

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



126

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Dr. Orville S. Ensign House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 304 South Laurel Avenue

n/a

not for publication

city or town Ontario

n/a

vicinity

state California code CA county San Bernardino code 71 zip code 91762

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide x local

William Wayne Dutton
Signature of certifying official/Title

State Historic Preservation Officer

31 JAN 2012

Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

☒ entered in the National Register

 determined eligible for the National Register

 determined not eligible for the National Register

 removed from the National Register

 other (explain:)

per Edison H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

3-20-12
Date of Action

Dr. Orville S. Ensign House
Name of Property

San Bernardino, CA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

None

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/ single dwelling

HEALTH CARE/ clinic

DOMESTIC/ multiple dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/ single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN/ Stick/Eastlake

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Raised

walls: Wood

roof: Composition/asphalt

other:

Dr. Orville S. Ensign House

Name of Property

San Bernardino, CA

County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Dr. Orville S. Ensign House property, at the southwest corner of Laurel Avenue and Main Street, contains a two-story wood frame Victorian house with Eastlake features and a two-car garage. The house faces north-east towards the San Gabriel Mountains and is located within a block of Ontario's downtown. Constructed in 1893 as a single family home with an attached medical office, the home's elaborate architectural features can be seen on the gable ends, wrap around veranda, balcony, exterior clad siding, raised pier foundation foundation, and rich ornamental detailing. The house is one of the finest, most elaborate, and ornate Eastlake style homes surviving today in Ontario and is among mature California Pepper, greville, palm, fruit, and eucalyptus trees some of which were planted during the late 1880s. Located in one of the City's first subdivisions, the South Side Tract was once considered a premier location but subsequent land uses and development resulting from the nearby railroad ways have altered the historic context. Despite the location, the house has retained a high degree of integrity and has unusually significant and intact interiors. The condition is good with some minor maintenance needed.

Main House

Exterior:

The primary façade of Dr. Ensign's house faces Laurel Avenue to the east and is setback approximately 35' from the front property line. The north side yard setback from Main Street to the building is approximately 33'. The south side yard setback from the building to the alley is approximately 76'. The rear yard setback is approximately 10'. Drive access to the 960 square foot garage is taken from Laurel Avenue.

The house sits on a raised foundation with a vertical redwood panel surround and is rectangular in plan. The entire building was constructed in redwood, including the floors. It has a steeply pitched intersecting gable roof covered by composition shingles. Each gable end displays triangular lattice-style stick work and decorative beaded bargeboards that frame a pair of square wood framed windows. The building wall on the end has alternating sections of fishscale and square shingles. Below the eaves on the second story at the top of the wall is a single raised panel that goes completely around the house. The front facing gable end covers a second story recessed balcony. The wood lattice pattern design is repeated at the brackets of four hand-carved wood posts. Wood shingles cover the low wall of the balcony. The exterior clad of the building walls are sided with shiplap that is broken by horizontal and vertical framing which produce the paneling effect characteristic of the Eastlake style.

The *primary façade* is asymmetrical with three entrance doorways and four windows on the ground floor. Four of the five entry doors are in three parts consisting of a single transom window at the top, an etched opaque glass in the middle, and the lower half of the door is wood paneled. Each door is covered with a wood screen door. Above each door is a single transom window. The main entry door is on the northwest corner of the home recessed under the veranda. The second entrance, which

Dr. Orville S. Ensign House

Name of Property

San Bernardino, CA

County and State

leads to a sitting room of the house, is north of the main entrance on the primary façade. The second entrance was the main entry into Dr. Ensign's medical offices. One double-hung wood sash window is placed between the main entrance and the second entrance. The third entrance, which leads to the dining room, is a solid wood paneled door located on the southern portion of the primary facade. There are 3 double-hung sash wood windows between the main entrance and the third doorways arranged in a double-single pattern. The second story fenestration loosely mirrors the ground floor with 2 double-hung sash wood windows and a centrally located 2-part wood paneled and etched glass door that accesses the balcony. All original windows are intact.

The pediment front porch entry-way incorporates a decorative bargeboard and waved shingling pattern and is topped with metal roof cresting. The veranda wraps around from the primary façade to the side of the house. Several carved posts with corner brackets support the spindle work along the frieze and porch balusters. The veranda base is covered with a vertical wood panel.

The window fenestration on the north elevation consists of five double-hung wood sash windows. Two window openings are space evenly apart on the ground floor. On the second floor, there is a smaller double-hung wood sash window that is centrally placed between two larger double-hung wood sash windows which are evenly spaced apart.

