

## FAQ 46 (July 3, 2007)

### 46.1

**Q: Your book seems to be the only one that claims there was no missing week. You provide names, dates, and times, when Elizabeth Short was seen during that week, but isn't it possible those people were either sensation seekers, or just simply made an honest mistake?**

A fair question—and an important one! My answer is, NO. I do not believe these witnesses were mistaken.

**The simple truth is -- the “Missing Week” is a MYTH.**

Since BDA's original publication in 2003 new evidence has been discovered supporting the fact that there was no missing week. In my 2004 post-publication review of the secret DA FILES I located a never before seen 1950 interview conducted by Lt. Frank Jemison of a highly reliable witness who knew and visited with Elizabeth Short at the residence of Mark Hansen on Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>, three days into her “missing week.”

Below diagrams show the chronology of “The Missing Week” documenting Elizabeth Short's movements between downtown Los Angeles and Hollywood, along with a summary of the known, identified witnesses, now totaling thirteen (13) all of whom saw and spoke to Elizabeth Short between Jan. 9 and Jan. 14, 1947.

Judge for yourself whether they are reliable. (Six of these witnesses knew Elizabeth as a friend and their positive identifications cannot be in doubt. (Shown on below diagram in red.)

### **MYTH OF THE “MISSING WEEK”**

Ignorance and repetition are the culprits! If a falsehood is repeated enough times by enough “sources”, it will always erode and replace the truth of any event. The pages of history are filled with this phenomenon. Elizabeth Short's “missing week” is no exception.

Who is to blame? No one and everyone. The “missing week” myth is a constellation of the misinformed, comprised of: novelists, cops and crackpots, hack magazine writers and over zealous Dahlia theorists, all trying to push and spin their way to “a solution.” They are all guilty of the same crime --they throw out or simply ignore all and any facts that “just don't fit” their own –preconceptions.

One of my biggest investigatory revelations came to me late in the year, 2000, when I was just completing my first full year on the case. I had spent four full months chronicling the KNOWN facts and had amassed 150 different witness interviews. (They covered the time period from 1943-1999.) After sorting them by date, time and location, in looking at the limited time-frame of Jan. 9-14, 1947 it became obvious **that there never was a missing week.** All of the separate witnesses' statements, though independent of each other, lined-up and corroborated that simple truth.

Apparently, no one before me, (including LAPD detectives) had taken the time to do this! (Partly understandable as it was extremely time-intensive research, which took many months to compile.) But there it was!

It is only now, in recent years, that I have come to understand why modern day authors, theorists, and even LAPD have no desire to underscore the obvious. Why?

In LAPD's case, it proves their official position to be WRONG, and exposes them to open criticism as being either inept or ignorant and misinformed as to the true facts. (No conspiracy here, the truth is simply that no modern day LAPD detective is familiar with the case, nor have they been since the 1950s. Even in the 1970s both LAPD detective John St. John and his partner Kirk Mellecker admitted they "didn't have the time to carefully review the case due to active case demands." Today's Dahlia gatekeeper, detective Brian Carr goes even further publicly stating that he "doesn't have time to prove or disprove Hodel's investigation."

