

I·M·A·G·E·S

SUNNYVALE'S HERITAGE RESOURCES

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First Edition

Preface

This publication is the product of a process begun in the late 1970s to alert Sunnyvale citizens of the impending loss of many buildings reflecting their rich cultural heritage. Mrs. Ann Hines became the principal facilitator of Sunnyvale's historic preservation movement. She provided the inspiration and leadership which led the City Council to provide funds to conduct the City's first historic preservation inventory in 1979, develop a Heritage Preservation sub-element for the General Plan in 1980, and adopt a Heritage Preservation Ordinance creating a Heritage Preservation Commission in 1980.

In 1987 a review and update of the inventory, embodied in this publication, was conducted by the California History Center at De Anza College, Cupertino, under the sponsorship of the City Council and coordinated by the City's Heritage Preservation Commission and Department of Community Development.

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I. Purpose of the Inventory

Comprehensive planning for the present and future of Sunnyvale's built environment requires awareness and understanding of the various forces which shaped the community over time. The City's history is evidenced most visibly in its older structures and existing neighborhoods. They enhance the community's identity and help define its character. By retaining and maintaining representative examples of these building forms, we are in a better position to judge our present values and community progress.

The information contained in this book is intended to help Sunnyvale citizens and property owners gain appreciation for those community cultural resources which connect the present with the past. Since some cultural resources which have historical or architectural significance in one community may go unnoticed in another, it is important to understand that community sentiment is as much a criteria for evaluation of the City's assets as are the standards which have been established by qualified historians.

Selection for this inventory was based on a number of factors, which included citizen input as well as professional historical and architectural judgements. Properties listed were chosen because they are exceptional examples of architectural styles, represent elements of reasonably intact and contiguous older neighborhoods and street scapes, or possess historical significance relative to Sunnyvale. The inventory is by no means meant to be final; it represents a continuing process. It is hoped that as interest is heightened, further cultural resources will be documented and added to the City's official list.

The material developed through the inventory will afford recognition of Sunnyvale's rich heritage. It will provide

planners with a base from which to develop policies germane to neighborhood development, conservation, and housing. It will provide the basis for legal and financial tools to protect and enhance historical resources to the community's economic and cultural benefit.

PACIFIC OCEAN

SAN FRANCISCO BAY

SUNNYVALE

CITY OF DESTINY
OF SANTA CLARA CO. CAL.
W. E. CROSSMAN CO.
SOLE AGENTS.

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COMMERCIAL ART CO. 519 N

II. History of Sunnyvale

Sunnyvale possesses some of the most fertile land in California, a product of centuries of geologic action and alluvial settlement. Stevens Creek and other streams running out of the Santa Cruz Mountains deposited heavy loam sediments atop a coarse gravel base, forming rich soil with excellent drainage. The same geologic forces created a belt of Artesian wells, which would provide economical irrigation with the introduction of agriculture in the 19th century. Finally, a moderate climate generally free of the coastal fogs historically associated with the San Francisco Peninsula contributed greatly to the region's natural abundance.

Human habitation may have begun in the area as much as 20,000 years ago, while earliest permanent occupation of the Central Coast appears to have been about 10,000 years ago. Archaeological and historical research established the Ohlone people as the descendants of the earliest inhabitants. The Spanish called them *Costeños* or People of the Coast. Before the Spanish arrival in the 18th century, as many as 10,000 of these hunters and gatherers lived in the coastal area between San Francisco Bay and Point Sur, south of Monterey. Demographically they were broken into about forty different groups speaking twelve to fourteen distinct but related languages. Around 250 people comprised the average group or village.

The Ohlones maintained villages along the San Francisco Bay shore, in close proximity to fresh water sources. Their conical hut dwellings were made by lashing bundles of tule rush to a framework of arched willow poles. Acorns gathered from the vast oak forests of the Santa Clara Valley were their principle staple, but the Ohlones were also expert hunters and fishers. They practiced land management by using fire to

keep brush from taking over meadowlands, and this provided grazing habitat for game and fostered certain grass and flower types for the dietary chain. In short, they maintained a balanced rather than exploitive relationship with nature, and balance seems to have been the key to their culture as well.

Unfortunately, the Spanish did not see a native civilization which had achieved a balanced way of life "capable of perpetuating itself for century after century without the people destroying each other or their natural environment." They did not recognize that the park-like beauty of the pre-European peninsula was a product of the Ohlone's superb range management. Rather they saw an "idle, improvident, and brutish" society, the ideal raw material for "an abundant harvest of souls."

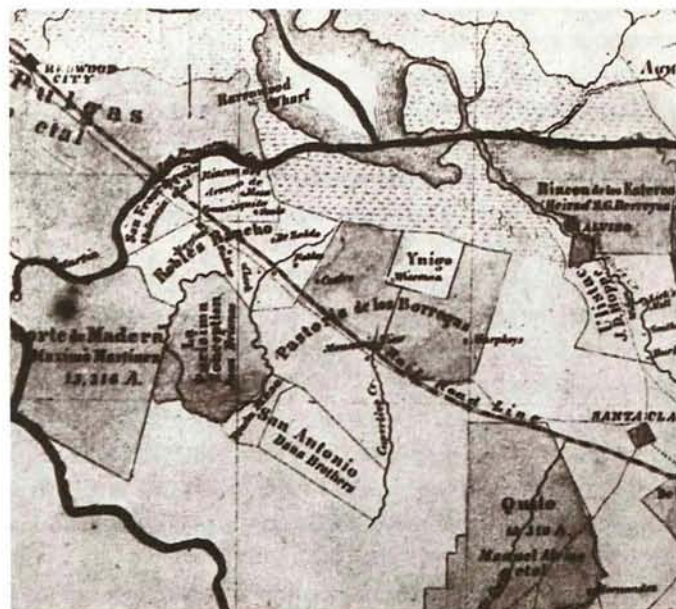
Initial Spanish settlement in the Sunnyvale region came with the Mission Santa Clara de Asis, founded on January 12, 1877. It was the eighth in the chain of 21 California missions which eventually stretched from San Diego to Sonoma, each separated by a day's horseback ride along a dusty trail called the Kings Highway: *El Camino Real*.

Under Spanish colonization policy, the missions were not intended to be permanent. Each mission was to draw in the indigenous native population for a period of about 10 years, where padres would teach the Indians to be agriculturists, tradespeople, and good Christians. At the end of this training, the Indians were to receive their own farmland. The missions were to become parish churches. Admirable in theory, this proved impracticable, and the California missions continued until forced secularization in the 1830s.

Very few Christianized Indians realized the promise of land after secularization. Instead, California's Mexican governors

granted the mission lands principally to the descendants of the early Spanish-Mexican settlers. An exception was Rancho Posolmi y Posita de Las Animas, now part of Sunnyvale. This 1,696 acre land grant was made to the Indian Lupe (or Lopez) Ynigo on February 15, 1844.

But 8,800 acres of former Mission Santa Clara sheep pasturage were granted in 1842 to Francisco and Inez (Castro) Estrada. Their Rancho Pastoria de Los Borregos today is encompassed by the cities of Sunnyvale and Mountain View. Through a series of circumstances, the land passed to Inez' father, the former Alcalde (mayor) of San Jose, Mariano Castro. He occupied the Rancho in 1843, where he raised cattle, horses, sheep, and a few crops.



Pastoria de los Borregos.

California History Center.

In 1850 Martin Murphy, Jr., purchased 4,800 acres of Castro's Pastoria de Los Borregos for about a dollar an acre. Among the earliest Anglo settlers in the Santa Clara Valley, the Murphy family had been part of the first successful immigrant crossing of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in 1844. They expressly sought to live in a Catholic community, and Martin Murphy, Jr.'s purchase of the land south of Permanente Creek began their life in California as landed Irish aristocracy.

Murphy designed a 30 room manor house for his new "Bayview Farm." As there were few sawmills in California capable of doing the work he required, in 1851 he had the house prefabricated in Bangor, Maine, and shipped around the Horn for assembly. Murphy raised grain and stock, introducing American strains of cattle and the Norman breed of horses to the region. He planted some of the first orchards in the Santa Clara Valley and also is credited with early use of farm machinery.

Bayview Farm became a political and social center for the region, and the family's "Old World" hospitality was unending. The Murphys set aside a room for Archbishop Alemany and hosted many weddings and baptisms. In 1850 the initial meeting of the State Supreme Court occurred in the house. The Murphys made major contributions to development of the valley, including support for Santa Clara University and the Convent of Notre Dame. A large wooden platform used at their golden wedding anniversary in 1881 was employed to construct the first chapel in Mountain View, and a huge barbecue initiated at their anniversary party became one of the valley's biggest annual social events for the next 25 years.

In 1864 Murphy allowed the San Francisco and San Jose Railroad a right of way across his property, his agreement securing passenger stops at "Lawrence Station" in Santa Clara



The Murphy home, brought
around the Horn.

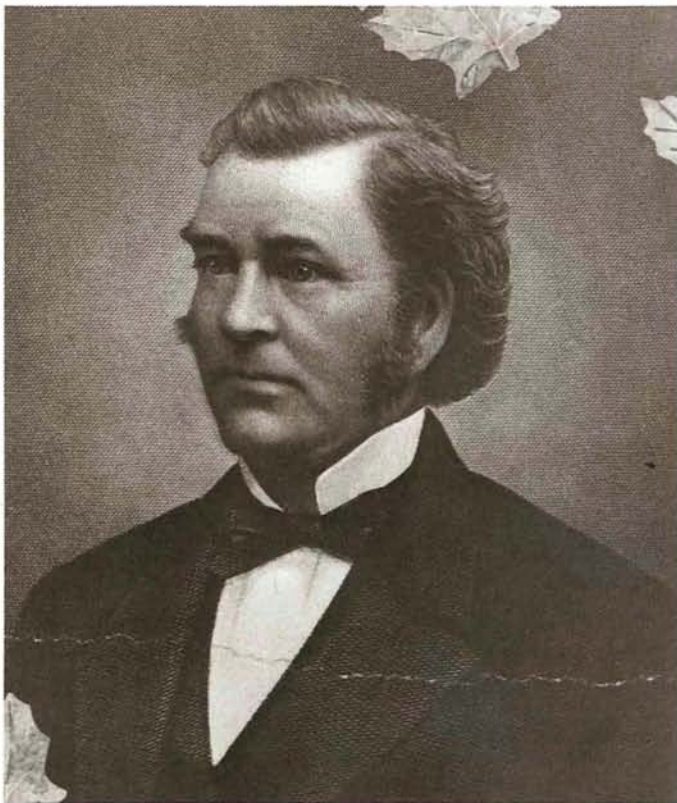
California History Center.

and "Murphy Station" in what would become Sunnyvale. The railroad afforded swift and easy access to the San Francisco market and paved the way for greater settlement and broader agricultural development in the Santa Clara Valley.

Ideal growing conditions brought other enterprising farmers to the Sunnyvale area during the last half of the 19th century. In 1851 William Wright of Maryland arrived by way of the Mother Lode to mine the golden harvest of Santa Clara Valley's wheat and barley. In the 1860s George H. Briggs came from Boston and introduced steam powered irrigation in his

orchards and vineyards. The Collins brothers of New York established the 320 acre Pebbleside Winery in 1862, which daily produced 300 gallons of prize winning wine for the San Francisco market. Their achievements are still recognized by well known local place names and through the City Landmarks program.

After Martin Murphy, Jr.'s death in 1884, his children divided almost 5,000 acres of land. Smaller farms began to appear in the area now called *Encinal*, the Spanish word meaning "where the live oak grows." Murphy's son, Patrick,



Martin Murphy, Jr.

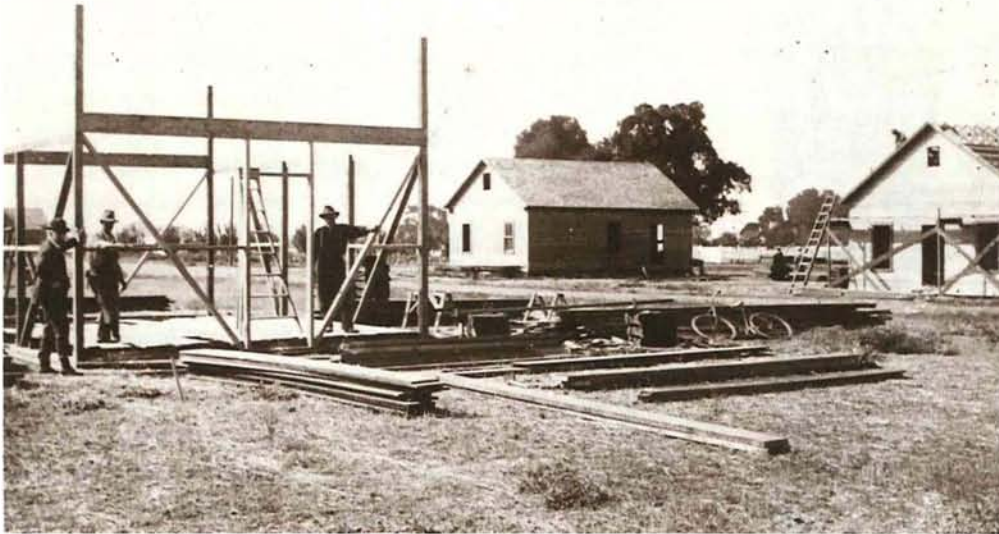
California History Center.

inherited the Bayview Farm, kept it in agriculture, and leased 200 acres west of the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks to Antone Vargas, a Portuguese farmer. Vargas cultivated wheat and avoided high railroad charges by shipping his crop to market by water from Jagel's Landing, near the site of present day Moffett Field on San Francisco Bay.

The local self-supporting farms required little outside labor, even for the harvest. Neighbors helped neighbors, and during the off-season the county paid farmers \$4.00 a day to haul gravel for paving county roads. Yet Encinal residents felt the nationwide depression of the 1890s, and Patrick Murphy was forced to sell all but seven acres of his Bayview Farm. In 1897 realtor Walter E. Crossman purchased for \$38,000 the 200 acres which Antone Vargas had been leasing. Vargas then bought 10 acres on Mary Avenue from Crossman and continued to farm on vacant parcels of land. Today redwoods planted by his son Manuel in 1900 flank the entrance to the old 10 acre ranch on Mary Avenue.

The 1900 Santa Clara County Directory listed about 60 entries for Encinal, including Murphy Station, Fred Cornell's general store and Encinal Post Office on the corner of Murphy and Evelyn avenues, and the grammar school built in 1899. On his site immediately south of the Southern Pacific right of way between Bayview and Mathilda avenues and extending to the County Road, Crossman planned a town, but the area grew slowly at first. Only one carpenter, Thomas Spencer, was listed in the 1900 directory.

W. E. Crossman (far left) visiting
an early Sunnyvale residential
construction site.

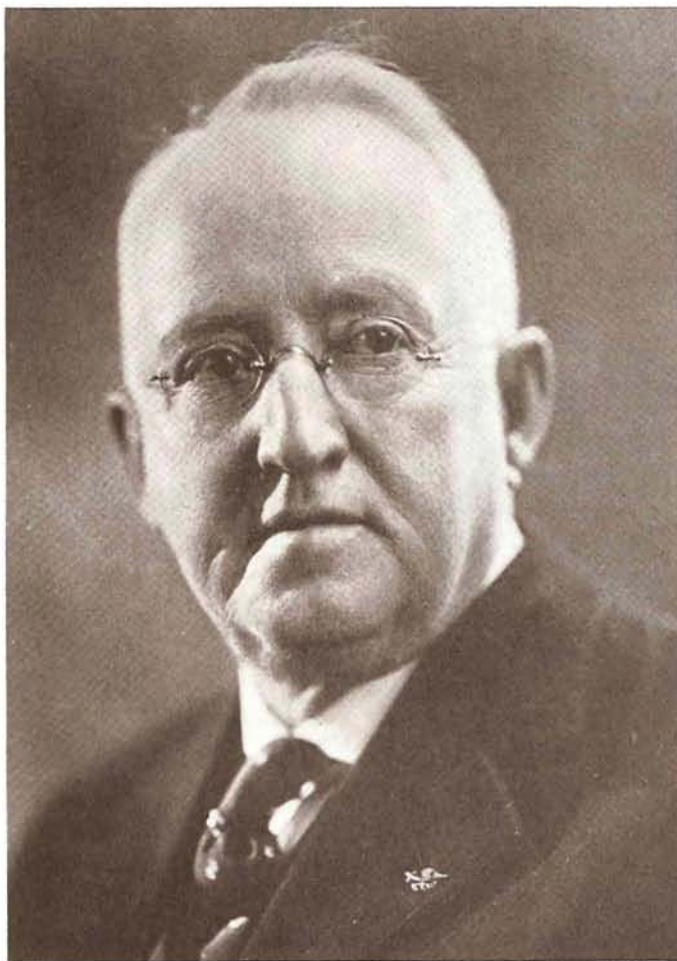


The Camera Mart.

Local tradition suggests that Crossman may have come up with the name Sunnyvale, which the new community adopted on March 24, 1901. Certainly, he was responsible for the establishment of the "City of Destiny" and its initial economic growth. He was far more than a real estate developer. He laid out the City in such a way as to facilitate future physical expansion as well as placate nervous neighbors in Mountain View, Santa Clara, and San Jose. Crossman drew a "shoe string strip" of land into the bay as far as the Alameda County line to secure potential port access. Jagel's Landing became Port Sunnyvale, part of the original townsite, and the strip of land

became a spine from which much of Sunnyvale's future industrial expansion would grow.

Carl and Hannah Olson typified the multi-national immigrant families that responded to W. E. Crossman's offer of a free train ride, barbecue, and generous terms for five acre orchard sites. The Olsons paid \$750 for their parcel on McKinley Street, between Taaffe and Murphy streets across from Encinal School. They hired Danish carpenter Byrnal Brynerson for \$2.00 a day to build their modest \$300, three room, wood framed house, and they spent another \$150 to sink an 80 foot well.



C. C. Spalding.

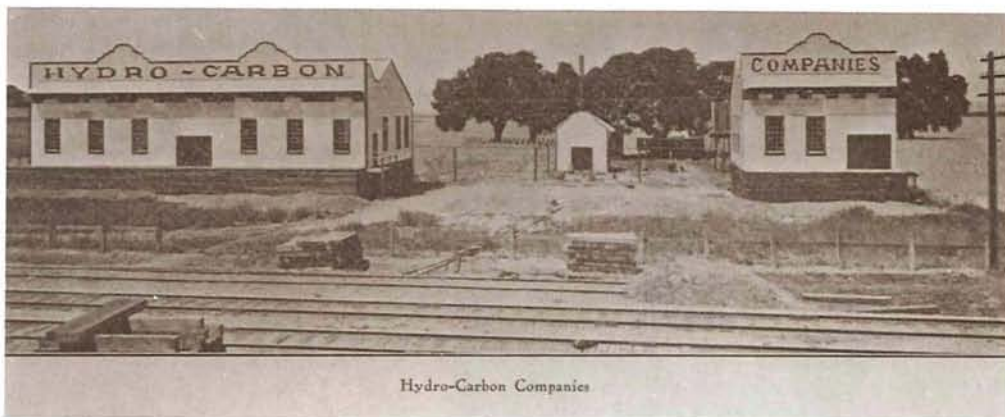
History of Santa Clara County (1922).

The town had a Volunteer Fire Department, its own brass band, and a newspaper, the *Sunnyvale Standard*, established by J. H. McCarthy in 1905. C. C. Spalding had started development of the south end of Murphy Avenue and opened Sunnyvale's first bank. With his brother-in-law, C. L. Stowell, he also built the S. and S. Block, which included a public hall. Many new business buildings went up in the Mission and Mediterranean architectural styles, reflecting a then current revival of interest in California's Spanish heritage. They replaced the wood-framed, false fronted stores that characterized Sunnyvale's earliest commercial development.

Following the San Francisco earthquake in 1906, W. E. Crossman began to promote Sunnyvale as an ideal industrial community. He attracted the Joshua Hendy Iron Works, Jubilee Incubator Company, Goldy Machine Company, Hydro Carbon Company, and the Libby, McNeil and Libby Food Processing Plant. In 1906 about \$200,000 was invested in plant development and another \$150,000 in residential and commercial construction. To accomplish the building, over 18 carpenters, five contractors, two lumber yards, McGlaufflin's Milling Company, and the newly established Century Paint and Roofing Company located in the town.

A nationwide depression which started in 1907 temporarily slowed Sunnyvale's rapid growth. Nevertheless, contractor George D. Huston still offered free plans and bonded work to build housing in return for 25 percent down "and the rest at your leisure at six percent net." Despite the financial hard times, which lasted for five years, City boundaries expanded from 200 to 2,000 acres. From a population of not much over 100 in 1900, Sunnyvale grew to over 1,200 people by 1912.

That year an advertisement in *Collier's Magazine* described Sunnyvale as "a manufacturing suburb of San Francisco" and the Santa Clara Valley as "a poor man's paradise." Modern municipal sewer and water systems and two new schools had



Hydro-Carbon Companies,
c. 1910.

California History Center.

Live in your Own Home



I will build it for you
I furnish plans free of charge
I furnish cash bonds on all work

All you need is 25 per cent
to pay down and the rest at
your leisure at 6 per cent net.

References Furnished

GEO. D. HUSTON

Contractor & Builder

Address: Sunnyvale Post Office
Sunnyvale, Cal.

been completed, and the community's Chamber of Commerce paid for an election which resulted in Sunnyvale's formal incorporation on Christmas Eve. In 1913 El Camino Real was paved, denoting the automobile's rise and improved access to markets. A number of additions to the new town also were developed, among them Diana Park and the Fair Oaks Addition. Colonel Harvey C. Fuller, who laid out another tract, named Florence, Charles, and Waverly streets after family members and his Iowa birthplace.

Despite industrial growth, agriculture remained the mainstay of Sunnyvale. Most land parcels were between five and ten acres in size, and a five acre plot which sold for \$750 in 1900 had increased in value to \$3,500 by 1912. Older families continued to hold some of the best acreage, such as the Spalding Tract along both sides of El Camino Real in the area now known as the Old San Francisco Road. Such areas boasted Queen Anne cottages and Colonial Revival residences,

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Washington Street looking toward
Murphy Avenue in 1906.

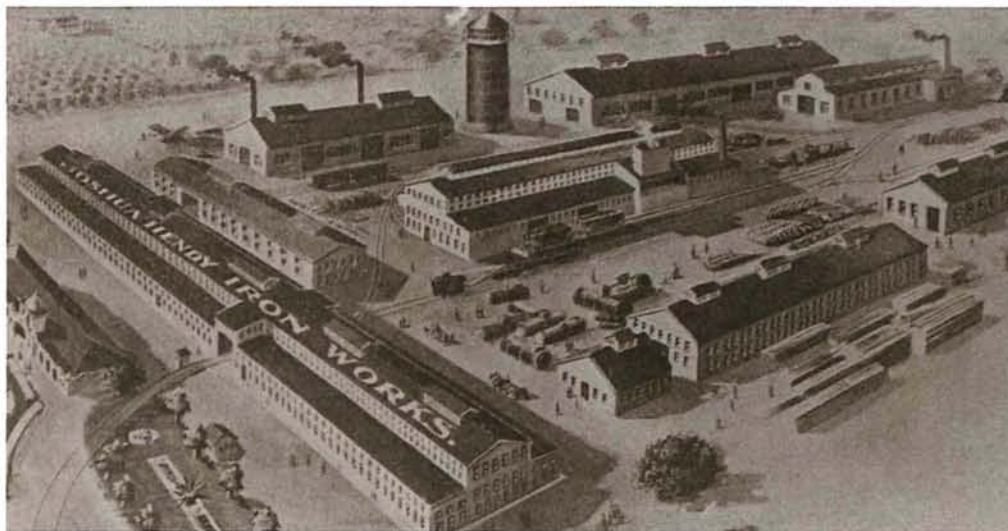


The Camera Mart.

while the California Bungalow became common in areas developed after 1910. Low and comfortable with open plans, bungalows were reasonably priced and appropriate to the environment.

