Form 10-300 (July 1969) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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1	Riverside
	FOR NPS USE ONLY

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	Riverside City Cultural Heritage Board							38
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	City Hall - 3711 Orange Street							
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	Riverside			Cal	ifornia.	00	6	3 0

7. DESCRIPTION	T			(Che	ck One)		
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CONDITION		(Check Or	1e)			(Che	eck One)
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Victorian mansion, Queen Anne style, 3-story, typical of the Riverside area in the 1890s. Exterior is white frame with steep shingle roof and an octagonal tower at one front corner. It is on original site - still fronting on a beautifully landscaped avenue.

Both interior and exterior physical appearance have changed little since the house was built in 1891. There are many small changes that have occurred over the years. Three porches were enclosed. Two will be restored to their original open appearance and one to its original screened appearance.

Our Restoration Committee has had the original roof replaced with a new shingle one. The exterior will be painted. We are in the process of restoring interior plaster walls (removing wallpaper, painting, etc.). The extensive original interior paneling is in excellent condition. The original bathroom basin and counter, wood-burning stove in kitchen, interior and exterior shutters, six tile-bordered fireplaces, some of the lighting fixtures, and the double-walled adobe cooler are still in place.

The original carriage house remains. It has had a variety of sheds attached to it through the years....these will be removed.

The grounds are tidy and neat but will be replanted in a manner typifying 1890s in Riverside. There is a cement and brick patio and barbeque area added in the 1940s which will be removed.

The building is presently open by appointment for guided tours by educational groups and is open to the community on occasional weekends. Restoration is progressing and the house will eventually be opened as a museum and educational center.



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
California	
COUNTY	
Riverside	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	,
ENTRY, MIMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

No. 6 Representation in Existing Surveys (continued)

History Hunt Riverside Museum Associates 3720 Orange Street Riverside, California 1964-69



SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)	1	
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	☐ 18th Century	• 20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	🔀 19th Century	•
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	e and Known)	1890s	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Ampropri	itë)	
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE		12 1 200 11.	/4]

The property being submitted for nomination is owned by the Riverside Museum Associates, a private, non-profit comparation that serves as an auxiliary to the Riverside City Museum. A special committee searched for 5 years for a house which would be worthy of being restored to typify the community's early history. In 1969 this property was purchased by the RMA and restoration begun. The ultimate goal is to present the completely restored house, carriage house, and grounds to the City of Riverside to be used as a museum and educational center.

We believe this property, with home and carriage house on its original site, is significant in local history and culture. (It has been designated "Cultural Heritage Landmark #5" by the Riverside City Cultural Heritage Board.) The house was built by the socially prominent widow of James Bettner. Mr. Bettner was a leader in the beginnings of the citrus industry and one of the founders of the California Fruit Growers Exchange which later became Sunkist. Riverside was one of the first citrus growing communities in California. The Parent Navel Orange Tree still lives in Riverside. Thus, Heritage House is associated with events making significant contribution to the broad patterns of Southern California history during its boom period when it was beginning development as a major citrus growing region.

The Heritage/possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It was designed by architect John H. Walls, a partner in the distinguished Los Angeles firm of Morgan and Walls. The workmanship and materials used were of the finest quality. It is one of the few surviving examples of the affluent homes which lined Magnolia Avenue. This avenue was a Southern California showplace. The house still fronts on this double avenue with its magnolia, pepper, palm and Eucalyptus trees that were planted so long ago. Heritage House is a particularly fine example of the 1890 period. Alterations over the years have been minimal.

The house is being carefully furnished with representative materials and furnishings — some of which belonged to the Bettner family. An interpretive room will show the social character of the times (polo, tennis, horse-racing, the Chinese community, etc.). The grounds will typify the gardens of the 1890 period and the carriage house will be utilized as an interpretive center for the history of the citrus industry in Southern California.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE	
California	
COUNTY	
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FOR NPS USE ONL	Υ.
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(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

No. 8 Statement of Significance (continued)

Statement of Preservation Officer Inland California Chapter, A.I.A.

"The City of Riverside Heritage House is architecturally unique for this area in that it represents a slightly conglomerate but significant approach to architectural design that can no longer be accomplished from either the financial or craftsmanship point of view.

