


Woman's Club of Hollywood
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

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:)


Signature of the Keeper

12/27/2016
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

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>4</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single dwelling

SOCIAL: Clubhouse

EDUCATION: School

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: Clubhouse

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS:

Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:

Prairie School

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

Woman's Club of Hollywood: stucco, brick, tile, metal;

Hollywood School for Girls: wood

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The property that houses the Woman's Club of Hollywood and the Hollywood School for Girls building and ancillary buildings is located at 1741-1749 La Brea Avenue, in Hollywood, California. The large rectangular parcel is oriented east-west in the middle of an urbanized block on the western side of La Brea Avenue between Franklin Avenue and Hollywood Boulevard. On the southeastern end (front) of the property sits a two-story Spanish Colonial Revival building constructed of painted brick. Designed by noted architect Arthur E. Harvey and completed in 1947, this main building functions as the clubhouse for the Woman's Club of Hollywood. Behind and to the north of the Clubhouse is the original home of the Hollywood School for Girls, a two-story residential building in the Prairie School style. The northeastern part of the property also contains two small vernacular wood buildings used as classrooms for the Hollywood School for Girls. A driveway leads along the south boundary into a large parking lot at the western end (rear) of the property. Both the Woman's Club of Hollywood clubhouse and the Hollywood School for Girls residence possess a high degree of integrity from their respective eras of construction. Each building has had minimal alteration. The Woman's Club of Hollywood is particularly intact, retaining all of its character defining materials, features, and spaces. The Hollywood School for Girls has sustained minor alterations, primarily the enclosure of sleeping porches. The property spans over a century of social, education, and cultural use in Hollywood.

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Narrative Description

Setting

The property is a deep rectangular lot oriented east-west. It is located on the west side of La Brea Avenue mid-block in a highly urban setting surrounded by apartments on the north and east with a religious building to the south. There are four extant buildings on the lot: a 1902 two-story residential building located mid-lot to the north; an L-shaped clubhouse that abuts the residence to the east and south, and two small ancillary buildings that once functioned as classrooms located on the northern property line. A wide driveway runs along the southern boundary, providing access to a large surface parking area at the rear of the property. Originally the property had a deep front garden, with the Hollywood School for Girls residence set far back from the street. Other classroom buildings and an auditorium occupied the rear of the lot. The front garden is now occupied by the Woman's Club of Hollywood clubhouse and was further truncated by the widening of La Brea Avenue by 30 feet. Landscaping is minimal, consisting of an area in front of the Clubhouse on either side of the main entry, a small raised garden that separates the rear of the Clubhouse from the Hollywood School for Girls area, and a fenced rear garden for the Hollywood School for Girls residence as it transitions to the parking area. The Hollywood School for Girls portion of the property contains hardscape paving and plants, including a mature palm that dates to the school's period of significance.

Woman's Club of Hollywood

In 1946, prominent Los Angeles architect Arthur E. Harvey designed an L-shaped the Spanish Colonial Revival clubhouse building to the south and east of the existing Hollywood School for Girls building. While many of the architect's previous buildings in the style from the 1920s and 30s were more ornate than the design for the Woman's Club, its simplicity is due to its construction just after World War II, when materials were still in short supply and the instructions of the client for a functional economic institution.¹

The clubhouse is designed in a simplified Spanish Colonial Revival style with cream colored exterior brick walls, a Spanish tiled flat roof, and metal multi-paned windows. The exterior exemplifies the Spanish Colonial Revival Style with its smooth walls, low-pitched tile roof, and asymmetrical façades. The eastern (front) façade has several design features that are character defining and reflect the style, including a mix of one- and two-story heights, an arcade that fronts the original main entrance, and a partial round tower that protrudes near the center of the façade. The front windows are slightly recessed and have a vertical orientation. The front steps are flanked by wrought iron railings, leading to double 10-pane entry doors. A tiled canopy hangs over a horizontal grouping of four casement, divided light, metal windows. The southeastern corner of the building has another smaller arcade over the doubled-doored side entrance on the south façade.

¹ (State of Utah 2015)

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The south façade has vertical pilasters that are placed between metal casement windows. Three iron sconces adorn the pillars of the façade. The western end of the building is plain and functional. Attached to the north portion of the building is a small perpendicular addition that houses the kitchen. The kitchen wing has uniform metal casement fenestration.

The L-shaped northern façade abuts and wraps the Hollywood School for Girls. It consists of a kitchen and auditorium wing on the western end and a one-story lounge and office wing constructed perpendicular forming the east side. The lounge features French doors and a band of 3 x 3 horizontal windows. There is a small protrusion off the north end of the east wing for a bathroom and small kitchen. The north façade's pilasters mirror the south façade treatment and have no windows. Due to the slight slope and the siting of the Hollywood School for Girls, the Woman's Club of Hollywood building is multi-level. Its horizontal massing is typical of 1940s Spanish Colonial Revival architecture in California.²

Harvey equipped the Woman's Club with the traditional program of spaces for this type of building.³ The layout is functional, with spaces flowing into each other. The first floor consists of two main wings, one running north-south and the other running east-west. In the north-south wing is a foyer with men's bathroom and storage closet, a two room office suite with ticket booth and cloakroom, and a lounge with attached bathroom and kitchen. The east-west wing is made up of a 3,000 square foot, hardwood-floor auditorium, almost two stories high, two small bathrooms on either side of a raised stage, an industrial kitchen and pantry closet, and a loading dock to the rear.

The interior character defining features include a 10-pane design on the interior doors that mimics the exterior east façade doors, a band of windows along the south wall of the auditorium, and use of brick walls throughout. The north-south wing also has a floor tiled with 17-inch red tiles, a foyer with painted wooden ceiling beams, and a small bathroom and closet. The foyer has two levels with several steps leading into the lounge area. The western wall of the foyer has a staircase to the second floor. The main office suite has a main room, office with a small bathroom, and a 1940s ticket booth and cloakroom located on the east side of the foyer at the street.

The 1,200 square foot lounge is a large open room on the street façade that has a second, smaller kitchen and original powder room and bathroom at the north end of the room. The original 1949 front (east) entrance of three double doors comprises the east wall, with a small piano alcove at its north end. The west wall of the lounge is a bank of windows and French doors. There is an entry to the auditorium on the south wall. The floor is tile, in contrast to the wooden floor of the auditorium. Character defining materials in this space are brick, metal, and tile with wood accents.

The second floor consists of three primary spaces: a large boardroom, the history room, and a small meeting room with access to the flat roof. In addition there is a projection booth and two

² (Newcomb 1928)

³ (Brumback 1985) (Monroe 1979)

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storage closets located on either side of the entrance to the history room. The main room, accessed through double wooden 3-panel doors, is the original boardroom for the club.⁴ The secondary rooms are reached by a short flight of three stairs. The history room entry has double 3-panel doors; the entrance to the small meeting room has a slight arch. Materials, finishes, and fenestration are identical to those used in the main spaces on the first level.

The layout of the clubhouse caters to social gatherings and community events that have been essential to the Woman's Club mission and function. Materials are simple: brick walls, steel multi-paned casement windows articulated by horizontal brick lintels, wood molding, Spanish red tile and wooden floors. Interior doors are paneled and reflect the design of the La Brea entry doors.

Hollywood School for Girls

The oldest building on the property is a two-story Prairie School style residence constructed in 1902. The exterior features wood clapboard siding that runs vertically on the front and rear lower façades, and horizontally on the rest of the house. The front of the house (east façade) features a corner raised recessed porch. The original front door with its horizontal window panel is recessed on this porch. The first floor porch has been partially enclosed on its southern end and has three non-original windows. The second story retains its original three double-hung windows and diamond-paned French doors. There is a central dormer window on the roof in an attic.

The rear of the house (west façade) features a small covered porch to the south and a full height enclosed porch to the north. There is a prominent fixed diamond-paned bay window next to the entry, and a set of double hung windows wrap the corner. The second story has an enclosed sleeping porch with a row of asymmetrically placed windows.

The north elevation has bay window boxes on both the first and second floors. Windows are a combination of double hung and casements. French doors and casements have diamond panes and simple moldings. The wood frame building is clad in clapboard. The north and south elevations have asymmetrical fenestration on both stories; there is only one small entry on the north leading to the first floor enclosed porch.

The residence/school building has two main access points. The school portion is accessed from the west, with the original entrance leading to the main classroom. The entry on the east leads to the upstairs living quarters. The configurations of the east and west façades are almost mirror images of each other.

A large room on the first floor served as the main classroom for the Hollywood School for Girls.⁵ This rectangular space has large windows on the west and south walls that admit a large amount of light. The room retains an original coal-burning fireplace, gas lighting, and recessed shelves. Attached to the schoolroom on the northwest corner is a kitchen that retains an original pantry, sink, and other features from 1908. There is original wood lath on the ceiling of the

⁴ (Harvey, Woman's Club of Hollywood Plot Plan for Club House n.d.)

⁵ (Hollywood Heritage 1992)

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pantry. To the rear of the kitchen is a covered porch that was originally used as an open sleeping porch during the school holidays by the boarding students and later used for storage.⁶

The east entrance of the building is the residential entrance. The entry porch has an original paneled door that opens into a foyer with a large staircase. The wooden staircase retains pastel-blue original woodwork on the railings. The staircase leads to the school principal's living quarters on the second floor. There are three bedrooms arranged on the south side of the space. One of the bedrooms has French doors that opened onto a balcony that existed during the Hollywood School for Girls era. The balcony has been removed. A central hallway connects the bedrooms to a bathroom that retains original hardware, including a sink and claw-foot tub. The second-floor kitchen retains an original sink, oven, meat safe, and cabinetry, and is also the access point for the attic. On the west side of the upper floor there is a sleeping porch that can be accessed through the second bedroom or by the five-panel glass door in the upstairs kitchen. The configuration of the upstairs space is original; materials and fixtures remain intact with few modifications. Wooden floors and moldings remain.

