

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK NOMINATION

NPS Form 10-900

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form (Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

ELMSHAVEN

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United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic Name: ELMSHAVEN

Other Name/Site Number: Ellen White House; Robert Pratt Place

2. LOCATION

Street & Number: 125 Glass Mountain Lane Not for publication: \_\_\_

City/Town: St. Helena Vicinity: \_\_\_

State: CA County: Napa Code: 055 Zip Code: 94574

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership of Property
Private: X
Public-Local: \_\_\_
Public-State: \_\_\_
Public-Federal: \_\_\_

Category of Property
Building(s): \_\_\_
District: X
Site: \_\_\_
Structure: \_\_\_
Object: \_\_\_

Number of Resources within Property
Contributing
3
3

Noncontributing
1 buildings
sites
structures
objects
1 Total

Number of Contributing Resources Previously Listed in the National Register: 0

Name of Related Multiple Property Listing: N/A

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**4. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Certifying Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal Agency and Bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Commenting or Other Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal Agency and Bureau

**5. 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 Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

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**6. FUNCTION OR USE**Historic: Domestic  
ReligiousSub: Single Dwelling  
Church-related Residence, OfficeCurrent: Domestic  
Recreation & CultureSub: Single Dwelling  
Museum**7. DESCRIPTION**

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION: Late Victorian: Stick/Eastlake

**MATERIALS:**Foundation: Stone  
Walls: Wood  
Roof: Shingle  
Other: Brick Chimney, Porches

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**Describe Present and Historic Physical Appearance.****DESCRIPTION OF SITE<sup>1</sup>**

Elmshaven, formerly known as the Robert Pratt Place, is located in the upper Napa Valley of Northern California, two and a half miles northwest of the town of St. Helena, just off Highway 29. The three acre site contains three contributing structures: the 1885 residence built by Robert Pratt; the tank house; and the office-library-vault structure. The one non-contributing structure is a carriage house/garage structure, built around 1982. The two-story, wood frame residence is built on a 54' by 26' stone foundation and is a Victorian farm vernacular style. The tank house is a square, four level wood frame tower with a single story addition. The office-library-vault building is a two-story, wood frame structure.

The main residence is built of regional redwood that was easily turned, pressed and sawn by local millwrights to keep pace with the Victorian era designs of architects and contractors. The two-story house rests on a stone foundation, has wood, horizontal, ship lap siding, and has three fireplaces, each with a chimney. The main entrance at the west side of the south facade is marked by a 21' by 10' veranda. The entrance is framed with an elaborate triangular pediment over the top of the stairs that features a sunburst at the top and a carved relief below. The veranda roof is supported by turned posts and bounded by a wood railing with square balusters. The upper half of the front door is paneled with alternate red and blue glass etched with white stars. Above the door is a 20" transom in red and white glass. Above the veranda at the second level is a small porch with a railing identical to the veranda.

The central portion of the south facade is a two-story square bay with a gable end. The first and second levels each have two, one-over-one, double hung, wood sash windows, with the first floor pair spaced further apart. The windows on both floors have wood shutters. The east side of the south facade has a less elaborate veranda than at the entrance to the house. This veranda wraps around the southeast corner of the house, and although it lacks a pediment, its railing system is similar to that of the entrance veranda. The upper level is a square, corner tower with multiple, narrow one-over-one windows.

The west facade of the house has a two-story, square bay next to the veranda with a narrow stained glass window with an arched top. The gable top of the bay has fish scale shingles under a sun burst motif at the peak of the gable. The north side of the west facade has a pair of one-over-one, wood frame windows at each level that are in line with each other.

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<sup>1</sup>This architectural description was prepared by John Whitridge, A.I.C.P, City Planning and Historic Preservation consultant, Napa, California.

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The interior of the house features a front and back parlor, dining room, and kitchen on the first floor, and four bedrooms, a bathroom, and linen closet on the second floor. There is a 15' by 19' cellar beneath the kitchen with 18' stone walls that is reached by an east elevation door and inner stairs to the kitchen.

