



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: September 26, 2012

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Administration Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Historic Landmarks Commission Recommendation to Designate the Eucalyptus Citriodora Trees at the Central Library as Historic

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive a report on the Historic Landmarks Commission recommendation that City Council designate the Central Library, Faulkner Gallery and the thirteen (13) Eucalyptus Citriodora Trees as Historic.

DISCUSSION:

At their meeting of August 29, 2012, the Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) voted to make a recommendation to City Council that the Central Library, Faulkner Gallery and the thirteen (13) Eucalyptus (Corymbia) Citriodora (also known as Lemon-Scented Gum Eucalyptus) Trees be designated as Historic. City Council may choose to officially designate any or all of the recommended buildings and Eucalyptus trees, or none of them, as Historic Landmarks.

The City's Municipal Code related to Trees and Historic Landmarks stipulate that a recommendation to designate trees as Historic can come from either the Parks and Recreation Commission or the HLC. Since this recommendation is coming from the HLC there is no action required by the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Department is bringing this item to the Commission for information. The Commission may choose to submit comments for Council which can be included when the item is scheduled to go before City Council, but it is not required.

Background

The effort to designate the Library, Faulkner Gallery and Eucalyptus trees as Historic was initiated in response to conceptual plans developed for the renovation of the Library Plaza. The Library Plaza Conceptual Plan Project is intended to update the plaza area surrounding the Central Library and Faulkner Gallery to a space which is more open and usable for library and public events, comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and reduce or eliminate security issues that plague the area. Kicking off the project in 2011, the landscape architect firm Campbell and Campbell conducted two

well-attended public workshops to gather public input on the project. Participants observed that the entrance to the Library was not visible because of the three Eucalyptus trees directly in front of the entrance. In the second workshop, two potential designs were shown, one with the three trees remaining and one that required the removal of the trees. The participants favored the design that proposed the removal of the three Eucalyptus trees as it provided a better visual presence of the Library entrance from Anacapa Street, allowed for a larger flat area for programming, and it allowed for a fountain design to be included.

The preliminary plan was presented to various City boards and commissions for comments through the fall of 2011, including the Parks and Recreation Commission on November 16, 2011. Regarding the proposed removal of the three Eucalyptus trees at the main entrance to the Library, the comments of the Parks and Recreation Commission are reflective of the broader community discussion. While expressing support for the proposed project and improved public entrance to the Library, Commissioners acknowledged the beauty of the trees and that they were notable skyline trees. They noted that a decision to remove the trees would be difficult, and any decision would need to weigh the loss of the trees against the public benefit from an improved Library entrance and other plaza improvements.

Funded through the City's Redevelopment Agency (RDA), the Library Plaza Project was subsequently put on hold with the dissolution of redevelopment agencies in the State of California. The project is currently unfunded, but remains a high priority for the Library and is included in the City's 6-year capital program.

Discussion of the potential removal of the three Eucalyptus trees associated with the Library Plaza project, led to the HLC considering whether the trees should be designated as Historic for greater protection. At their meeting of August 29, 2012, the HLC voted unanimously to make a recommendation to City Council that the Central Library, Faulkner Gallery and the thirteen (13) Eucalyptus (Corymbia) Citriodora trees as Historic. The item is tentatively scheduled to be before Council on October 23, 2012.

Parks and Recreation Department Recommendation

In a memo to the HLC dated August 24, 2012, the Parks and Recreation Department recommends against including the 13 Eucalyptus trees in the designation of the Central Library and Faulkner Gallery as Historic Landmarks. Referencing City tree protection ordinances and regulations, the Department notes that as City trees on public property, the Library trees are currently regulated by the Street Tree Ordinance. Although the ordinance allows some discretion by the Parks and Recreation Director, the Department's long-standing practice is to refer tree removal decisions to the Street

Tree Advisory Committee and Parks and Recreation Commission, where strict criteria guide removal decisions.

In conclusion, the Department believes that the trees are currently and appropriately protected by the City's Street Tree Ordinance. Given the strong feelings many people expressed about balancing the value of the trees with a Library Plaza design which best meets the Library's and public's best interests, the Department considers that it is in the public's best interest to postpone any discussion of whether the Library trees should be designated as Historic until the discussion can take place in conjunction with the proposed project.

Library Department Recommendation

In a memo dated August 24, 2012, the Library Department recommended support for designating the Central Library and Faulkner Gallery as Historic, but recommended against including the Eucalyptus trees. The Department cited the Preliminary Plan for the Library Plaza, the goals of the project, and the public's interest in improving the visibility of the library entrance and the functionality of the plaza to better serve community priorities.

Conclusion

The recommendations from the HLC, Parks and Recreation Department, and Library Department will be presented to City Council when it undertakes consideration of whether to designate the Central Library, Faulkner Gallery and the 13 (Citriodora) Lemon-Scented Gum Eucalyptus trees as City Historic Landmarks.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Memorandum from Nancy Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director, to the Historic Landmarks Commission, dated August 24, 2012
2. Memorandum from Irene Macias, Library Director, to the Historic Landmarks Commission, dated August 24, 2012
3. Landmark Nomination Report, "Lemon-Scented Gum Trees," from Bob Cunningham to the Historic Landmarks Commission, dated April 5, 2012
4. Landmark Designation Staff Report, "The Central Library, Faulkner Gallery, and Eucalyptus (Corymbia) Citriodora Trees," prepared by Nicole Hernandez, City Historian, dated August 29, 2012

SUBMITTED BY: Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director

Parks and Recreation Commission Report
Historic Landmarks Commission Recommendation to Designate the Eucalyptus
Citriodora Trees at the Central Library as Historic
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City of Santa Barbara
Parks and Recreation Department

Memorandum

DATE: August 24, 2012
TO: Historic Landmarks Commission
FROM: Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director
SUBJECT: Proposed Historic Designation of Lemon Scented Gum Eucalyptus
Trees at the Central Library

The Historic Landmarks Commission is considering whether to recommend to City Council that the Central Library, Faulkner Gallery and the thirteen (13) Lemon Scented Gum Eucalyptus (*Corymbia citriodora*) trees immediately adjacent to the Central Library be designated as Historic Landmarks. The Parks and Recreation Department recommends against including the Eucalyptus trees in the Historic designation and provides the following information for your consideration.

Definition of Historic Tree

The Municipal Code Chapter 15.20.020, defines a Historic Tree as a tree which has been found by the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC), or the City Council to be a tree of notable historic interest and has been designated by resolution of the City Council as an "historic tree".

Age and Condition of the Library Eucalyptus Trees

Tim Downey, Urban Forest Superintendent and City Arborist, has determined that the size and development of these thirteen trees are consistent with having been planted about 80 years ago. In his opinion, the trees are healthy and could remain so for another 80 – 100 years.

Parks and Recreation Commission Comments on Library Eucalyptus Trees

As part of their review of the Library Plaza Conceptual Design at their November 16, 2011 meeting, Parks and Recreation Commissioners made several comments on the Eucalyptus trees. While expressing support for the proposed project and improved public entrance to the Library, several commissioners expressed concerns about the proposed removal of the three Eucalyptus trees most adjacent to the Library plaza itself. Commissioners commented on the beauty of the trees and that the trees were notable skyline trees. Commissioners also talked about how difficult it would be making a decision to remove the trees would be, having to weigh the loss of the trees against the public benefit from an improved Library entrance and other plaza improvements.

Regulation of Trees on City Property

Trees located on City property are regulated under SBMC Chapter 15.20, Tree Planting and Maintenance, or the Street Tree Ordinance. As such, the City-owned trees at the Central Library are currently managed and regulated according to the City's Street Tree Ordinance.

Specifically SBMC 15.20.050 states that the Parks and Recreation Director is responsible for the inspection, maintenance, removal and replacement of all trees planted in public areas (including areas around public buildings), parkway strips, and tree wells. SBMC 15.20.110 related to permitting for planting, maintaining, or removing any trees within a street right-of-way or public area, states that the Director may defer to a consideration and recommendation by the Street Tree Advisory Committee (STAC) and decision by the Parks and Recreation Commission. It has been the Department's long-standing practice to forward tree removal applications to the STAC and Commission accompanied by a staff recommendation. Exceptions to this practice have been limited to trees which pose an immediate public safety concern or which are significantly unhealthy and likely to die.

Regulation of City and Historic Trees within Historic Districts

SBMC Chapter 22, Historic Structures, provides direction on approvals for alteration, construction, or relocation of structures or natural features (including trees) within historic landmark districts. Although 22.22.140 Section B states that City owned property including structures and natural features is within the purview of the HLC, Section D provides an exemption for street trees, City trees, and Historic or Specimen Trees. Specifically, Section D states that any tree planted in a parkway strip, public area, or street right-of-way owned or maintained by the City is processed and regulated pursuant to Chapter 15.20, the Street Tree Ordinance.

SBMC 22.22.140 Section D also makes an exemption for any tree designated as Historic or Specimen, stating that those trees are processed and regulated pursuant to Chapter 15.24, the Tree Preservation Ordinance. Accordingly, SBMC 15.24.060 provides that any requests to place, alter or remove Historic or Specimen trees are to be submitted to the STAC for consideration and recommendation. The STAC recommendation with a staff recommendation by the City Arborist/Parks and Recreation Director would be submitted to the Parks and Recreation Commission for action. The Commission must consider and make findings per SBMC 15.24.080 and 15.24.090 for tree removals.

Criteria for Tree Removals

To provide the greatest protection for the City's Urban Forest, both the Street Tree Ordinance and the Tree Preservation Ordinance require that decisions on tree removals be made according to specific established criteria. The Street Tree Ordinance, Chapter 15.20 (specifically 15.20.110) requires that the Parks and Recreation Commission consider the following when weighing a decision to remove a City tree:

- a) Whether the tree is designated as an historic or specimen tree;
- b) Whether the tree species and placement conform to the "Master Street Tree Plan;"
- c) The condition and structure of the tree and the potential for proper tree growth and development of the tree canopy;
- d) The number and location of adjacent trees on City property and the possibility of maintaining desirable tree density in the area through additional planting on City property; and
- e) Any beneficial effects upon adjacent trees to be expected from the proposed removal.

The Tree Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 15.24, (specifically 15.24.080 and 15.24.090) requires that very specific criteria be considered for tree removals, including:

- a) Whether such tree is designated as an historic or specimen tree;
- b) The potential size of the tree in relation to the size of the lot or building site and the size of the proposed or existing improvements;
- c) The number and size of other trees which would remain upon the building site after the requested removal;
- d) The number and location of adjacent trees on City property and the possibility of maintaining desirable tree density in the area through additional planting on City property;
- e) Any beneficial effects upon adjacent trees to be expected from the proposed removal;
- f) Whether the tree sought to be removed was planted by or with the permission of the applicant or the applicant's co-tenant at the time such tree was planted.
- g) The condition and structure of the tree and the potential for proper tree growth and development of the tree canopy.

In each instance, decisions of the Parks and Recreation Commission are appealable to City Council.

Conclusion

The conceptual plan developed in 2011 for the Library Plaza featured an improved Library entrance and plaza area for public use, and proposed removal of 13 Eucalyptus trees. Through the public review process concerns were expressed about the removal of the trees, in particular the three Eucalyptus trees most adjacent to the plaza and Library entrance. Although the project has been put on hold indefinitely, the HLC has been asked to include the 13 Eucalyptus trees in a Historic designation of the Central Library and Faulkner Gallery. The assumption is that designating the trees as Historic will provide a greater level of protection for these trees against removal in the future.

Although the Library trees are located within a historic district they are currently regulated by the Street Tree Ordinance described above. The Department's long-standing practice is to refer tree removal decisions to the STAC and Parks and Recreation Commission and strict criteria guides removal decisions. Clearly any decision to remove the Central Library's Eucalyptus Trees, particularly the three trees nearest to the main entrance, will be a difficult one for the Parks and Recreation Commission and others given the age, beauty and skyline aspect of the trees. Any decision will be expected to balance the value of the trees to the City's urban forest with benefits to the public from any proposed project that necessitated the removal.

It is the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Department that the Eucalyptus trees not be included with a Historic designation of the Central Library and Faulkner Gallery at this time. The trees are currently and appropriately protected by the City's Street Tree Ordinance. For your further consideration, given the strong feelings many people expressed about balancing the value of the trees with a Library Plaza design which best meets the Library's and public's best interests, perhaps it is in the public's best interest to let the discussion take place in conjunction with the proposed project.

cc: Tim Downey, Urban Forest Superintendent
Jill Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director
Jaime Limon, Senior Planner
Nicole Hernandez, City Historian
Paul Casey, Assistant City Administrator
Irene Macias, Library Director



City of Santa Barbara
Parks and Recreation Department

Memorandum

DATE: August 24, 2012
TO: Jaime Limon, Senior Planner
FROM: Irene Macias, Library Director
SUBJECT: Central Library Historic Building Designation

The Library Department supports creating a historic building designation for the Central Library. The Central Library is a well known building with significant architectural features, and is considered a community jewel.

The library is pursuing updating the surrounding Library Plaza with a design that will make the space more open and usable for library and public events. We believe that the plaza redesign will return the space to a look that is closer to the original plaza design before 1930. This redesign will also make the plaza compliant with the American Disabilities Act (ADA). In addition, the redesign will address security issues that have consumed significant library and Police Department staff resources.

Landscape architects Campbell & Campbell were hired to create a preliminary design for the plaza area and held two public workshops on the Library Plaza design. In the first workshop many of participants observed that the entrance to the library is not visible because of the three Eucalyptus trees directly in front of the entrance. In the second workshop, two potential designs were shown, one with the three trees remaining and one that required the removal of the trees. The participants favored the design that proposed the removal of the three Eucalyptus trees as it allowed for a larger flat area for the purpose of programming and to allow a fountain design.

In addition, there is a concern about the hazards of falling limbs to both the historic building and the public who visit the facility daily, as three of the trees are in the direct path of the Anapamu St. entrance.

For these reasons, the Library recommends against the historic designation of the Lemon Scented Gum Eucalyptus trees.

City of Santa Barbara Historic Landmarks Commission
LANDMARK NOMINATION REPORT

Bob Cunningham, ASLA

April 5, 2012

Lemon-Scented Gum Trees
(Corymbia citriodora formerly Eucalyptus citriodora)
 Main Public Library, 40 East Anapamu Street
 APN 039-232-002

Introduction

On December 23, 2011 a letter was sent by the author of this report to Tim Downey, City of Santa Barbara Urban Forest Superintendent. The letter requested consideration of five lemon-scented gum trees (*Corymbia citriodora* formerly *Eucalyptus citriodora*) located on the grounds of the City's Main Public Library as candidates for designation as City of Santa Barbara Historic Landmarks. The request was precipitated by an application before the Historic Landmarks Commission proposing alteration of the Library's landscaped grounds, which would involve removing three of the trees on the north side of the building. This report is presented in support of designation of the Library trees as Historic Landmarks.

According to *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*, the trees are character-defining features of a historic designed landscape. Although the landscape has been altered, the trees remain. They are significant skyline elements, integral to the landscape of the current Library campus and to the landscape of the surrounding neighborhood. The evidence strongly supports that they are original to the design prepared by Ralph Stevens, a Santa Barbara native who became a nationally-significant figure in early- and mid-Twentieth Century landscape design. While a landscape plan by Stevens could not be found, evidence of his authorship of the design is provided by a 2010 article by Michael Redmon based on Stevens' obituary and by a letter from Kellam de Forest, (the son of landscape architect Lockwood de Forest III, also known as Lockwood de Forest, Jr.), dated February 19, 2012. The inclusion of the lemon-scented gum trees in the original landscape design is supported by an architectural rendering of the Faulkner Memorial Art Gallery (1929-30) by the architects Hunt & Chambers, showing the trees realistically depicted and accurately shown in their present locations. In addition, an undated plan prepared by H. V. Dobson, electrical engineer, depicting the three trees located on the Anapamu Street side of the Library, has been found in the City of Santa Barbara Archives. This plan indicates intended fixture locations and a schematic wiring diagram for decorative lighting of the building and landscape. The plan shows the original layout of pavement, with the walkway on axis with the entrance to the Faulkner Wing, from Anapamu Street, and implies the trees are existing at the time. A copy of this plan is not presented in this submittal, but will be available for viewing at hearings before the Historic Landmarks Commission.

Based on the sizes of the trees, it is presumed they were planted shortly after construction of the Faulkner Gallery, or around 1930.

Botanical Description

Until recently considered a species in the *Eucalyptus* genus, *Corymbia citriodora* has been widely planted in southern California for over a century. An evergreen from Australia, it is one of the more statuesque trees on the skyline, and has been a favorite of landscape designers due to its lemony fragrance, drought tolerance, fast growth, and singular beauty, expressed by its smooth trunk and graceful silhouette.

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Ralph Stevens, Landscape Architect

Ralph Tallant Stevens (1882-1958) was a nationally-significant landscape architect, educator, horticulturist, and writer. He was born in the family home in Montecito in 1882, the eldest son of R. Kinton Stevens, a pioneering California nurseryman. Stevens graduated from Michigan State College (now Michigan State University) with a BS in landscape architecture and worked for a short time in Chicago before returning to California to work for Dr. Francesco Franceschi and Peter Reidel. He held an assistant professorship at UC Berkeley in the Landscape Gardening Department between 1913 and 1917 and during that time contributed entries to America's most important horticultural reference, Bailey's *Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture*, as well as assisting in landscape design for portions of Golden Gate Park and the 1915 Pan Pacific Exposition.

After returning to Santa Barbara in 1917, Stevens practiced as a landscape architect over the next forty years, including working as the Superintendent of the Parks Department from 1919 to 1921. He taught landscape design at the Santa Barbara School of Arts, and in 1949-50 contributed to the master plan for UCSB.

Stevens is credited with many designs, but lacking a single repository of his works, there are few plans or other documents still extant. He is known to have authored the first landscape design for Casa del Herrero, the Biltmore Hotel (1926-27), the Santa Barbara County Courthouse (1929) and the iconic Royal Hawai'ian Hotel on Oahu (1927). He was a leader in the development of Franceschi Park, and contributed portions of the park's design. Stevens is also credited with the designs of the Blue Garden, Sycamore Canyon Entry Drive, the Rooster Grotto, the Theatre garden, and the Horticultural Clock and Topiary Garden at Lotusland in Montecito. Stevens' Succulent Garden for the Tremaine House (Richard Neutra, architect) in 1949 was featured in Elizabeth Kassler's 1964 book, *Modern Gardens and the Landscape*.

The list of projects originally designed by Stevens includes the Main Public Library, Alameda Park, Oak Park, the Andree Clark Bird Refuge, Plaza del Mar, and Santa Barbara State College (now SBCC). He had several collaborations with the landscape architect, Lockwood de Forest, Jr. In 1957, a year before his death, Stevens Park in San Roque was named in his honor.

Significance

In considering a proposal to recommend to the City Council a landmark designation, the Historic Landmarks Commission members are required to apply any or all of the following criteria as reasons for a decision as specified in Section 22.22.040 of the Municipal Code.

- A. Its character, interest or value as a significant part of the heritage of the City, the State or the Nation;
- B. Its location as a site of a significant historic event;
- C. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the culture and development of the City, the State or the Nation;
- D. Its exemplification of a particular architectural style or way of life important to the City, the State or the Nation;
- E. Its exemplification of the best remaining architectural type in a neighborhood;

LANDMARK NOMINATION REPORT

40 East Anapamu Street, City of Santa Barbara Main Public Library

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- F. Its identification as the creation, design or work of a person or persons whose effort has significantly influenced the heritage of the City, the State or the Nation;
- G. Its embodiment of elements demonstrating outstanding attention to architectural design, detail, materials or craftsmanship;
- H. Its relationship to any other landmark if its preservation is essential to the integrity of that landmark;
- I. Its unique location or singular physical characteristic representing an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood;
- J. Its potential of yielding significant information of archaeological interest;
- K. Its integrity as a natural environment that strongly contributes to the well-being of the people of the City, the State or the Nation. (Ord. 4848, 1994; Ord. 3900 §1, 1977.)

The research specified above indicates that the lemon-scented gum trees on the Main Public Library grounds are significant under criteria A, C, F, G, H, I, and K.

Sources

Birnbaum, Charles A. and Christine Capella Peters, editors. *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1996.

Chamberlin, Susan. "Stevens, Ralph T." in *Shaping the American Landscape*, Charles Birnbaum and Stephanie S. Foell, editors. Charlottesville and London: University of Virginia Press, 2009.

Redmon, Michael. "Legendary Landscaper" *The Santa Barbara Independent* (April 13, 2010), Page 39

Letter from Kellam de Forest to Bob Cunningham, February 19, 2012, sent via email.

Attachments

Letter from Kellam de Forest, 2-19-12

Architectural Rendering by Hunt & Chambers, Architects

April 13, 2010 *Santa Barbara Independent* article by Michael Redmon,

Site Photos

**HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION
LANDMARK DESIGNATION
STAFF REPORT**

**THE CENTRAL LIBRARY, FAULKNER GALLERY
AND EUCALYPTUS (CORYMBIA) CITRIODORA TREES
40 EAST ANAPAMU STREET
APN 039-232-002**

Background

The Santa Barbara Central Library site (Library) consists of two connected buildings, the Central Library, the Faulkner Gallery, and a landscaped plaza. The Library is located on the corner of Anapamu and Anacapa Streets within the El Pueblo Viejo Landmark District Part I. The Library sits on a commanding site on a prominent corner of downtown Santa Barbara across Anacapa Street from the Santa Barbara County Courthouse, one of Santa Barbara's most significant landmarks. Sitting on a 59,367 square foot lot, the Library has been on the City of Santa Barbara Potential Historic Structures List since 1978 because of the significance of both its history and its architecture. Towering over the Library are thirteen, eighty-year-old, lemon-scented gum trees (*Eucalyptus citriodora*, now called *Corymbia citriodora*). They are planted along the side and rear elevations creating a dominant skyline feature of portions of the downtown neighborhood and El Pueblo Viejo Landmark District.

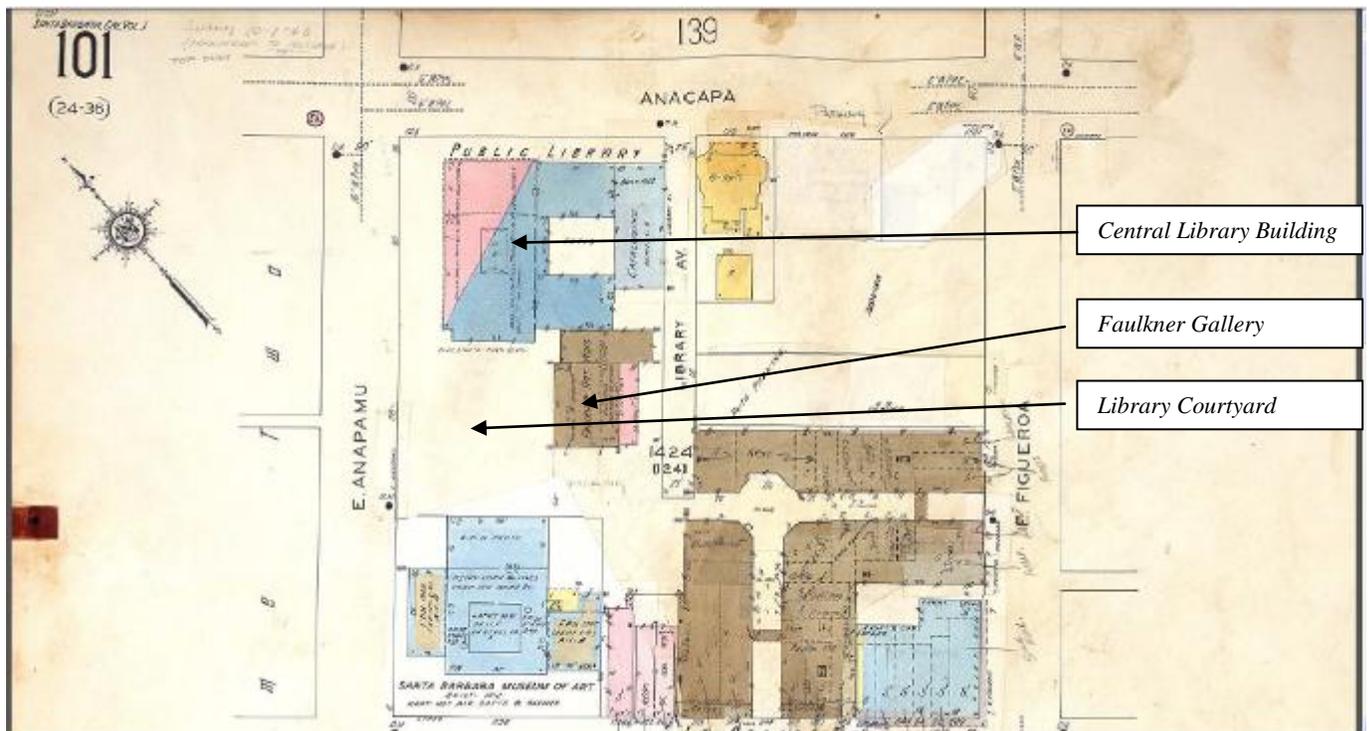
On November 30, 2011, the Historic Landmark Commission reviewed a proposal to upgrade both landscape and hardscape of the plaza and areas in front of the Library and the Faulkner Gallery along portions of East Anapamu and Anacapa Streets. The goal of the project was to alter the plaza to create a large, flat, ADA accessible, well-lit space for Library and other community activities. Through the removal of the low walls and hedges



The 1917 Central Library dominating the corner (with Eucalyptus Trees in the background) of Anacapa and East Anapamu Streets. July 2012.

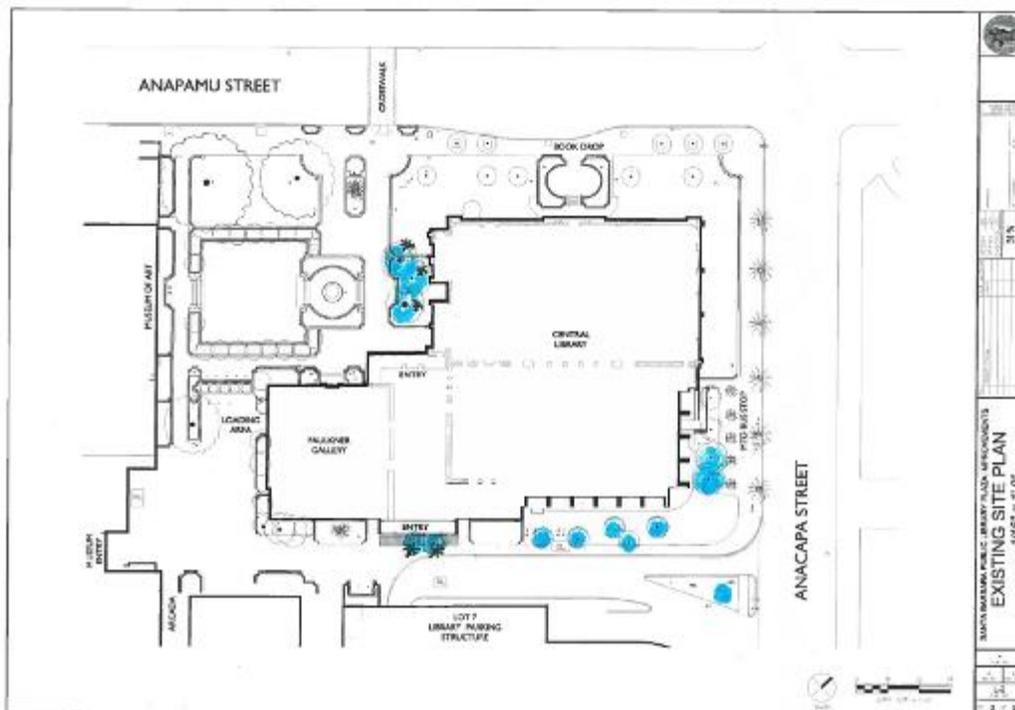
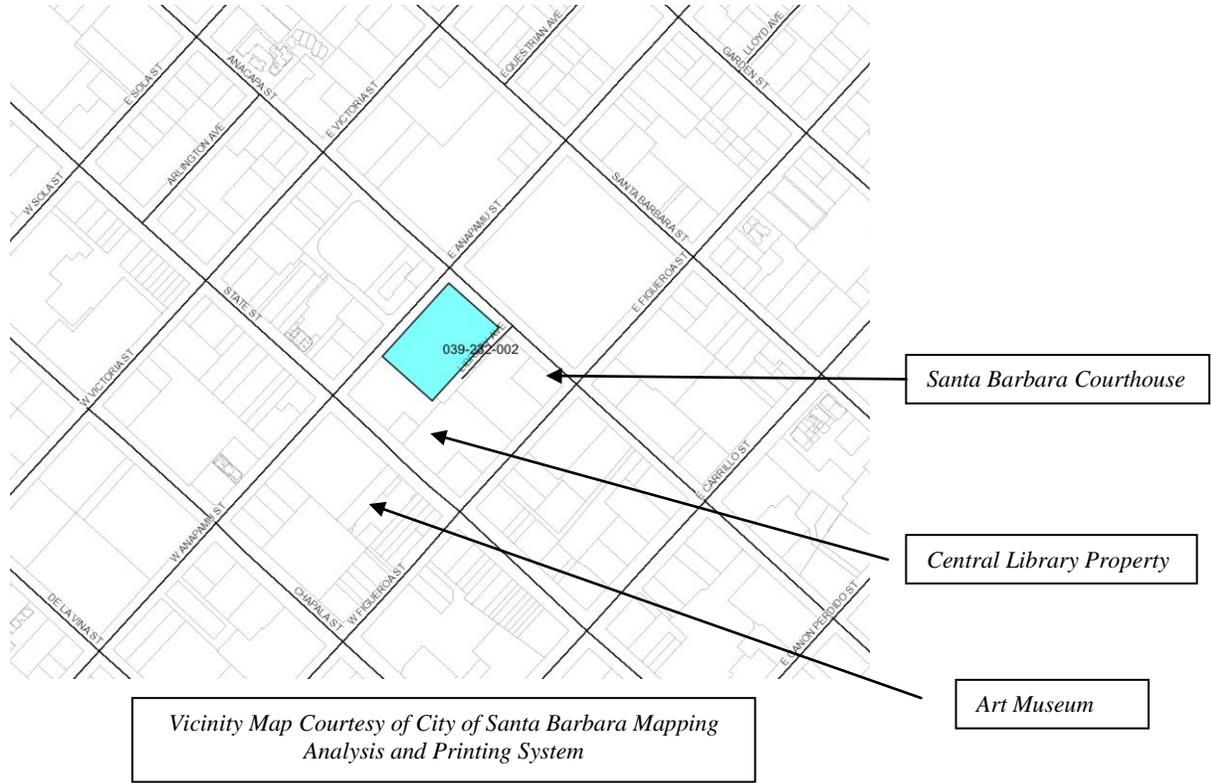
and some trees of the current landscape, the project proposed to create a more visible and direct path to the entry foyer of the Library, a wider, well-lit paseo along the Art Museum, and to highlight the sculpture surrounding the original Library entrance. The proposed improvements included removing of the thirteen (*Eucalyptus citriodora*, now called *Corymbia citriodora*), three in the planter immediately in front of the Library door on the north portion of the building and two flanking the rear entrance.

Although the project is no longer being proposed, the outcome of the proposal generated concerns from citizens on the preservation of the *Eucalyptus* (*Corymbia*) *citriodora* trees that initiated a draft of a Landmark Nomination Report by Landscape Architect, Bob Cunningham, dated April 5, 2012. The Historic Landmarks Commission Designation Subcommittee reviewed the report on April 11, 2012 that requested the designation as landmarks the threatened *Eucalyptus* (*Corymbia*) *citriodora* trees. The Subcommittee recommended that given the historic and architectural significance of Main Library and the Faulkner Gallery, City Staff shall initiate the City Landmark designation process of the Central Library building, the Faulkner Gallery along with the threatened of the approximately eighty-year-old *Eucalyptus* (*Corymbia*) *citriodora* trees as one Landmark. The library plaza was excluded from the designation due to drastic alterations from its original design and that it no longer conveys its historic significance.



Sanborn Fire Insurance Company: 1886-1931, Insurance Rate Maps of Santa Barbara, California, Sanborn Map Company, New York, 1931 (corrected through 1963).

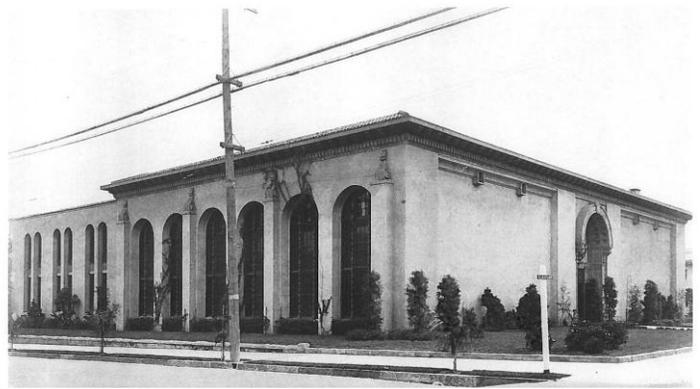
 Vicinity Map



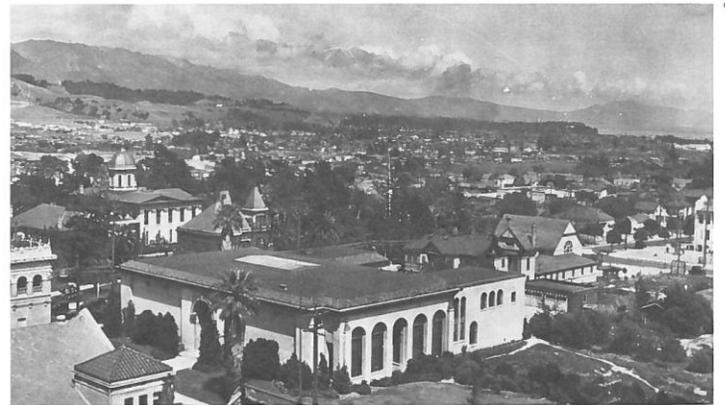
Existing Site Plan
 = 13 Existing Eucalyptus
 (Corymbia) citriodora Trees

Historic Context:

The Santa Barbara Public Library system began in 1870 when Sara A. Plummer opened a library with 200 books on State Street. After ten years, the Odd Fellows organization purchased the library and moved it into their lodge at State and Haley Streets. The Odd Fellows donated their collection of about 2,000 volumes to the City after the enactment of the California Municipal Library Law by the State Legislature in 1880 at which point the library became a tax supported institution. In 1882, the City Council established, by ordinance, the first Library Board of Trustees. The collection continued to be housed at the Odd Fellows Building until, 1888 when the City's Library had grown to capacity and was moved to the "Upper Clock Building" at State and Carrillo Streets. However, within four years, the City's Library outgrew the new space. A new building was built for the City's Library in 1892 at 14 East Carrillo Street. The building was remodeled and enlarged in 1907. The use of the library expanded so rapidly that by 1914 it was necessary to plan a much larger building on a larger site that would be the City's existing Library.



Corner of Anapamu and Anacapa view of Central Library, c. 1917-1926



Aerial view of Central Library c.1917

The Carnegie Foundation awarded the city with a \$50,000 grant toward a new Library that was matched by the City. Between 1886 and 1919, philanthropist Andrew Carnegie's donations of more than \$40 million paid for 1,679 new library buildings in communities large and small across America. Carnegie was an immigrant born self educated millionaire industrialist. Through his library grant program, Carnegie changed the nation by providing access to self education through access to book collections never before available to the public of all incomes and races. Carnegie's stated his philosophy that, "*The best means of benefiting the community is to place within its reach the ladders upon which the aspiring can rise. The fundamental advantage of a library is that it gives nothing for nothing. Youths must acquire knowledge themselves*"(Kortum). The Carnegie grant program dictated that the architecture of a Carnegie library was typically simple and formal, welcoming patrons to enter through a prominent doorway, nearly always accessed via a staircase. The entry staircase symbolized a person's elevation by learning. The new Santa Barbara Library was no exception, designed by architect Henry Hornbostel of Pittsburgh in the Spanish Colonial Revival Style with classical Renaissance details. The drawings were simplified by local architect Francis Wilson to meet local requirements and materials. The project broke ground on July 5, 1916 and was completed in November of 1917. Santa Barbara's Carnegie

Library with its formal design and prominent entrance dominated the corner of East Anapamu and Anacapa Streets.

The earthquake of 1925 caused the Library's west wall and a portion of the east wall to collapse. Carleton Winslow, who had designed the sculpture around the main door on the Anapamu elevation, was the architect that directed the library reconstruction that was completed in September, 1926.

Soon after the reopening of the Central Library following the earthquake, library trustee, Clarence A. Black, donated a parcel of land adjacent to the Central Library on Anapamu Street to be used as an art gallery. With funds donated by Mary Faulkner Gould, architect Myron Hunt was hired to design the gallery to house the library's art and art related material. Called the Faulkner Gallery, the building was completed in 1930 in the Art Deco Style. An architectural rendering completed by Hunt & Chambers illustrated the landscaped courtyard off Anapamu between the two buildings with decorative tiered pools extending from the entrance of the Faulkner Gallery to the street (attachment A).

Although, the Hunt and Chambers landscape plan did not specify the Eucalyptus (*Corymbia*) *citriodora* trees, soon after the completion of the Faulkner Gallery, Eucalyptus (*Corymbia*) *citriodora* trees were planted on the property (attachment B, page 6). Three at the center bay of the west elevation, seven on the south elevation of the Central Library, eight on the rear elevation and two on the Anacapa elevation. Tim Downey, Santa Barbara Urban Forest Superintendant estimated that based on the size of the trees, they are approximately eighty years old. Nationally recognized landscape architect, Ralph Talent Stevens is credited with the Library landscape design, but no know plans are extant and the date he designed a formal plan and what elements he designed are unknown. The tall trees now tower over the Central Library and have become significant skyline elements to portions of the downtown neighborhood and the Pueblo Viejo



Faulkner Gallery with tiered pools adjacent to Central Library c. 1930.



Ten Eucalyptus (Corymbia) citriodora trees on the rear and Anacapa elevations of the Central Library. July 2012.



Three Eucalyptus (Corymbia) citriodora trees in front of the center bay of the west elevation of the Central Library. July 2012.

Landmark District. Eucalyptus (*Corymbia*) *citriodora* trees were widely planted in southern California for over a century. An evergreen tree originally from Australia, it is one of the larger trees on the skyline and known for its lemony fragrance, drought tolerance, fast growth, and smooth, light colored trunk and unique silhouette.

In 1958, a children's wing was added to the building and extensive interior renovations modernized the interior of the Central Library. By 1974, more renovations and repairs were necessary on the building. The City selected Jerry Zimmer of Architects West to complete a feasibility study to assess the structural stability and an expansion of the Central Library. Zimmer recommended demolition of portions of the building that were unsound and construction of an addition to tie into the salvageable portions of the original building. In 1977, the City funded \$3.9 million of Public Works Project funds to be used for the rehabilitation of the Central Library. Although the Anapamu Street entrance was permanently closed, the sculpture in the arch was restored by Nathan Zakheim. The addition was completed on the rear elevation of the Central Library and retained the original front elevation and most of the side elevations. The formal opening of the expanded Central Library was January 11, 1980. In conjunction with the rehabilitation and expansion, a new landscaping plan was implemented between 1978-84. In the plaza, the 1930s reflecting pool was removed. The Eucalyptus (*Corymbia*) *citriodora* trees, along with an oak tree, red blooming camellia hedges, two Italian cypress trees and white oleander were posed to be preserved in the plan. The new plan relocated walkways and added a lawn area with handicapped access to the Central Library. A new fountain, after being reviewed by the city Landmarks Committee and Architectural Board of Review, was donated by antique dealer, Ed Lewis, and added to the plaza in 1984.

Architectural Descriptions/Style

The 1917 Central Library building embodied distinguishing characteristics of the Spanish Colonial Revival style with classical Renaissance details. The Spanish Colonial Revival style was part of the Eclectic Movement that stressed relatively pure copies of the classical, Medieval, and Renaissance Classical movements in different European countries and their New World colonies. The Eclectic movement began as European-trained architects began to design landmark period houses. The trend gained momentum with the 1893 Chicago Columbian Exposition, which stressed the correct historical interpretations of European Styles. From 1913-1915, architect Bertram Goodhue (formally of Cram, Goodhue, and Ferguson), author of a book on Spanish Colonial architecture, helped to promote the new Spanish Colonial Revival style with his designs for the Panama-California Expo in San Diego. Until then, the only Spanish themed architecture was based on Mission prototypes. The Spanish Colonial Revival style flourished throughout the Southwestern States that were once territories originally settled by the Spanish. As early as 1909, Santa Barbara was looking for a visual image with which to link its Spanish past to future developments within the City. A Civic League of citizens hired the planner Charles Mulford Robinson to determine the City's assets and to offer plans for development. Robinson pointed to the City's Hispanic heritage as a focal point for a unifying architectural style. Therefore, it is no surprise that the architect chose the Spanish Colonial Revival Style for the Central Library.

The Central Library incorporates characteristics of the Spanish Revival style in its thick plaster walls with a flat roof and terra cotta parapet that covers deep eaves with intricately carved wood brackets over stucco dentils. Two-story round arches with deeply recessed, wood windows have ornately carved vertical wood sash bars that divide the many lights in each of the original bays. The ornately carved entrance defines the original front façade facing Anapamu Street. Designed by Carleton M. Winslow and executed by Marshall Laird the Central Library door is made of geometrically carved wood with a coat of arms over the center and figures of Plato and Aristotle on either side. Surrounding the center are the shields of four famous libraries; The University of Bologna, The Biblioteque Nationale in Paris, the University of Salamanca and the Bodleian Library, Oxford University. The smooth walls of the side elevations are adorned with plaster pilasters topped with ornate corbels.



Intricately carved brackets over dentil molding and intricately carved wood window sashes of the Central Library. July, 2012.

The 1980 rehabilitation and addition functionally closed the entrance from Anacapa Street. The new entrance is recessed from Anacapa Street next to the Faulkner Gallery. On the Anapamu elevation, the original building and the newer addition are separated by a large stucco extension with a large cornice. The new addition and alterations are on the rear of the Central Library and are distinguished from the original building yet compatible with the complex. The addition has a terra cotta parapet over a simple cornice rather than the ornate cornice elements of the original building. The addition has two-story round arched window openings with metal windows set deeper into the arch than the originals and are divided similar to the original portion of the building with thicker, simple metal muntins. The addition did not sacrifice the integrity of the original Central Library building following the Secretary of Interior Standards of Rehabilitation in that the new additions, exterior alterations and new construction did not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterized the property. The new work was differentiated from the old and compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.



The intricately carved entrance to the Central Library is a defining element of the Spanish Colonial Revival style. July, 2012.

The 1930 Faulkner Gallery exemplifies the Art Deco Style with smooth stucco wall surfaces with linear symmetry and a stylized, geometric entry, characterized by the sunburst

painting. Art Deco is an eclectic, artistic design style that began in Paris in the 1920s and flourished internationally throughout the 1930s and into the World War II era. The style influenced all areas of design, including architecture and interior design, industrial design, fashion and jewelry, as well as the visual arts such as painting, graphic arts and film. At its best, art deco represented elegance, glamour, functionality and modernity. Art deco's linear symmetry was a distinct departure from the flowing asymmetrical organic curves of its predecessor style, art nouveau; it embraced influences from many different styles of the early twentieth century, including neoclassical, constructivism, cubism, modernism and futurism and drew inspiration from ancient Egyptian and Aztec forms.

Architects:

The Santa Barbara Central Library and Faulkner Gallery were designed by very influential architects whose body of work significantly formed American cities.

Henry Hornbostel (1867-1961) designed the original Central Library and donated the plans as a gift to the City. He designed more than 225 buildings, bridges, and monuments in the United States throughout his career, 22 of which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Hornbostel was born in Brooklyn, New York, he graduated in 1891 from Columbia University and also studied at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris, France. Hornbostel was part of a generation of architects that shaped the urban American landscape with orderly plans and monumental buildings that communicated power, stability and government as expressed in the Central Library.

He was a partner in several New York firms and he also practiced independently from a Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania office. Nearly half of his works (110 buildings) were in Pittsburgh. Hornbostel's buildings and bridges can be found in New York, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa and California, including the Library and Oakland's City Hall. And in the 1930s, when the Depression caused a nationwide building slump, Hornbostel became a well-known and colorful public figure as Allegheny County's Director of Parks.

Francis W. Wilson (1870 - 1947) was the local architect that altered the Hornbostel plans for the Central Library to make them work with local materials. His practice in Santa Barbara, California included work for the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway and its associated Fred Harvey Company hotels, as well as many residences.

Born in Massachusetts, Wilson moved to California at the age of seventeen. Wilson studied at the San Francisco chapter of the American Institute of Architects and toured Europe before establishing his own firm in Santa Barbara in 1895.



The stylized geometric front entrance to the Faulkner Gallery is a characteristic of the Art Deco Style. July, 2012.

Shortly after arriving in Santa Barbara, Wilson built up a practice designing homes for the wealthy, as well as designing, building and selling speculative houses. His connections with the wealthy led to commissions for the Santa Barbara Club, the Central Savings Bank, the Central Library, post office, and railroad station.

Carleton Monroe Winslow (1876–1946), also known as **Carleton Winslow Sr.**, designed the ornate sculpture over the Central Library's original main entrance door. He was a key proponent of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture in Southern California in the early 20th Century.

Winslow was born in Maine, studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris, France, and joined the office of Bertram Goodhue in time for the planning of the 1915 San Diego Panama–California Exposition. Winslow is "credited for choosing" Spanish Colonial Revival style for that project, a choice with a vernacular regional precedent.

Winslow moved to Southern California in 1917, completed the Los Angeles Public Library after Goodhue's 1924 death, and also pursued his own commissions, including a number of Episcopal churches. Winslow was the architect that designed the repairs to the Central Library after the 1925 earthquake.

Myron Hunt (February 27, 1868 – May 26, 1952) designed the Art Deco Faulkner Gallery of the Central Library. His numerous projects included many noted landmarks in Southern California. Hunt was mentioned in the writings of Frank Lloyd Wright and other Chicago architects of the era as an early member of the group which came to be known as the Prairie School, but in 1903 he moved to Los Angeles, where he entered into a partnership with architect Elmer Grey (1871–1963). Opening an office in Pasadena, the firm of Hunt and Grey soon became popular. Some of the firm's Pasadena work was featured in the national magazine *Architectural Record* as early as 1906. They were soon designing large houses in communities throughout Southern California including the summer ranch home for cereal magnet Will Keith Kellogg. They also began receiving commissions to design larger projects, including hospitals, schools, churches and hotels. By 1912, Hunt was no longer in partnership with Elmer Grey, but had established a new firm with Los Angeles architect, Harold C. Chambers. In this partnership, Hunt designed a number of libraries, including the Faulkner Gallery, and libraries in Redlands, Palos Verdes Estates, and Pasadena. He also designed one of the three major civic buildings making up the Pasadena Civic Center. Hunt was the principal architect of all of Occidental College's buildings through 1940. In 1913, Hunt designed a new wing for the Mission Inn in Riverside, California. He designed the impressive Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, which opened in 1921. Hunt's association with Henry Huntington was established in 1909 when he designed his house in San Marino. With a large addition built in 1934, the house was to become the main art gallery of the cultural center built around the Huntington Library. In addition, Hunt also designed the Pasadena Rose Bowl.

Significance:

The City of Santa Barbara establishes historic significance as provided by the Municipal Code, Section 22.22.040. Any historic building that meets one or more of the eleven criteria (Criteria A through K) established for a City Landmark or a City Structure of Merit is considered significant. The Santa Barbara Central Library, Faulkner Gallery and Eucalyptus (Corymbia) citriodora trees are significant per the six following criteria:

Criterion A. Its character, interest or value as a significant part of the heritage of the City, the State or the Nation;

As a Carnegie Library, the Central Library represents the impact of the Carnegie Library grant program had on providing access to knowledge for people of all incomes across the Nation. It is a significant part of the heritage of Santa Barbara, California and the Nation.

Criterion D, its exemplification of a particular architectural style or way of life important to the City, the State, or the Nation;

The Central, 1916 building embodies distinguishing characteristics of the Spanish Colonial Revival style with classical Renaissance details that are important to the City's character. The 1930 Faulkner Gallery exemplifies the once nationally popular Art Deco style characterized by its smooth, stucco wall surfaces, linear symmetry and stylized geometric entrance.

Criterion E, Its exemplification of the best remaining architectural type in a neighborhood.

The Art Deco Faulkner Gallery is one of the best remaining examples of Art Deco architecture in Santa Barbara.

Criterion F, its identification as the creation, design, or work of a person or persons whose effort significantly influenced the heritage of the City, the State, or the Nation;

Distinguished architects; Henry Hornbostel, Francis W. Wilson, Carleton Monroe Winslow, and Myron Hunt contributed to the design and creation of the Central Library. Their noted design efforts significantly influenced the heritage of the City, State and Nation.

Criterion G, its embodiment of elements demonstrating outstanding attention to architectural design, detail, materials and craftsmanship;

The Central Library building has skillfully carved wood brackets under the eaves and carved wood windows. The intricately carved sculpture over the main entrance door demonstrates outstanding attention to detail and craftsmanship. The Faulkner Gallery's linear, Art Deco entrance with its stylized sunburst demonstrates outstanding attention to architectural design.

Criterion I, Its unique location or singular physical characteristic representing an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood.

The complex sits in a central location in the downtown neighborhood and El Pueblo Viejo Landmark District. It has dominated the highly visible corner of Anapamu and Anacapa Streets since 1916. It is an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood.

The approximately eighty-year-old Eucalyptus (Corymbia) citriodora trees tower over the Central Library and are an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood and El Pueblo Viejo Landmark District.

Integrity

In addition to determining significance, there are essential physical features that must be considered to evaluate the integrity of a significant building. The seven aspects of integrity include location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The Santa Barbara Central Library and Faulkner Gallery have retained sufficient integrity in all seven of the integrity criteria to communicate its potential significance.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the HLC adopt a resolution to recommend to City Council that the Central Library, Faulkner Gallery, and Eucalyptus (*Corymbia*) *citriodora* trees be designated as City Landmarks.

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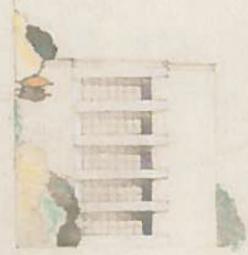
FRONT - NORTHWEST ELEVATION



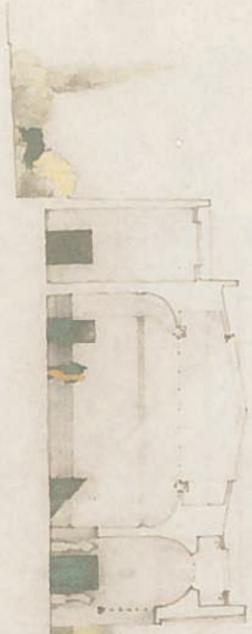
SOUTHWEST ELEVATION



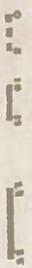
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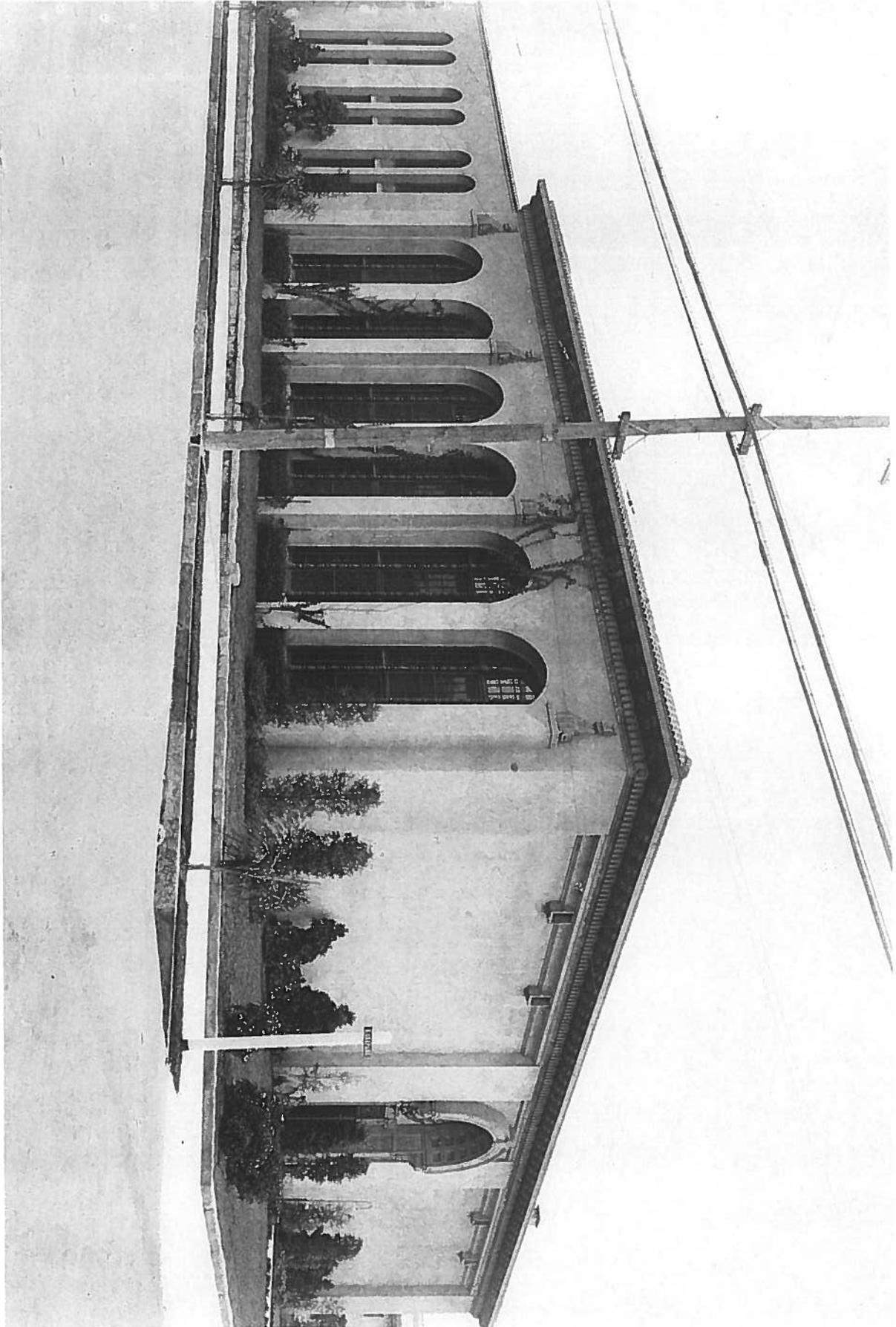
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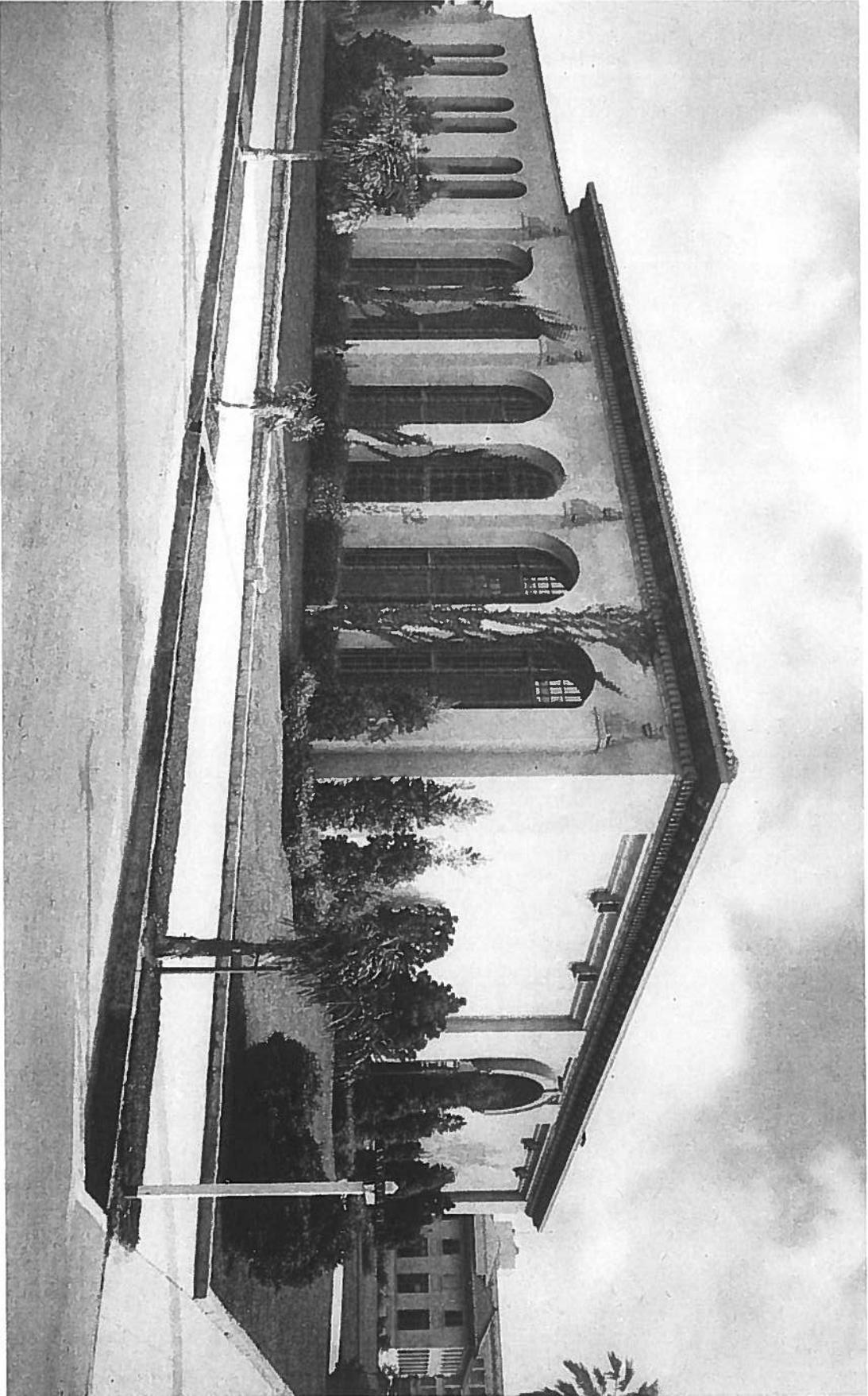
SECTION AA



PROPOSED-ART-WING FOR THE SANTA-BARBARA-PUBLIC-LIBRARY BY MYRON-HUNT-&-H.C.CHAMBERS-ARCHITECTS 10-11-18



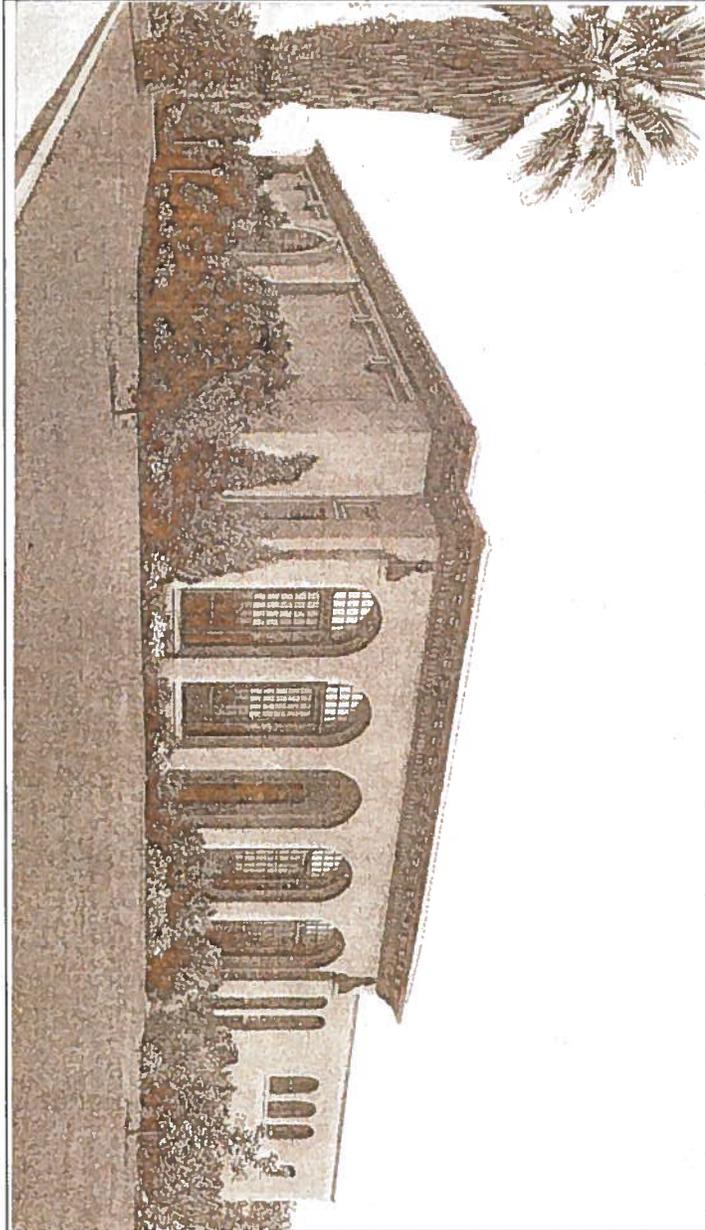
Central Library, looking south at Anacapa St and Anapamu St (front) faces c. 1917



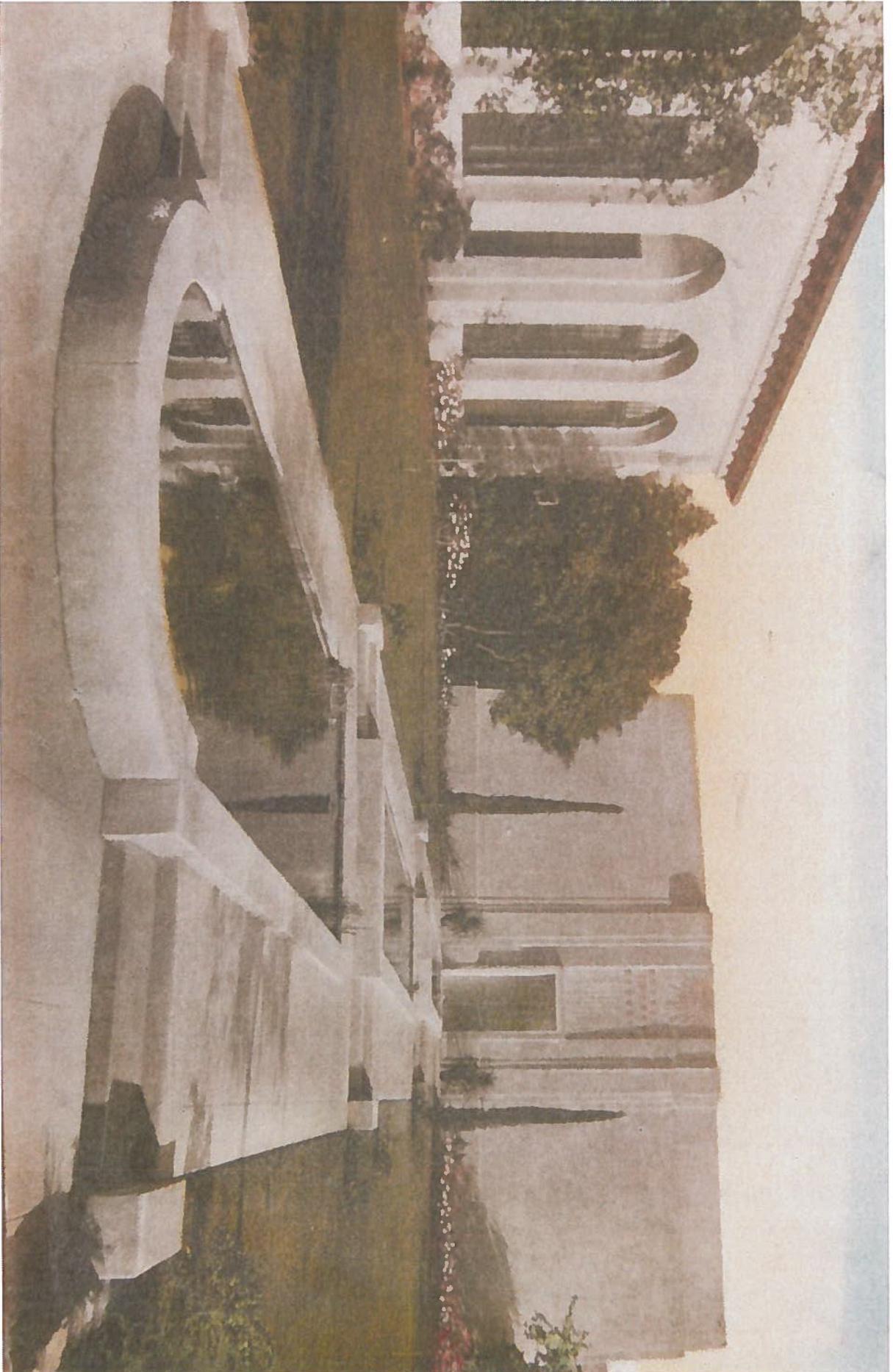
Central Library looking south at Anacapa St and Anapamu St (front) faces c. 1926



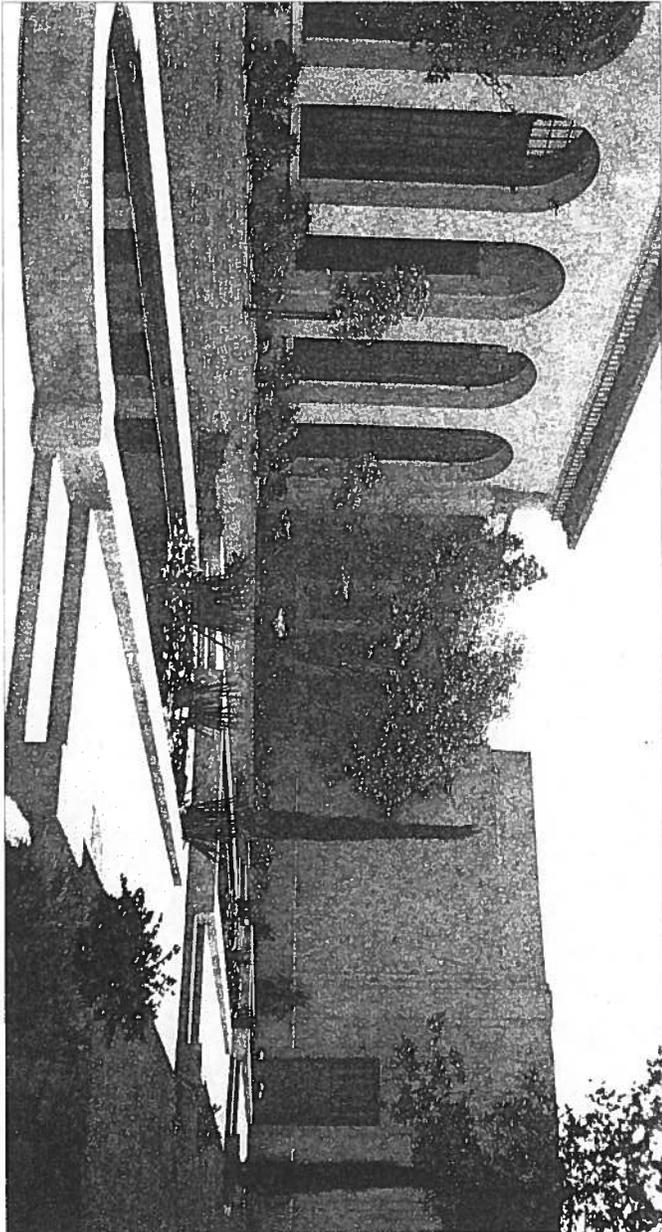
Central Library looking south at Anacapa St and Anapamu St (front)
faces c. 1978



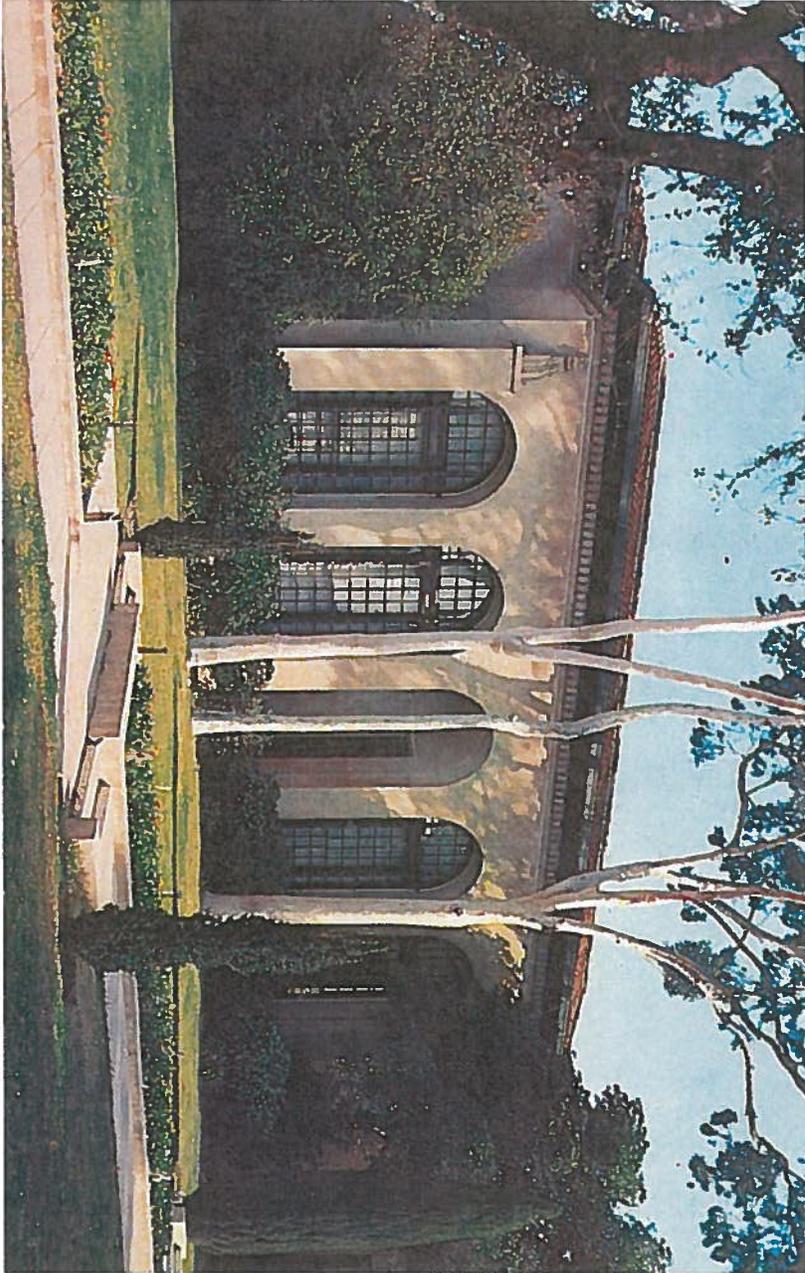
Central Library looking east at Anapamu St (front) and west
faces c. 1926-29



Central Library looking southeast from Anapamu St at west face and Faulkner Gallery c. 1930-31



Central Library looking at west face from Anapamu St and
Faulkner Gallery c. July 1931



Central Library looking east at west face c. 1950s-70s