye dormers which takes the form of a tower in the northwest facade. Wood quoins, rustic siding and porch pediments and cornices in a variety of detail and surface planes are features of the exterior.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE California	
COUNTY Alameda	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 4 1973



(Number all entries)

7. Description

MEEK MANSION (Continued)

Inside, hardwood floors of oak are embellished with inlaid parquetry of mahogany. The ceilings and walls have cast plaster medallions of acanthus leaves, fruit, nuts and grapes, as well as classic heads for decoration. Just inside the front entrance is a grand winding staircase with a handsome turned wood balustrade starting on the first floor and extending upward to the third floor. The newel post is a large octagonal of inlaid wood.

There are six fireplaces in the house with facings and mantel of white marble. The front parlor fireplace is additionally enriched by a mirror framed in gold leaf.

The first floor is comprised of front parlor, ballroom, library, solarium, dining room, kitchen, pantry, and two smaller rooms. The furnishings on the main floor were purchased by the Recreation and Park District -- the drapes, the Victorian oak hall tree with princess mirror, the late Victorian oak dining room table and chairs (the chairs are from a monastery on the Peninsula), and the mid-Victorian walnut library table.

On the second floor the furnishings in the Master Bedroom were formerly owned by the Meek family and are a part of the original furnishings of the mansion. They are now owned by the Reams and on loan to the District for display. The bookcase contains leather-bound gold-embossed books formerly used by the Meeks; the settee and chair were donated by a San Lorenzo family.

In the Mistress' Bedroom, the mid-Victorian walnut bed was donated by the Meek heirs, the hand-crocheted linen bedspread, made in about 1900, was donated by early San Lorenzo residents.

In the connecting dressing room, the low couch, known as a "fainting couch", is 1890 Victorian. This item, as well as the patch quilt, were purchased by the Recreation and Park District.

In the Mistress' Sitting Room, the "morning room" the walnut desk was donated to the District by the Merrill LaPoint family of Castro Valley, heirs of Henderson Lewelling. The loveseat and three chairs are mid-Victorian copies.

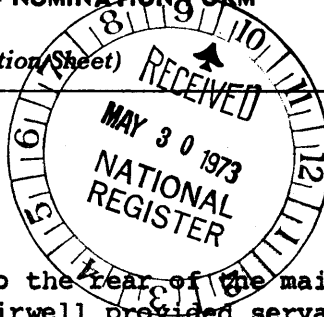
The oak furniture in the nursery, of 1880 vintage, was purchased by the District. The canvas baby buggy, loaned by Bill Burmaster, formerly of the District staff, dates back to around 1900. The doll display case and dolls were donated by Harold Selby of the HARD staff, in his wife's memory.

In the ladies' lounge, the walnut couch came from the Sutro estate in San Francisco. The four walnut chairs, occasional table, and pier mirror, purchased locally, are of mid-Victorian vintage. The couch in the men's lounge is a copy--mid-Victorian.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE California	
COUNTY Alameda	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER JUN 4	DATE 1973



(Number all entries)

7. Description

MEEK MANSION (Continued)

The two bedrooms and bath off to the rear of the main stairs were servants' quarters; a narrow, winding stairwell provided servants access to the lower floor.

The third floor of the mansion is not open to the public, as a fire safety precaution. This floor was formerly the sleeping quarters and playrooms for the family, but are now unfurnished. The 55-foot watchtower provided a view of the vast estate.

There is a huge meat cellar under the mansion. The tank house, which provided the water supply for the estate, has been lowered and converted to outdoor restrooms. The old carriage house has been converted to a little theatre, now used by Recreation and Park District theatre groups.

The lovely fountain, still in working condition and as originally constructed, was the focal point of the estate grounds and the site of many festive occasions.

An item of unusual interest is in the window settings, which include the window screen inside the wall at the bottom and top of each window. These fasten to a metal turn knob on the window and come up when the window is raised or, in the case of the upper window, draw down as it is lowered. On many of these, the original screen is still intact.

CARRIAGE HOUSE

The Carriage House is located approximately 100 yards west of the mansion (see Exhibit A). It is a two-story wooden building, 40 feet wide by 50 feet deep. Originally, it housed the carriage horses and riding horses with their tack and trappings on the first floor.

The front part of the building was for tack and equipment and the rear half has six stalls and mangers with the feeding chutes coming from the second floor. These stalls are as they were last used showing the chewed sections where the horses had gnawed at the wood. Each stall front has a six-foot post topped with a rounded wooden ball. The chutes are of wood with iron.

Upstairs was the loft for the hay and grain and three rooms where the head groomsman and two stable boys made their home.