The *south elevation* is covered by a low pitched double hipped roof. The first and second stories on the east portion of the elevation have 6 large wood frame sash double hung bay windows that are equally divided between the floors creating a tower. A flat roofed sunroom addition with a band of 6 rectangular wood framed fixed windows is situated on the second story above the covered porch. The details on the sunroom and porch are carried over from the primary elevation including the wood square design that runs along the top of the wall under the eaves, horizontal wood siding, porch railing and posts. The addition of the sunroom appears to have been constructed in or around 1912. The windows were most likely covered with screens only. Sometime after 1920 but before 1940, the screens were replaced with fixed windows. There is an entry door located under the porch which leads to a mud room and then on to the kitchen. The mud room appears to have been added to the porch during the early nineteenth century when indoor plumbing was installed to the home, around 1912.

The *west elevation* can be described in three vertical parts. The center portion of the elevation is covered by a gable end which projects from the building wall plane. The gable end has similar detailing as the gable end on the primary elevation with the exception of the lattice work and wood bracket that runs along the top of the window. Instead of the two gable end windows, there is only one square window. Below is a rectangular wood sash frame double hung window on the second story and on the first story. The northern portion of the elevation is covered by a hipped roof. The second story has a wood framed sash double hung window. Directly below on the first story, is an identical window. There is a flat roofed covered porch that is contained within this area that sits on a raised foundation. The porch has carved wood railing and posts that are similar in design to the primary façade. There is a single wood paneled entrance door with transom window that is accessible from the porch. This entry way leads to a room that was once used as a private doctor's office. This porch was constructed during the 1980s to utilize the existing entry door. There was most likely a landing or porch with a staircase originally at this location. The southern portion of the elevation includes the sunroom addition on the second story, the mud room addition, and a large wood framed cabinet which houses the water heater. The sunroom is covered with vertical wood siding.

Dr. Orville S. Ensign House

Name of Property

San Bernardino, CA

County and State

Interior:

The interior of the home remains relatively unchanged from the original construction with only a few minor alterations. On the first floor, the wall that separated the medical office from the single family residence was removed during the 1980s. This resulted in enlarging the sitting area. The kitchen had been remodeled on several occasions throughout the decades and upgraded with modern conveniences as they became available including indoor plumbing, electricity, stove tops, etc. The redwood staircase, banister, door and window molding, baseboards, interior doors, and chair railing are all in tact in their original condition. The original bathroom on the second story had been removed and converted to a laundry room in 1912 when a larger bathroom, adjacent to the sunroom addition, was constructed and included indoor plumbing. Above all the doors on the second story are transom windows.

Alterations: (state interior and exterior)

The alterations to the Dr. O.S. Ensign House have been very minor in nature and do not detract from the integrity of the home. Essentially the house remains in the original architectural form. Alterations occurring in 1912 include, as previously mentioned, installation of plumbing, a bathroom addition and screened sleeping porch, a downstairs bathroom, and a porch enclosure. At some unknown point, the veranda on the primary façade had been enclosed creating two rooms. The upstairs balcony on the primary façade had also been enclosed. A majority of the exterior alterations occur on the side (south) and rear (west) elevations of the building. Approximately half of the first floor was originally occupied by Dr. Ensign's medical offices. The most north entrance on the east elevation leads to a separate sitting or waiting room. There was a door that leads to the medical exam room. The medical exam room was situated in the northwest corner of the house. It has since been converted to the library. From the medical exam room, a door way on the south wall leads to Dr. Ensign's private office. The private office is now a den.

In 1980, new owner Mearl (Skip) Pace undertook many projects to restore this house back to its original Victorian elegance. First, the two rooms enclosing the full-length front porch were removed to expose the stick style railing. Second, screens that once encompassed the upstairs veranda were removed to expose the ornate gingerbread style that is popular for this type of architecture. The property owner also constructed a new porch on the rear (west) elevation. The placement of an original door and entryway indicates a porch or landing was present at this location.

The medical office had been removed from the building under Frederic Edward Unholz ownership in 1906. Despite these relatively minor alterations, the integrity of the structure's original design, materials, and workmanship remain in tact.

Setting:

The property is fully landscaped with several mature pepper, grevillea, palm, and eucalyptus trees, grass, shrubs, and bushes such as jade, honeysuckle, and trumpet vines. Several fruit trees, including 2 historic navel trees, are planted throughout rear, side, and front yards. The yard features a fish pond, drinking fountain, bird bath, and sun dial. A scalloped wood picket fence which sits on a block wall and has evenly spaced block pilasters surrounds and encloses the yard. The block on the wall dates from 1905 and was originally a part of the Church of Nazarene. Entrance to the property is

Dr. Orville S. Ensign House

Name of Property

San Bernardino, CA

County and State

though the gate located at the northeastern corner of the lot. There is a concrete pedestrian pathway edged with bricks that leads to the home.