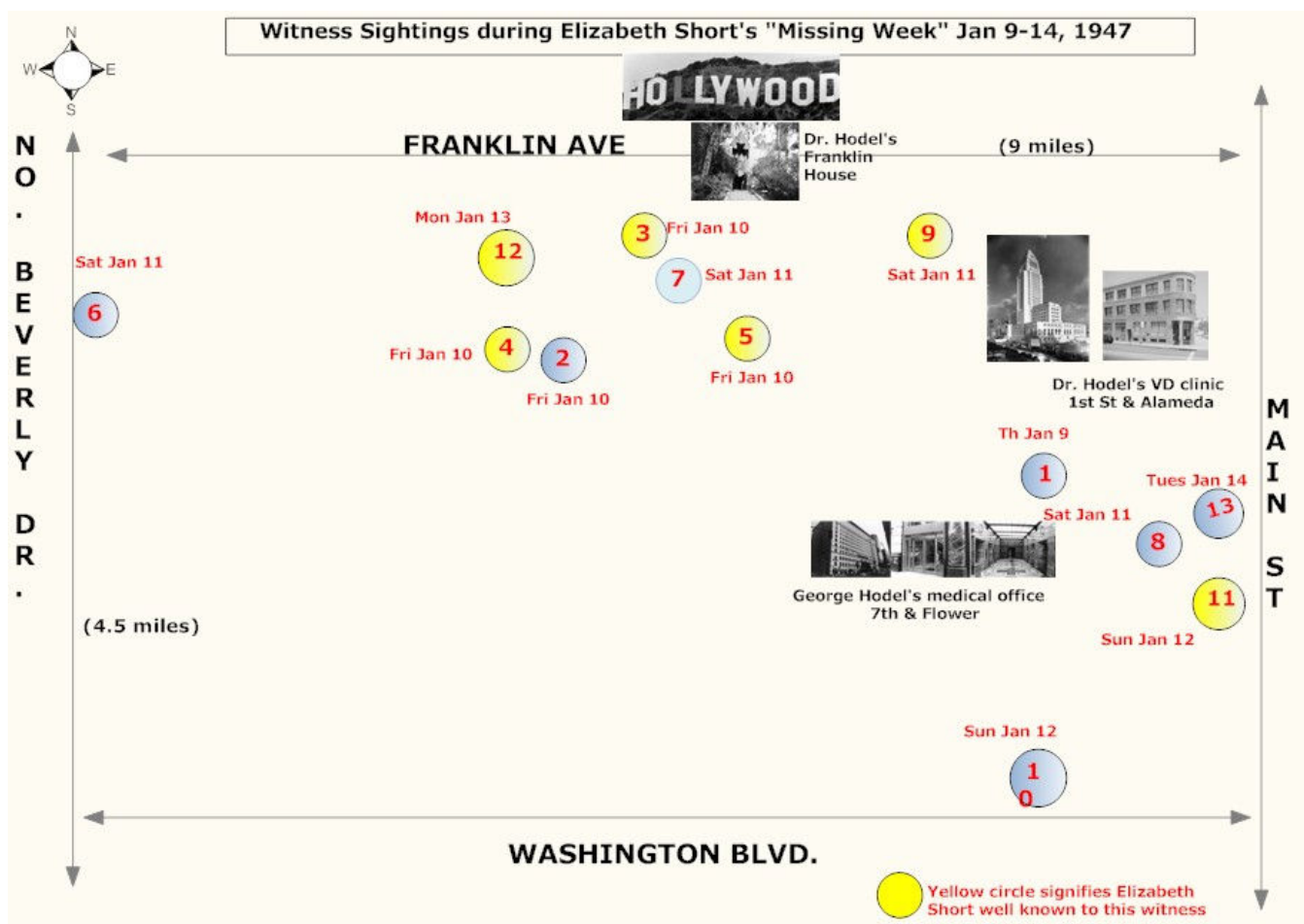
In the case of Dahlia authors and modern day theorists, the fact that there was no missing week exposes and explodes their separate theories of who killed Elizabeth Short as being WRONG. If there was no missing week, then the theorists separate suspect(s), all of whom supposedly: kidnapped, held captive and tortured Elizabeth Short during that time period—could not have done it!

Here are THE FACTS. All of the witnesses listed below made official reports directly to the LAPD. They are fresh accounts from January, 1947, published by the various L.A. newspapers in the days and weeks immediately following the discovery of the body. (Note- See BDA Chapter 18, pages 232-238 and pg. 527 for a detailed narrative of each of these witnesses' statements and where and when they were documented.)