The Recreation District is now using this building for a Little Theatre. The changes necessary to accommodate the program are of a temporary nature, so that the now unique original purpose is not lost.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE California	
COUNTY Alameda	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 4 1973

(Number all entries)

7. Description

CARRIAGE HOUSE (Continued)

The front half of the downstairs is the theatre with a stage one foot higher than the floor, 15 feet deep by 25 feet wide. The balance of the room will seat 75 people.

The stall area houses the stage props and the upstairs is used for dressing rooms and to store costumes. This theatre is the place where youth and teens learn and perform the dramatic arts as well as puppetry.

To date, the District has acquired a one-horse sleigh and a buggy to add to the water wagon which was left by Meek along with various pieces of horse tack.

GARDENS

The gardens surrounding the house are essentially the same. There are many varieties of towering trees -- walnut, elm, rubber, crepe myrtle, magnolia, and many others.

The gardens are being restored and kept up by the Recreation and Park District to retain the quiet serenity of the past century, invoking a nostalgic glimpse into the past.

Many teachers in the District's schools have brought their students to the Meek Mansion for tours, thereby giving them a touch of history easier to see than to describe.

The Meek Estate exemplifies the dreams that park and recreation people have of being able to preserve, in the midst of a steadily encroaching civilization, something that is fine and old and traditional, a tribute to our historic past and a part of our heritage.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	California	
COUNTY	Alameda	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	9	DATE
		JUN 4 1973

(Number all entries)

8. Significance

AGRICULTURE (Continued)

In 1873 raised 30,000 centals of wheat and barley.

In 1874 grew a marrowfat squash weighing 149 pounds.

He grew oranges, lemons and limes. . . . "Raised 50 acres of tobacco which was sent to Louisville, Kentucky, and which was highly prized.

-- The Centennial Year Book of Alameda County
William Holley, 1876

In the Hinckley book, substantiated by Diaries of Frank Hinckley (son-in-law to William Meek) is stated . . . "He (William Meek) came to the West with meager education and small business experience but with boundless energy and great practical judgment. He was worth a million dollars when he died and, what is of more significance, he had given a wonderful impetus to the agricultural development of the Bay region. . . . he had a remarkable flair for raising flowers and fruit and his ranch produced wonderful crops of deciduous fruits, currants and berries and gorgeous flowers."

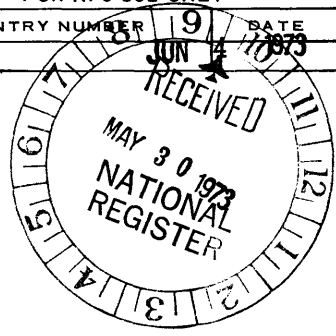
-- Frank Hinckley, California Engineer
and Rancher by Edith Parker Hinckley
Written from Frank Hinckley's original
diaries now in the Huntington Libraries

Meek was one of California's pioneer orchardists. . . . His home, surrounded by magnificent trees and gardens, was built in the late 1860's.

-- Historic Spots in California, 3rd Edition
Mildred Brooke Hoover
Hero Eugene Rensch
Ethel Grace Rensch
Revised by William N. Abelo^e
Stanford University Press, 1966

The above information also is substantiated in other records -- one states:

"When he (Meek) located here, forty-five years ago, even the wild beast had not fled before the advancing steps of civilization, but, with the dusky savage, roamed at will through the country. . . . There were no improvements on the place to speak of . . . he had water piped to all parts of his farm, subjecting it to irrigation, and was the first agriculturist of this locality to plant extensively. As a general farmer and stock raiser, he met with eminent success. . . . a man of energetic activity, he continued the management of his vast estate until his death."



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE California	
COUNTY Alameda	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUN 4	1973

(Number all entries)

8. Significance

AGRICULTURE (Continued)

Horry W. and William E. made a specialty of raising premium apricots, "their trees in 1903 yielding over 800 tons of this luscious fruit." . . . He (Horry) and his brother were also associated with the company that built up an extensive business raising and shipping asparagus. . . . The Meek estate is one of the most valuable in Eden Township."

-- History of the State of California
Professor J. M. Guinn, A.M.
Chapman Publishing Company, 1904

c. William Meek, President of Agriculture Society, Eden Township, in 1866. This later merged with Hayward's Jockey Club which then became known as Hayward's Trotting Park Association.

-- Daily Review, Hayward, September 27, 1964

d. Brought the Royal Anne and Bing Cherries to California, as well as 96 varieties of plants, many of which were from Europe. The area of the Meek property is still known as Cherryland.

e. Donated most of the older trees on Mills College Campus, Oakland.

f. William Meek helped found the California Nursery of Niles.

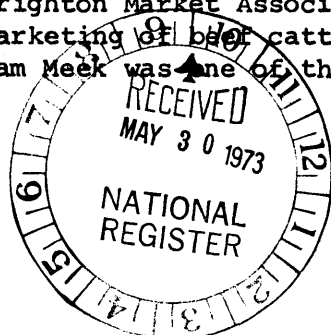
-- History of Alameda County California
A. M. Crane, 1883

Horry Meek (son) was President of the Board of Directors of the California Nursery. Horry and W. E. Meek started asparagus and celery farms on an island in Benecia and developed a most lucrative business.

