

**Claremont Hotel  
Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda County  
Staff Evaluation**

The Claremont Hotel is a very large, rambling, half-timbered and stucco, wood frame building with several towers, numerous gable roofs and gable dormers and rock siding on some of the lower floors. The building was designed in 1906, but because of delays did not open until 1915. The building's exterior has been altered in various ways, most notably by color change, enclosure of the original verandas, and by additions on the south end. Other changes include replacing most of the windows and the two original porte-cocheres, and adding an elevator tower on the front elevation. Interiors have been extensively remodeled. The hotel's original powerhouse remains intact. The hotel sits high in the Oakland/Berkeley hills with a eucalyptus grove backdrop and panoramic views of San Francisco and the bay.

The extensive grounds were originally landscaped but today are developed with parking, tennis courts, clubhouse, swimming pools, and a number of small buildings. Two small patches of landscaping in front of the hotel and a eucalyptus grove to the rear remain. Although much of the grounds have been altered, the registration form proposes to nominate the full 19.4 acres under hotel ownership.

The Claremont Hotel is being nominated at the local level under Criterion A in the areas of community planning, recreation, and social history for the important role the building played in the development of the area and as a major center for recreation and social activities. The property is also being nominated at the state level under Criterion C in the area of architecture as an example of a grand American hotel in California, as seen in its great size and theatrical extravagance, and as a major work of architect Charles William Dickey.

The nomination applicant is Berkeley/Oakland Neighbors of the Claremont. The owner is KSL Claremont Resort, Inc. On July 12, 2002, Vice-President and General Manager Todd Shallan stated in a phone conversation the hotel opposed the listing and would submit a notarized statement to that effect.

**Staff recommends finding the Claremont Hotel eligible under Criterion A at the local level of significance and under Criterion C at the state level of significance for either listing or determination of eligibility, depending on whether a notarized statement is submitted.**

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Historian II  
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