Inside the front door is a large entry hall. Immediately ahead is a 6' by 9' double door leading to the back parlor. Against the east wall is a fireplace decorated with imported tile of French design. Beside the door is an ornately designed coat rack with mirror and umbrella stand that is part of Robert Pratt's original furnishings. To the left of the entry hall is the main stairway to the second floor which has a hand-crafted bannister and rails. Between the second and third landing, on the western wall, is a multi-paned 3' by 10' window with an arched top and tinted glass of red, blue, green and white. To the right of the entry hall is a 9' sliding door leading into the front parlor. A fireplace between the two 7 1/2' windows on the south wall has a hand-crafted walnut mantelpiece encasing a series of 17 tiles depicting the legend of King Arthur. Across from the fireplace are two 9' sliding doors leading into the formal dining room. The walls in the dining room are 11' to the ceiling and have 4' redwood wainscoting that was modified in the 1978 restoration of the home. East of the dining room is the kitchen connected by a short hall with a pantry to the right and a scullery to the left. Off the kitchen to the south is a narrow veranda with steps leading to the front yard. A back door from the scullery opens to a porch and into the back yard. A second door leads to the cellar, and a third door opens to a narrow stairway leading upstairs to the writing room.

The second floor, with its 10' ceilings and 7' windows, is reached by the stairway from the entry hall. On the second floor, the landing starts a hallway that runs the length of the home. To the right, a door opens onto the small veranda over the front porch. To the left is the bedroom occupied by Ellen White. Further along the hallway, on either side, are two additional bedrooms and a bathroom to the left. At the end of the hall is the writing room where White did most of her work. On the east wall of the writing room is a fireplace. This room is also reached by the back staircase located in the kitchen. The bay windows and tower were added in 1902, after Ellen White moved in.

Forty feet northeast of the main house stands a four-story tank house which housed a 3,000 gallon redwood water tank on the top level. The attached one-story cottage was a later addition. The tower has pairs of four-over-four, double hung, wood sash windows on the south facade first, second and third floors. The east facade has one, one-over-one, double hung, wood sash window at the second and third floor. The west facade has two one-over-one, double hung wood sash windows on the second level that are spaced apart. The square tower is capped with a hip roof. The tower and attached cottage now serve as a residence.

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One hundred feet north of the residence stands a two-story, wood frame office building erected in 1902. The rectangular building measures 26' by 28'. Adjoining the office in the back is the library and concrete vault constructed to house manuscripts. The south elevation has a simple entrance with a small roofed porch. The first floor has two, one-over-one, double hung, wood sash windows, one on each side of the entrance door. The second floor has three, one-over-one, double hung, wood sash windows, corresponding to the two first floor windows and entrance door. The lower lights on these windows are larger than the upper lights, and the middle window is narrower than the two outer windows. The side elevations have two similar windows on each level. The windows are trimmed in flat wood.

Robert Pratt's original estate consisted of 74 acres that included other structures such as a barn, cottages, a fruit-dipping shed, and several orchards. The estate consisted of 60 acres when purchased by Ellen White; it currently consists of three acres. In 1978 the three contributing structures were painted; interior maintenance included new wallpaper and furniture.

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**8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Nationally: X Statewide:      Locally:     

Applicable National Register Criteria:           A      B X C      D     

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions):           A X B      C      D      E      F      G     

NHL Criteria: 2

NHL Exception: 1

NHL Theme(s): XXX. American Ways of Life

                  XXXI. Social and Humanitarian Movements  
                          K. Health Care

Areas of Significance:           Religion; Social History; Health/Medicine

Period(s) of Significance:       1900-1915

Significant Dates:

Significant Person(s):           Ellen Gould Harmon White

Cultural Affiliation:           N/A

Architect/Builder:             Robert Pratt

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**State Significance of Property, and Justify Criteria, Criteria Considerations, and Areas and Periods of Significance Noted Above.****HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE**

Elmshaven is historically significant as the home, from 1900 to 1915, of Ellen Gould White (1827-1915), a co-founder of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Her pioneering efforts were the basis for the widespread success of the Church. Her achievement is recognized by a variety of important historical sources, including the *Dictionary of American Biography* which states that "during [her] long life span she exerted the most powerful single influence on Seventh-day Adventist believers."<sup>1</sup> Ronald Numbers, a noted historian in the Department of the History of Science at the University of Wisconsin, concluded in his study of White that she should be recognized as the co-founder and driving force behind what became "one of the nation's largest indigenous denominations." As a part of her efforts, she fostered the creation of a worldwide group of sanitariums that stretched from Scandinavia to the South Pacific. "Few contemporaries, male or female, accomplished more."<sup>2</sup>

Within the context of the National Landmark Program Thematic Framework, Elmshaven has national historical significance under themes: XXX. American Ways of Life; XXXI. Social and Humanitarian Movements, (K) Health Care. Although White lived at Elmshaven in the latter part of her life, she energetically continued her lifelong administrative and organizational efforts while residing there. Elmshaven was more than Ellen White's home, it was the place from which she generated and directed a campaign to establish Seventh-day Adventist Sanitariums across the United States. Additionally, from 1901-1909, Ellen White used her influence and weight within the Church to assist a "major reorganization of the Seventh-day Adventist Administrative structure."<sup>3</sup> Ellen White did not wither as she grew older but wrote voluminously during her residence at Elmshaven. In fact, her latter years were "one of her most productive periods."<sup>4</sup> During her "Elmshaven years" Ellen White consolidated the substantial gains she struggled to attain in her lifetime.

The rise in Seventh-day Adventist membership has been meteoric, growing from 100 followers involved in intense Bible study in

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<sup>1</sup> Dumas Malone, ed., *Dictionary of American Biography*, vol. 10 (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1936), 98.

<sup>2</sup> Ronald L. Numbers, *Prophetess of Health: A Study of Ellen G. White*, (New York: Harper & Row Pubs., 1976), ix, 186.

<sup>3</sup> Roy E. Graham, *Ellen G. White: Co-founder of the Seventh-day Adventist Church*, (New York: Peter Lang Pub. Inc., 1985), 31-32.

<sup>4</sup> Numbers, 186.



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1849 to 3,500 members in 1863.<sup>5</sup> At the time of Ellen White's death in 1915, the Church had grown into an international religious movement of 136,879 members. The rise in membership continued after White's death. In 1965 the Church claimed 1,508,056 members worldwide and by 1975 the number had risen to 2,581,096.<sup>6</sup> In mid-1992 world membership was 7,274,181 and North American membership was 783,440.<sup>7</sup>

In his authoritative study Ronald Numbers concluded that Ellen White's contributions to the religious life of America were rivaled by "only one other woman--Mary Baker Eddy."<sup>8</sup> Although less well known than Eddy, White's movement is recognized by American historians to be at least as successful as Eddy's Christian Science.<sup>9</sup> The "special authority" even today given to the writings of Ellen White by Seventh-day Adventists testifies to her importance as the foundation for the Church's huge success.<sup>10</sup>

Other properties were considered for nomination but all fall short of Elmshaven's structural integrity and historical importance. Ellen White's home in Battle Creek, Michigan is still standing, but it has been converted into a duplex and its structural integrity is not comparable to the well-preserved Elmshaven. Additionally, although Ellen White wrote *The Great Controversy* while living at Battle Creek, the pivotal vision that she had regarding health reform occurred on June 5, 1863 while she was visiting friends in Otsego, Michigan, prior to moving to the existing Battle Creek house. After her husband's death in 1881, Ellen White lived in Healdsburg, California, in a house on Powell Street until 1885.<sup>11</sup> She revised *The Great Controversy* while living in Healdsburg, but her association with this property was eight years and the house has been altered considerably. Finally, White lived for fifteen years at

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<sup>5</sup> Malcolm Bull and Keith Lockhart, *Seeking a Sanctuary: Seventh-day Adventism and the American Dream*, (San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1989), 6.

<sup>6</sup> Graham, 32, 115; see also Martin Marty, *Modern American Religion*, vol. 1 (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1986), 257.

<sup>7</sup> Martin Marty, *Christian Churches in the United States*, (New York: Harper & Row, 1987), 97.

<sup>8</sup> Numbers, 200.

<sup>9</sup> Marty, *Christian Churches*, 97.

<sup>10</sup> Sydney E. Ahlstrom, *A Religious History of the American People*, vol. 1, (Garden City, NJ: Image Books, 1975), 582.

<sup>11</sup> Numbers, x; See also Edward T. James, ed., *Notable American Women 1607-1950*, vol. 3, (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Belknap Press, 1971), 587.

