

State of California — The Resources Agency
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
PRIMARY RECORD

Primary #
 HRI #
 Trinomial
 NRHP Status Code

Other Listings
 Review Code Reviewer Date

Page 1 of 2

*Resource Name or #: 747 N. Lark Ellen Ave.

P1. Other Identifier:

*P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted

*a. County: Los Angeles

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad:

Date: T ; R ; ¼ of ¼ of Sec ; M.D. B.M.

c. Address: 747 N. Lark Ellen Ave.

City: West Covina

Zip: 91791

d. UTM: Zone: 10 ; mE/ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate) Elevation: APN 8441-002-019

***P3a. Description:** (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

The house located at 747 North Lark Ellen is a single story Craftsman style bungalow with Stick style influences built in 1894. The house is cross gabled with overhanging eaves and decorative cut work vents at the gable peak. The eaves have decorative bracketing, exposed roof beams and exposed rafter tails. The roof is finished with asphalt shingle and the exterior walls are finished in clapboard wood siding with decorative flat stick work on the front gable. The house has a full-width columned front porch. The front façade has a large bay window to the north of the front door and a smaller double hung window to the south of the front door. The property fronts onto a small grassy lawn.

The house fronts East on North Lark Ellen Avenue and is listed with the Los Angeles County Assessor as being a three bedroom one bath home with 1,634 interior square feet. The house is situated on a 7,434 square foot lot. The house is well maintained and appears to have had some alterations.

***P3b. Resource Attributes:** (HP2) single family property

*P4. Resources Present: Building Structure Object Site District Element of District Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5a. Photo or Drawing (Photo required for buildings, structures, and objects.)



P5b. Description of Photo:
 (View West, taken Nov. 22, 2005)

***P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:**

Historic
 Prehistoric Both
 1894/1901 (LA County Assessor)

***P7. Owner and Address:**

Ruby Spencer
 (Same as above)

***P8. Recorded by:**

Historic Preservation Partners
 419 Concord Ave
 Monrovia, Ca 91016

***P9. Date Recorded:**

Nov. 22, 2005

***P10. Survey Type:** (Describe)

Intensive Survey of pre-1946 homes in West Covina city boundaries

***P11. Report Citation:**

Reconnaissance Survey of pre-1946 homes in West Covina city boundaries. (Historic Preservation Partner 2005)

*Attachments: NONE Location Map Sketch Map Continuation Sheet Building, Structure, and Object Record
 Archaeological Record District Record Linear Feature Record Milling Station Record Rock Art Record
 Artifact Record Photograph Record Other (List):

DPR 523A (1/95)

*Required information

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

*Resource Name or # 747 Lark Ellen Avenue

- B1. Historic Name:
- B2. Common Name:
- B3. Original Use: Dwelling
- B4. Present Use: Dwelling
- *B5. Architectural Style: Craftsman/Stick
- *B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)

747 North Lark Ellen Avenue was constructed in 1894, according to Fidelity National Title. Building appears to have had little exterior alteration, however according to City of West Covina, pre-1947 building permits are no longer available. A 1969 building permit indicates that a carport was added that year.

- *B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: Original Location:
- *B8. Related Features: Carport 1969

B9a. Architect: unknown b. Builder: unknown

- *B10. Significance: Theme: Residential Architecture Area: West Covina
- Period of Significance: 1894-1895 Property Type: Dwelling
- Applicable Criteria: C (NR), 3 (CR)

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

747 N. Lark Ellen Ave is locally significant under National Register Criteria C: Design/Construction. The house embodies the distinctive characteristics of the Craftsman style, popular in the later part of the 19th century in West Covina. The house features Craftsman style elements, as well as Stick style elements like decorative diagonal stick work on the front porch gable. The house is eligible for the California Register under the same criteria (California Register Criteria 3).

Agriculture was a prominent feature and way of life for West Covina in the early part of the century. Initial settlers cleared the land and planted a variety of crops. Large floods in 1913 and 1914 greatly affected the wheat fields, which were then the area’s main crop. But West Covina survived and farmers in the area continued their agricultural pursuits along with efforts to strengthen the community support system. By 1908 West Covina had its main streets laid out—Cameron, Vine, Merced, Service, Orange, and Irwindale (now Sunset) Avenues. Early photographs of main streets show wide boulevards lined with trees. By 1909 West Covina had its own one-room school on South Sunset Avenue with an enrolment of eleven students. In 1916 a community group called the West Covina Improvement Association was founded and eventually became the West Covina Chamber of Commerce. 747 N. Lark Ellen is an excellent example of the Craftsman style and is one of West Covina’s oldest intact houses. The house retains historic integrity.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

- *B12. References:
 - Historical Society of Southern California Pub. Vol. 14, 1929
 - “Walnut Growers in Splendid Shape,” (1920 newspaper article)
 - Barbara Pronin, West Covina: Fulfilling the Promise (Windsor Publications, 1989).
 - West Covina Building Permit File

B13. Remarks:

- *B14. Evaluator:
 - Historic Preservation Partners
 - 419 Concord Avenue
 - Monrovia, Ca 91016

*Date of Evaluation: Nov. 22, 2005