-- San Francisco Examiner, January 22, 1910

g. The Brighton Market Association was organized to further the auctioning and marketing of beef cattle and sheep and hogs from the area . . . William Meek was one of the Directors.

-- Hayward Heritage Day Program
History of Hayward, written by
John Sandoval, 1964



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
California	
COUNTY	
Alameda	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 4 1973

(Number all entries)

8. Significance

ARCHITECTURE

The architecture of the house is an outstanding example of the late Nineteenth Century and is characteristic of the affluent agricultural society in Victorian California.

There is no precise statement by any of the biographers of William Meek as to whether he hired an architect to design the mansion and buildings, or whether he was his own designer, hiring carpenters, stonemasons and bricklayers to carry out his wishes.

One episode related by the grandchildren, Mrs. Volkman and Mrs. Hawley, indicates their father and uncles and aunts talked about the hub-bub raised by all the workmen at their tasks on the mansion, and their father in the middle of it all.

Herbert T. Johnson, Architect, 4225 Gregory Street, Oakland, 94619, states in a letter to the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District on June 16, 1965, that the building is registered with the Library of Congress, University of California, Architectural Library, Berkeley, Western office of Design and Construction, National Park Services. Verified by A. Lewis Koue, AIA, Preservation Officer, East Bay Chapter AIA.

Quoted from a letter on file in the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District office:

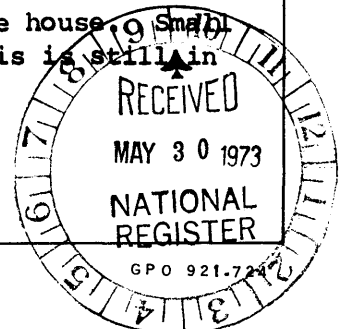
". . . Today there are but few examples of nineteenth century architecture still existing in Southern Alameda County. The Meek house is an outstanding example of such work. It is most important to our culture that this work be preserved and when possible restored to its original condition. . . ."

-- George P. Simonds, Professor of Architecture
University of California, Berkeley, 1/31/72

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

The house and carriage house are surrounded by many fine species of trees planted by Meek. Many trees as tall or taller than the three story mansion.

The outstanding feature of the parklike setting is the handsome fountain which is approximately 30 yards from the front entrance of the house. Small dolphins spurt water toward the center pedestal fountain. This is still in operating use and lends to the quiet serenity of the scene.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	California	
COUNTY	Alameda	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		JUN 4 1973

(Number all entries)

8. Significance

SOCIAL HUMANITARIAN

1848 -- formed the first wagon train to go from Oregon to the California gold mines skirting the Modoc Lava beds on their way. Returned to Oregon two years later and resumed orcharding.

1854 -- Oregon and California Railroad Company, Incorporated January 30, 1954, Eugene, Oregon. William Meek one of the commissioners.

-- History of Oregon, Vol. IV
Harvey W. Scott, 1924

1861 -- Fidelia Meek one of the founders of Eden Congregational Church

William Meek was one of the early Regents of University of California. He was on the first Board of Trustees of Mills College, Oakland.

-- History & Biographical Records of the
Coast Counties of California
J. M. Guinn

1861)

1862)

1863) William Meek served on the Board of Supervisors of Alameda County.

1864)

1865)

1862)

1864) William Meek was a Union Party Delegate to the State Political
1867) convention.

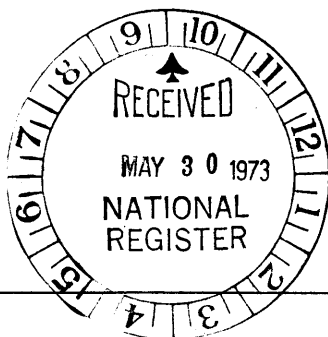
1866 Sycamore Lodge No. 129, IOOF, formed October 30, 1866.
William Meek was a Charter Member and Officer.

1869 San Lorenzo Water Company formed -- William Meek was a Trustee.

1871 Meek and William C. Blackwood referred to as two of the chief tax-
payers in Alameda County.

-- History of Alameda County California
A. M. Crane, 1883

-- Daily Review, September 27, 1964



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE California	
COUNTY Alameda	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER JUN 4	DATE 1973

(Number all entries)

8. Significance

SOCIAL HUMANITARIAN (Continued)

1889 -- W. E. Meek (son) was a Director of Native Sons of the Golden West.

1980 -- Horry and William E. were responsible for the first electric street car line which later merged with the Key System in 1919.

-- Daily Review, September 27, 1964

1892 -- Horry Meek (son) was active in creating the new Union High School District and gave a building lot for the first high school site.