World War One brought an influx of new settlers. The Hendy Iron Works' 900 employees went on a 24 hour work schedule, producing marine engines and armaments, while

other companies and farms expanded to meet new demands. The war and postwar era witnessed stabilization of the community axis from which modern Sunnyvale would develop. Industrial plants and the railroad stretched east-west, while the Murphy Avenue business district ran north-south. Single family homes, generally built on 25' × 100' lots, bridged the manufacturing and commercial areas.



The Hendy Iron Works.

California History Center.

Cottages for factory and cannery workers clustered around the plants, and more pretentious residences lined Sunnyvale and Mathilda avenues.

Some of the more substantial public buildings in the community benefited from professional architectural design. William H. Weeks, for example, planned the 1925 Fremont High School. But the majority of new buildings were the product of contractors and carpenter builders. Their use of popular pattern book designs established the residential and commercial character of the City. One such builder was Welford Cochrane, whose daughter Edwinna (Annette)

Cochrane Benner served on the City Council for 27 years and in 1924 became one of California's first women mayors.

The Tudor and Mediterranean revival houses prevalent in the historic neighborhoods adjacent to Murphy Avenue particularly were popular during the 1920s, their fashionable Old World look symbolizing the benefits gained from a growing economy. Yet Sunnyvale remained a close, neighborly community. Local farmers still gathered to exchange daily news at the Murphy and Evelyn avenues corner watering trough, and everyone enjoyed Saturday night dances at the City Hall during canning season.

Schuckl cannery workers.



California History Center.

In the late 1920s considerable growth occurred, Sunnyvale's economic base expanding with over a million dollars in industrial development. The Schuckl Canning Company bought out Sunnyvale Canneries in 1929, building a new facility in 1931 and pioneering aseptic canning. The firm had its own kindergarten for employees' children, and about 40 worker cottages were built for seasonal help in what is now Washington Park. An expanding poultry industry brought development of Easter Gables subdivision along

Crescent Street, where neat bungalows on deep lots had chicken houses built behind them. Meanwhile, the South Shore Port Company improved Port Sunnyvale to accommodate vessels of up to 500 tons, and the U.S. Navy began to investigate the area as a potential site for a West Coast lighter-than-air landing facility.

Because of the foresight of W. E. Crossman and others, the 1930s depression did not affect Sunnyvale as adversely as it did other communities. A decline in manufacturing put some

The Sunnyvale Naval Air Station.



California History Center.

factory workers off their jobs, but many, as in the brief economic turn down after World War One, were able to find work in agriculture. Indeed, 1934 marked the peak year for Sunnyvale's canning industry.

Construction of the Sunnyvale Naval Air Station, later renamed Moffett Field after Admiral William A. Moffett, Chief of the Bureau of Aeronautics, required 850,000 man hours of work. The project generated almost 5 million dollars in wages for Bay Area residents by the time it was completed in 1933. Development of the air station facilitated the widening of Murphy Avenue and prompted more growth along the

commercial artery in anticipation of a business boom.

The onslaught of World War Two brought the boom in both business and new building. Because a large number of Sunnyvale companies turned to war production, the region was declared a Critical Defense Area and permitted to build new housing. Victory Village, between Fair Oaks and Bartlett avenues east of the Hendy Iron Works (today's Westinghouse Marine Division plant), was constructed between 1943 and 1944. It remains as one of the best single examples of California's important wartime housing tracts.

The war tipped the balance between agriculture and

industry. Both high wages and available work created an agricultural labor shortage. Orchards were still profitable but now secondary to industrial development. Population increased to 4,300, and larger industrial firms moved into the community, with Westinghouse, for example, taking over the Hendy Iron Works. Sunnyvale became "the industrial economic heart throb of the Peninsula."

A brief economic decline at war's end spurred the City and Chamber of Commerce into action. A Citizens Committee was formed to hire a dynamic Chamber manager and draw new industry to the area. The new manager, Al Spiers, arrived in 1946 and industry followed. Spiers brought almost 100 new companies to Sunnyvale during his tenure in office. By 1948 the City and Chamber had worked out a five point development program which included safety, new housing, new industries and businesses, a new post office, and a City recreation program.

Spiers spent much of his time working with residents on economic development needs and clean industry concepts. He sought non-polluting industrial parks which in part would develop off the "shoe string strip" which W. E. Crossman had created when he laid out the town in 1898. Meanwhile, the City adopted a council-manager government under a new charter and combined police and fire responsibilities in a Public Safety Department, one of the state's first such agencies. This began a series of innovative actions that in time would make Sunnyvale one of the most efficient local governments in the country.

By 1950 Sunnyvale's population reached 9,829, and its first major industrial annexation occurred the next year. Lockheed Corporation's Missile and Space Division gave three reasons for coming to Sunnyvale: the climate, access to the academic environment of the peninsula, and the City's quality planning. Lockheed's arrival increased the community's population to

22,500 in four years. Taxes on farmland rose rapidly, making agricultural use impracticable and spurring land owners to sell or develop residential subdivisions and shopping centers. A new City Hall was constructed by decade's end, and an urban renewal program began to assure downtown health and vitality.

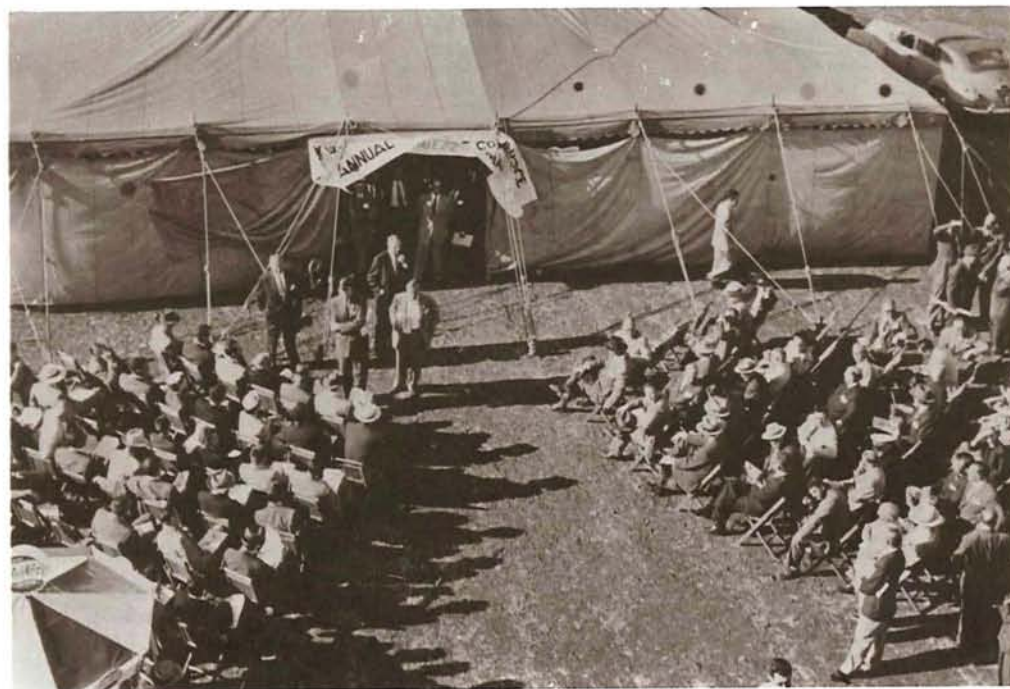
Sunnyvale entered the 1960s with 53,000 residents. Transportation corridors and street patterns changed to accommodate steadily increasing automobile traffic, and Sunnyvale became the second largest city in Santa Clara Valley. Libby, McNeil and Libby's work force expanded to 2,900, making the agricultural processing firm the third largest employer in the City. But more and more orchards were being torn out, and houses tied to Sunnyvale's past were being razed, including Murphy's Bayview Farm. Change seemed unalterable.

By the 1970s Sunnyvale came to the end of an expansionist period, in which 30 years of growth principally had seen agricultural land converted to urban uses. Its boundaries pressed against those of its neighbors and little undeveloped land remained within them. The City entered a new phase of its life, one in which growth and change would involve either the replacement, remodeling, or conservation of earlier structures. Any new development now would be immediately adjacent to earlier structures and neighborhoods, and it inevitably would affect the old.

Recognizing the potential loss of important historical and cultural resources as well as areas of community character

OPPOSITE: A growing community. *California History Center.*





The Chamber of Commerce explains Sunnyvale's growth at a news conference, June 8, 1955.

California History Center.

interested citizens began working with the City during the 1970s to survey and inventory the remaining historical structures, sites, and neighborhoods. That continuing process has led to this publication in an effort to help Sunnyvale citizens understand the importance of preserving as much of

their community's rich legacy as possible. Since learning from the past prepares us for the future, today's existing cultural resources will insure the visual vitality of Sunnyvale street scapes, serve as reminders of the "City of Destiny's" past, and help us build even a stronger tomorrow.

III. Sunnyvale's Historic Architecture: A Builders' Legacy

Sunnyvale's architecture is straightforward and direct, reflecting the community's working class character. Even well-to-do farmers and industrialists who figured prominently in the City's growth and development generally chose to build larger examples of practical and efficient bungalow and period revival styles, which today constitute the majority of the City's older housing stock.

Except for a few public structures, Sunnyvale buildings were constructed almost entirely by contract or on speculation by contractor/builders. They used popular house plans from pattern books, catalogs, and lumberyard fliers, plus mail order designs available through the *Sunnyvale Standard*. In most instances the homeowner was an active participant in determining the house's final appearance. Therefore, while practical and moderately priced, these homes were up to date and contemporary with the taste of the times.

Architectural styles change with time and fashion. Often one period overlaps another in local popularity so that design elements of a particular style are found incorporated in another. Such was the case in Sunnyvale, where owners and builders alike freely interpreted the wide variety of available building designs and plans. The following descriptions of building styles associated with the Sunnyvale's development offer general guidelines to help citizens better understand their community's architectural heritage.

Pioneer Buildings (1851-1900)

Very few of Sunnyvale's pioneer residences still stand, and over time all have been modified from their original appearance. Most were constructed after 1864 when the railroad built through Martin Murphy's Bayview Farm. Murphy designed his own spacious, rambling two story home. He flanked its basic Gable "I" form with large shed wings which enclosed the ends of an open double porch.

Murphy's generic design came from traditional North American forms that were passed on to successive generations of builders and designers through the use of materials, shapes, textures, spatial organization, proportions among elements,



and systems of ornamentation. In the West simple straightforward "I" or "L" shaped envelopes with gabled and hipped roofs stemmed from remembered older eastern models, and construction depended on availability of materials.

Murphy's home was fabricated in Bangor, Maine, where the parts were numbered and lettered. It was transported by sailing ship around Cape Horn for assembly by Murphy and his ranch hands.

The Landmark William Wright home at 1234 Cranberry probably was built in 1862 and is the only standing example of this pioneer style. A 1918 remodeling modified it somewhat.

Queen Anne (1880s-1910)

The Queen Anne style was introduced from England at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition in 1876. It spread quickly to become one of the most common house styles in America.



Its row house form, for example, abounds in San Francisco.

Irregular in composition, Queen Anne structures vary widely in size and design. The most common examples are in wood and display a variety of shapes and decorative details. Common to the style are bay windows (angled and square), stained glass, a variety of surface textures, including shaped shingles, and decorated eaves and porches, gables, towers, and turrets.

In Sunnyvale the Queen Anne's principal expression was in a cottage version. Remaining examples of these one and a half story farm houses and town residences can be seen at 901 Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road and 471 South Frances. A particularly nice later version of the style which also incorporates Colonial Revival features is at 358 Florence.

Colonial Revival (1840-1950s)

The Colonial Revival style reflects the rebirth of interest in



early English and Dutch houses of the Atlantic seaboard which followed the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exposition. The Georgian and Adam styles form the backbone of the revival and can be seen best as the application of decorative elements from these modes to earlier house types. Typical features are the palladian window, swags and garlands, classical portico entries, and small square or diamond paned windows appended to Queen Anne, stick, and shingle house styles.

The style was popularized nationally through women's magazines, particularly *The Ladies Home Journal*. Local contractor Harold C. Ray illustrated his 1908 *Sunnyvale Standard* advertisement with a photograph of a two story example. In spring 1924 William A. Radford's Chicago Architectural Mail Order House exhibited plans in the *Standard* for a six room Dutch Colonial house designed for a narrow lot.

A Dutch Colonial house designed by the San Jose architectural firm of Wolfe and Higgins can be seen at 113 South Mary Avenue. A transitional version from the Queen Anne style can be found at 585 Old San Francisco Road, while architect Louis Scott's 1939 Georgian revival home for the Diesner Family is at 500 South Frances.

Craftsman/Bungalow (1905-1930s)

The Craftsman/Bungalow forms come from a variety of sources including the English arts and crafts movement, oriental wooden architecture, California adobe dwellings, Swiss chalets, and log cabin structures. The quality of execution that separates the craftsman style from the later pattern book Bungalow resulted from design by an architect rather than by a builder. The Craftsman/Bungalow structures were generally informal in plan, elevation, and detail. They both answered a recognized need for simpler residences,



especially for the working classes.

Despite a multitude of styles, these buildings had certain basic characteristics. They hugged the ground with low pitched, projecting gable roofs generally with exposed rafters. They incorporated large porches, usually under a secondary roof supported by square or elephantine columns. They expressed the material from which they were made and, when carefully sited, settled well into their environments.

Well designed bungalows abounded in Sunnyvale. A wide variety of available ornamentation plus changes in gable motifs, differing window placements, and varied use of materials made it an ideal style for early tract housing. It was possible to build rows of these five and six room working class cottages without having to repeat plans on the same block.

The Obourn Tract on the south side of McKinley between Carroll Street and Bayview Avenue attests to this style's flexibility. Charles Parkinson of Parkinson Brothers Lum-

beryard used tree trunks to post his full width front porch in a particularly fine example of the craftsman Bungalow at 519 South Murphy. A later 1920s pattern book version graces the former site of William Schmidt's Columbian Poultry Farm at 1535 Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road.

Spanish Eclectic Styles (1900-1950)

The earliest manifestation of this style was the Mission Revival, begun in the 1890s. It was viewed as a progressive architectural form because of its unadorned simplicity. Its principal features included large expanses of whitewashed stucco walls, usually covering wooden balloon frames. Its low pitched roofs were capped with red tile. Arched windows and arcaded porches were common. Parapet walls and curvilinear gable ends reflected the shapes of California's mission facades.

Its initial appearance in Sunnyvale was in the form of commercial and public buildings. Built between 1907 and

1908, the Administration Building at the Joshua Hendy Iron Works and Libby, McNeil and Libby's first cannery structures were in the Mission style as was the First Baptist Church, designed by contractor Harold C. Ray. The vocabulary of the style also was employed in the design of C. C. Spalding's Bank of Sunnyvale at the corner of Washington and Murphy Avenue.

Many of the commercial structures built between 1908 and 1940 along the 100 block of Murphy reflect the Mediterranean influence, be it Mission or Spanish Colonial Revival. The latter was a popular house form in the late 1910s and 1920s. These generally had twisted decorative columns and cast or curved ornaments, especially around windows and doors. Windows were relatively small and irregularly spaced. The style employed colored tile work and wrought iron window grilles and was more formal in appearance than the Mission Revival.

Fremont High School, designed in 1925 by William H. Weeks, is an excellent example of the Spanish Colonial Style, as is local architect Louis Scott's four unit 1930 apartment building at 523-25 South Murphy. Scott also was responsible for a number of fine residences constructed in this style shortly before World War Two. One of these is at 505 South Frances.

Tudor (1920-1940)

This building style was especially fashionable in Sunnyvale during the 1920s and 1930s, rivaled in popularity as a vernacular style only by the Spanish Mediterranean modes. The popular name for the form is historically inaccurate, since few examples closely mimicked the architectural characteristics of early 16th Century England. Instead, its principal design elements were loosely based on a variety of late medieval English prototypes, ranging from thatched roof folk



cottages to grand manor houses.

The Tudor style appeared in builders' pattern books through the late 1940s. They were identified by steeply pitched roofs, usually side gabled with a facade dominated by one or more prominent cross gables. They also were characterized by tall, narrow windows, usually in multiple groups and with multi-pane glazing. Decorative non-structural half-timbering graces about half of Sunnyvale's examples of this style, and most have massive chimneys crowned by decorative chimney pots.

Raymond A. Matthews designed and built some excellent examples of this house form in the 1920s, and his son Burr "Monte" Matthews built others in the 1930s. Included among them is the Matthews' family home at 580 South Frances. Near it, at 498 South Frances, is Louis Scott's 1936 Tudor design for R. C. Turvin, which was featured in a 1940 Chamber of Commerce publication as "a typical Sunnyvale home." Many Scott and Matthews designs incorporated decorative



plaster finishes with swags, garlands, and other devices enriching the wall surfaces. They were the product of a local plastering contractor named Waddington. Finally, William Meyers, a contractor from Cupertino, was responsible for the few fine half-timbered brick Tudor houses in Sunnyvale, such as the 1940 one at 505 Murphy.

Prefabricated/Mass Produced Houses (1915-1945)

One of Sunnyvale's most interesting and least appreciated architectural legacies is the large number of quality prefabricated and mass produced homes built as a part of the World War Two national defense effort.

Prefabricated and mass produced houses were not new to Sunnyvale. Martin Murphy's Bayview Farm had been prefabricated in 1851, and Libby, McNeil and Libby, other canneries, and the Joshua Hendy Iron Works built blocks of mass produced temporary worker houses on their plant sites in the early 1900s. It is unknown whether all these firms purchased their low cost industrial houses from mail order firms, such as Alladin Read-Cut Houses, or produced them internally as did Libby.

Although historic precedent for such houses was set by these pioneer Sunnyvale industries, the scale and volume of their production during World War Two was unprecedented. Hundreds of modest five and six room homes were built in dozens of housing tracts which replaced prune, pear, and apricot orchards north of the Southern Pacific Railroad right of way in that part of Sunnyvale once known as the "low lands." The City's heaviest building permit valuation years for both commercial and residential construction came in 1941 and 1942, and Hendy's work force alone expanded from 3,000 to 7,677 between 1942 and 1943.

Contractor Samuel Hyman designed and developed Victory Village, typical of these wartime housing tracts. Hyman was

given permission to construct 250 units on a 38 acre tract adjacent to the Hendy plant at Fair Oaks and California avenues, although he completed only 55 of them. The one story, wood framed, two and three bedroom homes were priced at \$4,000. They had flat, slightly overhanging roofs, trellised front porches, and large backyards. Today some lots still contain fruit trees from the orchards which they replaced. Originally projected to last only a few years as temporary housing, Victory Village is still intact and most of its houses have only minor alterations.

Another interesting product of this period in Sunnyvale's housing development was the construction of Homewood Tract house #212 at 301 North Arques Avenue near Murphy.

The little two bedroom, five room home was erected in just eight hours by a crew of 25 builders working for the Pacific Home Company.

House #212 brings a logical conclusion to this discussion of Sunnyvale's architectural heritage. Like Sunnyvale's first home, the Bayview Farm, it was fabricated in one location and transported to its final construction site. Both houses were the product of expanding building technology based on standardized materials and facilitated by rapid and far reaching distributive systems. Perhaps most important, both were the product of the builders' profession, Sunnyvale's architectural legacy.

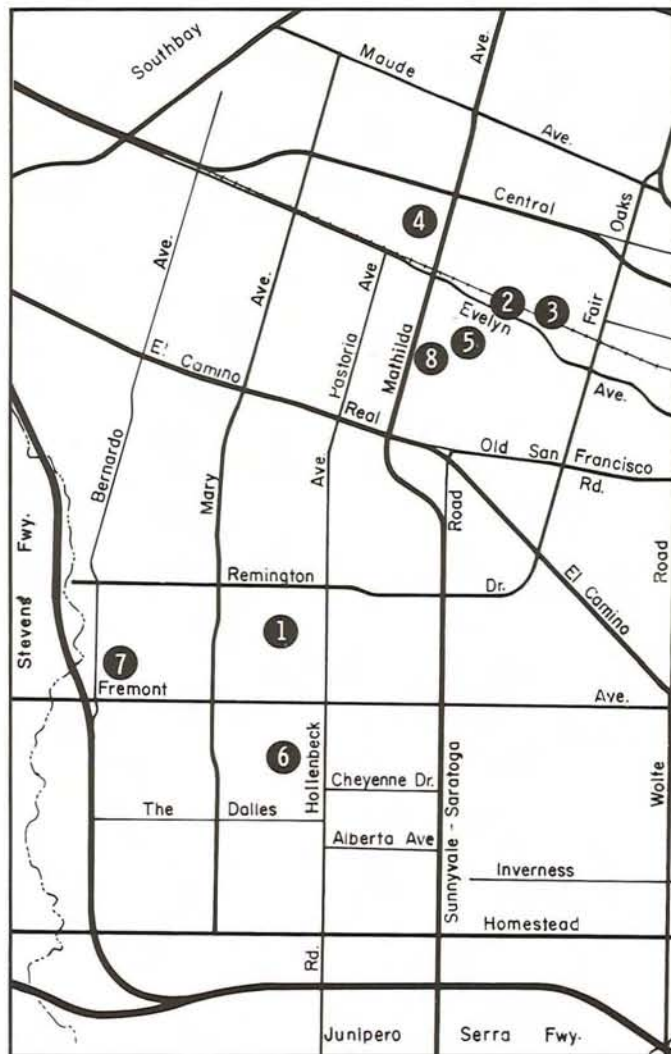


IV. Sunnyvale Landmarks

By definition a landmark should be the first, last, only, or most significant historic resource of a type in the community. It also is considered generally to be beyond the direct recall of living persons. Landmark status should require integrity of original location, context or setting, and intangible elements of feeling and association. Physical changes over time in a landmark may add to its historic worth by reflecting the changing values of the society it represents. The National Register of Historic Places, the United States' official listing of such cultural assets, considers worthy of inclusion districts, buildings, sites, structures, and objects of significance in America's history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture which are over 50 years old.

Sunnyvale's Landmarks represent a spectrum of building types and natural features associated with the evolution and growth of the community from its 19th century agricultural beginnings to its emergence as a major manufacturing center. Such landmarks include the William Wright (1870s) and Briggs-Stelling (1870s) homes and the Joshua Hendy Iron Works (1906). The community's rich history in agricultural production and processing is recognized by the Landmark status given the Scott-Collins Winery (1880s), the Madison and Bonner Dried Fruit Packing Company (1904), and the site of the original Libby, McNeil and Libby Canning Company (1907). The City's commercial development from 1907-1940 is recognized in the Murphy Avenue Historic District.

