

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470) requires the Secretary of the Interior to establish the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name MONTEBELLO WOMAN'S CLUB  
other names/site number NCNE

2. Location

street & number 201 SOUTH PARK AVENUE  not for publication  
city or town MONTEBELLO  vicinity  
state CALIFORNIA code CA county LOS ANGELES code 037 zip code 90640

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)  
[Signature] 2/2/95  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
California Office of Historic Preservation  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:  
 entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.  
 determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.  
 determined not eligible for the National Register.  
 removed from the National Register.  
 other, (explain:)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Edson R. Beall Entered in the National Register 3/31/95 Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	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

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL

SUBCATEGORIES: MEETING HALL

CLUBHOUSE

CIVIC

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL

SUBCATEGORIES: MEETING HALL

CLUBHOUSE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

SPANISH COLONIAL REVIVAL

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls STUCCO

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

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

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.)

- Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
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.
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:

- owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
removed from its original location.
a birthplace or grave.
a cemetery.
a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
a commemorative property.
less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1925 - 1945

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

HANIGAN, JOHN C. / YARIAN, WILSON F.

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

WOMAN'S CLUB ARCHIVES

MONTEBELLO WOMAN'S CLUB

Name of Property

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 0.29 ACRES

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 1	3 9 7 9 9 0	3 7 6 3 5 8 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title MARY R. METZ / PAST PRESIDENT AND HISTORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

organization MONTEBELLO WOMAN'S CLUB date NOVEMBER 30, 1994

street & number 825 N. SANCHEZ STREET telephone (213) 728-6936

city or town MONTEBELLO state CA zip code 90640

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

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

name MONTEBELLO WOMAN'S CLUB

street & number 201 S. PARK AVENUE telephone (213) 725-8002

city or town MONTEBELLO state CA zip code 90640

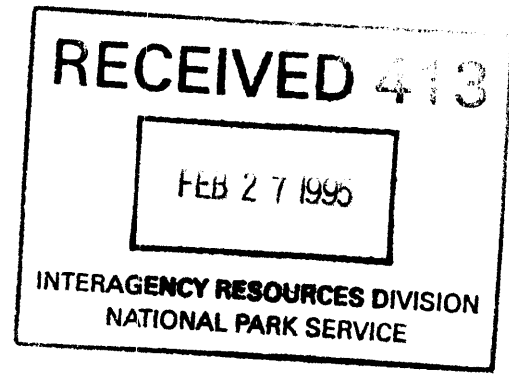
**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to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

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

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Montebello Woman's Club  
Los Angeles County, CA

### Description

Built on two (i.e., 50' by 125') residential lots, the Woman's Clubhouse fronts east onto City Park and is set behind a modest, cultivated lawn that slopes slightly towards the street (*Photo #1*). The clubhouse is located in one of Montebello's older working class tree lined residential neighborhoods and the building itself is set on a poured concrete foundation that is approximately five feet above street grade at the corner of South Park Avenue and Los Angeles Street. In essence, the building is best described as a Spanish Colonial Revival single-story, wood-frame stucco finish clubhouse with a rectangular floor plan (i.e., 51' by 98'), a cross gable roof, and two recessed porches (i.e., east and north facades). A recessed doorway along Park Avenue (east facade) and a five-bay wide porch along Los Angeles Street (north facade) define the pedestrian entrances within a series of arched openings that provide a strong sense of rhythm, scale, and unity.

The clubhouse's Spanish Colonial Revival influence is further accentuated by the building's openness, the extensive use of semi-circular arched openings, the Mediterranean gable roof, the clay mission roof tiles (originally), and the deep recessed porches. The clubhouse's interior which is very functional in its layout consists of a foyer, sitting room, a main hall, a stage, a kitchen, a committee room and the caretaker's quarters. Furthermore, the building's interior is a reflection of the clubhouse's dual utilitarian purpose as both a social hall and a gathering place. Overall, the building's aforementioned architectural features are reflective of the Spanish Colonial Revival philosophy.

### Exterior

The front facade of the building provides a view of the west side of City Park which was constructed in 1926. The building's east facade consists of 15 concrete steps leading up to three separate concrete landings and ending at a semi-circular (i.e., 12' by 4') front porch. An arched front porch entrance is evident even before reaching the recessed solid wood double doors. On both sides of the front porch are large

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Montebello Woman's Club  
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arched glass wood framed windows. All window frames and other trim in the Woman's Clubhouse are made of simple milled wood (*Photo #2*).