Listed in the obituary for Horry W. Meek, San Francisco Examiner, January 22, 1910, were the following accomplishments:

- President -- Bank of Hayward
- President -- Suburban Electric Lighting Co.
- President -- Columbia Oil Company
- President -- California Nursery of Niles
- Director -- Union Savings Bank of Oakland
- Director -- T. B. & A. L. Stone Co.
- Managed Meek Estate with his brother, W. E. after the death of their father.

1879 -- Frank Hinckley, husband of Sarah Charlotte Meek (daughter) helped form the Board of Health for Hayward.

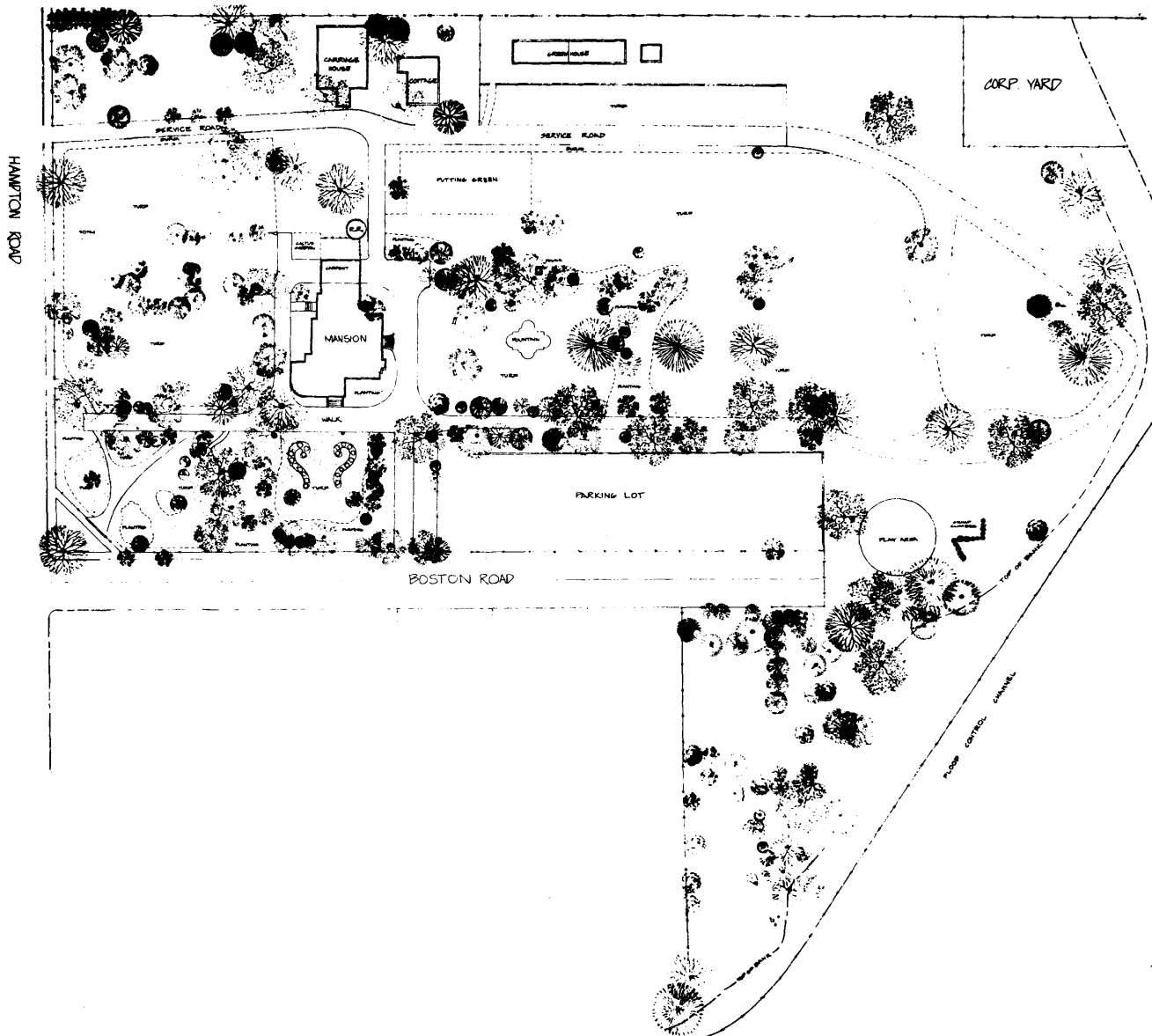
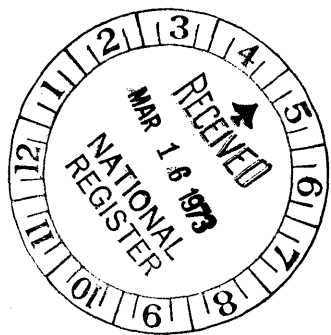
-- History of Alameda County
M. W. Woods, 1883

1941 -- W. H. Meek (grandson) Director of Bank of Hayward, 1876-1956

-- Daily Review Clippings
"80 Years a City" Hayward Library

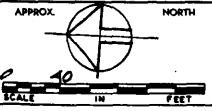
From the many sources available to us, it was indicative that the Meeks were very important to this specific area of Hayward, to Alameda County, and to the State of California in their agricultural domain and their activities. Also, the fact that this estate is one of the last remaining of its kind in evidence in a now heavily urbanized area is of particular historical significance.