The orientation of the house to the railroad ways is important to the City's history and development. The properties subdivided to the north and south of the railroad tracks were developed with grand Victorian style homes. The intent was to showcase prominence to the passengers on the train and town visitors in order to attract town settlers. Today, the property is situated between two railroad ways that serve Union Pacific, the Metrolink, and Amtrak within the General Industrial Zoning District. The block in which the property is located is comprised of a combination of multiple family residential dwelling units and vacant lots. There is a heavy industrial operation located to the east of the property. The property and grounds are in good condition and has had little alteration since its construction. The surrounding land uses and properties, however, have undergone extensive changes overall changing the historic context.

Detached Garage:

The detached two car garage on the property is located on the southeast portion of the lot and is accessible from South Laurel Avenue. The building is rectangular in plan and has a steeply pitched, side facing gable. The roof is covered with corrugated metal. The wood sliding garage doors front S. Laurel Avenue. The gable ends are covered with vertical siding and the lower walls are covered with horizontal wood siding. There is a small addition on the west elevation of the building that is used for storage. The building is in poor condition, and has a very low level of architectural integrity due to alterations and additions. There are no building permits on record and it is most likely that the building was constructed during the 1930s, after the property's period of significance. Due to its construction outside the main property's period of significance, the garage is a non-contributing building.

Dr. Orville S. Ensign House
Name of Property

San Bernardino, CA
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1893-1912

Significant Dates

1893, date of construction

1912, date of alteration

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Gerry, John (contractor)

Manley, Robert (contractor)

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance dates from the year of construction, 1893, until 1912 when several alterations, including the addition of a new bathroom and a mud room, were made.

Dr. Orville S. Ensign House

Name of Property

San Bernardino, CA

County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

There are only a few remaining large scale Victorian era homes remaining within the City of Ontario. The Dr. Orville S. Ensign House is significant as one of the most elaborate and intact Eastlake architecture extant in the City. The property contains a two-story house and a two-car garage. Constructed in 1893 as a single family home with an attached medical office, the home's elaborate architectural features can be seen on the gable ends, wrap around veranda, balcony, exterior clad siding, and rich ornamental detailing. The house is one of the finest, most elaborate, and ornate Eastlake style homes surviving today in Ontario and is among mature California Pepper, greville, palm, fruit, and eucalyptus trees some of which were planted during the late 1880s. The house's architectural style demonstrates the continued popularity of the Victorian design in the first decade of the twentieth century. It represents an outstanding example of Victorian design and craftsmanship in the context of pioneering residential homes in Ontario. It meets National register Criterion C, embodying distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction and possesses high artistic values.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Victoria Era architectural styles such as the Queen Anne, Stick, Shingle, Folk, Victorian Eclectic, and Eastlake ranging in size from bungalow to grand were popular from 1870s to 1890s in City of Ontario. Unfortunately, many of the modest to grand scale Victorian homes have not survived. The community, however, has a large collection of Victorian era bungalows.

The Dr. Orville S. Ensign House exhibits character defining features of the Eastlake style of architecture evident by the elaborate architectural features seen on the gable ends, wrap around veranda, balcony, exterior clad siding, and rich ornamental detailing.

Typical character defining features of the Eastlake architectural style are large decorative porches or verandas, steeply pitched gabled roofs, wood or shingle siding, carved turned post, carved gable end decoration, half timbering, and cut out pattern on porch frieze. Porch posts, railings, balustrades, bargeboards, braces and pendants were characterized by a massive, oversized, and robust Eastlake quality. Large curved brackets, scrolls, and other stylized elements often are placed at every corner, turn or projection along the facade. Perforated gables and pediments, carved panels and a profusion of beaded spindles, and lattice work found along porch eaves add to the complexity of the facade. These lighter elements combined with the heavier and oversized architectural members exaggerated the three-dimensional quality.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

On September 24, 1844, in Ithaca, New York, Orville S. Ensign was born. During the summer of 1862, when Ensign was only 18 years old, he enlisted in the Grand Army of the Republic and became a member of Company D of the 137th Regiment of the New York Volunteers. During his first year, he was taken prisoner at Chancellorsville, VA and sent to the infamous Libby Prison in Richmond. He saw and endured terrible hardships until he was freed by a prisoner exchange. He returned to his Regiment and continued to serve out the rest of his duty. He engaged in several battles including Mission Ridge, Lookout Mountain, Rhinegold, Resaca, Konesan, the Peach Tree Creek Siege, and the Capture of Atlanta. In 1864 he participated in his last battle, Sherman's March to the Sea. After,

Dr. Orville S. Ensign House

Name of Property

San Bernardino, CA

County and State

he returned home where he became a teacher. Eventually he became the Commissioner of Schools for Tompkins County and served two terms as Superintendent of Schools for the State of New York. It was during this time period that Orville Ensign married Sara Kelly.

Shortly thereafter, Ensign decided to follow his passion and become a doctor. The couple moved to Michigan so he could attend classes at the University of Michigan. In 1880, he received his diploma and became a physician and surgeon specializing in diseases of the throat and nose. He practiced as a physician in his home state until his health started to fail.

