

# PRIMARY RECORD

Other Listings

Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Resource Name or #: 4100 CALLE ISABELLA

**P1. Other Identifier:** La Casa Pacifica / Cotton Estate/ "The Clubhouse" / Western White House

**P2. Location:**  Not for Publication  Unrestricted **a. County** Orange  
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** 4100 Calle Isabella **City** San Clemente **Zip** 92672

**d. UTM: Zone ; mE/ mN**

**e. Other Locational Data:** Assessor Parcel Number: 060-311-16

**P3a. Description:**

The property contains a large residential estate, including a main residence, detached card room, and extensive gardens. The residence is square in plan with rooms opening onto a central outdoor courtyard. Designed in the Spanish Colonial Revival style, it displays the expected clay tile roof and smooth stucco walls. The residence is elaborately appointed, with rough-hewn beamed ceilings, hand-laid floor tiles, and hand-wrought iron hardware and light fixtures throughout. Other ornamental details include tiled wall murals, and a central fountain in the patio.

The property was rehabilitated and some additions made when it was purchased by President Richard Nixon in 1969. The original tennis courts were placed by a swimming pool. Other additions included eight-foot red-tile topped walls around the perimeter of the property, and a red-tiled gazebos at each corner, for added privacy and security. The property is in excellent condition. It retains a high degree of integrity.

**P3b. Resources Attributes:** 02 Single Family Property

**P4. Resources Present:**  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



**P5b. Description of Photo:**  
August 2006.

**P6. Date Constructed/Sources:**  
 Historic  Both  
 Prehistoric

1926 (E) Tax Assessor

**P7. Owner and Address:**

Herbert, Gavin  
2301 San Joaquin Hills Rd, Corona Del Mar  
Ca 92625- 1113

**P8. Recorded by:**

Historic Resources Group, 1728  
Whitley Avenue, Hollywood, CA  
90028

**P9. Date Recorded:** 9/20/2006

**P10. Survey Type:**

City of San Clemente Historic  
Resources Survey Update

**P11. Report Citation:** None.

**Attachments:**  NONE  Location Map  Sketch 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:

DPR 523A (1/95) HRG

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Resource Name or #: 4100 CALLE ISABELLA

- B1. **Historic Name:** Cotton Estate; "The Clubhouse"; Western White House
- B2. **Common Name:** La Casa Pacifica
- B3. **Original Use:** Single-family residence
- B4. **Present Use:** Single-family residence
- B5. **Architectural Style:** Spanish Colonial Revival
- B6. **Construction History:**

B7. **Moved?**  No  Yes  Unknown      **Date:** **Original Location:**

B8. **Related Features:**

- B9a. **Architect:** Carl Lindbom
- b. **Builder:** (Unknown)
- B10. **Significance:** **Theme** Ole Hanson/Spanish Village by the Sea      **Area** City of San Clemente  
**Period of Significance** 1925-1936      **Property Type** Residential      **Applicable Criteria** A, C

This property was built in 1926 for millionaire oil man and financier Hamilton H. Cotton. Cotton was a friend and business associate of Ole Hanson and helped to finance the development of San Clemente. He engaged renowned architect Carl Lindbom to design his elaborate estate on a bluff top at the southernmost tip of the city, overlooking the ocean at San Mateo Point (now known as Cotton's Point).

In 1969, President Richard Nixon purchased the property for his Western White House. At this time, the property was rehabilitated, some changes were made, and it was renamed "La Casa Pacifica." The estate originally occupied 110-acres. Some 62-acres has been subdivided and developed as the private community of Cypress Shores.

(See Continuation Sheet).

- B11. **Additional Resource Attributes:** 02 Single Family Property
- B12. **References:** Orange County Tax Assessor Records; Historic Resources Survey, Leslie Heumann and Associates, 1995.

B13. **Remarks:** (none)

B14. **Evaluator:** Historic Resources Group, Hollywood, CA  
**Date of Evaluation:** 9/20/2006

(This space reserved for official comments.)



## CONTINUATION SHEET

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Resource Name or #: 4100 CALLE ISABELLA

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Continuation  Update

### **SIGNIFICANCE** (continued).

Architect Carl Lindbom had a thriving historical revival practice in Los Angeles in the 1920s, and had recently designed the new Santa Barbara City Hall, as well as Ole Hanson's residence, Casa Romantica. His designs for the Cotton Estate were based upon a country house in San Sebastian, Spain.

This property appears eligible for the National Register individually and as a contributor to a National Register district under Criterion A for its association with the Ole Hanson/Spanish Village by the Sea period of development, and under Criterion C for its association with renowned architect Carl Lindbom and as an extraordinary example of the Spanish Colonial Revival style in San Clemente. It also appears eligible at the local level individually and as a contributor to a potential historic district. It is recommended for retention on the Historic Structures List.

# CONTINUATION SHEET

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Resource Name or #: 4100 CALLE ISABELLA

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Continuation  Update

## Photographs of the Subject Property, Continued:

