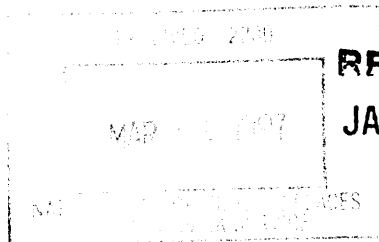


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete 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 Culver Hotel

other names/site number Hunt Hotel

2. Location

street & number 9400 Culver Blvd. N/A  not for publication

city or town Culver City N/A  vicinity

state California code CA county Los Angeles code 037 zip code 90232

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.)

Samuel Abeyta, Deputy 2/27/97  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
State of 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 commenting 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] Signature of the Keeper Date of Action  
Bobby R. Savage 4-14-97  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Culver Hotel  
Name of Property

Los Angeles, CA  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

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

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

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.)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Hotel

DOMESTIC: Hotel

COMMERCE: Business

COMMERCE: Business

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS:

Renaissance Revival

foundation CONCRETE (below grade)

walls CAST STONE

BRICK

roof CLAY TILE

other WOOD: Windows, cornice

METAL: Iron marquee

**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.)

- 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.)

Property is:

- 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Community Planning and Development

Period of Significance

1924-1933

Significant Dates

1924

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Culver, Harry H.

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Curlett and Beelman

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

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Culver Hotel  
Los Angeles County, CA

## Description

The Culver Hotel, the most prominent building in downtown Culver City, retains its exterior form and features essentially intact from its original construction. Rising six stories amidst a two-story downtown, it is highly visible from all sides. The hotel fills the entire wedge-shaped block formed by Main Street, and Washington and Culver Boulevards. This cast stone-trimmed red brick building in the Renaissance Revival style has been in continuous use since 1924 as a combination hotel and office/commercial building. It has recently been rehabilitated in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards.

The Culver Hotel, also known for a brief time as the Hunt Hotel, is divided into the typical tripartite arrangement of Beaux Arts commercial buildings -- a tall, stone-like base with large arched openings; a brick "shaft" with small evenly spaced punched openings; and an ornamented top floor with an overhanging bracketed cornice. Cast stone ornamentation at the second and sixth floor window surrounds, the second floor and sixth floor cornice, and the building corners provides a light colored contrast against the dark brick body of the building. The brick is of single color, in running bond.

## Exterior:

The Culver Hotel is a reinforced concrete frame with masonry infill building. The structural system is typical of commercial buildings of the time in the Los Angeles region. Floors are cast-in-place concrete slab and pan joist, on narrow centers. The interior wythes of brick are laid up loosely, in contrast to the smooth finished jointing of the exterior face brick. Interior partitions and the inside wythe of the outside wall are hollow clay tile.

The roof line gives the appearance of a hipped tile roof, as in a Renaissance palazzo, with a deep overhang. However, as it covers an oddly shaped and broad commercial floor plate, it is actually a false mansard around the building's edge.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

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Culver Hotel  
Los Angeles County, CA

Description (continued)

The Culver Hotel develops its Renaissance Revival style through its cast stone ornament and use of arches. The large first floor arched windows are embellished with classical surrounds of paired fluted pilasters and arched surrounds marked by prominent keystones, all topped by a flat simplified architrave with evenly spaced discs. Above several of the entrances are carved shields, bearing the entwined initials of Harry Culver, developer of Culver City and original owner of the building.

The building originally had cast stone balustrades in the second floor window openings and two central cast stone balconies, a square one at the fourth floor and a curved one at the sixth floor, on its east facade. All of these were either missing or cracked and spalled before the current ownership. Building corners are quined, with tall rope molding stretching from the first floor architrave to below the top floor ornament. The cast stone ornament at the top floor is again fluted pilasters and arches, developed in a symmetrically grouped patterning on each facade.

The building's block-like massing is typical of many downtown commercial buildings in the Los Angeles region and of the era, built to the property line on all sides of the lot. The building is 120'-0" long on the north elevation, 110'-0" on the south, and 45'-0" on the east. The short ends of the northeast and southeast trapezoidal elevations are each 13'-0" long.