<b>Witness sightings during Elizabeth Short's "Missing Week"</b> (Name in red indicates witness personally acquainted with Elizabeth Short)		
WITNESS	DATE	LOCATION
<b>Mr. Studholme</b> Hotel employee	Jan. 9 (Thur) 7-10 p.m.	Biltmore Hotel 5th & Olive St. (Olive Street entrance) Downtown L. A.
<b>"John Doe #1"</b> (LAPD withheld name)	Jan. 10 (Fri) evening	7200 Sunset Blvd. Hollywood (street) Hollywood
<b>Miss Iris Menuay</b> (former roommate/friend)	Jan. 10 (Fri) 8:30 p.m.	1842 N. Cherokee Ave Chancellor Hotel (lobby) Hollywood
<b>Christina Salisbury</b> (restaurant owner/friend. Employed victim in Florida)	Jan. 10 (Fri) 10:00 p.m.	7290 Sunset Blvd. Tabu Club, Hollywood (street) Hollywood
<b>Buddy La Gore</b> (Bartender, knew victim as a "regular")	Jan. 10 (Fri) 11:30 p.m.	6818 Hollywood Bl. Four Star Bar & Grill (bar) Hollywood
<b>"John Doe #2"</b> (Hotel service, station attendant LAPD withheld name)	Jan. 11 (Sat) 2:30 a.m.	9641 Sunset Bl. Beverly Hills Hotel (gas station) Beverly Hills
<b>Mr. Paul Simone</b> (Maintenance man Chancellor Hotel)	Jan. 11 (Sat) daytime unstated hour	1842 N. Cherokee Ave Chancellor Hotel (rear and front) Hollywood
<b>Mr. I. A. Jorgenson</b> (cab driver)	Jan. 11 (Sat) afternoon unstated hour	112 W. 5th St. Rosslyn Hotel (entered cab at front of hotel) Downtown L. A.
<b>Miss Connie Starr</b> (actress/acquainted with victim through Ann Toth)	Jan. 11 (Sat) 9:00 p.m. (approx)	6024 Carlos Ave, Hollywood (Residence Mark Hansen/Ann Toth) Hollywood
<b>Mr/Mrs William Johnson</b> (Hotel owners/on-site managers)	Jan. 12 (Sun) 11:30 a.m.	Hotel 300 E. Washington Bl. (Hotel lobby/registration desk) Downtown L. A.
<b>Mr. C. G. Williams</b> (bartender, knew victim as a "regular")	Jan. 12 (Sun) 3:00 p.m.	634 S. Main St. Dugout Cafe (bar) Downtown L. A.
<b>Mr. John Jiroudek</b> (Jockey/friend, knew victim from Camp Cooke military base)	Jan. 13 (Mon) unstated hour	Hollywood & Highland (Street) Hollywood
<b>Ms. Meryl McBride</b> (LAPD uniformed police officer)	Jan. 14 (Tues) 3:30 -4 p.m.	6th & Main St. Bus Depot(street/bar) Downtown L. A.

- In 2001 I had the opportunity and privilege of personally re-interviewing retired LAPD Sgt. Meryl McBride. Meryl, then in her mid-Eighties, was physically and mentally alert (golfing three times a week) and verified a number of important facts, the most important being "she had no doubt the woman she talked to just 18 hours before the body was discovered, a woman in fear of her life from threats from a former suitor—was in fact Elizabeth Short."

