

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 23 1979
DATE ENTERED MAR 13 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Casa Grande Woman's Club Building
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
407 North Sacaton St.
CITY, TOWN
Casa Grande VICINITY OF 4
STATE Arizona CODE 04 COUNTY Pinal CODE 021
NOT FOR PUBLICATION CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Social

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Woman's Club of Casa Grande
STREET & NUMBER
407 North Sacaton
CITY, TOWN
Casa Grande VICINITY OF STATE
Arizona

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Pinal County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN
Florence STATE
Arizona

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Arizona State Register of Historic Places
DATE
November 6, 1975 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS Arizona State Parks Board
CITY, TOWN
Phoenix STATE
Arizona 85007

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Casa Grande is a small agricultural and mining trading center in the low flat desert of south central Arizona. The fertile valley is ringed by rugged mountains and transected by major N-S and E-W transportation routes.

The plain pueblo-style Casa Grande Woman's Club Building is linked stylistically to centuries of man's adaptation to the desert. The rough walls of local stone gathered by club members epitomize the hard work and determination necessary to bring civic projects to fruition in a young desert community. The desert landscaping, now mature, is appropriate to the building and to the larger setting.

The building faces SE and is roughly rectangular. The main part of the building, which houses the meeting room and stage, towers over the front wing. The three-bay facade features a covered central porch with concrete lintel and two glass doors. Window openings have flat arches and the original 12-light windows are still in place. The flat roof has a low parapet and a chimney near the south corner. A street widening project in 1960 caused the removal of the NW corner of the building, a section 5'8" x 8'10".

The meeting room has a 20' ceiling with cross-hatched exposed beams. Other rooms have 14' ceilings. Ceiling height was especially important in the pre-air conditioning 1920s. The stage is one foot above the floor and has theater curtains and lights.

The building contains 3515 square feet. The meeting room is 38' x 51' and the stage is 14' x 32'4". The kitchen is 10'8" x 12' and occupies the east corner of the building. On the south corner is the L-shaped "lounge", which was the space occupied by the library and the museum. There are two small rest rooms. The concrete block storeroom was added after World War II and measures 12'6" x 18'3". The front porch is 11'6" x 17'6".

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1924

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Henry Jaasted

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Casa Grande Woman's Club Building is one of two remaining large cobble buildings constructed in Casa Grande. The Casa Grande Stone Church across the street is on the National Register of Historic Places. All of the buildings resulted from the need to use inexpensive local materials and from the availability of a skilled local stonemason.

The community of Casa Grande was named in 1879 and was at that time the nearest settlement to what is now Casa Grande Ruins National Monument. In 1879, the Southern Pacific Railroad was being constructed across Arizona and reached Casa Grande in late May. At that time, the town had 22 stores and saloons, reflecting the temporary boom of railroad construction.

The town economy was based on agriculture and on its position as a shipping point for mines in the area. In 1882, it had a population of 180 and a handful of business establishments. Many of the residents lived in tent houses and the commercial structures were not much more substantial. However, a fire in 1893 destroyed the business section. Although this catastrophe occurred in the midst of a mining depression, the merchants gradually rebuilt and many of the older brick buildings date from this period. The town in the late 1890s had a population of about 350 and it continued as a small trading center on the railroad with emphasis on mining, freighting, and irrigated agriculture.

The town grew slowly but steadily. In 1913, a group of 15 women organized a woman's club. Even though the town then had no paved streets, street lights, or a hospital, the club members were determined that there should be a library. Long-range plans called for a clubhouse that would also house the library, but in the meantime, members collected books and spearheaded a community effort to start a library. Books were gathered and stored in the home of a member but in 1916, a fire destroyed the house.

The drive for a library continued, however, and the library fund was used to buy \$1270 in Liberty Bonds. As soon as the war was over, fundraising efforts increased. Members sponsored parties, dances, bake sales, plays, picnics, and pageants to raise money. One member even caught rattlesnakes and made rattlesnake-bone necklaces for sale.

The club had purchased lots from the city for \$35 but these were later needed for streets, so the club exchanged them for adjacent lots. In the meantime, the town had grown and the club could see that a larger building would be needed than originally planned. The new clubhouse would be part of an early 1920s building boom in Casa Grande.

