

MEETING DATE: 10/23/2024

ITEM NO: 7

DATE: October 18, 2024

TO: Historic Preservation Committee

FROM: Joel Paulson, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: Consider a Request to Remove a Pre-1941 Property from the Historic

Resources Inventory for Property Zoned R-1:8. **Located at 55 Ellenwood Avenue**. APN 510-19-010. Exempt Pursuant to CEQA Section 15061(b)(3). Request for Review PHST-24-020. Property Owner: Pooja Goel. Applicant:

Melina Padilla. Project Planner: Sean Mullin.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Consider a request to remove a pre-1941 property from the Historic Resources Inventory for property zoned R-1:8 located at 55 Ellenwood Avenue.

#### PROPERTY DETAILS:

- 1. Date primary structure was built: 1918 per County Assessor
- 2. Town of Los Gatos Historic Status Code: N New (probably built since 1950)
- 3. Does property have an LHP Overlay? No
- 4. Is structure in a historic district? No
- 5. If yes, is it a contributor? N/A
- 6. Findings required? Yes
- 7. Considerations required? No

#### **DISCUSSION:**

The applicant is requesting approval to remove the pre-1941 residence from the Historic Resources Inventory. The Santa Clara County Assessor's Database lists a construction date of 1918. The 1990 Anne Bloomfield Survey does not provide a construction date estimate, but provides a preliminary rating of "new, probably built since 1950" (Attachment 1). The Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps include the property beginning in 1928 and show the residence as having a consistent footprint through 1956 (Attachment 2).

PREPARED BY: Sean Mullin, AICP

Planning Manager

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SUBJECT: 55 Ellenwood Avenue/PHST-24-020

DATE: October 18, 2024

#### **DISCUSSION** (continued):

A review of Town records provides the following:

- 1958 Building Permit scope unknown;
- 1973 Building Permit to enclose part of an existing deck;
- 1994 Building Permit for construction of a 1,400-square foot addition to the existing 1,589-square foot home for a new primary bedroom suite; and
- 1998 Approval of a Minor Residential Development application for a new second-story addition and subsequent Building Permit for the addition, which included a new attached garage.

Based on the development plans contained in Town records, staff prepared an exhibit showing the approximate footprint of the residence prior to 1994 and the demolition impacts incurred to the residence resulting from the 1994 and 1998 additions to the residence (Attachment 3). Staff also notes that the Bloomfield Survey conducted in 1990 rating the residence as "new" occurred prior to completion of the 1994 and 1998 additions.

The applicant provided an informational packet with their application, which includes a summary of the history of the residence, a Letter of Justification, and pictures of the residence (Attachment 4). Based on the research provided, the applicant believes that the required findings for removal from the Historic Resources Inventory can be made for this property as the residence is not in its original condition and there is nothing noted about the property that is significant to the Town's history.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

Should the Committee find that the structure no longer has historic significance or architectural merit due to the loss of integrity, a recommendation of approval of the request to remove the property from the Historic Resources Inventory would be forwarded to the Community Development Director. Once approved by the Director, any proposed alterations would not return to the Committee.

#### FINDINGS:

A. Findings - related to a request for a determination that a pre-1941 primary structure has no historic significance or architectural merit.

In evaluating a request for a determination of historic significance or architectural merit, the Historic Preservation Committee shall consider the following:

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SUBJECT: 55 Ellenwood Avenue/PHST-24-020

DATE: October 18, 2024

#### FINDINGS (continued):

- 1. The structure is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the Town;
- 2. No Significant persons are associated with the site;
- 3. There are no distinctive characteristics of type, period or method of construction or representation of work of a master;
- 4. The structure does not yield information to Town history; or
- 5. The integrity has been compromised such that the structure no longer has the potential to convey significance.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**:

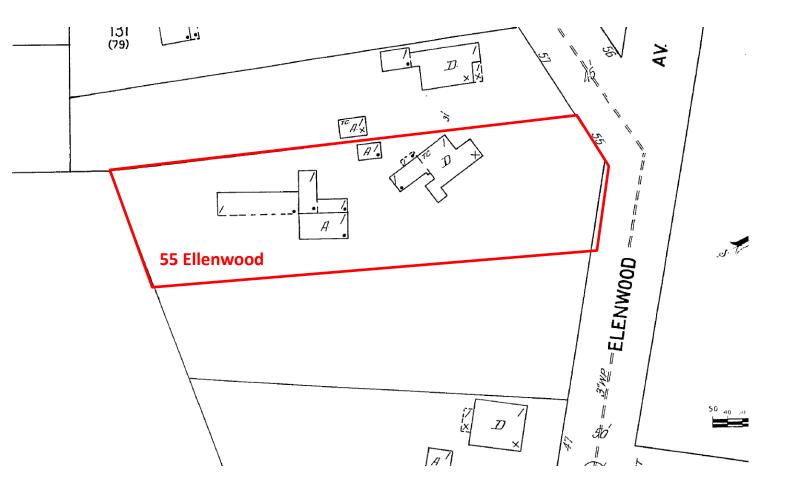
- 1. 1990 Anne Bloomfield Survey
- 2. Sanborn Map Exhibit
- 3. Impact of Additions Exhibit
- 4. Applicant's Submittal Packet