In the area of intangibles, some of the most important City of Sunnyvale Landmarks are its heritage trees, such as the Vargas Redwoods. These Landmarks pay tribute to the natural resources and human commitment, which together have made Sunnyvale what it is today.





BRIGGS-STELLING HOUSE

1175 Pome Drive

1

This large Redwood framed two and a half story Spanish Eclectic style residence with its stuccoed walls, flat-tiled roofline, and wrought iron balconet was erected in 1924. It was built essentially on the footprint of its predecessor, an Italianate style Victorian farmhouse dating from the 1870s which underwent substantial reconstruction after a fire in the 1890s. The current building's asymmetrical plan, the angled bay on the facade, and some grey and white ship-lap siding still visible in the basement are the only suggestions of its

earlier appearance.

George H. Briggs, the first owner-builder, was a Boston crockery merchant. He left Massachusetts in 1850, walked across the Isthmus of Panama, and acquired his first land in Santa Clara Valley in 1854 through "possessory right to 80 acres." His neighbor was another pioneer settler, William S. Hollenbeck, whose daughter Elsie married Briggs in 1858. Soon after George's father became sick, so he and Elsie returned to Boston to manage the crockery store. In early 1863

Hollenbeck wrote them and offered Briggs 160 acres of land if he would return to California and help remove squatters from his property. Briggs sold the crockery business and returned to the Santa Clara Valley.

Briggs' 160 acres were surveyed in 1866 and the final patent was approved in May 1870. At the time he had "30 acres under prunes, pears and cherries, and the balance under grain and hay." In 1881 he planted a vineyard. "At one time we could see seven wineries from our house," said Caroline E. Briggs in a 1960 newspaper interview: "The Delmas, Collins, Howe, Phelps, Montgomery, Heney, and Lawrence Station." But a drought in 1896 and 1897, coupled with phylloxera, required removal of the vines in 1898. The Briggs family then went into the fruit business and were the first farmers in Sunnyvale to employ a steam-powered engine for irrigation.

In 1906 Henry G. Stelling, son of one of San Jose's first orchardists, purchased 50 acres from Briggs, including the old home. Because of the rich build-up of loam, which went down

25 feet, Stelling determined to add cherries to existing fruit crops, and he built a packing shed on the property. His cherries found a nationwide market under the "Medal of Honor" label, which referred to awards he received at the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco.

In the early 1920s the family began remodeling house, living under a tent in the yard while the work progressed. The new residence retained from the earlier home only the living room and hardwood floor with its inlaid strip of mahogany. Although the Stellings sold 32 acres of their ranch to subdivider Joseph Eichler in 1957 or 1958, they retained the house plus the extensive gardens which Mrs. Stelling had nurtured and maintained over the years. Her garden was a local showcase designed in part by an English landscape architect. Unfortunately the pools, fountains, and formal rose garden gave way to a 10 unit housing development which today surrounds the Landmark house.



Santa Clara County and Its Resources (1896).

DEL MONTE BUILDING

185 Evelyn Avenue

2



The Redwood framed, two and a half story Del Monte Packing Company building has a gabled roof. Irregular fenestration and varied entrees mark all its elevations. It is one of the few remaining visual reminders of Sunnyvale's turn of the century industrial complex along the Southern Pacific Railroad. Since demolition of the Jubilee Incubator Company in 1983, the Del Monte Building is the only Landmark industrial structure still standing south of the railroad and adjacent to the Downtown Historic District.

The Del Monte Building was constructed in 1904 on the site of a former winery. The Madison and Bonner Company used it as a packing house, where they received, graded, processed, and stored dried fruit from local orchards, principally apricots, peaches and prunes. The average wage for their packing house employees in the early 1900s ran \$1.25

for ten hours a day, six days a week. During the packing season Madison and Bonner had a workforce of about 150 men and women.

The firm merged in 1916 with other area fruit canning operations to form the California Packing Corporation. In 1967 this organization became known by its popular trademark, "Del Monte." The Sunnyvale plant received, graded, and stored dried fruit until 1926, when a more modern plant erected in San Jose eliminated the need for local receiving depots in outlying growing areas.

From 1926 to 1930 the building was used only for storage. Then the corporation moved its seed processing operation from Marin County to Sunnyvale, and the plant became the corporate seed department. The Sunnyvale Seed Germinating Laboratory produced high quality seed for Del Monte's

operations, enabling the company to rely on their own proven fruit and vegetable varieties. Del Monte became a wholly-owned subsidiary of the R. J. Reynolds Company in 1979.

The Del Monte Building weathered earthquakes in 1906, 1923, and 1953 without damage. It also survived a severe cyclonic windstorm that swept through Sunnyvale in 1954. A Landmark in the history of Sunnyvale's industrial development, this sturdy, well designed structure located in a prime spot is an ideal candidate for adaptive re-use.



Madison and Bonner Company, c. 1910. *California History Center.*

**JOSHUA HENDY
IRON WORKS**

501 Hendy Avenue

3



The first major non-agriculturally oriented industry to establish in Sunnyvale was the Joshua Hendy Iron Works. W. E. Crossman gave John Hendy, the company's owner, 32 acres of prune, pear and apricot orchards adjacent to and north of the South Pacific Railroad's main line to re-establish the business after his foundry burned in the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire. Hendy's had operated in San Francisco

since 1849, first as the Benicia Saw Mill Company and after 1858 as an iron works producing mining machinery used worldwide.

The new plant consisted of 153,185 square feet of floor space. Six of the original 1906 structures remain, including the Landmark Water Tower. The 70 foot high standpipe rises over a 750 keep well that supplied Sunnyvale with free water

as well as meeting plant production needs. The main office building is an excellent example of the Mission Revival style, with a central tower capped by a dome and cupola. Rectangular in plan, its stuccoed, shaped parapets define the corners and central entrance. The original open arcade connected the parapets along the facade. It has since been enclosed.

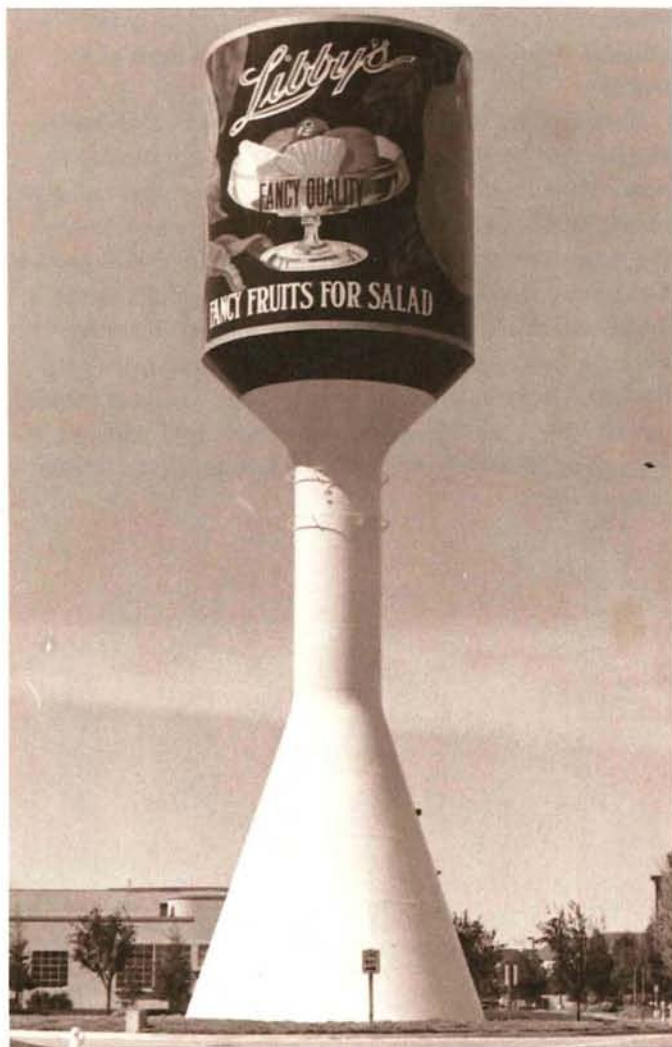
In 1907 the factory employed nearly 400 skilled mechanics. Hendy was in the forefront of modern mechanical design, which included a high pressure water nozzle, the Hydraulic Giant Monitor, that figured significantly in the construction of the Panama Canal. The factory also produced a series of municipal fixtures, such as the ornamental street lamps lining San Francisco's Chinatown and street lamps for Sunnyvale. World War One brought the plant's first significant expansion in 1917. The firm produced heavy naval armaments and 124

ton triple expansion marine engines. The factory ran a 24 hour schedule with a day force of 500 and night force of 400 workers.

During World War Two, Hendy's production of marine engines was listed as "an outstanding contribution to the national defense." At the war's end, after two years of relative inactivity, the company was leased and then sold to the Westinghouse Electric Corporation. Known as Westinghouse Sunnyvale, the factory is continuing successfully in the development and manufacture of naval missile systems. In 1978 the Joshua Hendy Iron Works was made a National Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmark, recognizing in part the plant's continuous operation from 1906-1946 and its possession of the largest machining capabilities of any plant in the West.



Hendy employees about 1907. *California History Center.*



LIBBY, McNEIL AND LIBBY

(Water Tower)
444 California Street

4

In 1906 Libby, McNeil and Libby established their first west coast cannery in Sunnyvale, partially in response to realtor W. E. Crossman's generous terms and his glowing description of "a growing model town, close to San Francisco, where factories are sheltered by spreading oaks, and employees live among fruit and beautiful flowers."

Arthur and Archibald Libby established their meat packing partnership with Charles P. McNeil in Chicago during the late 1860s. With Arthur as the driving force in the business, they became the world's largest canned meat packer by the mid-1880s. At the turn of the century they branched out to canned soups, vegetables, fruits, bottled condiments, and condensed milk. They also decided to expand their operations, choosing California as the ideal fruit packing locale.

In March 1906 William Estes, a Mountain View contractor, began building the Sunnyvale facility on the north side of and adjacent to the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks. The original buildings were designed in the popular Mission Revival style, the wood framed end walls stuccoed over and capped with shaped parapets. Lumber came from Sunnyvale's Parkinson

Lumberyard, and the town's Century Paint and Roofing Company provided the roof and paint for the plant as well as for 20 worker's cottages. The cannery opened for business on June 12, 1907, one of the best equipped canning operations on the west coast.

Libby soon became a major employer in Sunnyvale. In 1923 its canning season workforce reached nearly 8,000, and Libby in time became the largest freezing and canning operation in the world. The social influence of the company was felt early in the community. It provided workers with neat, furnished cottages adjacent to the plant site. Trees were planted to provide shade during the summer canning season. In December 1912 Libby offered its workers a day's vacation

with pay to allow them ample opportunity to vote for Sunnyvale's incorporation as a city. Many company workers made the community their permanent home.

Little is left of the original cannery. It is now a large complex of one and two story rectangular industrial buildings running along the railroad tracks. Large areas of industrial sash windows distinguish the Evelyn Avenue facade of the main plant building. The principal reminder of Libby, McNeil and Libby's long term contribution to Sunnyvale's growth and economic well being is the enormous Libby fruit can water tower rising above the complex near the Mathilda Avenue overpass.



Canning plant, c. 1910. *The Camera Mart.*

MURPHY AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT

100 Block of the Murphy Avenue



5

A designated Landmark District, the 100 block of Murphy Avenue, has been the historic commercial core of Sunnyvale since the town was known as Encinal during the last decades of the 19th century. The community's "Main Street" developed perpendicular to the Southern Pacific Railroad's San Francisco-San Jose right of way.

In 1898 realtor Walter E. Crossman purchased 200 acres of the Murphy Bayview Farm and surveyed it for a town site. At the corner of Evelyn and Murphy avenues, the railroad station and Fred Cornell's combined grocery store and post

office constituted the community's initial business district. Cornell's building is still in place today as the Miramar at 101 South Murphy.

Encinal School was constructed in 1899 at the corner of McKinley and Frances Streets. Convenient access to education plus W. E. Crossman's promotional skills and easy real estate terms brought a number of new families close to the growing downtown. Well-established farmers and orchardists speculated in the emerging townsite, purchasing tracts of varying sizes and subdividing them.

By 1903 a few small stores oriented to personal services and land promotion had sprung up along the north end of Murphy Avenue. Nicolai Trubschenck's pioneer drug store and the Brown-Enright Real Estate Company were typical, sharing the same one story wood framed western false fronted structure. The building covered its 25 foot lot frontage and was set back from the dirt street by the width of its wood planked walkway. Signage was painted on the wall surface as well as appended from the facade.

When Crossman's efforts to draw industry to Sunnyvale began to pay off in 1907, more substantial buildings appeared along Murphy Avenue. One of the most impressive was C. C. Spalding's Bank of Sunnyvale, a two story reinforced masonry building anchoring the corner of Murphy and Washington avenues. An unusually exuberant example of the Mission Revival style with stuccoed surface, arched windows, and red tile roof, it joined the Stowell and Spalding Block

across the street in setting the architectural theme for later commercial development along the avenue.

Brother-in-laws C. C. Spalding and C. L. Stowell were successful orchardists and moving forces in the commercial development of Murphy Avenue. Their simple two story molded concrete S. and S. Block commercial building opposite the Bank of Sunnyvale was designed by M. C. Van Der Camp with projecting second story bay windows. It housed retail businesses on the first floor plus medical offices and Stowell Hall on the second. One of the first public meeting facilities in town, Stowell Hall hosted fraternal groups, the Grange, and the City's Chamber of Commerce. It was the site of Saturday night dances and moving picture shows, and today it is the Kirkish Store.

With City offices in the Bank of Sunnyvale and a meeting hall across the street, the municipal and social life of the City as well as its commercial core was well ensconced on Murphy Avenue. Everything necessary to the life of the community was available in its shops and stores, although in 1912 the business district still had dirt streets and wood planked sidewalks.

In 1917 C. L. Stowell had contractor George D. Huston build a new post office building on Washington Avenue adjacent to the Bank of Sunnyvale and in 1924 the Edythe Hotel with a large store front exposure along Murphy Avenue. One and two story commercial buildings filled in the street over time: in 1935 the Spanish Revival Jimenez Grocery appeared at 118, and in 1941 John and Augustine Seijo built the Moderne/Seijo Building at 121-133 to house their popular bakery. The latter



Looking east on Murphy at Washington Avenue, c. 1910, showing C. C. Spalding's Mission Revival style Bank of Sunnyvale building. *The Camera Mart.*

building's style was characterized by smooth stuccoed walls, some vertical projections with zigzags, and other simple geometric and stylized decorative motifs.

These one and two story structures lining both sides of Murphy Avenue on the 100 block still maintain the rhythm of the street and retain much of their original integrity. Despite

periodic remodeling dictated by fashion and the planning process, this cluster of modest commercial buildings survive, reflecting Sunnyvale's roots and evolution over time as a community. Their protection, preservation, and continued service in the commercial life of the City insure Sunnyvale's character and identity.



Looking west on Murphy from Evelyn Avenue, c. 1910.
The Camera Mart.

SCOTT-COLLINS WINERY

775 Cascade

6



This comfortable brick and stucco residence is graced by a gabled roofed, long shed dormer, and classical portico entrance. It was built in the early 1880s as a two story distillery, part of the successful Scott-Collins Winery.

Lemuel and Salvin Collins came to California from New York in the early 1850s. Salvin became a partner in a popular Montgomery Street saloon in San Francisco, and his brother took up farming, in 1862 purchasing 320 acres of land in what is now Sunnyvale. Lemuel died in 1879, and Salvin took over his brother's farm, planting 160 acres in grapes. He

soon constructed a four story brick winery and this landmark distillery building. From these he supplied his saloon and "chop house," by this time a quality restaurant known for its "fine wines and liquors."

Salvin died in 1884, and his widow Angelina Russell Collins assumed responsibility for the winery. By 1889 she shipped over 300 gallons of wine daily and brought a private railroad spur on to the property. Angelina married San Francisco importer Emerson Wesley Scott in 1890, and he assisted her in the business. Then known as the Pebbleside

Vineyards and Winery, they could produce 550,000 gallons of wine and 2,000 gallons of brandy annually. At San Francisco's 1894 Mid-Winter Fair in Golden Gate Park, Pebblestone won first prizes for its Petit Pinot and Zinfandel, and an 1895 *San Jose Mercury* souvenir booklet cited Angelina as "one of Santa Clara County's well known winemakers." Angelina died in 1896, and Emerson Scott passed away the next year.

During the mid-1890s, drought accelerated the spread of phylloxera, a root louse that began plaguing Santa Clara Valley vintners in 1892. The Scott estate continued to rent its vineyards, but diminishing productivity made the winery unprofitable. In 1906 the Pebbleside Poultry Farm took over

the former winery, and Marianni Orchards leased the buildings for fruit dehydration. A fire in 1927 destroyed the four story winery, and two years later the Ferguson family purchased the old distillery. They converted it to a summer home, adding the shed dormer windows which reflected the popular California Bungalow style. They designed the first floor, although asymmetrical in presentation, in the Georgian Revival style.

This landmark building was spared destruction by real estate development in the early 1960s, and a thick coat of white paint was removed, exposing the original brick construction. In May 1983 the City of Sunnyvale declared it a Landmark.



The Scott-Collins Distillery. *Santa Clara County and Its Resources* (1896).



WILLIAM WRIGHT HOUSE

1234 Cranberry

7

William Wright's redwood framed, two story, side-gabled farmhouse is the oldest extant residence in Sunnyvale. It probably was constructed in 1862 and certainly prior to 1876, when it appears as an illustration in Thompson and West's *Historical Atlas of Santa Clara County*.

It is a simplified version of the Gothic Revival style. Its original centered gable, with a lancet window and a full-width

open porch, gave way to changing fashion through major remodeling in 1918. Three gabled wall dormer windows modified the second story appearance. The full-width porch was replaced with a central pedimented portico supported on slender Doric columns, helping transform the house into an excellent example of the Colonial Revival style. The portico framed a side-lighted doorway capped with a fanlight

transom. The living room was expanded in the 1930s and appears as a one story gabled wing at the east elevation.

William Wright left Maryland for California in 1849 at age 23, a victim of gold fever. His journey around the Horn from New York to San Francisco took seven months and eight days. He worked in San Francisco, saved his money, and obtained passage on a schooner to Stockton. He worked a claim on the Tuolumne River in 1850, until a spring flood washed out the mine and all the equipment. Wright moved to Chinese Camp, mined there until winter, and then entered the mercantile business.

In November 1851 he closed out his business and came to the Santa Clara Valley with a partner. They bought 160 acres, traveled back to Stockton to buy implements and a team, and returned to raise grain and stock. Wright hired a man for \$100 a month to teach him all there was to know about farming, and in a year's time he was able to buy out his partner and purchase an additional 160 acres.



In 1863 Wright returned to Maryland, where he married Helena Treadwell and brought her back to California. They had 2 children, William Tarleton and Dora (later Dora T. Gibson). After Wright's death on April 22, 1890, his widow Helena managed 220 acres of the property, raising large crops of wheat and tending a four acre plot of apples, pears, prunes, cherries, persimmons, walnuts, chestnuts, quinces, nectarines, almonds, and figs.

The property had been divided in such a way that Wright's son William T. inherited 25 acres and the house, and in 1895 he planted 18 acres in prunes, apricots, and peaches. Vegetables were grown between the rows until the fruit trees came into bearing. William T. was killed in an accident in 1912, when he descended into the well and his coat-tails became entangled in the pump motor machinery.

The Wright family lost the ranch and house during the Great Depression, and a retired GM executive subsequently purchased it during the 1930s and expanded the living room. A later owner was Ken Hunter, Sunnyvale's first City Manager. In 1979, the Wright House was listed as a California State Point of Historical Interest.

A notable feature of the Wright property is the tank house, one of the earliest of a few remaining such structures in Sunnyvale. The area's success as a fruit growing district resulted in large part to its location along a belt of artesian wells. This made water both plentiful and inexpensive. As the area developed and dry farming gave way to orchard crops at the beginning of the 20th century, smaller farmers were able to tap this exceptional resource without greatly diminishing the ground water supply. The Carl Olson family was typical, buying their first five acres of Sunnyvale land from W. E. Crossman for \$750 in 1899 and hiring George Free for \$150 to hand drill with an auger an 80 foot well.

When the Joshua Hendy Iron Works established its plant in 1906, they dropped a 700 foot well and used a pump to bring the water into their 50 foot high storage tower. For many years the firm supplied the City with part of this water for free. By the beginning of World War One, most local irrigation pumping was carried out by mechanical means, at first by windmills, then steam engines which were replaced in turn by gasoline engines and then electric motors.

As late as the 1930s, builder Gus Marinello spent much of his time constructing redwood water storage tanks for local

orchardists. Modern technology and rapid urban development, however, have removed the tank house as a familiar feature of the Sunnyvale city scape. Some industrial examples still stand along Hendy Avenue, but for the most part the rural farm and domestic tanks no longer exist.

The Wright tank house remains a distinctive reminder of Sunnyvale's long usage of its most critical natural resource, water. Current owners, in 1977 rehabilitation work, moved the structure to the street side of the house, making it more visually accessible to the public.



William Wright farm, 1876. *Historical Atlas Map of Santa Clara County* (1876).

MANUAL VARGAS REDWOOD TREES

1004 Carson Drive

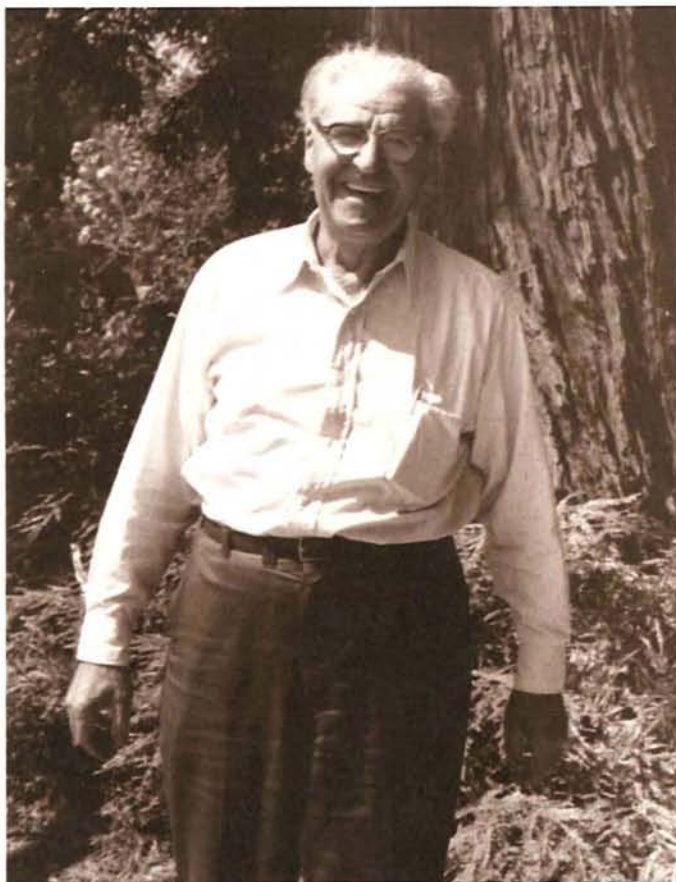
8



In 1900 Manuel Vargas planted the two Coast Redwoods (*Sequoia Semperviens*) standing at what is now the corner of Mary and Carson Avenues. He was seven years old at the time and had gathered the Redwood saplings on a family hunting and fishing trip to Pescadero. Manuel later said, "I like Redwoods and wanted to bring some trees home." His father warned him of the illegality of such an act, but Manuel brought them anyway, hidden in a brown paper bag under his shirt. He placed the young trees on each side of the entrance to the Vargas' 10 acre farm on Mary Avenue.

