

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

Primary #
HRI #
Trinomial
NRHP Status Code

Other Listings
Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Page of *Resource Name or #:
Lindo Lake Boathouse

P1. Other Identifier: _____

*P2. Location: Not for Publication restricted

*a. County San Diego County and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Date _____ T ; R ; of of Sec ; B.M.

c. Address 9841 Vine Street City Lakeside

Zip 92040

d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources)
Zone , mE/ mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

APN 3941800300

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

The Lindo Lake Boathouse was built in 1887 in Lindo Lake as a traditional "High Style" Victorian boathouse. It was part of a much large project, the Lakeside Inn. The El Cajon Valley Land Company built the Lakeside Inn (also known as the Lakeside Hotel) in 1887 to attract settlers to the area. The El Cajon Valley Land Company opened the hotel to host visitors and sell them some of the 6,600 acres they had acquired from Benjamin P. Hill in 1886. The opening of the hotel and land sale corresponded with the arrival of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe rail service from the eastern states in November 1885, and the establishment of the Cuyamaca and Eastern rail line from San Diego directly to Lakeside, in 1886. See the attached Historic Structures report for more detail.

*P3b. **Resource Attributes:** (List attributes and codes) HP39 - Boathouse

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

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



P5b. **Description of Photo:** (view, date, accession #)
Lindo Lake isthmus looking West.

*P6. **Date Constructed/Age and Source:** Historic Prehistoric 1887

*P7. **Owner and Address:**
County of San Diego, Department of Parks & Recreation
9180 Chesapeake Dr. # 200
San Diego, CA 92123

*P8. **Recorded by:** (Name, affiliation, and address) Mark Massen and Lynne Newell Christenson
County of San Diego, Department of Parks and Recreation
9150 Chesapeake Drive, Suite 200 San Diego, CA 92123

*P9. **Date Recorded:** 8-28-08

*P10. **Survey Type:** (Describe) Historic Structure Report

*P11. **Report Citation:** (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Chambers Group, 2008 LINDO LAKE BOATHOUSE HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT AND REHABILITATION PLAN
On file County of San Diego, Department of Parks and Recreation, History Archives

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

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BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

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B1. Historic Name: Lindo Lake Boathouse

B2. Common Name: Lindo Lake Boathouse

B3. Original Use: Boathouse

B4. Present Use: Special events, weddings, picnic

*B5. Architectural Style: Richardsonian Romanesque (or Romanesque Revival)

*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)

1887- Boathouse constructed in Lindo Lake.

1965- To properly seal the lake, the boathouse is moved out of the lake onto dry land. The original footbridge was destroyed. The current metal roof is installed.

1977- An artificial island is created for the boathouse to be set upon. A new walkway/footbridge is built linking the shore to the boathouse island.

*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: 1965 moved out of the lake Original Location: in the lake

*B8. Related Features: the Lakeside Inn was built in 1877 and demolished in 1920

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: El Cajon Land Company

*B10. Significance: Theme Recreation Area San Diego County

Period of Significance 1887-1907 Property Type Boathouse Applicable Criteria _____ (Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

The Lindo Lake boathouse was built as part of the lake experience for the visitors to the Lakeside Inn in 1887. It was constructed to sit in the water on pilings, with a footbridge connecting the boathouse to the shore. Since 1965 the boathouse has been sitting on dry land and is now used as a gazebo. The long support posts/pilings that allowed the boathouse to sit at water level in the lake were cut off when the structure was removed to dry land in 1965. The boathouse now sits in a poured concrete pad, which serves as the floor of the gazebo. The boathouse is a simple, open frame structure built in a square mass with a pyramidal roof. It is in excellent condition with its integrity intact.

While much different in style and size, the Lindo Lake Boathouse and the Hotel Del Boathouse are the oldest boathouses in San Diego

County, and may be the oldest extant boathouses in California. The Lindo Lake Boathouse is the only extant boathouse built in the Richardsonian Romanesque (or Romanesque Revival) style in San Diego County and according to current research, California. See HSR for more information

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

*B12. References: Ching, Francis D.K.

1994 *A Visual Dictionary of Architecture*. Van Nostrand Reinhold, New York, NY McAlester, Virginia and Lee

1984 *A Field Guide to American Houses*. Alfred P. Knopf, NY, NY.

Lakeside Historical Society (editor) n.d.

Legends of Lakeside. Lakeside Historical Society, Lakeside,

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B13. Remarks:

*B14. Evaluator: _____

*Date of Evaluation: _____

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with North Arrow required)



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County of San Diego, Department of Parks and Recreation
 Nomination for California Point of Historic Interest
 Lynne Newell Christenson
 9/5/2008

The history of San Diego County is rich and varied from the Pacific Ocean to the Anza-Borrego Desert. Aquatic sports have always been an important part of the San Diego lifestyle. Lindo Lake is a natural lake, something unusual in San Diego County. As a “beautiful” (Spanish word for ‘Lindo’) lake, Lindo Lake reflects the importance of water the people of San Diego County.

In the late 1880s, two vastly different boathouses were built in expanding San Diego County. A large ornate boathouse was built at the stately Hotel Del Coronado in Coronado Boathouse. Today, the Hotel Del Boathouse (also known as the Coronado or Glorietta Bay Boathouse) is a restaurant.



Coronado Boathouse

Lakeside, a community of the unincorporated County of San Diego is approximately 6 square miles in total area. Lakeside has an active historical society and museum, with citizens that strongly support the preservation of the Lindo Lake Boathouse which is included in the official town logo.

The Lindo Lake Boathouse was originally built to accompany the majestic Lakeside Inn. In addition to being one of the earliest boathouses built in San Diego County, it is the only one ever built in the Richardsonian Romanesque (or Romanesque Revival) style with an emphasis on arches and columns. The Lindo Lake Boathouse was moved to a man-made island in 1965 and today functions as a park gazebo.

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Lindo Lake Boathouse

These two structures are the earliest known boathouses to be built in San Diego County that still exist. Both exist with good to very good integrity, though neither structure continues to function as a boathouse. There is another well known boathouse in San Diego County, the ZLAC Rowing Club boathouse. The boathouse was built in 1932 for the rowing club which was founded by several women in 1892. This Craftsman style building continues to be used as a boathouse today.

Background

First Annual Report of the Board of Health of the City of San Diego for the Year Ending December 31st, 1888 stated the following about boathouses in San Diego County:

San Diego has facilities for aquatic sports that cannot be surpassed. She is well supplied with bath-houses, where swimmers of both sexes can launch themselves forth into the arms of old Neptune, or take their regular saltwater bath, either hot or cold. Should they prefer a dip in the surf, they have only to cross the ferry over to Coronado Beach and their desire can be gratified, either in summer or winter—for even in January the water of the Pacific Ocean is so warm that delicate ladies often enjoy this luxury without the least discomfort. If it is preferred to take a row or a sail on the bay, or to go out for a day's deep-sea fishing in the ocean beyond, nothing can be easier, as we have boathouses on every part of the water front, well supplied with row and sail boats, where vessels for short sea-voyages can be chartered.

Where these water-front boathouses were located was not established. Research at the San Diego Historical Society Research Archives (SDHSRA) did not identify any of these boathouses as still existing. Photographs of the McKinley Boat House and the San Diego Boat House look to be on the waterfront and, based on the clothing of people in the photos, appear to be from the 1890s. No further information or evidence of their present day existence is found on these boathouses.

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The El Cajon Valley Land Company built the Lakeside Inn (also known as the Lakeside Hotel) in 1887 to attract settlers to the area. The opening of the hotel and land sale corresponded with the arrival of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe rail service from the eastern states in November 1885 and the establishment of the Cuyamaca and Eastern rail line from San Diego directly to Lakeside, in 1886. The hotel was constructed up the hill from a small, natural body of water known as Lindo Lake. The Land Company created a 45-acre park around Lindo Lake to be used by the public and built the boathouse either at the same time or shortly after the Lakeside Inn was erected.

The Lakeside Inn had a very tumultuous existence. Built in 1887 during the land boom years, it was torn down in 1920 at the request of the owner. An economic collapse in the 1890s ruined the El Cajon Land Company and its dreams of a prosperous Lakeside. However, the Lindo Lake Boathouse survived and continued to be used as a boathouse until the 1940s.

Architecture

The architect of the Lakeside Inn and the Lindo Lake Boathouse is unknown. The El Cajon Valley Company, comprised of local wealthy entrepreneurs, E. W. Morse, G. H. Mansfield, O. S. Hubbell and I. M. Merrill, was started in 1886. The group laid out the town of Lakeside and built the Victorian Lakeside Inn in 1887. Ephraim W. Morse was a well known San Diego merchant. O.S. Hubbell began his career in banking, graduated to real estate and eventually became a real estate developer. Isaac M. Morrill was from San Francisco while George H. Mansfield came from Canton, Massachusetts (San Diego Union 1886). It is not known if they ever were even in San Diego or Lakeside. Nothing else is known about the other two gentlemen. For more details regarding the architecture, please see the Historic Structure Report.

The Lindo Lake Boathouse was constructed to sit in the water on pilings, with a footbridge connecting the boathouse to the shore. Since 1965 the boathouse has been sitting on dry land and used as a gazebo in Lindo Lake County Park. The long support posts/pilings that allowed the boathouse to sit at water level in the lake were cut off when the structure was removed to dry land. The boathouse now sits on a poured concrete pad, which serves as the floor of the gazebo.

The Lindo Lake Boathouse is a simple, open frame structure built in a square mass with a pyramidal roof. The structure is supported by ten large beams measuring 8 inches by 8 inches, one at each corner of the structure with one post equidistant between the corner posts on the east and west elevation forming two large segmental arches. The other two posts form the interior post for the arched openings on the north and south elevation. On the south elevation of the boathouse there are three arches forming the open framework. In the center is a wide segmental arch springing from large support posts. The center arch is flanked on both sides by a round arch approximately 5 feet wide with the corner posts forming the outside corners of the arches. The north elevation is the same except the side arches are slightly wider than the arches on the south elevation. The east and west elevations have two equal-sized segmental arches springing from the corner posts and a center post. The upper wall area of the Boathouse is constructed of solid board-and-batten siding forming the wall above the arches. The redwood boards of this wall surface are 18 inches wide, with 4-inch wide quarter-round shaped battens.

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The roof is a large focal point of the structure and has wide overhanging eaves with exposed rafter boards. The roof is currently covered with large metal panels. It had originally been clad with wood shingles, followed by what appears to be a galvanized metal roof in the late 1940s. The current roof was put on in the 1960s. Photographs provide evidence that when the boathouse was first constructed it had a tall, ornately scroll-sawn finial at the roof peak. It is most probable that the finial deteriorated with age and was destroyed by high winds that frequent the lake area.

Significance and Integrity

The Lindo Lake Boathouse has a period of significance between 1887- 1907 and will be rehabilitated to its appearance during this period. The Lindo Lake Boathouse is significant because it is one of the earliest boathouses built in San Diego County and it is the only boathouse in San Diego County built in the Richardsonian Romanesque (or Romanesque Revival) style. No other boathouse in San Diego County had or has this type of architecture. The historic features of the Lindo Lake Boathouse will be restored to accurately depict the form, features and character of the boathouse as it appeared at the time of its construction. The Lindo Lake Boathouse was built to reflect a “high style” architectural design of the late nineteenth century. This period of significance reflects the period during which the Lakeside Inn was a hotel. Because the Lindo Lake Boathouse was designed to attract people to the Inn, its purpose is reflected in the period between 1887- 1907.

A boathouse (or boat house) is a building especially designed for the storage of **boats**, normally smaller craft for sport or leisure use. Boathouses are typically located over open water, such as a lake or **river** and the type of boats stored are typically **row boats**. The popularity of water sports in San Diego County was noted in the 1888 Report of the Board of Health quoted above. The ZLAC rowing club was founded in 1892 by four women. ZLAC refers to the first names of these women – Zulette, Lena, Caroline, and Agnes.

McClain states the importance of rowing clubs around 1900.

In San Diego, ZLAC inspired the creation of many rowing clubs for high school aged girls. Russ High School, later San Diego High School, sponsored teams such as the Nereids (1895), the Mariners (1898), and the White Caps (1900). In 1895, ZLAC competed in rowing and swimming events with the Waterbabies, L’Esperance, the Columbias (1894), the Gondoliers, and La Feluca (1894), and the Nereids crew. Other teams included the La Sienas (1899), the Oceanids (1901), the Las Corarias (1901), the Olympia (1897), the Nautilus (1904), the Twilight Maids (1904), and the YWCA (1912). Women’s collegiate rowing began with the formation of the Rowing Club of State Normal School of San Diego in 1898. Women formed four crews—the Sylphs, the Dog-Watch, the Sobre las Olas, and the Asparas—

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Yacht Clubs also supported various rowing organizations and they too had boathouses. The San Diego Yacht Club (SDYC), located at the foot of Broadway in San Diego Bay, was founded in 1886 and merged with the Corinthian Yacht Club (founded in 1902) in 1905 (Israel OH 1969). The Star and Crescent Boathouses were located at the foot of Market Street in San Diego Bay and they also merged in the early 1900s (Robbins OH 1962).

Within this context the Lindo Lake Boathouse was built around 1887. At the turn of the century, many women's rowing clubs and collegiate teams were established in an effort to improve physical fitness and to compete in a sport made popular by men (McClain 2007). Given an existing lake, the founders of the El Cajon Valley Company felt comfortable that a boathouse and row boats would be a significant draw for both men and women. The San Diego Union in 1903 noted that "The lake is now a beautiful body of water and the citizens of Lakeside are enjoying good boating on the Lake Lindo."

The design of the Lindo Lake Boathouse is a classic type of boathouse for a small lake. Referred to as Richardsonian Romanesque or Romanesque Revival this structure is unique. These styles were often used for much larger structures and no other boathouse in San Diego County was built in either of these closely related styles. Henry Hobson Richardson (1838-1886) created a style that would become known as "Richardsonian Romanesque," celebrating the power of buildings to project authority and the prosperity of its people. "Richardsonian Romanesque," was adopted by other architects to construct private houses, railway stations, libraries, churches and armories. It was characterized by strength, simplicity and power (Richardsonian URL). The Romanesque Revival style was widely adopted for churches; with round-arched openings instead of pointed Gothic arches and spires, the style was associated with the great European monasteries, churches, and fortified castles of the Middle Ages (Romanesque URL).

The distinctive characteristics of the Lindo Lake Boathouse are the large arches, the elaborate finial and large posts. It shows simplicity and strength as well as highlighting the prosperity of people.

While the Lindo Lake Boathouse is no longer situated in the lake, it is located on land at the edge of the lake. It has integrity of location in this regard. It also reflects its original historic function and technology as well as aesthetics. The Lindo Lake Boathouse was built in a park designed to be used by the public and it still reflects this original purpose. With the exception of the roof, the Lindo Lake Boathouse retains the key materials dating from the period of its historic significance. This project will replace the existing roof with one consistent with its period of significance.

All of the large posts, the wide wall boards and the roof rafters clearly show the early radial and band saw marks that would have been made at the lumber yards before the wood was shipped to San Diego. These marks are very important as they are part of the historic texture and fabric of the structure, so it retains integrity of workmanship.

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Conclusion

The Lindo Lake Boathouse is eligible for the California Points of Historic Interest because it is one of only two extant boathouses that survive today that were built in San Diego County in the late 1880s. More importantly, the Lindo Lake Boathouse is the most significant example of a Richardsonian Romanesque or Romanesque Revival boathouse in San Diego County. It is unique in its design and style in San Diego County. The Lindo Lake Boathouse is significant because of these attributes and because it has a high level of integrity of location, material and workmanship, setting, and design. Rehabilitation is planned to take the Lindo Lake Boathouse back to its 1887-1907 period of significance. When the treatments are completed, it will be opened to the public for picnics, weddings, and special events.

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Romanesque

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