The Prairie School style values the integration with the surrounding landscape. Common in the American West and Midwest, it often features a horizontal emphasis, flat or hipped roofs, solid construction, and the restraint of decoration. It was developed in the 1890s and remained popular until World War I. The style was influential in its own right and as an influence for future styles, such as Minimalist, Bauhaus, and De Stijl architecture.⁷ The Hollywood School for Girls building retains the character defining spaces, materials, and features of this style as it was transplanted to California by Midwestern emigrants. This is reflected in its use of strong horizontal massing in the rooflines and distinctive clapboard siding. It has a hip roof and solid, heavy boxy construction with wood windows, both double-hung and small casement. The sparse inclusion of decoration follows these ideals, and the porches and surrounding gardens also represent the ideals of integration between architecture and nature.

Additional contributing resources⁸

The larger of the two additional small buildings, known as the cottage, is a small, one room building that served as a stand-alone classroom for the school until 1932, when the school closed. Although the origins are undocumented, belief is that the cottage was constructed between 1915 and 1918. This cottage has two sets of French doors on the east side, with a small door on the west side. Two small windows are set in the north wall. There was a small sink on the south wall. Sometime during the late 1980s or early 1990s, a rudimentary lavatory and shower were added to the west end of the cottage, plus a new sink unit and gas stove. It is unknown when electricity was added. The cottage may also have served as a residence for a female teacher during the school years, then later for the club caretaker.

The smaller of the two buildings is referred to as the shed, possibly built at the same time as the cottage, i.e. 1915-1918. This was originally used as a classroom during the school years, and

⁶ (Hollywood n.d.)

⁷ (Barker and Hedges 2016)

⁸ Communication with Woman's Club of Hollywood Historian Rosemary Lord, 3 October 2016.

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possibly as a residence for the teacher. On the south side is the original front door, since boarded up, flanked by small windows on either side. Inside, the original green paint/wash is still clearly visible on alternating vertical wood planks, in a pleasant design. The shed is used to store garden equipment and tools. It has no electricity.

Alterations

When the Woman's Club of Hollywood clubhouse was constructed on the front of the Hollywood School for Girls property, city zoning required the removal of The Little Theatre (and classroom) in the far southwest corner of what is now the parking lot, plus two other small classrooms. Two additional small classrooms in the far northwest corner were destroyed by fire in the 1990s during construction of a large apartment complex on the north side of the property.

There have been no significant alterations to the Woman's Club of Hollywood clubhouse or the Hollywood School for Girls house; repairs have been in-kind. In 1967, the City of Los Angeles widened La Brea Avenue, taking 50 feet from the front of the Woman's Club property.⁹ This changed the ability to use the front doors as an everyday entry. The doors remain accessible, and the south façade side door has since been used as the main entrance.

The Hollywood School for Girls building had early additions that fit with the style of the house and were made before and during the tenure of the Hollywood School for Girls. Other repairs have been minimal and were primarily related to infrastructure (plumbing, heating, electricity). Improvements were made to the roof and foundation and were respectful to the historic integrity of the building.¹⁰

Integrity

Both the Woman's Club of Hollywood clubhouse and the Hollywood School for Girls residence possess a high degree of integrity that allows the property to tell the story of two distinct time periods and institutions. All buildings retain their character defining features and materials, with few alterations since the opening of the Woman's Club of Hollywood. The location of the Woman's Club and Hollywood School for Girls in Hollywood has remained unchanged. The size of the lot was diminished by the widening of La Brea Avenue. The design of the property retains integrity in that the configuration and location of buildings, entrances, and landscaping remains the same. The setting of the property is still the urban neighborhood of Hollywood. The loss of small, ancillary buildings at the edge of the property does not diminish the integrity of the primary buildings or their setting. The character defining materials used for both buildings are still present and intact. The workmanship of both buildings is still evident and original. The continued social and educational use of the buildings and original features of the buildings' interiors preserve the feeling of the property. The association of the property is still with the Woman's Club for Hollywood and the Hollywood School for Girls through the buildings they used and the continued use of those spaces by the Woman's Club.

⁹ (Woman's Club of Hollywood n.d.)

¹⁰ (Search Online Building Records 2004)

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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.)

- 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

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1915-1932

1946-1971

Significant Dates

1915

1971

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Harvey, Arthur E. (clubhouse)

Unknown (residence)

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Woman's Club of Hollywood/Hollywood School for Girls is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A at the local level of significance in the areas of Education and Social History for its role in the educational and social development of Hollywood. The Hollywood School for Girls, a private college preparatory school, was a significant educational institution for the children of Hollywood's famous families. Its liberal arts curriculum, held in an outdoor setting, is representative of private education principles at the turn of the century. The Woman's Club of Hollywood is one of Hollywood's oldest civic organizations, founded in 1905 by a small group of women, many of whom were the wives, daughters, and sisters of Hollywood pioneers. This property is the only one extant associated with the organization. Two periods of significance reflect subsequent property use: 1915 to 1932 associated with the Hollywood School for Girls, and 1946 to 1971 associated with the Woman's Club of Hollywood that continues to occupy the property. The close of the period of significance represents the beginning of a significant decline in membership due to cultural shifts, such as more women entering the workforce. The clubhouse meets Criteria Consideration G as a property that continued to achieve significance into a period of less than fifty years before nomination for its exceptional significance as one of the foremost social and cultural institutions in Hollywood. Its activities spanned decades and the Club was still an important and viable institution until the mid-1970s, when larger social trends—women in the workplace, younger generations finding different ways to express their activism, and broader educational opportunities for women—combined to make it more difficult to continue the Club's traditional roles in education and philanthropy. Club membership remained robust until 1971.

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

Hollywood School for Girls

In 1901, Marion and Charles Hanchett purchased the lot on La Brea Avenue. Between 1902 and 1904, the Hanchetts had a two-story house built in the Prairie School style.¹¹ They lived at this residence until 1915, when they began leasing the building to the Hollywood School for Girls. The school was founded circa 1908 at a different location nearby. Principal Sophie Shepherd Hogan moved the school from its original location on Hollywood Boulevard to La Brea Avenue in 1915 because growing commercial activity on the Boulevard made the location less affordable and not suited to the type of education the school wished to provide.¹² Shortly thereafter, the leadership of the school changed hands with Miss Sarah Louise Knappen, a highly regarded principal of an all-girls school in Minneapolis, taking charge. Miss Knappen lived on premises with her relative Marjorie Knappen,¹³ a typical accommodation for schoolteachers at the time.

¹¹ (Early Hollywood 1919)

¹² (Williams 2011)

¹³ (City of Los Angeles 1982)

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According to Club records on the Hollywood School for Girls, in 1917, Miss Knappen announced her engagement to the innovative architect William Lee Woollett, architect of the Million Dollar Theatre in downtown Los Angeles. Historically, female schoolteachers were not allowed to marry while residing and teaching at a school.¹⁴ After holding her reception in the schoolhouse, Miss Knappen moved out of her living quarters above the school, and she continued to serve as Principal.¹⁵ In the voter registration records for the 1920s, a housekeeper, a housemother, and a teacher were recorded as living on site.

Between 1908 and 1932, the Hollywood School for Girls was one of few private schools in Hollywood. Many children of prominent Hollywood families attended as well-off parents sought an alternative education to fledgling and sparse public schools.¹⁶ The school had a similar clientele and approach to education as the Janes Kindergarten, another turn of the century educational institution. Located at Janes House at 6541 Hollywood Boulevard, operated by the Janes family, the property is listed on the National Register as part of the Hollywood Boulevard Commercial and Entertainment District. The Janes Kindergarten and Hollywood School for Girls supplemented the few public elementary schools available in rural Hollywood.¹⁷ Several students attended both schools.

Children belonging to families of the newly developing motion picture industry were among the most prominent students of the Hollywood School for Girls, including Jessie Jr., son of producer Jesse Lasky, and the daughters of famous producer-director Cecil DeMille of Paramount Pictures. Irene, the daughter of Louis B. Mayer of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, also attended the school, as did Noah Beery Jr., Evelyn Scott (screenwriter), and Ruth Goldwyn. Additional well-known Hollywood families included children such as Ruth Bireley, Alice Felix, Muriel Fowler, Catherine Toberman (daughter of Hollywood's primary real estate developer C. E. Toberman), and the children of authors Edgar Rice Burroughs and Frank Baum. Other graduates of the school who contributed to Hollywood history include actresses Jean Harlow and Douglas Fairbanks Jr.¹⁸

Mrs. Woollett hired Edith (Spare) Head, who started her career teaching French and Art at the school. Ms. Head attributed her subsequent success in the film industry to the frequent trips with the Hollywood School for Girls students to visit the Lasky-DeMille studios. When major motion pictures were being filmed at the studio, the school closed for the day so the teachers and students could attend the filming. Edith Head's exposure to the glamorous costumes on the sets of the movies influenced her interest in costume design. One summer, a position opened in the costume department at Paramount Studios and Ms. Head changed careers, becoming an award-winning costume designer and the person most nominated for an Oscar.¹⁹

¹⁴ (Goldin 1991)

¹⁵ (Cameron n.d.)

¹⁶ (Simpson 2004)

¹⁷ (McAvoy 1984)

¹⁸ (Smith 2000)

¹⁹ (Edith Head n.d.)

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The school was considered an innovative college preparatory school. Advertisements in the Los Angeles City Directories and the *Holly Leaves*, a local magazine, illustrate the prominence associated with the primarily all-girls school (boys were accepted for kindergarten through third grade only). These advertisements stated the uniqueness of the school: its emphasis on individualized learning and the arts. A primary tenet of the school was to hold courses outside, and many advertisements boasted the lush gardens present at the school. The school was also important because the Hollywood School for Girls offered a college preparatory, well-rounded education for females. Courses included foreign language, mathematics, and literature, all prerequisites for college enrollment in that era.²⁰

The abundant garden framing the schoolhouse was the primary photo used in advertisements. Acacia trees flanked the carriage-size driveway leading up to the main gate of the school. Upon entry, one would pass by a jacaranda on the lawn and a rose garden located near the main house. The classrooms and playground were concealed by the proliferation of gardens. Spending time outdoors was a key aspect of American education at the beginning of the twentieth century. Many Southern California schools featured classes on a veranda in addition to the more traditional method of indoor classrooms. The indoor/outdoor setting of the Hollywood School for Girls and its individualized instruction were considered progressive. The sleeping porches were often occupied during the summer by boarders.²¹

The school was also unique because of its emphasis on a liberal arts education, including an art history course taught by Mr. Woollett. These courses were taught behind the two-story main house in smaller classrooms, also known as cottages. Originally, there were seven classrooms.²² Three buildings were removed in association with the 1946 construction of the Woman's Club. In the 1990s, during the construction of an apartment building on an adjacent lot, a fire destroyed two of the cottages on the northwest corner of the property.²³ Two of the buildings remain, as well as the original footings of three, towards the rear of the property.

Instead of attaching the classrooms to the main house, the principal wanted the students to have to walk outside and interact with nature on their walk to class. The cottage classrooms housed a sculpture studio, music department, chemistry lab, history, language rooms, a woodcraft lodge, and auditorium. There was also an athletic field in the southwest corner of the property. The field became a parking lot.²⁴

The Hollywood School for Girls' period of significance is 1915 to 1932. The relevant buildings on the property are the main house (schoolhouse) and two classrooms. Footings of other classrooms and landscape features including mature palms and flagstone pathways complete the setting.

²⁰ (Hollywood School for Girls 1920)

²¹ (Torrence 2015)

²² (Cameron n.d.)

²³ (Search Online Building Records 2004)

²⁴ (Hollywood n.d.)

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During the Great Depression, in 1932 the school closed its doors, and the property faced a period of neglect.²⁵ Beginning in 1934, voter registration records indicate the house and cottages were rented as apartments, and the property began to experience a period of bohemian activity. The occupations recorded for the residents included artists, actors, and writers. During the 1930s the property was an artist colony and local painters, sculptors, and photographers rented the various cottages. Chesley Bonestell, an influential science-fiction painter and illustrator, was one of the artists present in this artist village.²⁶

Woman's Club of Hollywood

In February 1946 the Woman's Club of Hollywood purchased the Hollywood School for Girls property and commissioned Arthur E. Harvey to design the facility.²⁷ Harvey was famous for designing many buildings in Los Angeles, including Chateau Elysees, Los Altos Apartments, Villa Carlotta, Villa Carmen, the Wilshire Professional Building, and the Santa Monica Professional Building.²⁸ Harvey had a number of plans that would have removed the Hollywood School for Girls building, but the final plan was designed so that the Woman's Club could keep the schoolhouse, from then on known as the "Hospitality House." As one of the first social and cultural institutions in Hollywood, the Woman's Club chose a property that had a prior residential and educational use and has worked to preserve that story along with its own substantial history. The distinct architectural characteristics of the Spanish Colonial Revival style were used by master architect Arthur Harvey to design a prominent building with ties to the 1914 building.²⁹ The new building was equipped so that all of the Woman's Club activities begun prior to the war could continue. These included a flexible lounge, auditorium, and meeting spaces.

The Club functioned in the context of social clubs for women that were a part of a state and national organization network. This framework allowed individual communities to be a part of the progressive educational movement of the early twentieth century. The context of women's organizations in California is well documented,³⁰ with several National Register-listed properties in Los Angeles, including Friday Morning Club, Ebell Club, Women's Twentieth Century Club of Eagle Rock, and Hollywood Studio Club.³¹ The Woman's Club of Hollywood was one of the most significant in this context. Women's clubs were an important resource for women within their communities throughout the twentieth century in the United States.³²

The Woman's Club of Hollywood exposed women within the community to music, art, and lecturers that were brought in from all over the country. The club focused on addressing issues that affected the entire Hollywood community such as the support of fledgling churches, the library, and schools. Men's associations of the time period were primarily focused on business,

²⁵ (Cameron n.d.)

²⁶ (Ancestry 2016)

²⁷ (Woman's Club of Hollywood n.d.)

²⁸ (Michelson 2015)

²⁹ (Harvey, Specifications to be Used in the Erection of Woman's Club of Hollywood 1948)

³⁰ (Simpson 2004)

³¹ (National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior n.d.)

³² (Simpson 2004)

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although the Masons and other fraternal organizations had a presence.³³ At the time of the Club's founding, respectable women could not go out unchaperoned, so the Woman's Club was a vital part of their social life and education. The club hosted classes such as language, music, and parliamentary law courses to encourage women to participate in activities outside the home, linking the club to the suffrage movement.³⁴ Socially the clubhouse served as a popular location for Hollywood events. The club sponsored dances, teas, and ceremonies for members of the organization and the community.³⁵ Women's clubs were the social center of their community. The clubs were valued as places for women to get out of their homes and do charitable work for their communities.³⁶

In the ensuing years, the Club continued to be "the heart of the Hollywood Community," supporting civic matters and local charities. The Club funded and maintained long-standing relationships with the Los Angeles Orphans Home Society (later Hollygrove Children and Family Services), the Save-the-Redwoods League, The Salvation Army, the Junior Blind of America, Goodwill Industries, the Save the Children Fund, and the Orthopaedic Hospital (later Orthopaedic Institute for Children), amongst others. The club was instrumental in organizing and creating Hollywood Union High School, now listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and continued to offer scholarships to students there as a core part of its efforts. Over the years, the Club has also held many community activities, such as educational programs, "Civic House Cleaning Day," planting empty lots with barley, theater productions, concerts, dances, art exhibits, and community-related outings.³⁷

The Club prospered for several decades, boasting over 900 members in the early 1960s,³⁸ a time when more women were entering the workforce and had fewer social restrictions.³⁹ To reflect the changing times and grow new membership, the Woman's Club adapted their membership levels to include Junior, Intermediate, Professional, and other part-time memberships.⁴⁰ The Club developed to include working women and even men. During this decade, the clubhouse continued to be the gathering spot for the various committees and events.

The change in membership was not enough, however, to maintain the same level of involvement. In 1970, nearly half of all women were employed outside of the home, leaving less time for social functions and volunteer work, such as that of the Woman's Club.⁴¹ In 1968-1969, the Club acquired more than fifty new members. In 1970-1971, the number fell by nearly half, and continued to decline in the following years. Renting the space to charities and other nonprofit organizations became a greater focus to stay financially afloat. The close of the second period of

³³ (Carroll 2003)

³⁴ (Simpson 2004)

³⁵ (Woman's Club of Hollywood n.d.)

³⁶ (Williams 2011)

³⁷ (Woman's Club of Hollywood n.d.)

³⁸ (Woman's Club of Hollywood n.d.)

³⁹ (Simpson 2004)

⁴⁰ (Woman's Club of Hollywood n.d.)

⁴¹ (U.S. Department of Labor n.d.)

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significance has been identified as 1971 because of the drop in membership and shift in membership involvement.

The periods of significance for the property are 1915-1932 and 1946-1971, representing the decades of the twentieth century in which the Hollywood School for Girls and the Woman's Club of Hollywood each played a pivotal and important role in the educational and social development of Hollywood. Since the 1970s, the Club has continued to do charity work and rented the space to other nonprofit groups to survive. More recently, the Club has had a resurgence of new members and a renewed focus on community events and outreach. It became a Historic Cultural Monument in the city of Los Angeles in 1994. In 1999, the President of the Woman's Club, Nadine Smith, created "This Old House Fund" to begin renovations of the Hospitality House to serve future generations. The 2000 Community Service Award was given by the Hollywood Coordinating Council. The membership of the Woman's Club blends several generations of women and men who support the Club by volunteering their time and resources. The Club holds many concerts, theatrical shows, and events. The Club continues to partner with Meals on Wheels, Hollygrove Orphanage, Aviva Family Center, The Jeffrey Foundation, The Salvation Army, and Union Rescue Mission to provide meeting spaces and organize events and fundraisers for members, community partners, and the public.

Developmental History/Additional Historic Context Information

The Woman's Club of Hollywood has a long history within the community. Founded in 1905, its founding members included Daeida Wilcox Beveridge, Mrs. Jacob Stern, Caroline Wakerman, and other prominent women in Hollywood. The women first met April 15, 1905 to establish the organization of the board members of the club. By May 1, 1905 there were fifty members. They adopted the constitution of the club that declared its purpose to be "the up building of the social, intellectual, and civic life of Hollywood and its specific and immediate work the establishing of a public library in the city of Hollywood."⁴² It was the leading force behind the formation of Hollywood's first public library, educational facilities, churches, and service organizations, and is the oldest continually functioning social institution in the community. The Woman's Club participated in creating the Hollywood Studio Club, a wing at the Hollywood Hospital, the origins of the Hollywood Bowl, the Pilgrimage plays at the Ford Theatre, and sponsoring May Day celebrations along Hollywood Boulevard. Many of these achievements were accomplished before women had the right to vote.⁴³

These clubs were linked to the suffrage movements within the country, and as women acquired more political rights, the clubs expanded.⁴⁴ Advertisements in *Holly Leaves*, beginning in 1915, state meeting announcements and conferences hosted at the current clubhouse. Members in the community would meet at the clubhouse to discuss current events and community issues. In 1918 the various committees meeting at the Woman's Club included drives, art, drama, home

⁴² (Woman's Club of Hollywood n.d.)