The building is punctuated by evenly spaced window openings on all sides, also typical of Beaux Arts commercial buildings of this region and time. Large and tall arched windows are at the street level. Each has horizontal display windows at eye level and is topped by a tripartite arrangement of three-light casements flanking a twelve-light fixed-pane window and a semi-circular Palladian transom unit. Second floor windows (at the office level) are tall casements, while windows at the hotel floors (from the third through sixth floors) are double hung with six over six divided lights. The windows are painted wood. All windows are original.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

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Culver Hotel  
Los Angeles County, CA

Description (continued)

There are multiple entrances to the building, reflecting its street frontage on all sides. All doors are wood. The entrance door on Culver Boulevard is original; all others are in-kind reconstructions. The Main Street entry is protected by a sizable overhanging figured metal and glass canopy which is original to the building. Paired wood "store" doors with transoms provide access to the two principal public spaces of the building, while there are single doors at each of the Main Street "clipped" corners and a service door on Culver Boulevard. Lanterns which appear in historic photographs were removed at an undetermined point in the building's history, as well as the cast stone panels inscribed with "Harry H. Culver & Company." The original brick clad roof chimney and elevator penthouse cladding delaminated and collapsed in the 1994 Northridge Earthquake.

Interior:

The floor plate of the Culver building is small -- about 5,000 square feet -- and the triangular shape leads to idiosyncratic floor layouts. There is a total of about 35,000 square feet. The original single elevator serves the six floors from the building's northeast corner, although its cab is not original. The elevator shares the floor landing with the one stair which travels completely through the building from the basement to the sixth floor. This stair maintains its original marble treads, iron and wood railing, and painted wood wainscoting. A steep and narrow plain concrete "back stair" leads to Harry Culver's original office suite and mezzanine. An exterior fire escape is located on the building's west elevation.

The ground floor is extremely tall, rising to approximately 20'-0". It has always been in commercial use. Over the years it had been subdivided into multiple small tenancies, had stairs walled off, ceilings dropped, and had more mezzanines added. The recent rehabilitation has returned the full height of the space. The lobby now has its tall, classically ornamented original columns and pilasters exposed, and its cornice molding and black marble-bordered terrazzo floor are once again visible. The columns are repainted in their original colors by the same company (Heinsbergen & Company) that performed the work in 1924.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

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Culver Hotel  
Los Angeles County, CA

Description (continued)

The original stair to the second floor -- with marble treads matching the lobby marble and a wood-topped iron railing -- opens to the lobby. The main building entrance, with a sloped and vaulted ceiling, has been reclaimed from its recent use as a separate store. Light fills the expansive lobby space from the tall arched windows above eye level. Wood wainscoting, which continues behind the street level display windows, skirts the entire room. It is stained like the original, and replicated precisely from damaged remnants.

The second floor is now returned to its original use as offices, although permit records indicate prior uses as diverse as an auto body shop in the second floor office space. It is reached by the stair from the ground floor lobby and has a trapezoidal central hall ringed by fairly shallow office spaces. Office doors are single light wood "store" doors with obscure patterned wire glass which allow exterior light to penetrate into the interior corridor. Non-original utilitarian fluorescent lights have been removed, and new period lights installed.

At the building's western apex is Harry Culver's original suite of offices. More ornate than the rest of the building, the suite rooms have fully panelled molded plaster ceilings with a simple but heavy geometric pattern. The complete ceiling was reconstructed from portions that remained. Radiators and their grilles are integrated into the woodwork design, creating deep "seats" for the tall casement windows.

Rest rooms on this floor are entirely original, and very typical of this period. They have hexagonal white floor tile, white rectangular wall tile laid in a "running bond" (flat with no pillowed edges), wall sinks, and typical wood stall partitions. The doors to the rest rooms are also original wood store doors, with glass. The 1994 Northridge Earthquake shattered all of the second floor door glass, but it was replaced in kind.