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Elmshaven, longer than she lived at any other place. It was at Elmshaven that her career reached its culmination, as she continued to write books, to play an active leadership role in the development of hospitals and schools, and to participate in the reorganization of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Given these considerations, Elmshaven is the most appropriate property reflecting the life of Ellen White, the co-founder and long time leader of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Ellen Gould Harmon was born on November 26, 1827. The future Ellen White was raised just outside Portland, Maine as a devout Methodist. When she was a teenager, her family was expelled from the Methodist Church for following the evangelical millennialist farmer turned preacher, William Miller, who predicted the second coming of Christ in 1843 or 1844. When Christ did not come on the final date set, October 22, 1844, the Harmon family, as well as all other Millerites, were disappointed and disillusioned. However, the 17-year-old Ellen Gould Harmon continued to strive to find answers for her disappointment. Some Millerites renounced their faith altogether while others, such as Ellen Harmon, searched further in the bible for religious truth.

Two months after the great Millerite disappointment, Ellen, a thin and sickly teenager, had her first of 2,000 visions. This first of many visions centered upon "the Advent people and their travels to the holy city" which reaffirmed her belief in intense study of the Bible in preparation for the Second Coming which she held was imminent.<sup>12</sup> Her visions encouraged elements of the Millerite Adventists to group together for "group Bible study and reflection."<sup>13</sup> Soon Ellen Gould Harmon began to embark on numerous preaching and visiting tours of New England. During these travels, she met her future husband James Springer White.<sup>14</sup>

While relating her visions to others and expounding a call for intense Bible study, Ellen Harmon married the 23-year-old former Millerite minister, James Springer White, on August 30, 1846. Their marriage scarcely interrupted their evangelical tours. In the fall of 1846, their Bible study group agreed with the evangelical sea captain Joseph Bate's contention that the true Sabbath was Saturday rather than Sunday. On April 7, 1847, Ellen White had a vision helping to confirm belief in the Saturday Sabbath among Seventh-day Adventists.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> Graham, 19, 24, 31.

<sup>13</sup> Graham, 25.

<sup>14</sup> Graham, 27.

<sup>15</sup> Graham, 29.

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Ellen White's beliefs were spawned in the "experimental atmosphere" of 19th-century evangelicalism<sup>16</sup> and moved into the "revivalistic pietism" of antebellum New England with two major differences: she believed in the Saturday Sabbath; and she believed that Jesus' return was imminent, although no set date was cited. The Whites continued on the visitation, preaching, and Bible study circuit for the next few years, and it was during this time that they, together with Captain Joseph Bates, exercised a major influence over the movement.<sup>17</sup> After the death of William Miller in 1849, the Whites gradually assumed the "cohesive center" of this amorphous religious group. Through the "authority of her visions, [Ellen White] guided the crucial decisions" of the fledgling church.<sup>18</sup> Ellen White's first published work, *A Sketch of the Christian Experience and Views of Ellen White*, went to press in 1851.<sup>19</sup>

During Ellen White's formative years, she emerged "as a character destined to have a normative influence on the people who decided in 1860 to call themselves Seventh-day Adventist, and who formally organized themselves into a General Conference... in 1863."<sup>20</sup> Ellen White was influenced by three major factors during her formative years: a childhood accident that forever plagued her with delicate health; the "spiritual strivings" that brought her well within the "strong revival atmosphere" of 19th-century religion in New England; and her dreams and inspirational visions.<sup>21</sup>

The Whites moved to Battle Creek, Michigan, in 1855, and set up the first Seventh-day Adventist press there--The Review and Herald Publishing Association. At Battle Creek, Ellen White became increasingly concerned with health in general, and the healing powers of water and diet in particular. Although her health vision was experienced in Otsego, Michigan, she wrote the book, *The Great Controversy*, expounding on the lacto-ovo-vegetarian diet while living in Battle Creek. James and Ellen White both played a central role in the establishment of the Western Health Reform Institute in Battle Creek. This institution later became famous under the tutelage of Dr. John Harvey Kellogg as the Battle Creek Sanitarium. Reflecting their commitment to education, the Whites were also instrumental in the establishment of the Battle Creek College in 1874.<sup>22</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> Ahlstrom, 469.