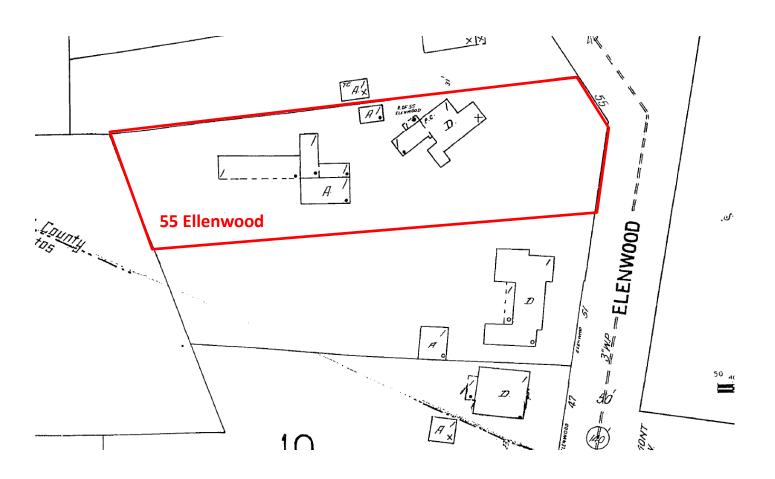
# Anne Bloomfield

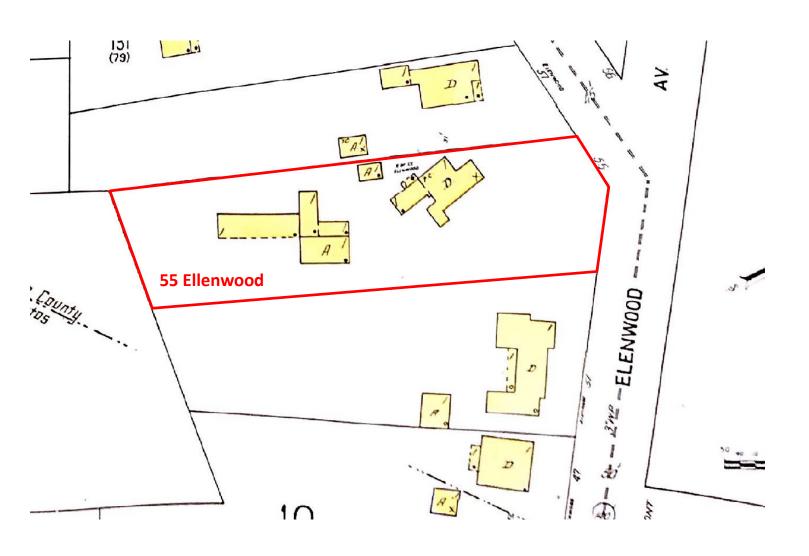
ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY (415) 922-1063 2229 WEBSTER STREET SAN FRANCISCO. CA 94115

