

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received JAN 28 1986

date entered FEB 27 1986

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

**1. Name**

historic Blount Addition Historic District

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number Roughly includes the north side of West Culver Street  
between Central and Third Avenues N/A not for publication

city, town Phoenix N/A vicinity of

state Arizona code 04 county Maricopa code 013

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Multiple -- See attached individual sheets.

street & number

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Maricopa County Records Office

street & number 111 South Third Avenue

city, town Phoenix state Arizona

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Roosevelt Neighborhood Historic Building Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date September 1982  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Phoenix state Arizona

## 7. Description

### Condition

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

### Check one

unaltered  
 altered

### Check one

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

#### SUMMARY/CONTEXT

The Blount Addition Historic District is an addendum to the Roosevelt Neighborhood Multiple Resource Area (listed on the National Register in 1983). It encompasses the extant portion of the Blount Addition to Chelsea Place, a "suburban" addition to the original Phoenix townsite; that is, the north side of West Culver Street between Central and Third Avenues. The district includes eighteen buildings and their associated outbuildings. Visible from within the district are the historic sixteen-story Hotel Westward Ho and the historic Ellis/Shackelford House (both of which are listed on the National Register), as well as the modern commercial skyscrapers of adjacent downtown Phoenix.

#### DESCRIPTION

The Blount Addition developed between 1924 and 1928, with some infill as late as 1952. It is unusual in the Roosevelt Neighborhood Multiple Resource Area in that relatively few of the houses are Bungalows (BA-5, BA-9, BA-14, BA-17). Most are designed in Period Revival styles, particularly English Cottage Revival (BA-2, BA-4, BA-6, BA-7, BA-10, BA-11); Spanish Colonial Revival houses (BA-12, BA-13) are also present. The rhythm of houses, gabled roofline silhouettes, and similarity of materials and design create a visually cohesive, harmonious streetscape. The area designated as the Blount Addition has changed little since the period of significance (1919-1935). Houses in the residential district are generally sited on fifty-foot-wide lots. Tree lawns (the landscaped right-of-way between the street and the sidewalk) give the illusion of a setback deeper than the actual twenty feet. In some instances, the historic landscaping with California fan palm trees is also intact.

The Blount Addition Historic District has a high degree of integrity. Almost all of the exteriors of the twelve main contributing properties appear exactly as they did at the end of the period of significance. There is one contributing outbuilding on the rear of site BA-2. It is not readily visible from the street. Of the two that have been altered, one is currently being rehabilitated to its original appearance, and the other exhibits only minor, easily reversible modifications. None have been sheathed or clad with stucco since the period of significance. Only five noncontributing properties (BA-3, BA-5A, BA-8, BA-15, BA-16) are present in the district. Because these intrusions are generally compatible in terms of siting, height, massing, materials, and color, their visual impact on the district is minimal.

#### DELINIATION OF DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

The boundaries of the Blount Addition historic District were drawn to encompass the extant portion of the Blount Addition as it was originally platted, excluding intrusions on the periphery. To the south of the addendum area is the Moreland Corridor, a vacant strip cleared for the planned Papago Freeway. Development plans for this land call for the creation of a deck park over the freeway.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1935	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1919-1935 **Builder/Architect** Various

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

#### SUMMARY

The Blount Addition Historic District is significant as the best assemblage of Period Revival style buildings within a single streetscape in the Roosevelt Neighborhood Multiple Resource Area. Furthermore, it represents a continuum of the development of the Chelsea Place subdivision, listed on the National Register as the Chelsea Place Historic District.

#### HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The Chelsea Place Historic District (NR, 1983) is significant as an early example of a developers subdivision, having been built largely by Home Builders, who revolutionized residential land development in Phoenix. It is also significant for its association with a number of persons significant in the history of Phoenix and for its assemblage of Bungalow designs. Indeed, Chelsea Place encompasses one of the finest, most intact assemblages of Bungalows in Phoenix, ranging from finely detailed Craftsman Bungalows to modest interpretations of the California Bungalow.

The Blount Addition Historic District, which is adjacent to Chelsea Place, was first platted by Frank J. and Ida L. Blount, and W.C. and Reba B. Ellis in March 1919. Chelsea Place had been annexed to the City of Phoenix in 1913. Frank J. Blount, who owned the addended area, was a rancher. He resided in a house at the northwest corner of Culver Street and Central Avenue from 1908 until about 1935. His home is no longer standing.

William Clyde Ellis came to Phoenix from Ohio in 1907 and established a successful practice as a physician and surgeon. Ellis was a founder of Deaconess Hospital (later renamed Good Samaritan Hospital), where he served as Chief of the medical staff. He also served a term as City Commissioner in 1920-1921. Ellis was, furthermore, responsible for the erection of the Physicians Building and the Ellis Building, both commercial structures in Phoenix. In 1917 Ellis built the second house erected in what became the Blount Addition, at 1242 N. Central Avenue, across from the addendum area. The Ellis/Shackelford House (NR, 1983) now serves as a museum for the Arizona Historical Society.

#### ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Blount Addition is an outstanding assemblage of residences built in the Period Revival styles popular in Phoenix from the 1920's through the 1930's. Furthermore, it is the best assemblage of Period Revival buildings within a single streetscape in the Roosevelt Neighborhood Multiple Resource Area. This significance is enhanced by the dominance of designs in the English Cottage Revival style, a relatively rare type within the Multiple Resource Area.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approximately 3 acres

Quadrangle name Phoenix Quad

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

**UTM References**

A 

1	2
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4	0	0	2	0	0
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3	7	0	3	0	0	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B 

1	2
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4	0	0	2	0	0
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3	7	0	2	9	5	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C 

1	2
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3	9	9	9	4	0
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3	7	0	2	9	5	0
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D 

1	2
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3	9	9	9	4	0
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3	7	0	3	0	0	0
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E 

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**Verbal boundary description and justification**

See Continuation Sheet.

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state	N/A	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marsha L. Weisiger, Preservation Consultant

for the Culver Street Property Owners Committee of  
organization the Roosevelt Action Association

date July 1985

street & number 2604 West Carson Road

telephone (602) 438-9443

city or town Tempe

state Arizona

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Donna J. Schover

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date January 22, 1986

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date 2/27/86

Andrew Byer  
Keeper of the National Register

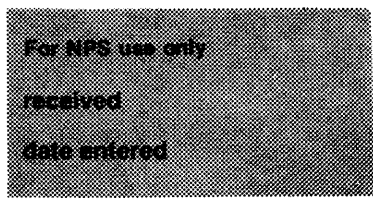
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet 1

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Contributing Properties

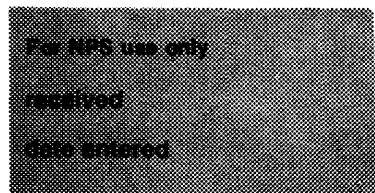
BA-2	26 W. Culver (and outbuilding)	English Cottage Revival
BA-4	36 W. Culver Willson House	English Cottage Revival
BA-5	42 W. Culver	Bungalow
BA-6	46 W. Culver Giacomini House	English Cottage Revival
BA-7	50 W. Culver	English Cottage Revival
BA-9	58-60 W. Culver	Bungalow
BA-10	62 W. Culver	English Cottage Revival
BA-11	66 W. Culver Benenato House	English Cottage Revival
BA-12	70 W. Culver Lacy House	Spanish Colonial Revival
BA-13	74 W. Culver Pitman House	Spanish Colonial Revival
BA-14	78 W. Culver	Bungalow
BA-17	90 W. Culver	Bungalow

Noncontributing Properties

BA-3	30 W. Culver
BA-5A	42 W. Culver (see form for site BA-5)
BA-8	54-56 W. Culver
BA-15	82 W. Culver
BA-16	86-88 W. Culver

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The Roosevelt Neighborhood Multiple Resource Area is significant for its variety of architectural styles, but the Bungalow is dominant (65%). Sprinkled throughout are Period Revival buildings (17%) in various styles, but nowhere is there as large and concentrated an assemblage as is found in the Blount Addition.

Furthermore, most of the Period Revival buildings exhibit Spanish-inspired motifs, including Spanish Colonial Revival, Mission Revival, and Pueblo Deco; together these account for about 70% of the fifty-eight Period Revival buildings in the Multiple Resource Area.

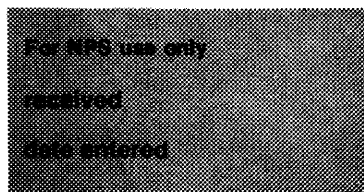
English Cottage Revival buildings are relatively rare in the Multiple Resource Area. Excluding those in the Blount Addition, only three English Cottage Revival houses are found in the area: the Helen Anderson House (NR, 1983), a house in the Roosevelt Historic District (NR, 1983), and a house in the Chelsea Place Historic District (NR, 1983). There is only one pure example of the Tudor Revival style, located in the Kenilworth Historic District (NR, 1983).

Period Revival domestic architecture was popular in Phoenix following World War I through the 1930's as part of the larger Picturesque Movement in architecture. The fascination with Period Revival styles was, in part, a result of nostalgia for the pre-industrial-age past. By the early 1920's, architects and builders began to draw upon historic precedent, often without great concern for accuracy. Rather, styles were suggested by massing, proportions, materials, and a few well chosen details to create an "artistic effect." The most popular Period Revival style in Phoenix was the Spanish Colonial Revival. The Spanish Colonial Revival came into vogue following the 1915 Panama-Columbia Exposition in San Diego and has continued in popularity, locally, up to the present time. Two buildings extant in the Blount Addition to Chelsea Place (BA-12, BA-13) were designed in this style. These residences feature characteristic details such as clay-tile roof planes, flat roofs with parapets, stuccoed walls, arched entryways and windows, and buttresses. The Robert L. Pitman House (BA-13), with its delicate Solomonic columns flanking a prominent, arched window, is a particularly noteworthy example in the Roosevelt Neighborhood Multiple Resource Area.

The dominant Period Revival style in the Blount Addition Historic District is the English Cottage Revival (BA-2, BA-4, BA-6, BA-7, BA-10, BA-11). This style became popular after World War I when American soldiers returned from Europe with a taste for the quaint cottages and picturesque villages they had seen abroad; its popularity lasted until about 1935. Characteristic features include steeply pitched roofs, jerkinhead roofs, cross gables, asymmetrical massing, massive chimneys, tall narrow windows in multiple groups with multipane glazing and Craftsman details. All but two of the brick houses are clad with their original stucco, a relatively common treatment in Phoenix. Particularly notable examples of English Cottage Revival residences are the Walter G. Willson House (BA-4) and the Dr. Victor Benenato House (BA-11).

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In addition to its Period Revival assemblage, the Blount Addition features four Bungalows (BA-5, BA-9, BA-14, BA-17). Their presence among the English Cottage Revival and Spanish Colonial Revival houses continues the Bungalow theme of the adjacent Chelsea Place Historic District, to which the Blount Addition was historically appended.

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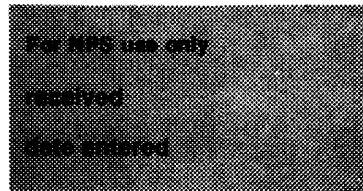
McAlister, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984.

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BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the Blount Addition Historic District is as shown by the bold line on the attached map at a scale of 1 inch/150 feet and includes all the individual properties as defined by their tax assessor numbers and legal descriptions listed on the inventory forms. At the south edge of the district, the boundary is drawn at the inside curb line of the street.

The Blount Addition Historic District and the Chelsea Place Historic District share a common boundary due to the fact that the original district boundaries within the Roosevelt Multiple Resource Area were drawn based on the historic boundaries of the initial subdivisions. Also, the Blount Addition was historically an addendum to the Chelsea Place subdivision.