The building's north facade consists of a recessed open side porch (i.e., 10' by 37') divided into five large arches (*Photo #3*). A total of ten concrete steps lead up to two landings and on to three side entrances through sets of wood multi-paned glass double doors. The north side open porch also has two large arched wood multi-paned glass windows between each set of wood multi-paned glass double doors.

On the south side of the building is a lawn area that includes a 16' circular memorial rose garden containing 18 rose bushes commemorating past club presidents who have passed away (*Photo #4*). The rose garden was started by club members with 24 rose bushes subsequently, rose bushes have been replaced and/or added over the years. The south side of the building also includes a concrete wheel chair ramp which was constructed during the 1960's leading up to a wood multi-paned glass double door that provides access for club members and visitors (*Photo #5*).

The rear portion (i.e., west side) of the building has a small enclosed porch (i.e., 7' by 18.5') that faces a 20' wide asphalt paved alley which provides access to garages of neighboring residences (*Photo #6*). Overall, the property is in very good condition and has had minimal exterior and/or interior alterations since its construction in 1925.

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Exterior Modifications

In 1928, only three years after the Woman's Clubhouse was constructed, a structural weakness was discovered by a City inspector in the building's south wall. Consequently, the inspector recommended that the relatively new red clay tile roof be replaced with an asphalt shingle roof, and that the roof be raised another six inches. As is evident by Photos #1, 3, and 4, the City inspector's recommendations were followed and the red clay tile roof was completely removed and replaced by an asphalt shingle roof. While the differences in the roof style are evident based on old archive photographs of the clubhouse (e.g., showing red clay tile roof), it is important to note that the asphalt shingle roof has not altered the Spanish Colonial Revival architectural theme of this building.

As a result of the 1933 Long Beach Earthquake, the clubhouse's south wall incurred further damage as did the roof and plumbing system. During the 1989 Whittier Earthquake, the clubhouse's chimney was damaged and subsequently had to be reduced in height by approximately two feet and capped (Photo #1). All major damage sustained by the clubhouse during the aforementioned earthquakes was promptly repaired.

The final minor modification to the clubhouse occurred during the 1960's when a concrete wheel chair ramp was added to increase accessibility for club members and guests.

Interior

Today, the interior floor plan is the same as it was when the building was originally constructed in 1925. The dimensions of the various clubhouse rooms are as follows:

- *Foyer* (16' x 15');
- *Sitting Room* (20' x 17.5');
- *Main Hall* (54' x 37.5');

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- *Stage* (17' x 8');
- *Kitchen* (27' x 16.5'); and
- *Committee Room* (12' x 9.5').

As one enters through the building's east foyer one is drawn in by the high ceilings (approximately 16') in both the foyer and sitting room. Immediately to the right of the foyer is an attractive sitting room with a fireplace (*Photo #7*). Inside the sitting room, one notices that to the west is a committee room. Immediately to the left of the foyer are the following:

- *a powder room;*
- *a ladies restroom;*
- *a men's restroom; and*
- *a cloak room.*

As one walks past the large solid wood double doors that separate the entry from the large main hall, one is enthralled by the beautifully maintained oak hardwood floors in the main hall (*Photo #8*). In addition, a total of four ceiling fans in the main hall provide guests with sufficient ventilation even during the summer. A small, carpeted, stage is located at the rear of the main hall and a beautiful Gulbransen Grand Piano gracefully adorns the south side of the stage. A simple milled solid wood molding strip throughout the main hall divides the clubhouse's upper and lower walls. All of the clubhouse's interior walls and ceilings are made of lathe and plaster.

A set of swinging doors leading to the kitchen are on each side of the stage. To the south of the swinging doors there is a single door that leads to a storage room, and to the north there is a door leading to the caretaker's quarters which in essence is comparable to a very small bachelor apartment unit. A utility room is located directly behind the kitchen and next to the caretaker's quarters.



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At the rear of the building there is a fully functional kitchen with a large preparation/serving formica counter top. A large "Wolfe" brand stove, two refrigerators, sinks on each side of the refrigerators, and several cupboards complete the kitchen.

**Interior Modifications**

Overall, very minor interior cosmetic modifications have taken place over the clubhouse's 69 years of existence. Amongst the minor changes are the upgrading of the electrical system, installation of fan type fixtures, as well as side wall light fixtures. The original winding clock that was installed when the clubhouse was first constructed still hangs on the west wall, however the winding clock is now powered by electricity. Aside from these minor cosmetic changes the clubhouse is the same as it was in 1925.