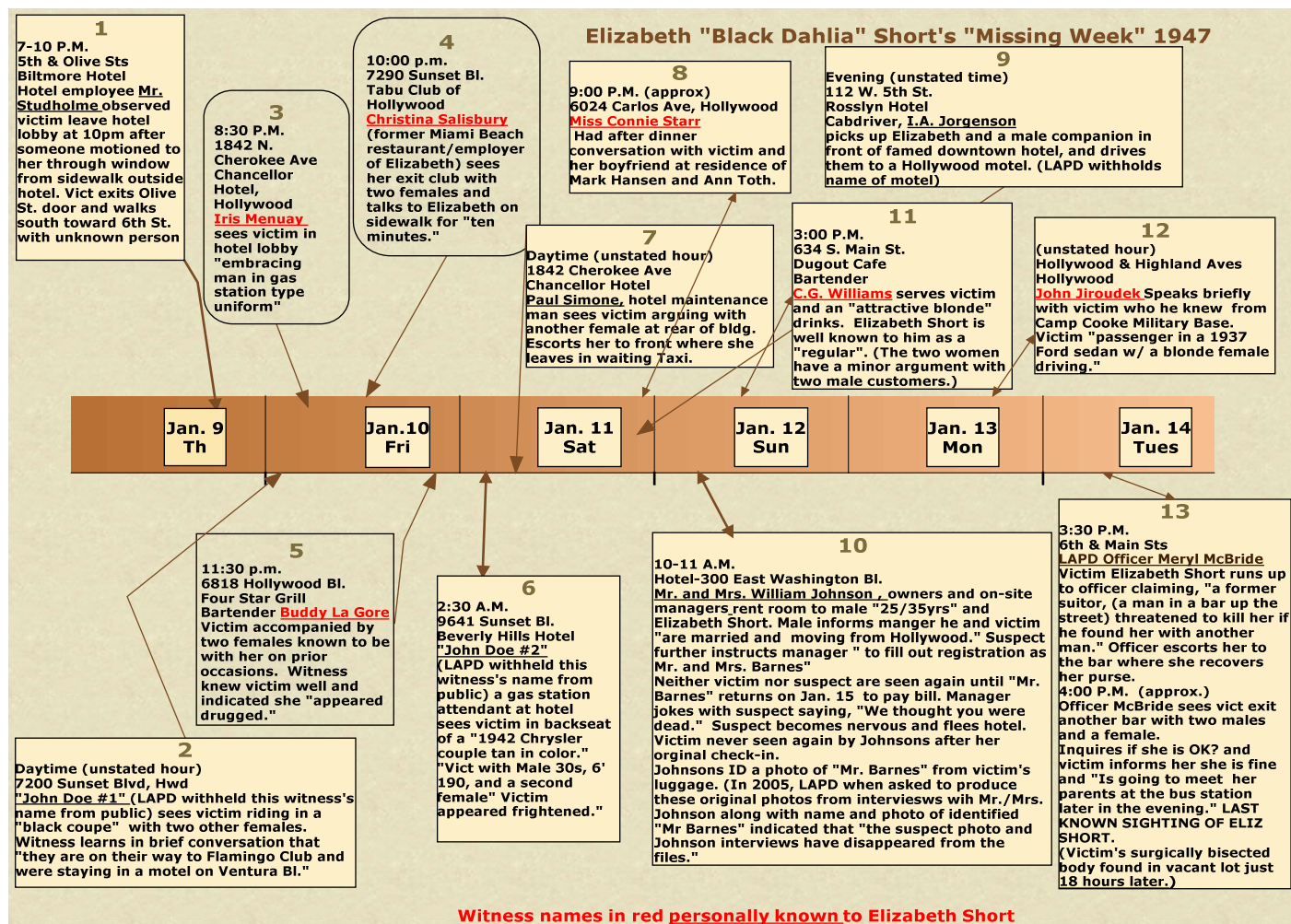
## DIAGRAM OF LOCATIONS



Above diagram shows the 4 x 9 mile perimeter between Hollywood and downtown L.A., within which boundaries Elizabeth Short was seen on 13 separate occasions during the six days (Jan. 9—Jan 14) prior to the discovery of her body on Jan. 15, 1947. Incredibly, six of these thirteen witnesses were personally acquainted with the victim, so their positive identifications would not be in question. (Yellow circles signify those witnesses.)

Also included are: Dr. George Hodel's 1947 private residence, the Franklin House at 5121 Franklin Ave, his privately owned downtown V.D. clinic at 1<sup>st</sup> & Alameda St, and his private medical practice, at 7<sup>th</sup> & Flower Sts. (3 blocks from the Biltmore Hotel (1)).

## Witness identifications of Elizabeth Short during "Missing Week" (January 9-14, 1947)



Sightings by location and day of the week during that six-day period:

Downtown Los Angeles- 5 –sightings

1. Thurs, Jan 9
2. Sat, Jan 11
3. Sun, Jan 12
4. Sun, Jan 12
5. Tues, Jan 14

Though each witness report to the police was individual and separate and unknown from the other reports –nevertheless, all separate downtown sightings of Elizabeth Short were within a one-mile radius of each other.

Hollywood - 7 – sightings

1. Fri, Jan 10
2. Fri, Jan 10
3. Fri, Jan 10
4. Fri, Jan 10
5. Sat, Jan 11
6. Sat, Jan 11
7. Mon, Jan 13

Though each witness report to the police was individual and separate and unknown from the other reports—nevertheless, all Hollywood sightings of Elizabeth Short were also within a one-mile radius of each other.

