

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.

1. Name of Property

DRAFT

Historic name: Chautauqua Hall

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: 162 16th Street

City or town: Pacific Grove State: California County: Monterey

Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

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

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___A ___B ___C ___D

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

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

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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>0</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.)

RELIGION: religious facility

SOCIAL: meeting hall

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: meeting hall

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: Rustic

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Foundation: concrete; Walls: wood
weatherboard; Roof: asphalt

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

Chautauqua Hall is a one-story social hall built in 1881 by the Pacific Improvement Company, located in downtown Pacific Grove. The building was constructed with local redwood materials and reflects the rusticity of early development in Pacific Grove. It does not otherwise represent any specific architectural style. The building was first used as a Methodist church and has had many subsequent uses, including as a schoolhouse, storage facility, assembly hall for the Chautauqua Movement, gymnasium, and multi-purpose social hall. Owned by the City of Pacific Grove, Chautauqua Hall has been minimally altered, apart from the expansion of a rear addition and the reconstruction of the belfry in 1991. Significant features of Chautauqua Hall include its simple gabled massing, large window bays with original multi-lite double-hung wood sash windows, board-and-batten redwood siding, and wood truss ceiling. The property retains all aspects of historic integrity.

Narrative Description

Setting

Chautauqua Hall is located at 162 16th Street in the central business district of Pacific Grove. The property is situated on a 12,728 square foot parcel measuring approximately 60 feet by 120 feet.

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The parcel is located at the southwest corner of 16th Street and Central Avenue and occupies the northern end of the block, with frontage along 16th Street to the east, Central Avenue to the north, and 17th Street to the west. The property is neighbored by land uses including vacant surface parking, single-family residential, open space parks, and commercial. The property has a downward slope from south to north and a setback of several feet from the sidewalk at the north and west elevations, with a slightly larger setback at the primary (east) façade. The south elevation faces Elmarie H. Dyke Open Space, which is a small, semi-enclosed public park.

Description

Chautauqua Hall has a rectangular footprint comprised of a primary portion built in 1881 and a one-story rear addition built in 1881 and expanded in 1933. The primary portion is capped by a gable roof with a small belfry placed centrally above the primary (east) façade. The rear addition is capped by a Dutch gable roof that nestles into the primary meeting hall portion at the rear elevation. Both portions of Chautauqua Hall are of wood-frame construction with board-and-batten siding and asphalt shingle roofing. The roof has a wide overhang with boxed, open eaves throughout, exposing a paneled soffit and rafter tails. Typical windows on the exterior of the primary portion are sixteen-over-sixteen double-hung wood sash. All windows are framed with simple wood casing and sills. The foundation of the building is concrete with a slightly elevated profile at the north side of the building to accommodate the sloping grade of the site. The base of each elevation features a wide wood beam water table above horizontal wood siding.

Primary (East) Façade

The primary façade faces 16th Street and is accessed through a wood door at the left (south) side, which serves as the primary entrance. A larger set of wood-paneled double doors centers the façade, with a symmetrically arranged typical window flanking either side of the double doors. Above the primary façade, there is a small, four-sided belfry set back slightly from the gable end of the roof. The belfry is square in massing with four battered sides that culminate in an open-air bell chamber. It is capped by a small, hipped roof and clad with board-and-batten siding.

North Elevation

The north elevation of the primary portion of Chautauqua Hall contains four bays, each with a typical window. A small wood door is accessed from a wood frame stoop. The north elevation of the rear addition is four bays in width and features (from left to right) a four-over-one double-hung wood sash window with ogee lugs, a one-over-one double-hung wood sash window with ogee lugs, and two wood sash windows with a six-over-six configuration.

Rear (West) Elevation

The rear elevation faces 17th Street and is characterized by symmetrical fenestration and a wood-frame porch with two mirrored segments that are each covered by a continuous pent roof. The segments of the porch descend towards the center and are accessed from a set of wood steps with a diagonal cross balustrade that wraps around to the opposite side on each porch. Each porch segment features a wood door with vertical wood paneling that is flanked by six-over-one double-hung wood windows.

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South Elevation

The south elevation of Chautauqua Hall faces Elmarie H. Dyke Open Space. Along the south elevation of the rear addition, there is a pair of one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows at the furthest left (west) side, and moving to the right (east), there is a wood door and a one-over-one double-hung wood sash window with ogee lugs. The door is accessed from a wood platform with an adjacent low wall constructed of vertical wood planks. The primary portion of Chautauqua Hall contains four bays, each with a typical window, and a small wood double door is accessed from a wood frame stoop.

Interior

The interior of Chautauqua Hall is divided into rectangular partitions with a mostly open floor plan. The largest space, accessed from the primary entrance along 16th Street, is a meeting hall with an exposed truss double-height ceiling. Towards the rear of the meeting hall, a narrow hallway leads to a pair of smaller classrooms and restrooms. There is an industrial kitchen along the left (south) side of the building, and above the kitchen is a small mezzanine attic space used for storage.

Alterations

The exterior of the primary portion of Chautauqua Hall remains largely unaltered. From a review of Sanborn Map Company fire insurance maps, the original footprint of the building was comprised of a one-story meeting hall space and a one-story rear portion. A belfry was added to the building sometime between 1888 and 1892. Between 1905 and 1914, the belfry was removed, and the rear portion of the building was altered to have a slightly narrower footprint and a small addition along the rear (west) elevation. In 1933, Chautauqua Hall was moved twenty-five feet to the southwest to accommodate the widening of Central Avenue (formerly Grove Street) and was raised to pour a new concrete foundation.¹ At this time, part of the original rear portion of the building was detached and moved back twenty feet, with an extension added to connect the moved rear portion with the primary gabled portion of the building.² A permit on file with the City of Pacific Grove documents these changes, and the expansion of the rear part of the building is shown in a 1945 aerial photograph and on the 1962 Sanborn map.³

In 1987, Chautauqua Hall was remodeled by T.R. Larson AIA and Associates, including repairs and upgrades made in-kind, along with an interior remodel, repairs to exterior decks, and upgrades to drainage. Other alterations made by T.R. Larson AIA and Associates included the in-kind replacement of existing wood windows along the north elevation and the in-kind replacement of the single wood door along the north elevation. In 1991, a new belfry was reconstructed by architect Ed Brethauer and contractor Steve Honegger, who modeled the features after a rendering from circa 1910 showing the original (circa 1888 to 1892) belfry in the

¹ "Many Projects Give 100 P.G. Laborers Work," *Pacific Grove Tribune* 46, no. 40 (December 15, 1933): 1; Grove Street was previously twenty feet in width and was widened to fifty feet.