⁴³ (Lord, Hollywood: Then and Now 2013) (Smith 2000)

⁴⁴ (Simpson 2004)

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economics, literature, music, public affairs, social services, child welfare, and Americanization and citizenship.⁴⁵

Amongst many other civic and philanthropic endeavors, charity was extremely important to the organization and the Woman's Club was used as the Red Cross Axillary Center during World War I and World War II. The Red Cross Auxiliary was originally housed in the clubhouse. During World War I the club created committees for War Relief. The Woman's Club was especially important during the war years because it created a system of alerting the other organizations in the area to the war efforts of each other, streamlining efforts and maximizing efficiency.⁴⁶

From its inception, the Woman's Club of Hollywood attracted many notable Hollywood residents, including people associated with the motion picture industry. One of the most famous Hollywood pioneers, Mary Pickford, frequented Woman's Club events, and awarded the prizes at the club's annual Flower Show and other festivities. Gloria Swanson lectured on nutrition at the club. In addition Gary Cooper attended events. Charlie Chaplin attended and entertained at parties the club gave for the local orphanage and other children's events.⁴⁷

By the 1940s, Hollywood Boulevard was increasingly commercial. Commercial buildings replaced large residences at the major intersections, and land was in short supply. The institutions and churches located along the Boulevard began to look for alternate facilities off the busy thoroughfare. The 1914 facility occupied a prime corner at the intersection of La Brea and was highly sought after by commercial developers.⁴⁸ World War II drew the attention of many service personnel from throughout the country, some of whom vowed to resettle in Southern California after the war.⁴⁹ The Club was active during the war in a number of war-related activities, continuing to use the building as a social center for the community. Soon after the war, the Club decided to sell their increasingly valuable Hollywood Boulevard location and move to 1741-1749 North La Brea Avenue.

⁴⁵ (Woman's Club of Hollywood n.d.)

⁴⁶ (Williams 2011)

⁴⁷ (Woman's Club of Hollywood n.d.)

⁴⁸ (Woman's Club of Hollywood n.d.)

⁴⁹ (Williams 2011)

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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: Woman's Club of Hollywood

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 5S1

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

Woman's Club of Hollywood
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1. Latitude: 34.102919 Longitude: -118.345681

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

Formosa tract of 0.92 acres commencing at northwest corner of Lot 5 Wingfield tract through north on west line of Lot G 129.84 feet through south 89.32 feet 30 inches east to southwest line of La Brea Avenue through southeast thereon to north line of said tract through west thereon to beginning part of Lot G.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Boundaries match the parcel boundaries and property owned by the Woman's Club of Hollywood.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Rosemary Lord (Woman's Club of Hollywood Historian), Elizabeth Canon and Catherine Rand (Preservation Assistants, Hollywood Heritage)

organization: Woman's Club of Hollywood

street & number: 1741-1749 North La Brea Avenue

city or town: Los Angeles state: CA zip code: 90046

e-mail: womansclubofhollywood@gmail.com

telephone: (323) 876-8383 or (213) 503-8719 (R. Lord)

date: April 2016; Revised July 2016

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Woman's Club of Hollywood
City or Vicinity: Hollywood
County: Los Angeles

Woman's Club of Hollywood
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

State: California
Photographs: 1-2, 4, 7-9, 14-25, 27-30
Photographer: Elizabeth Canon & Catherine Rand
Date Photographed: March 2015
Photographs: 3, 5-6, 10-13, 26
Photographer: Hayley McCarthy
Date Photographed: August 2016

Description and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 30 Main (east) façade and partial south façade, Woman's Club of Hollywood, view northwest
- 2 of 30 East (front) and partial north façade, Woman's Club of Hollywood, view southwest
- 3 of 30 West façades of Hollywood School for Girls and Woman's Club from parking lot, view east
- 4 of 30 Woman's Club of Hollywood Foyer view towards Lounge, view north
- 5 of 30 Woman's Club of Hollywood Office, view northeast
- 6 of 30 Woman's Club of Hollywood Lounge with entry doors, view southeast
- 7 of 30 Woman's Club of Hollywood Lounge, view southwest
- 8 of 30 Woman's Club of Hollywood Lounge looking into Foyer and Auditorium, view south
- 9 of 30 Woman's Club of Hollywood Auditorium and stage, view southwest
- 10 of 30 Woman's Club of Hollywood Kitchen, view west
- 11 of 30 Woman's Club of Hollywood powder room and bathroom, view northeast
- 12 of 30 Woman's Club of Hollywood Second Floor Boardroom, view east
- 13 of 30 Garden and east façade, Hollywood School for Girls, view northwest
- 14 of 30 Front (east) façade, exterior Hollywood School for Girls, entry to headmistress' quarters, view southwest
- 15 of 30 North façade, Hollywood School for Girls, view west

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- 16 of 30 Detail of Hollywood School for Girls headmistress' quarters, view west
- 17 of 30 Partial view of south façade, Hollywood School for Girls abutting Woman's Club of Hollywood building, view east
- 18 of 30 Partial west façade, Hollywood School for Girls, view southeast
- 19 of 30 Hollywood School for Girls main classroom, view west
- 20 of 30 Hollywood School for Girls main classroom, view east
- 21 of 30 Hollywood School for Girls kitchen (adjacent to main classroom), view west
- 22 of 30 Foyer and stairs, Hollywood School for Girls headmistress' quarters, view east
- 23 of 30 Hollywood School for Girls main bedroom headmistress' quarters, view southwest
- 24 of 30 Hollywood School for Girls, 2nd bedroom headmistress' quarters, view southeast
- 25 of 30 Hollywood School for Girls second floor bathroom, view north
- 26 of 30 Hollywood School for Girls second floor kitchen, view west
- 27 of 30 Original cottage, Hollywood School for Girls, view west
- 28 of 30 Shed used originally as classroom and teachers' quarters, view west
- 29 of 30 Footing of one of original Hollywood School for Girls cottages, view southwest
- 30 of 30 Parking lot in rear of the Woman's Club of Hollywood and the Hollywood School for Girls, view west

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 100 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.

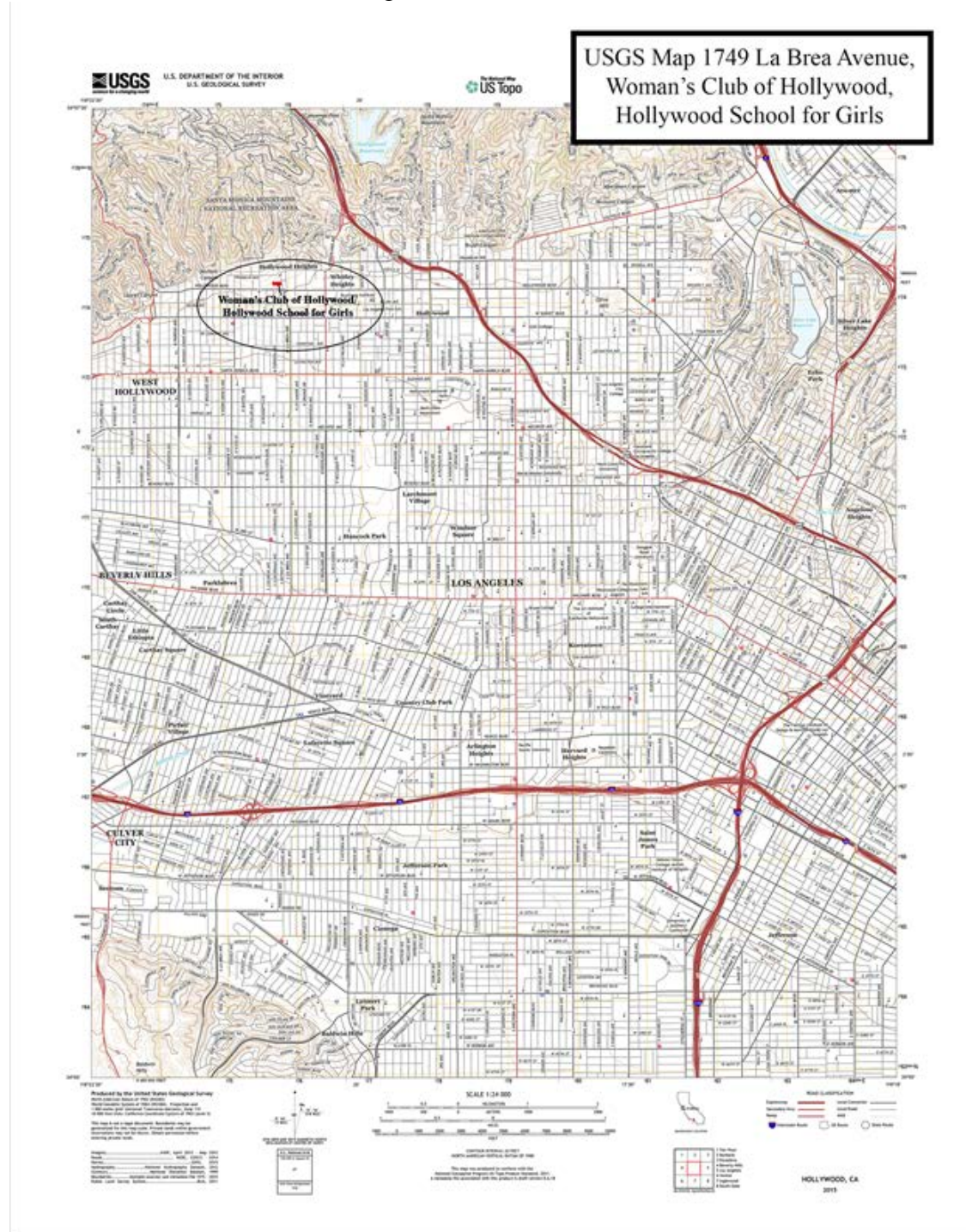
Woman's Club of Hollywood
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Location Map/USGS Map