In January of 1888, Ensign, Sara, and their adopted son Fred, traveled to Ontario. They took residency at the Ontario Hotel just north of West Main Street in the downtown. He rented a suite in the nearby Bank Block and started his practice. Dr. Ensign not only served the community of Ontario in a professional capacity he also was an active participant of several groups and clubs such as the First Methodist Church, Republican Club, Court Physician of the Court of San Antonio #1297 Order of the Foresters, Physicians for the Woodman of the World Camp #78, Post 124 of the Grand Army of the Republican, Fraternal Aid Society, founding members of the Ontario Public Library. Sarah Ensign was an active member of the early Friday afternoon club (a literary society).

In 1891, Dr. Ensign purchased the lot in the South Side Tract for \$800 with the intent to construct a house that would serve as both a residence and a medical office on November 4, 1892. In October of 1893, The Dr. Orville S. Ensign House was constructed in 1893 by contractor John Gerry, one of Ontario's leading contractors, for \$3000. The medical office was established on a portion of the first floor and the remainder of the house served as the family's residence. Although Dr. Ensign's practice was very successful and had many patients he could no continue to serve the public as he grew very ill. A young doctor by the name of Christopher Sheppard came from Ontario, Canada to assist him with his practice. After Ensign's death in 1899, Dr. Sheppard purchased Ensign's practice and rented the medical offices and three bedrooms in the home for his family, Mary Elizabeth and their daughter "Bessie". Dr. Sheppard served as the City Health Officer.

Mrs. Ensign then sold the house on April 4, 1906 to Frederic Edward and Mae Unholz formerly from Santa Ana. Mr. Unholz was the owner and publisher of the Ontario Record and the Ontario Republican newspapers. His stay at the Ensign House was short lived. For unknown reasons, the Unholz family sold the home in December 1907. They did, however, continued to live in Ontario and operate the newspaper.

The house was sold to farmer and nursery owner Jesse Lewis, wife Alnetta and eight children who were from Iowa. The Lewis' family began to take in borders and the house soon became known as the "Lewis Apartments", and later, the "Palm Gardens Inn". Many of the borders worked at the local Hotpoint Iron Company (a General Electric Company). The house remained in the Lewis Family for the next 71 years passing ownership to the next two generations. During this time, the house address had changed from 205 West Main Street to 304 South Laurel Avenue.

In 1977, Mark Sloan, great grandson of Jesse and Mae Lewis, sold the home outside of family to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stuart. As previously stated, the current homeowner is Mearl Everett "Skip" Pace who purchased the house in 1978, when the Stuarts' moved to Pasadena to further a career in acting.

Dr. Orville S. Ensign House

Name of Property

San Bernardino, CA

County and State

Historic Context Information: Stick/Eastlake Style

The Period of Significance for this property is associated with the Victorian Era (1880-1910) as the Dr. Ensign House was constructed in 1893 during this period. Queen Victoria ruled Great Britain from 1837 until her death in 1901. Many historians place the American Victorian Era between 1876 (as Civil War Reconstruction ended and the country's Centennial celebrations began) and 1914 (when World War 1 began). The main theme of the Victorian Era is change. It was during this time period that the industrial revolution occurred. The first phonograph, telephone exchange, incandescent light bulb and electric streetcar were developed. Americans became more mobile with the extension of rail lines and the invention of automobiles. During the late 1800's and early 1900's, the northern states became more industrialized. This industrialization process made many individuals rich and brought many rural residents into the inner cities for work. Over time, workers responded to the social and economic inequities by various social movements and labor efforts through unionizing for better wages, better working conditions and shorter hours.

Etiquette, cleanliness, and gardening were all components of the Victorian lifestyle. Manuals of etiquette were designed to shape a persons character. With the outbreak of disease, cleanliness was of utmost importance. With the improvement in technology, the growing middle-class acquired more mass-produced goods which helped to create more free time.

The homes of the Victorian Era reflected this unique time. Grand Victorian homes were built for the wealthy industrialists to display their success. These homes were very ornate with large front verandas, a mix of materials and colors, formal entertaining areas, and formal gardens. Given the etiquette of the times, the homes were divided into well defined public and private spaces. *In 1876, a new architectural style was introduced at the British Pavilion Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia called Queen Anne. Queen Anne homes found immediate favor in America. Since most of the homes in Ontario built during the Victorian Era were built after 1876, it is not surprising that most of the Victorian Era homes in Ontario have elements of the Queen Anne style.*

The Eastlake style of architecture was named after Charles L. Eastlake (1833-1906), an English architect who wrote *Hints on Household Taste in Furniture, Upholstery, and Other Details*, published in 1868. The book was reprinted in America in 1872 and became so popular that it required six editions within eleven years. In his book, Eastlake promotes a peculiar kind of furniture and interior decoration that was angular, notched and carved, and deliberately opposed to the curved shapes of French Baroque Revival Styles such as the Second Empire. Traditionally, furniture makers imitated architectural forms, but Eastlake reversed this process. Eastlake houses had architectural ornamentation that had copied the furniture inside the house.