Manuel's father Antone had come to California from Portugal in 1880, and two years later he went to work for Martin Murphy at the Bayview Farm. In 1885, after Murphy's death, Antone cultivated wheat and barley on 200 acres leased from Patrick Murphy at a price of one out of every four sacks of harvested grain. Vargas wagoned his crops to the warehouse at Jagel's Landing on the Bay, where Moffett Field is located, for shipment to market. In 1898, when Patrick Murphy sold the 200 acres Antone was leasing to realtor W. E. Crossman, Vargas was one of the first to buy a parcel of land from the real estate broker.

Manuel Vargas, known locally for years as "Mr. Sunnyvale," was the oldest living resident of the community before his death in December 1985. Born on his father's ranch in 1893, he attended the City's first school, Encina, opened in 1899. As a teenager in 1906 he worked as a carpenter for Libby



Cannery for nine cents an hour, and he later worked for ten cents an hour at Joshua Hendy's Iron Works. But his lifetime occupation was farming.

He earned the nickname "Mr. Sunnyvale" through his visits with thousands of school children over the years. One of Manuel's fondest school experiences was the year De Anza College opened and Walter Warren, the California History Center's first director, invited him to come speak to one of his classes. Manuel stayed all day, speaking to all of the history classes, never tiring of sharing his remembrances of life "back in the good old days." A recurring theme in all his stories was the bond of mutual trust that existed between people then, how a man's word was his commitment, and that this was all that was needed for business deals: "It was just my word. I didn't have to tell 'em how many chickens I had . . . or how many eggs they laid, like they have to do today."

Manuel always fought for the remnants of Sunnyvale's proud past, starting with the battle to save the Murphy Farm in 1961. He was a charter member of the Sunnyvale Historical Society and Museum Association and served terms as its president, and he founded the "Old Timer's Club" in 1957. Manuel and his wife, Mary, were wed in 1914 and honored as the longest married seniors in Santa Clara County (67 years). They had 10 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren.

The two Landmark Redwood trees flanking the former entrance to the Vargas Farm are a fitting tribute to his life on the land. They remain a continuing contribution to the character of the community which Manuel Vargas served so well.

Manuel Vargas. *California History Center.*

V. A Sunnyvale Inventory

A historic inventory is one of several components making up a community's historic preservation plan. The real key to a successful preservation plan and program is the quality and thoroughness of its historical resource inventory, one which is both quantitative and qualitative. Such an inventory identifies a community's historic resources by number, type, and style. It determines concentrations of resources which constitute potential historic districts, such as the 100 block of Murphy Avenue, Sunnyvale's historic commercial core; and it uncovers intact older neighborhoods. Thus, the inventory supplies the raw material which permits the preservation plan and program to provide for protection against loss of character in the process of change.

The following Sunnyvale historic resource inventory was initiated in 1979. Subsequently, a number of additions have been made to it. Here the inventory begins with introductory sections for three historic neighborhoods and one street scape, each followed with individual property listings in alphabetical order by street name: 1) Bayview-McKinley Avenue, 2) Easter Gables Subdivision (Crescent Street), 3) Murphy-Frances-Taaffe, and 4) Sunnyvale Avenue. These sections are followed by a general inventory of other buildings and historic trees in the city again listed alphabetically by street name. All inventory listings give the street name, address, and original owner, if known.

Bayview-McKinley Avenue Neighborhood



Bayview Avenue is one of the oldest streets in Sunnyvale. When the City was called Encinal in the late 1890s, Bayview marked the community's eastern boundary. The three east-west running arteries defining the townsite were Evelyn, Washington, and McKinley avenues. Therefore, the junction of Bayview and McKinley avenues represents one of the City's older, intact neighborhoods. As such it is an important cultural asset.

Its working class residential housing marked by a preponderance of smaller bungalows is only now beginning to see intrusions by larger apartment units. The streetscape, defined by house scale, rhythm, setbacks, and plantings is

still cohesive and in good condition. The earliest subdivision in this portion of town was the 1905 Obourn Addition, 15 lots surveyed by orchardist Ira Obourn. East of his home at 322 East McKinley, it encompassed the south side of McKinley and a portion of the west side of Bayview. It included a new southerly street extension called Olive Avenue (now Flora Vista). Obourn's lots varied from 40' × 105' to 67' × 110' in size, and at the time Carroll Street stopped at McKinley.

In spring 1907, with the prospect of industrial development along the Southern Pacific right of way just two blocks away, a developer named Larson subdivided 48 lots north of McKinley on the east side of Bayview. These lots had about the same dimensions as those of Obourn, and Larson sold 44* of his parcels before the subdivision map was approved by the County Board of Supervisors.

Some construction occurred in both developments before a recession struck in October 1907 for which recovery did not come until the early 1910s. According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, houses were built on half of Obourn's lots by 1911 along with a number of houses on Bayview at the junction of McKinley Avenue. The north side of McKinley

had developed as well, with only three parcels remaining empty at the Bayview end by the close of 1911. Alfred E. Potts, an English tailor who worked as a welder at Hendy's after World War One, built some of the last houses in the tract: two cottages at 321 and 325 Flora Vista (between 1925 and 1928) and a cottage at 305 Bayview (1928).

When concrete gutters and sidewalks were laid throughout these early subdivisions in 1930, the neighborhood was completely filled in. The population included a number of Joshua Hendy workers, clerks from the Murphy Avenue business district, building tradesmen, and some City employees. Most of the land to the east and south of the area remained in orchards until World War Two.

The bungalows and small cottages that make up the bulk of the architectural expression of this neighborhood are surprisingly unchanged from their original appearance. They also are well maintained, as is the street planting, especially along McKinley Avenue. The Bayview-McKinley Avenue neighborhood, one of Sunnyvale's oldest remaining residential enclaves, continues to be conveniently located to shopping while far enough away from heavily travelled arteries to enjoy relative quiet.



IRA OBOURN HOUSE

322 East McKinley Avenue

This is a particularly handsome one and a half story, wood framed, front gabled Bungalow with clapboard siding. It was constructed by owner/builder Ira Obourn in about 1914. Well set back on its lot, the building features exposed rafters and stepped decorative purlins at the eave line. The recessed front porch is supported by three large battered piers. The smaller of the stepped gables surmounts an angled bay. Matching sets of paired, fixed rectangular windows in the gable peaks are

separated by louvered vents.

Ira Obourn was a crane operator at Hendy's Iron Works as well as an orchardist with about 21 acres of pears on Mary Avenue. Originally from the midwest, he was active in Sunnyvale's Baptist Church. In 1905 he subdivided his property on the south side of McKinley Street west to Bayview Avenue as the Obourn Addition, later building his house.

Easter Gables Subdivision

Crescent Street Neighborhood

In February 1929 Tony and Jose Giangrande and Charles R. Forge filed a subdivision map for 37 parcels of land, 60' × 370' in size, along Crescent Avenue east of Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road. They called their project Easter Gables and hired contractor H. A. Iverson to design and build neat bungalows of varying styles. The bungalows fronted deep lots, each of which contained modern poultry houses.

Sunnyvale had been touted for its poultry raising potential since the Jubilee Incubator Company had moved its operations to the area from Oakland in 1906. Jubilee's own advertising noted that "climate, drainage, character of soil, proximity to the best markets and the fact that the land is divided among many holders make it certain that Sunnyvale will become a poultry center."

In 1908 E. A. Lodge established the Pebbleside Poultry Farm with 150 incubators on eight acres of the old Collins-Scott Winery off Fremont Avenue. He hatched and shipped 60,000 chicks annually, principally white leghorns. W. J. Schmidt was another poultry pioneer who provided fryers as well as eggs for market from his Columbian Poultry farm on Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road near Easter Gables. He had 7,000 white leghorns and 3,000 laying hens, exhibited his stock widely, and won many awards.

The 1923 "Blossom Edition" of the *Sunnyvale Standard* ran a series of articles on poultry farming, favorably comparing Sunnyvale's ideal growing environment with California's poultry capital Petaluma. It also noted that poultry could be mixed successfully with fruit farming. Of equal interest, the year that Easter Gables construction began, 1929, was a bonanza year for poultry. Egg prices rose while

feed prices and other production costs fell. The profit per hen increased from \$.54 in 1928 to \$1.19 in 1929.

Easter Gables' original street scape architectural expression was one of wide variety within the Bungalow style. Front, side, and cross gable examples could be found with a decorative vocabulary ranging from clipped gables to Colonial Revival detailing. In 1979, the year of the initial Sunnyvale Historic Resources Inventory, the Easter Gables street scape was largely intact, including street plantings. However, since that time about one half of the houses and barns have been demolished and replaced with apartment complexes on the

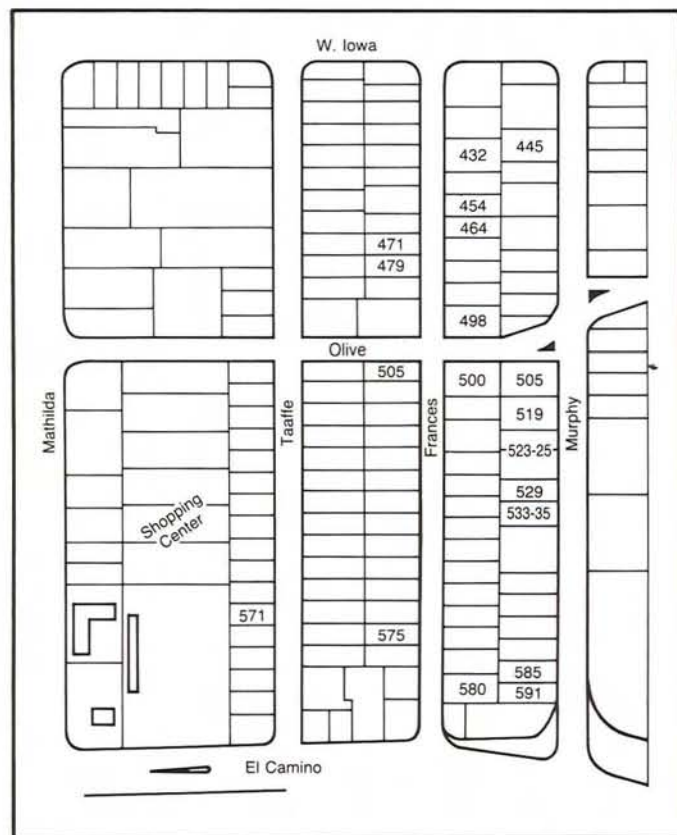


deep lots. Only five of the original buildings remain in varying stages of alteration or repair.

The best maintained are at 156 and 448 Crescent, although the former is now clad in wide horizontal vinyl clapboard siding. It was the last to be actively employed in the poultry business, operating under the name Parrish Egg Basket in 1979, while an original poultry house still stands toward the rear of the Zander Machine Works lot at 448 Crescent. Nearby, at 434 Crescent, a little Colonial Revival house first owned

by George Wedell also remains. While in a poor state of maintenance, it still reflects the quality of its design and construction as illustrated in the May 17, 1931 issue of the *San Jose Mercury Herald*. Nevertheless, Easter Gables' street pattern has been broken up by large apartment complexes. Undoubtedly more will come, ending the continuity and integrity of this once flourishing enclave of Sunnyvale poultry farmers.

Murphy-Frances-Taaffe Neighborhood



The 1887 survey for the original town of Encinal marked out three north-south streets: Murphy, Frances, and Taaffe. They ran from Evelyn to McKinley, where they stopped except for Murphy Avenue, which continued south to meet the San Francisco and San Jose Road (El Camino Real). Their names derive from the Martin Murphy family, including Murphy's son-in-law William F. Taaffe, a San Francisco merchant. Except for the Murphy Avenue commercial corridor, which had 25' frontages on 100' deep lots, parcels along the three streets were 50' × 130'.

Their 100 and 200 blocks formed Sunnyvale's first residential core. With the subdivision of the Spalding addition by local orchardists C. C. Spalding and N. B. Scofield in June 1906, they were pushed 2 blocks south through Iowa Avenue (named for Spalding's home state) to Olive Avenue (named for Spalding's mother). 105 of the new lots sold in six months, many to long time residents expecting a building boom to accompany industrial development. Further southern expansion did not occur on the three primarily residential streets until the 1920s.

Much of the early architectural heritage of the Murphy-Frances-Taaffe neighborhood fell to shopping mall development near the City center in the 1970s and 1980s. What does remain along the 300 and 400 blocks ranges in age from turn of the century vernacular and Colonial Revival styles to a variety of bungalows and Eclectic Revival homes. These represent almost every house type in Sunnyvale. The integrity of these blocks has been diminished by zoning changes, demolition, and neglect; however, enough of the street scapes remain intact with significant housing to give some sense of

the high quality of life early residents enjoyed.

The original character of these streets remains essentially intact on the 500 block of this three street neighborhood. This block south of Olive Avenue initially was developed in 1925 by the Dempsey and Raisch families as a part of what they called the Pal Jose subdivision, which included Murphy Avenue and a further extension of Frances and Taaffe to El Camino Real. While lot depths were still 130', frontages on all the streets narrowed to 25', suggesting an increase in land values. In 1927 the developers added the west side of Taaffe Street to the subdivision with 50' frontages. Although they completed the development's infrastructure — gutters, sidewalks, and paving — sales were slow. Only a few houses went up along Murphy and Taaffe as the Great Depression began. The developers failed and building in the Pal Jose Subdivision did not gain momentum until after 1936.

By that time contractors Louis Scott and Burr Matthews were both working in Sunnyvale. Many of their best houses went up in the subdivision development which followed, but the west side of Taaffe first was built up one property at a

time. Individual builders like Wilbur Fleckner, Roy Pinkney, and Oscar Liebert designed their own homes on the street and completed some other houses on speculation. The area of Frances Street south to Murphy Avenue remained planted in hay by Nodman Scofield, whose ranch house was near the corner of Murphy and El Camino Real.

During the 1930s the City sold the lots along the east side of Taaffe for taxes at \$600 each. Between 1937 and 1939 the area began filling in, and by the beginning of World War Two the 500 blocks of Murphy, Frances, and Taaffe were built up. In 1937 or 1938 Emile Corboline and his neighbors along Taaffe went to the Harrison Nursery on North Murphy Avenue and bought magnolia trees for about 35 cents each to plant along the street. Now mature, the trees form one of the most scenic street scapes in Sunnyvale.

Despite limited commercial intrusion along Murphy Avenue, this neighborhood today contains the largest concentration of pre-World War Two architectural styles in Sunnyvale. It is one of the community's finest historic residential neighborhoods.



GILLOGLEY HOUSE

432 South Frances Avenue



One story Bungalows with clipped gabled roofs and with varying house shapes were a popular building form in Sunnyvale during the 1920s. Variations of the Bungalow style can be seen on Murphy Avenue, Taaffe Street, and Waverly. This residence incorporates a porte cochere in its "L" shaped plan. The variety of decorative plaster elements on it are

associated with the work of contractors Louis Scott and Burr Matthews. This house was moved to its present site from an original location at Murphy and McKinley avenues. The original owner, Mr. Gillogley, was the local haberdasher with a store in the 100 block of Murphy Avenue. The residence was constructed in the 1920s and moved about 1940.



This one and a half story, wood framed, front gable cottage with a central entry is one of the few remaining examples of Sunnyvale's early vernacular housing. The paired, angled bay windows, which are capped with a shallow, full width hipped roof overhang, reflect a northern California building tradition dating to the 1870s. The horizontal clapboard siding appears

as a popular wall cladding in Sunnyvale's residential development. It was employed on a variety of building styles into the 1920s and 1930s. It helps subtly define the carpenter/builder character of Sunnyvale's earlier residential construction. The house dates to about 1910.

FENCILE HOUSE

464 South Frances Avenue



Built in 1920, this single story, wood framed residence is one of the best examples of the California Bungalow style in Sunnyvale. Two board, low pitched gables face the street, one covering the rectangular envelope of the structure and the other capping an open porch. Notched triangular knee braces seem to support the overhanging roof gables on their exposed rafters. The pierced, vertical boards screening in the gable ends reflect the influence of the Swiss Chalet on this style, while the open work and joinery of the porch piers exhibit a reference to Japanese building traditions. Three part

craftsman windows and horizontal clapboard siding are typical Bungalow features.

The *Sunnyvale Standard* (May 16, 1924), expressed the Bungalow style's local popularity: "A Bungalow is the right sort of home. All the work is on one floor, there are no stairs to climb several times a day, and besides Bungalows are pretty." The first owner of this particular house, El Camino Real fruit stand operator William Fencile, well may have agreed with the *Standard*.



WEIRHAUSER HOUSE

471 South Frances Avenue

This hip roofed, one story Queen Anne cottage was once the home of Frank Weirhauser. He managed McCollough and Lee's Mercantile Store on Murphy Avenue, later operated the delicatessen at Kirkish's Store, and also was cook room boss at Libby's.

Modifications over time, including the enclosing of an open

front porch and replacement of a double hung sash window in the angled bay with a large fixed window, have not detracted from the overall quality of this Queen Anne cottage. Its principal decorative feature is the angled bay. It is capped by a pedimented gable with deep returns and is faced with patterned shingles. The house dates to about 1900.



THOMAS RYAN HOUSE

479 South Frances Avenue



A single story, wood framed, cross gable version of the Tudor style house, the Ryan house is an early example of the Tudor type in Sunnyvale. Its physical appearance suggests that it began life as a Queen Anne cottage but was skillfully remodeled in the late 1920s to assume its current appearance. To the left, the secondary gable with cutaway bay and rectangular window openings is typical of the Queen Anne.

The house's main gable carries elements associated with the design work of Ray and Burr Matthews, especially the

window treatment. The blind arch with raised cartouche almost is a signature of these broker/builders' Tudor work. The building is unified by the surface stucco coat and the matching half timbering in the gable ends. The skillful application of stucco to appear as ashlar stone work at the entry portico and in the lower portion of the wall separating the two gable ends is probably the work of a local plasterer named Waddington. Judge Thomas Ryan was an early owner of this architecturally significant home.



R. C. TURVIN HOUSE

498 South Frances Avenue



In 1936 architect/contractor Louis A. Scott designed and constructed this one and a half story, cross gabled Tudor style house. He built it for Mr. R. C. Turvin, a superintendent at Libby, McNeil and Libby's Cannery. Scott repeats the form of the front gable, a small window set above the angled bay, in a dormer on the slope of the main roof. Here he uses a vent as the capping element. Both window sets in the main gable and the dormer have small, multiple square panes.

Scott designed and constructed a number of fine residential units in the Pal Jose tract encompassing Murphy, Frances, and Taaffe south of Olive. They were built in the Tudor, Spanish Eclectic, and later Colonial Revival styles. Mr. Turvin, the owner of 498 Frances, was well known for the beautiful roses which he grew in his well landscaped garden.



DIESNER HOUSE

500 South Frances Avenue

This simple but elegant two story, wood framed residence is an excellent example of the later Georgian subtype of the Colonial Revival style. In plan it is a rectangular block with a side gabled roof and gable wall chimneys at each end. Fenestration is symmetrical with small paned, double hung sash windows. A small casement window interrupts the rhythm of the second story windows. Ornamentation is limited to wooden shutters flanking the windows and a

Georgian entry.

Despite the lack of decoration, the house with landscaped grounds is quite formal in presentation. It acts as an anchor to this well maintained pre-World War Two residential block. In 1937 or 1938 Louis A. Scott designed and built the house for which Sunnyvale physician Howard Diesner and his family paid \$9,000.

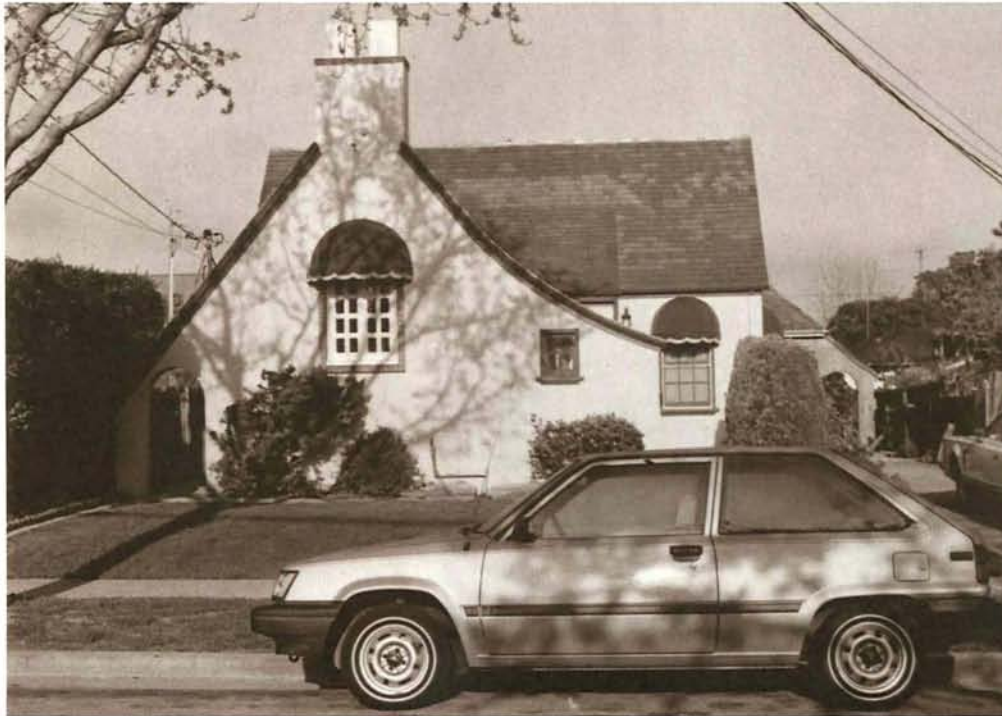


WESLEY DAVIS HOUSE

505 South Frances Avenue

This little cross gabled, one story wood framed structure is a particularly nice example of the Spanish Eclectic Revival style. The slightly battered stucco walls are pierced by prominent arches containing the large window in the Frances Avenue gable and the doorway in the quarter round enclosed front porch. The low pitched roof is capped with regularly laid straight barrel mission tile. Tile canales, or water spouts,

appear as decorative elements in the gable heads. Paired windows to the right of the entry are surmounted with a hand hewn wood lintel. The entry is flanked by a pair of portal windows faced with small wrought iron grilles. Decorative tile work in a penchant form appears on the wall surface. The house was designed and constructed by Louis A. Scott about 1936.



This single story, wood framed Tudor Revival house is "L" shaped in plan. Its single dominant front gable has a slightly raked cornice which partially covers the entry access. A large arched window with a brick surround is centered in the main gable which is capped by an end wall chimney topped with paired chimney pots. The roof is shingled with slate, an unusual feature for California. The window placed directly

under the large chimney feature begs the question: "where is the hearth?"

