

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Denham, Mary E. House
other names/site number N/A



2. Location

street & number 297 South Orange Grove Boulevard not for publication
city or town Pasadena vicinity
state California code CA county Los Angeles code 37 zip code 91105

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 at the following level(s) of significance:
___ national ___ statewide ___ local

Signature of certifying official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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)

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

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1	1	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Late 19th/Early 20th Century Development & Architecture in Pasadena

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN

foundation: BRICK, STONE/Sandstone

walls: WOOD, STONE/Sandstone

roof: ASPHALT/Composition Shingle

other: Chimney: BRICK

Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

This two-and-one-half story, 4,884 square-foot oversized American Foursquare house with Richardsonian Romanesque influences was designed by architect Frederick. L. Roehrig and built in 1895. The site, a flat 17,680 square-foot interior lot, is at the terminus of Del Mar Boulevard on the west side of the T-intersection of S. Orange Grove Boulevard and W. Del Mar Boulevard, in a neighborhood of large single-family homes. The house, at the front of the lot, is set back approximately 50 feet from the sidewalk, similar in setback to other houses on the street. A detached one-and-one-half story garage, originally built as a carriage house, is at the very rear of the property, but is not a contributing feature because of alterations. A recently repaved concrete driveway in the north side yard connects the rear yard with garage to the street.

Narrative Description

The house is an example of an oversized American Foursquare house with Richardsonian Romanesque influences. It is two-and-one-half stories and roughly rectangular in plan. The brick foundation is not clearly visible from the street. The front elevation is asymmetrical and has a two-story curved bay with curved glass windows to the left of the centrally located entrance. Walls are mostly clad in narrow exposure clapboard; however, the first floor of the front elevation to the north of the bay has rock-faced Tehachapi sandstone in an irregular pattern. Windows are primarily double-hung or in-swinging casement. The north elevation has a pair of arched windows visible from the street. A set of steps flanked by two sandstone walls leads to the inset entrance. An original metal hand rail extends between the entrance and the roofed porch. Framing the porch entrance are two stone columns supporting a stone lintel as well as two stone panels with carved garlands. Above the lintel is an arched opening with decorative ironwork surrounded by a decorative frieze carved in the stone. The main entry consists of a single front door inside an alcove flanked by wooden side panels with windows that curve outward to connect to the stone exterior wall. The solid wood front door has a single large arched light and decorative iron hinges. To the north of the entrance is a pair of small single light casement windows. A roofed porch with a corner column of stone and a (non-original) stamped metal ceiling is attached to the north side of the house. The front of the porch is flush with the front elevation of the house. The composition shingle porch roof, supported by shaped corbels, extends across the front elevation from the porch to shelter the front entrance. On the right (north) side of the second story is an inset sleeping porch. Across the top of the second story is a frieze with a plastered Vitruvian scroll in relief. Above the frieze is a deep enclosed eave with regularly spaced corbels. The medium-pitched hipped roof (sheathed in composition shingles) features a front-facing hipped roof dormer with a pair of lozenge-pattern windows. Three rebuilt red brick chimneys protrude from the roof in various locations.

A detached one-and-one-half story garage is at the rear of the property. It has a hipped roof with projecting hipped roof French door and window openings on three sides. Records indicate that it was built as a carriage house at the time of the house.

The concrete driveway has been recently repaved; however, the original concrete driveway curb walls remain.

There have been some alterations to the house and garage. The garage shows extensive alterations to the front elevation including the recent installation of shingle siding, the removal of the original carriage house doors, and the removal of the original balcony and addition of a replacement balcony. At an undetermined date, texture coating was added to areas of wood siding on the house. In 1965, a stucco-coated addition to the rear of the house was completed. In 2006, the three red brick chimneys were rebuilt from a truncated condition, and a permit for a parallel interior foundation was issued. Recently, a stamped metal ceiling was added to the north side porch.

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1895

Significant Dates

1895 – house construction

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Roehrig, Frederick Louis (architect)

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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

The house was built in 1895, based on information from an article in the Pasadena Evening Star, May 15, 1895, p.8.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Mary E. Denham House, built in 1895, is a significant example of the work of noted Pasadena architect Frederick Louis Roehrig. It is designed in the American Foursquare architectural style with Richardsonian Romanesque detailing, harmoniously integrating the two influences. It meets National Register Criterion C as a significant example of the work of a prominent local architect and meets registration requirements listed in the Multiple Property Documentation Form "Late 19th/Early 20th Century Development and Architecture in Pasadena," single-family residence property type, American Foursquare subtype.

Narrative Statement of Significance

The property at 297 S. Orange Grove Boulevard is significant under Criterion C. Under this criterion, the house is a significant example of the work of noted Pasadena architect Frederick Louis Roehrig, designed in the American Foursquare architectural style with Richardsonian Romanesque detailing. Although the setting has changed from widely spaced homes to a residential neighborhood fully developed with large homes and apartment buildings, the house is still recognizable as part of the original "Millionaires' Row" and thus retains its integrity of setting. The house has a high level of architectural integrity through its design, materials, and workmanship. The house exhibits elements of the American Foursquare subtype including two story height, rectangular plan, clapboard exterior, low-pitched hipped roof with shallow eaves, centrally located hipped dormers, substantial front porch and double-hung sash windows. Elements of the Richardsonian Romanesque style include the arched entry, the decorative stonework on the front elevation, and the roofed porch with stone column. The workmanship and materials of the house are exemplified by these features as well as the wood front door and curved wood panels with windows, the decorative ironwork inside the arch, the original metal pipe hand rail, and the shaped corbels. Alterations on the whole are minor, mostly at the rear, and don't significantly impact the integrity of the resource. Given the minor nature of the alterations, the house retains the feeling of being a house for a prosperous family from 1895. However, the extent of alterations on the original carriage house renders it non-contributing to the property.

The house is a one of the oldest extant designs of Frederick L. Roehrig, a prolific architect from 1887 through the 1930's. He was proficient in many architectural styles and his early work is cited as reflecting influence by Henry Hobson Richardson, the originator of the Richardsonian Romanesque architectural style. He designed many of the city's landmark buildings including the Hotel Green, Castle Green, Orton's School for Girls and approximately 12 houses on S. Orange Grove Boulevard, which was originally known as "Millionaire's Row." The Denham House is the last of Roehrig's "Millionaire's Row" houses to remain standing.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

N/A – Historic context documented in Multiple Property Documentation Form "Late 19th/Early 20th Century Development and Architecture in Pasadena."

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Anderson, Timothy J., Eudora M. Moore and Robert Winter, ed. California Design 1910. Salt Lake City: Peregrine Smith Books, 1974 (1989 ed.)

Permit research materials and assessor's records in files, Planning Department, City of Pasadena (referenced in August 2010).

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Denham, Mary E. House
Name of Property

Los Angeles County, CA
County and State

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property:

City or Vicinity:

County:

State:

Photographer:

Date Photographed:

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1 of ____.

Property Owner:

(complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name Edward Mazzarino
street & number 297 S. Orange Grove Blvd. telephone (213) 910-4849
city or town Pasadena state CA zip code 91105

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.