

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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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 Young Women's Christian Association Building

other names/site number YWCA

2. Location

street & number 15 N. Naches Avenue not for publication

city or town Yakima vicinity

state Washington code WA county Yakima code 077 zip code 98901

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.)

Mary Sampson 3/11/93
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
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 certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Delores Byrum **Entered in the National Register** Date of Action 4/29/93

Young Christian Women's Association
Name of Property

Yakima County, WA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Social: Clubhouse

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Social: Clubhouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

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

Young Women's Christian Association
Name of Property

Yakima Co., WA
County and State

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.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Period of Significance

1935 - 1942

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Remy, Mary (design)

Maloney, John (architect)

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 0	6 9 1 5 3 0	5 1 6 4 0 8 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Letty Ann Ginn, President (Edited by L. Garfield)

organization YWCA of Yakima Co. date 7/10/92

street & number 4105 Garden Park Way telephone (509) 965-2276

city or town Yakima state WA zip code 98908

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name YWCA of Yakima County

street & number 15 N. Naches Avenue telephone _____

city or town Yakima state WA zip code 98908

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

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

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Young Women's Christian Association
Yakima, Yakima County, WA

Description

Located in downtown Yakima, the Young Women's Christian Association is a two-story Georgian Revival clubhouse designed by architect John Maloney and built in 1935. The building is characterized by a symmetrical facade, red brick veneer, and restrained Neoclassical trim. The building faces Naches Avenue, a broad boulevard with green medium that intersects the city's main commercial arterial just a block to the south. A northern gymnasium wing extends east along "A" Street. The rear courtyard formed by this L-configuration features a concrete terrace behind the club, a grass yard, and a parking lot (formerly a tennis court) surrounded by a brick wall.

The YWCA follows the prototypical Georgian Revival Style in plan and detail. The building is composed of a two-story central block framed by two-story gabled pavilions. The building measures approximately 85 feet across the west facade and 52 feet deep along the side elevations, with a one-story north wing extending 84 feet further east.

The YWCA building is a frame structure resting on a concrete foundation and faced in red brick laid in a running bond pattern. Wood frame windows are disposed symmetrically across the building, and feature eight-over-eight double-hung sash on the upper story and, originally, 12-over-12 sash on the first floor (now mostly replaced with new sash windows). The windows are set within flat brick arches (trimmed with keystones on the first floor) and rest on brick sills. Recessed panels are located beneath the first floor windows.

The main entry to the building is located in the central bay and is recessed behind an open, arcaded front porch. The porch, which is 26 1/2 feet wide, is articulated by round arched brick piers which rise to support the second story. A paneled single leaf door is set within a Georgian frame and surmounted by a broken pediment. The doorway is flanked by multi-light double-hung windows. Three double-hung eight-over-eight windows are located above the porch arcade. The original wood balustrade that ran along the eaves above the central bay has been removed.

The gable ends of the side pavilions are framed by raised bricks in a quoin pattern. The gable roofs are low-pitched with molded cornice trim and returns. Three windows light each story of the gable ends, and the tympani are lighted by fanlights with radiating muntins.

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The side elevations reflect the same fenestration as the facade. The south pavilion, which houses the large clubrooms and lounge, is lighted by tall windows; an engaged brick chimney is located between the first two window bays and rises above the roofline. At the east end of the north wing, a two-story cross-gable pavilion provides entry to the rear one-story gym and auditorium wing. The double-door entry is surmounted by a transom and broken pediment. The pavilion is lighted by an oriel window in the gable peak, with diamond pattern zinc comes. The gym wing is lighted by steel sash windows placed in recessed arched panels.

The interior of the clubhouse is distinguished by original trim in a restrained Federal Style. The front door leads to a small vestibule which, in turns, leads through paneled double-doors to the broad entry hall. The hall, which spans the central bay, features alcoves with built-in bookshelves; a fireplace with dentilated entablature mantle; and a stairway leading to the upper floor. The alcoves are set within arched openings, trimmed with architraves with keystones. A molded cornice trim surrounds the hall. To the north of the hall are several offices while to the south is the lounge and clubrooms. A rear kitchen leads to the back terrace.