Louis A. Scott created this handsome design. The brick work and chimney were the product of his able mason, Bert F. Gergess, a native of New Hampshire whose masonry skill was well known in Sunnyvale. The house dates to about 1932.



RAY A. MATTHEWS HOUSE

580 South Frances Avenue

Photo from Sunnyvale Historical Inventory

Owner and builder Ray A. Matthews built this one and a half story, cross gabled, wood framed Tudor style house. Matthews had been a builder in St. Louis, Missouri, and had planned to retire when he arrived in Sunnyvale. Instead, he purchased W. E. Crossman's Sunnyvale Realty Company in 1928 and operated it until 1948. He also sold insurance and continued to build homes, joined in the latter venture in 1934 by his son Burr Matthews.

Matthews' home is typical of Tudor Revival residences. The principal gable is pierced by large tripartite windows. They are capped by a shallow decorative arch in the rough stucco wall cladding, suggesting Palladian windows. A raised cartouche decorates the plaster arch. Another arched opening to the right of the window leads to the main entry. The house dates to the late 1920s.



FRANK HIMAN HOUSE

445 South Murphy Avenue

Frank Himan, who worked for the Sunnyvale Theater, was an early owner of this rectangular, single story, front gabled Bungalow capped with a clipped gable roof. Decorative elements in the facade elevation include the symmetrically placed battered porch piers, star patterned porch rail, and

long horizontal air vent. These forms are classical in origin, giving the little house a formal air. The landscape setting is one of the nicest in Sunnyvale and includes an early street lamp. The house probably was built around 1920.

HOMER PFEIFFER HOUSE

505 South Murphy Avenue



This one and a half story, wood framed, masonry faced, cross gable Tudor Revival house was built in about 1940 for Homer Pfeiffer, a supervisor at Schuckl's Cannery and a local realtor. This brick veneer version of the Tudor style was designed and built by William Meyers, a Cupertino contractor. Meyers built a number of brick residences in the Murphy and

Frances avenues area just before World War Two.

The Pfeiffer house is a fine example of the Tudor style, with varying patterns of half-timbering in the stuccoed gable ends. It is sited on a well landscaped corner lot, acting as an anchor for the residential neighborhood.

**CHARLES PARKINSON
HOUSE**

519 South Murphy Avenue



Local lumberyard owner, Charles Parkinson, had constructed this one and a half story, wood framed, side gabled Craftsman house with shed roof dormers in 1906. The use of a series of four tree trunks as porch posts might be explained by Parkinson's profession. A more plausible reason is that several designs for this type of front porch posting had

appeared in 1905 in issues of Gustav Stickley's *Craftsman Magazine*. The only additions to this handsome and unique early Sunnyvale home appear to be the exterior staircase and second floor entry on the gable end. The house was illustrated in the *Sunnyvale Standard's* "Blossom Edition" of 1923.



GORMAN APARTMENTS

523-525 South Murphy Avenue



Louis A. Scott designed this two story, four unit Spanish Eclectic apartment complex in 1924 or 1925 for his stepfather James J. Gorman, who had moved to Sunnyvale from San Francisco in 1924 to become a local druggist. The building is a particularly fine example of the period's commercial residential construction mode. Note the spiraled columns

supporting the arcaded first floor, plain stucco walls, iron porch rails on both floors, rope molding at the roof cornice, and red tile roof parapet. All are features of the style. The complex is typical of those found in San Francisco's Sunset District and is the only example of its type in Sunnyvale.

JAMES GORMAN HOUSE

529 South Murphy Avenue



In 1924 Louis A. Scott designed this one story, wood framed residence with offset bay and flat overhanging roof for his stepfather James J. Gorman. Its unique design draws from San Francisco Italianate row houses, Gorman's personal taste, and Scott's imagination. The basic form, stucco wall cladding, and blind arches enriched with garlands and cartouches in relief

probably are from Mr. Gorman. The paneled roof detailing and ribbon windows come from Scott and hint at the designer's knowledge of Frank Lloyd Wright's work. Scott designed this home plus the adjacent apartment complex at 523-525 Murphy three years before he moved from San Francisco to Sunnyvale in 1928.



533-535 South Murphy
Avenue

This single story, wood framed, side gabled Bungalow duplex with clapboard siding, triangular knee bracing, and craftsman windows is an interesting example of the commercial possibilities of the style. A single Bungalow plan was reversed to mirror and balance the duplex property. The

original shaped rafters of the open porch are obscured by signage. The column supports, however, are still visible. Built around 1930, the structure with some others on Murphy Avenue denote the appearance of multiple family dwellings in the neighborhood.



This one story, wood framed Spanish Eclectic Revival building is one of two towered residential examples of the style in Sunnyvale. Basically rectangular, the front gable, bell tower, and small enclosed courtyard are appended to the building mass. Designed for a deep lot with small frontage,

decorative elements are restricted to the facade. They include the stuccoed wall surface with raised garlands and a cartouche over arched windows and principal entry. A combination gable hip and parapet roofline is accented by red mission tiles. It probably was constructed in the mid-1920s.



AGADONI AND FASOLA HOUSE

591 South Murphy Avenue



This one story, wood framed, hip roofed Bungalow is architecturally significant for its use of a curved pediment entry porch. Supported by columns and further detailed by a molded cornice with return, this is an unusual Bungalow design feature. Flanking the porch, the Craftsman windows mounted in rectilinear patterns are particularly striking.

The house was among the first residences built at the

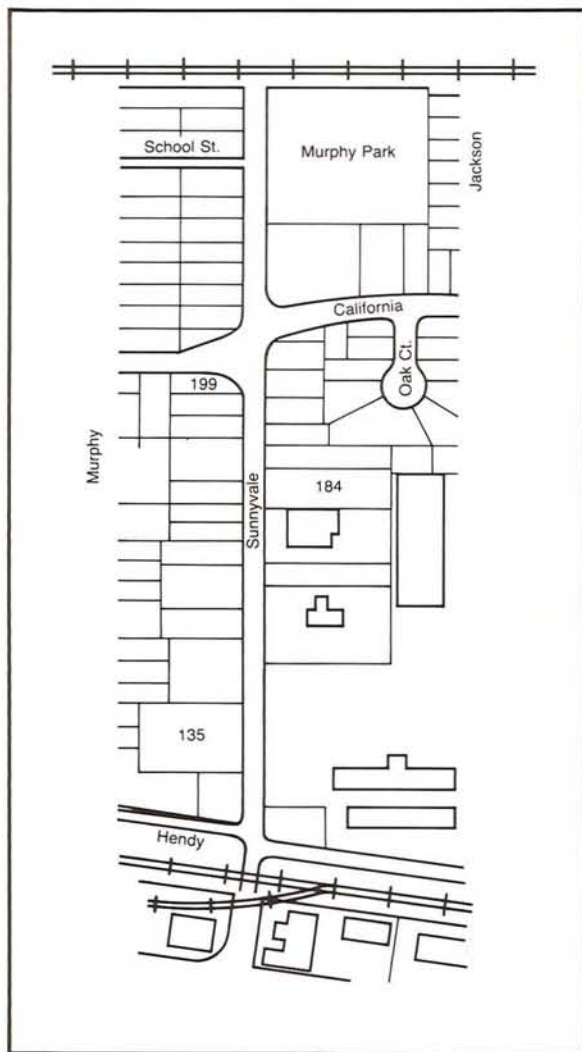
junction of Murphy Avenue and El Camino Real about 1918 or 1919. Owners James Agadoni and Anthony J. Fasola built and owned the Sunnyvale Shell Service Station across the street. Another early owner was Nick Burich, a fisherman from Washington who came to Sunnyvale in the 1920s as an orchardist.



The clipped gable Bungalow form was quite popular in Sunnyvale. This one and a half story example is wood framed with clapboard siding, rectangular in plan, and has the open entry porch centered on the main gable. Triangular knee braces support the wide overhanging eaves. Other examples of

this roof form can be seen in town employing cross gables, side gables, and offset porches. There is enough variation in treatment to suggest a number of contractor/builders participated in Sunnyvale bungalow construction. This house was constructed during the late 1920s.

Sunnyvale Avenue Street Scape



The 100 block of Sunnyvale Avenue originally marked the western boundary of the City's first industrial district, with Fair Oaks marking the eastern boundary, California Avenue the northern, and Evelyn the southern. This area encompassed the Joshua Hendy Iron Works, Goldy Machine and Hydrocarbon companies, Madison and Bonner Dried Fruit, and the Jubilee Incubator Factory.

The Hendy Iron Works held all the property on the east side to California Avenue, while Albert W. Bessey and his son Arthur owned about one-half of the west side of Sunnyvale Avenue, bounded by Murphy and Hendy avenues to the west and south. John Hendy and the Besseys built their homes in close proximity to their plants. Hendy had a large, side gabled craftsman Bungalow near California Avenue, which was reached by a road off Sunnyvale Avenue. The Besseys built near the corner of Hendy and Sunnyvale avenues, their estate containing homes for father and son as well as tennis courts. The Bessey estate grounds were landscaped in a park-like fashion, and Albert had a poultry facility for the prize winning Houdons which he bred and sold there for 35 years. His son joined Tom Lambert, a Sunnyvale Avenue neighbor, to develop the Radio Shop, which built EchoPhone Radios.

During the mid-1910s the street became Sunnyvale's most fashionable neighborhood, into which lumbermen George E. McGlaufflin and Homer Landon and Hendy superintendent George T. Balch moved. Orchardist, banker, and legislator C. C. Spalding built two homes here. The first, although realigned and somewhat altered, still stands behind the Wyant and Smith Funeral Home. The second was built across the street in the 1920s, a decade during which residents of

Sunnyvale Avenue's 100 block generally represented the City's business and industrial management sector.

While most of the homes were large by Sunnyvale standards, none were pretentious. Suggestive of the working class roots of many of their owners, most were expanded examples of the Colonial Revival and Bungalow styles popular in the less affluent neighborhoods. Small businessmen, such as electrical contractor Henry Wanderer and owner of the county's first Chevrolet dealership, Otis Raines, had built homes on the west side of Sunnyvale Avenue near California by the late 1920s and early 1930s. Desiring something different than the prevailing Bungalow style,

Wanderer designed his own small Cotswald cottage at 167 North Sunnyvale and had it built for \$8,000 between 1925 and 1926. Raines' handsome Spanish Revival residence is still in place at 199 North Sunnyvale.

After 1960 the neighborhood began to suffer the consequences of higher density residential zoning. Its earlier country estate character is still being eroded by apartment construction; however, a few of the older residences remain. With a considerable amount of original plantings, these homes give some idea of the high quality and character of the earlier street scape.



C. C. SPALDING HOUSE

135 North Sunnyvale Avenue

The large two story, stuccoed wood frame, tiled hip roof Spalding house is rectangular in plan. Built in 1916, it is a simplified version of the Italian Renaissance Revival style of architecture. The principal deviation from that mode is the use of a pedimented classical portico entry; generally these appeared in arched or paladian motifs. Saratoga's Villa Montalvo is a more finished example of the style.

This was the second Sunnyvale home of Charles Clifton Spalding, who made major contributions to Sunnyvale's

development. A native of Iowa, he came to the area in 1900, first developing a large orchard along El Camino Real which was popularly referred to as the "Spalding Tract." He became the first Treasurer of the City of Sunnyvale and later became a state legislator. Spalding may be best remembered for his development of the Murphy Avenue business district. In 1906 he organized and established the Bank of Sunnyvale and with his brother-in-law, C. L. Stowell, built the S. and S. Building, now Kirkish's.



HOMER LANGDON HOUSE

184 North Sunnyvale Avenue

A particularly nice Craftsman Bungalow example, local lumberyard owner Homer Langdon built this house in 1918, the same time he constructed his own home at 186 North Sunnyvale. This one and a half story, wood framed, cross gable house was later occupied by William Ackerman, a Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road orchardist who married into the Langdon family.

The main entry of this Bungalow holds one of the best

examples of a Craftsman style door in Sunnyvale. The little pent or shed roof extending over the main window at the first floor is a nice trim detail. The large stained glass window found here is a later addition to the house. Decorative brackets support the overhanging eaves of the porch roof. The latticed vents in the gable heads are oriental in feeling as are the shaped rafter ends on both the porch and main roof line.



RAINES HOUSE

199 North Sunnyvale Avenue

Otis and Nadine Raines had contractor John Kay build this single story Spanish Eclectic residence for them in 1931. The building is notable for its use of large arched picture windows in the gable walls. The tile roofed open side porch entry protects French doors leading off the living room. With

parapet walls and stuccoed surface, the bedroom wing to the rear of the house suggests a pueblo influence. Mr. Raines owned the first Chevrolet agency in Santa Clara County, Raines Garage on Murphy Avenue. He also was the mayor of Sunnyvale in 1946.



An unusual arrangement of three front facing gables mark this one story, wood framed Bungalow as a significant Sunnyvale residence. The broad lower gable, supported by battered piers, covers an open porch. A vent screen of vertical wood members is repeated in the porch and uppermost gable,

adding vitality to this interesting design. Wide window openings are outlined with intersecting muntings, a window type common to Sunnyvale bungalows. The building exterior is clad in a combination of stucco and wood shingle. The house was constructed around 1910.

JOE DUCKGEISCHEL RANCH

506 South Sunnyvale Avenue



Joe Duckgeischel, whose brother William was in partnership during the 1920s in Homer Langdon's Sunnyvale lumberyard built this small one story, cross gabled, wood framed, Bungalow around 1910. He probably got his design from a pattern book, a popular source for cheap house plans. Although small in size, the building contains most of the distinguishing features of the Bungalow style, including wide overhanging eaves, exposed rafters and purlins, slightly

battered porch piers, and Craftsman windows.

Willard Coates bought the house in 1919. Coates was in charge of the Sunnyvale Water Works. There were no extant maps of the city's water system, so if one wanted to know where pipes were located they had to get Coates to show them. He had committed the city's piping layout to memory. Family members still lived there in 1981.

RIEMER HOUSE

525 South Sunnyvale Avenue



Burr Matthews designed and built this one and a half story, cross gabled, wood framed Tudor Revival home for Andy and Leona Riemer in 1937. It was the first home south of Olive on Arques Avenue (now Sunnyvale Avenue), and for a time it stood alone in its tract.

The entry gable has a raked cornice and open arches. The gable head is decorated with horizontal siding supported by

oversize wood dentils. Except for the use of the dentils, the horizontal siding is carried over in the main gable and on the garage. The tall brick capped chimney is the work of Matthews' mason, Bert Bergess. Matthews drew from house designs published in Thomas Brothers Plan Books for some of his Tudor Revival homes. He always modified the pattern book material to meet the needs and desires of his clients.

General Inventory

The properties and trees listed in the following general inventory of historic resources are found scattered throughout Sunnyvale. None of them can be grouped to comprise historic neighborhoods or street scapes. They are listed alphabetically by street name.

DAVID S. ARATA HOUSE

666 Alberta



The Arata Winery and Orchards made their headquarters at this two story residence. The building has a complex roof treatment of steep pitched gables and hipped roof wall dormers. It also exhibits an early use of stucco as wall cladding in residential construction. The house was built by Mrs. Arata's uncle, a carpenter named Martinelli sometime after 1906. The family property was a garden spot, beautifully landscaped and maintained with a traditional Italian bocci ball court.

The David Arata family moved to Sunnyvale from San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake and fire. They grew apricots, prunes, and walnuts as well as operating a wholesale wine business. They purchased bulk wine from as far north as Ukiah to Delano in the San Joaquin Valley, storing and aging the wines in vats located in what has come to be called the "Engine House." They bottled under labels such as *Alberta*, *Aroma*, *Leroy*, and *Arata*, selling them on the San Francisco market before and after Prohibition.

MAST HOUSE

252 Bayview Avenue



This one and a half story, wood framed residence with its dominant cross gables and cutaway porch is an unusual cottage version of the Eastern Shingle style of architecture. It is the only example of its type in Sunnyvale. Originally the

roofing and wall cladding were of continuous wood shingle. Decoration is limited to simple brackets supporting the stepped gable-head and roof cornice returns. The building was constructed in 1910 by Mr. Mast, a contractor/builder.

HARE RANCH

655 Borregas Avenue



This large one and a half story, wood framed ranch house was built in simple Bungalow style about 1910. It was constructed on Mr. Hare's 40 acre pear orchard. The builder, Mr. Schumaker, may have gotten his plans from Gustave Stickley's *Craftsman Magazine* or from a proliferation of

Bungalow pattern books available at the time. It is probable that the residence as constructed had an open, full width front porch. Walter and Josephine Jenson purchased the property in 1923. The ranch was subdivided in 1955.

COAST LIVE OAK

1650 South Bernardo Avenue



Located at the northeast corner of South Bernardo and Homestead Road, this Coast Live Oak (*Quercus Agrifolia*) was standing on the site when the area was first settled by the Christopher Meyerholtz family in the 1880s. The family planted their "west side" 60 acres with peaches, apricots, and

almonds. They had a vineyard and winery as well. The Meyerholtz children and grandchildren built their homes on the property before it was sold to the Cupertino School District in 1956. This heritage tree now graces the grounds of the Cupertino Junior High School.



1043 Cascade

A modest one story, wood framed building, this example of an early farmhouse has been expanded and enlarged over time. On the exterior there is little left of the original 1910 Colonial Revival character of the house. Constructed as a three

room home, additions in 1936 and in the 1950s brought the building up to 17 rooms. Despite exterior changes, however, the house still retains some of its original interior spaces, including the kitchen.



WELFORD COCHRANE HOUSE*

283 Charles Avenue

Early Sunnyvale builder Welford Cochrane built this rectangular, one story, wood framed residence with hipped roof and clapboard siding. A native of Louisiana, Cochrane came to the Sunnyvale area as a young man in the April 1885 and established a vineyard and winery near Wolfe Road and El Camino Real. He moved into Sunnyvale in 1906, designing and constructing this home whose overall decoration possesses a Colonial Revival feeling.

Cochrane also built Fred Cornell's grocery store, the first

commercial building in town. He worked on many construction projects, both commercial and residential, including many houses on the 300 block of Frances. Sometimes he worked in partnership with Austin Barnes, another Sunnyvale carpenter. Cochrane is best remembered for his daughter, Edwinna Benner, who in 1924 became the first woman mayor of Sunnyvale and one of the first women to be elected to that office in the State of California.

*Official inventory status pending Council action.

DALTON HOUSE

297 Charles Avenue



This one and a half story residence with hipped roof and boxed dormers is one of the larger early homes still standing in the 1905 H. C. Fuller Tract. Its exterior has been modified, including a stucco coating over the original wood cladding and addition of an iron balcony railing which dominates the front elevation. Vestiges of its Colonial Revival design can be

seen in the diamond patterned window heads placed symmetrically around the building as well as in its fish scale shingles. Welford Cochrane helped build the house around 1908. Mr. Dalton, the first owner, commuted daily to San Francisco, and another early owner, George Hartwell, was a superintendent at Libby's.



An unusual feature of this earlier one and a half story residence is its large gabled central block. The flanking hip roof wings suggest the form was derived from a standard pattern book plan and modified to meet the owner's requirements. Constructed sometime after 1911, the house's decorative vocabulary comes from the Craftsman Bungalow tradition. Exposed rafters, flared eaves in the gable, a

bracketed window box, and shed dormer are typical of the form. Original paired windows with multipaned upper sashes remain in the flanking wings. Fenestration in the main gable has been modified with aluminum sliders at the second floor and changes appear to have been made in the principal bay window below.

CLAWSON HOUSE

802 Coolidge Avenue



About 1927 Charles Fuller had this interesting single story "L" shaped Bungalow constructed in the Fuller Tract, possibly built by carpenter Arthur Wibbel. Typical Bungalow style features include the low pitched roof, wide overhanging eaves, and knee bracing. Well sited on its corner lot, the residence is unusual in the contrasting treatment of its gable ends. The elevation facing Coolidge exhibits a clipped gable

roof repeated in the small square bay. Its asymmetrically placed windows are double hung sash. The Pastoria Avenue elevation, on the other hand, presents a raking cornice and tall slender arched windows suggesting an English cottage style. The wide variety of decorative possibilities inherent in the Bungalow style are given full expression in this small, well kept home. It originally was owned by a Mrs. Clawson.

OLSON BARN

El Camino Real and Mathilda Avenue



With rapid transition from agriculture to industry following World War Two, Sunnyvale lost its farms and orchards as well as the agricultural outbuildings that helped define them. Hay barns, horse barns, dairy barns, and tank houses were part of the farming infrastructure which disappeared. Two remaining examples of these most American of vernacular architectural forms are the Olson Barns.

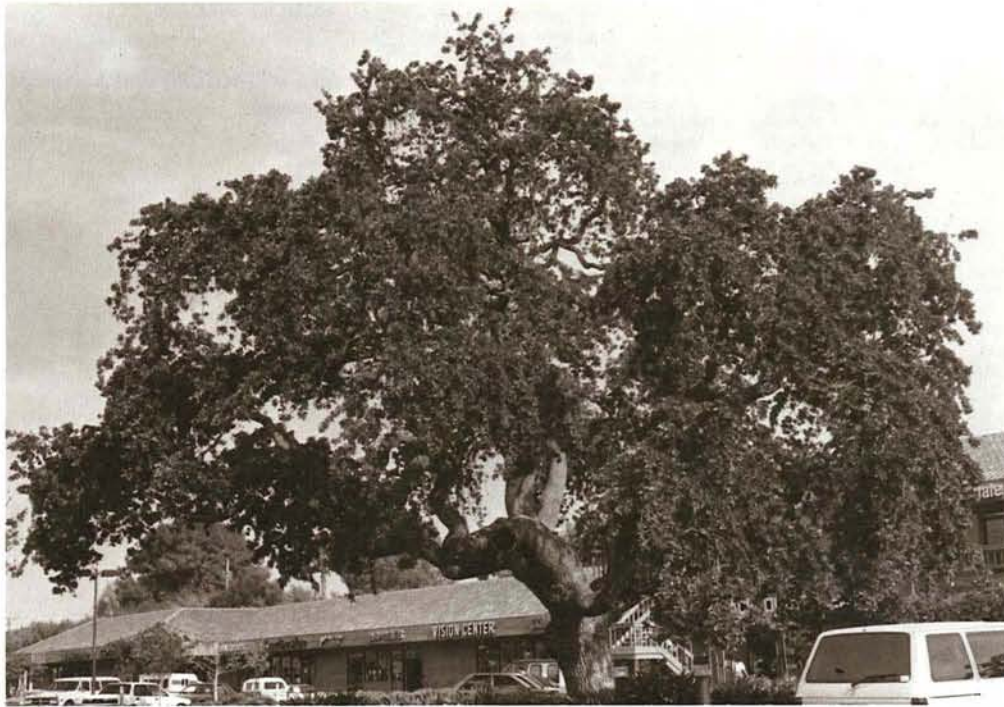
The Carl Olson family moved to Sunnyvale in 1899 and began farming on five acres planted with cherries. As time

passed they continued to buy and cultivate more land. They also operated a dairy business for ten years.

At El Camino Real and Mathilda Avenue in 1922, the Olsons constructed a large gabled wooden barn with full length monitor roof. To this they added a corrugated iron hay barn in 1938. Today the Olson Orchard and Barns remain as one of the last visible reminders of Sunnyvale's agricultural heritage.