On April 12, 1923, the club commissioned Tucson architect Henry Jaasted to build a pueblo style clubhouse of local stone for \$2800. To save money, the ninety members collected and delivered the stone and sand needed for construction. Local stonemason

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY c. 2/3

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,2	4,2,9,4,4,8	3,6,3,7,9,7,7	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Casa Grande Block 7, Lots 10, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and East 5.9' of Lot 15, lying south of Florence Boulevard, at the northwest corner of the intersection of Sacaton Street and Third Street.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marjorie H. Wilson

Historian

ORGANIZATION

Arizona State Parks Board, Heritage Cons. Section

DATE

July, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

1688 West Adams

TELEPHONE

(602) 271-4174

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Arizona 85007

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

TITLE

Storothy H. Hall

DATE

1-16-79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

<p><i>Charles Adams</i></p> <p>DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION</p>		<p>DATE <i>2/5/79</i></p>
<p>ATTEST: <i>[Signature]</i></p> <p>KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER</p>		<p>KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER</p> <p>DATE <i>3/12/79</i></p>

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CONTINUATION SHEET C.G. Woman's Club ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Mike Sullivan, who built the National Register church across the street, built the clubhouse with the assistance of a carpenter.

The cornerstone was laid January 25, 1924 and the dedication was on November 5. The building was dedicated during the convention of the Southern District of Federated Woman's Clubs, with which the club had been affiliated since 1914. The floor was still packed dirt and there was no running water yet but the new members opened the library anyway. The hardwood floors were finished by the end of the year and the plumbing was completed later.

Certainly it was a small library and was open only two days a week and the librarian received only a dollar a day, but the club members and the community were justifiably proud of their accomplishment. The Woman's Club had sponsored the project and led the effort but it was truly a community project.

The building has been in constant community use since it was built. It has been a center for civic and social activities of all kinds. In addition to its use as a library and meeting hall, it has been a ballet studio, a babysitter classroom, a first aid classroom, and a church. The town continued to grow steadily, especially after the construction of Coolidge Dam in 1929 which irrigated 100,000 acres in the fertile Casa Grande Valley with its 275-day growing season. After World War II, the town shared in the statewide population boom.

The library grew so much that the city took it over in the 1950s and moved the books to another location. In the meantime, the club had sponsored another civic project, the Casa Grande Historical Society. The space vacated by the library was immediately put to use as a museum. Now the museum has grown so large that it has its own building, the National Register church across the street. The old library/museum space is now used by a church nursery school and the rest of the building continues to be used for a wide variety of club and community activities.

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CONTINUATION SHEET C.G. Woman's Club ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Arizona Daily Citizen, 1885 and 1893.

Arizona Sentinel, 1879.

Casa Grande Bulletin, 1924-1926.

Casa Grande Dispatch, 1926-1928.

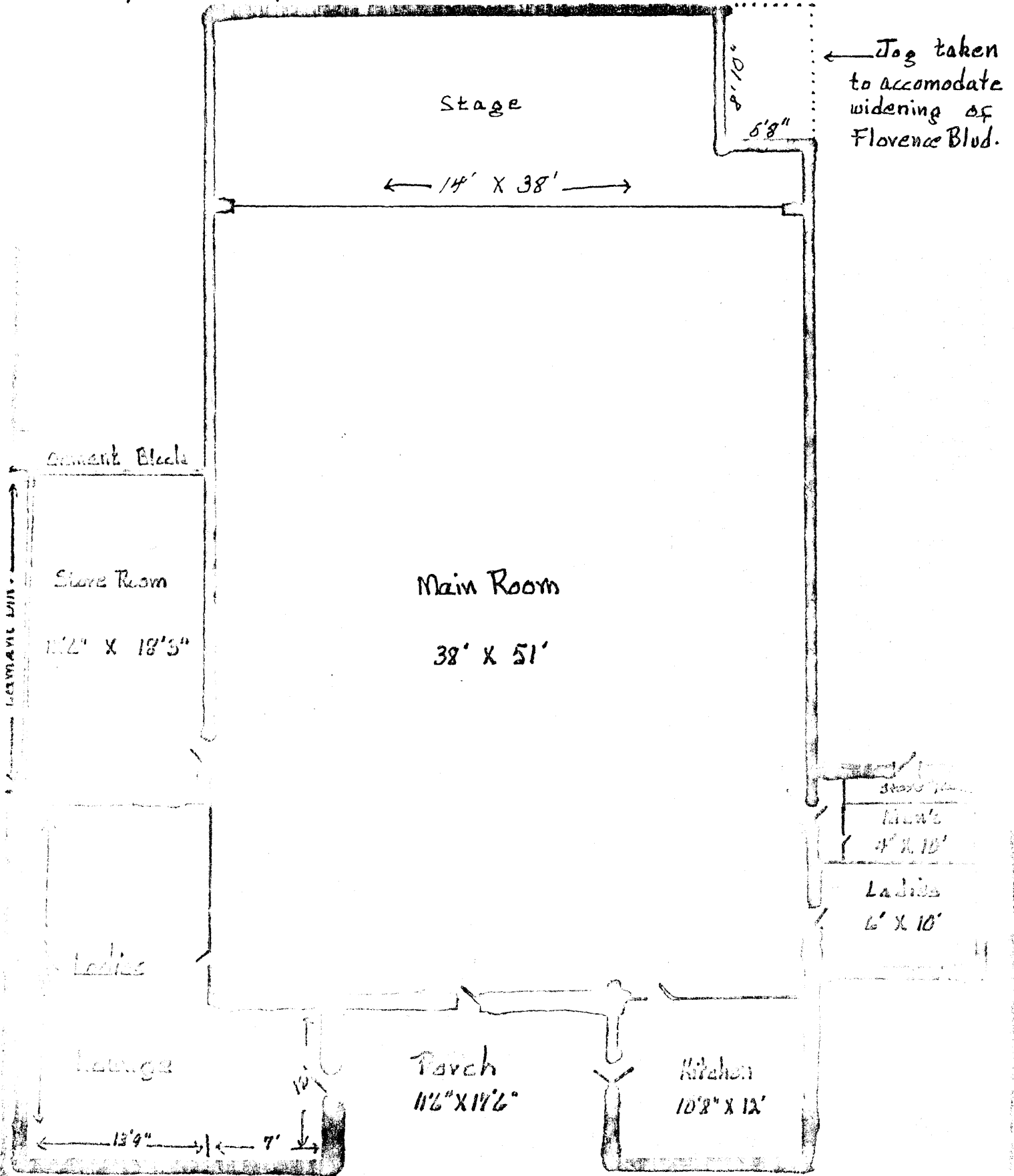
Casa Grande Woman's Club. Correspondence.

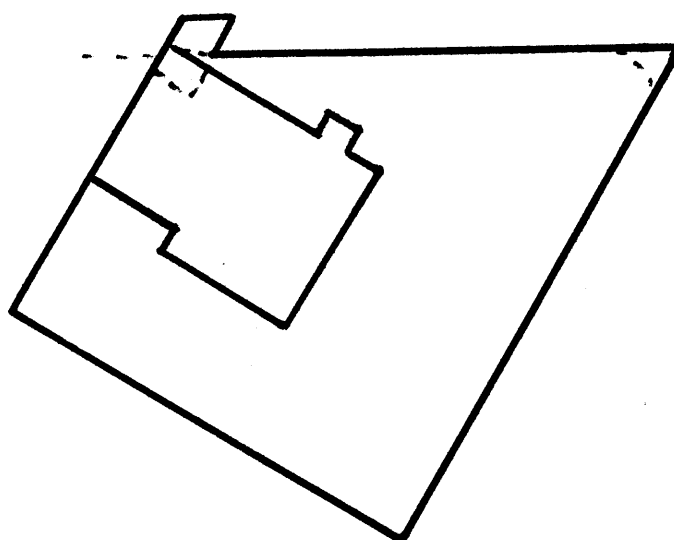
Phoenix Gazette, 1940.

Phoenix Herald, 1882 and 1888.

Tucson Citizen, 1921.

#8. Physical Description, Features, Size





Overlay shows Women's Club Building and property
in relation to surrounding area

-1.C.-

WOMAN'S CLUB OF CASA GRANDE

CASA GRANDE TOWNSITE
Block 7
Lots 10, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20,
and east 5.9 ft. of Lot 15

PACER



SCALE (APPROX.)
1" = 60'

PARK AVE.

FLORENCE BLVD.

Block 7

CITY PROPERTY

LOTS
10 11 12 13 14 15
WOMAN'S CLUB TRACT

THIRD ST.

SHERIDAN ST.

SEVENTH ST.

Key

ORIGINAL - -
REVISION - -

ORIGINAL - -
REVISION - -