Dr. Orville S. Ensign House

Name of Property

San Bernardino, CA

County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1996.

Pace, Skip. Landmarks of the Past, History of the Dr. Ensign Home: Ontario, Privately Published, 2008.

The Ontario Record, Vol. IV, No. 4, September 14, 1986, a compilation of articles from 1888- 1979

"Dr. Ensign is Dead", *The Ontario Record*, Obituary, 1899

The Ontario Model Colony Historic Context. City of Ontario, 1985.

DPR523 A- Reconnaissance Level Survey Record and DPR523B- Intensive Level Survey Record, Jim Warner, City of Ontario, 1983.

City of Ontario Public Library, Model Colony History room, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1888 to 1950.

City of Ontario Public Library, Model Colony History room, Luskey's City Directories, 1924 to 1964.

<http://www.essential-architecture.com> (August 30, 2010)

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 # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .29

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 11 439830 3768900
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of the Dr. Orville S. Ensign House is highlighted on the accompanying map entitled "Ontario, CA Topographic 7.5'. The San Bernardino County Assessor's office has assigned the parcel number of APN1049-043-04-0000 for the purpose of identification.

Dr. Orville S. Ensign House
Name of Property

San Bernardino, CA
County and State

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary is limited to the parcel itself which contains the home, garage, and landscaped yard which has historically been apart of the residence and grounds. The existing parcel boundary has not changed since the original subdivision.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Diane Ayala/ Associate Planner

organization City of Ontario

date August 10, 2011

street & number 303 East B Street

telephone (909) 395-2428

city or town Ontario

state CA

zip code 91764

e-mail dayala@ci.ontario.ca.us

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Dr. Orville S. Ensign House

Name of Property

San Bernardino, CA

County and State

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Dr. Orville S. Ensign House
City or Vicinity: Ontario
County: San Bernardino
State: CA
Photographer: Rudy Zeledon
Date Photographed: April 2011
Location of Original Digital Files: 304 South Laurel Avenue, Ontario, CA 91762
Number of Photographs: 8

Photos #1 and #2
North and east façade, camera facing southwest

Photo#3
East façade, camera facing west

Photo#4
North façade, camera facing south

Photo#5
Parlor room, camera facing east

Photo#6
Dining room, camera facing south

Photo#7
Hallway and stairs, camera facing south

Photo#8
Upstairs hallway, camera facing north

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Mearl Everett Pace

street & number 304 S. Laurel Avenue

telephone (909) 391-7072

city or town Ontario

state CA

zip code 91762

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. 460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Dr. Orville S. Ensign House

Name of Property

San Bernardino, CA

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 1



APN: 104904304
Address:
304 S LAUREL
ONTARIO, CA 91762
Acreage: 0.31

Diane Ayala
City of Ontario
8/5/2011



Figure 1. Google Maps photo of property showing boundary.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Dr. Orville S. Ensign House