<sup>17</sup> Graham, 30.

<sup>18</sup> James, 586.

<sup>19</sup> Graham, 31.

<sup>20</sup> Graham, 31.

<sup>21</sup> Graham, 15, 21.

<sup>22</sup> James, 587.

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During the 1870s, Ellen and James embarked on "coast to coast" lecturing tours and spent very little time in Battle Creek.<sup>23</sup> White was especially in demand as a speaker for the Women's Christian Temperance Union. From 1872 to 1874, the Whites were instrumental in founding both the religious journal *Signs of the Times* in Oakland, CA, and the Pacific Press religious printing house. After her husband's death in 1881, Ellen White lived in Healdsburg, California until 1885.<sup>24</sup> In Healdsburg, Ellen White played an instrumental part in the founding of what today is the Pacific Union College.

From 1885 to 1887, White made her home in Basel, Switzerland, and traveled throughout Europe, encouraging and strengthening the work of the church in several countries. From 1887 to 1891, White again took up residence in Battle Creek<sup>25</sup> and embarked on a "doctrinal battle to shift the focus of Adventist theology from an emphasis on the Ten Commandments to the love and righteousness of Christ."<sup>26</sup> Asked by the Adventist church, in 1891, to go to Australia as a "medical missionary," she remained until 1900. While in Australia, she helped to establish a school in Cooranbong, successfully preached in most major Australian cities, and composed over 2500 pages of manuscript.<sup>27</sup>

Returning from her pioneer work in Australia in September 1900, White spent a few grueling and unsuccessful days searching for a new home in the San Francisco Bay Area. Tired and wishing to reestablish contact with old friends, she was persuaded to visit the Rural Health Retreat in St. Helena to rest her 72-year-old body. At St. Helena, White learned that the nearby Robert Pratt home, later known as Elmshaven, was available for only \$5,000. Papers were quickly drawn and signed, and White took up residence on October 16, 1900.

This commodious farmhouse in the picturesque hills north of San Francisco was perfectly suited for Ellen White. In addition to her desire to never again endure another harsh Michigan winter, Ellen White wanted to be close enough to a Seventh-day Adventist publishing house to easily put her writings into print, but not so close to a Seventh-day Adventist regional administrative center as to be forced to deal with the day-to-day tasks and problems of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.<sup>28</sup> Elmshaven

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<sup>23</sup> Numbers, 179.

<sup>24</sup> James, 587.

<sup>25</sup> James, 587.

<sup>26</sup> Numbers, 183.

<sup>27</sup> James, 587; Numbers, 183.

<sup>28</sup> Arthur L. White. *Ellen G. White: The Early Elmshaven Years, 1900-1905*, (Washington DC: Review & Herald Pub. Ass., 1981), 27, 31, 32, 36, 37.

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fulfilled these guidelines admirably: the healthy weather of California coincided with the location of the Pacific Press in Oakland, less than a day's ride away.

Elmshaven exemplified and manifested many concerns that Ellen White advocated throughout her life: vegetarianism, clean air, the virtues of country living, hydropathy, and her commitment to education. Set on a small knoll in the middle of 74 acres of land, the north side of Elmshaven was faced with a three acre orchard containing peach, apple, nectarine, fig, cherry, apricot, pear, and olive trees. To the south stood a vineyard of more than five acres. To the west lay a prune orchard of over 2000 trees, a garden, and a hayfield. To the east were wooded "rolling hills" and a spring. A vegetarian food factory and a ten-grade school for area children were built on land sold to the St. Helena Rural Health Retreat. Additionally, since Elmshaven was only one mile away from the Adventist Rural Health Retreat, the 72-year-old White greatly benefited from the proximity of the therapeutic waters of St. Helena. Ellen White was also able to speak to "a changing audience [at St. Helena] of non-Adventists," a practice which she enjoyed.<sup>29</sup> In short, Elmshaven was the perfect home for Ellen White during her later years. She was able to write, to reflect, to speak often without overly fatiguing herself, and to push for reforms in the Seventh-day Adventist Church while enjoying a relaxing and healthful environment.