APPROVED:	RESOLUTION NO. & DATE	REVISED	LEGEND
RECOMMENDED:	GENERAL MANAGER		
CHECKED BY:			
DESIGNED BY:	DRAWN BY: <i>[Signature]</i>		

HAYWARD AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT
 1015 E STREET HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA



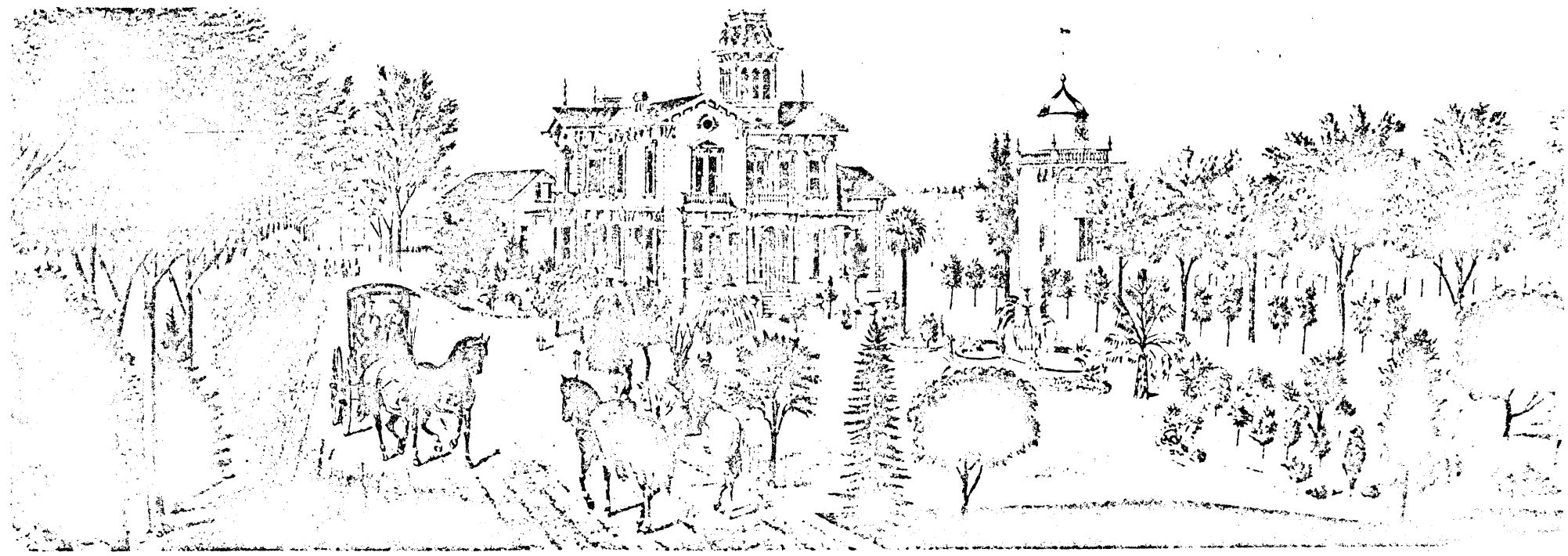
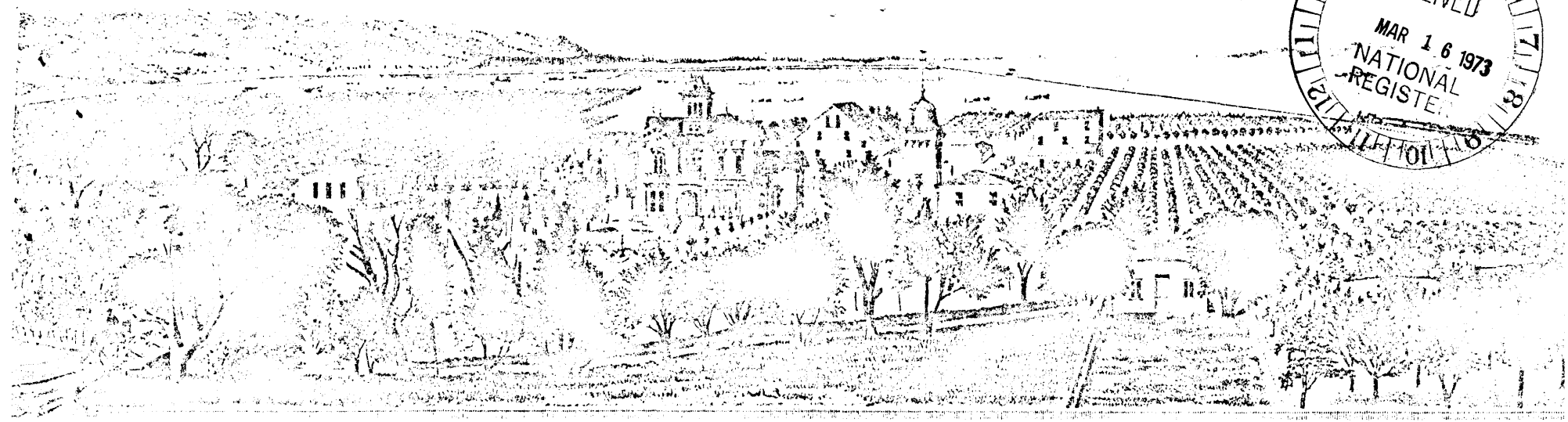
PLOT PLAN
MEEK ESTATE
 BOSTON & HAMPTON RDS

