

Appendix A DPR Form – State Department of Parks and Recreation Forms 523 A-L Series.

P1. Other Identifier: *Glendale Municipal Services Building*

P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted a. County _____

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

b. USGS 7.5' Quad _____ Date _____ T _____; R _____; 1/4 of _____ 1/4 of Sec _____; B.M. _____

c. Address *633 East Broadway* City *Glendale* Zip *91206*

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)

Parcel No. _____

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

Constructed on a steel frame and encased in concrete, Glendale's Municipal Services Building of 1966 achieves an airy openness not typically associated with government buildings or of buildings clad in concrete. Sited at the intersection of Glendale Avenue and Broadway, the flat-roofed, three-story building has two street-facing elevations and serves as a visual landmark for the Glendale civic center complex. The building's north and west elevations face plazas. Expansive landscaped plazas at the north and west sides of the building are in contrast to the street-facing elevations looking to Broadway and Glendale Avenue.

In plan the building is a square O-shape, open at the center. The most innovative feature is the design concept itself, of a square building raised on four pilotis 21' over grade. Combined with a sunken, landscaped public plaza set beneath the central open courtyard, the result is a unique public building. Its three stories, small mezzanine above the lobby area and basement total 55,000 square feet. The two main floors, the first and second stories, each contain approximately 20,000 square feet. The third floor is comprised of approximately 9,000 square feet. The 5,500 square foot basement area below the plaza originally contained rooms for field engineers, civil defense equipment, store of city records, and mechanical equipment. (See Continuation Sheet.)

P3b. Resource Attributes: *HP14 - Government building*

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

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



P5b. Description of Photo:
(View, date, accession #)

View looking south, dated October 18, 2004.

P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:

Historic Prehistoric Both
1966

P7. Owner and Address:

*City of Glendale
613 East Broadway
Glendale, California 91206*

P8. Recorded by:

*Katherine Petrin
Architectural Resources Group
Pier 9, The Embarcadero
San Francisco, CA 94111*

P9. Date Recorded: *11/29/04*

P10. Survey Type (Describe)

Historic Structure Report

P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.")

Focused Historic Structure Report for the Municipal Services Building, Glendale, CA by Architectural Resources Group December

Attachments:

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

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Page ____ of ____

NRHP Status Code _____

Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) _____

B1. Historic Name: Glendale Municipal Services Building

B2. Common Name: Glendale Municipal Services Building

B3. Original Use: civic building

B4. Present Use: civic building

B5. Architectural Style: Modernism

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

Construction completed in 1966.

B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: _____

Original Location: _____

B8. Related Features:

Landscaped plaza and associated plaza outside the building perimeter. Associated civic use buildings in the immediate vicinity.

B9a. Architect: Albert C. Martin and Associates Merrill W. Baird AIA

b. Builder: R. J. Daum

B10. Significance: Theme Civic Center Campus

Area Glendale, California

Period of Significance 1960-66

Property Type civic building

Applicable Criteria A, C

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

Designed by architect Merrill W. Baird of Glendale, working in collaboration with A. C. Martin Architects of Los Angeles, the Municipal Services Building at 633 East Broadway, Glendale, was completed in 1966 at a cost of \$1.8 million. Prominently sited at the corner of East Broadway and Glendale Avenue, this civic building anchors an important intersection, serves as a heraldic element of Glendale's civic center, and exemplifies the ideals of modernist design and city planning theories. Urban design and planning philosophies that influenced most American cities in the 1950s and 60s embraced modernization. American cities focused on reinventing their identities to express ideals of forward-looking progress and civic pride. Designed in the modernist idiom, the building was planned to be the key element of Glendale's civic campus of buildings, to make a statement about the stature of Glendale as a community set apart from its larger neighbor Los Angeles, and to complement the adjacent Art Moderne City Hall completed in 1942.

From the outset this award-winning building was recognized for its architecture and innovative use of steel to achieve a dramatic expression. Incorporating refined geometric design motifs and a delicate architectural vocabulary into all exterior elements - building form, facades, plaza, fountain, materials, and ornament - the Municipal Services Building serves as an excellent example of 1960s design, use of materials, construction technologies.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: HP14 - Government building

B12. References:

B13. Remarks:

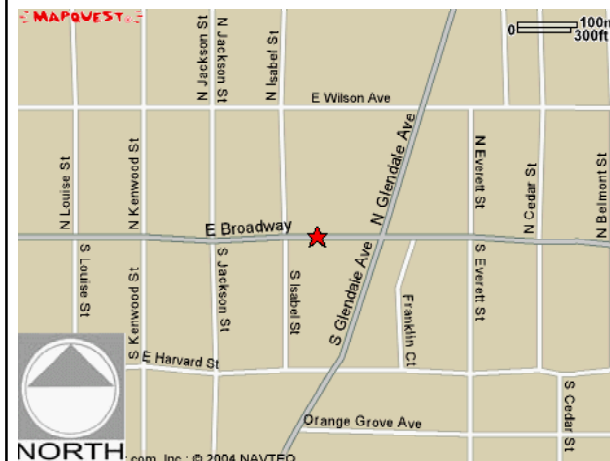
Katherine Petrin

B14. Evaluator: Architectural Resources Group

Date of Evaluation: 11/29/04

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)