Ellen White, however, did maintain a busy schedule during her years at Elmshaven. She attended and spoke at countless camp meetings, not only locally in areas such as Napa, Healdsburg, Calistoga, Oakland, San Francisco, Santa Rosa, and Petaluma, but she also often spoke in the Southern Californian towns of San Fernando, San Diego, Pasadena, and Long Beach to name but a few. White also wrote prodigiously at Elmshaven. She wrote and published at least nine major books during her residence there, and two more were published in 1915 after her death. Additionally, White penned and had published "hundreds" of articles for the religious press during these 15 years. During her years at Elmshaven, Ellen White helped establish medical institutions and schools throughout California. She played an important role in the establishment of sanitariums which later evolved into the Glendale Adventist Medical Center, the Paradise Valley Hospital in San Diego, and the Loma Linda University Medical Center. In addition, Ellen White used Elmshaven as a base of operations for her travels all over the country and for her nationwide denominational reorganization efforts.<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>29</sup> Arthur L. White, 35.

<sup>30</sup> Ellen G. White, *The Retirement Years: A Compilation From the Writings of Ellen G. White*, (Washington DC: Review & Herald Pub. Ass., 1990) , 200-215; see also Numbers, 187.

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Soon after she took up residence at Elmshaven, Ellen White became increasingly disillusioned with the overcentralization of the Seventh-day Adventist Church rooted in Battle Creek and the growing commercialism of that Michigan city. Almost immediately upon her return to the United States from Australia in 1900, she began to formulate an alternate plan of denominational organization.<sup>31</sup> At first rooms were adapted and then a special office building for secretaries was built on the grounds of Elmshaven for this reform drive.<sup>32</sup> When the Battle Creek Sanitarium burned on February 18, 1902, just two months after the Review and Herald Publishing Company burned to the ground,<sup>33</sup> White saw it as "divine displeasure with the overcentralization in Battle Creek" and called anew for more numerous, rural sanitariums.<sup>34</sup> Keeping with her anti-commercial beliefs, White also assailed Kellogg's attempts to market such vegetarian foods as granola and cornflakes.<sup>35</sup> The Battle Creek/Elmshaven schism was complete, and from then on, Kellogg and the Battle Creek Sanitarium drifted away from Adventist influence.<sup>36</sup> (This split eventually resulted in Kellogg's excommunication in 1907.<sup>37</sup>) In 1903, the denominational headquarters moved to Takoma Park, Maryland and instituted many of the changes advocated by Ellen White.<sup>38</sup>

Ellen White's longevity, ideas, and energy enabled the Seventh-day Adventist Church to grow from a handful of followers to 136,879 members worldwide at the time of her death.<sup>39</sup> Theologically, Ellen White "steered her church away from arianism, crass legalism, and pantheism."<sup>40</sup> Although undoubtedly familiar with previous authors advocating a healthier diet and the virtues of hydropathy, it was Ellen White who was ultimately responsible for the 33 Seventh-day Adventist sanitariums, located in six continents, also established during her lifetime.<sup>41</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> James, 587.

<sup>32</sup> Ellen G. White, 46, 121.

<sup>33</sup> James, 587.

<sup>34</sup> Numbers, 186.

<sup>35</sup> Numbers, 189.

<sup>36</sup> James, 587.

<sup>37</sup> Numbers, 191.

<sup>38</sup> James, 587.

<sup>39</sup> Graham, 32.

<sup>40</sup> Graham, 32.

<sup>41</sup> Numbers, 200; see also Marty, *Modern American Religion*, vol 1, 256-257.

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Elmshaven is important for reflecting the astounding accomplishments of Ellen White because this pastoral home and office, occupied by Ellen White during her latter years, embodies many of the prime tenets of Ellen White's life. She advocated vegetarianism, healthy eating, temperance, hydropathy, and saw the solution to the urban problems of America "in returning to an agrarian economy along pastoral patterns indicated by the Old Testament."<sup>42</sup> Elmshaven is a living testament to these beliefs.

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<sup>42</sup> James, 587.

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White, Arthur L. *Ellen G. White: The Early Elmshaven Years, 1900-1905.* (Washington DC: Review & Herald Pub. Ass., 1981).

White, Ellen G., *The Retirement Years: A Compilation From the Writings of Ellen G. White.* (Washington DC: Review & Herald Pub. Ass., 1990).

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 (Specify Repository): **SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST HEADQUARTERS, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND**



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**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

Acreage of Property: Three (3) acres.

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing

A 10 545500 4265320

## Verbal Boundary Description:

The property is bounded by a chain-link fence. Beginning at a point on the western side of Glass Mountain Lane, proceed north along Glass Mountain Lane 440 feet, then east 145 feet. At that point, continue south 230 feet, then west 195 feet, south 120 feet, and east 105 feet. Then proceed south 33 feet, and 438 feet west to the point of origin. See attached diagram.

## Boundary Justification:

The boundary includes Elmshaven (Ellen White Residence), the Tank House, and the Office/Library/Shed building, all of which have been historically associated with the property. The additional 57 acres of the property originally owned by Ellen White have been excluded because it has been subdivided and developed into a residential neighborhood.

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

Name/Title: Dr. Page Putnam Miller; Jill S. Mesirow  
National Coordinating Committee  
for the Promotion of History  
400 A Street, SE  
Washington, DC 20003  
202/544-2422

Mr. Andrew Laas

Mr. John Whitridge, AICP

Date: November 12, 1992

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## PHOTOGRAPH 1

- 1) Name of Property: Elmshaven
- 2) County and State: Napa, California
- 3) Name of Photographer: John Whitridge
- 4) Date of Photograph: August 1992
- 5) Location of original negative: NCC, Washington, DC
- 6) Description of view indicating direction of camera: Main residence; east elevation
- 7) Photograph number as keyed to accompanying sketch map: 1

## PHOTOGRAPH 2

- 1) Name of Property: Elmshaven
- 2) County and State: Napa, California
- 3) Name of Photographer: John Whitridge
- 4) Date of Photograph: August 1992
- 5) Location of original negative: NCC, Washington, DC
- 6) Description of view indicating direction of camera: Main residence; south elevation
- 7) Photograph number as keyed to accompanying sketch map: 2

## PHOTOGRAPH 3

- 1) Name of Property: Elmshaven
- 2) County and State: Napa, California
- 3) Name of Photographer: John Whitridge
- 4) Date of Photograph: August 1992
- 5) Location of original negative: NCC, Washington, DC
- 6) Description of view indicating direction of camera: Main residence; north elevation
- 7) Photograph number as keyed to accompanying sketch map: 3

## PHOTOGRAPH 4

- 1) Name of Property: Elmshaven
- 2) County and State: Napa, California
- 3) Name of Photographer: John Whitridge
- 4) Date of Photograph: August 1992
- 5) Location of original negative: NCC, Washington, DC
- 6) Description of view indicating direction of camera: Main residence; Ellen White's bedroom
- 7) Photograph number as keyed to accompanying sketch map: 4

## PHOTOGRAPH 5

- 1) Name of Property: Elmshaven
- 2) County and State: Napa, California
- 3) Name of Photographer: John Whitridge
- 4) Date of Photograph: August 1992
- 5) Location of original negative: NCC, Washington, DC
- 6) Description of view indicating direction of camera: Main residence; Ellen White's writing room
- 7) Photograph number as keyed to accompanying sketch map: 5

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## PHOTOGRAPH 6

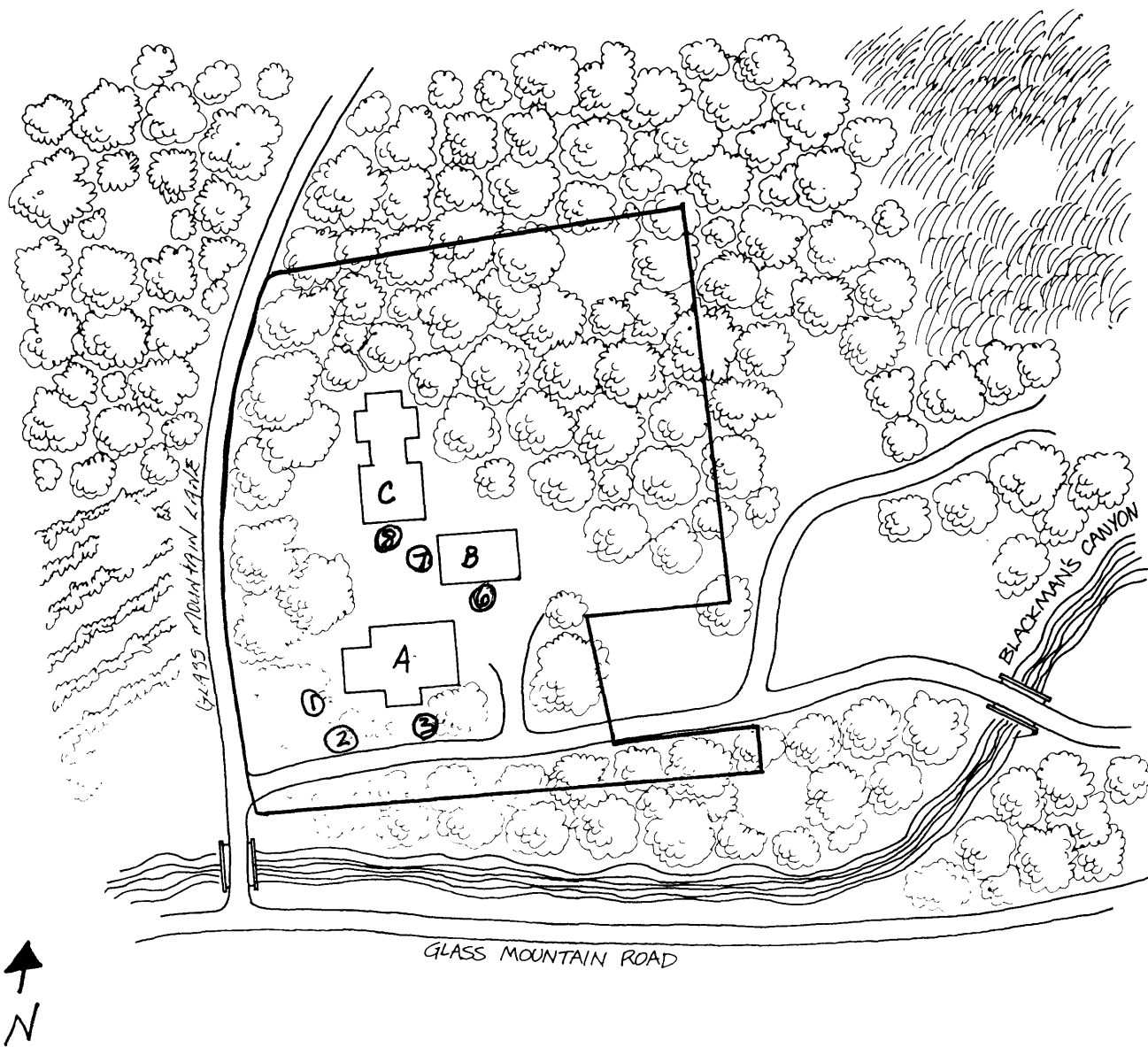
- 1) Name of Property: Elmshaven
- 2) County and State: Napa, California
- 3) Name of Photographer: John Whitridge
- 4) Date of Photograph: August 1992
- 5) Location of original negative: NCC, Washington, DC
- 6) Description of view indicating direction of camera: Tank house; south elevation
- 7) Photograph number as keyed to accompanying sketch map: 6

## PHOTOGRAPH 7

- 1) Name of Property: Elmshaven
- 2) County and State: Napa, California
- 3) Name of Photographer: John Whitridge
- 4) Date of Photograph: August 1992
- 5) Location of original negative: NCC, Washington, DC
- 6) Description of view indicating direction of camera: Tank house; east elevation
- 7) Photograph number as keyed to accompanying sketch map: 7

## PHOTOGRAPH 8

- 1) Name of Property: Elmshaven
- 2) County and State: Napa, California
- 3) Name of Photographer: John Whitridge
- 4) Date of Photograph: August 1992
- 5) Location of original negative: NCC, Washington, DC
- 6) Description of view indicating direction of camera: Office building; south elevation
- 7) Photograph number as keyed to accompanying sketch map: 8



A - Main House - Ellen White Residence

B - Tank House

C - Office/Library/Vault Building