The lounge-clubrooms is approached from the central hall through glazed double-doors set beneath a fanlight with radiating lead comes. The overall dimensions of the lounge and clubrooms are 29 feet across the street facade and 54 feet deep, with the space divided into two rooms by a box beam and folding paneled doors. The lounge is lighted by three tall double-hung wood sash windows along the west wall and two windows against the south wall. A fireplace with a Georgian entablature mantelpiece, brick hearth and tile surround is located between the two windows against the south wall. The rear clubrooms is lighted by three tall sash windows against the south wall of the clubrooms. The original sliding doors on the east wall, which opened to the outside, have been replaced by large fixed panes which overlook the terrace. Mahogany cornice and chair-rail moldings surround both rooms and the space is lighted by brass chandeliers.

The second floor of the building is accessed by the broad stairway off the central hall. The staircase features a short flight of four steps which leads to a landing, beyond which a narrower flight of ten stairs leads to another landing. The second floor includes a series of bedrooms, which typically measure about 8 1/2 feet by 17 feet, along double-loaded corridors surrounding a central dormitory space. The second floor also

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Young Women's Christian Association Building
Yakima, Yakima County, WA

includes a kitchen, laundry, housekeeper's unit, and sitting room. A narrow flight of stairs leads to an attic level which contains the sitting room-library. The library features an exposed truss ceiling, fireplace, built-in cabinets with leaded glass, and an oriel window with diamond-pane, lead came windows. The one-story gym wing features an undivided interior space with a raised stage, exposed brick walls, and metal sash windows. A full basement beneath the building includes an apartment, rooms for transients, exercise rooms, locker rooms, and trunk rooms.

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Young Women's Christian Association Building
Yakima, Yakima County, WA

Statement of Significance

The Young Women's Christian Association Building is historically significant for its role in promoting the welfare of women and girls in the Yakima Valley. Built in 1934, the structure served as a center of physical, social, and cultural activity for the region's young women. In addition, the building provided a temporary residence for homeless, transient, and working women; an employment agency; and a wide-range of social services in an age before extensive government-run welfare programs. The Georgian Revival Building, designed by YWCA president Mary Remy and architect John Maloney, still retains most of its integrity including a period interior, reflecting the domestic institutional style favored by the organization.

Historical background: The Young Women's Christian Association traces its roots to mid-19th century England, where a nondenominational movement to advance the welfare of women and girls grew through the efforts of British prayer unions and homes for women. The first official American YWCA was organized in New York City in 1858; one-half century later the Young Women's Christian Association of North Yakima was founded.

The impetus for organizing a local YWCA lay mostly with the young women of Yakima—including those who attended gymnasium classes at the Young Men's Christian Association. But when the regional secretary of the YWCA made a survey of the city in 1909, she noted that the time did not seem right. After all, YWCA officials noted, the Young Men's Christian Association had just completed a new building, as had several churches, and the community might not be able to sustain another fundraising campaign.

But the women of Yakima and their supporters were not deterred. Instead, they petitioned the state organization and on November 9, 1909, a group met to organize a campaign. Within ten days the group had signed 477 charter members and fifty additional sustaining members. The general finance campaign was also successful, over-subscribed by more than \$1,000. On November 17, 1909, the YWCA was formally established at a banquet attended by YWCA officials, and the newly organized board held its first meeting that night.

The stated mission of the YWCA was broad: to "unite the women of the city in loyal service for each other; to promote the spiritual, moral, mental, social, and physical welfare of all women; and to become a social force

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for the extension of the Kingdom of God." The first location of the YWCA was relatively small given the large membership and wide-ranging mission. Four rooms were rented at 11 N. First Street as a headquarters with recreation rooms and a cafeteria; the organization borrowed the gymnasium of the Baptist church. Some furnishings were supplied by the public high school manual arts classes and others were provided by the membership.