² Adam Weiland, "Chautauqua Hall" (Heritage Society of Pacific Grove, n.d.).

³ "Permit #855," December 27, 1933, City of Pacific Grove.

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background of another building. The roof of the hall was removed and replaced with plywood and asphalt shingles in 1994. Also in 1994, changes were made to the landscaping, including the installation of redwood arbors with benches and a walkway along the primary façade, and installation of an accessible ramp leading to the smaller pedestrian door on the left side of the primary façade. From 2003 to 2005, the property was renovated by Jeanne C. Byrne, FAIA, with the scope of work including removal and replacement of damaged or rotted flooring and subflooring, replacement of any rotted structural elements, and installation of copper gutters. The kitchen and bathrooms were renovated in the early 2000s and do not appear to retain any original fabric from their period of construction.

Integrity

Chautauqua Hall retains all seven aspects of integrity. The building's exterior facades have been minimally altered, and the property retains the majority of its character-defining features. Chautauqua Hall retains integrity of *location*. Although the building was shifted twenty feet directly to the southwest to accommodate the widening of Central Avenue, it has remained freestanding within its original large parcel and retains its original setbacks from the sidewalk on all three sides. Integrity of *setting* is partially impacted, as the surrounding area has since been paved and developed from its original location within a pine grove; however, these changes to the setting were mostly made during the period of significance while Chautauqua Hall was in use for its original purpose as an assembly hall. While alterations have been made to the footprint and massing of the rear portion of the building, the overall integrity of *design* remains intact as the rear portion is sympathetic to the 1881 design and is compatible in massing and aesthetic. The property also retains the majority of its original finishes and exterior cladding materials dating to 1881, the year of construction, or the materials have been replaced in-kind; thus, the property retains integrity of *workmanship and materials*. The property retains integrity of *association and feeling*, as it continues to be used as a multi-purpose meeting hall.

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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

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1881-1914

Significant Dates

1881

1914

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Pacific Improvement Company

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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.)

Chautauqua Hall is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the area of Social History as a civic and public assembly building symbolic of religious and cultural affiliations tied to Pacific Grove's earliest period of development by the Pacific Improvement Company. Chautauqua Hall also represents the legacy of the Chautauqua Movement in Pacific Grove and its association with Pacific Grove's origin as a retreat town. Under Criterion C in the area of Architecture, Chautauqua Hall is significant as an early and rare example of rustic design in Pacific Grove, expressed through its use of redwood board-and-batten siding, multi-lite wood sash windows, and post-and-beam construction methods with an exposed truss ceiling. The period of significance is 1881 through 1914, spanning the year of construction in 1881 through 1914, when the use of Chautauqua Hall transitioned from its original use as an assembly hall for Chautauqua lectures and religious services to a recreational gymnasium. As a former religious facility, no longer used for that purpose, and significant under another historical theme, the property meets Criteria Consideration A: Religious Properties. As a property moved from one location on its original parcel to another location on the property, even after the period of significance, Chautauqua Hall meets Criteria Consideration B: Moved Properties.

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

Criterion A: Social History

Chautauqua Hall is significant as an important institutional property associated with the Chautauqua Movement and Pacific Improvement Company in Pacific Grove and the retreat's early period of development.

The Chautauqua Movement

The Chautauqua Movement was established in 1874 on the shores of Lake Chautauqua, New York, and was the first institute for adult education in the United States.⁴ Founded by businessman Lewis Miller and Methodist minister John Heyl Vincent, the Chautauqua Movement was initially a training retreat for Methodist Sunday school teachers. Eventually, the programming expanded to non-denominational teaching methods centered around intellectual discourse, culture, inspirational lectures, and entertainment programming within rural communities. Within two years of the movement's founding, Chautauqua assemblies formed across the United States. Most assemblies hosted large crowds of thousands of people in tents that traveled along a "circuit" of mostly rural towns, with some towns also establishing permanent assemblies.⁵ Lecture programming at most Chautauqua assemblies was diverse and included topics such as natural history, botany, political and social reform, temperance, civic

⁴ Lucy Neely McLane, *A Piney Paradise by Monterey Bay* (Fresno, California: Academy Library Guild, 1958).

⁵ Russell L. Johnson, "Dancing Mothers' The Chautauqua Movement in Twentieth-Century American Popular Culture," *American Studies International* 39, no. 2 (June 2001): 53.

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improvement, literary arts, and sometimes theatrical productions. Families or individuals could spend several days over the summer at one of the “retreats” that traveled to their town, similar to a summer camp.⁶ The Chautauqua assemblies were immensely popular and are credited with the nationwide distribution of ideas, cultural enrichment, and self-improvement through accessible education in the late nineteenth century.

Early Development of Pacific Grove

In the early years of its development, Pacific Grove served as a summer retreat for the California Annual Conference of the Methodist Church. The first retreat took place during the summer of 1875, with most guests staying in tents or small rental cottages. By the 1880s, the summer season at the Pacific Grove Retreat had been extended to accommodate week-long retreats by groups that were not exclusively Methodist, including the annual encampment of the Chautauqua Scientific and Literary Circle, the Women’s Christian Temperance Union, and the Young Men’s Christian Association (YMCA). The Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle arrived in Pacific Grove in 1879 as a weeklong summer retreat under the auspices of the larger “Chautauquas of the West” organization.⁷ At that time, Pacific Grove was advertised to visitors as “Chautauqua By-The-Sea,” which attracted train passengers from cities in the Central Valley, San Francisco, and other inland areas seeking relief from the summer heat.⁸ The Chautauqua Movement is credited with introducing an educated class of people to Pacific Grove and transforming the area into a hub for philosophers, intellectuals, and poets.⁹

In time, the accommodation of multiple groups over the summer season became the norm for Pacific Grove, allowing it to function akin to a modern conference center.¹⁰ Development of Pacific Grove as a year-round city was facilitated by its largest landowner, the Pacific Improvement Company, which had been created as a development arm of the Southern Pacific Railroad. Through the company’s influence, rail service to Pacific Grove was inaugurated in 1889, and the community was formally incorporated as a city that same year.¹¹

The Pacific Improvement Company

Although the Chautauqua Movement strongly influenced the early character of Pacific Grove, no single entity had a greater influence on the development of the city, or the entire Monterey Peninsula, than the Pacific Improvement Company. The Pacific Improvement Company traced its earliest roots to the Central Pacific Railroad, financed by Sacramento businessmen Leland Stanford, Collis P. Huntington, Charles Crocker, and Mark Hopkins, otherwise known as the “Big Four,” who in 1869 had been instrumental in completing the Transcontinental Railroad.

⁶ Charlotte Canning, “The University of Iowa Libraries, Special Collections and Archives,” *Traveling Culture: Circuit Chautauqua in the Twentieth Century* (blog), 2020, <https://www.lib.uiowa.edu/>.

⁷ McLane, *A Piney Paradise by Monterey Bay*, 203.

⁸ Julius Friedman, “Chautauqua Hall: The Many Lives of a Pacific Grove Landmark,” *Alta Vista Magazine*, May 12, 1996.

⁹ Robert J. Rapp, “Pacific Grove: A Story of Western Development” (Master of Arts Thesis, California State University, Hayward, 2002), 87, The California State University ScholarWorks.

¹⁰ Page & Turnbull, *City of Pacific Grove Historic Context Statement*, prepared for the City of Pacific Grove (October 31, 2011).

¹¹ Page & Turnbull, *City of Pacific Grove Historic Context Statement*.

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The previous year, however, the Big Four had also purchased the nascent Southern Pacific Railroad. This line was slated to begin in San Francisco and then head south along the coast before eventually turning east and completing a southern route across the United States.¹² By the late 1870s, the Southern Pacific Railroad had a near monopoly on California's rail system. Through federal land grants given to the company along their right of way, they had also acquired enormous land holdings. In 1878, the Pacific Improvement Company was formed as a subsidiary of Southern Pacific with the express goal of developing these landholdings, as well as nearby areas that could be served by the railroad. With its scenic coastline and proximity to San Francisco, one of the first areas targeted for development by the Pacific Improvement Company was the Monterey Peninsula.

By 1880, the Pacific Improvement Company purchased a large portion of the land that would become the City of Pacific Grove from regional landowner David Jacks and began to develop the retreat and make improvements to street grading. The company also developed sewer and drainage infrastructure and constructed a regional water system in 1883.¹³ Around 1919, the Pacific Improvement Company split off from the Southern Pacific Railroad and reorganized as a new company, known as Del Monte Properties, which took over management of all land belonging to the Pacific Improvement Company.¹⁴

Chautauqua Hall

As Pacific Grove's summer retreat gained popularity, the town realized a need for a permanent meeting hall that could improve upon the existing open-air wood-frame outdoor venues previously used for lectures and Methodist services. From 1880 to 1881, the Pacific Improvement Company constructed Chautauqua Hall as a "large pavilion or church" with the intention of fostering goodwill amongst the retreat's organizers by providing a meeting hall for the Chautauqua programming and religious services.¹⁵ To serve the Pacific Improvement Company's own interest, Chautauqua Hall was also used as a place to store the company's tents during the off-season. Chautauqua Hall was completed by 1881 and was first used by the local Methodist Episcopal parish until a permanent church was built on Lighthouse Avenue in 1889.¹⁶ In its early years, Chautauqua Hall was also used as a multi-purpose meeting hall for Chautauqua programming, with the capacity to seat around 2,000 people.¹⁷ The building continued to be used by the Chautauqua Movement until around 1889, when the primary location for the lectures and sessions shifted to the new Methodist church on Lighthouse Avenue.¹⁸ From 1884 to 1885, the

¹² Robert J. Rapp, "Pacific Grove: A Story of Western Development," 60–61.

¹³ McLane, *A Piney Paradise by Monterey Bay*, 64.

¹⁴ Page & Turnbull, Inc., *City of Pacific Grove Historic Context Statement* (City of Pacific Grove, 2011), 149.

¹⁵ "Monterey Items," *San Jose Daily Mercury* 17, no. 80 (June 13, 1880): 3.

¹⁶ John Miller, "Consent Agenda Item No.4A2" (Pacific Grove Recreation Department, March 29, 1991).

¹⁷ Julius Friedman, "Celebrating a Learning Landmark," *Monterey County Herald*, July 20, 1995, 10.

¹⁸ Adam Weiland, "Chautauqua Hall."

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first school classes in Pacific Grove were held in Chautauqua Hall.¹⁹ The building retained the moniker “Old Chapel” until around 1914, despite no longer being used as a church after 1889.

Around 1910, as local interest in the Chautauqua Movement began to wane, Pacific Grove began to transition from a religious retreat to a more secular recreational destination.²⁰ Sanborn Map Company maps indicate that by 1914, the building’s use became primarily recreational as a gymnasium and, by the 1920s, as a meeting hall for the local Boy Scout troop. Following the restructuring of the Pacific Improvement Company to the Del Monte Properties Company in 1919, ownership of Chautauqua Hall transferred to the Del Monte Properties Company, which sold the property to the City of Pacific Grove in 1922, according to deed records provided by the City of Pacific Grove. In recent decades, Chautauqua Hall has served a variety of purposes, including as a basketball court, a day care in the 1970s, a wedding venue, and a general recreation space for exercise classes, among other uses.

Criterion C: Architecture

Chautauqua Hall is significant as an early and important building in Pacific Grove.

Pacific Grove has few civic and public assembly buildings from its earliest period of development in the late nineteenth century. The design of Chautauqua Hall takes cues from the tent retreat for which it was originally built. In the early 1880s when the Pacific Improvement Company was improving the streets and developing a sewer system, few permanent buildings had been constructed in Pacific Grove, and it largely remained a tent city during the summer Chautauqua and Methodist assemblies. After 1880, visitors to the summer retreat had the option of renting tents from either David Jacks, who maintained a commercial presence in Pacific Grove, or from the Pacific Improvement Company. The Pacific Improvement Company’s tents featured six-foot-tall walls ranging in size from the smallest at ten by twelve feet to the largest tents at twelve by fourteen feet.²¹ To facilitate the easier set-up of tents during the summer season, semi-permanent tent frames were placed throughout the retreat.²² In time, many retreaters constructed more permanent cottages by cladding these frames with single-wall redwood board-and-batten exteriors, while still retaining the original tent on the interior as a dust barrier.²³ The result was a hybrid type of gable-fronted “tent cottage,” which quickly became the most common form of frame folk-housing in Pacific Grove.²⁴

The simple rectangular form and front-gable roof of Chautauqua Hall, as well as the use of vertical redwood board-and-batten siding, mirrored the construction of the retreat’s simple frame tents and early cottages and are reflective of nineteenth century building patterns that utilized

¹⁹ Julius Friedman, “Celebrating a Learning Landmark.”