CALA CENTER VALLEY OAK

1111 West El Camino Real



Well sited in the Cala Shopping Center along El Camino Real, this majestic Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata*) is estimated to be 350 years old. It stood adjacent to a farmhouse erected by a Mr. Nelson in the early part of the century. It was surrounded by apricot, pear, prune, and cherry trees. In the 1920s, Louis Beroni purchased the property, continuing to farm it, and Salvatore Cala became the owner in 1946.

In the early 1980s the property was developed as Cala

Center. The City, recognizing the historic and aesthetic value of this handsome tree, required the shopping complex be designed to retain it. Over its life the Cala Valley Oak has borne silent witness to the evolution of man's use of the land. Probably providing a food source for Ohlone Indians, it came to shade an orchardist's home and now functions as a decorative element in a vastly expanded urban environment. It was designated a Sunnyvale heritage tree in August 1985.

RYAN HOTEL

394 East Evelyn Avenue



This two story, workingman's hotel was one of the first Sunnyvale hotels. Built in 1907, it accommodated single men working at the Joshua Hendy Iron Works. A 1912 Polk Directory lists James Ryan as proprietor. According to local historian Fern Orht, the Ryan Hotel was the scene of many parties and social events, because it had the greatest concentration of single men in town. In the 1920s rooms rented for \$3.50 per week, and during Prohibition the hotel had a reputation as a "Blind Pig," a location where illegal

alcohol could be obtained.

The Ryan was originally designed in a commercial Italianate style, with brackets at its flat roofed cornice and angled second story bays. Sometime later it received its stucco wall cladding. As a corner block, the two principal elevations are integrated by a belt course between the first and second floors. Its principal entrance is canted, set at 45 degrees to the intersection of the Bayview and Evelyn elevations.



KEHL HOUSE

358 Florence Street

Kehl's one and a half story residence with a gable on hip roof takes the shape of the Queen Anne cottage but lacks the style's usual exuberant spindle work. Its cutaway porch recedes into the building envelope, suggesting a move away from Victorian excesses of the 1890s towards the more reserved Colonial Revival style.

The neat cottage, however, is not without its decorative elements. The small, squared bay window at the facade is

supported by three sets of sawn brackets and capped through the roof line with a gabled dormer framed by a curved fascia. A fixed diamond paned window completes the ensemble. Constructed about 1907, this simple and dignified family home is a significant contribution to the Florence street scape. Othmar B. Kehl, a machinist at Hendy's who moved with the company from San Francisco to Sunnyvale in 1906, was the first owner.



LoPRESTI HOUSE

373 Florence Street



This curious little one story, false fronted cottage is a one-of-a-kind residence in Sunnyvale. It was built in 1928 by John LoPresti, an Italian miner from Canada. LoPresti had apparently left mining after an accident, and the large Italian community in Sunnyvale attracted him to the area, where he went into farming. The small house he built on Florence may well be a reflection of the vernacular mining buildings with which he was familiar in Canada. There certainly is no local

precedent for this house form in the 1920s.

Its principal features include a flat roofed, full width, raised front porch and a series of single and paired craftsman style windows which surround the house and open it to the outside. The porch is defined by a simple cornice detailed with a classic dentil course. LoPresti and his wife Sylvia later lived across the street at 358 Florence.

CHRISTIANSSEN HOUSE

1409 Galloway Court



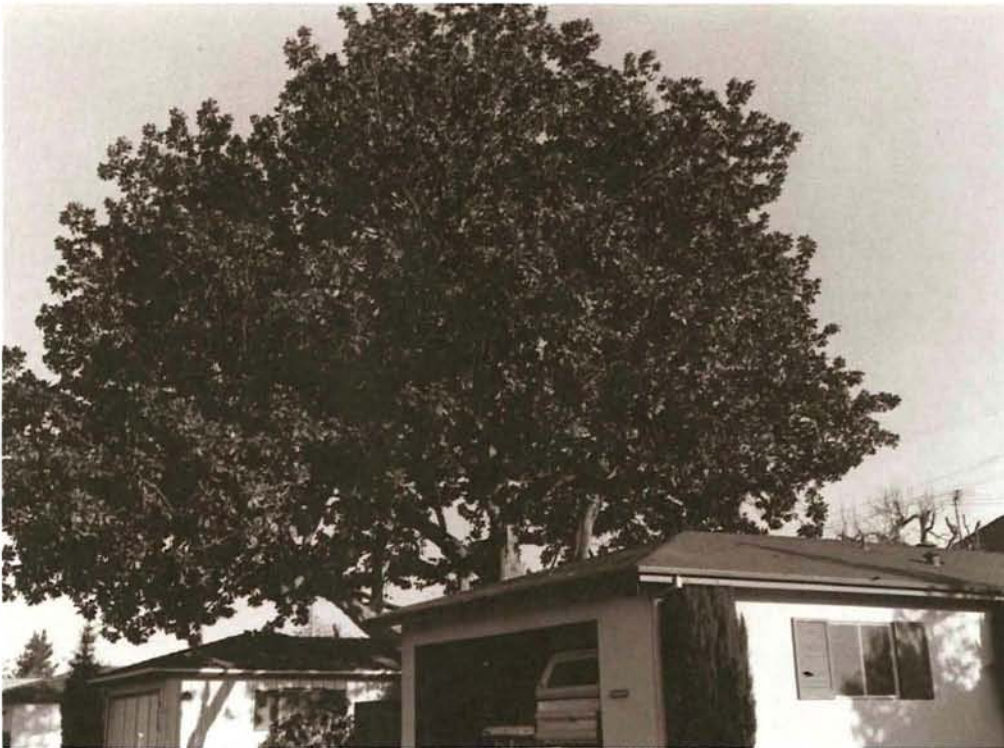
Rectangular in plan, the one and a half story, side-gabled, clapboard clad Christianssen house is a fine Bungalow cottage. The term "cottage" refers to many vernacular houses built in the 19th century. "Bungalow," sometimes inappropriately applied, refers to a good many domestic structures built in the first half of the 20th century. The integration of design elements are clearly visible in this 1911 house built by the Danish Christiansen family.

Bungalow traits include the main roof covering of the porch, which is wide and uses battered bungalow piers supported on a river rock foundation. Its close to the ground character, exposed rafters, and knee braces are also Bungalow features. The eave line running parallel to the street and a shed dormer dominating the roof give the cottage expression.

The house has been modified over time by a series of additions sympathetic to the core structure.

CASA DELMAS MAGNOLIA

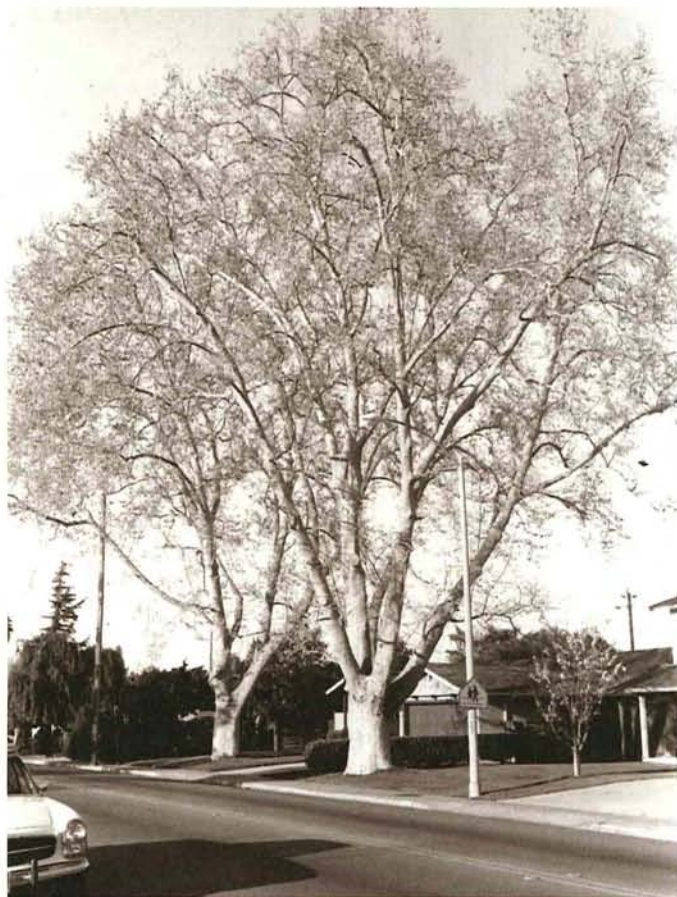
960 Heatherstone Avenue



This large magnolia (*Magnolia Grandiflora*) has come to be known in its neighborhood as the "Casa Delmas Magnolia Tree." It is all that remains of the 504 acre Delmas Estate in the old town of Encinal. It originally was part of an extensive garden surrounding attorney Delphine M. Delmas' estate home.

Delmas came to California from France in 1857, went to Santa Clara University where he received highest honors, and in 1865 earned a doctorate in law from Yale School of Law.

Returning from Yale to San Jose, he became the Santa Clara County District Attorney in 1867. Twelve years later he was elected to the California State Supreme Court, and in the 1880s he established "Casa Delmas," from which he commuted daily by train to San Francisco. One of California's prominent jurists, he is best remembered for his successful defense of New York millionaire Harry K. Thaw in the shooting death of noted architect Sanford White.



This pair of sycamores (*Platanus Acerfola*) were planted on either side of the entry to Lester E. Bocks' farm and fruit orchard in 1927. The ornamental trees were purchased from a San Jose nursery, as nothing like them were available in Sunnyvale at the time. The original 50 acre tract owned by

BOCKS RANCH TREES

880-882 Hollenbeck Road

C. O. Bocks was the largest cherry orchard in the world at one time, and Bocks was known as "The Cherry King."

On Bocks' death the estate was divided evenly between his two sons, Lester and Charles. Lester grew pears, apricots, and walnuts on the land, later replacing the apricots and walnuts with cherries. Eventually he also planted strawberries and did some truck gardening. The Bocks family sold the property in 1964 for a subdivision, and all that remains to identify the site of the farm are these two grand, heritage sycamore trees.



**SUNNYSIDE FOODS
PRODUCTS FACTORY**

435 East McKinley Avenue

Asymmetrical massing and multiple rooflines suggest the earlier commercial nature of this one and a half story stuccoed residence. Sam DeVita began the Sunnyside Foods Products Factory in the 1920s, producing among other things potato chips, packaged peanuts, and raisins. He built the factory

building on McKinley in the 1930s, and it was later converted into a home while retaining its unpretentious industrial design. The structure is a significant reminder of Sunnyvale's agricultural origins.

SCHUCKL CANNERY OFFICE

437-439 East McKinley Avenue



This one story, hip roofed, wood framed building with its stucco exterior was moved from the area of Fair Oaks Avenue and the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks to its current location. An excellent example of the Mission style of architecture, it may have been constructed originally in 1906 or 1907. The shaped entry parapet is a distinguishing feature of the Mission style.

According to longtime Sunnyvale resident and postal employee, Joseph Stanish, the building was once the headquarters for the Rumely Advance Thresher Company. Schuckl Cannery acquired it from Sunnyvale Canneries in 1925. It was probably moved to its present site in 1942, when Schuckl consolidated its San Francisco office with its manufacturing facility in Sunnyvale.



JOSEPH CORBOLINE HOUSE*

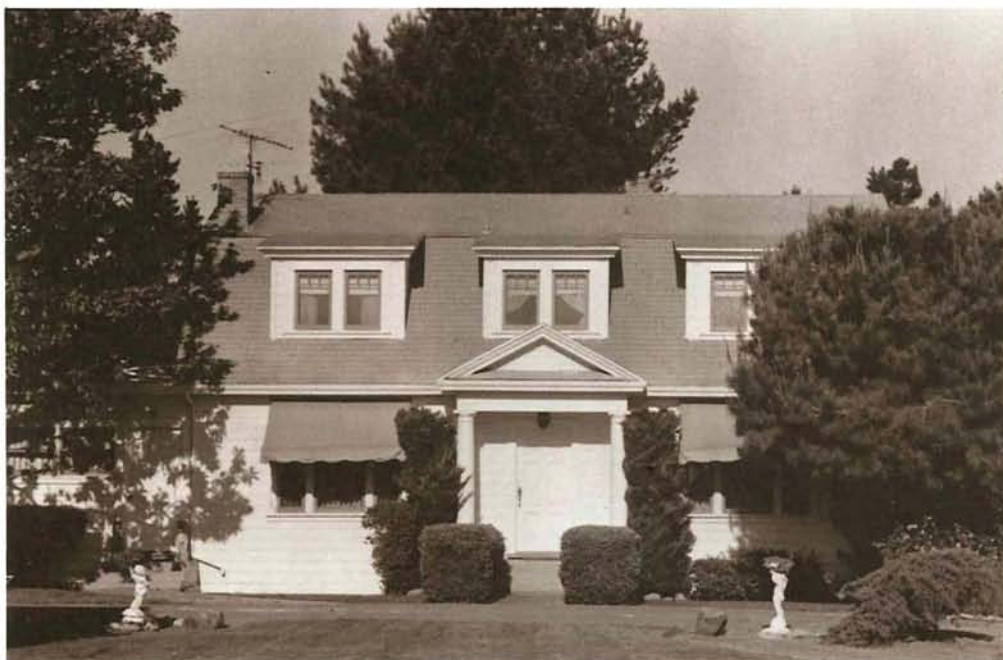
693 West McKinley Avenue

Just before 1914 Charles Fuller built this small one story, wood framed vernacular house as part of an early Sunnyvale housing tract. Its cross gabled hip roof relates it to the Queen Anne style, but there is none of the Victorian ornamentation associated with this building type. It is a simple working class home.

In 1914 Joseph Corboline, his wife Anna, and their first two

children moved from a rental house at Mathilda and Evelyn Streets into the new house. Joseph was a machinist with the Joshua Hendy Iron Works, and he had moved to Sunnyvale with the firm when its plant was destroyed in the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire. One of his sons, Emile Corboline, later became a Sunnyvale mayor.

*Official inventory status pending Council action.



IRVINE HOUSE

113 South Mary Avenue

This Dutch Colonial style house is one of the few homes in Sunnyvale designed by an architect. It is a one and a half story, wood framed structure with a dormer piercing the roof. The steeply pitched Gambrel roof is typical of the style and allowed for more living space within the roofline. Here the side gable feature with three shed dormers is accented by a classical portico, the pedimented porch roof supported by

Doric columns.

The house was designed in 1919 for Felix and Anna Irvine by the San Jose architectural firm of Wolfe and Higgins. The German-Irish couple came to Sunnyvale from San Francisco in 1910, purchasing their 10 acre tract to raise fruit. The original tract has been reduced to one acre, but the family's third generation still lives here.



DENNIS GREEN HOUSE

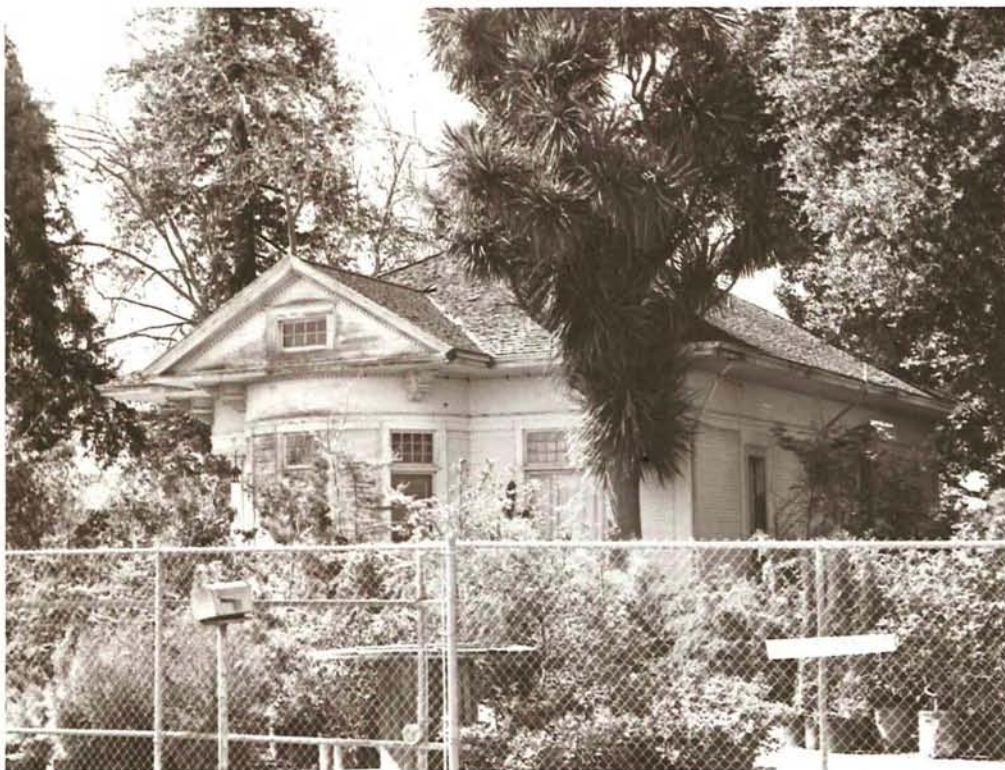
212 North Mathilda Avenue

This one and a half story residence is the best example of the American Foursquare style in Sunnyvale and was once the home of Dennis Green, proprietor of Green's Grocery Store on the 100 block of Murphy Avenue. The Foursquare style is characterized by the building's massiveness, softened by the asymmetrical placement of porches, irregular fenestration, and side bay windows which break up its otherwise box like

outlines. The house is capped by a low pyramidal roof with hipped dormers at each elevation, suggesting the derivation of the style's name. The dormer's double hung sash windows are paired and slightly angled, echoing the angled bay below. Modern asbestos siding has altered the original appearance of the structure, which was built around 1915.

MORE HOUSE

221 North Mathilda Avenue



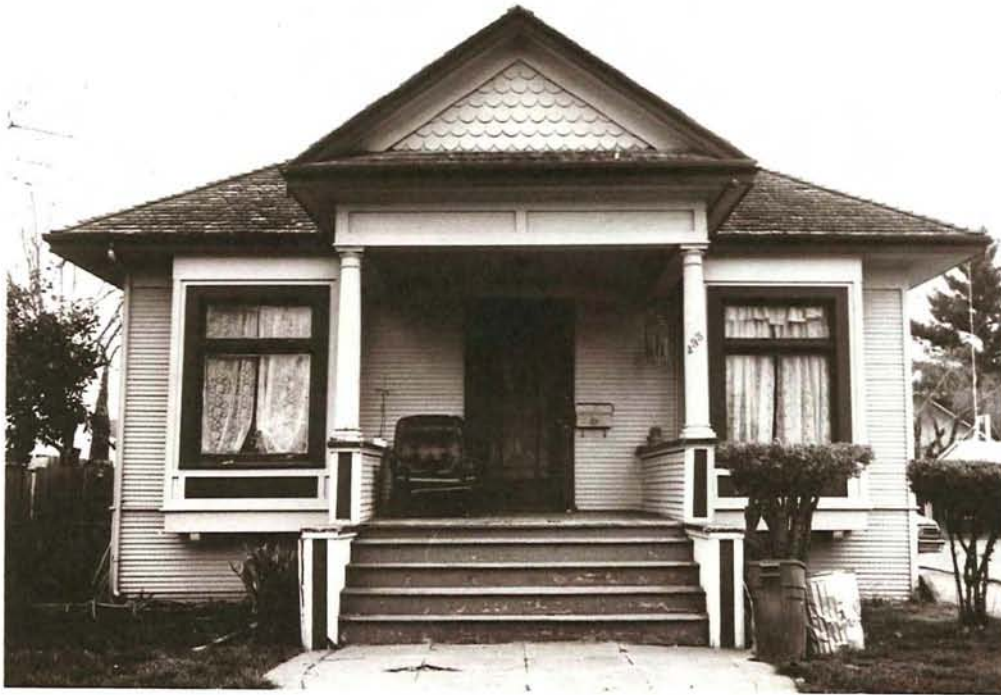
A single story, wood framed residence with hip roof and bowed bay window, this is a particularly fine example of a Colonial Revival cottage. A pedimented gable caps the unique bowed bay feature and is supported by large decorative brackets enriched with acanthus leaf detailing. Both the molded gable cornice and the roof wall junction are embellished with a small dentil course which surrounds the

house.

An early owner was Budd More. He established the first Associated Oil Station in Sunnyvale at the corner of El Camino Real and Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road. More also cultivated a pear orchard, and each year he would give away bags of fruit to customers who filled their gas tanks. The house was built around 1915.

JOHN SIMONIC HOUSE

235 North Mathilda Avenue



This one story square, wood framed residence with hip roof and gabled portico entrance is an early example of the Colonial Revival style. The classical entry features a pediment with a molded boxed cornice. It is filled with fish scale shingles, a hold over from the earlier Queen Anne style. The pediment is supported on a paneled frieze by a pair of simple

Ionic columns. The raised front porch steps further enhance the classic character of the ensemble.

The home was built for John Simonic, who worked for Southern Pacific Railroad. His wife, a teacher in the Sunnyvale school system, lived in the home from its construction in 1910 until 1976.

MUSSO HOUSE*

562 North Mathilda Avenue



In 1935 this one story, cross gabled, wood framed building originally was constructed at the corner of Iowa and Mathilda avenues. The low pitched roof with its regularly laid straight barrel mission tile encompasses the open front porch and its low stucco, stepped parapet wall. A particularly interesting feature of the house is builder John Gaitto's break with the style's arched window tradition. He chose rather to cap the tripartite fixed window in the main gable with a slightly flared

gable form which echoes the shape and pitch of the tiled roofline.

The house was built for Josie Musso and her children, Caroline and Lui. Caroline Musso Ryan served as secretary to the Sunnyvale City Manager from 1950 to 1980. It was moved to its present location in 1953, when Mathilda Avenue was widened.

*Official inventory status pending Council action.



FERREIRA HOUSE

316 Morse Avenue

Since its construction by Mr. Ferreira sometime after 1900, this one and a half story, wood framed, front gabled Bungalow has been considerably altered. Major additions to the house are identified by wide clapboard wall cladding, whereas the original structure had redwood drop siding. Additions

include a half story roof with low pitched gable and an enclosing of what was once an open front porch. The original shape of the building can still be detected. Fenestration throughout the house has been modified by the use of aluminum glass sliders.



CORRAL VEGETABLE RANCH

635 Morse Avenue

A nice example of a single story, front gabled Bungalow, the elaborated rafter ends, vertical wood elements in the main gable, and the stucco wall cladding give a distinct oriental flavor to this house. Built sometime before 1932, the house was purchased that year by Ceferino Corral. Purchasing more farmland around the house, Corral developed a productive 40 acre vegetable ranch. He sold his crops to local canneries

and in San Francisco.

Corral was a founding member of the Sociedad Cervantes Española, a social organization of Spanish people living in Sunnyvale. The group dedicated itself to "self supporting life security." Established formally in 1929, the Sociedad still provides benefits to its members.



This simple one story, redwood framed Carpenter Gothic Chapel was moved to Sunnyvale from Milpitas or Santa Clara shortly before World War Two. Originally used as a Four Square Gospel Church, it also has served as the Temple La Hermosa, an apostolic sect, and more recently as the Russian Orthodox Church of Saint Herman of Alaska.