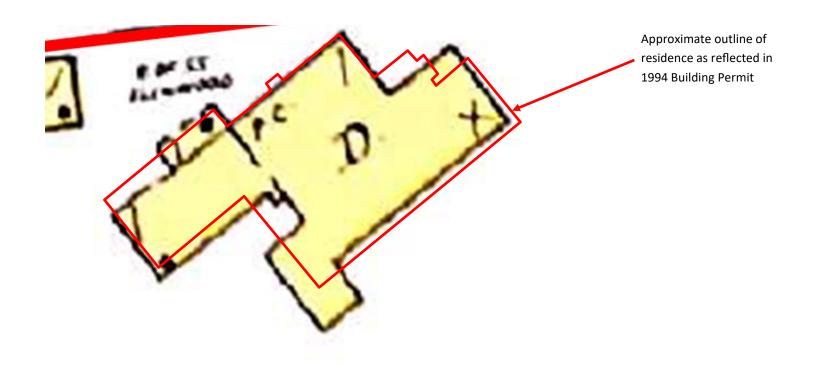
## ARCHITECTURAL/CULTURAL SURVEY LOS GATOS RESEARCH

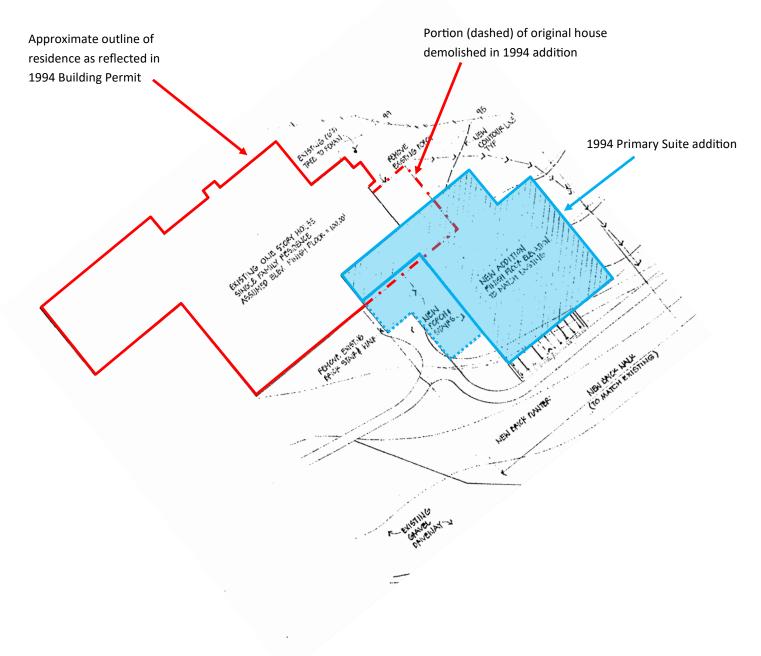
File address 55 Ellenwood									
PARCEL MAP INFORMATION									
Parcel # 510 -19 - 010 Lot size:	front ft. x ft. deep								
Lot shape: Rectangle _ L Rectangle with small re	ear jogOther								
Location: N S E W side of	St Ave Other								
distance to cross st:ft. NS_	EWfrom								
	SWcorner of								
HISTORIC INFORMATION ON PARCEL MAP									
Old tract or subdivision nameOld H	Block # Old lot #								
FIELD SURVEY INFORMATION (handwritten in red)									
Preliminary rating // Estimated age Style # stories									
Alterations									
Other									
OUNTY ASSESSORPROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS (paste on o	copy) 89/1 EFFective date 12-87								
APN 510-19-010 ADDRESS 55 ELLENWOOD SINGLE FAMILY TRA 3-001 MIDTH 70 58. FEET 1,820 TOT 8 USE CODE VR BUILT 18 ACRES .48 NO. FLOORS 1 DATHS	OOMS 7 DINING ROOM 2 POOL 3 FAMILY ROOM 2 GARAGE S/F 320 CTILITY RM FIN BSMT 320								
OWNERSHIP SHOWN ON MAPS Source Source Location of property, or I Name Date Page Oldstract/block/lot	Lot Owner  Size Name								
1891									
B1k Book 1908									
Survey 1944									
	OTOS: Roll/frame # 028/4 Date 6 866 90								
National Register listed dateCounty Inventory 1979									
Town of Los Gatos: Designation Recognition									
District Name Provious Survey									
Previous Survey  EVALUATION. Date 95057 Alterations: Moved									
Contributor Kaised Total Contributor Addition Siding —	8								
Earliest known Owner Resident: Context(\$):  Windows Condition Designer: a b d	ATTACHMENT 1								



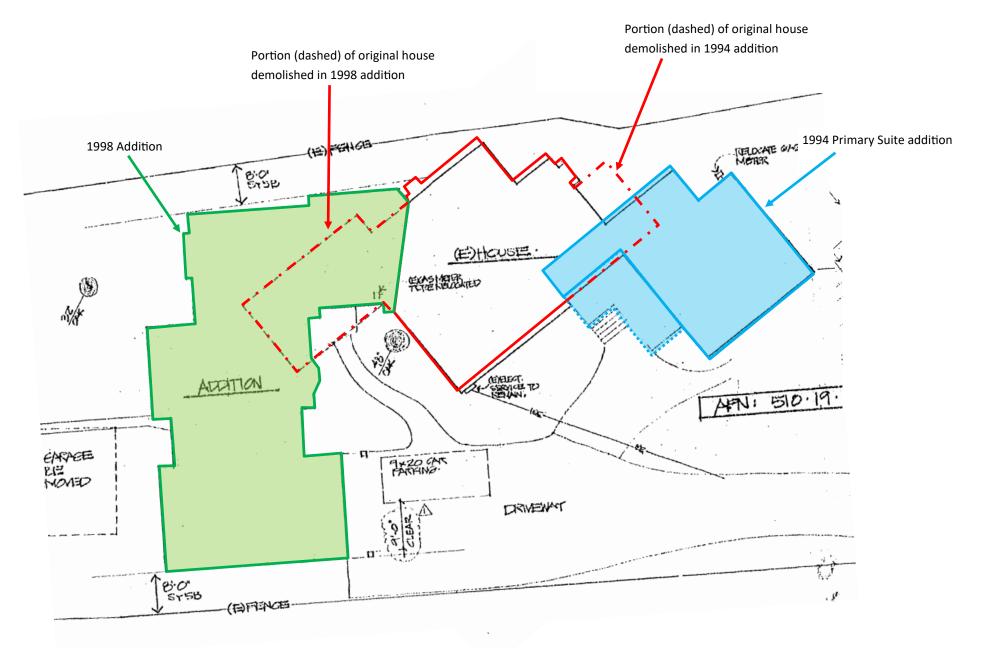








1994 Permit for Primary Suite Addition



1998 Permit for Addition

**DATE:** October 25, 2024

TO: Historic Preservation Committee

SUBJECT: Consider a Request to Remove a Property from the Historic Resources Inventory for Property

Zoned R-1:8.Located at 55 Ellenwood Ave. APN:510-19-011

PROPERTY OWNER/APPLICANT:

PROJECT PLANNER: Sean Mullin, AICP Senior Planner Community Development Department

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Consider a request to remove a property from the Historic Resources Inventory for property zoned R-1:8 located at 55 Ellenwood Avenue, Los gatos, California 95030-5221

#### **Property Location Information**

APN: 510-19-011

Site Address: 51 ELLENWOOD AV LOS GATOS CA 95030-5221 Recorded Size (Assessor Database): 25,136 sq. ft. / 0.6 acres

TRA: 03000

#### Planning and Development Information

APN:51019011 is incorporated (LOS GATOS).

General Plan: USA USA: Los Gatos (100%)

SOI: Los Gatos

Zoning: INCORPORATED Supervisor District: 5

Approved Building Site: Research needed to evaluate parcel as a Building Site

#### Special Area Policies and Information

- Los Gatos Hillside Specific Plan Area: IN
- Fire Responsibility Area: LRA (100%)
- Fire Protection District: Santa Clara County Central Fire Protection District
- · Geohazard: County landslide hazard zone
- · Historic Parcel: NO
- FEMA Flood Zone: X (100%)
- · Sanitary District: West Valley Sanitation District
- · Watershed: San Francisco Bay
- · Rain isohyet: 32 inches

Nearest named creek: ALMENDRA CREEK (630 feet) Nearest named lake: Vasona Reservoir (5713 feet)

#### ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Applicant letter
- 2. Picture from Los Gatos Library records
- 3. List of previous owner from Polk's Directories and County records
- 4. Anne Bloomfield's survey report
- 5. Property pictures

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to request removing the property at 55 Ellenwood Avenue, Los Gatos from the historic listing. As I investigate, this property has the following information:

- 1. After conducting extensive research at Los Gatos Public Library, we were unable to find any mention of this property in historical newspapers, any articles, any important real estate listings, or public records. If the building had significant historical importance, we believe it would have been documented somewhere. Please see Exhibit 3 for reference.
- 2. During our research at the library, we reviewed several documents, including Project Bellringer II, which lists homes built before 1900, and a paper on the Los Gatos Historic Homes Tours. Additionally, we searched the Historic Property Research Collection. None of these sources, however, made any mention of 55 Ellenwood Avenue, suggesting that this property may not be recognized as historically significant in these contexts. Please see Exhibit 1 and 2 for reference.
- 3. Upon researching in Bookcase# 11 in 1941 tax assessment survey, no information regarding 55 Ellenwood Avenue was found, indicating that the property may not have been recorded during that period. Please see Exhibit 4 for reference.
- 4. In Anne Bloomfield's 1989 survey, she indicated that 55 Ellenwood Avenue was likely constructed around 1950. Additionally, she assigned a preliminary rating of "N". This indicates that the property underwent major changes between the time it was originally constructed and 1989 (when survey was conducted) which led the surveyor to indicate the year of construction as 1950. None of the construction related changes are recorded in city archives from the time it was built until 1994. Please see Exhibit 5 for reference.
- 5. We have reviewed the Sanborn maps from 1928 and 1944, which indicate that the house's construction remained largely unchanged during that time. However, between 1944 and 1998, this property underwent several major remodels, revisions, and additions that led to technical demolitions, including massive changes to the front elevation of the property during the major revisions, remodels and extensions done during 1994 and 1998. As a result, much of the building's original historical character has been lost. Please see Exhibit 6, 7, 8 and 9 for reference.
- 6. According to our research from Polk's Directories and County records, these are the list of people who resided in this house.
- 1. 1934-1945 Stanley A R and Flowers C H
- 2. Aug 13,1968- Dec 24,1986: First Syndey and Roberts Dunton owned the property, in middle property defaulted to bank (First National Bank and Palo Alto Financial Corporation) before owned by Leigh & Merry Belden)
- 3. Dec 24, 1986: Leigh & Merry Belden sold it to Andris Holms
- 4. March 24,1992: Andris Holms transferred the property to Andris and Leslie as Community Property
- 5. Dec 20, 2002: Property was transferred from Community Property to Andris and Leslie's Trust
- 6. April 26, 2012: Property was transferred from Trust to Leslie Holms (Survivor)+ Trust
- 7. June 18, 2019: Property was transferred from Leslie Ann Holms and Trust to "The as Trustees as Trus
- --> Upon Looking all records, we were not able to find evidence of any significant architectural entity or individual associates with this property.
- 7. We are encountering several ongoing challenges with this property. The doors frequently stick, making them difficult to open, and the inadequate drainage system results in constant maintenance costs every few months. Neighbors have also expressed concerns about the building's appearance and overall condition reducing the appeal of the neighborhood and has been brought up in every meetup. Additionally, the outdated roof design not only prevents us from installing solar panels but also causes frequent issues with the shingles, which break periodically and require repairs every few months. This has led to water leakage, causing further damage to various parts of the house. The skylights are very old, with seals that no longer function properly, leading to water leaks during rainy weather. Please see pictures attached.
- 8. The exterior shingles of the house are also severely aged, contributing to water seepage around the window trims. This has caused significant window damage, making them difficult to open and reducing ventilation. Despite multiple cleanings, the growth of algae and discoloration on the exterior persists.
- 9. Furthermore, the doors leading to both the front and backyard do not open smoothly, and when they do, they make noise and do not close properly, especially during rainy weather. The wooden frames around these doors are also visibly rotted. We have attached pictures for reference.
- 10. In addition, plumbing issues are frequent, with clogged pipes occurring about every few weeks due to the old plumbing system. As a result, we are limited to using only one of the three bathrooms regularly.
- 11. The house has also severe ant infestation causing unhygienic conditions in the kitchen area.