²⁰ Page & Turnbull, Inc., *City of Pacific Grove Historic Context Statement*, 155.

²¹ Truman, *Tourists Illustrated Guide*, 168.

²² Heritage Society of Pacific Grove, *Board & Batten*, (December 1995/January 1996): 10-15.

²³ Kent Seavy and Heritage Society of Pacific Grove, *Images of America: Pacific Grove* (Charleston, SC; Chicago, IL; Portsmouth, NH; San Francisco, CA: Arcadia Publishing, 2005), 38–39.

²⁴ Kent Seavy and Heritage Society of Pacific Grove, 38–39.

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abundant local materials. Its post-and-beam construction methods with an exposed truss ceiling also contribute to this important extant example of rustic architecture that characterized the earliest development of the Pacific Grove Retreat.

Criteria Consideration A: Religious Properties

While Chautauqua Hall was originally built as a Methodist church, its use was not limited to religious services and the building also served as a general civic meeting space and assembly hall for Chautauqua programming. The Chautauqua Movement was founded by Methodist leaders and was rooted in Christian values; lecture programming was secular and included a range of topics. Chautauqua Hall's primary significance is not derived from its earliest use as a Methodist church, but instead from its association with the Chautauqua Movement and early patterns of development in Pacific Grove under Criterion A, and as an important early rustic building under Criterion C. Thus, Chautauqua Hall meets Criteria Consideration A.

Criteria Consideration B: Moved Properties

In 1933, Pacific Grove undertook several infrastructure improvement projects funded by the New Deal-era Civil Works Administration (CWA), including the widening of Central Avenue (formerly Grove Street) by approximately thirty feet and the shortening of the block at its northern side.²⁵ To accommodate the street widening, Chautauqua Hall was shifted directly to the southwest within its original large parcel. The building was not rotated or reoriented in any way and retains its original setbacks from the sidewalk on all three sides and its historic relationship to the block and its surrounding streets.

Chautauqua Hall remains a freestanding building located on its original block, within its original large parcel, with its original orientation, and retains its relationship to the adjacent streets, sidewalks, and buildings. The setting and environment of the historic building remain intact, and the building continues to express its significance under Criteria A and C. As such, Chautauqua Hall meets Criteria Consideration B.

Conclusion

Since its construction in 1881 by the Pacific Improvement Company, Chautauqua Hall has served as a beloved and essential gathering space for the residents of Pacific Grove. It is the oldest civic gathering space in Pacific Grove, one of the oldest extant properties representing Pacific Grove's origins as a retreat town, and one of the oldest buildings overall, after the Point Pinos Lighthouse (1855) and the Reverend A. C. McDougall House at 142 Pacific Avenue (circa 1874). Chautauqua Hall is significant under Criterion A in the area of Social History as an important institutional property associated with the Chautauqua Movement and the Pacific Improvement Company in Pacific Grove and the cultural and religious values that were emblematic of the retreat's early period of development. Under Criterion C in the area of Architecture, Chautauqua Hall is significant as an early and rare institutional building in Pacific Grove that expresses local nineteenth century building traditions. While it was built as a

²⁵ Adam Weiland, "Chautauqua Hall"; "Many Projects Give 100 P.G. Laborers Work."

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Methodist church, Chautauqua Hall was not exclusively used for religious services and has hosted other forms of secular programming since its construction, so meets Criteria Consideration A. Chautauqua Hall was moved in 1933. The move was minor, and the building retains its freestanding massing, historic orientation, and original relationship to streets and sidewalks within its original large parcel, and therefore meets Criteria Consideration B.

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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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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: City of Pacific Grove, Pacific Grove Heritage Society

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: 36.622136 Longitude: -121.918285

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

The boundary corresponds to the legal boundary with the County of Monterey Assessor-Recorder-County Clerk, parcel number 006-166-001-000.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary corresponds to the legal boundary of the parcel on which the building has been located since its construction in 1881.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Samantha Purnell, Architectural Historian/Cultural Resources Planner
organization: Page & Turnbull, Inc.
street & number: 170 Maiden Lane, 5th Floor
city or town: San Francisco state: CA zip code: 94108
e-mail: purnell@page-turnbull.com
telephone: (415) 593-3223
date: June 2025; Revised July 2025

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: Chautauqua Hall
City or Vicinity: Pacific Grove
County: Monterey
State: California
Photographer: Samantha Purnell, Page & Turnbull
Date Photographed May 14, 2025

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

- 1 of 10 Context view of Chautauqua Hall, looking north from 16th Street
- 2 of 10 Primary (east) façade, looking west from 16th Street
- 3 of 10 North elevation of the primary portion of Chautauqua Hall, looking south

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- 4 of 10 North elevation of the rear addition of Chautauqua Hall, looking south
- 5 of 10 Context view of the rear elevations of Chautauqua Hall, looking southeast from the corner of 17th Street and Central Avenue
- 6 of 10 Rear (west) elevation, looking east
- 7 of 10 Oblique view of the south elevation of the rear addition, looking northwest
- 8 of 10 Oblique view of the south elevation of the primary portion of Chautauqua Hall, looking east
- 9 of 10 Interior view of the main portion of Chautauqua Hall, looking west
- 10 of 10 Interior view of the classroom in the rear addition, view south

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.

Chautauqua Hall
Name of Property

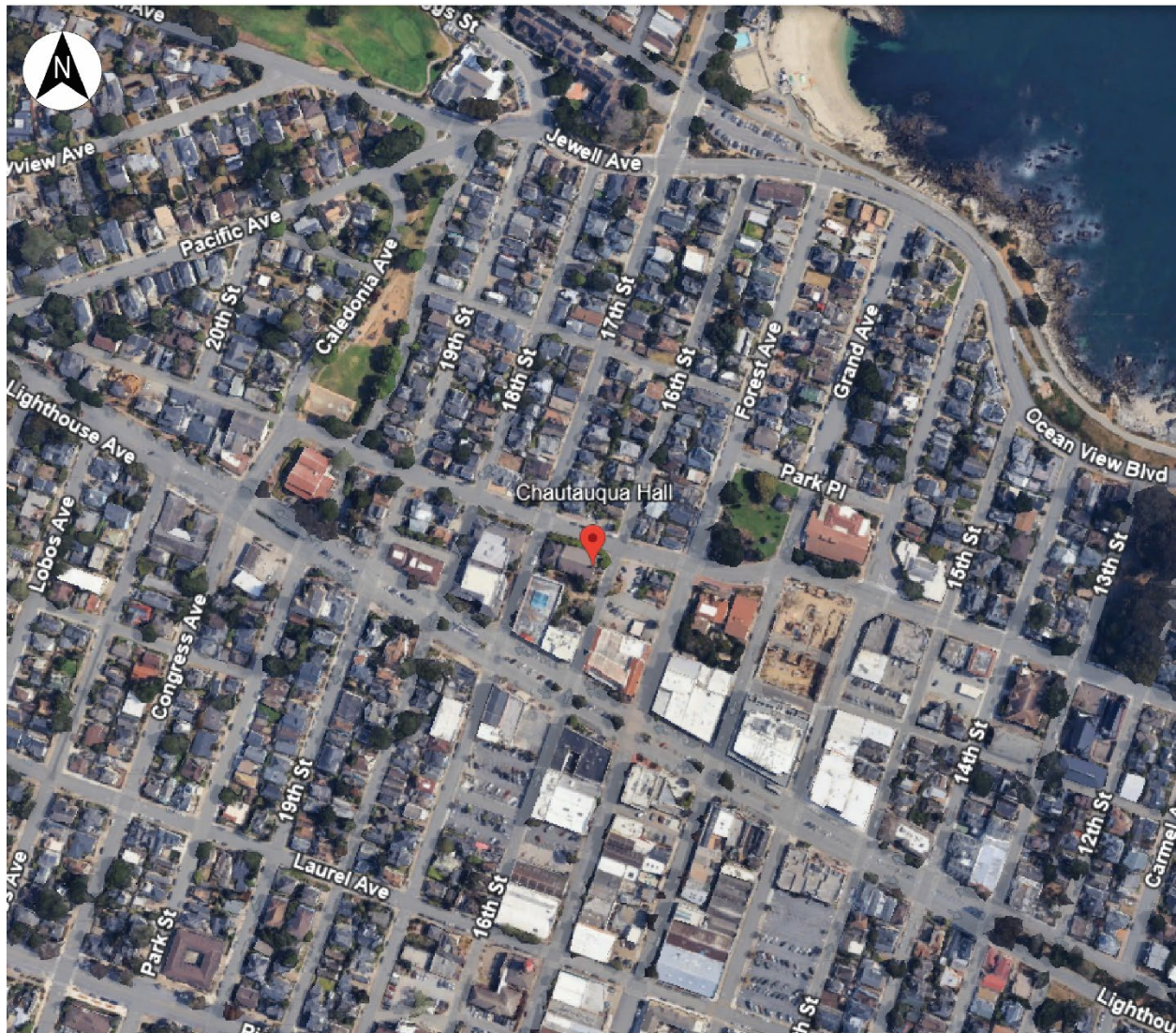
Monterey, California
County and State

Location Map

Source: Google Earth, 2024; Edited by Page & Turnbull, 2025

Latitude: 36.622136

Longitude: -121.918285

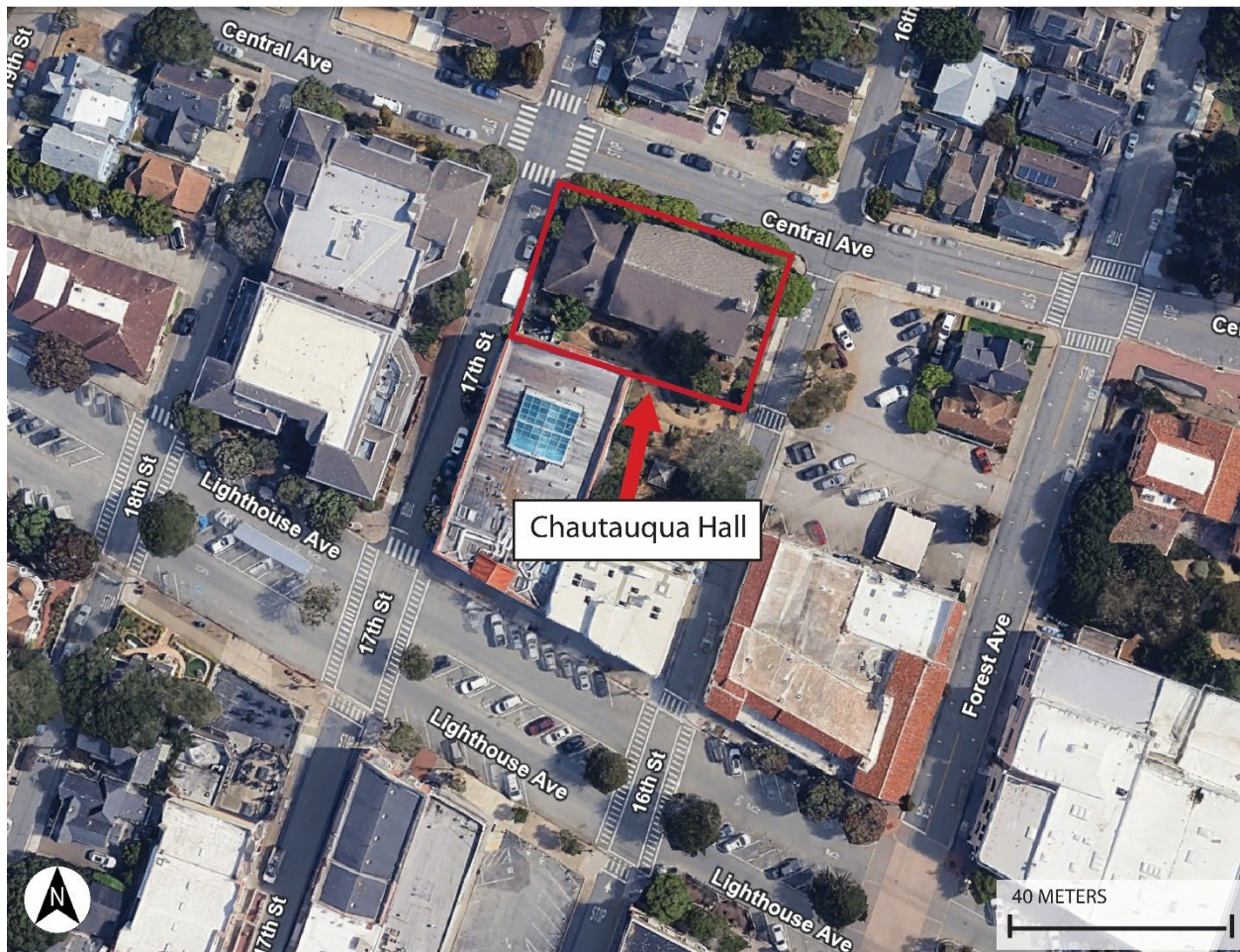


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Vicinity Map

Source: Google Earth, 2024; edited by Page & Turnbull, 2025



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Photo Key—Exterior

Created by Page & Turnbull, 2025; Base image Google Earth 2024



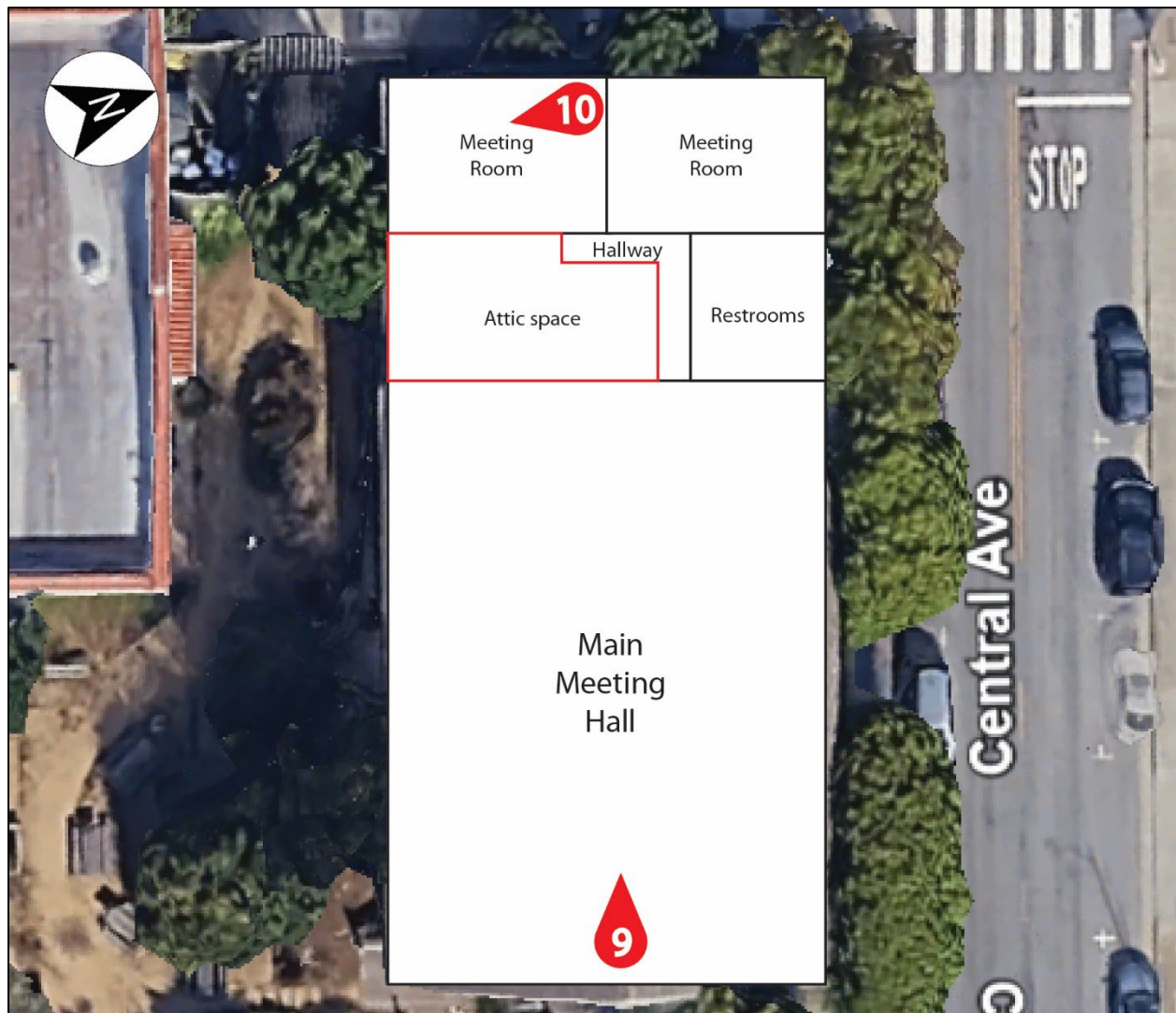
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Photo Key—Interior

Base image source: Google Earth 2024; created by Page & Turnbull, 2025

All rooms are on the ground floor of the building except for the attic, which is outlined in red and located at the mezzanine level. Note: the drawing is not to scale and is intended to provide an approximate outline of interior partitions.



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Figure 1 Chautauqua Hall, 1885; Source: *Images of America: Pacific Grove* by Kent Seavy and the Heritage Society of Pacific Grove, page 30



Figure 2 Interior, 1880s; Source: The Heritage Society of Pacific Grove



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Figure 3 Sanborn Map & Publishing Co., 1888; Source: Library of Congress; edited by Page & Turnbull, 2025

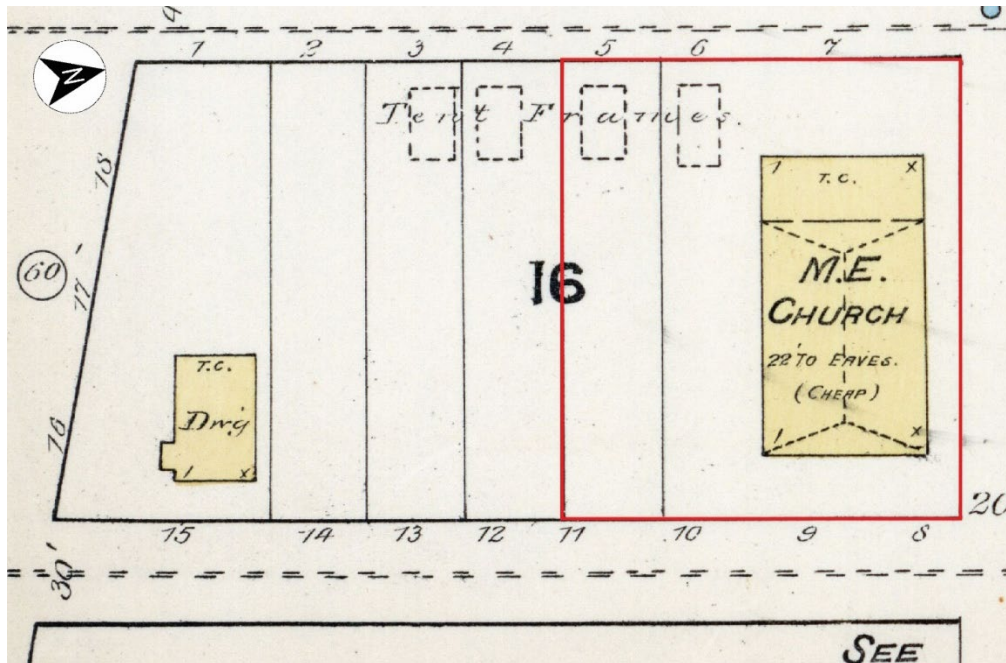
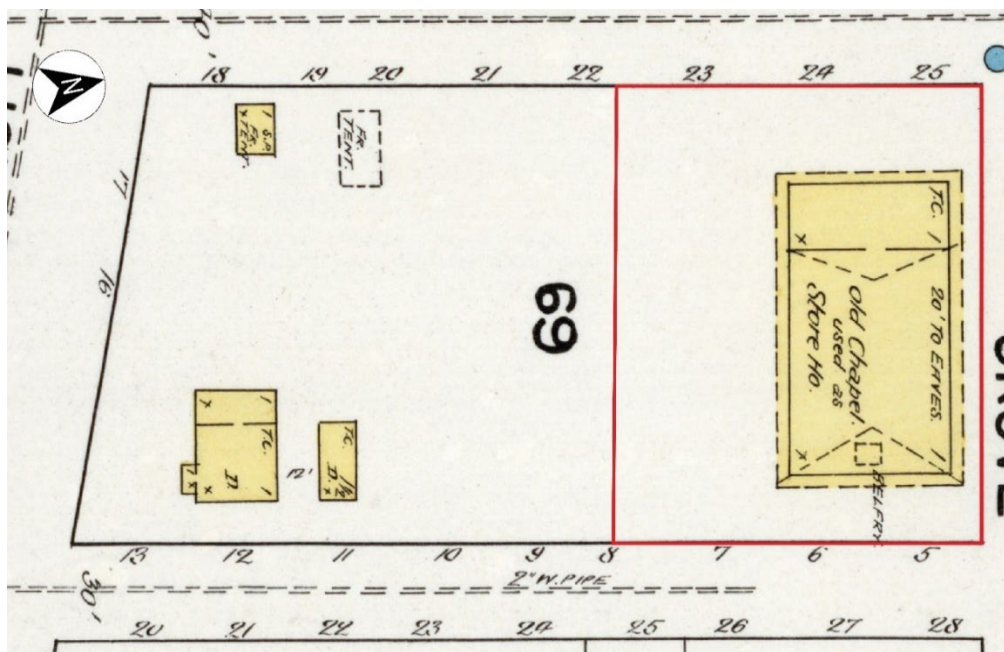


Figure 4. Sanborn-Perris Map Co., 1892; Source: Library of Congress; edited by Page & Turnbull, 2025



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Figure 5 Sanborn Map Company, 1905; edited by Page & Turnbull, 2025

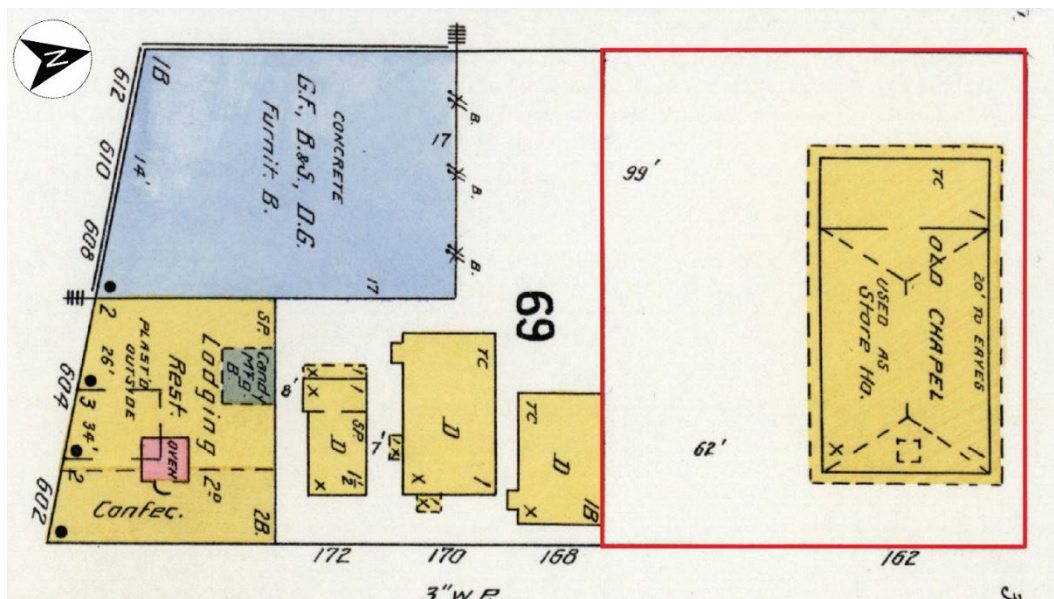
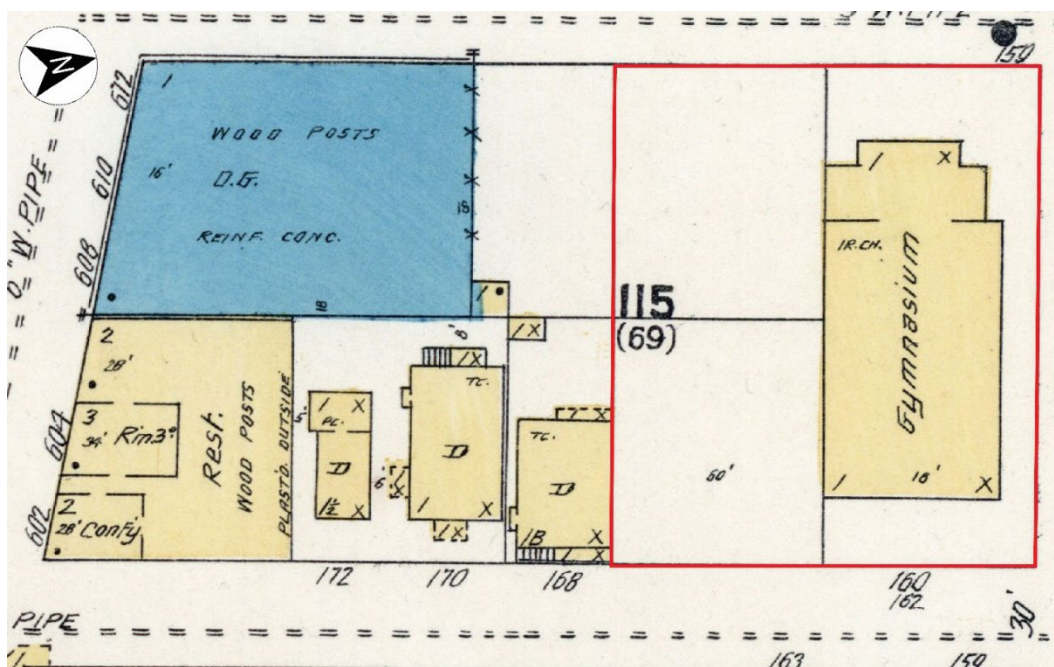


Figure 6 Sanborn Map Company, 1914; edited by Page & Turnbull, 2025



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Figure 7 Aerial, 1945; Source: University of California, Santa Barbara Special Collections via FrameFinder; edited by Page & Turnbull, 2025



Figure 8 Chautauqua Hall, primary (east) façade, 1951; Source: Pacific Grove Heritage Society



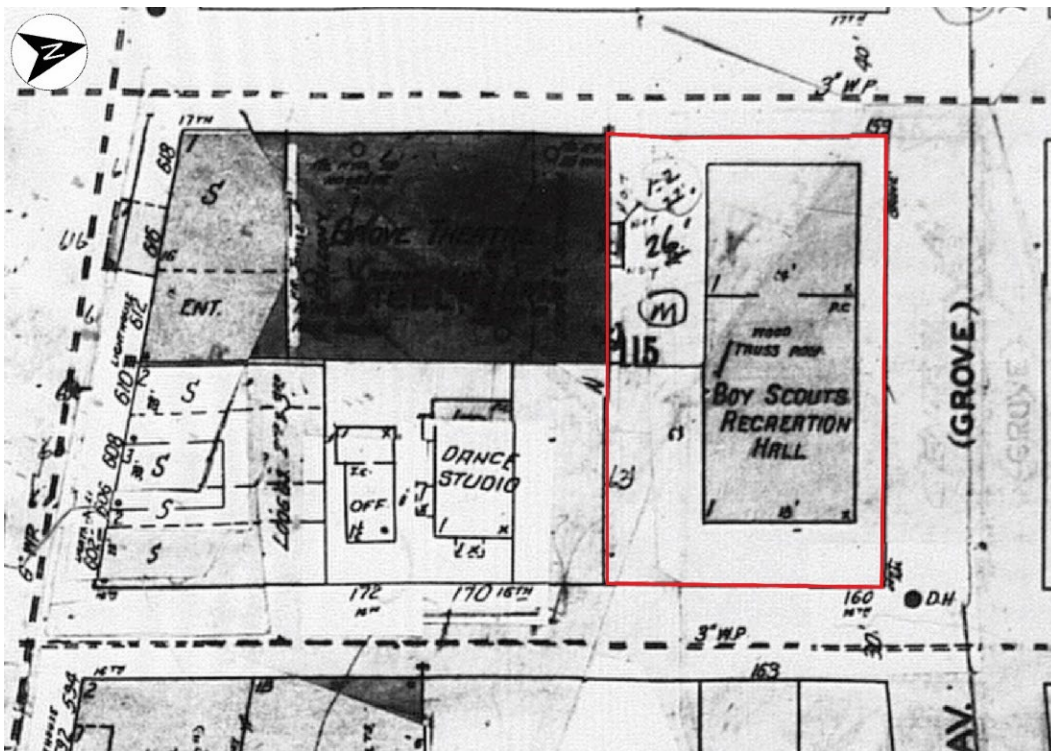
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Figure 9 Chautauqua Hall, primary (east) façade and north elevation, 1951, photographer Ernest Victorine; Source: Pacific Grove Heritage Society



Figure 10 Sanborn Map Company, 1962; Source: Library of Congress; edited by Page & Turnbull, 2025



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Figure 11 Chautauqua Hall, north elevation, 1970s or 1980s; Source: Pacific Grove Heritage Society



Figure 12 Chautauqua Hall, primary (east) façade, 1987; Source: City of Pacific Grove property records



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Figure 13 Chautauqua Hall, primary (east) façade and north elevation, 1987; Source: City of Pacific Grove property records



Figure 14 Chautauqua Hall, 1987, rear (west) and south elevations of rear addition; Source: City of Pacific Grove property records



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Photo 1 Context view of Chautauqua Hall, looking north from 16th Street



Photo 2 Primary (east) façade, looking west from 16th Street



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Photo 3 North elevation of the primary portion of Chautauqua Hall, looking south



Photo 4 North elevation of the rear addition of Chautauqua Hall, looking south



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Photo 5 Context view of the rear elevations of Chautauqua Hall, looking southeast from the corner of 17th Street and Central Avenue



Photo 6 Rear (west) elevation, looking east



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Photo 7 Oblique view of the south elevation of the rear addition, looking northwest



Photo 8 Oblique view of the south elevation of the primary portion of Chautauqua Hall, looking east



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Photo 9 Interior view of the main portion of Chautauqua Hall, looking west



Photo 10 Interior view of the classroom in the rear addition, view south