Name of Property
San Bernardino, CA

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 2

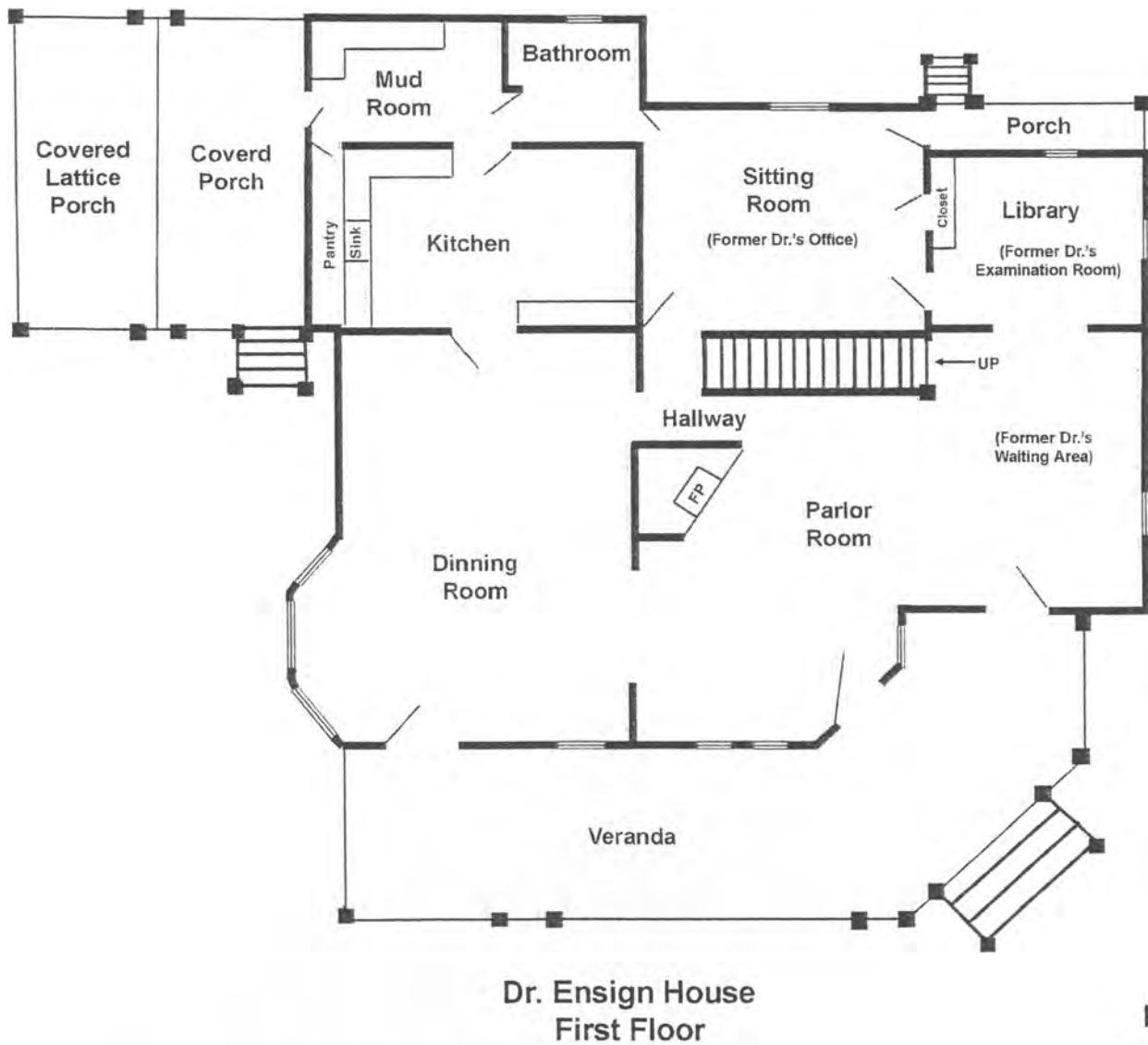


Figure 2. First floor diagram.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Dr. Orville S. Ensign House