"We have here a relaxed, unself-conscious approach to the design of living space that provided a restful, yet inspiring environment for those who lived in it.

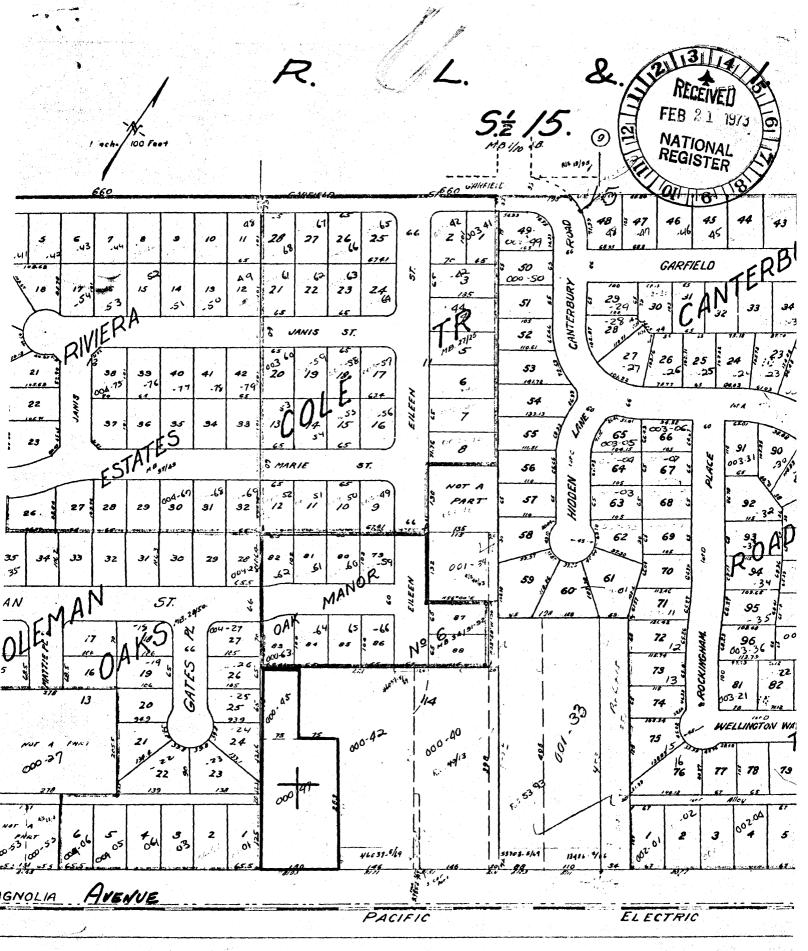
"The arrangement of the interior spaces, which obviously preceded the exterior design, so evolved that the exterior became a series of planes and surfaces, some protruding beyond their lower supports, that provide visual excitement with a continuity of overall motif that gives the house the quality of sequence as you view it from any vantage point.

"The high-pitched and varied shape roof construction which continues the excitement of the exterior vertical surfaces provides a bonus of attic area that would delight any student of architecture and could, if furnished, provide a most exciting place for living.

"The craftsmanship displayed in the wood work and masonry are of a quality that should be preserved to inspire future generations to slow down and once again provide a standard of excellence in our efforts to house our people."

E. Warren Bruce, AIA
Bruce and Hansen Architects
4264 Lemon Street
Riverside, California





Satutude 33° 56' 5" Tongitude 117° 25' 15"

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STATE Form 10-301 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR (Dec. 1968) NATIONAL PARK SERVICE California COUNTY NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES Riverside PROPERTY MAP FORM FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER DATE (Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map) S FEB 2 8 1973 1. NAME Heritage House 0 COMMON: AND/OR HISTORIC: Bettner House LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER: C REGIST 8193 Magnolia Avenue CITY OR TOWN: α Riverside STATE: COUNTY: CODE CODE California 006 Riverside 065 3. MAP REFERENCE Z SOURCE: Riverside County Assessor's Map l inch to 100 feet SCALE: ш November 1971 DATE: ш 4. REQUIREMENTS TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS 1. Property broundaries where required. 2. North arrow. 3. Latitude and longitude reference.