Latitude: 34.102919

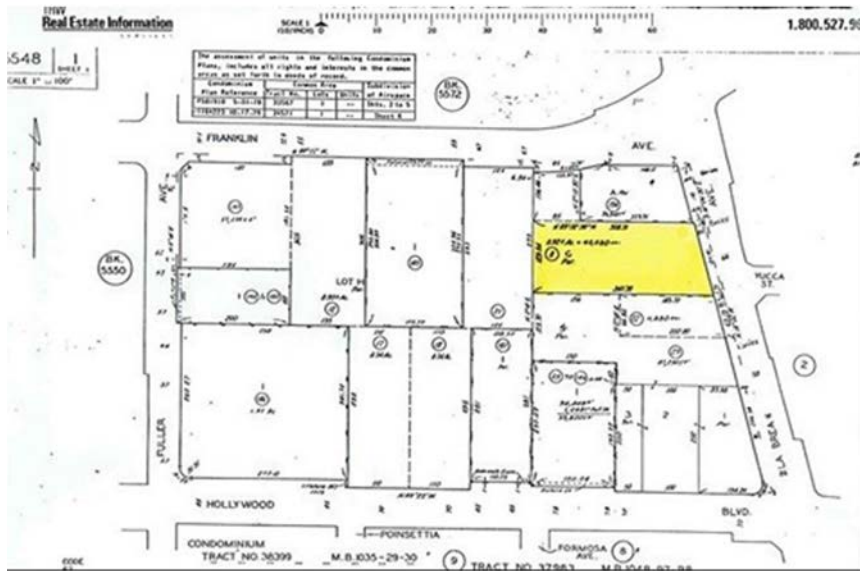
Longitude: -118.345681



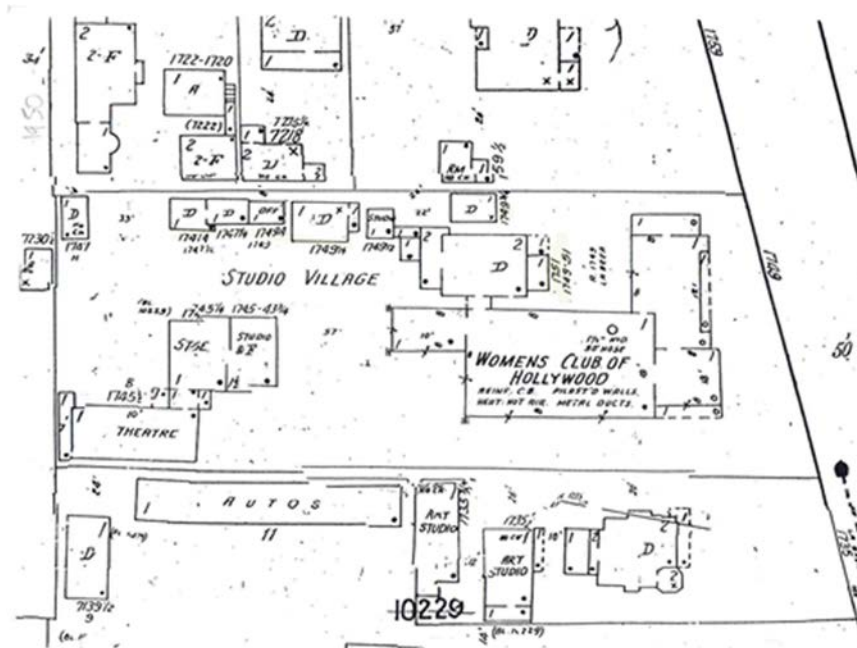
Woman's Club of Hollywood
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Sanborn Map



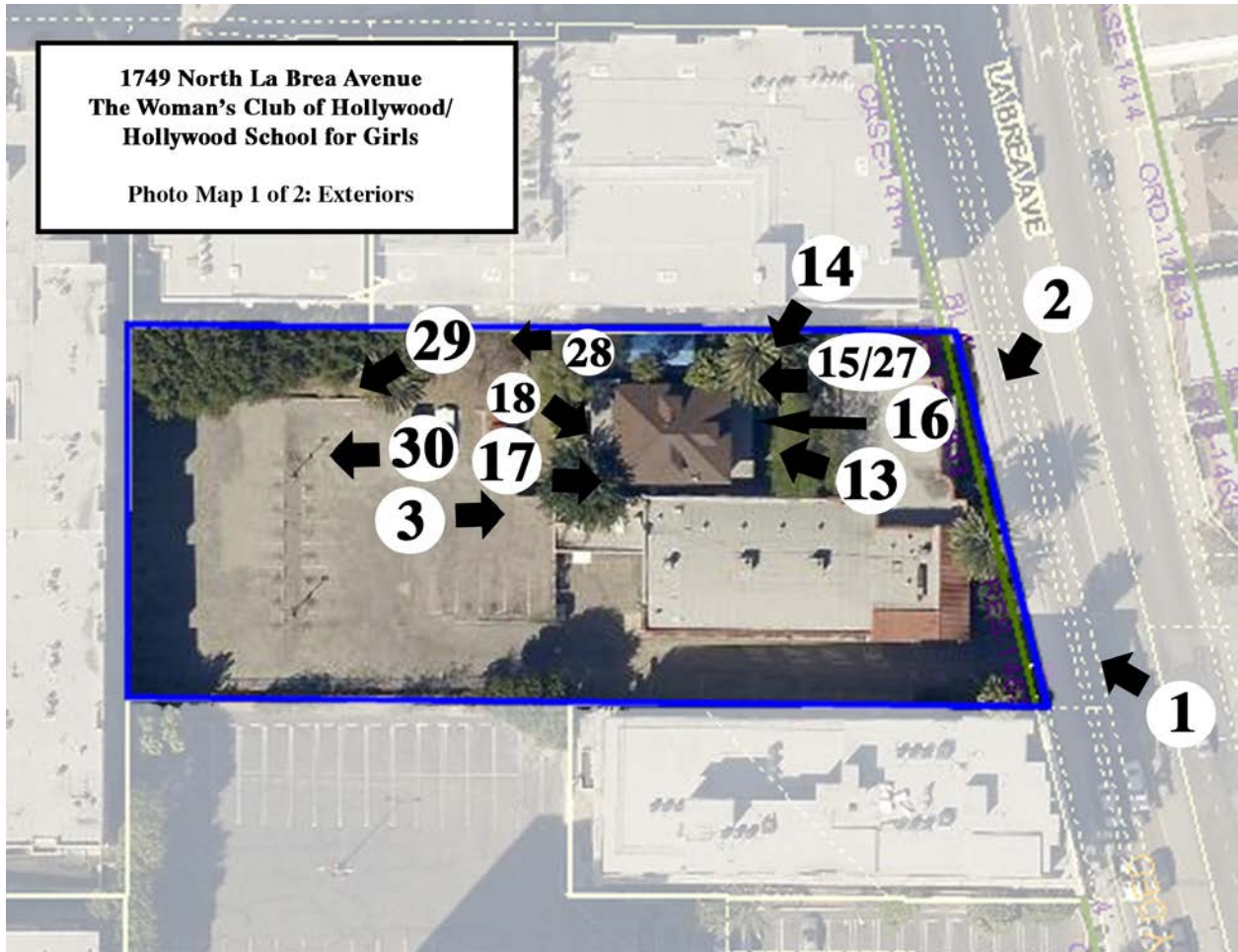
Tax Assessor Map



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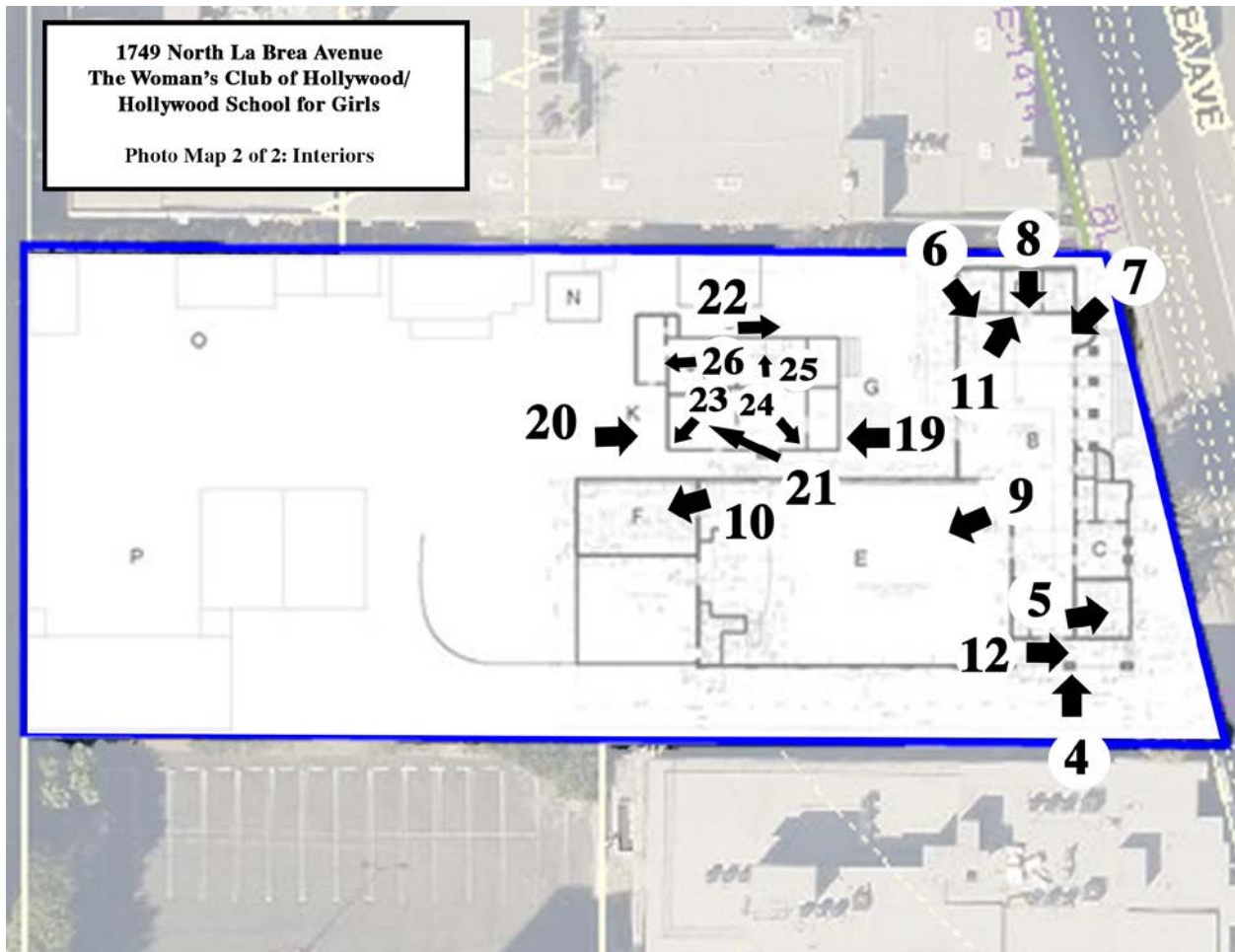
Sketch Map/Photo Key 1 of 2



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Sketch Map/Photo Key 2 of 2

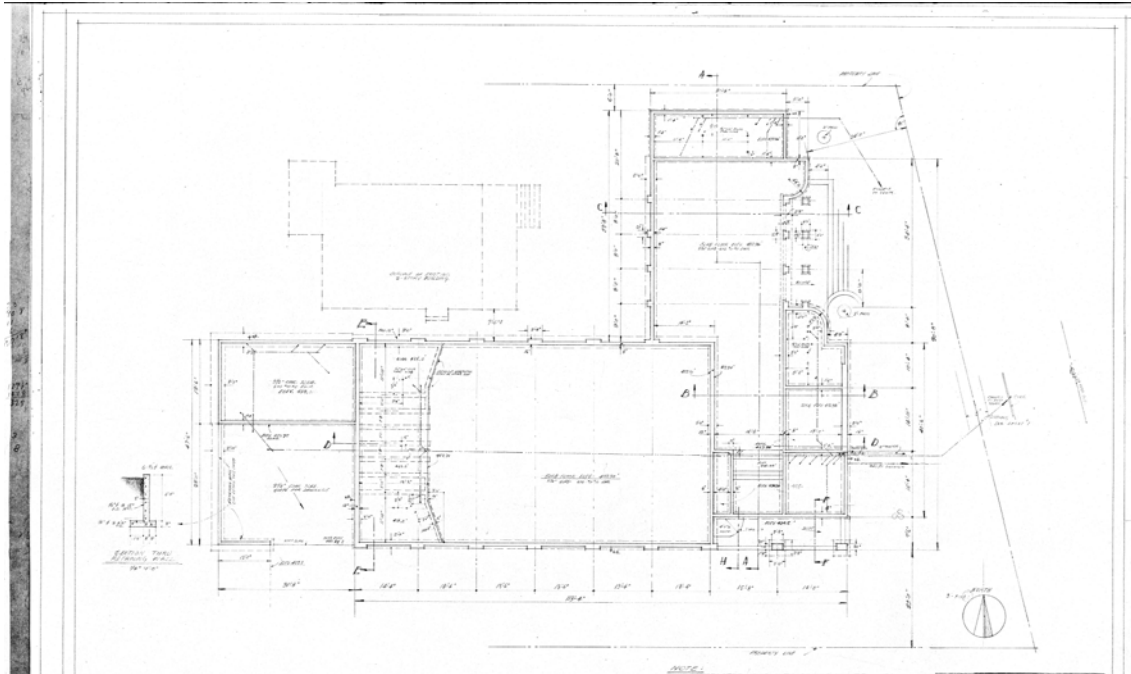


Woman's Club of Hollywood
Name of Property

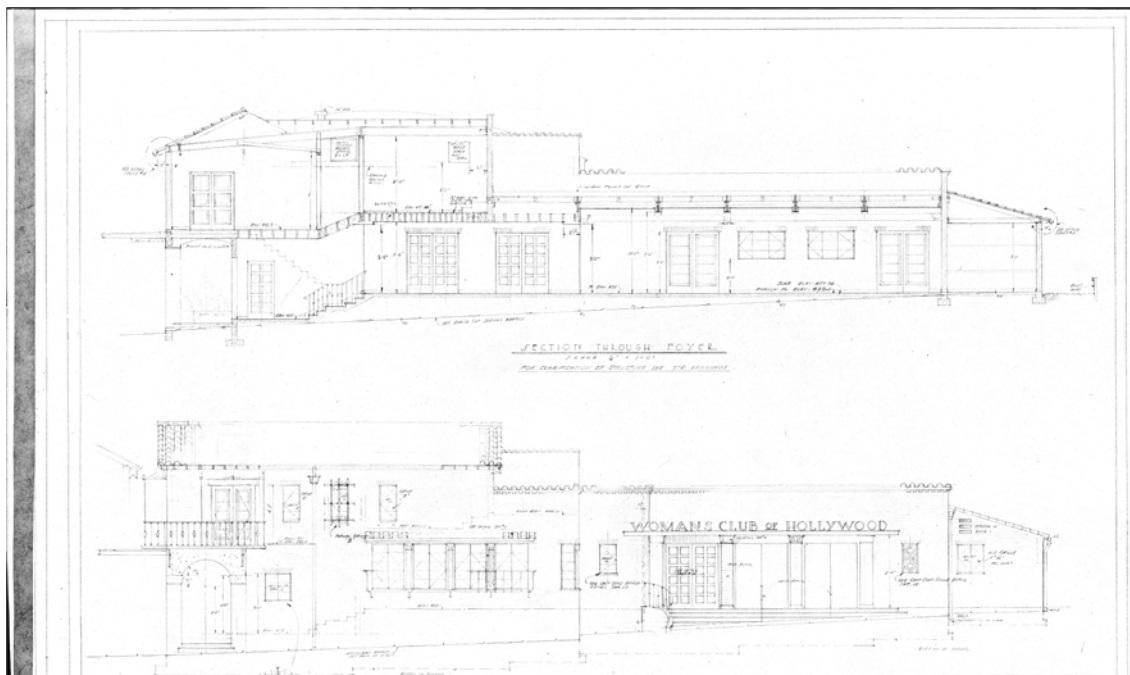
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Architect's Drawings

Woman's Club Foundation Plan. Arthur E. Harvey, 1948.



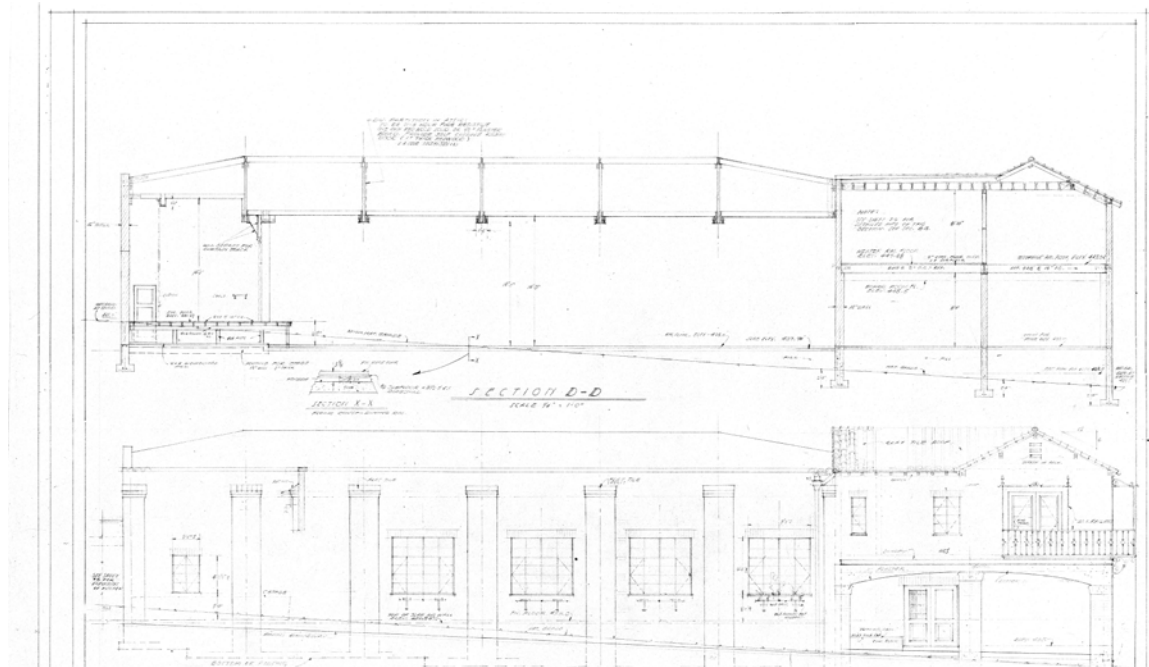
Woman's Club Front Elevation & Section. Arthur E. Harvey, 1948.