We as the current owners of 55 Ellenwood Ave, Los Gatos, CA for the last 6 years humbly request to please review the facts and help consider removing the property from historic resources inventory as major changes in 1994 and 1998 have consumed the historical integrity of the property.

# Museums of Los Gatos Historic Homes Tours

45	Ad	dress			Year(s) Ap	peared
237	Almendra	Ave.	Assig.	2009		
75	Alpine	Ave.		1991		
77	Alpine	Ave.		2001		
79	Alpine	Ave.		2001		
31	Ashler			2013		
16158	Bachman	Ave.		2017		
212	Bean	Ave.		2002		
212	Bella	Vista	Ave.	2000		
37	Broadway			2012		
42	Broadway			2008		
44	Broadway			2003		
45	Broadway			1991	2012	
47	Broadway			1994	1999	2012
68	Broadway			2001		
72	Broadway			2001		
15	Chestnut	Ave.		1999		
16	Chestnut	Ave.		1995	2009	
40	Chestnut	Ave.		2009		
54	Chestnut	Ave.		1999	2004	
21	Clifton	Ave.		2008		
59	College	Ave.		2015		
100	Creffield	Heights		2011		
140	Creffield	Heights		2011		
16660	Cypress	Wy.		1994	2015	
106	E.	Main	St. (NUMU)	2017		
129	Edelen	Ave.		1998	2013	
130	Edelen	Ave.		2003	2013	
15	Ellenwood	Ave.		2001		
51	Ellenwood	Ave.		2008		
50	Ellenwood	Ave.		2008		
51	Ellenwood	Ave.		2005		
56	Ellenwood	Ave.	Blad	2008		
L8537	Eucalyptus	Dr.		2000		
90	Fairview			1994		
19	Glen	Ridge	Ave.	1993		
20	Glen	Ridge	Ave.	2007		
22	Glen	Ridge	Ave.	1995	2006	

# Los Hatos Project Bellringer 1976 - 1987

Melvin, Gloria Basuini No 16351 Almaden/Los Gatos Road (p-1901)

> Thomas, Ann Atkinson 75 Alpine (1887)

Spencer, Eleanor Anderson 256 Bachman (1880)

Thomas J., Mrs. Pashos 328 Bachman (1885)

Joseph M., Mrs. Mayer 212 Bella Vista Avenue (1881)

Thomas R., Mrs. Conklin 316 Bella Vista Avenue (1891)

Dan, Linda Sylvester 37 Broadway (1896)

> Peter Carter 45 Broadway (1886)

> Raymond Macabee 62 Broadway (1885)

Daniel, Mrs. Krag 64 Broadway (1893)

Michael, Kim Wasserman 72 Broadway (1887)

Patrick, Mrs. Boner 81 Broadway (1893)

Mrs. Bruce Berryman 89 Broadway (1891)

Lynn, Pam Brandhorst 93 Broadway (1887)

Bernard, Mrs. La Casse 107 Broadway (1891)

Mrs. Stanley Swanson 131 Broadway (p-1901)

Harold, Mrs. Partridge 198 Broadway (p-1901)

Richard, Marlene Wright 42 Central Avenue (1890)

> John, Nora Hellingsen 64 Central Avenue (1895)

Mrs. Niall Tabor 16 Chestnut (1895)

Patrick O'Laughlin, Maggie Kilkenny 54 Chestnut (1894)

Robert, Mrs. Brouwer 56 Cleland (1896)

Robert H. Schumacher 90 Cleland (1886)

Gary, Susan Griffiths 120 Cleland (1891)

Jack B., Mrs. Wytman 126 Cleland (1886) George, Mitzi Baltes 39 College (1891)

James, Mrs. Farwell 113 Edelen (1889)

Galen, Marjorie Muttersbach 118 Edelen (p-1901)

Mrs. Eva Small 121 Edelen (p-1901)

Mrs. Jeanne, Miss Jacqui Wilson T 239 Edelen (1892)

Elmer, Mrs. Rhoads 255 Edelen (1900)

Gary, Lita Ruble 52 Fairview Plaza (1890)

Ronald, Marilyn Plescia 63 Fairview Plaza (1890)

Ms. Jane Hinchliffe 87 Fairview Plaza (1885)

William, Maria Simon, Hoeft 16780 Farley Road (1887)

> William, Mrs. Cotton 14 Glenridge (1895)

J. Philip DiNapoli 19 Glenridge (1885)

Gary, Marily Hart 20 Glenridge (1885)

Steven, Mrs. Sporleder 22 Glenridge (1885)

A.P., Mrs. Rodriques 25 Glenridge (1898)

Andre, Jean Libante 33 Glenridge (1885)

Robert, Mrs. Brusca 216 Glenridge (1896)

Richard, Mrs. Kline 19 Hernandez (1895)

Gerald W. Clark 124 Hernandez (p-1900)

Gordon H., Lita Langlois 130 Hernandez (1895)

James, Annie Lawrie 145 Johnson (1891)

Tal, Marguerita Lloyd 200 Johnson (p-1901)

Dan, Naidine Clark 202 Johnson (p-1901)

Anthony Olivas 301 Johnson (1895)

Robert W., Jeanette Allen 333 Johnson (1891)

#### As It Was - Dora Rankin, 1965

#### House Index

rough alphabetical by street name

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North side of Broadway - The Crall Home" - Page 16

Hill south of Broadway - "John Lyndon Home" - Page 15

East Side of College Avenue - "The Mariotti Fence" - Page 20

Corner of East Main Street and College Avenue – "The Historic Hotel" – Page 20

130 Edelen Avenue – "The Miles Home" – Page 16

Fairview Plaza - "Minster's Home" - Page 12

107 Foster Road - "The Russell Sund Home" - Page 21

20 Glen Ridge Avenue – "Dexter Pierce Home" – Page 13

33 Glen Ridge Avenue – The D.C. Crummey Home – Page 6

Corner of Glen Ridge and Hernandez Avenues - "Redwood Pillars" - Page 10

Glen Ridge Avenue off Nicholson Avenue - "Printer's Home" - Page 13

55 Hernandez Avenue – Page 11

Corner of Hernandez and Peralta Avenues - "The Judge's Home" - Page 15

West Side of Jackson Street, just south of East Main Street - "The Erickson Home" - Page 20

Between Loma Alta Avenue and Johnson Avenue - "The Noble Home" - Page 21

Between Los Gatos and Saratoga - "Nippon Mura" - Page 23

115 Massol Avenue - "The Sporleder Home" - Page 18

West side of Massol Avenue - "In Blackberry Heaven" - Page 18

Northwest Corner of North Santa Cruz Avenue and Bean Avenue – "The Mansion Duplex" – Page 17

9 Palm Avenue - "House of Tragedy" - Page 31



# Anne Bloomfield

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY (410) 922-1063 2229 WEBSTER STREET SAN FRANCISCO, CA 941-5

## ARCHITECTURAL/CULTURAL SURVEY LOS GATOS RESEARCH

Fil	e address 5	Ellerweat						
2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	AP INFORMATION							
Parcel #_	5433-04	Lot s	ize: fr	cont ft. x	_ ft. deep			
Lot shape	: Rectangle_ L	Rectangle with	small rear jog	Other				
Location:	N_ S_ E_ W	side of		StAve	Other			
	distance to cros	s st: ft.	N_ S_ E_	W_from_				
	at NE NW SE SW corner of							
HISTORIC	INFORMATION ON PA	RCEL MAP						
Old tract	or subdivision n	ame	_ Old Block #	01d 1o	t #			
FIELD SUR	VEY INFORMATION (	handwritten in red)						
Prelimina	ry rating //	Estimated age	Style		# stories_			
Alteration	ns							
Other								
CUNTY ASS	SESSORPROPERTY	CHARACTERISTICS (par	ste on copy)	87// EFFect	ive date /2 87			
	Milden contract description							
	THE STATE OF	TO ST. Marine	White 2	· I WARE · I	100 to			
	SHOWN ON MAPS							
Name Name	Date Page	Location of propert Old tract/block/lot	y, or Lot Size	Owner Name				
	1891							
Blk Book	1908							
Survey	1944							
MISCELLANE	DOUS		PHOTOS:	Roll/frame #	Date			
A	degister listed da	ite	- 1000					
	s Gatos: Designat	ion Recognition						
Distric	t Name		100	was tribe				
Previou	is Survey	)						
VALUATION.	Date 19500 7	Alterations: Moved	-	1-1-1				
C10 71	Contributo District Non-contri	Raised Porch encl Addition Siding Windows Condition	-					
arliest known wmer Residen		Designer: s_b_d						
netert(f):	and the	Designer: a						

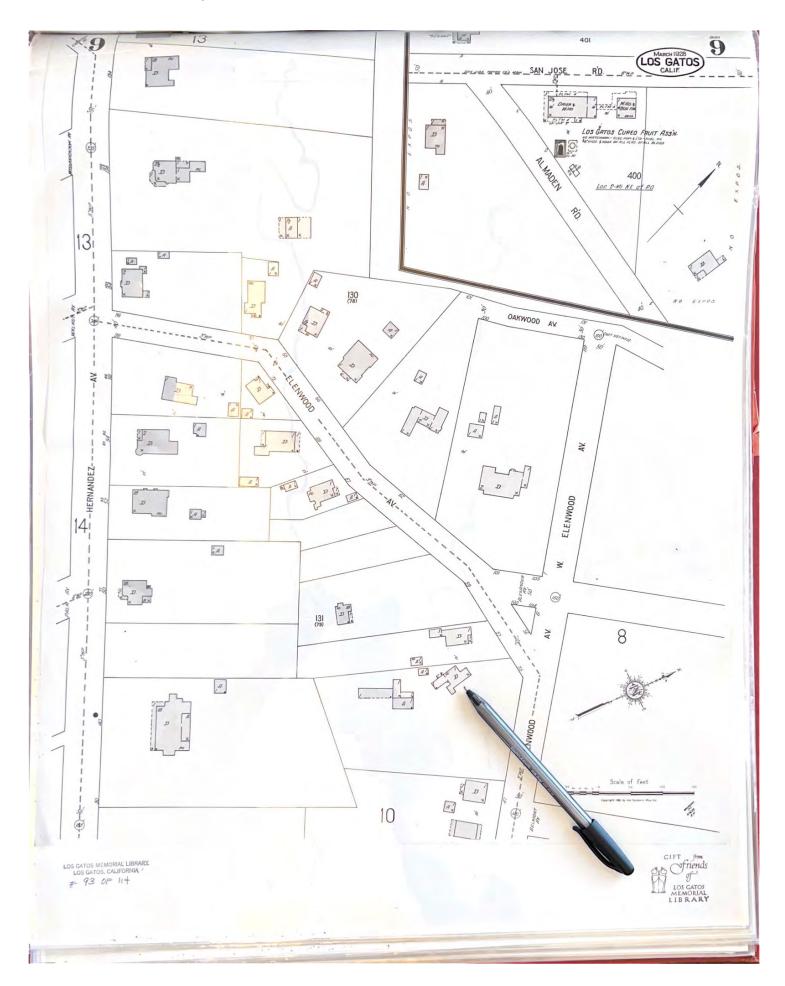


Exhibit 6 (Source Los Gatos Library)