P3a. Description (Continued):

All elevations are similar. On the exterior, the façade expresses a strict rhythm, regularity and the repetitive ornament associated with modern design and usually conveyed with contemporary building materials. The façades are clad in pre-cast curtain wall panels, two stories in height and of white cement; in total 76 panels were used to clad the exterior. The panels are divided by slim vertical members, resulting in an extremely rigorous and rhythmic, yet refined, façade. The deeply recessed panels give the impressive of set back, glazed window walls on the first and second floors. The exterior expression of doubled vertical elements is carried throughout the rest of the building and is subtly repeated in the interior gallery handrails. At the base of the building exposed structural concrete was also used decoratively as in the visible and deliberately emphasized form board markings on the pilotis and underside of the plaza ceiling, again emphasizing fine vertical lines and delineations. The markings are called out on the original drawings.

Dropped several feet below grade, the plaza is well insulated from street noise and imbues a sense of privacy. This welcoming public place is well-defined by the low concrete site walls at the perimeter, the fountain, floating stair and associated elements including the brick paving pattern. The low site walls are interrupted at four locations to accommodate sets of wide brick stairs that lead to the plaza and the building entrance lobby on the north elevation. The central courtyard configuration allows for natural light to penetrate to the interior. The iron balconies that function as open-air interior corridors or galleries that line the courtyard allow efficient interaction between the departments.

The straight roofline features a wide overhang or brise-soleil that extends beyond the exterior walls and is comprised of individual aluminum panels. The third floor is not fully built out to fill the building envelope. At each of the four corners the building is cut away, a device that adds visual interest to all four elevations and softens a too boxy effect of the building when viewed from the street. In addition this treatment at the third floor allows the building to relate more sensitively to the square tower atop City Hall to the west. Upon completion, the building featured amenities that were not standard or common in public buildings at the time, such as full air-conditioning and accessibility for disabled building users.

Entrance Lobby

The entrance lobby measures 900 square feet and is the only enclosed interior building space on the ground floor level. Its sole function is as circulation. It features aluminum-framed window walls with pairs of double-entry doors facing north and south. The floating stair gives a feeling of spaciousness in tight quarters as do the expanses of glazed walls, offering views to the exterior plantings and brightening the lobby space. Though small and functional, the entrance lobby offers some thoughtful design features, some of which re-appear in other parts of the building. The lobby walls are covered in dark blue glass mosaic tiles which also form a frieze that runs from the interior through to the exterior.

Circle Within a Square Design Motif

The basic design theme is strongly axial and with a repeated geometric pattern that relies on a circle within a square motif. In plan this theme is clearly articulated by the square courtyard "cut-out" set into the square building footprint with a circular fountain in the center. In plan another square occurs at the low perimeter site walls stretched just outside the building's footprint. The plaza's paving pattern moderates the strong square motif as the circular fountain is set into a white cement field that is a square with rounded corners, a transition between square and circle. Also related to the circular motif were the four unglazed stoneware planters with rectangular texturing by designer David Cressey for the Los Angeles-based firm Architectural Pottery. Originally located on white cement circles embedded in the buff brick paving, these elements of the original plaza design, have been removed and are in storage. The white cement circles remain.

Steel Framework

The unique structural steel framework of the building utilizes approximately 700 tons of Bethlehem Steel Corporation structural members fabricated and erected by Central Industrial Engineering Company of Santa Fe Springs. The 700-ton steel frame forms the four sides of the building and encloses a 60' x 60' square interior courtyard. The four massive support columns, the piloti, are the only physical connection the building has to the ground with the exception of the 900 square foot main entrance and lobby for the stairwell and elevator. Each piloti weighs 10 tons. The piloti are fabricated from steel plate in the shape of box girders and are concrete-encased. These taper in depth from 15' deep at the pedestal to 4' 6" at the extreme end. Where the box girders descend 15', they rest on a steel capped plate that is 3' square and 14" thick. The massive steel girders permit the 37' cantilever from beyond the center of each piloti to the building perimeter. The structure also incorporates counterweights to support the cantilever. At the plaza level the exposed pedestal base of each piloti is faced with rough black granite pavers.

Building Materials

Exterior building materials are original and include pre-cast elements, concrete panels, alternating with expanses of window wall, aluminum sun shades at the roofline, formed by individual vertical and flat panels (a brise-soleil), tinted sheet glass and opaque glass, iron balconies that form open gallery corridors, and a free-standing stair at the plaza stair with grille and gate detail and railing and a similar stair with floating treads on the interior. Other materials associated with Modernist design are successfully incorporated into the design such as aluminum for handrails and other framing details and glass mosaic tile in the area of the lobby on both the exterior and interior. The handrailings that line the galleries are stock railing with welded strap rosettes.