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**Statement of Significance**

*Summary*

Situated in the San Gabriel Valley, in the County of Los Angeles, Montebello has been the home of the Montebello Woman's Club. Over the past 85 years, the Montebello Woman's Club has had a long-time association with the Montebello community. Through this long-time association, the Woman's Club has established itself as a community leader and has been at the forefront of Montebello's more notable historical, social, philanthropic, and civic events even before Montebello was incorporated as a city on October 16, 1920. For instance, during Montebello's early formative years (i.e., Pre-World War I and II), the Woman's Club recognized that there were no social gathering places suitable for large meetings, banquets, dinners and/or dances. Consequently, in 1925 the Woman's Club constructed a clubhouse which in the ensuing years (between 1925 and 1945) rapidly established itself as the community's primary social and civic gathering place. Hence, during the ensuing 20 years, the Woman's Clubhouse has been the hub for many of Montebello's most memorable historic social, community, and civic events.

The Montebello Woman's Clubhouse is a product of the Spanish Revival architectural philosophy and is a good example of this architectural influence which was prevalent during the early 1920's. In essence, the clubhouse is historically significant due to its long-time association with the development of social and civic life during the City of Montebello's early formative years (i.e., Pre-Great Depression and World War II). Even today, the well preserved Spanish Colonial Revival social hall continues to diligently serve the Montebello community as it has for the past 69 years.

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*Historical Background and Significance*

**In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things charity.**

*Woman's Club Motto*

The Montebello Woman's Club originated in 1909 when 17 women began meeting in each other's homes on a regular basis. At the time, the Club was primarily an intellectual and cultural organization that served the Montebello community whenever possible. During the 1920's the Club's membership grew rapidly and women were no longer satisfied with simply staying at home. Instead, the women felt a need to learn and enrich their lives with a number of things (e.g., civic, cultural and historical events of the day) while also contributing to the Montebello community. Given the women's quest for knowledge and independence, club members, they began to pursue their dream by raising funds for the construction of a clubhouse. Consequently, by 1923 club members had raised enough funds to be in a position to buy property on which they could construct their clubhouse. Hence, in 1923 club members took a big step towards realizing their dream of independence when they acquired two 50' by 125' lots at the corner of Park Avenue and Los Angeles Street where the clubhouse stands today.

Over the two ensuing years, the women continued to raise funds by many means. By May 1, 1924, two clubhouse plans were presented and placed in the Chamber of Commerce room to allow members, husbands, and other interested citizens to review them. By May 15, 1924, the building committee was given permission by club members to take the chosen plans to an architect. Several club member's husbands also served on the building committee (e.g., Mr. Herman, Mr. Adams, and Mr. Malone). In order to raise more funds for the club house, several club members bought life memberships at a cost of \$300. Ground was finally broken for the Woman's Clubhouse on May 28, 1925, with Mrs. Darcy turning the first shovel and Mrs. Glenn taking moving pictures of this historic Montebello event.

Shortly after the ground breaking ceremony, the architect, Mr. John C. Hanigan, furnished all the plans and architectural services free of charge. Similarly, the contractor, Mr. Wilson F. Yorian, furnished many extras without additional charges.

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Remarkably, the total construction cost for the Woman's Clubhouse in 1925 was \$17,000.

On December 31, 1925, a cornerstone was laid and a large number of Montebello residents turned out for this long awaited event. At this ceremony, the building committee donated a beautiful soft colored mantel for the fireplace, and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Howard (i.e., Howard and Smith Nursery), donated many plants and shrubs to landscape the clubhouse grounds. The clubhouse's first painting of an autumn scene was donated by Mrs. Williams.

When the doors finally opened on New Year's eve of 1925, a gala party was given and at last a dream had come true! As evident by now, the clubhouse was and still is today, the only building of it's kind in Montebello.