Floors three through six, originally constructed as an "apartment hotel", retain their central, double-loaded hall although the room layouts have been changed to provide private bathrooms. Previously, these upper floors had been converted over the years into apartments, many with complete kitchens, but with shared central bathrooms on each floor. The rooms and hallways retain all of their original features such as the single panel room entry doors and closet doors with original trim and hardware, the wall plaster, windows, and the associated wood trimwork. All the original interior doors were reused.



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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 5

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Culver Hotel  
Los Angeles County, CA

Description (continued)

Alterations:

From its construction in 1924 until 1995, the Culver Hotel was surrounded on all three sides by public streets with narrow sidewalks. A recent major intersection realignment by Culver City has resulted in the vacation of Main Street to the east and Washington Boulevard to the south. The City has created a formal, symmetrically planned park to the east. To the south, the old street right-of-way has been continued as a promenade, fronting on a park and public parking lot.

The basic building circulation and most of the original materials have been retained. Layout changes are in the individual hotel rooms on the third through sixth floors and in the development of a restaurant, kitchen and rest rooms on the ground floor.

The recent rehabilitation has involved a complete overhaul of the fire alarm, mechanical, plumbing, and electrical systems. New hotel room wiring is contained in a new Wiremold product and while surface run, appears like plain wood base. Air-conditioning in the lobby was sized to fit in the wall cavity between concrete columns in the outside wall cavity, making it invisible behind the wainscoting. Sprinkler installation was carefully located to be concealed, and new room heating and air-conditioning was achieved through a split system heat pump requiring only small refrigerant line to be run inside the building.

The building has been retrofitted with centrally located cast-in-place concrete shear walls to resist seismic forces. Given its triangular shape, the Culver Hotel's west end was particularly susceptible to lateral forces. The Northridge Earthquake occurred in 1994, part way through the rehabilitation project. Fortunately, the retrofit was nearly complete and there was no major structural damage, although the remaining brittle materials such as hollow clay tile and plaster sustained damage which was repaired.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

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Culver Hotel  
Los Angeles County, CA

Description (continued)

Because the building is surrounded by public sidewalks on all sides, the City required pinning of all exterior cast stone ornamentation prior to any other work on the building. The solutions to the pinning varied as the pieces of cast stone had many different attachment conditions. The work involved pinning of every piece of cast stone ornamentation with drilled and epoxied allthread rods; removal of a small number of remaining cracked and spalling cast stone balustrades; drilled anchors at the second floor cornice (a superior solution to the strapping and anchoring which was planned); crack repair; minor regrouting of cast stone; and casting of missing cast stone ornamentation.

**Statement of Significance**

The property is significant at the local level under Criterion B in the area of development for the association with Harry H. Culver, a major developer and promoter of Culver City, and for whom the city was named. Culver had his offices in the building during the years 1924-33 during which time he made significant contributions to the development of the community and further expansion of the city borders. The property is also significant at the local level under Criterion C in the area of architecture as the largest and most ornately designed Renaissance Revival style commercial building in Culver City.

The Culver Hotel was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service on January 28, 1988 after submittal of a Part 1 Certification Application (Project Number: 0659-88-CA). The building was subsequently rehabilitated according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. The building is also listed on the Culver City Historical Survey as one of the city's most significant structures.

Criterion B -- Development Context

Harry H. Culver, President of the Culver Investment Company and founder of Culver City, played a significant role in the development and subdivision of Culver City. Culver's promotions were fundamental in the making of a new city between Beverly Hills and the Santa Monica and Venice area.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

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Culver Hotel  
Culver City, CA

## Statement of Significance (continued)

Built by real estate entrepreneur and city founder Harry Culver in 1924, the Culver Hotel was a testimony to Culver's real estate promotion success. The hotel was built eleven years after he purchased 93 acres of barley fields with the conscious intent to found and promote a new city. Centered on each facade "The Harry H. Culver Company" was inscribed in cast stone. When constructed, this large hotel and office building established the center of Culver City. At six stories tall, the Culver Hotel towered above the two story buildings on the three streets that bordered it: Washington and Culver Boulevards and Main Street. A large sign reading "Culver City" was mounted on its roof.