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Woman's Club South Elevation & Section. Arthur E. Harvey, 1948.

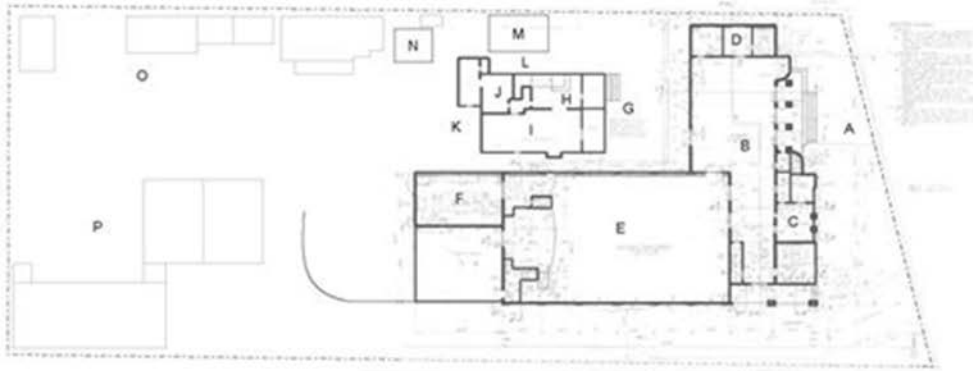


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Floor Plans

THE WOMAN'S CLUB HOLLYWOOD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

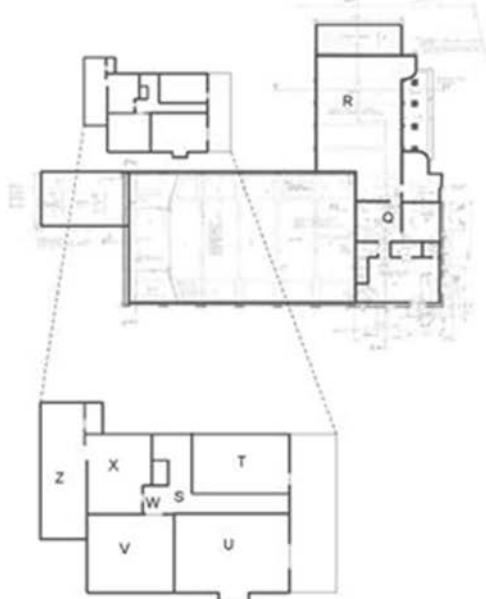


The Woman's Club

- A Woman's Club Exterior
- B. Foyer
- C Office
- D Restrooms
- E Auditorium
- F Kitchen
- Q Board & History Rooms
- R Roof

Hollywood School for Girls

- G Hollywood School for Girls Exterior
- H Foyer
- I Great Room
- J Kitchen
- K Hollywood School for Girls Garden
- L Courtyards
- M Cottage
- N Storage Shed
- O Footings (Demolished Buildings)
- P Non-extant Buildings
- S Bathroom
- T Office
- U Bedroom
- V Bedroom
- W Foyer
- X Kitchen
- Z Enclosed Porch



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Figure 1. Clubhouse construction 1946, Josè Antonio, Photographer; Club Archives



Figure 2. Board of Directors, 1946, Josè Antonio, Photographer; Club Archives



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Figure 3. Los Angeles Times article (Thursday, October 5, 1967)

...speaker at the luncheon...
Wayne Fisher, president of...
At report... Commissioner...
predicted, "Los Angeles will...
be the future aviation center...
and the gateway to the...
world."

In her opening message...
of the club, Mrs. Paul H. Moore...
1942-44 president, mentioned...
the "grave duties imposed on...
every civic and cultural...
organization" because of the

war. "Our war service program...
has definitely been...
established, and is functioning...
and will continue to function...
only as each member...
shoulders her responsibilities."

All war services were under...
the direction of Mrs. Gray...
Mrs. J. Clyde Carton and her...
USO canteen committee held...
bridge luncheons to raise...
money to buy cigarettes

sandwiches and doughnuts for...
soldiers visiting her. Dances...
were held at the USO to ease a...
boy's loneliness away from...
home. The Red Cross section...
made surgical dressings, hats...
vests and quilts.

MEMBERS came to club...
meetings in car pools because...
gasoline was scarce. A...
speaker during these war days...
was Dr. James W. Fifield Jr.,...
who retired this year as pastor

of the Los Angeles First...
Congregational Church.

In Mrs. Lawrence Dowd...
term, 1944-47, the club went...
over the top in War Bond...
sales, selling more than...
\$100,000 worth by the end...
of the war, Aug. 14, 1945. Teas...
were a bit of a problem...
because of rationing. The...
price of sugar had rose to...
per pound.

(Tomorrow! A New Era...
Prosperity)

New Clubhouse Meets Members' Needs

By MAYRENE BARKER
Staff Writer
(Last in a Series)

Post war years brought prosperity to the
Woman's Club of Hollywood.

The club auditorium, known as the Hollywood
Concert Hall, located at 7078 Hollywood Blvd., was
sold to pay off the clubhouse mortgage. Then came
an offer from Charles Bollar. He wanted to purchase
the remaining club property at the corner of
Hollywood Blvd. and La Brea Ave., for \$125,000.

Parking and taxes were becoming a problem so
members voted to sell at an emergency meeting. This
presented another problem. Where would the more
than 1,000 women hold their meetings?

SEVERAL PLACES were mentioned as sites for
the new clubhouse, including Holly Chateau, the
home of the late president Mrs. R. B. Lane on
Franklin Ave.; the late Mrs. John Mead's home and
the Woollett property at 1749 N. La Brea Ave., then
the Hollywood School for Girls. The latter was decid-
ed upon and the club met in the meantime at the
Hollywood Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Carl Bush, 1947-49 president, and her
board were faced with the task of raising the needed
money for the new clubhouse. "The banks would not
give us a mortgage," said Mrs. Bush, now 87 and still
active in club work. "We finally got a private loan
for \$30,000. But, it was a problem."

Mrs. Bush joined the club in 1922 and has held
various offices ever since. "I've always done
something since I joined," she said. "I always loved
doing things here at the club."

The initial payment was made to the architect.
Some of the buildings were to be torn down; others
could be used for storage. The Little Theater, renam-
ed Hospitality House, was to be used for
Shakespeare, Browning and board of directors
meetings. It is still standing and used today.

MAYOR FLETCHER Bowron, Sheriff Eugene
Biscailuz and John B. Kingsley, of the Hollywood

Chamber of Commerce, participated in ground-
breaking ceremonies July 21, 1948. "Tis the mind
that keeps the body rich" was the club motto as it
moved into the new quarters with its large hall, big
auditorium and dining room with pastel peach col-
oring and hardwood floors in April, 1949.

Thursday, Oct. 5, 1967



Staff Photo by Milt Fries
MRS. CARL BUSH points to plaque in present
Woman's Club of Hollywood, 1749 N. La Brea
Ave., showing that she was president in 1949 when
building was completed. Mrs. Bush, now 87, is
an active member of the club.

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Figure 6. *Holly Leaves* article (Date Unknown); Club Archives



Woman's Club of Hollywood
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Photographs

1 of 30. Exterior: Main (east) façade and partial south façade, Woman's Club of Hollywood, view northwest



2 of 30. Exterior: East (front) and partial north façade, Woman's Club of Hollywood, view southwest



Woman's Club of Hollywood
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3 of 30. Exterior: West façades of Hollywood School for Girls and Woman's Club from parking lot, view east



4 of 30. Interior: Woman's Club of Hollywood Foyer view towards Lounge, view north



Woman's Club of Hollywood
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5 of 30. Interior: Woman's Club of Hollywood Office, view northeast



6 of 30. Interior: Woman's Club of Hollywood Lounge with entry doors, view southeast



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7 of 30. Interior: Woman's Club of Hollywood Lounge, view southwest



8 of 30. Interior: Woman's Club of Hollywood Lounge looking into Foyer and Auditorium, view south



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County and State

9 of 30. Interior: Woman's Club of Hollywood Auditorium and stage, view southwest



10 of 30. Interior: Woman's Club of Hollywood Kitchen, view west



Woman's Club of Hollywood
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

11 of 30. Interior: Woman's Club of Hollywood powder room and bathroom, view northeast



12 of 30. Interior: Woman's Club of Hollywood Second Floor Boardroom, view east



Woman's Club of Hollywood
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

13 of 30. Exterior: Garden and east façade, Hollywood School for Girls, view northwest



14 of 30. Exterior: Front (east) façade, exterior Hollywood School for Girls, entry to headmistress' quarters, view southwest



Woman's Club of Hollywood
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

15 of 30. Exterior: North façade, Hollywood School for Girls, view west



16 of 30. Exterior: Detail of Hollywood School for Girls headmistress' quarters, view west



Woman's Club of Hollywood
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

17 of 30. Exterior: Partial view of south façade, Hollywood School for Girls abutting Woman's Club of Hollywood building, view east



18 of 30. Exterior: Partial west façade, Hollywood School for Girls, view southeast