*Community and Philanthropic Events*

As one would imagine, over the past 85 years, Woman's Club has contributed and participated in countless notable social and civic endeavors even prior to the construction of the clubhouse in 1925. Amongst the more notable social and civic endeavors undertaken by the Woman's Club prior to the construction of the clubhouse (i.e., 1909 to 1924) were the following:

- *starting and staffing the first library in Montebello in 1914;*
- *helping the Red Cross of both Los Angeles and Pasadena in 1917;*
- *selling World War I bonds and stamps to help the country;*
- *being the driving force behind the City planting trees along all county roads within the City in 1917;*
- *starting a Red Cross auxiliary at the clubhouse in 1917; and*
- *passing of petitions to have a kindergarten grade in the City's schools in 1924.*

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Even though the aforementioned social and civic endeavors that occurred prior to the construction of the clubhouse were notable, the period between 1925 and 1945 (which spanned the Great Depression and carry on until World War II) proved to be the most significant and challenging for the Woman's Club. During that specific time period, the Woman's Club became increasingly involved in the Montebello community's social and civic endeavors. As is evident by the list of the more notable social and civic events provided below, the Woman's Clubhouse rapidly became the community's prominent social gathering place. The types of activities that occurred at the clubhouse during the aforementioned 20 year span included but were not limited to the following:

- *provided naturalization classes to local residents beginning in 1925 and lasting on through the 1940's (Woman's Club received an appreciation plaque from the 1st Americanization Class);*
- *the formation of a Woman's Club Junior Auxiliary (consisted of Montebello High School girls) in 1926;*
- *assisting with the landscaping of the new City Park in 1926, by invitation of the Mayor;*
- *arranging and coordinating the State Horticultural and Flower Show which was held at City Park and the clubhouse in 1926;*
- *hosting numerous dances, proms, and other community events (e.g., drama, music, practicing American Home Crafts, Citizenship classes, International Relations meetings, entertained Veterans, and study of California History and Landmarks, legislation and civics) in 1926;*
- *coordinating with the City Board in efforts to successfully plant trees on all city parkways in 1927;*
- *hosting the Southern California Baseball Association's annual meeting in 1927;*
- *providing a meeting place for the Camp Fire Girls and the Montebello School District Teachers in 1927;*
- *assisting with the opening of the new municipal plunge (i.e., City Park swimming pool) in 1927;*

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- *sponsoring and presenting a study of "Europe in Transition and Governments of the World" in 1927;*
- *hosting the State Woman's Club President (Mrs. Bertola) in 1927;*
- *passing a resolution supporting the purchase of privately owned land by federal government in Yosemite National Park in 1928;*
- *instrumental in planting of trees on all city streets in 1928;*
- *presented a class in Business and Protective Law to community women in 1929;*
- *hosting a number of motion picture conferences in 1929;*
- *site of Montebello Junior and Senior Proms as well as of the Mother/Daughter Banquet in 1929 and 1930;*
- *cooperating with Veterans in founding a Nurses Home in 1932;*
- *formation of various club sections (i.e., Bridge, Garden Craft) over the years however a Music and Drama section were formed in 1933;*
- *featuring Assemblyman William Moseley as a guest speaker in 1933;*
- *initiating and sponsoring a "Well Baby Clinic" at the clubhouse in 1934;*
- *being featured on KMPC's Breakfast Club Hour (radio talk show) in 1936;*
- *naming the bridge over the Rio Hondo River in 1939 after Capt. Robert Stockton the commander of the forces in the 1847 battle with Mexico at the nearby Rio San Gabriel;*
- *raising funds for the Salvation Army during the 1940's;*
- *raising funds for the Dutch War Relief in 1942;*
- *hosting Wartime Salvage and Civic Defense as well as Boys Scouts meetings in 1942;*
- *Mortgage Burning Dinner on March 30, 1944;*

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- *Washington Birthday dinners (during the early years club members and spouses dressed in late 1770's attire however, members no longer dress in such a manner at this event); and*
- *providing academic and music scholarships to high school seniors over the past 50 years.*

In order to appreciate what the Woman's Clubhouse has meant socially to the Montebello community, one must realize that in the City's formative early years, there were no other comparable social gathering places suitable for large meetings, banquets, dinners and/or dances. As one longtime resident once commented, "during the [Great] Depression and World War II ... I would often drive by the clubhouse on a Saturday night and rarely would I see the building unoccupied." Hence, over the years the clubhouse became the center for many of Montebello's most memorable social and civic events. In the process, the clubhouse's presence in the community established this site as the place to be for social and civic events even during the difficult times of the Great Depression and World War II.