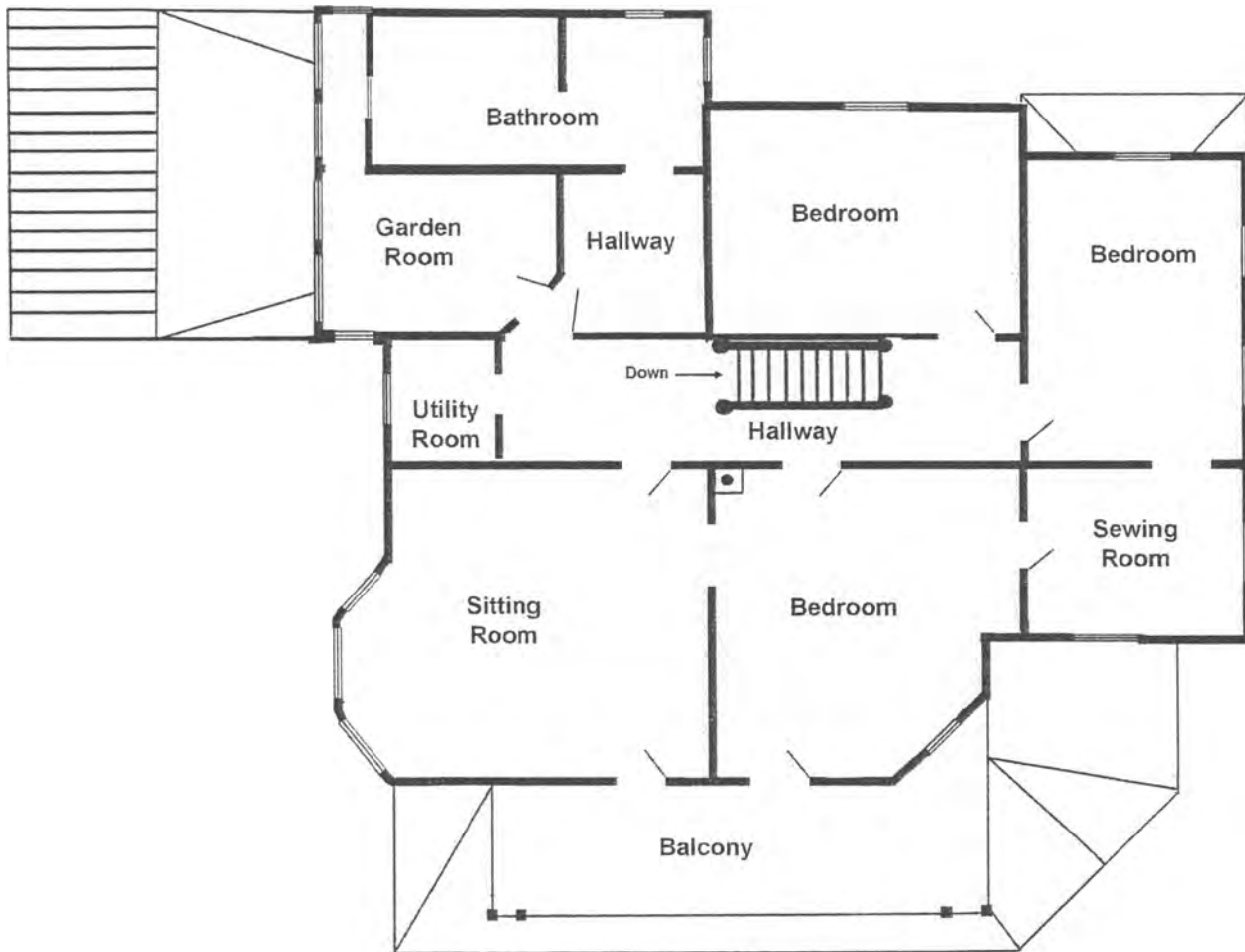
Name of Property
San Bernardino, CA

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 3



Dr. Ensign House
Second Floor

N →
Not to Scale

Figure 3. Second floor diagram.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Ensign, Dr. Orville S., House
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: CALIFORNIA, San Bernardino

DATE RECEIVED: 2/03/12 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/27/12
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/13/12 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/20/12
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 12000126

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 3-20-12 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the
nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

Dr. Orville S. Ensign House
Ontario, San Bernardino County, California
Staff Report

The Dr. Orville S. Ensign House is a Stick-Eastlake residence constructed in 1893 in the city of Ontario, California. The two-story building was constructed as a single-family home with attached medical office. The steeply pitched gabled roof has a prominent cross gable with decorative trusses and decorative beaded bargeboards at each gable end. Shiplap siding, with shingles beneath the gable ends, is interrupted by patterns of vertical and horizontal boards. The porch features an unusual main entrance, set at a 45 degree angle to the main house, while a second entrance leads to the medical office. The property is one of the most elaborate and intact examples of Stick-Eastlake architecture in the city of Ontario.

The property is eligible under Criterion C as an excellent example of Stick-Eastlake residential architecture, exhibiting a high degree of craftsmanship. A 1912 addition of a sun room on the building rear was done sympathetically to the building's overall architecture and has gained significance in its own right. The property's period of significance is 1893-1912, reflecting the original construction and 1912 remodel of the property. The property retains a high degree of integrity in all aspects.

The property is nominated by the City of Ontario on behalf of the property owner.

Staff supports the nomination as written and recommends the State Historical Resources Commission determine that the Dr. Orville S. Ensign House meets National Register Criterion C at the local level of significance. Staff recommends that the State Historic Preservation Officer approve the nomination for forwarding to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register.