Beverly Hills- 1 – sighting

1. Sat, Jan 11

This sighting was close in time to the four Jan 10. Hollywood sightings as it was just a few hours after midnight. This location is approx four (4) miles west of the earlier Hollywood sightings, also on Sunset Blvd., but just entering the city limits of Beverly Hills.

**MISINTERPRETATION OF LAPD BULLETIN CONTRIBUTED TO  
MYTH OF "MISSING WEEK"**

**SPECIAL**

Issued Daily  
Except Saturday  
Sunday & Holi-  
days by Police  
Printing Bureau

## Daily Police Bulletin

For Circulation  
Among Police  
Officers  
Exclusively

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
CHIEF'S OFFICE, City Hall (Phone Michigan 8211—Connecting all Stations and Depts.) C. B. HORRALL, Chief of Police

Vol. 40
Tuesday, January 21, 1947
No. 14

### WANTED INFORMATION ON ELIZABETH SHORT

**Between Dates January 9 and 15, 1947**



**Description:** Female, American, 22 years, 5 ft. 6 in., 118 lbs., black hair, green eyes, very attractive, bad lower teeth, finger nails chewed to quick. This subject found brutally murdered, body severed and mutilated January 15, 1947, at 39th and Norton.

Subject on whom information wanted last seen January 9, 1947 when she got out of car at Biltmore Hotel. At that time she was wearing black suit, no collar on coat, probably Cardigan style, white fluffy blouse, black suede high-heeled shoes, nylon stockings, white gloves full-length beige coat, carried black plastic handbag (2 handles) 12 x 8, in which she had black address book. Subject readily makes friends with both sexes and frequented cocktail bars and night spots. On leaving car she went into lobby of the Biltmore, and was last seen there.

Inquiry should be made at all hotels, motels, apartment houses, cocktail bars and lounges, night clubs to ascertain whereabouts of victim between dates mentioned. In conversations subject readily identified herself as Elizabeth or "Beth" Short.

Attention Officers H. H. Hansen and F. A. Brown, Homicide Detail.

**KINDLY NOTIFY C. B. HORRALL, CHIEF OF POLICE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

At first glance (without reading the information) this official LAPD Bulletin would appear to confirm a missing week between Jan 9-15, 1947. It does not! The bulletin is actually a REQUEST FOR INFORMATION. It was prepared and circulated just four days after the identification of the body as being that Elizabeth Short. The bulletin printed and distributed to uniform patrol and detectives orders them to "make inquiries at all hotels, motels, apartment houses, cocktail bars and lounges, night clubs to ascertain whereabouts of victim between dates mentioned."

On Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>, just five days into the investigation, **LAPD officers did as requested and this resulted in the thirteen (13) verified reliable sightings as reported above.**

### Actress Carol Forman as Calendar Girl for January 1947



I found this original photo on Ebay a few months ago. It shows actress Carol Foreman at the start of her film career. (See FAQ 26) Prior to posing for this photo she had a small part in the just released, RKO Hollywood murder mystery, *NOCTURNE* (1946). The story (LAPD investigating a "suicide" that is really a murder) was written by Academy Award nominated screenwriter/director, Rowland Brown, who at that time was having an affair with my mother, Dorothy Huston Hodel. (During the 1950 DA bugging tapes at the Franklin House Rowland and Dorothy are overheard in conversation and my mother explains her reason for not seeing him was "that she had gone to Mexico with George for a short time." (Dorothy and George Hodel were divorced in 1945, but we remained in residence at my father's Franklin House.)

What is incredibly ironic about this calendar/photo of Carol is the date. Seen here she is posing for the New Year—January 1947. (Obviously prepared in late 1946.) She is featured on the calendar month of Elizabeth Short's murder! Carol will "be discovered" in 1947, her career will take off and she will establish herself as a femme fatal and villainess of the first order. (The Black Widow, 1947, Superman's Spider Lady, 1948, etc.) **Then in 1948, Carol Forman moved into Dr. George Hodel's Franklin House and lived with us as "part of the family" as a roomer/tenant until my father's arrest in late-1949! (During this period she was working in films with and dating actor Tim Holt.)**