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## 7 **DESCRIPTION**

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Sherman Institute (now Sherman Indian High School), 9010 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside, California, was established in 1901 for the education of American Indians. Out of all of the original buildings built during 1901-02, the Administration Building, now Sherman Indian Museum, is the only original structure left. The building was designed by Wilcox and Rose in the style common to railroad depots at the turn of the century. The style is unique in that it did not share the mission style architecture of the other buildings on the campus.

The old driveway from Magnolia Avenue was horse-shoe shaped, with palm trees lining both sides. The driveway has been removed but the trees still stand in a grassy area known as Memorial Park with its original flagpole intact. Many of the trees in this area were planted at the time of the dedication on July 18, 1901.

The original structure was a square building with over-hanging eaves; and at present, with additions, is rectangular, maintaining the old appearance. It had two chimneys for two wood burning stoves. The brick foundation and walls are covered with stucco. The roof was covered with metal that resembled red ceramic tiles (now shingled with asbestos shingles). Across the front of the building was cement verandah with wooden balustrades in Roman classic cross design.

Total floor area in 1915 was 858 square feet, with a small basement for storage and a furnace. A coal furnace was replaced at a later date by one fueled by gas. The flooring in the building was wood but it has been replaced by asbestos tile and carpeting. The original cost of the building in 1902 was \$2,641. Also in 1933 a room for post office purposes was added to the rear of the building.

In 1960, extensive remodeling was done in which the structure was brought up to current fire codes. Metal windows replaced wooden casements and the double doors were replaced with solid doors. A small concrete entry platform replaced the front verandah. In 1970 the Administration offices were moved to one of the new buildings on campus. Permission was then granted to use the now vacant building for a school museum, sponsored by the Sherman Alumni Association.



1800-1899 X 1900-	COMMERCE COMMUNICATIONS	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT INDUSTRY INVENTION	PHILOSOPHY POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	TRANSPORTATION TRANSPORTATION OTHER (SPECIFY)
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1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC		_LAW	
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1902, the Perris Indian School was closed and a new facility constructed at a new site in Riverside, California. Here its role in Indian education expanded from a state function to one of national importance. It would not only provide a high school education for southern California Indians, but also for Indians from Arizona, Nevada, Utah and New Mexico. Today, after 66 years, the only original building left on the entire campus is the Sherman Indian Museum, formerly the Administration Building of Sherman Institute and it was constructed in 1901-02. Immediately adjacent to the building is the historic park with its original palms planted by James S. Sherman and other civic leaders.

Mr. Sherman, for whom the school was named, was responsible for the institution's first appropriation of \$75,000.<sup>2</sup> He would later become vice president of the United States under William H. Taft, to date the only chief executive ever to visit the Sherman campus. Other prominent leaders who were instrumental for locating Sherman on its present site were R. H. Pratt, founder of Carlisle Indian School and Frank A. Miller of Riverside's Mission Inn (now a National Historic Landmark) and Senator George C. Perkins of California.

This building was the center of many policy making projects such as the special five year Navajo program. Also, many important Indian leaders started their education at Sherman.

The school and its founders have been an important asset in the field of American Indian education. Today, the school still has high standards for in the early 1970's Sherman was chosen as one of 32 schools to participate in the model school project sponsored by the National Association of Seconday Principals. Today, the building is used for museum purposes and as a depository for past school records, including the school building cornerstone and its historic content. The museum is an essential function of educating the public about the native American heritage of our country and it is appropriate that the exhibits are displayed in the most historic building on the campus.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup> The Riverside Morning Ente	rprise, July	18, 1901		
2 Public Law 131, p. 26 May	20 1000			
<sup>3</sup> Correspondence and officia	1 documents	in the Sherman	Museum	
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