William Burg
Historian I
December 15, 2011





DR. D. S. EMMETT
1893

Welcome



BEWARE
OF DOG









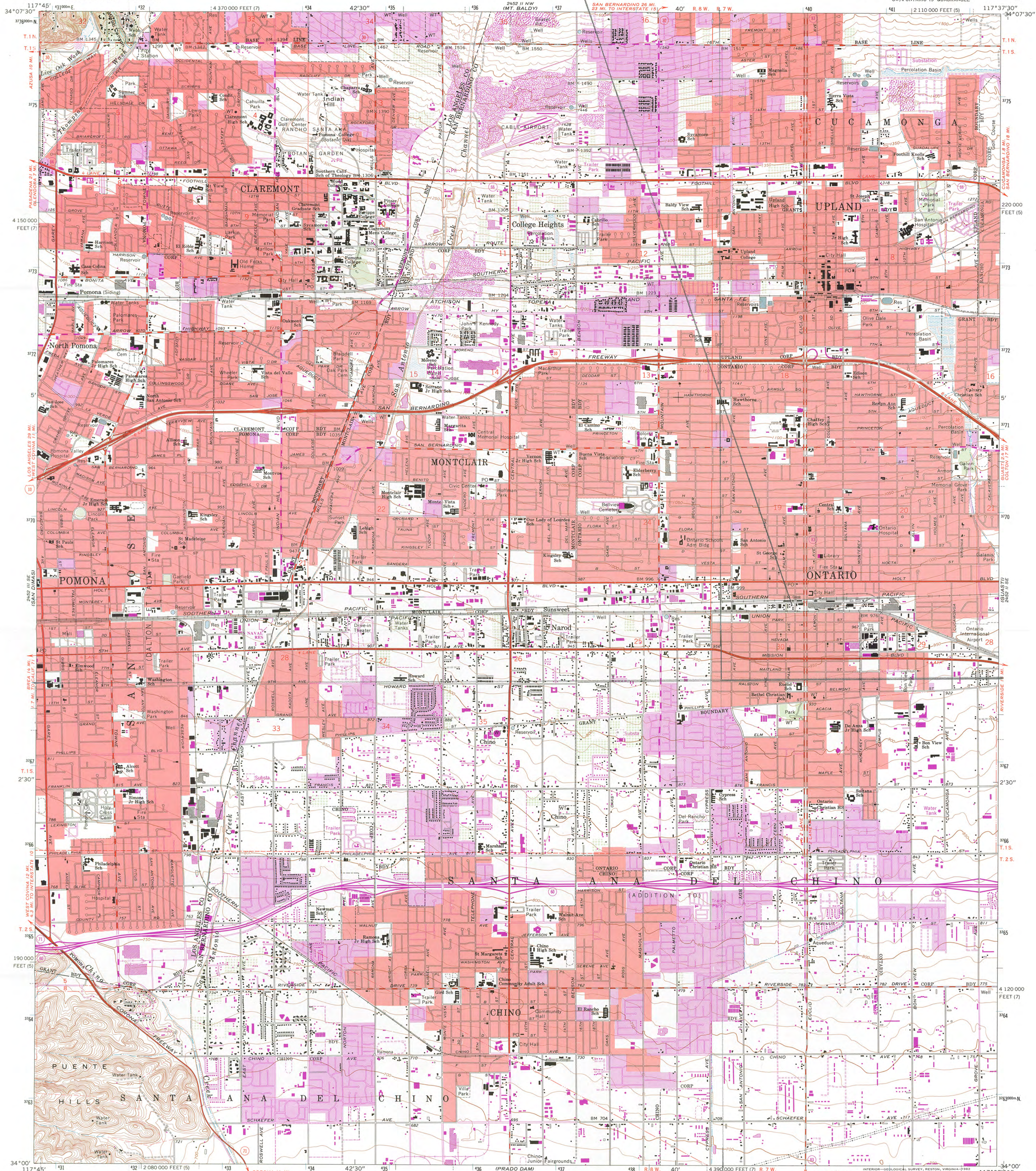


UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Dr. Dville S. Ensign House
304 South Laurel Avenue
Ontario, California

439830E
3768900N

ONTARIO QUADRANGLE
CALIFORNIA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SW/4 ONTARIO 15' QUADRANGLE

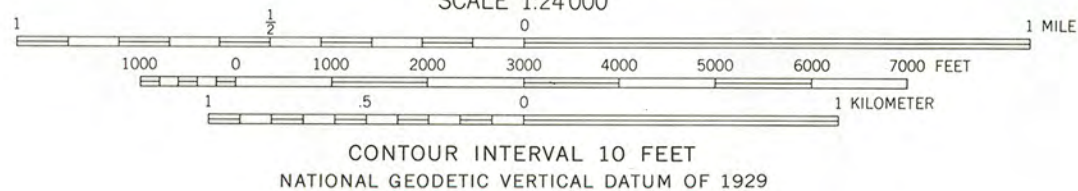
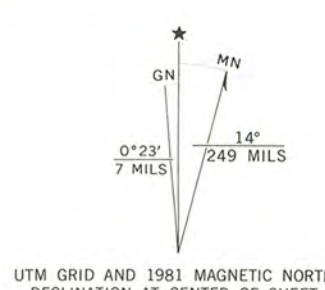


Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Revised in cooperation with California Department of
Water Resources

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Los Angeles County
Topography by plane-table surveys 1925, 1933-34 and 1939
Planimetry revised by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1967
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on
California coordinate system, zones 5 and 7. 1,000-meter
Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 11, shown
in blue. 1927 North American Datum. To place on the
predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection
lines 2 meters north and 84 meters east as shown by
dashed corner ticks

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the
National or State reservations shown on this map

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled from
aerial photographs taken 1978 and other sources. This
information not field checked. Map edited 1981
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

ONTARIO, CALIF.
SW/4 ONTARIO 15' QUADRANGLE
N3400—W11737.5/7.5

1967
PHOTOREVISED 1981
DMA 2452 II SW—SERIES V895

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25208, DENVER, COLORADO 80225
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

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calshpo@parks.ca.gov
www.ohp.parks.ca.gov



January 31, 2012

Ms. Carol Shull, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service 2280
1201 I (Eye) Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Subject: **Dr. Orville S. Ensign House**
Ontario, San Bernardino County, California
National Register of Historic Places

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the **Dr. Orville S. Ensign House** nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. This property is located in Ontario, San Bernardino County, California. On January 20, 2012, the State Historical Resources Commission unanimously found the property eligible for the National Register under Criterion C at the local level of significance..

The property is nominated on behalf of the property owner by the City of Ontario.

If you have any questions regarding this nomination, please contact William Burg of my staff at (916) 445-7004.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Milford Wayne Donaldson".

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosures