



NAME	The Elwood			REF. NO. 152
ADDRESS	214-218 West Fourth Street			
CITY	Santa Ana	ZIP	92701	ORANGE COUNTY
YEAR BUILT	1886/1933	LOCAL REGISTER CATEGORY: Contributive		
HISTORIC DISTRICT	Downtown Santa Ana	NEIGHBORHOOD	N/A	
NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION	C	NATIONAL REGISTER STATUS CODE	1D	

Location: ☐ Not for Publication ☒ Unrestricted

USGS 7.5" Quad _____ Date: _____ T _____ R _____ ¼ of _____ ¼ of Sec _____ : _____ B.M.

☐ Prehistoric ☒ Historic ☐ Both

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: Art Deco

DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND RELATED TO PERIOD ARCHITECTURE:

The Art Deco style is characterized by smooth wall surfaces, often of stucco; zig zags, chevrons, fluting, reeding, and other low-relief stylized and geometric motifs as decorative elements on the façade; accents of terra cotta, glass, or metal; polychromy; rectangular or compound forms; and a more vertical emphasis than its close stylistic relative, Streamline Moderne. Art Deco was essentially a style of decoration, and was applied to jewelry, clothing, furniture, and handicrafts as well as architecture. In style between 1920 and 1940, Art Deco was popularized by the Exposition des Arts Decoratifs held in Paris in 1925. It was most commonly utilized on commercial or public buildings.

CONSTRUCTION HISTORY: (Construction data, alterations, and date of alterations)

<u>214:</u>		<u>218:</u>	
May 10, 1921.	Skylights.	214-216-218: April 6, 1933.	Repair business building.
August 1922.	Alter business room.	August 7, 1933.	Alterations.
September 10, 1925.	Alterations.	June 8, 1939.	Relocate stairway.
July 19, 1926.	Reinforce floors.	February 3, 1944.	Alterations.
April 3, 1928.	Alterations.	November 1, 1950.	Repair fire damage.
April 6, 1933.	Repair business building.	September 17, 1958.	Remodel Interior store building.
July 13, 1939.	Repairs to store building.	September 7, 1962.	Interior and exterior alterations.
November 4, 1946.	Remodel window space.	June 20, 1984.	Structural rehab.
January 28, 1957.	Alteration to store building.	March 25, 1988.	Metal and glass storefront for display.
May 26, 1983.	Partitions.		
June 20, 1984.	Structural rehab.		

RELATED FEATURES: (Other important features such as barns, sheds, fences, prominent or unusual trees, or landscape)

None

DESCRIPTION: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, settings, and boundaries.)

Historic photographs indicate that The Elwood (also known as the Spurgeon Annex) has undergone several transformations since its 19th century construction, although its basic building fabric and proportions remain intact. The present appearance of the upper story dates to 1933, when repairs were made following the Long Beach Earthquake. The lower story storefronts have been remodeled more recently. Two stories tall with a flat roof, the building is of brick construction and is faced with stucco. Pilasters with stepped caps divide the upper story into five bays, each containing a single, double-hung sash window. A corbel course edges the plain parapet. Below a belt course, the street level contains three storefronts, all altered, and the entry to the upper story.

HISTORIC HIGHLIGHTS:

This building was constructed during the 1886-1888 boom and remodeled in the aftermath of the Long Beach Earthquake. Formerly used as a lodging house, the upper story was known as The Elwood from 1904 until 1929. A doorway led directly into the Spurgeon Building next door until 1929. Street level tenants included a confectionary and a bakery.

RESOURCE ATTRIBUTES: (List attributes and codes from Appendix 4 of Instructions for Recording Historical Resources, Office of Historic Preservation.)

(HP 6) 1-3 story Commercial Building

RESOURCES PRESENT:

☒ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Object ☐ Site ☐ District ☒ Element of District ☐ Other

MOVED? ☒ No ☐ Yes ☐ Unknown Date: _____ Original Location: _____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: (Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, geographic scope, and integrity.)

Santa Ana was founded by William Spurgeon in 1869 as a speculative townsite on part of the Spanish land grant known as Rancho Santiago de Santa Ana. Early growth and development was stimulated by the arrival of the Southern Pacific Railroad in 1878 and the Santa Fe Railroad in 1886. By the end of the 1880s, Santa Ana's downtown business district was defined by five city blocks of brick commercial buildings on Fourth Street, with the heart of the city at the intersection of Fourth and Main Streets (Thomas, 8:1). The early 1900s saw the construction of many new business blocks or remodels along Fourth and adjacent streets, and by the 1920s Santa Ana's downtown had expanded in all directions to include both commercial and civic development. In 1933, the repair and rebuilding following the Long Beach Earthquake added to the number of downtown buildings displaying the fashionable Art Deco style.

The Elwood is significant as an example of the rebuilding of Fourth Street, which took place in the wake of the earthquake. The Victorian era construction is still apparent in the utilitarian southern elevation. Character-defining exterior features of the property, which should be preserved, include but may not be limited to: original and 1933 exterior finishes; bay divisions, including pilasters; original and 1933 fenestration; and parapet.

SUMMARY/CONCLUSION:

This building was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1984 as a contributor to the Downtown Historic District. Under the regulations implementing the California Register of Historical Resources, the building is also listed in the California Register. The property is included in the Santa Ana Register of Historical Property and has been categorized as "Contributive" for its contribution to "the overall character and history" of downtown Santa Ana and as a "good example of period architecture" that "has not been substantially altered" (Municipal Code, Section 30-2.2(2)).

OWNER AND ADDRESS: _____

RECORDED BY: (Name, affiliation, and address)

Leslie J. Heumann

Science Applications International Corporation

35 S. Raymond Avenue, Suite 204, Pasadena, CA 91105

DATE RECORDED: July 3, 2001

SURVEY TYPE: (Intensive, reconnaissance, or other)

Intensive Survey Update

REPORT CITATION: (Cite survey report and other sources)

Les, Kathleen. "Santa Ana Historic Survey, Final Resources Inventory: Downtown." May 1980.
Thomas, Harold M. "Downtown Santa Ana Historic District" National Register nomination form, 1984.

REFERENCES: (List documents, date of publication, and page numbers. May also include oral interviews.)

Harris, Cyril M. *American Architecture: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*. New York, WW Norton, 1998.
McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984.
National Register Bulletin 16A. "How to Complete the National Register Registration Form."
Washington DC: National Register Branch, National Park Service, US Department of the Interior, 1991.
Whiffen, Marcus. *American Architecture Since 1780*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1969.

EVALUATOR: Leslie J. Heumann **DATE OF EVALUATION:** July 3, 2001

EXPLANATION OF CODES:

- National Register Criteria for Evaluation: (From Appendix 7 of Instructions for Recording Historical Resources, Office of Historic Preservation)
 - C:** that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- National Register Status Code: (From Appendix 2 of Instructions for Recording Historical Resources, Office of Historic Preservation)
 - 1D:** Contributor to a listed district.