In essence, the clubhouse has served a number of social groups, clubs and organizations during most of its 69 years of existence. Amongst the groups or clubs that have used the clubhouse for meetings or social events are the:

- *Lions Club (1930's to 1940's);*
- *Rotary Club (1929 to 1940's);*
- *American Legion (1936 to 1940's);*
- *Montebello Coordinating Committee meetings (World War II);*
- *Wartime Salvage and Civil Defense meetings (World War II);*
- *Montebello High School (formerly Central High School) activities included:*
  - Junior and Senior Proms (1930's to 1950's);*
  - Mother/Daughter Banquets (1930's to 1940's);*
  - Pro Merito Banquets (1930's to 1940's);*
  - Senior Banquets (1930's to 1940's);*

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- *Boys and Girls Scouts (1930's to 1940's); and*
- *hosting the "Wild and Hilarious" County Fair in 1944.*

Furthermore, in years past the Clubhouse has been made available to the Red Cross as a food center. Most recently the clubhouse was offered to the Disaster Action Team and Red Cross after the 1994 Northridge Earthquake. Both agencies were also notified that the clubhouse remains available for their use in the event of another disaster.

Over the years a number of club members have served as officer's of the Los Angeles District and later the San Gabriel Valley District and some have even served at the State level.

In addition to hosting a number of wonderful social and civic programs over the years, the Woman's Clubhouse has also had some well known speakers enlighten Montebello residents. Of particular note was Mrs. Helen Gahagan Douglas (i.e., a movie and opera star, Democratic National Committee woman, National Advisor for WPA, appointed by President Roosevelt to Civil Defense Committee).

Over the years many prominent Montebello citizens have been club members and this list includes:

- *Mrs. S.C. Hichborn (i.e., first clubhouse president served two terms between 1909 to 1911, and 1913 to 1915);*
- *Mrs. Molly Darcy (i.e., affectionately referred to as the clubhouse matriarch, served as club president between 1932 and 1934);*
- *Mrs. B.E. Coffman (i.e., co-owner of Montebello Hardware in 1908, later became a School Board Trustee);*
- *Mrs. Walter Malone (i.e., past clubhouse president, wife of superintendent of Simons Brickyard and councilman);*
- *Ms. Beth Marrow (i.e., famous newspaper editor);*



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- *Mrs. Stevenson (i.e., co-owner of Stevenson Hardware in 1922);*
- *Mrs. C.S. Taylor (i.e., Taylor Ranch House - cultural center and park) owner;*
- *Mrs. Chet Holifield (i.e., congressman's wife, library named after her husband);*
- *Mrs. Russell Baily (i.e., wife of school principal);*
- *Mrs. Alfred Roach (i.e., wife of judge who worked on the City's incorporation);*
- *Mrs. Townsend (i.e., educator with the Montebello Unified School District);*
- *Mrs. Homer Heacock (i.e., co-owner Heacock Realty in 1930, superintendent of Rio Hondo Water Co. in 1929, councilman and school board member);*
- *Mrs. Parmelee (i.e., renowned Doctor of education, past clubhouse president and mayor of City);*
- *Mrs. Milo Chapin (i.e., wife of executive of South Montebello Water Irrigation District - councilman);*
- *Mrs. Harry Ostrom (i.e., family owned Chevrolet business in 1928);*
- *Mrs. Chet Shelley (i.e., 1930's Mayor's wife) ;*
- *Mrs. Howard (i.e., Howard & Smith nursery - Pioneer rosarians); and*
- *Mrs. George Schurr (i.e., educator, husband was school district business manager, Schurr High School named after her husband).*

There have been and are today, members of prominence who are not listed above that were part of City Councils and/or City Government, had streets named after them, were wives of civic leaders, local business owners, and contributed greatly to the promotion and production of the City of Montebello. The Montebello Woman's Club is proud of all of its past and present members.

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Conclusion

The preceding description and statement of historical significance, clearly establish the fact that between 1925 and 1945, the Montebello Woman's Clubhouse was the community's social and civic gathering place. Since its construction in 1925, the clubhouse served as a place where local residents could meet and coordinate social and civic events even during the difficult and turbulent times of the Great Depression and World War II. Furthermore, it is also clear that the Montebello Woman's Clubhouse holds a unique position in the City as it was the pioneer of civic improvement clubs in Montebello. Even today, the well preserved Spanish Colonial Revival style social hall continues to diligently serve the Montebello community's social and civic needs as it has for the past 69 years. The clubhouse as it appears today, is in very good condition and is virtually identical to what it was in 1925 when its doors first opened (*i.e., please refer to the enclosed 8.5" by 11" copy of original clubhouse picture*).

Hence, the clubhouse is truly a source of pride for the Montebello community and it would mean so much if this special place were designated as a California Historic Site. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) consider this building for the National Register of Historic Places.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

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Montebello Woman's Club  
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***Major Bibliographical References***

Montebello Woman's Club Archives

JAN 27 1995

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

OMP

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Montebello Woman's Club  
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### Verbal Boundary Description/Justification

Tract 7437, Lots 2 and 4 (These are the lots that have been associated with the property.)

### ADDENDUM

Based on comments received from the County of Los Angeles Historical Landmark and Records Commission at its January 20, 1995 meeting, the following additions are being made:

**#1 Archives (Section 9 Page 15)**

The location of the Montebello's Woman's Club archives is the committee room of the clubhouse which contains the board and general minutes as well as scrapbooks consisting of news releases and pictures. In addition, the archives contain the plaques and photos that are referred to in this application.

**#2 Significance of Flower Shows (Section 8 Page 9)**

Prior to and for many years after the City's incorporation in 1920, the hills to the north were full of flowers and nurseries, hence, flowers area part of the City of Montebello (Italian for beautiful mountain). In 1913, the first of many successful flower shows was held at the Montebello Woman's Clubhouse. In 1926 (i.e., September 30 through October 3) the Woman's Club participated in the State Horticultural and Flower Show held at the Clubhouse and the City Park across the street. It should be noted that during Montebello's early years, two of the largest nurseries in the state were located in Montebello (i.e., Howard and Smith Nursery, and the Groan Rose Company).

**PHOTOGRAPHIC LOG OF MONTEBELLO'S WOMAN'S CLUB**

- **Photo No. 1**  
Name of Photographer: **Jose Pulido**  
Date of Photo: **September 1, 1994**  
Location of Original Negative: **Woman's Club**  
Description of View and Orientation: **Photograph shows the front entrance of the Woman's Club viewed from the street intersection of Los Angeles Avenue and Park Avenue and depicts the south east side (front) of the building.**
  
- **Photo No. 2**  
Name of Photographer: **Jose Pulido**  
Date of Photo: **September 1, 1994**  
Location of Original Negative: **Woman's Club**  
Description of View and Orientation: **Photograph depicts a casement window located on the north side of the building. Photograph is taken from Los Angeles Avenue looking south.**
  
- **Photo No. 3**  
Name of Photographer: **Jose Pulido**  
Date of Photo: **September 1, 1994**  
Location of Original Negative: **Woman's Club**  
Description of View and Orientation: **Photograph depicts the north (arched porch) side of the Woman's Club viewed from across Los Angeles Avenue looking south east.**
  
- **Photo No. 4**  
Name of Photographer: **Jose Pulido**  
Date of Photo: **September 1, 1994**  
Location of Original Negative: **Woman's Club**  
Description of View and Orientation: **Photograph depicts the south side entrance of the Woman's Club taken from the front yard which fronts Park Avenue. The view is looking west from Park Avenue toward the alley at rear of property.**
  
- **Photo No. 5**  
Name of Photographer: **Jose Pulido**  
Date of Photo: **September 1, 1994**  
Location of Original Negative: **Woman's Club**  
Description of View and Orientation: **Photograph depicts the double swinging doors of the south side (disabled ramp) entrance of the Woman's Club taken from the rear (south) side lawn of the building looking north.**

- **Photo No. 6**  
Name of Photographer: **Jose Pulido**  
Date of Photo: **September 1, 1994**  
Location of Original Negative: **Woman's Club**  
Description of View and Orientation: **Photograph depicts the west (rear) entrance of the Woman's Club with fronts the Alley on the west side of the building. View is from across the alley looking north towards Los Angeles Avenue.**
- **Photo No. 7**  
Name of Photographer: **Jose Pulido**  
Date of Photo: **September 1, 1994**  
Location of Original Negative: **Woman's Club**  
Description of View and Orientation: **Photograph depicts the club's ( north porch side of the building) fire place which fronts Los Angeles Avenue looking north.**
- **Photo No. 8**  
Name of Photographer: **Jose Pulido**  
Date of Photo: **September 1, 1994**  
Location of Original Negative: **Woman's Club**  
Description of View and Orientation: **Photograph depicts the interior meeting hall of the Woman's club taken from the east front entrance of the building looking west toward the alley.**