Woman's Club of Hollywood
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

19 of 30. Interior: Hollywood School for Girls main classroom, view west



20 of 30. Interior: Hollywood School for Girls main classroom, view east



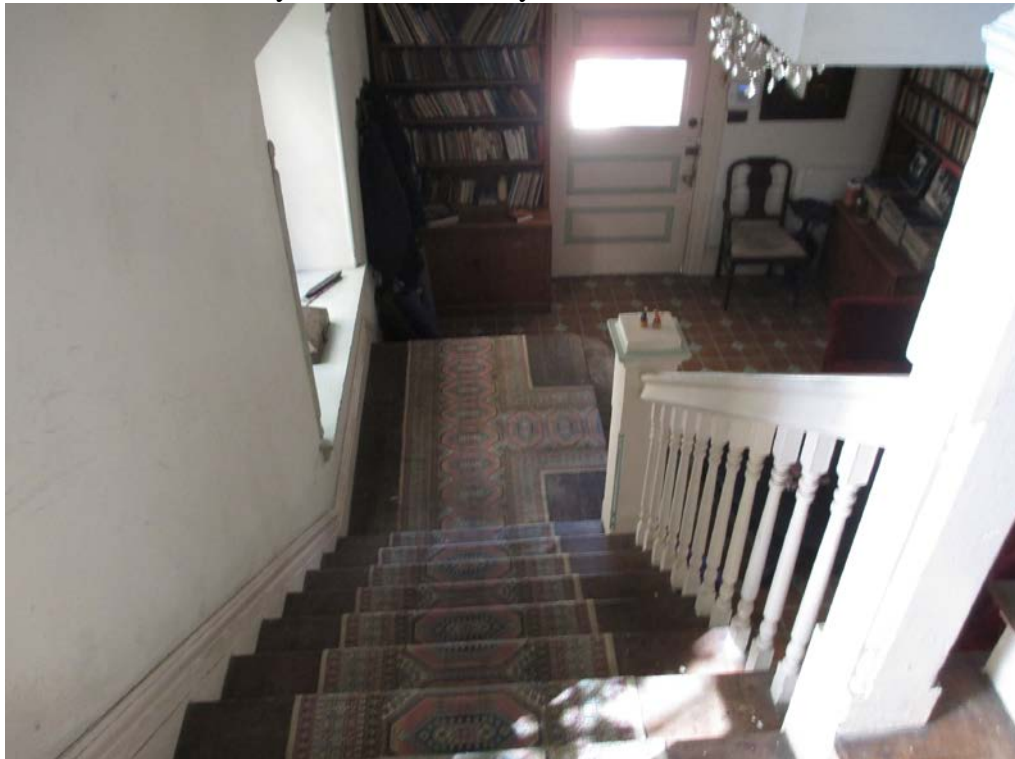
Woman's Club of Hollywood
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

21 of 30. Interior: Hollywood School for Girls kitchen (adjacent to main classroom), view west



22 of 30. Interior: Foyer and stairs, Hollywood School for Girls headmistress' quarters, view east



Woman's Club of Hollywood
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

23 of 30. Interior: Hollywood School for Girls main bedroom headmistress' quarters, view southwest



24 of 30. Interior: Hollywood School for Girls, 2nd bedroom headmistress' quarters, view southeast



Woman's Club of Hollywood
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

25 of 30. Interior: Hollywood School for Girls second floor bathroom, view north



26 of 30. Interior: Hollywood School for Girls second floor kitchen, view west



Woman's Club of Hollywood
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

27 of 30. Exterior: Original cottage, Hollywood School for Girls, view west



28 of 30. Exterior: Shed used originally as classroom and teachers' quarters, view west



Woman's Club of Hollywood
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

29 of 30. Exterior: Footing of one of original Hollywood School for Girls cottages



30 of 30. Exterior: Parking lot in rear of the Woman's Club of Hollywood and the Hollywood School for Girls, view west





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EXIT

EXIT

EXIT







EXIT

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Books on a shelf

Books on a shelf

Desk area

White storage bin

Window with white curtains

Desk with framed picture

Full-length mirror

Dark wood bed frame

Blue and white striped pillows

Penguin plush toy

Stained glass lamp

White mug on nightstand













UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Woman's Club of Hollywood

Multiple Name: _____

State & County: CALIFORNIA, Los Angeles

Date Received: 11/10/2016 Date of Pending List: 12/12/2016 Date of 16th Day: 12/27/2016 Date of 45th Day: 12/27/2016 Date of Weekly List: _____

Reference number: 16000883

Nominator: State

Reason For Review:

<i>Submission Type</i>	<i>Property Type</i>	<i>Problem Type</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal	<input type="checkbox"/> PDIL	<input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue
<input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Photo
<input type="checkbox"/> Waiver	<input type="checkbox"/> National	<input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary
<input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission	<input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource	<input type="checkbox"/> Period
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years

Accept Return Reject 12/27/2016 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: The Woman's Club of Hollywood is locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the areas of Education and Social History. Designed by architect Arthur E. Harvey in 1946 and completed in 1947, the Spanish Colonial Revival-style building has served as the main social and cultural headquarters for one of Hollywood's oldest civic organizations from 1947 to the present. The clubhouse shares its lot with the main educational facilities of the former Hollywood School for Girls, which operated as a prestigious, private college preparatory school for many of Hollywood's famous families. The modest, two-story (1902) residential building combined both living space and classrooms, while additional cottages supported other educational activities. The school operated from 1905 to 1932 at which time the Woman's Club purchased the site, built their new clubhouse, and repurposed the school buildings. The period of significance reflects the exceptionally important role of both organizations in local social and educational history through the early 1970s, when declining enrollment began to lessen the club's civic role; the property meets Criteria Consideration G.

Recommendation/ Criteria: Accept Criterion A

Reviewer Paul Lusignan Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2229 Date 12/27/16

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

**Woman's Club of Hollywood
Hollywood (Los Angeles), Los Angeles County
Staff Report**

1741-1749 La Brea Avenue is a large rectangular parcel oriented east-west in the middle of an urbanized block between Franklin Avenue and Hollywood Boulevard. On the southeastern end (front) of the property sits a two-story Spanish Colonial Revival building constructed of painted brick. This main building, designed by noted architect Arthur E. Harvey, functions as the clubhouse for the Woman's Club of Hollywood. Behind and to the north of the Clubhouse is the original home of the Hollywood School for Girls, a two-story residential building in the Prairie School style. The northeastern part of the property also contains two smaller vernacular wood buildings used as classrooms for the Hollywood School for Girls. A driveway leads along the south boundary into a large parking lot at the western end (rear) of the property. Both the Woman's Club of Hollywood clubhouse and the Hollywood School for Girls residence possess a high degree of integrity from their respective eras of construction. Each building has had minimal alteration. The Woman's Club of Hollywood is particularly intact, retaining all of its character defining materials, features, and spaces. The Hollywood School for Girls has sustained minor alterations, primarily the enclosure of sleeping porches. The property spans over a century of social, education, and cultural use in Hollywood.

The property is eligible under Criterion A at the local level of significance in the areas of Education and Social History for its role in the educational and social development of Hollywood. Hollywood School for Girls, a private college preparatory school, was a significant educational institution for the children of Hollywood's famous families. Its liberal arts curriculum, held in an outdoor setting, is representative of private education principles at the turn of the century. The Woman's Club of Hollywood is one of Hollywood's oldest civic organizations, founded in 1905 by a small group of women, many of whom were the wives, daughters, and sisters of Hollywood pioneers. This property is the only one extant associated with the organization. Two periods of significance reflect subsequent property use: 1915 to 1932 associated with the Hollywood School for Girls, and 1946 to 1971 associated with the Woman's Club of Hollywood that continues to occupy the property. The close of the period of significance represents the beginning of a significant decline in membership due to cultural shifts, such as more women entering the workforce. The clubhouse meets Criteria Consideration G for its exceptional significance as one of the foremost social and cultural institutions in Hollywood.

The property is nominated on behalf of and with assistance from the owner. In its role as representative of the City of Los Angeles, a Certified Local Government, the Cultural Heritage Commission was advised of the nomination. No letters have been received to date. Staff supports the nomination as written and recommends the State Historical Resources Commission determine that the Woman's Club of Hollywood/Hollywood School for Girls is eligible under Criterion A at the local level of significance with two periods of significance: 1915 to 1932 and 1946 to 1971, and meets Criteria Consideration G. Staff recommends the State Historic Preservation Officer approve the nomination for forwarding to the National Park Service for listing on the National Register.

Amy H. Crain
State Historian II
September 28, 2016

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

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November 7, 2016

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief
National Register and National Historic Landmark Programs
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Fl.
Washington D.C. 20005

Subject: **Woman's Club of Hollywood
Los Angeles County, California
National Register of Historic Places Nomination**

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the WOMAN'S CLUB OF HOLLYWOOD to the National Register of Historic Places. On October 28, 2016 in Redlands, California, the California State Historical Resources Commission unanimously found the property eligible at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the areas of Education and Social History with two periods of significance: 1915-1932 and 1946-1971. For its exceptional significance as one of the foremost social and cultural institutions in Hollywood, the property satisfies Criteria Consideration G.

The two-story Spanish Colonial Revival building constructed of painted brick was designed by noted architect Arthur E. Harvey. This main building functions as the clubhouse for the Woman's Club of Hollywood. Behind and to the north of the Clubhouse is the original home of the Hollywood School for Girls, a two-story residential building in the Prairie School style.

The property is nominated on behalf of and with assistance from the owner. In its role as representative of the City of Los Angeles, a Certified Local Government, the Cultural Heritage Commission was advised of the nomination. No letters have been received to date. If you have any questions regarding this nomination, please contact Amy Crain of my staff at (916) 445-7009.

Sincerely,

Jenan Saunders
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosure