

Petaluma Woman's Club
Name of Property

Sonoma, California
County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: clubhouse

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: clubhouse

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS

Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Cladding: STUCCO

Roof: ASPHALT SHINGLES

Narrative Description

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

Summary Paragraph

Petaluma Woman's Club is located close to downtown in the city's locally designated "A" Street Historic District, near the National Register-listed Petaluma Historic Commercial District (95000354). The building was designed by prominent Petaluma architect Brainerd Jones, in the Craftsman style with tall windows; a wide, welcoming front porch; and dramatic gables. The wood-framed building with exterior stucco has served continuously as the organization's clubhouse since the club commissioned the building in 1913. Originally 50 feet by 60 feet, alterations in 1928 included a 24 foot rear extension to add a stage, enlarge the kitchen, and provide an extra room and bathroom, enlarging the footprint to 50 feet by 84 feet. The building retains all aspects of integrity.

Narrative Description

Setting

The building faces southeast on a residential two-lane street, less than three blocks from the vibrant downtown area. The local historic district, south and east of downtown, contains an

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eclectic mix of residences, churches, and offices, nearly all built before 1925 and representing architectural styles back to 1860. The clubhouse is flanked by two churches, First Church of Christ Scientist and North Bay Revival Center, which predate the clubhouse. Private residences are located across the street. The building occupies most of its lot and sits slightly raised above the sidewalk, separated by a small, terraced garden with a brick walk and stairs leading to the front porch. A concrete walk with a ramp to a paved path leads along the eastern edge of the building, allowing for accessibility and an entrance to the kitchen at the rear of the building. A fence separates the club property from the church property on the east, and a narrow strip of landscaped garden separates the club property from the church to the west.

Landscaping

A small front yard is created by a terrace supported by a stucco wall with a brick cap. The landscaping is drought-tolerant with trimmed shrubbery, a flowering cherry tree, and a large, shady deciduous tree. A Petaluma Woman's Club sign was installed at the front of the yard in 2020. The landscaping appears to have maintained a simple appearance throughout the history of the club. Early photos show trees and plants that have changed over the years and maintain a streamlined look that does not distract from the architecture of the building. The stairs from the sidewalk were lined up with the center of the building in 1923. Photos from the 1970s show the stairs leading directly to the front door as documented in the nomination photographs. While this alignment is different from initial construction, it matches Brainerd Jones' original drawing more closely.

Exterior

Front Façade

The building is characterized by a cross-gabled structure and is clad in roughcast finish over stucco with white wood moldings and green trim in the mullions and door. The front-facing gable of the façade is dominated by the geometric design of the large Prairie-style windows and an offset front porch with a roof created by the side gable. The low-pitched-front gabled roof has a wide eave overhang with exposed roof beams. There are five beams down the slope of each gable and the beam in the center is double width.

The dramatic double-height windows are twenty feet wide and mimic the slope of the roof angle. The windows are arranged in five segments across the width of the building and centered on the front gable. The top of the windows creates a triangular formation. The center top window is the tallest and sits in the center of the peak of the roof. The two descending windows on each side become successively smaller. The mullions are arranged in an offset geometric pattern. Failing windows were replaced in the original openings in 2002, retaining the design, size, and character of the original (**Photos 1, 2**).

The partial-width front porch is another important feature of the façade, located facing B Street. The dipping roofline of the cross-gable cuts across the front creating a horizontal line matching the midpoint of the window. Two large piers are located on either side of the steps. One pier meets the wall of the main gable, and the other pier is a topped square column that supports the roof. Both piers are finished with poured, polished concrete caps inset with brick. The column is

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embellished with a white cap and dentil moldings. The double French doors are glazed, and the mullions create a design of squares and long rectangles. The floor of the porch is trimmed in red brick, as are the stairs and walkway leading up to the porch. The brick is set in contrasting horizontal and diagonal decorative patterns. The red brick walkway is a later addition that compliments the original porch design. The railings of the walk are iron, matching the exterior light fixture and streetlamp. The keystone set into a pier of the porch is inscribed "Petaluma Woman's Club, 1913" to commemorate the official opening of the clubhouse; the building was completed in 1914.

Northeast Elevation

The side gable on the northeast elevation mirrors the front-facing gable on the main façade. The low-pitched roof with wide eaves and exposed beams frames a second twenty-foot Prairie style window feature, matching the front. The offset porch is visible through a half wall and the column on the southern end of the elevation, although in this view, the roof extends to encompass the porch. The roofline also extends over a rectangular grouping of four small windows inset into the side of the building and one of the original kitchen windows. The addition is visible on the north end, with a stepped roofline. The kitchen extension is one story and the area behind the stage is two stories. A door to enter the kitchen or hall has access directly from the sidewalk (**Photo 4**).

Southwest Elevation

The southwest elevation is similar to the northeast elevation with a large gable and wide eaves. A shed dormer with three windows and exposed rafters is set into the roofline. The chimney extends from the ground through the roofline. The ground level is wide and then becomes narrower in a series of three steps until it becomes the narrow width that continues to the cap. The chimney is embellished with dentil molding that complements the columns at the front of the building. A large twenty-foot section of casement windows is divided into two segments with square and rectangular mullions at the top. The 1928 addition is a two-story rectangular section of the building at the north end of the elevation. (**Photo 5**).

Northwest Elevation

The rear of the building is a 1928 addition that fills the lot to the parking area behind the building. The square footage includes a stage, kitchen extension, dressing room, and bathroom. This wall is a simple rectangle with no adornments and a flat roof. The cladding is a beige roughcast finish over stucco consistent with the rest of the building (**Photo 6**).

Interior

Front Entrance Hall

The French doors at the main entrance enter directly into a spacious foyer. The room has walls clad in wood paneling, and the windows and doors are framed with the same dark wood. The floors are light wood. A set of French doors lead into the clubroom on the west wall. The staircase leads to a dressing room, also referred to as the bride's room, upstairs on the north end of the room. A door next to the stairs on the north wall leads to a bathroom renovated in 2009 for Americans with Disabilities Act compliance.

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Clubroom

The clubroom is a large bright room with double height windows letting in a good amount of light. This room is half-paneled with the same dark wood and light wood floors as the rest of the first floor of the building. A brick fireplace on the southwest wall of the room is embellished with a dentil-style detail. Accordion glass doors separate the clubroom from the auditorium.

Auditorium

The auditorium is a large open room featuring three dramatic exposed ceiling trusses in dark wood repeating triangular patterns. The tall windows bring in light on the western side of the room. A raised stage is located on the north side of the room with a door to the left of the stage leading to a second dressing room. The east wall has doors leading to the kitchen and the hallway. The addition, including the stage, was constructed in 1928 in response to a growing membership. Architect T. Jorgenson was specifically chosen to guide the project because of his experience with constructing theaters.¹

Kitchen

The kitchen is divided into two segments. The original kitchen is smaller and contains a stove, white painted and laminated cabinets, and a refrigerator. The 1928 kitchen expansion added an industrial-sized refrigerator with more preparation, cleaning, and storage space.

Dressing Room/Bride's Room

The room is characterized by floor-to-ceiling triangular windows. The walls are beige with white painted wood trim, and the floor is covered with a green laminate. A dressing table with mirrors is located on the south wall. There is a small, attached half bath.

Dressing Room/Groom's Room

This room is part of the addition, located on the second floor behind the stage, and has an attached half-bath.

Integrity

Petaluma Woman's Club retains all aspects of historic integrity.

Location: The property remains in its original location near downtown in the 500 block of B Street.

Design: The appearance of the front façade of the building is essentially unchanged since it was completed in 1914. The walkway from the street has shifted from the center of the building, an arrangement consistent with Brainerd Jones's original drawing. The brick paving matches the brick inset on the porch. The property retains the integrity of its design. Since 1914, the main alterations have been the 1928 kitchen expansion with the stage and room addition. While the

¹ "Vogenson Construction Co. Gets Woman's Club contract," *Petaluma Argus Courier*. February 19, 1927.

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architecture of the utilitarian addition is not Craftsman in style, the simple shape, matching stucco exterior, and the location at the rear of the building do not detract from the overall design.

Setting: The clubhouse retains its integrity of setting. The property is located in the locally designated "A" Street Historic District, a neighborhood that remains largely residential.

Material: The character-defining original materials are still present and intact.

Workmanship: The quality of the building's construction is still evident and original.

Feeling: The interior has the original dark stained wood wainscoting, Craftsman doors, and wood trusses spanning the main room. The main room of the clubhouse is large enough to accommodate up to 175 people, and with Craftsman details, the space feels cozy and inviting. Through continued use of the building and preservation of the interior space, the property retains integrity of feeling.

Association: This building continues to serve as a home to the Petaluma Woman's Club and retains integrity of association. The property is still being used as intended by those who commissioned the building. Its classic design will continue to support the next generation of members.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL HISTORY: Women's History

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1914-1950

Significant Dates

1914

1928

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Jones, Brainerd, architect

Fredericks, M. H., contractor

Jorgenson, T., architect (addition)

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

Petaluma Woman's Club is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the area of Social History: Women's History as a center of socializing opportunities for women and community support activities. The building is also eligible at the local level of significance under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for the classic Craftsman design by the celebrated Petaluma master architect Brainerd Jones. The simple and balanced design exemplifies the eclectic architecture embraced by the town of Petaluma as it grew, incorporating designs on the forefront of modernism in the early twentieth century. The period of significance begins in 1914 when construction was complete and closes in 1950 when membership peaked at about 300 members.

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

Criterion A – Social History: Women's History

The city of Petaluma was founded in 1852 and incorporated in 1858, and it grew quickly due to the rich, surrounding agricultural lands and the location on the banks of the Petaluma River. The town became famous for its poultry and dairy products. Renowned for being the home of the invention of the egg incubator, the town prospered in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Buildings in Petaluma were largely spared from damage during the 1906 earthquake centered in San Francisco about forty miles to the south.

Reflecting the rise of the Progressive Era from the 1890s through 1920s, women's clubs were popular through the first half of the twentieth century. The Progressive Era was characterized by a growing movement to develop solutions to the nation's social, economic, and political problems.² Women took a role solidly at the forefront of the outspoken groups leading the way to promote the fight for goals such as women's suffrage and to end the exploitation of the workers. Female-run organizations trumpeted causes such as prohibition, health and safety, and child labor laws. Famous leaders such as Susan B. Anthony and Margaret Sanger counted themselves as women's club members, and the popularity of the clubs rose across the country.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs was founded in 1890, and clubs became a way for women to exert collective political power before they were allowed to vote. Women looked to these associations for sociability and intellectual stimulation, in addition to gathering to fulfill their civic duties. The clubs held an important place in women's lives.

The Petaluma Woman's Club was founded in 1895 with Mrs. George McNear as the president for the first five years. The local women began to organize into groups such as the Ladies' Choral Society and a Literary Club as the community grew and people looked for opportunities

² Elisabeth Israels Perry and Karen Manners Smith, *The Gilded Age and Progressive Era: A Student Companion* (Oxford, England: Oxford University Press Incorporated, 2006), 398.

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to gather. In 1900, the creed of the club stated: "We desire to do all in our power to make Petaluma an ideal town, that may be known as the home of good citizenship. In the effort for clean streets, good water, pure food, and better sanitation, we will constantly be on the alert to aid our city officials."³

The club continued to grow, adding departments including a Garden Club, Reading Circle, and Professional & Business Women's Club.⁴ One of the earliest club minutes recorded that the meeting took place in a barn, which likely did not seem appropriate to continue with the growing membership. There was much interest in finding a permanent meeting place, and Mrs. Josie Hill donated a lot to the club in 1907 in downtown Petaluma. This particular location did not seem feasible, so the property was sold for \$2,500, and the Petaluma Woman's Club was able to purchase the prominent, centrally located lot on B Street for \$3,000.⁵ The members went to court for the successful financing of a loan to fund the construction of the new clubhouse. The contract was awarded to architect Brainerd Jones and contractor M. H. Fredericks. The plans noted, "...on the main floor will be a splendid auditorium.... Adjoining will be an elegant club room which when the occasion demands can open out into the auditorium."⁶

The Petaluma Woman's Club was one of several Sonoma County women's clubs to build their own clubhouses. Santa Rosa's Saturday Afternoon Club and the Sonoma Valley Woman's Club both raised funds to commission Brainerd Jones to build their clubhouses. Santa Rosa's Saturday Afternoon Clubhouse was built in 1908 and Sonoma Valley Woman's Clubhouse in 1916. The trend was growing throughout the United States. As aptly stated by author Gayle Gullett,

The women's clubhouses provided a protected interior social space that facilitated the objectives of its members, whether study, reform, sociability, or all three. Clubhouses also represented much more. Club members proudly emphasized that the clubhouses demonstrated women's business acumen; the cost of the buildings underlined that they exercised their financial skills in an environment of wealth. The buildings were expensive because the women used them to make an aesthetic statement—the buildings were what would be expected of ladies of culture—and because they provided spaces for libraries, auditoriums, meeting rooms, and banquet halls, places of women's work.⁷

The creation of a home established the Woman's Club as a substantial organization with the community.

From the open house on July 4, 1914, the "elegant new club home" of the Petaluma Woman's Club was a success. Regular events drew both members and the public to the modern,

³ Lillian Powis, *The Petaluma Woman's Club: The First Hundred Years, 1895-1995* (Minneapolis: Gleason Printing Inc, 1995), 6.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ "Contract Awarded Wednesday for Woman's Clubhouse," *Petaluma Argus Courier*, November 12, 1913, 1.

⁷ Gayle Gullett, *Becoming Citizens: The Emergence and Development of the California Women's Movement, 1880-1911* (Champaign: University of Illinois Press, 2000), 23.

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welcoming building. Poetry readings, musical and theatrical performances, speakers and lecturers, dinners, flower shows, and teas became established affairs at the location. Speakers such as Dr. Marion B. McAulay and Dr. Ruth Huffman lectured on Public Health, followed by musical numbers by club members and local talents. Happenings at the club were so popular that the meetings had a correspondent assigned by a local paper, the *Petaluma Argus Courier*.

As World War I loomed large, members of the club stepped forward to advocate for the civic support that would continue to characterize its activities over the next decades. Club President in 1917, Clara Ivancovich, known for her musical talents and strong opinions, organized a meeting and called for the citizens of Petaluma to form a chapter of the Red Cross. The meeting was so well attended by both women and men that chairs needed to be carried in from the church next door. The motion was carried unanimously, and the Red Cross Auxiliary was the vehicle for both the club and the town to support charitable causes at home and abroad. Club members sewed bandages and raised money through planting potatoes and stamp sales. They offered first aid classes to the community and supported civic spirit with Patriotic Teas.

Community events continued to be popular at the club through the 1920s. Membership grew to 260 and could not accept more until the clubhouse was expanded.⁸ Eminent speakers offered lectures on Child Welfare and civic responsibilities of women, as well as on scientific and legal issues of the day. The club was instrumental in forming committees to address matters such as the city's issues with garbage disposal in 1923. In 1925, the *Petaluma Daily Morning Courier* called the Petaluma Woman's Club "The Center of Social Life in District North of Bay." The paper complimented their dedication to civic, political, and national causes and spoke of them as the city's greatest asset. "The officers and members cooperate at all times with the City Council, the Chamber of Commerce, Boy Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, and other public-spirited organizations and in so doing have been instrumental in accomplishing many things for community improvement."⁹ By 1927, the club had raised money to build an addition to add a stage, expand the auditorium and kitchen, and add a men's dressing room and bathroom.

Membership declined during the early 1930s, as many could no longer pay dues as the Depression deepened. Meeting often saw averages of fewer than fifty people.¹⁰ The organization still was able to offer continuing education classes for women, including conversational English, modern art, and folk dancing.¹¹ A Miss Phillips offered free cooking classes in 1935.¹² The club sponsored card parties to benefit war refugees through the Red Cross and to raise money for the local nurses' association.

⁸ Powis, 101.

⁹ "Petaluma Woman's Club Center of Social Life in District North of Bay," *Petaluma Daily Morning Courier*, May 25, 1925, 31.

¹⁰ Powis, 7.

¹¹ "Women's Club Opens Three New Classes Tuesday," *Petaluma Argus Courier*, October 30, 1939, 2.

¹² "Expect 400 Women to Go to Cooking School: Miss Phillip Will Instruct," *Petaluma Argus Courier*, February 13, 1935, 5.

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With the advent of World War II, the Petaluma Woman's Club found its footing again as a center for the planning of civic improvements, fundraising benefits, and entertainment for servicemen stationed in the area. Membership reached over 300 people, as the club encouraged women as an important part of community progress. The clubhouse served as an important center for social and charitable events throughout this difficult time in the nation's history. The club sold over \$14,000 in war bonds in one rally in 1941. The members were producing over 20,000 bandages per month through the surgical dressing program. Dances and Christmas presents for the 300 service members stationed in the area were received with appreciation.¹³

The Petaluma Woman's Club was established in the early days of Petaluma's growth and in turbulent times of the nation's past. Women of the club continue to raise money for the community and participate in civic activities, including giving out scholarships to young women graduating from high school. The clubhouse has become an important part of the history of both the club and the town. The club has served the community for over a century, and the continued maintenance of their building as a center for events for the support of women is important to the heritage of the town.

Criterion C – Architecture

Brainerd Jones (1869-1945) is celebrated as Petaluma's master architect. He moved to Petaluma at the age of 6 in 1875. Jones won awards for his drawing as a child and studied drafting before moving to San Francisco to train as an architect with the firm McDougall Brothers.¹⁴ Coinciding with Petaluma's building boom at the turn of the century, Jones returned to Petaluma to open an office in 1900 where he worked until his death.

Brainerd Jones won the contract for Petaluma's Carnegie Library design early in his career in 1904, a point of pride for the town.¹⁵ Jones went on to be credited with designing eighty percent of the buildings in downtown Petaluma in his lifetime, though unfortunately many have been lost through the years.¹⁶ He was popular both as an architect and as a member of the community, participating as a prominent member of the rotary club among other organizations.

His eclectic portfolio of architectural designs is visible throughout Sonoma County. Jones was known for creating a breadth of work including both simple homes for the "working man" and elaborate municipal buildings, such as the National Register-listed Carnegie libraries in Petaluma (88000925) and Healdsburg (88000924). His designs ranged from Neoclassical to his transitional style combining fanciful Swiss chalet and Queen Anne elements. The eulogy published upon his death in 1945 gave Brainerd Jones the compliment of describing the unifying trend of his buildings as having sound construction and rarely going over budget.¹⁷ In addition to the aforementioned Carnegie library, a number of Jones' other Petaluma buildings are listed on the

¹³ Powis, 8.

¹⁴ Shawn Montoya, "Brainerd Jones: 1869-1945" <http://www.sonic.net/~tdn/jones.html> (accessed April 10, 2021).

¹⁵ Dave Weinstein, "The man who built Petaluma: Brainerd Jones designed much of what is now the city's historic section," *San Francisco Chronicle*, February 18, 2006.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ John A. Olmstead, "Brainerd Jones." *Petaluma Argus Courier*, March 23, 1945.

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National Register of Historic Places demonstrating the lasting value of his designs, including Ellis-Martin House (1197 E. Washington Street, 06000915), Old Petaluma Opera House (147-149 Kentucky Street, 78000801), and Petaluma Silk Mill (420 Jefferson Street, 86000386).

Petaluma Woman's Club is characteristic of Jones' foray into the Craftsman style of architecture. The simple, balanced, and inviting design was the epitome of modernism in the early twentieth century, complementing the progressive women of the time. The spaces inside are bright and open, easily transformable for use in various events. The history and future of the organization have become entwined with the building over the years, the club needing to support and maintain the building as the building has been home for the club.

Two other women's clubhouses are extant in Sonoma County, both of which were designed by Brainerd Jones. The Saturday Afternoon Club was built in 1906 and has been remodeled over the years. The original design featured wood shingles and a distinctly Prairie style design with wide eaves with porches. The façade has been significantly impacted by enclosing the porches, covering over some of the windows, the removal of the front entry portico, and the addition of vinyl siding and brick veneer. The National Register-listed Sonoma Valley Woman's Club (14001115) has remained intact, keeping the original Craftsman design. A reversible white aluminum siding was installed over the original wood shingle siding as a protective measure. Petaluma Woman's Club favorably compares to this building, retaining its original façade, character, and feeling.

Post-Period of Significance

Club rentals provide income to maintain the building. Rentals offer a place where the community may celebrate special life events and community serving events.

The Petaluma Woman's Club continues to be active in the Petaluma community upholding the history of the club, as well as planning for future generations. An evening group was formed in 1996. The basis for this group was to preserve the Woman's Club future and heritage by attracting new members and to stay relevant in the Petaluma community. In 2017, the evening group integrated fully with the original Petaluma Woman's Club and the Petaluma Woman's Club's Mission was updated: (1) To promote social, educational, civic and charitable activities and (2) To preserve, maintain and protect the historic clubhouse. In 2019, a Speakers Series was established. Gatherings were open to the public with the goal of highlighting the achievements and insights from women leaders.

The club has held many fundraisers over the years, to ensure funding for annual scholarships recognizing the achievements of Petaluma high school students. In 2002, the club established an Endowment at the Petaluma Branch of the Santa Rosa Junior College. This endowment provides tuition assistance for re-entry women to update their skills needed to succeed in the twenty-first century workforce. In other service to the community, the club provides donations to other community nonprofit organizations.

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In 2022, the Petaluma Woman's Club marked its 125th Anniversary through various events, notably showcasing a significant public exhibit at the Petaluma Museum. This exhibit commemorated the club's 125th anniversary as well as the concurrent centennial celebration of the Garden Club. Subsequently, in 2023, the Petaluma Woman's Club established a nonprofit foundation to support its community events.

Conclusion

The Petaluma Woman's Club and its building are part of the heritage of the city of Petaluma. From the days the doors opened, the clubhouse has served as a home for community events, supporting the women of the town through friendship, entertainment, education, and civic involvement. The original design by Brainerd Jones has evolved over the years to adjust the needs of the members, and it maintains its classic Craftsman style simplicity. The modernity of the style was designed to fit the progressive nature of the Woman's Club and has been well-preserved by its caretakers. The building represents an important part of Petaluma's heritage.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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February 19, 1927.

Weinstein, Dave. "The man who built Petaluma: Brainerd Jones designed much of what is now the city's historic section." *San Francisco Chronicle*. February 18, 2006.

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"Woman's Club Will Entertain." *Newspaper.com*, July 3, 1914. Accessed April 17, 2021.
<https://universityofcaliforniariversidepetaluma.newspapers.com/image/219149054>.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
Name of repository: Petaluma Historical Library and Museum

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 38.231392 Longitude: -122.640777

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

The boundaries of the property are defined by the parcel of land where the building is located at 518 B Street in the city of Petaluma, APN 008-046-014-000.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries of the property are those of the urban lot where the Petaluma Woman's Club is located. The parcel is completely occupied by the building, landscaping, and walkway. The parcel, outlined in red on the Boundary Map, has been historically associated with the club since its purchase in 1913.

Petaluma Woman's Club
Name of Property

Sonoma, California
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Colleen Mahoney, Co-President
organization: Petaluma Woman's Club
street & number: P.O. Box 285
city or town: Petaluma state: CA zip code: 94952
e-mail: colleenanmahoney@gmail.com
telephone: 415-517-0912
date: September 2021; Revised January 2024

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

Photographs

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

Photo Log

Name of Property: Petaluma Woman's Club
City or Vicinity: Petaluma
County: Sonoma
State: California
Photographer: Colleen Mahoney
Date Photographed: September 28, 2023

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 11 Façade, southeast elevation, camera facing northwest
- 2 of 11 Façade, southeast elevation, camera facing west
- 3 of 11 South corner, camera facing north

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- 4 of 11 Northeast elevation, camera facing west
- 5 of 11 Southwest elevation, camera facing north
- 6 of 11 Northwest elevation, camera facing east
- 7 of 11 Entrance Hall, camera facing north from the front door
- 8 of 11 Fireplace on southwest wall of clubroom, camera facing northwest
- 9 of 11 Interior of the main room
- 10 of 11 Kitchen addition from 1928, camera facing northeast
- 11 of 11 Dressing room or bride's room on second floor, camera facing southeast

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

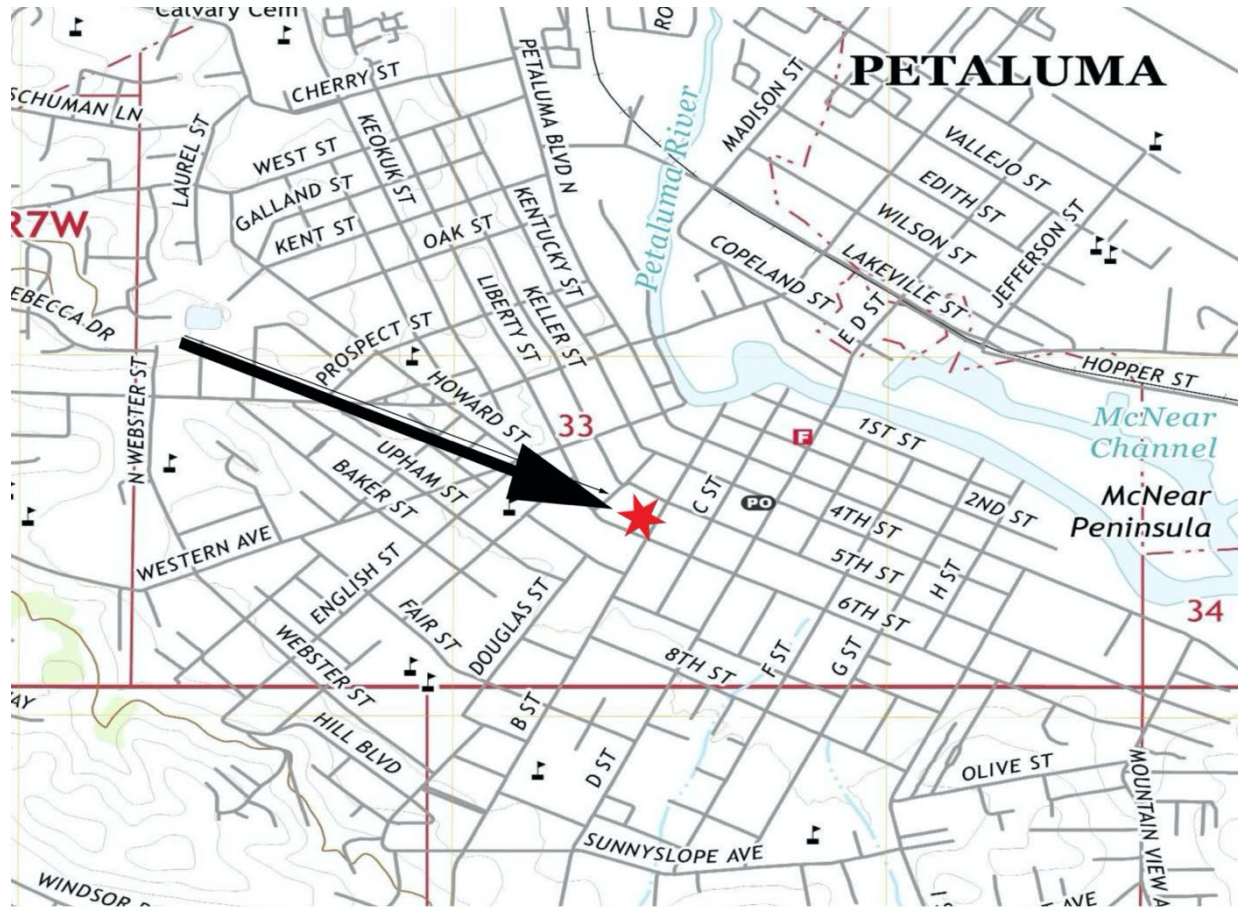
Petaluma Woman's Club
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Location Map

Latitude: 38.231392

Longitude: -122.640777



U.S. Geological Survey, 1953, Detail; USGS 1:24000-scale Quadrangle for Petaluma, CA 1953

Petaluma Woman's Club
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Boundary Map



Google Earth 2021

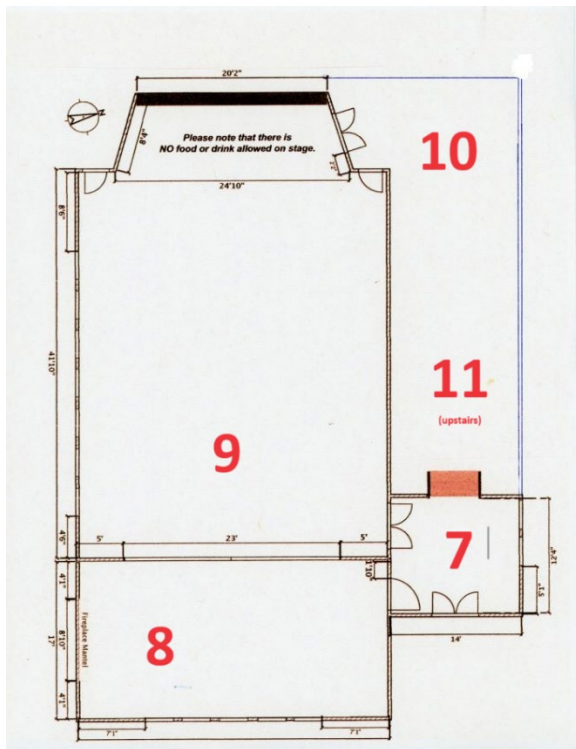
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Sketch Map/Photo Key (Exterior)



Sketch Map/Photo Key (Interior)



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Figure 1 Original design by Brainerd Jones, 1913; Source: Photo 5573, Sonoma County Library



Figure 2 Note change of stairs from street, original windows, 1923; Source: Photo 5555, Sonoma County Library



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Figure 3 Petaluma Woman's Club float for an Egg Days parade, 1920s; Source: Petaluma History Museum and Library

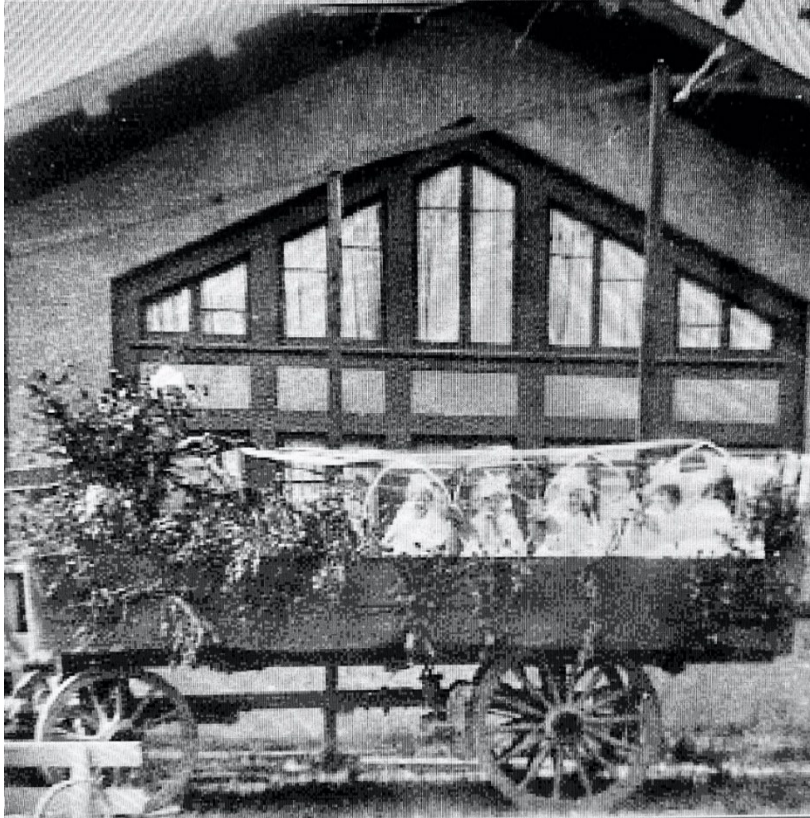


Figure 4 Stage production, circa 1930; Source: Petaluma History Museum and Library



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Figure 5 Dance, circa 1940; Source: Petaluma History Museum and Library



Figure 6 Women in front of PWC keystone, circa 1950; Source: Photo 7343, Sonoma County Library



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Figure 7 Petaluma Woman's Club with Addition, 1978; Source: Photo 022579, Sonoma County Library



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Photo 1 Façade, southeast elevation, camera facing northwest



Photo 2 Façade, southeast elevation, camera facing west



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Photo 3 South corner, camera facing north



Photo 4 Northeast elevation, camera facing west



Petaluma Woman's Club
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Photo 5 Southwest elevation, camera facing north



Photo 6 Northwest elevation, camera facing east



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Photo 7 Entrance Hall, camera facing north from the front door



Photo 8 Fireplace on southwest wall of clubroom, camera facing northwest



Petaluma Woman's Club
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Photo 9 Interior of the main room



Photo 10 Kitchen addition from 1928, camera facing northeast



Petaluma Woman's Club
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Photo 11 Dressing room or bride's room on second floor, camera facing southeast