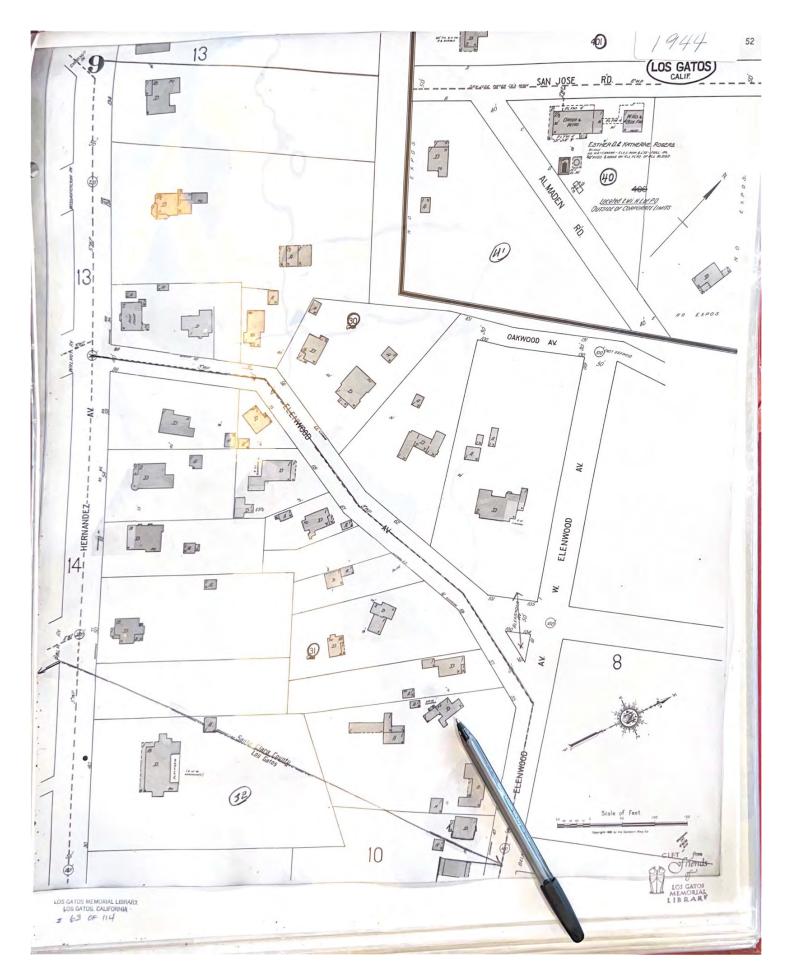
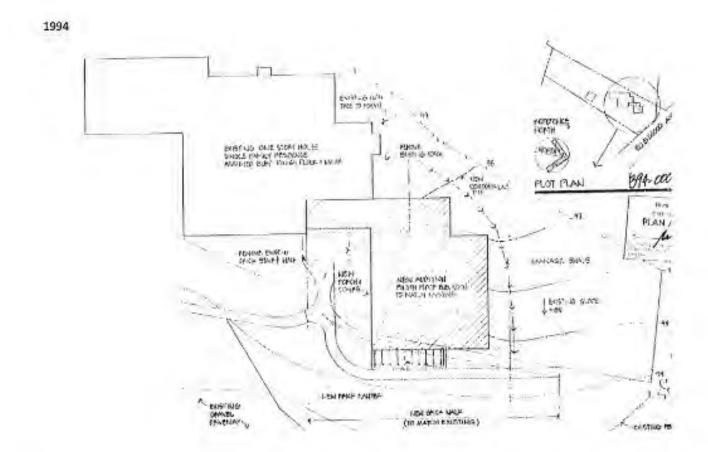
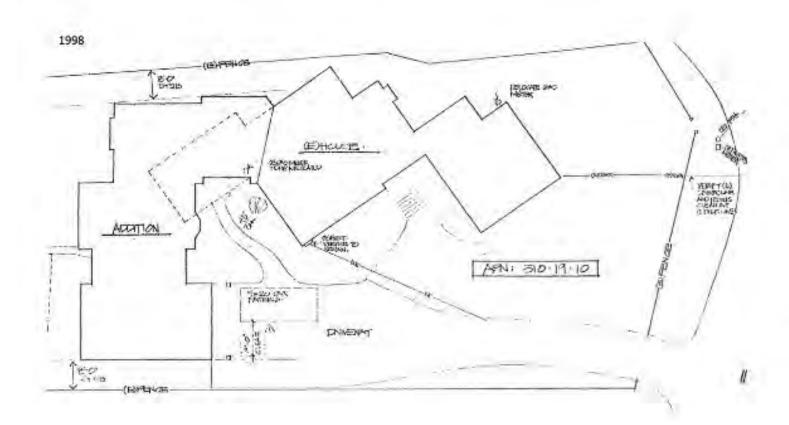
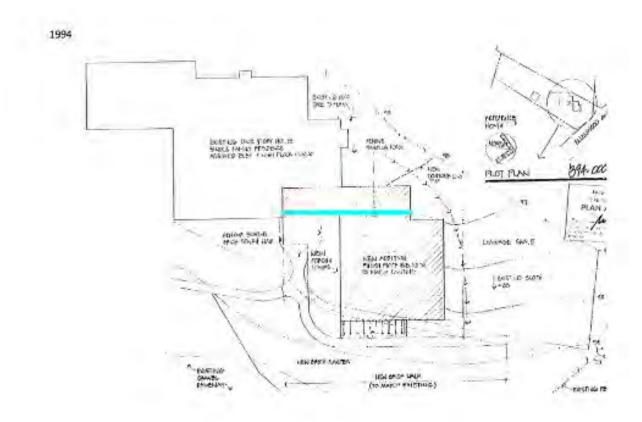
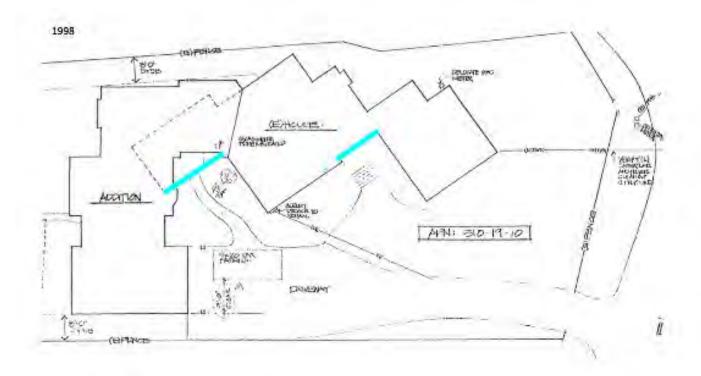


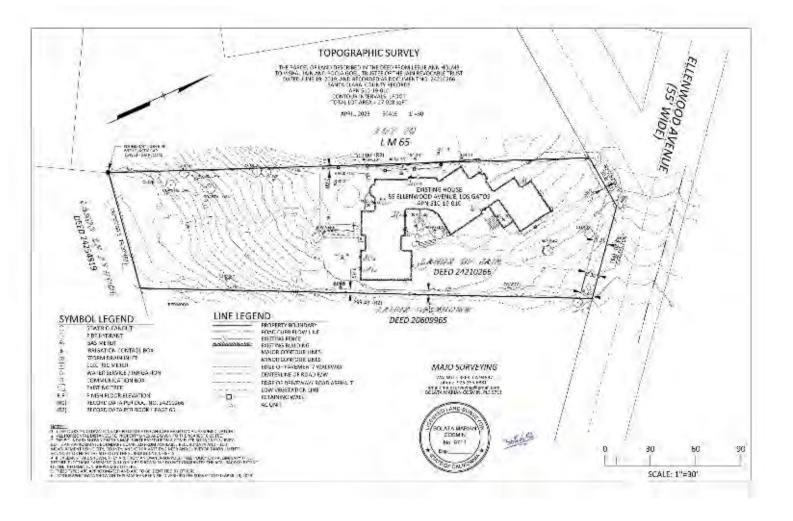
Exhibit 7 (Source Los Gatos Library)











# House Images









