Downtown Culver City, located at the juncture of two Pacific Electric Red Car interurban rail lines, was the main activity hub in the low lying Ballona Creek valley, midway between Los Angeles and Santa Monica. At the time of its construction, the Culver Hotel was the largest structure of any kind in Culver City and the first "skyscraper" to be erected between Los Angeles and the Venice and Santa Monica area. To this day it has remained the tallest structure in the immediate vicinity of downtown Culver City.

Culver, known as the father of Culver City, a Nebraskan and former treasury agent before his arrival in California in 1910, became interested in Southern California real estate development through his association with I. N. Van Nuys, the prominent Los Angeles rancher and businessman responsible for the subdivision of the San Fernando Valley. After turning down a management offer, Culver decided to start his own business. After an intense study of the Los Angeles area, Culver targeted land halfway between downtown Los Angeles and the ocean for development.

In 1913, he formed the Culver Investment Company with four partners, and proceeded to plan and promote the new city. On July 25, 1913, at the California Club in Los Angeles, Harry Culver announced his plans for a city that would be a balanced residential and commercial community. The new company began by acquiring blocks in the Palms area and adjacent acreage, northwest of Washington Boulevard. P. H. Albright, a civil engineer, was employed to subdivide the heart of the city. Harry Culver's office was the first building, constructed in 1913 and located on Main Street. Within a year of its founding, Culver City had a grocery store, plumbing and hardware shop, macaroni factory, bank, candy store, newspaper, homes, and a real estate sales force of 150. Trees were planted, a lighting system designed, and streets paved, all under the direction or influence of Harry Culver. Main Street had a planted median, which terminated at Washington Boulevard, the future site of the Culver Hotel.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Culver Hotel  
Los Angeles County, CA

### Statement of Significance (continued)

Harry Culver became world renowned as an innovative promoter. Families were bused in to see property, lots were awarded to the winners of the prettiest-baby contests, marathon races were instituted, and parades organized. One newspaper ad read: "Wise men of the East followed a star, Wise men of the West follow the searchlight to Culver City." With the promise of free land, Culver enticed Thomas Ince, one of the film industry's leading figures, to move his company to Culver City. Culver knew that securing motion picture studios would provide a sound economic base for a new city, and by 1915 several studios were in production within what was to become the city limits.

Harry Culver's dream came true when Culver City was incorporated in 1917, with his land forming the nucleus of the new city bearing his name. Although he did not serve on the first town council, his influence was prevalent as most of the original city fathers had been coaxed by Harry Culver into opening their own businesses in his developing city. Culver attended the first meeting of the city trustees and was to continue to advise them on the business development of the city. He was appointed a trustee in February 1919, and assisted in developing an official city map defining the city's streets, roads, avenues, highways, and alleys. He was elected as a trustee in 1920.

Harry Culver's real estate promotion was largely responsible for attracting movie producers to Culver City, which was home to over half of America's motion picture production in the 1930s and 1940s. While Hollywood's name is generally associated with film production, Culver City, located just six miles from Hollywood, was home to several leading studios -- Hal Roach's studio, two Ince studios, and many other smaller name production companies -- at the time of the Culver Hotel's construction. Over time, the first Ince studio became Selznick, RKO, Desilu, Laird, and now the Culver Studios, while the second became MGM, United Artists, Columbia, and now Sony Pictures Studios.

Culver, by maintaining his main real estate offices in the Culver Hotel, placed himself in the center of the new developing city. During the years 1924 -1933 his real estate enterprises were successful, mirroring the success of the burgeoning city. In this period of time and as the city he founded matured, a majority of the main city facilities were constructed. These included the new city hall, library, hospital, school, and a public park within sight of the hotel. In addition, several annexations of land outside the original city boundary were completed, further expanding the city limits.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 9

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Culver Hotel  
Los Angeles County, CA

Statement of Significance (continued)

Culver was active in his town's politics and served as one of the first members on the Board of Trustees. He helped organize the Culver City Commercial & Savings Bank; the Pacific Building and Loan Association; the Pacific Military Academy, founded as a tribute to his father; and the California Country Club. He was known throughout the country for his expertise in real estate, and served as president of the California Real Estate Association as well as the National Association of Real Estate Boards. Culver donated 100 acres of land on which to build Loyola University, where he received an honorary Doctor of Laws Degree in 1930. Also donated was land for Culver City's first hospital, constructed by Dr. Foster Hull in 1925. In May of 1925, Del Rey Boulevard, also known as Putnam, was renamed Culver Boulevard in honor of Harry H. Culver.

The first family home was built on Delmas Terrace and moved to Cheviot Hills, where it still stands on Club Drive. The Culvers lived in the house for a year, while their 18-room mansion was constructed within clear view.

Culver survived the Great Depression by working for the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, successfully recovering bonds. However, he liquidated his holdings shortly thereafter and put the money in a Beverly Hills bank, where he lost it all. In spite of losing his fortune, he continued to remain active in community events and was a celebrated speaker. He was forced into rest after suffering injuries in an automobile accident in 1937, and bought a home in Newport. Culver died in August 1946 after suffering a number of strokes.

Criterion C -- Architectural Context

By 1924, Culver wanted a showcase for his burgeoning new city. The new building was to be a place to house sales prospects and provide ample office suites for his own business endeavors. He retained the architectural firm of Curlett and Beelman to design his "skyscraper" at the most central triangle of land in the growing downtown of his city. The existing city offices on the site were relocated to allow Culver to build his landmark.

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National Park Service

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Culver Hotel  
Los Angeles County, CA

## Statement of Significance (continued)

This prominent Los Angeles architectural firm specialized in large commercial structures. Among their more important commissions in Los Angeles were the Park Plaza Hotel in the MacArthur Park area, the Roosevelt Building (a Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Monument), the Union Oil Building and the Garfield Building (on the National Register of Historic Places) in downtown Los Angeles, the Heinsbergen Decorating Studio (on the National Register) on Beverly Boulevard, and several major buildings in the Spring Street financial center (now a National Register District). In partnership from 1921 to 1932, Curlett and Beelman made a significant impact on Southern California. Beelman went on to be a leading practitioner of Art Deco architecture after he left the partnership, designing the Eastern Columbia Building (a Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Monument), the Hollywood Post Office (on the National Register), and the Administration Building at MGM, a later commission probably due in part to his work on the Culver Hotel.

The choice of a restrained Beaux Arts style, such as Renaissance Revival, is notable. Los Angeles in the 1920's had talented architects practicing in many revival styles, some of them highly exotic. In the decade of the twenties, regional population doubled and the "Red Cars", the interurban rail system, brought land buyers to suburbs thought uncivilized or lower class by the typical downtown dweller or new arrival. Los Angeles was in one of its cyclical "booms".

Downtown Culver City buildings were representative examples of early development of many downtown areas in the Los Angeles region, although none matched the extent of detailing found on the Culver Hotel. For the most part, the one and two story building facades were utilitarian with simple Classical or other Revival Style detailing. The Culver Hotel alone exhibits all of the typical character defining features associated with the Renaissance Revival style. These include a rusticated first floor cladding, decorative wall facades with quoins and paired pilasters, first floor arched openings, different window treatments emphasizing separate floors, window balustrades and balconies, a tile covered hipped roof, and widely overhanging eaves supported by decorative brackets.

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Continuation Sheet

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Culver Hotel  
Los Angeles County, CA

Statement of Significance (continued)

Beaux Arts was the style of choice for banks and other buildings meaning to communicate stability and longevity in this land rush environment. The use of Renaissance Revival, an accessible and unexotic version of Beaux Arts, enabled Culver to maximize his building massing on an odd-shaped site and still project a refined and stable image. The tripartite vertical division of Beaux Arts design was also well suited to a mixed use building with different uses on the ground, second, and upper floors.

The Culver Hotel was the first high-rise or "skyscraper" built in Culver City, and today is the only remaining example, in this scale, of the Renaissance Revival style in the city. It was built a year after the much larger downtown Los Angeles Biltmore Hotel, also designed in the Renaissance Revival style. The hotel lobby interior was decorated by A. B. Heinsbergen, an assistant of Giovanni Smeraldi the Biltmore's muralist. Heinsbergen & Company was one of Los Angeles' most prominent decorating companies of the 1920s and 1930s.

The concrete and brick building, with its mahogany and walnut interiors, opened to rave reviews. The second floor housed the well-appointed office of the Culver Company, from which the city's founder could survey a good portion of his domain. The hotel had 50 rooms and suites, with a sizable lobby on the ground floor. It immediately attracted a film industry clientele, and appeared (and continues to appear) in many television shows and movies. Actor John Wayne and comedian Red Skelton are former owners. The munchkins from "The Wizard of Oz" fame were among the celebrity inhabitants.

The rehabilitation of the building has been part of the extensive renewal efforts being made by Culver City. The work on the building has been accompanied by the creation of public parks by the City at the hotel's front entrance and along its south side. Throughout the project, great encouragement and assistance came from the City which embraced the building as a cornerstone of its downtown redevelopment. City agency cooperation granted relief from parking requirements, provided partial funding, provided assistance in working through myriad code issues, and developed public park areas which are usable for hotel functions.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 12

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Culver Hotel  
Los Angeles County, CASummary

The Culver Hotel is the principal, and last intact, building associated with Harry H. Culver and his efforts to develop Culver City from open barley fields into a well planned community and a major center of motion picture production. His Renaissance Revival "skyscraper", standing alone as his statement of confidence in his city's growth, was as advanced and sophisticated as the structures being built at the same time in the major regional downtowns of Los Angeles, Pasadena, and Hollywood. Although the building in which his original offices were located still stands, to the north of the Culver, it no longer retains its original integrity. Culver's mansion in Cheviot Hills (outside the Culver City limits) no longer stands, and although the relocated first home remains, it has not been owned by the Culver family for some time. The Culver Hotel alone has maintained its integrity due to its quality of original construction and rehabilitation in accordance with preservation standards, and remains the prominent landmark it became when originally constructed.



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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

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Culver Hotel  
Los Angeles County, CA

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

Tract 2444, Block 20, Lot 1, City of Culver City, County of Los Angeles, CA.