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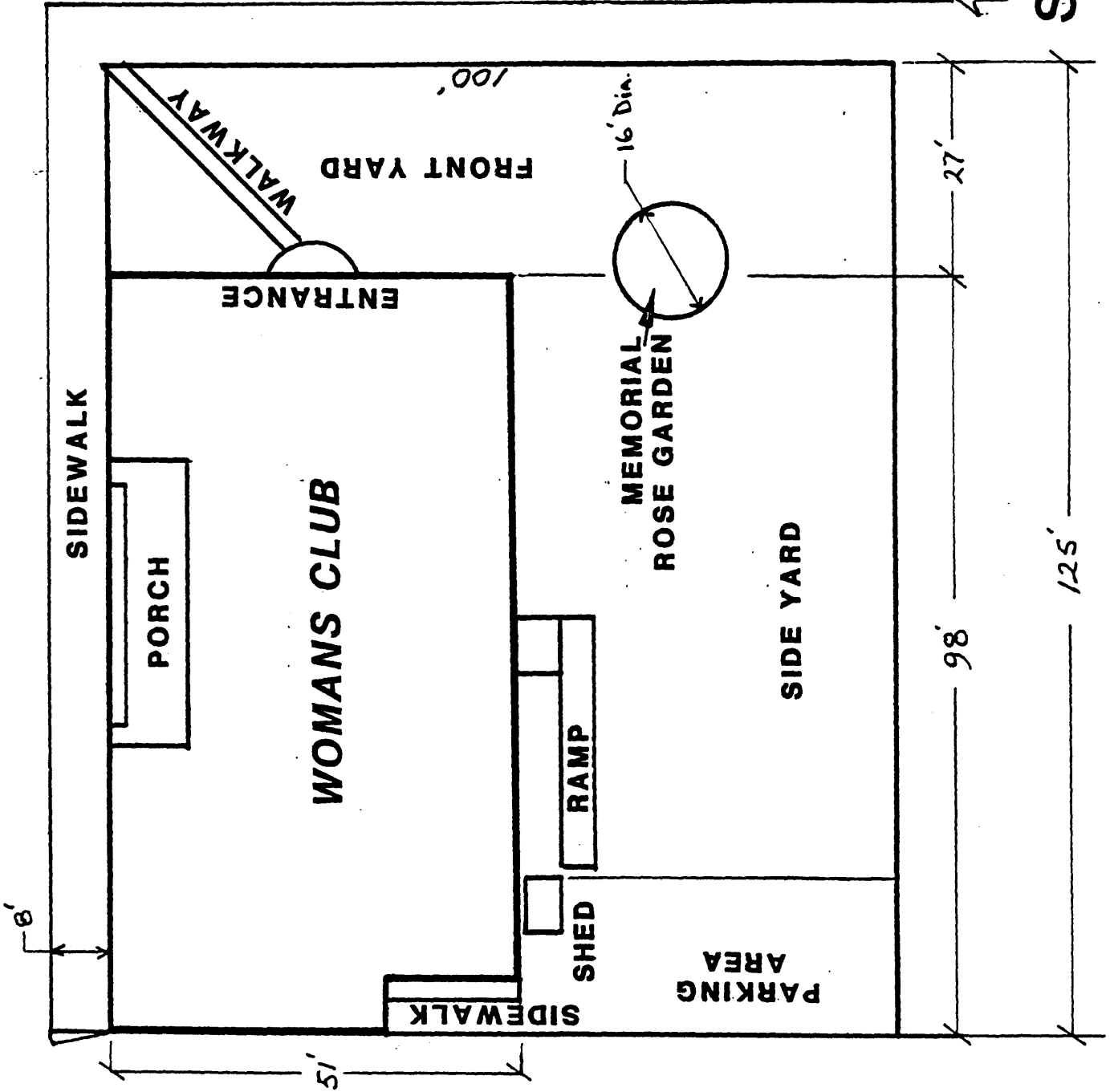
# SITE PLAN

SCALE: 1" = 20'

LOS ANGELES AVE

PARK AVE

ALLEY



SIDEWALK

PORCH

WOMANS CLUB

ENTRANCE

WALKWAY

FRONT YARD

MEMORIAL  
ROSE GARDEN

16' Dia.

SIDE YARD

RAMP

SHED

PARKING  
AREA

SIDEWALK

8'

15'

98'

27'

125'

100'