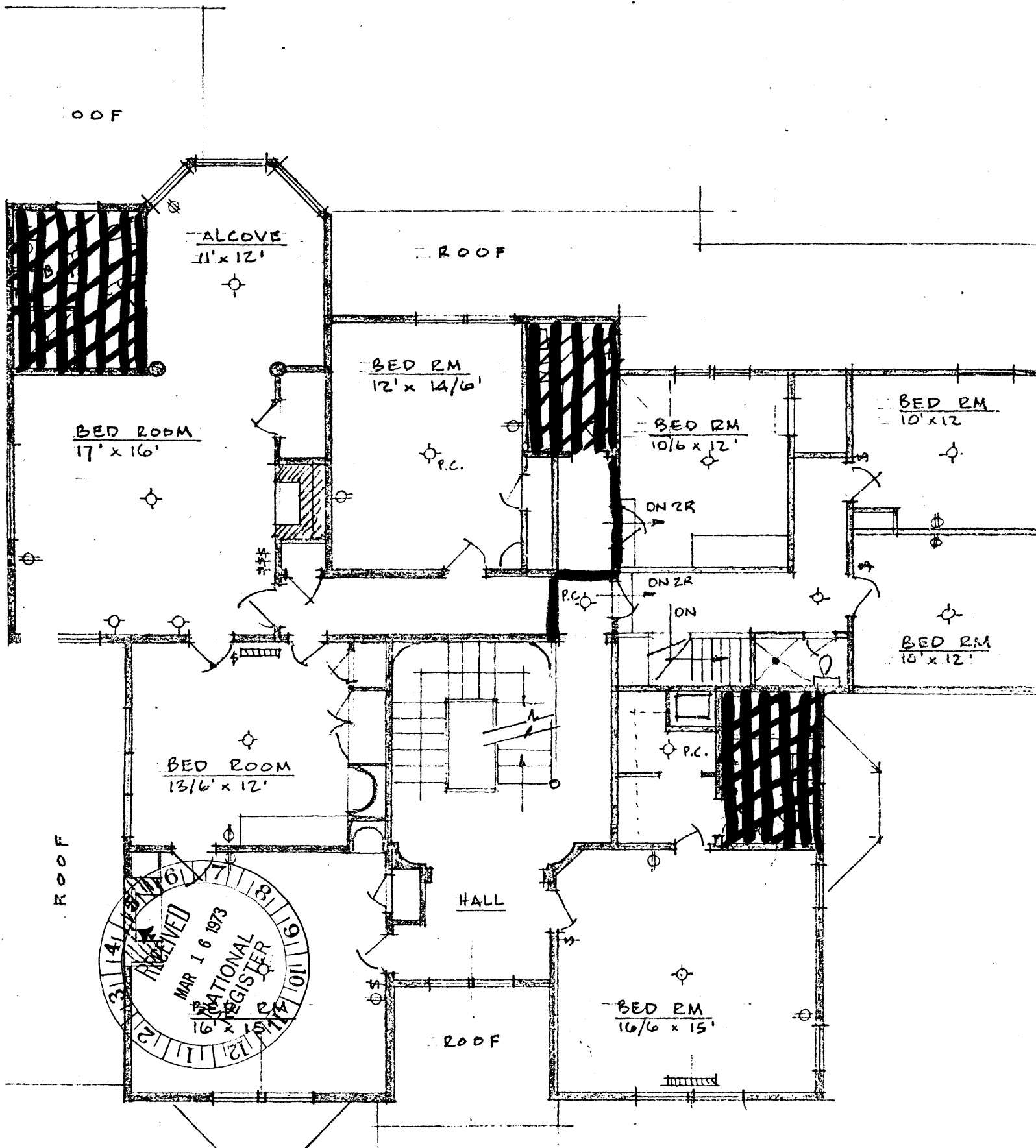
DATE: 7/23/70
 SHEET NO.:

37° 41' 06"
 122° 06' 54"

EXHIBIT "A"

RECEIVED
MAR 16 1973
NATIONAL
REGISTER






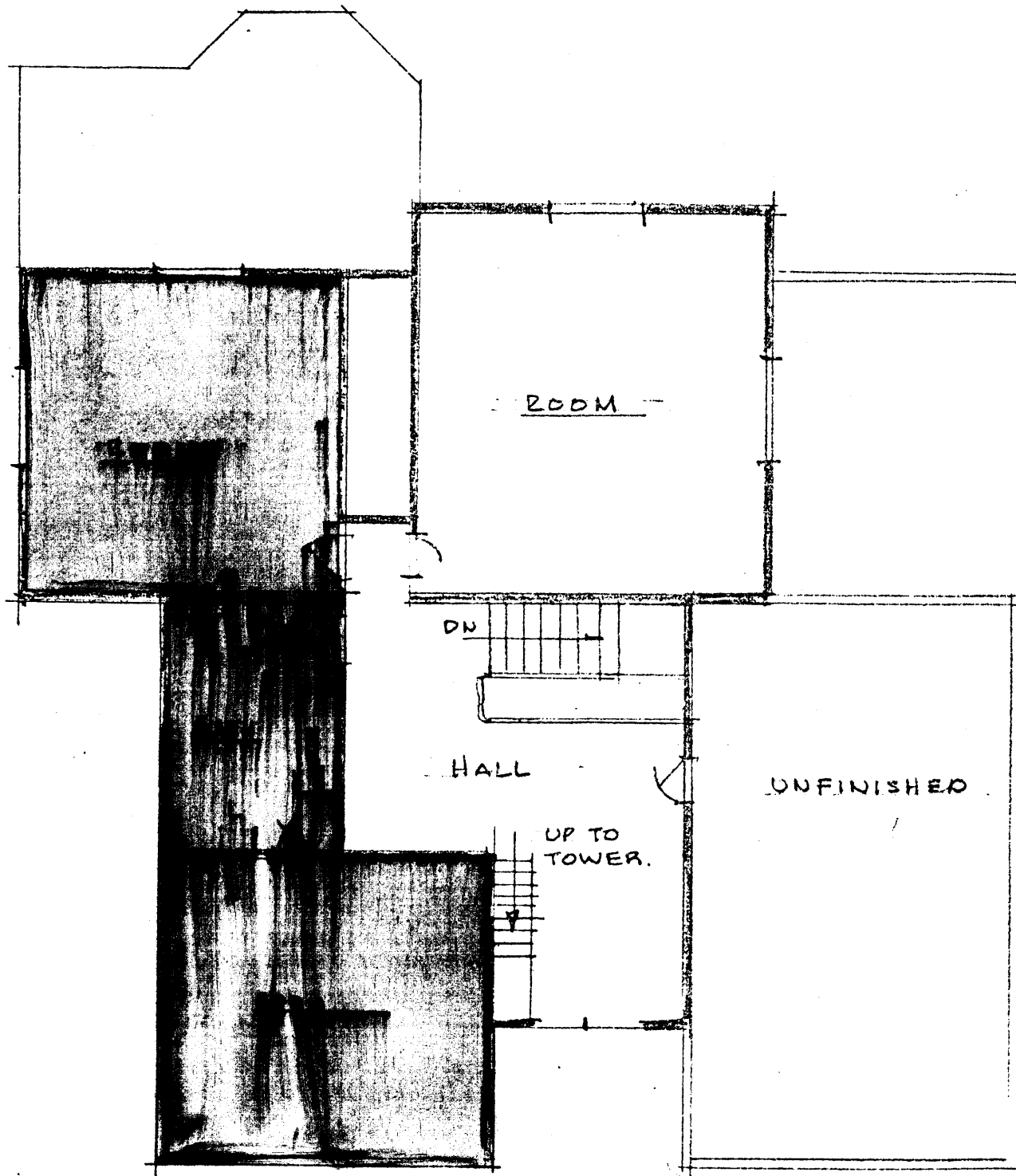


SECOND FLOOR PLAN

1/8" = 1'-0"

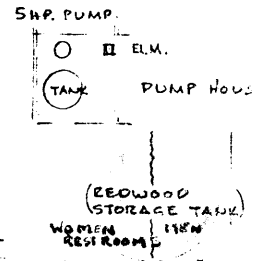
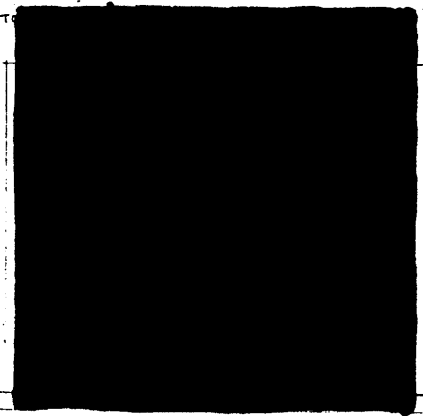
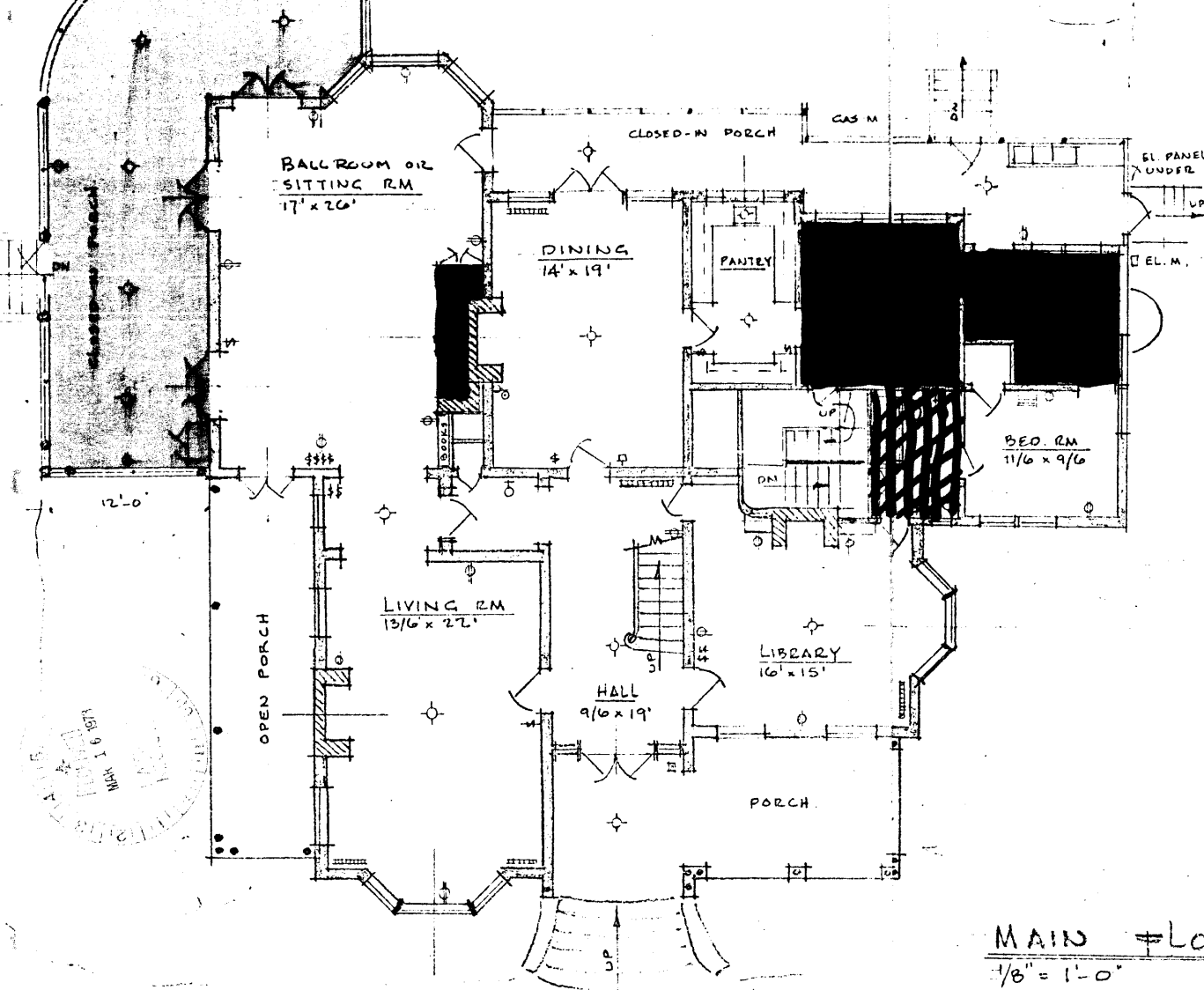
APPROX. AREA: 2600 S.F.






-  1925-4
-  1925-65
-  1965



1907

THIRD FLOOR PLAN
1/8" = 1'-0"



-  1907
-  1925
-  1925 & 40
-  1940
-  1965

MAIN FLOOR PLAN

1/8" = 1'-0"

APROX. AREA : FLOOR : 2480 S.F.
 PORCHES : 850 S.F.

SEE OVER →

CONC. DRIVEWAY.