Rectangular in plan, the main hall or nave is approached

through a smaller gabled entry, the narthex. The chapel's steep pitched gable roofs and pointed lancet windows and entry door are hallmarks of the Gothic style. While Saint Herman's is in a sense "new" to Sunnyvale, it does represent one of the oldest extant church buildings in town and is the community's only example of the Carpenter Gothic architectural style.



BURKE HOUSE

6 Oak Court

In 1939 newlyweds Raymond and Laverne Burke hired contractor Burr "Monte" Matthews to build their new home on Oak Court. Mrs. Burke wanted a house that was different from any other in town. Working from a magazine illustration, they developed the design for this Art Moderne house. The two story, wood framed, stucco surfaced residence was among the first very few homes of this style built in Santa Clara

County.

The building's smooth wall surface is devoid of decoration. A flat roof with a coping or ledge at the roofline and raised bands at the first and second floors give the structure horizontal emphasis. Additions to the house in 1947 included rooms at the rear and a two car garage to the left. The Burkes still live in the home.



OAK COURT LAMP POST

Joshua Hendy Iron Works

Houses on Oak Court were built just before World War Two, Enoch Oxendine and a contractor named Drysdale constructing two of them and contractor Burr Matthews erecting all the rest. The court was the first cul de sac in a Sunnyvale subdivision, and it may have been the first in Santa Clara County.

To highlight the cul de sac concept, Matthews, according to Mrs. Laverne Burke, conceived the idea of placing a handsome Hendy Iron Works' lamp post in the center of Oak Court. It specifically was selected for the street as a focal point of the subdivision which was part of the Old Crossman Park Tract. On weekends Oak Court became a spot which tourists circled, experiencing the cast iron lamp post as an integral part of this new housing development street form. Hendy's installed the lamp in 1937.



This single story, cross gabled, wood framed farm house originally was located at 279 Arques Street. It was moved to its present location to make room for city parking. Probably built by Mr. Mast, who was a contractor/carpenter, it is a good example of styles in transition. Its cross gabled form and hipped main roof are from the Queen Anne period. Its decorations come from the Colonial Revival style, as identified by its use of diamond shaped window glazing and

pattern shingles plus the fact that none of its elements extend beyond the roof eave line, including the angled bay. One should note the particularly handsome gable ends with tripartite arched vents and clever wood work in the shingles. The house was constructed in 1910, the same year during which Mast built the house at 252 Bayview which is identified with his name.



Moved to its present location from North Mary Avenue and Central Expressway, this modest one story, wood framed, clipped gable roof Bungalow with clapboard siding was originally constructed in 1925. The paired and stepped back front gable roofs once carried a pergola which covered an

open porch. The original doorway, flanked by side lights and two eyebrow windows in the roof slope, gave the little Bungalow a decidedly Colonial Revival flavor. Recent remodeling has altered its appearance.

CAVIGLIA RANCH

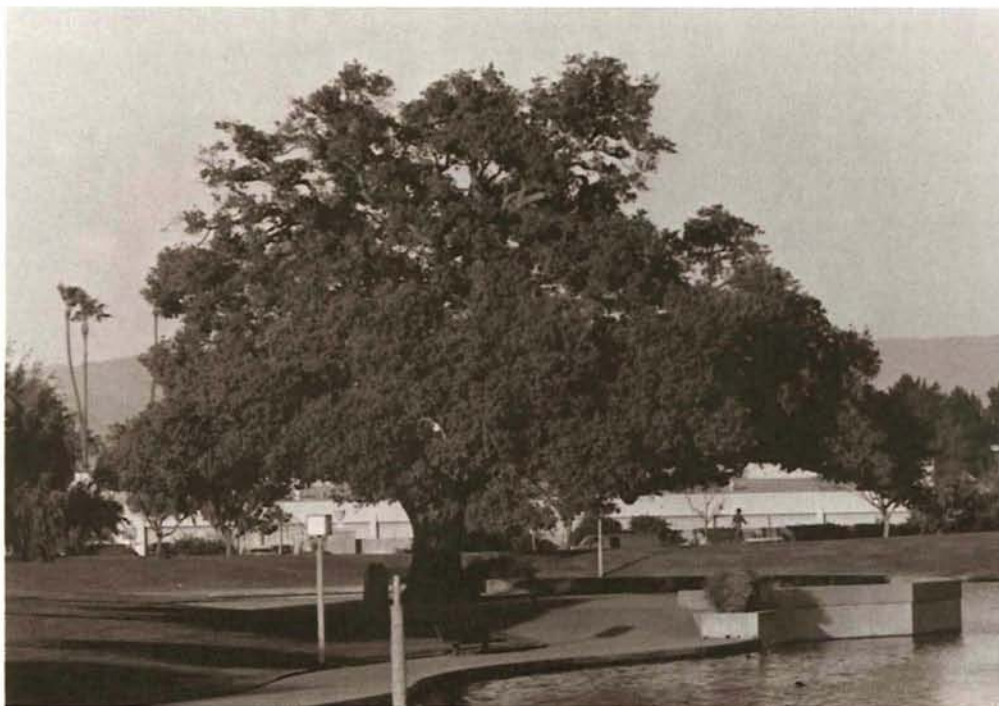
1029 Ranere Court



The True Brothers, Mountain View contractors, constructed this two story Spanish Eclectic Revival home in 1934. A particularly fine example of the style, it is accented on the exterior by external iron grilles and balconies. The red mission tile roof is capped with an elaborate tile roofed chimney top. From the cathedral ceiling living room, three arched French doors open outward onto balconets overlooking the well

maintained grounds. The stucco exterior wall surfaces are free of other decoration.

James Caviglia originally purchased ten acres in Sunnyvale in 1913. Later he expanded his holdings by purchasing 20 acres for cherries, and this beautiful house was built for his family on their 30 acre ranch. It is still owned by the Caviglia family.



VALLEY OAK

550 East Remington Drive

Standing adjacent to the Sunnyvale Community Center Lagoon, this majestic 75 foot tall California Live Oak (*Quercus Agrifolia*) has been in place for over 200 years. It shaded field hands for at least 100 years, first those of wheat and barley growers and then orchardists. In 1907 local orchardist, businessman, and public servant C. C. Spalding purchased the land around the tree. The area became known as the "Spalding Tract," and the fruits produced in the tract were of the highest quality.

In 1941 Louis Pavlina, who had come to Sunnyvale as a

Yugoslav immigrant in 1918, purchased the acreage on which the tree stands and grew cherries under the label "Pavlina's Beauties." His children and grandchildren remember eating their lunches under the great oak's spreading branches and playing on a rope swing suspended from its mighty limbs. Recognizing the natural and historic value of this important Sunnyvale landmark, the City incorporated it into their park design when they acquired the Pavlina property for community use in the 1960s.



**W. H. GEISLER HOUSE AND
GROUNDS**

325 Sara Avenue

Built in 1908, this two story, wood frame house has undergone considerable remodeling over time. Changes include modified windows, a stucco wall cladding over an earlier wood surface, and the addition of shake shingles to the hipped roof. Of greater importance is its historical association with W. H. Geisler, the general manager of all of

Libby, McNeil and Libby's west coast canneries. Geisler maintained 12 acres of apricots on the original property, which has since decreased in size to one acre. Nevertheless, the well landscaped grounds are of particular interest as they contain large redwood and pine trees.



FREMONT HIGH SCHOOL

Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road
at Fremont Avenue

Fremont High School is a two story, reinforced concrete structure, asymmetrical in plan. Oakland architect William Henry Weeks designed it in 1926 and the following year designed the gymnasium. Fremont High School is an excellent example of the Spanish Eclectic style as employed in public buildings, and it is one of Sunnyvale's most significant architectural monuments.

Its central block is side gabled with a Spanish tile roof. One

and two story arcaded wings articulate the building and carry a wide variety of decorative elaborations particular to the Spanish Eclectic style. Entry portals are capped with curvilinear, polychrome terra cotta parapets, which probably came from the Gladding McBean tile works in Lincoln, California. Colored tiles of varied pattern and shape are employed throughout. Wrought iron work is extensive and particularly effective in the open arches of the hip roofed

tower at the intersection of the central block and main entry wing. Windows are deep set to accentuate the building's mass.

To the south, a gabled roof library addition compliments the original structure. Constructed in 1934, the central features of its main interior hall are massive carved wooden trusses, highly decorated and strapped with iron. Large, blue terra cotta urns mark the exterior entry ways.

Weeks just had established a San Jose office when he began

work on Fremont High School. His 1925 Campbell Grammar School may have influenced the Sunnyvale school trustees to commission him for the new high school. More probably his reputation as a major designer of California school buildings preceded him. He had published nationally on the subject of safety in school buildings, and his 1924 Santa Barbara High School survived unscathed the famous 1925 Long Beach earthquake.

**CHARLES L. STOWELL
HOUSE**

901 Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road



A simple one and a half story, wood framed Queen Anne cottage, this structure is "L" shaped with one story additions to the east and west. It has a hipped roof with lower cross gables. Its angled bay window with overhanging gable are typical features of this style which dominated domestic construction in America from about 1880 to 1900. The decorative devices that give this house character include turned spindlework in the open shed roofed entry, round radial spoked windows in the gables, and raised lattice trim

in the north gable head.

About 1890 carpenter John Hazelton constructed this cottage for the original owner, F. C. Fry. The second owner, Charles L. Stowell, was a prominent local orchardist and businessman. After 1900 he and his brother-in-law Charles C. Spalding played a principal role in the downtown commercial development of Murphy Avenue. Still in Stowell family ownership, this is the oldest working farm remaining in Sunnyvale.



ACKERMAN HOUSE

1039 Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road

A wealthy local orchardist named William Ackerman had this large one story, wood framed, cross gabled Bungalow built around 1920. The original clapboard exterior has been altered considerably, and many of the distinguishing features

of this fine home are obscured behind a high wooden fence. Nevertheless, one can still see the pierced rafters and exposed purlins which give the building much of its character. The latticed vent in the gable head is visible also.



SCHMIDT HOUSE

1535 Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road

Sometime before 1920 William J. Schmidt had this one story, cross gable, wood framed Bungalow cottage built on his Columbian Poultry Farm. The compact structure with raised porch is unchanged from its original design. Its medium pitched gable roofs have exposed rafters, and the open porch

gable roof rests on slightly battered piers. Fenestration is asymmetrical with multi-pane lights. The house, located at the corner of Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road and Alberta, is nicely sited and probably appears much as it did in the 1920s.



Photo from Sunnyvale Historic Inventory

Ray Matthews may have built this one and a half story, stuccoed wood framed house is a modified version of the Tudor Revival style. The cross gabled plan is unique, placing the long axis of the roofline between the open entry and main gables. The arched windows, entry porch, and arcaded wing

wall set up a pleasant rhythm for the otherwise undecorated walls. The large diamond shingle pattern in the roof may be original to the house, which dates to about 1928. Although deceptively simple in presentation, this is one of the more architecturally interesting homes in Sunnyvale.



HERITAGE TREE GROVE

Sunnyvale TownCenter

In the mid-1970s, plans were revealed for a major redevelopment near Sunnyvale's older downtown core. The project was to be called Sunnyvale TownCenter. Concerned citizens led by long time resident Fern Ohrt petitioned the City to include in the plan the preservation of a group of heritage trees important in the community's history. Mrs. Ohrt's research revealed that several redwood trees were planted near the old City Hall by mayors Fred Drew (1927-1930) and Fred Schmitz (1932-1933) because the City could not afford landscaping. In 1939 a cedar tree was donated as a living gift to the City by the Sunnyvale Women's Club, and that same year a group of Sunnyvale elementary school children donated a tree in recognition of the newly opened Civic Center Auditorium. Six years later the local chapter of American War Mothers planted a memorial tree for the Sunnyvale men who lost their lives in World War Two, and three Fremont High School students who lost their lives in an automobile accident on May 30, 1945, also were memorialized.

The new TownCenter was built around the grove of trees, and picnic tables were situated throughout the area. At ground breaking ceremonies for the new center in 1978, Manuel Vargas, the City's oldest resident, planted a redwood tree to highlight the significance of preserving this heritage tree grove.



ABELL HOUSE

368 East Washington

Otto Abell constructed this small single story, cross gabled Queen Anne home about 1913. It is a much simplified version of the style, devoid of exterior decoration. Over time the building has been modified somewhat by the application of asphalt shingle over the original wooden wall cladding. The

projecting angled bay steps back under its pedimented gable, and a little gablet projects out of the side of the main roof slope as a vent. There are few of these early residences remaining in Sunnyvale.

BERGER HOUSE #1

384 East Washington Avenue



Carpenter Rudolph Berger built this small side gabled, one story, wood framed, pedimented Bungalow in 1924. This Bungalow has a hood or small portico at the facade over the main entrance. Berger, who built other houses along Washington Avenue, achieved a maximum of light penetration by using wide Craftsman windows, also known as

Chicago windows. The size, shape, and practicability of this window form made it popular with high style as well as with vernacular design. The larger central window is fixed and flanked on each side by narrower, generally movable sash or casemented windows. The Berger home is one of the nicest owner built Bungalows in Sunnyvale.

BERGER HOUSE #2

388 East Washington Avenue



Carpenter Rudolph Berger built this hip roofed Bungalow for himself in 1928, next door to his first house at 384 East Washington Avenue. Somewhat larger in scale, the house still employs the same Bungalow characteristics of Berger's first

home. The gabled roof was glassed in and the original tar paper and sand roof was replaced with asbestos shingles, but it maintains the general Bungalow feeling and character.



JOHN HEDLEY HOUSE

480 East Washington Avenue

John Hedley was an early owner of this one and a half story, wood framed, side gabled Bungalow. A superintendent at the Joshua Hendy Iron Works, he had moved with the Hendy company to Sunnyvale from San Francisco in 1906.

Triangular knee braces support the wide overhanging eaves with their exposed rafters. The roof slope is pierced by a wide shed dormer. Contained under the main roof is a large full

width front porch, which is enclosed by multiple paned windows and double, glazed entry doors, possibly a later addition. The wall cladding is clapboard. This particular Bungalow substyle is more common in northeastern and midwestern states. The house probably dates to between 1915 and 1918.



Simplicity of form is the dominant characteristic of the Pioneer, a vernacular building style from 1850 to 1900. This rectangular single story, wood framed, hip roofed example with horizontal drop siding has a chimney centered in the roof ridge. This suggests its builders may have come from the colder eastern states where such chimneys concentrated heat

in a building's interior. The only concession to decoration on this little farm house is the split pilasters supporting the hipped porch roof. There are double hung sash windows throughout this house, which probably was built at the turn of the century.



JELCICK HOUSE

225 Waverly Avenue

Once owned by Joseph Jelcick, an early Sunnyvale park superintendent, this one story, stuccoed version of the clipped gable Bungalow is another local example of variety within the style. It is rectangular in plan with a front gable and offset

open porch. The shaped front rafter is supported on projecting purlins, unusual for the Bungalow style. The house is located in the H. R. Fuller Tract and probably dates to the early 1920s.



BUTLER HOUSE

279 Waverly Avenue

"L" shaped in plan, this single story, front gabled, wood shingled Bungalow was a former chicken house made into a residence by Fred T. Butler. In the 1920s he was a receiving foreman at Libby, McNeil and Libby and in 1929 served as clerk of the Board of Education. His wife, Minnie, was a teacher at Libby's nursery school.

This Bungalow's projecting lower gable encloses a full width open porch. The roof is supported by slender piers,

and exposed rafter ends appear at the eave line. On May 16, 1924, the *Sunnyvale Standard* wrote that "the bungalow is the most nearly American type of residence in architecture; although the word itself is adopted from the Orient of Kipling. This type of architecture has reached its highest development in America, where it has enjoyed an increasing popularity because of its convenient size and decorative possibilities."



F. B. WEBER HOUSE

381 Waverly Avenue



This little "doll house" cottage belonged to Sunnyvale dentist F. B. Weber. It is one of two examples of this pattern book dwelling. They are paired together, the other at 385 Waverly. The form derives from Tudor and Norman prototypes and is sometimes referred to as pictorial or provincial. This side gabled builder's cottage version is an

early instance of serial housing in Sunnyvale. It has a steep, raked cornice at the entry and a tiny arched window offsetting rather uniform double hung sash windows. The entry trellis and white picket fence compliment the fairy tale quality of the cottage. Its estimated date of construction is about 1925.



This house is a one and a half story, gambrel roofed Dutch Colonial subtype of the Colonial Revival style. There only are two of them in Sunnyvale. Both are side gabled with classical portico entries, but this one is less pretentious than its 113 South Mary Street counterpart. The shed roofed dormer and

simpler entry portico detailing suggest it is of a later date than the 1919 residence on South Mary, perhaps the mid-1930s. The wall cladding is wide horizontal clapboard, and the multipaned windows are symmetrically placed throughout. It is set back from the street in a well landscaped environment.

VI. Sunnyvale's Lost Resources

The City of Sunnyvale has made progress over the past few years to incorporate historic preservation into its planning and management policies. Much of the effort to initiate and sustain an effective program of heritage resource conservation has stemmed from the concerns of private citizens over the loss of irreplaceable City landmarks. The destruction of these heritage properties has diminished the community's character as well as its historic identity.

A sense of this loss is captured in some of the properties no longer standing. For example, the Bayview Farm, the 1851 home of the Martin Murphys, recognized as Sunnyvale's first family, was sold to the City for a public park in the 1950s and subsequently listed as a State Historic Landmark. It was bulldozed rather than restored after a fire in 1961. Similarly, the 1895 Butcher family farmhouse and outbuildings which



Martin Murphy home.

California History Center.

marked Butcher's corner at the juncture of Fremont Avenue and El Camino Real were destroyed by Santa Clara County in the early 1980s. At the same time other farm homes at 543 Fremont, 333 West Maude, and 437 North Mary were removed to make way for expanding subdivisions.

The Jubilee Incubator Company, built along the Southern Pacific right of way at Sunnyvale and Evelyn avenues in 1908, was one of the City's first industries. One of the community's finest examples of early industrial architecture, it was demolished for development in the mid-1980s. Perhaps the most notable loss besides the Bayview Farm was Schukl's California Cannery and Growers office building, designed by

William W. Wurster. Although not constructed until 1942, architectural historian Wayne Andrews said in his book, *Architecture, Ambitions and Americans*, that it "is likely to be remembered as one of the incomparable business buildings of the 20th century." Denied landmark status by the City in 1984, it was subsequently demolished.

Not every old building can or should be saved, nor by the same token, should every new building be built. A balance can be struck through adequate research and municipal processes so that significant historic resources can join with new structures in contributing to Sunnyvale's evolving city scape.



Schukl's California Cannery and Growers office building.
Camera Mart.

VII. Nostalgic Sunnyvale

Nostalgia, by definition, is a longing for something long ago or far away. Here we look at cultural aspects from Sunnyvale's past that, although gone, certainly are not forgotten. The memories evoked by these once tangible aspects of Sunnyvale's life still constitute a part of the intangible glue which holds the community together and represents its historic character as much as any existing landmark.

For example, there are many Sunnyvale citizens who well recall the old Encina School. Some of these residents attended classes there. They remember hitching rides on the old city

water wagon during hot summer days and recall the sounds and smells of the steam locomotives which chugged through Murphy's Station. Even more residents can remember the City's electric Sunnyvale sign at Murphy Avenue and El Camino Real, when both thoroughfares were lined with neat orchards. The old City Hall also is fresh in the minds of many citizens as a centerpiece of community activities, especially during the holiday season, when the volunteer fire department decorated the City tree and hung festive lights along the colonaded walkways.

CITY WATER WAGON



The Camera Mart.

As late as 1912 Sunnyvale's streets remained unpaved. Pioneer resident Elsie Shurra Burnett, whose brother ran a candy store on Murphy Avenue described the central business district "where the sidewalks were wooden planks and the streets were paved with mud." To keep the dust down in the dry season, the City had a water wagon. One of its early

operators, Byron Maginnis, had migrated to Sunnyvale around 1891 from Canada. He was a nephew of Fred Cornell, the town's first postmaster and grocer. Joining Maginnis on his daily rounds was a pleasant childhood pastime for Sunnyvale youngsters.

ENCINA SCHOOL



California History Center.

Sunnyvale's first school was put under construction in 1899 when the town was still called Encinal. Until then local youngsters had to travel to Mountain View to attend classes. The prominent bell tower of the two story, wood framed structure in the wheat stubble at the corner of Frances and McKinley was the town's first public building and visible landmark. Classes convened in September 1900, and Miss Jenni Cilker of Los Gatos was paid about \$40 per month to be the sole teacher for all classes. One of the school's first pupils, Manuel Vargas, remembered that students in each grade knew

the lessons of all other grades, as they all heard each other recite.

The 1906 earthquake damaged the building so badly that the second story had to be razed. Subsequently the facility was enlarged to two buildings and named the Sunnyvale School. In January 1915 a new grammar school building featured a 350 seat assembly hall, six classrooms, a library, and administrative and storage areas. The original bell is at the Heritage Tree Grove.



California History Center.

Sometimes called the “Father of Sunnyvale,” William Everett Crossman was born in River Falls, Wisconsin in 1858. At age 18 he moved to South Dakota Territory, where he worked successfully as a general merchant. He moved on to California in 1887, entering the real estate business in San Jose. In 1898 he purchased 200 acres of the Bayview Farm for \$38,000 from Patrick Murphy and laid out a townsite. South of the Southern Pacific right of way, it was bounded by McKinley Avenue on the south, Mathilda Avenue on the west, and Bayview Avenue on the east.

Crossman conceived of a factory town similar to those he had known along the shores of the Great Lakes, this one to be served by both the railroad and a proposed deep water port on San Francisco Bay. His promotional skills were consider-

W. E. CROSSMAN REALTY

able and his energy unflagging. In the aftermath of the April 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire, he drew a number of new industries into Sunnyvale, expanding the town's economic base and assuring its successful future as a manufacturing center. But an economic depression followed the San Francisco tragedy, slowed Sunnyvale's progress temporarily, and led Crossman to sell some of his community interests in 1915 and trade others for investment properties in Los Angeles.

The Crossman name is still identifiable in some subdivision names throughout Sunnyvale, including the Diana Addition (after his wife) and the Pauline Tract (after his daughter). Crossman died in 1926.



JUBILEE INCUBATOR COMPANY

102 Sunnyvale Avenue

California History Center.

Mr. A. E. Bessey's Jubilee Incubator Company was one of the world's largest manufacturers of incubators, brooders, and poultry supplies. In business since 1882, Jubilee's hot water heating systems became much more popular than other open gas flame systems. A Jubilee trademark on poultry equipment was said to be "the same as Sterling on silver."

Sunnyvale's pioneer promoter W. E. Crossman drew Bessey from his original Oakland facility in 1907 with promises of free land, abundant water, reasonable labor costs, low freight rates, and convenient access to San Francisco. The firm had a work force of about 300, and Bessey located his new plant at the southeast corner of Evelyn and Sunnyvale avenues

adjacent to the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks.