**Boundary Justification**

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the hotel.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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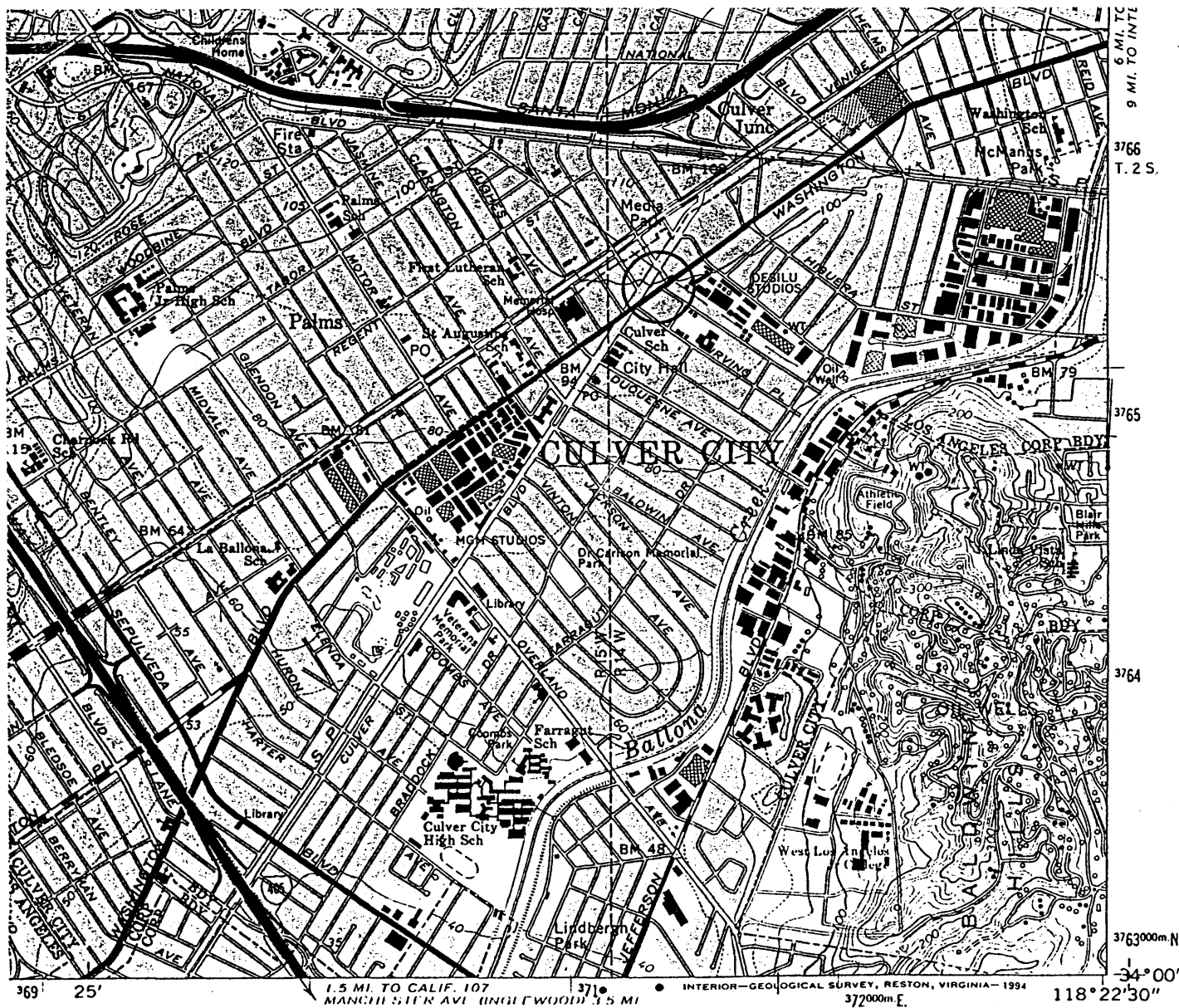
Culver Hotel  
Los Angeles County, CA

UTM Map

Quadrangle: Beverly Hills

Scale: 1:24,000

UTM Reference:



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

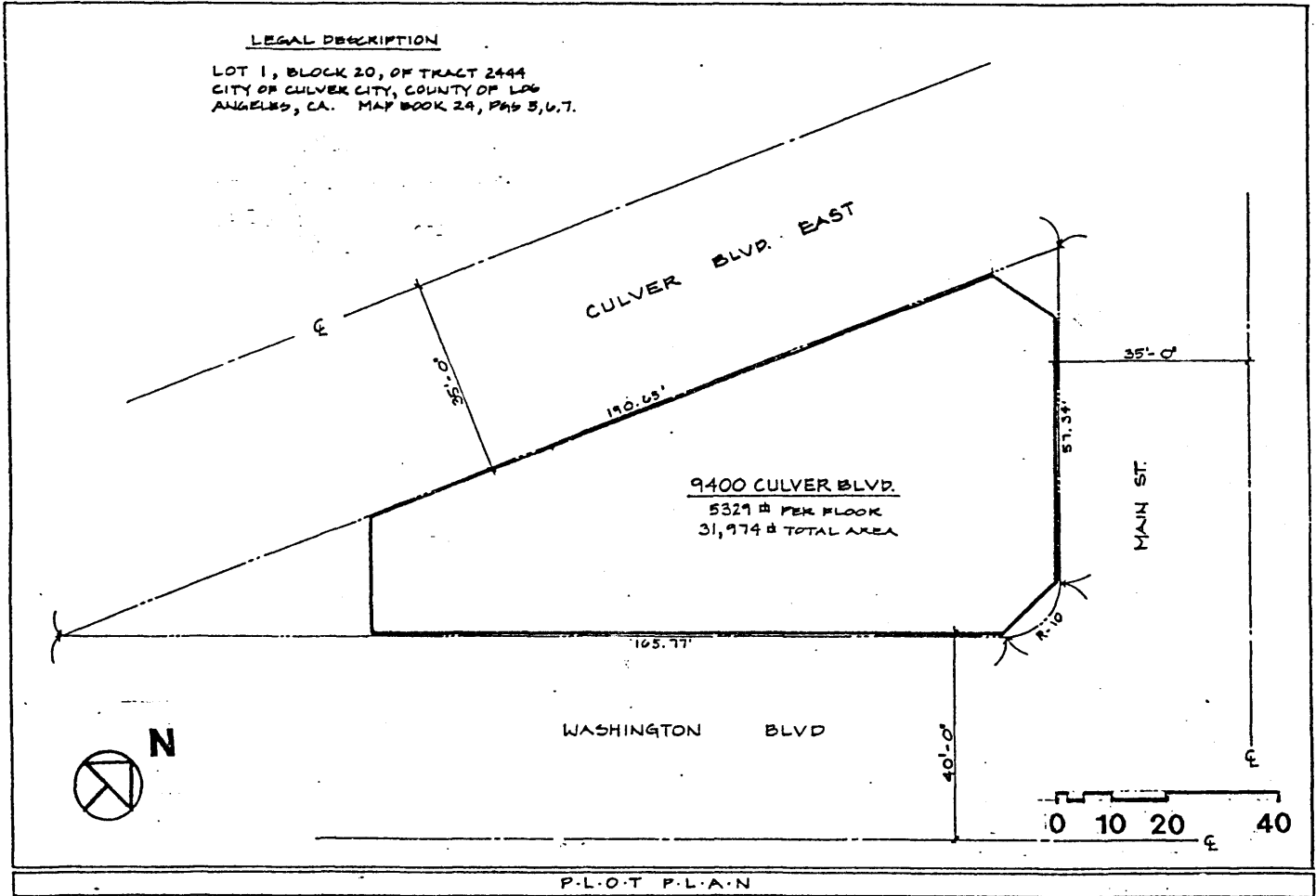
National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

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Culver Hotel  
Los Angeles County, CA

Boundary Sketch Map

Scale: 1" = 32'-0"



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Culver Hotel  
Culver City, CA

### Photographs

Culver Hotel  
9400 Culver Boulevard  
Culver City, CA 90232  
Los Angeles County  
Photographer: Timothy J Brandt, AIA  
Date of Photographs: November 11, 1996  
Location of Original Negatives: Offenhauser/Mekeel Architects, West Hollywood, CA

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| #1 of 17  | View/Description: West elevation; view east.  |
| #2 of 17  | View/Description: North and west elevations along Culver Boulevard; view southeast.   |
| #3 of 17  | View/Description: East elevation with main entrance canopy; view west.  |
| #4 of 17  | View/Description: North and east elevations at the intersection of Main Street, Washington Boulevard, and Culver Boulevard; view southwest. |
| #5 of 17  | View/Description: South and west elevations; view northeast.  |
| #6 of 17  | View/Description: Detail, south and west elevations; view northeast.  |
| #7 of 17  | View/Description: Detail, north elevation ground floor arched window assembly; view southeast.  |
| #8 of 17  | View/Description: Detail, east elevation main entrance and overhanging canopy; view west.   |
| #9 of 17  | View/Description: Ground floor hotel lobby at main entrance alcove; view northeast.   |
| #10 of 17 | View/Description: Ground floor lobby at main stairway; view east.   |
| #11 of 17 | View/Description: Detail, northeast corner stairwell at ground floor; view south.   |
| #12 of 17 | View/Description: Second floor office corridor; view west.  |
| #13 of 17 | View/Description: Second floor main office, southwest corner room; view east.   |
| #14 of 17 | View/Description: Representative guest room corridor; view west.  |
| #15 of 17 | View/Description: Representative guest room door.   |
| #16 of 17 | View/Description: Representative guest room.  |
| #17 of 17 | View/Description: North and east elevation, 1929 photograph; view southwest.  |