Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The site consists primarily of five buildings: Old Science Building, Education/Art Building, Founder's Hall, Memorial Hall, and Wilkinson Hall, four of which surround three sides of a tree-lined grass quadrangle $105^{\circ} \times 220^{\circ}$ in size, with the fourth side bounded by Glassell Street, one of two major streets in downtown Orange. The fifth building and sides of two of the other four buildings form a second less formal tree and grass rectangular space $100^{\circ} \times 200^{\circ}$.

The buildings are all neo-classical in appearance, with four of the primary facades and column pedimented entrances facing onto the formal grass quad. The pilaster and corniced primary entrance to the fifth building faces onto the second less formal treed open space.

Three of the buildings, Old Science, Education/Art, and Founders Hall, all are two stories high, with either full or partial basements, the first floor being four to five feet above grade. The three buildings are rectangular in plan, with Old Science being 50 ft. by 100 ft., Education/Art being 60 ft. by 100 ft., and Founders Hall being 60 ft. by 104 ft. in plan.

The Old Science and Education/Art Buildings were both constructed in 1913, with Founder's Hall completed fifteen years later in 1928.

In general, these three buildings maintain the following appearance characteristics. The lower portions of the exterior walls between the ground level and the first floor level (approximately 4 to 5 ft. above grade) are of simulated rusticated cut stone, terminated at the first floor line by a continuous one-foot-high protruding band. Walls above this line are painted plaster running up to the bottom of the cornice, with a second 6' protruding band occurring at the sill level of the second story windows as an organizing element. Cornices are continuous at the top of the wall, with a slightly articulated parapet above. All three of the buildings have main entrances projecting from one to several feet, resulting from pilaster or pilaster and column entrances with triangular pediments over. Two of the buildings, Old Science and Education/Art, have faces other than the main entrance that face onto streets. As such, they have several pilasters and pediments to provide interest and articulation to these key exposures. The Old Science Building has exposure on two streets, and Education/Art has exposure on one street. Windows occur in pairs on these three buildings and are aligned at all three levels -- basements, first floor, and second floor.

Memorial Hall is a single structure consisting of four basic parts, three of which are original to the initial construction completed in 1921, and the fourth part being added five years later in 1926. The original construction included the front portion which is four stories in neight (including the basement), is 43 ft. by 119 ft. in plan. It houses offices, classrooms and a

 IGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as A	ppropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	and Known)		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Chec	k One or More as Appropr	iate)	,
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Conservation	Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The stately neo-classical buildings which comprised Orange Union High School for 50 years, from 1904 to 1954, served as the cultural center of this thriving young community, since there was no college nearby. The City of Orange dates its founding as 1873. Newspapers of the era refer frequently to musical, dramatic, and other events open to the community in the school's two auditoriums. That the school and city leaders intended this to be the case is evidenced by the construction in 1921 of an auditorium which is still (1974) the largest of its type in Orange County, seating 1000 persons and equipped with "an excellent pipe organ" (replaced by Chapman College in 1973 with installation of a new Schantz organ, one of the region's finest). This ambitious approach to community planning was a fitting compliment to the city's unique Plaza two blocks south, making central Orange something of a showplace in comparison to other communities of the area.

The city's commitment to education was also noteworthy. With a population of only 1300 in 1903, Orange began construction of the first high school building (now known as Wilkinson Hall) at Palm Avenue and Glassell Street, having approved that year a bond issue of \$35,000 to purchase a site and finance construction. Such civic ambition was especially laudable since Orange was just beginning to recover from an agricultural blight in the late 1880's which had destroyed its major industry (grapes) and bank-rupted many citizens. The original bond issue in 1903 was only the fore-runner of many hundreds of thousands of dollars contributed by dedicated residents of the area through taxes, additional bonds, and individual donations, often at great personal sacrifice. Some of the early citizens still reside in the community, and their hearts are gladdened when they see that their original investment of time, talent, and treasure is still serving the purposes which their dreams envisioned.

By 1932, with citrus now the region's major crop and a city population of 9,000, the high school had grown to include the five structures described in this application, as well as several other buildings, was enrolling a surprising 1,268 students in daytime classes, night school, and Americanization classes, and had already graduated 1,568 young men and women since its founding. Among these graduates was Fred Kelley who, as a

9. MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAPHICAL R	EFERENCES	;							
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Physical Appearance (continued)

lobby for the auditorium, the central portion being a 66 ft. x 90 ft. auditorium seating approximately 1000 people on the main floor and in the balcony extending full length on both sides and across the rear. The rear portion is the backstage and stage area measuring 26 ft. by 70 ft., and having walls 45 ft. above grade. The 1926 addition was a 37 ft. by 44 ft. music hall one story high and located at the rear side of the original structure.

Memorial Hall is the fourth building facing onto the formal quadrangle and is the focus of the space being opposite the open end that adjoins the street. Its main facade is 119 ft long with a 5-foot building projection in the center of the facade 70 ft. wide, plus an additional 15-foot projection of steps that run almost the entire width of the building projection and climb approximately six feet to the platform landing at the first floor level. In the center of this building projection, 3/4 the width of the projection is a recess running up to the continuous main cornice, which is ten feet below the top of parapet. Four free-standing doric columns, that rise from the first floor level of the recess in the building projection up to the main cornice, divide the recess area into five equal spaces which are punctuated in the wall behind by entrances in the three center bays above at the second floor level. The remainder of the building faces are articulated by the continuous cornice, periodic relief pilasters, a continuous protruding relief band at the first floor level, occasional ornamentation at major secondary entrances and the regular spacing and alignment of the first and second floor windows.

The fifth building, Wilkinson Hall, is the oldest structure on the campus. It was completed in 1904 and originally was located in the area which is now the formal tree-lined quad known today as "The Sunken Lawn." The building was moved some 300 feet to its present location at the time Memorial Hall was Wilkinson Hall is 87 ft. by 110 ft. in plan, is two stories in height, with a partial basement. The first floor level is about five feet above grade, with the area between grade and continuous protruding band at the first floor level being simulated rusticated cut building stone. A second 6' high projecting organizing band occurs at the sill of the second story windows. A continuous ornamented parapet 4 feet high above. The front facade has a 45 ft. wide, 4 ft. forward building projection in the center portion of the building to emphasize the main entrance. Four projecting pilasters break up this building projection into three spaces, with the center of these three spaces being wider than the outside two. This wider center space provides the main formal entrance to the building. The parapet above the continuous cornice at this main entrance projection is more elaborate, with a terminal ballustrade on top of the parapet. Entrances at the two ends of the building are also articulated by two pilasters and have slightly less ornamented parapets. Windows are organized in pairs, threes, and fours, and are aligned on the three levels, with the windows of the second floor at the projecting main entrance being rounded on top. Wilkinson Hall faces onto the second less formal treed space.

From all indications, the exteriors of all five buildings are largely unaltered from their original construction, with the exception of the elimination of a group of four windows on the second floor of Wilkinson Hall, added metal fire escapes, new exterior paint, and new location of Wilkinson Hall. As previously mentioned, a music hall was added to Memorial Hall in 1926.

freshman at the University of Southern California in 1912, set the world's high hurdle record at the Olympic Games in Stockholm, Sweden, bringing international fame to his hometown and alma mater.

The community's commitment to quality education was evidenced by the immediate accreditation of the high school by the University of California in 1904, at the end of its first year of classes. By the 1930's, a full range of college preparatory and commercial courses was being offered.

In the fall of 1954, a new chapter began in the history of the already venerable structures. Chapman College, which had been founded as California Christian College in 1918 but had merged with other institutions related to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) with histories dating back to 1861, moved from Los Angeles to occupy the former high school site. The College immediately began a long-range program of renovation, refurbishing, and relandscaping, as well as a concommitant program of new construction. This still continues today, with several major projects underway. In cooperation with Leason Pomeroy & Associates of Orange, the College master planners, Chapman has a fundamental commitment to restoration, retaining the integrity of the original structures and thus enhancing the other unusual buildings in the nearby Plaza. Much of the Plaza area is, at present, also undergoing extensive restoration, creating a site of unusual historical significance to Orange County and to all of Southern California.

When classes opened in September, 1954, Chapman College became the first four-year college in Orange County (what is now California State University at Fullerton offered its first classes in 1959). A series of achievements followed, greatly strengthening the educational resources of the community. An evening College and Summer Sessions were established shortly after the new campus opened. By 1959, the College was offering graduate studies, then primarily in the field of education, creating strong ties which still exist with school districts throughout the region. In 1964, a Management Center was established to serve business and industry (these offerings are included under a new Continuing Education program). Community services subsequently established include a Speech and Hearing Clinic, Reading Clinic, Community Clinic (for psychological counseling), and a Child Development Center (for preschool education).

The cultural tradition of Orange Union High School was continued and expanded by the College. In addition to an outstanding music program, Chapman offered drama and art and a film series which, in the 1970's, has become known throughout Southern California for its comprehensiveness and innovation. During the 1950's, the College created Purcell Gallery, one of the region's most interesting small galleries. This is located on the second floor of the Art/Education Building, renamed Reeves Hall in November, 1974. The most historic offering, however, was the Chapman Artist Lecture Series which, at the time of its inception in 1958, was the only program between Los Angeles and San Diego Counties scheduling nationally known speakers and performers. Appearing on the Memorial Hall Auditorium stage were Eleanor Roosevelt, Carl Sandburg, Martin Luther King, Aldous Huxley, Paul Tillich, Helen Hayes, Maurice Evans, the Juillard Quartet, and many others. The

series still continues today, with the 1974-75 season offering a wide range of nationally known programs and speakers.

Chapman's athletic achievements also drew attention to the Orange community. Its basketball team saw national competition in the 1960's, and its baseball team won a national championship in the 1960's.

As these accomplishments would suggest, one of the unusual characteristics of Chapman College during its years in Orange County has been a degree of community service rarely seen in an independent, church-related liberal arts college. But Chapman was to bring even more attention to Orange. In 1965, the College established its internationally-famed World Campus Afloat program, offering semesters of college study at sea. Administered from the home campus, this program literally has made Chapman College of Orange, California, better known in many parts of the world than Harvard or Yale. It has been universally acclaimed by international political, educational, and religious leaders as a truly significant effort toward international education and understanding and is, no doubt, the best known feature of Chapman College. The College's graphic symbol, combining a window and a world, underscores the institution's profound international commitment -- with the window, incidentally, being drawn from a neo-classical architectural element of the original Orange Union High School buildings.

Less well known, but of increasing importance, are Chapman's Residence Education Centers, begun in 1958 at El Toro Marine Air Station in Orange County, and now offering college degree programs on military bases throughout California, across the nation, and aboard Navy ships in the Pacific. This program also has its headquarters on the home campus. Literally thousands of military and civilian personnel have become appreciatively aware of Chapman College in Orange, California, through this farreaching and highly contemporary program. Indeed, the head of an accreditation team assigned to Chapman by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges stated in November, 1974, that American higher education looks to Chapman College as a model for these innovative programs. No other institution today offers educational programs comparable to either of them.

It is the College's belief that an unbroken tradition of educational achievement, cultural enrichment, and community services gives historical significance to the cluster of five architecturally rare and well-maintained buildings, ranging in age from 70 to 46 years, which form the heart of Chapman College campus in the original business and residential district of downtown Orange.