Although cramped for space in rented quarters, the Y's program addressed many of the needs of the city's women. In 1915, for example, the YWCA boasted of a lounge "where the employed girl can get an appetizing, wholesome, well cooked meal at a minimum cost;" a rest and reading room "where the business girl may rest at noon;" a gymnasium "to promote the harmonious development of the body by systematic physical exercise;" an employment bureau "free of charge"; transient lodging whose cost was "waived entirely in case of need;" and a travelers' aid service whose members "meet incoming trains, giving any help."

By 1920, the organization was seeking a permanent facility of its own, with enough room to accommodate their rapidly expanding clientele. That year the YWCA purchased a corner lot on Naches Avenue and began to lay plans for a new building. Prominent among the civic leaders who contributed to the building fund was businessman and philanthropist Alexander Miller, whose regular gifts of money helped keep the organization afloat through its first two decades. Unfortunately the Depression postponed development of the new building for nearly 15 years.

In 1934, however, Miller contacted club president Mary Remy to discuss a new building. In the following months, Miller, his wife Lila Miller, and Remy began a series of almost daily conferences that eventually led to the construction of the new facility.

Miller announced that he would donate \$80,000 to finance construction--one of the largest gifts in the city's history. Remy herself developed the design of the new building, articulating the needs of the organization as well as her own interest in the architecture of Thomas Jefferson at the University of Virginia. The plans were then finalized by Yakima architect John Maloney, whose other commissions included the city's premier office building of the era--the Art Moderne Larson Building, 1931 (National Register)--as well as several Classical Revival buildings in the Roman mode at the Central Washington University campus in Ellensburg (Smyser Hall, 1925 and McConnell Auditorium, 1935). The choice of the Georgian Revival idiom was especially appropriate given the domestic scale of the

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style and the renewed interest in American heritage precipitated by the Williamsburg reconstructions (1927 and afterward).

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held in August, 1934, and the cornerstone, bearing the inscription "The Gift of Alexander Miller", was laid in October. Born in Sweden in 1856, Miller came to the United States at 25 and built a flour mill in Minnesota. In 1882, he moved to Portland where he built a flour mill, and in 1887 came to Yakima and built a mill in the new city. The Yakima mill burned a few years later, but Miller did not rebuild it, concentrating instead on his real estate and other business interests. Over the years, Miller built the city's first tall business block (the Miller Building, 1915, now demolished); established the Guarantee Trust Bank; and was a director of the Sunshine Mining Company. Miller died on December 6, 1941.

The new YWCA was officially dedicated in May, 1935. Interior furnishings were provided by Mrs. Miller and other prominent women in the community as well as by other women's clubs. The new facility included a dormitory in addition to small single rooms for women; basement housing for women referred from charitable organizations; lounges and a reading room; a gymnasium (which served as an auditorium as well); and a large kitchen. With its new headquarters in place, the YWCA became the sole facility in town devoted exclusively to the social, physical, and cultural needs of Yakima women, a mission it has continued to fulfill from that location since that time.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Young Women's Christian Association Building
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Major Bibliographic Refernces:

S. I. Anthon, "YWCA Starts Its Golden Anniversary Celebration,"
Yakima Herald, November 14, 1959.

Maurine Eastus, "Golden Jubilee Weeks Opens at YWCA," **Yakima**
Sunday Herald, November 15, 1959, B-1.

"Yakima Young Women Wanted YWCA in 1909--and Got It," **Yakima**
Sunday Herald, November 15, 1959, B-1.

Verbal Boundary Description: The nominated property is located
at the southeast corner of North Naches Avenue and "A" Street,
and is legally described as tax parcel no. 191319--21486.

Boundary Justification: The nominated parcel incorporates the
entire property associated with the Young Women's Christian
Association of North Yakima in 1935.