In 1922 Bessey's son-in-law F. D. Cornell took over the business, vowing to make Sunnyvale "the egg basket of the world." But the company failed during the Great Depression. A coffin manufacturing firm took over its buildings, replaced during World War Two by a producer of gas mask filters. Later the Bowser Gas Pump Company followed by the Coin Wrapping Division of Brandt Industries used the facility. Although listed on Sunnyvale's Historic Resource Inventory, this landmark manufacturing facility was demolished in 1983, the victim of new development.

MURPHY STATION



California History Center.

In 1864 the San Francisco and San Jose Railroad Company established a route between its namesake cities, crossing over a portion of Martin Murphy Jr.'s Bayview Farm. In exchange for the right of way, the railroad allowed Murphy two locations on his property for passenger pick-up. One was called Lawrence Station and located in Santa Clara. The other, called Murphy's Station, was a few hundred yards from the ranch headquarters in what would become Sunnyvale. Murphy also received a 15 year pass for travel on the railroad.

Because of Murphy's great influence in the Santa Clara Valley, Murphy's Station became a popular stop for visiting dignitaries enroute between San Francisco and San Jose. An

1899 photo shows the site as a shingled, hip roofed, open shelter supported by wooden posts. By this time the area was called Encinal. After 1901, with the development of Sunnyvale as the "City of Destiny," a station was moved from another locality to replace the open shelter. Located at the junction of Evelyn Avenue and Taaffe Street, the building had separate waiting rooms for men and women, each equipped with a pot bellied stove.

This station served Sunnyvale until 1951, when a freak tornado ravaged a portion of the town and took off the station roof. Southern Pacific disassembled the remaining building, loaded it on a flat car, and took it elsewhere for reassembly.

SUNNYVALE CIVIC CENTER



The Camera Mart.

San Francisco architect A. A. Cantin's design for Sunnyvale's 1929 Civic Center continued the local tradition of building important public and commercial buildings in the Spanish Eclectic style. The \$40,000 complex at the corner of Murphy and McKinley avenues was "U" shaped in plan with single story wings coming off a two story arcaded central block. It had stucco walls, shaped parapets, an arched bell tower, and tile roofs. It contained the Civic Auditorium, Justice Court, a County Library branch, and the Chamber of Commerce. School was conducted in one wing for at least a

year.

The Civic Center hosted an average of 70 meetings each month through its life. The Children's Theater held their annual play in the auditorium and Christmas lights and the official City Christmas tree decorated the facility during the holiday season. For many years it was truly the community center around which Sunnyvale's social life revolved. In 1969 the City demolished the facility, replacing it with the present City Hall at El Camino Real and Mathilda Avenue.

SUNNYVALE FIRE HOUSE



The Camera Mart.

Located just west of Murphy Avenue, next to the post office on Washington Street, the Sunnyvale Volunteer Fire Department was a civic institution for many years. The volunteers originally organized in 1907 with San Francisco's great fire fresh in their memories, and they provided fire protection for the many new wooden factory buildings in the rapidly expanding community. In March 1914 Sunnyvale officially established the volunteers, and two months later D. J. Williams, the City's first elected Fire Commissioner, offered the building pictured to the City as the new fire house. In 1951 Sunnyvale established a Department of Public Safety, the first city in California to combine fire and police functions.

Over the years the Sunnyvale Volunteer Fire Department

served as an important community social organization. The volunteers initiated an annual picnic for the town's children and hosted a Christmas party for children with a tree, entertainment, and small gifts. They had the responsibility each year for installing Christmas decorations along Murphy Avenue and placing and lighting the official City Christmas tree in the tower of the old City Hall. They organized baseball and volleyball teams and sponsored scouting groups. In the department's 43 years of service, over 130 local men served, including many father and son teams. In August 1950 the volunteers stepped aside as a unit to make way for a larger, professional Public Safety Department to meet the expanded needs of the growing community.



In November 1920 the Sunnyvale Chamber of Commerce initiated a project to design and build an illuminated sign over Murphy Avenue at its junction with El Camino Real. The Chamber sought public subscriptions to pay for the sign, asking local fraternal groups to assist in raising funds. In March 1921 the *Sunnyvale Standard* published the names of

59 contributors. The list of subscribers, whose donations ranged from \$1 to \$100, constituted a “who’s who” of Sunnyvale’s first families and commercial interests. The Joshua Hendy Iron Works fabricated and erected the electric sign, which for a number of years marked the official entrance to the “City of Destiny.”

VIII. Planning Sunnyvale Preservation

Benefits of Conservation

Sunnyvale's pioneer settlers established our path for the future. What they created made it possible for us to establish our own institutions and expand our economic and cultural surroundings. Yet we are building on patterns of land settlement which we inherited from them. Therefore, familiarity with their values and experiences as the City developed over time provides a viable intellectual background for present and future planning.

A principal benefit of historic preservation is economic in character. The ever rising cost of new construction means recycling the past for contemporary uses, and affordable housing is a necessity, not just a sentimental exercise. Quite simply, we cannot afford to rebuild the environment every generation, and it makes good sense to rehabilitate and conserve older properties. Investment in preservation stimulates work for the local building trades and provides reasonably priced, useable space for the community. Continued private use of older buildings and the improvements made to them lead to increased property values and attendant tax benefits.

Preservation also saves energy, an important economic consideration. The residual value of energy built into our older housing stock enormous. Our forebearers invested great time, capital, and energy in original decision making processes, in irreplaceable materials and professional craftsmanship, and in the pure physical effort and fuel consumed by housing construction. Therefore, we waste energy when old buildings are torn down.

Another major benefit of conservation is balance. Com-

munity character is preserved and enhanced if we conserve rather than replace our older buildings. Our past and future join in a continual partnership which makes for orderly growth in the life of our society. Given today's social and environmental conditions, historic preservation is no longer only a matter of taste. It is a sound expression of basic social responsibility. A preservation program arrests decline and provides stability for older neighborhoods, while well maintained historic buildings offer variety, scale, and dignity to the city scape and provide educational opportunities for citizens and visitors to the community.

Heritage Preservation Commission

In 1980 the Sunnyvale Heritage Preservation Commission was created by ordinance. Its seven members were appointed to four year, staggered terms by the City Council. Commission members continue to be selected for their demonstrated interest in the heritage of the City.

The Commission is responsible for production and maintenance of the City's Historic Resources Inventory. It also develops criteria for the Landmarks program, accepting nominations and making recommendations for individual and district listings. The Commission reviews all applications for City permits which may significantly affect Landmarks or Landmark districts. It promotes and conducts public information programs to further the goals of preservation, encouraging citizen participation in support of heritage resources. It also investigates and reports to the Council on public and private funding sources and mechanisms available

to promote preservation of the City's Heritage Resources. Finally, the Commission performs studies and offers recommendations related to its mission. Copies of all recommendations, studies, standards, and criteria produced in the exercise of the Commission's duties are made available to the public.

Local Policies and Regulations

Local policies and regulations relative to historic preservation in Sunnyvale may be found in two documents: the "Heritage Preservation Sub-Element" of the City's General Plan, adopted in January 1980; and "Heritage Preservation," Chapter 19.80 of the City Code, adopted in September 1977.

The following excerpt expresses the general policy and intent of the "Heritage Preservation Sub-Element:"

The intent of this Sub-Element and subsequent ordinances is to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare through the identification, protection, enhancement, and perpetuation of those areas of the City which reflect special elements of the City's heritage resources: architectural, artistic, cultural, technical, aesthetic, historic, political, and social. Heritage resources shall be preserved for the following reasons:

- a. to safeguard the City's heritage;
- b. to increase public knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of the City's past;
- c. to foster civic pride in the beauty and accomplishments of the past as well as the present, and to offer reasons for the people to commit their futures to the City;
- d. to enrich human life educationally and culturally by serving aesthetic as well as material needs and fostering knowledge of the living heritage of the past;
- e. to enhance the visual character of the City by preserving diverse as well as harmonious architectural

styles and design preferences which reflect various phases of the history of the City, and to encourage complementary contemporary designs and construction;

- f. to enhance the attractiveness of the City to visitors, thus stimulating business and industry;
- g. to incorporate the preservation of heritage resources into the comprehensive planning process;
- h. to identify and resolve conflicts between the preservation of heritage resources and alternative land uses;
- i. to develop and maintain appropriate settings and environment for heritage structures.
- j. to conserve valuable material and energy resources by continued use and maintenance of the existing built environment;
- k. to stabilize neighborhoods and other areas in the City through conservation and rehabilitation of existing housing stock;
- l. to enhance property values and to increase financial and economic benefits to the City and its inhabitants;

Specific regulations relative to historic preservation are found in the City's Heritage Preservation Ordinance. They include:

- a. Landmark designation criteria and procedures;
- b. changes of use or multiple residential uses of Landmarks or Landmark districts;
- c. construction, demolition, relocation, or material changes to Landmarks and Landmark districts;
- d. unsafe or dangerous conditions and showing of hardship;
- e. ordinary maintenance and repair.

IX. Researching Your Older Sunnyvale Home

How old is your house? When was it built? Who built it? Who lived in it? What changes have been made to the house over time?

These and many other questions can be answered by searching through public records and other source materials. Knowing the history of your older Sunnyvale house or building will be of help in any planned restoration or repair work you might undertake. If your building qualifies for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places and is income producing, you may be eligible for special tax incentives for rehabilitating it under the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981.

Where to Look

The material you will need to research your home can be found in part at city and county offices. Public records of interest to you will include deeds, wills, tax and census lists, and assessor's records. Records of deeds and wills may be found with the city clerk. At the county tax collector's office, tax records can reveal the dates of first improvements on property, as can assessor's records which also show the names and addresses of those assessed, parcel numbers and acreage, and other information.

Unfortunately, because of space constraints, limited staffing, and inadequate records management policies, some of the earlier documentation of Santa Clara County is no longer available through these sources. It has either been destroyed or transferred to a non-governmental repository. To assure the records you wish to study are on hand, call the city or county office from which you are seeking information in advance of a visit.

Other Source Material

Historical organizations, libraries, preservation organizations, universities, and local newspaper offices may have part of the documentation you will require to research your house. The Sunnyvale Historical Museum in Murphy Park has a considerable amount of information on the community's development, including some public records as well as other written and visual materials. A few copies of early editions of the *Sunnyvale Standard* are there, while the city library holds a fair collection of the *Standard* for years since 1907.

The California History Center, located at De Anza College, has historical material on Sunnyvale and a selection of early photographs. Their collection of local history publications contains much geneological information as well.

San Jose's City Museum archive in Kelly Park holds some Santa Clara County records. They have an important collection of San Jose and Santa Clara County Business Directories from the 1880s to present, and Sunnyvale is included in these from the turn of the century into the 1940s. Both the San Jose public library and the special collections section of San Jose State University's library have good selections of these city directories.

Also available at the San Jose City Museum are microfilm copies of Sanborn Fire Insurance maps. These maps show Sunnyvale streets from 1930 to 1964, depicting the basic plan of homes and businesses as they sat on their lots. The maps also include information on the materials used to construct each building. Sanborn maps from 1908 and 1911 are available for research from the Sunnyvale Planning Department and also can be found at the Sunnyvale Historical

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SANTA CLARA COUNTY DIRECTORY (1929)

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SUNNYVALE

Population 3500 winter, 6000 summer.
 The highest spot on the S. F. highway, 39 miles from S. F. or Oakland, 9 miles north of San Jose.

We enjoy here rail and water transportation, having a south port 6 miles from city.

We have two large fruit canneries, Joshua Hendy Iron Works, Hydro Carbon Plant, Advance-Rumely Co., Lucas Mfg. Co., Garden City Machine Works, California Concrete Products, three lumber yards, in all of which more than 2000 persons are employed, with an annual payroll of approximately \$1,750,000.

Surrounded by best fruit orchards, seeds farms, dairies and vegetable lands. Very modern grammar and high schools. Will erect a \$40,000 civic bldg.

Abel Lawrence J r Pastoría av
 Abel Otto (Mary) h363 E Washington
 Aboud Abr (Rahjee) h605 W Wash-
 ington
 Aboud Anna r596 W McKinley av
 Aboud Menesses (Susan) h596 W McKin-
 ley av
 Ackerman Wm W h Saratoga rd
 Adelman Albt B crane opr Joshua Hendy
 Iron Wks h44 E Washington
 Advance-Rumely Thresher Co Inc S I
 Stansell supt R D Bander mgr Fair
 Oaks and Sunnyvale
 Agadoni Jas (Sunnyvale Service Station)
 Agadoni Jas D (Edna) h Murphy av
 Aker Arth (Daisy) h441 Arques
 Alexander Muriel B tchr Pub Sch
 Allend Alf E fndymn Joshua Hendy Iron
 Wks r Evelyn av
 Allias John h Lawrence av
 Allias Mike r Lawrence av
 Allison Ernest A (Selma) h231 S Bay-
 view av
 Allison Jos L h350 Frances
 Allison Ralph h S Pastoría av
 Allison Sarah J Mrs h Lawrence av
 Alonso Frank h306 Maude
 Altman Hilda Mrs bkpr Lucas Mfg Co
 Amaral Manuel r Waverly
 Amaral Mary Mrs
 American Railway Express Co Mrs Margt
 Hughes agt Evelyn and Murphy av
 Andrade Antone D (Clara) h Olive av
 Andrus Bert R (Ina) h457 Lincoln av
 Angini C L Mrs h Fremont av
 Anthony Arth K (Minnie) h340 S Mur-
 phy av
 Arguello Julio Mrs h422 S Mathilda av
 Artal Cirilo (Mary) h Oaks Apts
 Asbestos Cedar Shingle Co Edgar Laycon
 mgr
 Austin V C h Mary av
 Avant Antonio h110 Frances

Azevedo Lawrence agt Sunnyvale Stage
 Depot
 Baker Adolph h S Pastoría av
 Baker Frank O r323 Arques
 Baker Henry R (Melinda) h328 Arques
 Baker Wm C h315 Frances
 Baldwin Jas R (Mildred) h253 Murphy av
 Ballard Ellen librn Sunnyvale Library r
 564 Francis
 Bank of Italy C C Spalding mgr 202 Mur-
 phy av
 Barber Ray asst mgr Hydro-Carbon Co
 Barnes Austin M h265 Carroll
 Barnes Ross A h428 Taaffe
 Barulich Norman mldr Joshua Hendy Iron
 Wks r San Francisco
 Barnett R E h Mary av
 Barrett Herman bksmth Joshua Hendy
 Iron Wks r133 Carroll
 Barrette Herman (Clara) h160 Briggs
 Barulich Saml J (Washington Market) h
 168 Murphy av
 Battaglia Jos
 Bauder R D mgr Advance-Rumely
 Thresher Co
 Beatovich Geo (Lizzie) h W Washington
 av
 Beatty J F h Murphy av
 Becker Geo (Ruth) h150 S Mathilda av
 Belesiss Thos J mgr Strand Theatre h
 172 S Murphy av
 Benedict Chas M (G M) h Roosevelt av
 Benner Carson C (Edwina) barber Wm
 Wetterstrom h321 Frances
 Berdrow L Pearl tchr Pub Sch h335
 Frances
 Berger Rudolph A (Violet) h384 E Wash-
 ington av
 Bergess Bert F h Taaffe
 Bernadou John B h103 Mathilda av
 Berry Alice E Mrs h398 Florence
 Bertwick Chas (Minnie) h601 Evelyn av
 Bessey Ada E Mrs h Sunnyvale av
 Bessey Arth E (Bertha R) h155 Sunny-
 vale av
 Bessey Ernest H r155 Sunnyvale av
 Bessey Margt M r155 Sunnyvale av
 Bettencourt Philip (Mary) fndymn
 Joshua Hendy Iron Wks h315 Charles
 Birkenbeul Clarence E drftsmn Joshua
 Hendy Iron Wks r San Francisco
 Bishop Hiram N (Grace) City Engineer
 h505 S Bayview av
 Bissell Frank A Rev (Charlotte) h297
 Arques
 Black Andw bksmth Joshua Hendy Iron
 Wks h105 Carroll
 Black Maurice M meat ctr Cramer's
 Chain Stores
 Blackburn Dewey Mrs (Doris) h211 Cal-
 ifornia av
 Blackwell Mary J
 Blagg Lewis
 Blanken Henry F h122 Frances



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 Two Step Waltzes
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138

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 6 to 7 P. M.

Museum.

Using your own deed or a copy found in the County Recorder's office, you can trace the chain of title of your property. The Ticor Title Insurance Corporation in San Jose at 110 West Taylor has records dating to the 1840s. One might inquire about using their excellent abstract books to make a title search.

Census records for Sunnyvale, or Encinal, as it was called in 1900, can be obtained on microfilm through interlibrary loan from the Bancroft Library at Berkeley or used at other universities. Geneological information pertaining to early area residents may be found in the historical and geneological collection of the Santa Clara City Library or through the geneological program of Latter Day Saints on Quince Avenue in Santa Clara. Church records and those of community organizations and businesses can be helpful. The Hendy Museum at Westinghouse is also a good local resource, as is the excellent photographic collection held by the Camera Mart on Frances Avenue.

Again, call in advance to these non-governmental institutions to determine their hours of operation, use requirements, and if they may have the information which you are seeking. This will save both you and the agency time and energy in the research process. Although these are not the only resources available to you for researching your Sunnyvale home, they offer a good start.

RALPH BERGGREN ELECTRIC SERVICE

296 W. SANTA CLARA ST. PHONE S. J. 7186

Santa Clara County Directory, (1929). San Jose Historical Museum Archives.

X. Tips on Improving Your Older Sunnyvale Home

1. A building should reflect as accurately as possible its original design.

2. If old and new design and/or materials are mixed, the original character or design of the structure should be retained.

3. As many original exterior materials should be retained as is economically and/or functionally feasible. Imitation materials or design elements should be avoided whenever possible.

4. Windows should be replaced only if rehabilitation of existing material is not functionally feasible. New windows should generally be of the same size, material, and type as the old ones. Unless architecturally accurate, non-functional decorative window treatment should be avoided.

5. Original doors should be retained. Door treatment not in keeping with the original architectural style and aluminum screens should be avoided.

6. Front porches, entrances, porticos and exterior stairways which were part of the original design should not be removed. Architecturally accurate replacements should be used in repairing or reconstructing porch posts and railings.

7. Exterior colors should be in harmony with the streetscape, contrasting or blending harmoniously with neighboring structures. Bright colors should be used sparingly, for accent, if at all.

8. A building should be in proportion to its neighbors and relate positively to its visual environment. For instance, a building addition which raises the height above that of the adjacent neighboring building should be directed toward the front facade. Similar sensitivity should be directed toward any addition to the side of the building.

9. Architectural details such as fences, roofs, chimneys, cornices, garage doors, and other accoutrements should be appropriate in style to the period of the structure.

10. All landscaping should blend with the surrounding environment. Utilization of existing landscaping elements can unify a neighborhood as well as enhance the individual property.

Overall concern for these exterior rehabilitation standards will create a positive impact on the visual aesthetics of any neighborhood. The natural benefits resulting from successfully following these standards will do much to protect and increase property owner interests while also ensuring enjoyment by future generations of a valuable community heritage resource.

XI. Glossary

Arcaded Wing Wall. An arched extension of the front gabled wall extending beyond the main house. Found on houses in both the Tudor and Spanish Eclectic styles.

Bow Window. A projecting window or group of windows, the face of which is an arc in plan and from which the wall beneath extends to the ground. Associated with the Colonial Revival style.

Bracket. An angled support or pseudo-support placed under roof eaves on cornices, porch columns, doors, and window hoods.

Bulls Eye Window. A circular window with radiating muntins. See p. 115.

Canales. Nonfunctional decorative water spouts in the form of round or half-curved clay pipes extending from the upper wall surface of Spanish Eclectic and some Mission Revival structures.

Cartouche. An ornamental panel appended to a wall surface usually above window heads or entry ways. Often in the form of a scroll or tablet in relief which has elaborate borders. See p. 54.

Clapboard Siding. Exterior, horizontal wooden siding which overlaps because of the gradual thickness of the boards. A general choice for siding in Sunnyvale after 1900. See p. 51.

Classical Portico. An entrance porch constructed of elements based on the arts of ancient Greece or Rome. Usually a pedimented roof supported by columns.

Clipped Gable. A gable cut back at the peak in hip roof form.

Cornice. A horizontal projecting molding at the top of a building.

Craftsman Windows. Large glass panels in doors and windows generally articulated with wooden muntins in rectangular geometric forms. See p. 67.

Cupola. A terminal structure, square or round in plan, which rises above the main roof, sometimes capping a dome.

Dentils. A molding of small toothlike squares. See p. 91.

Dormer Window. A small gable that projects from a sloping roof, frequently containing a window. See p. 55.

Drop Siding. Exterior, horizontal wooden siding rabbited on the lower edge to overlap. Associated with Sunnyvale buildings constructed before 1900.

Eave. The bottom edge of a roof.

Exposed Rafters. Associated with the Bungalow style. Along horizontal edges of the roof eave line, the actual rafter ends are exposed or false rafter ends are added. These are sometimes cut into decorative shapes and are intended to express the building materials. See p. 52.

Eyebrow Window. A dormer, usually of small size, on which its roof line is an arch. See p. 109.

Fan Light. An overdoor window, usually semicircular in shape with radial muntins or lead. Associated with the Colonial Revival style.

Fenestration. The arrangement of windows and other openings in a wall, especially the patterns that such an arrangement defines. See p. 110.

Gable. The triangular portion at the end of the building formed by the two sides of a sloping roof. Gables also are formed by other sloping roof areas, such as those over windows.

Gambrel Roof. A ridged roof which has two slopes on each side, the lower slope having a steeper pitch.

Garlands. Sculptured ornament in the form of a swag or festoon of flowers and fruit, usually in relief. See p. 64.

Half-Timbering. Generally 1" × 6" wooden boards on a stuccoed wall in a decorative pattern. Copies the medieval English timber framing tradition. Found in the Tudor Revival style.

Hipped Roof. A roof which slopes down on all four sides like a pyramid. It may or may not have a flat top.

Lancet Window. A sharply pointed Gothic arched opening, particularly associated with church architecture.

Muntin. A bar member supporting and separating panes of glass in a sash or door.

Parapet. A low retaining wall at the edge of a roof, porch, or terrace.

Patterned Shingles. Sawn shingles with their exposed surface, the butt, shaped to create unusual patterns such as fish scales, diamonds, and octagons. Associated with the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles. See p. 84.

Pediment. A triangular face of a roof gable, especially in its classical form.

Port Cochere. A shelter for vehicles outside an entrance doorway. See p. 50.

Raked Cornice. A slope or inclination, as on a roof plane or gable edge. See p. 127.

Return. A right angle change of a molding which terminates the molding's run. See p. 79.

Ribbon Windows. Three or more uniform, fixed casement or sash type windows in a row. Associated with the Bungalow style. See p. 63.

Side Light. One of a pair of narrow vertical windows flanking a door.

Stucco. Plaster for exterior walls.

Turned Work. Ornamental wood work turned on a lathe, such as spindles and spools. Associated with the Queen Anne style.

Vernacular. Indigenous or characteristic to a locality.

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Although this book is far from complete, we hope that the information contained herein will lead to a continued investigation of Sunnyvale's built environment and to the identification of some practical measures for the retention of significant examples of its building fabric. Such continuing efforts will enable present and future generations to comprehend and experience first hand the distance Sunnyvale has traveled since it was an open hay field south of Martin Murphy's "Bayview Farm."

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