

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only
received SEP 30 1982
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic ROSS HOUSE

and/or common ROSS HOUSE

2. Location

street & number 693 ^{S. 2nd. St.} ~~SOUTH SECOND STREET~~ N/A not for publication

city, town SAN JOSE N/A vicinity of congressional district 10

state CA code 06 county SANTA CLARA code 085

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name FOUNTAIN LANE HERITAGE, LTD.

street & number 247 N. THIRD ST.

city, town SAN JOSE _____ vicinity of state CA

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. SANTA CLARA COUNTY RECORDERS OFFICE

street & number 70 W. HEDDING

city, town SAN JOSE _____ state CA

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title SAN JOSE SURVEY UPDATE, 1980 has this property been determined eligible? _____ yes no

date 1980 _____ federal _____ state _____ county local

depository for survey records DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING, CITY OF SAN JOSE

city, town SAN JOSE _____ state CALIF.

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u> N/A </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

693 South Second Street is a stately two-story Victorian period Italianate residence with a slightly hipped shingled roof. The structure is rectangular in shape and is sheathed in wide clapboard siding. It features a boxed cornice and wide decorative corner boards. Typical components of the Italianate style include segmental arch windows, an offset main entrance at the facade, and wide overhanging eaves supported by brackets. A row of dentils may be seen between each of the brackets which extends around the entire structure. In addition, space between each bracket below the dentils is punctuated by small recessed rectangular panels which give added design distinction. In general, it may be stated that the building's design elements place an emphasis on the vertical plane.

A major structural feature of this residence is the two-story slanted bay found on three of the four elevations. A metal covered mansard roof tops each bay at the roofline, followed by a projecting section at the cornice-line. Half-size curved brackets, and a row of dentils here mimic the upper level. The facade bay is located to the left of the entrance while the other two bays are located at the center of each elevation. Each bay contains a set of three segmental arch double-hung windows. Additional fenestration at the facade includes a single double-hung segmental arch window above the main entrance with a carved window hood supported by two small curved brackets. Each elevation of the structure features a set of single segmental arch windows, one located under the other at the first and second stories. The north elevation also contains a single two over two window at the second story.

The entrance is located at the north end of the facade and features a full pediment porch supported by two square columns and two pilasters. Curved brackets and dentils are repeated across the frieze and a small mansard roof tops the porch. The glass and wood front door is topped by a rounded transom. Six steps and a lattice-work railing complete the entrance.

The rear (west) elevation entrance is offset to the left (north) and sits on a porch area which wraps around to the south elevation and a third door. A lattice-work railing encompasses a small balcony area at the second level and is repeated around the porch itself. Wooden square columns function as porch supports.

Additional structures on this property include a small gazebo (appears to be of recent construction), and a two-story clapboard sheathed barn. The barn consists of a simple rectangular shape with a gable roof. A gabled cupola sits at the top of the structure. It appears that the two 2/2 windows and paneled door at the south elevation may have been added sometime during the twenties.

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

6

PAGE

2

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

San Jose Historic Resources Inventory
1978, revised 1982 Local
San Jose Historical Museum
635 Phelan Avenue
San Jose, CA

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates Ca. 1878 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

693 South Second Street is significant primarily for its architecture as one of downtown San Jose's best examples of the Italianate style. The structure is visually unique in its stylistic combination of both the Italianate and Second Empire elements as exemplified in the mansard roof tops which sits over the two-story bays at all four elevations. Other excellent Italianate elements include the round-headed windows (rapidly becoming a rarity in San Jose), decorative curved brackets and wide corner boards. The house sits on a large lot and features both a barn and gazebo. Mature vegetation adds to the Victorian setting.

Historically, the house was originally occupied by Lyman and Oscar D. Ross, a father and son who were local fruit dealers. Although the house appears on the 1884 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (the earliest map for San Jose), the 1878 San Jose Street index lists the house at the present location to have been occupied by the Ross family. The house style gives further evidence to this earlier date. The Ross family sold the house around 1889 and new occupants came and went until 1900. At this time the house was purchased by William E. Keith, a local surgeon and his wife who stayed until 1931. After that time the property again changed hands several times. It functioned as the Volunteers of America Hospitality house in 1947 and was converted to apartments by 1949. Today the house is undergoing rehabilitation and will function as offices and a studio.

Because 693 South Second Street is one of San Jose's best examples of an Italianate residence, and because the property represents one of the few intact homes in an area which at one time was abundant in such homes, it deserves to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1884.
San Jose City Directories, 1878-1980.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property (less than one) .30 ac

Quadrangle name San Jose West

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	0	5	9	9	1	6	0	4	1	3	1	4	6	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification Building occupies its historic lot located at the NW corner of S. Second St. and Margaret St. The east boundary is 125.34', the north 105.75', the western boundary 125.34', and the southern boundary 107.32' forming a trapizodial parcel..

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county N/A code

state N/A code county N/A code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bonnie L. Bamburg

organization Bonnie L. Bamburg & Assoc. date November 1, 1981

street & number 1017 Meridian Ave. telephone (408) 267-2947

city or town San Jose state CA 95125

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature K. Mellon

title State Historic Preservation Officer date Sept. 29, 1982

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

f. Allous Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 10/29/82

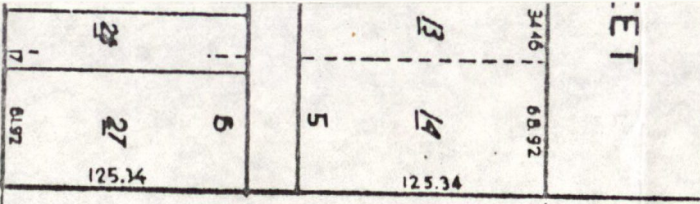
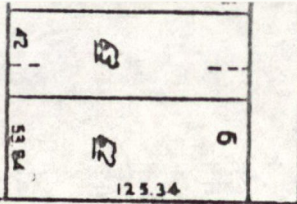
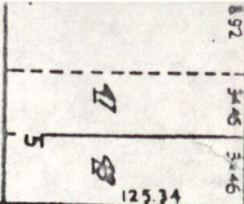
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

EET

3446 3446 3446

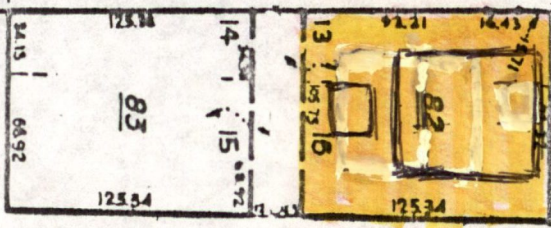
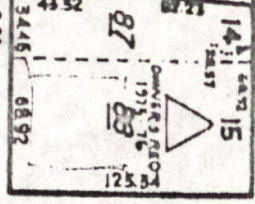
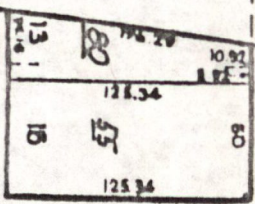


ET

RTE

FREEWAY

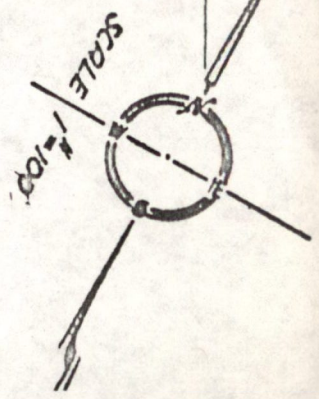
SINCLAIR



ST. OF CALIF.
0007 AC

STREET

MARGARET



17

DUANE ST

FEB 27 1976

264

ROSS HOUSE
San Jose, California

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- _____ summary paragraph
- _____ completeness
- _____ clarity
- _____ applicable criteria
- _____ justification of areas checked
- _____ relating significance to the resource
- _____ context
- _____ relationship of integrity to significance
- _____ justification of exception
- _____ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

USGS References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- _____ Maps
- _____ Photographs
- _____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

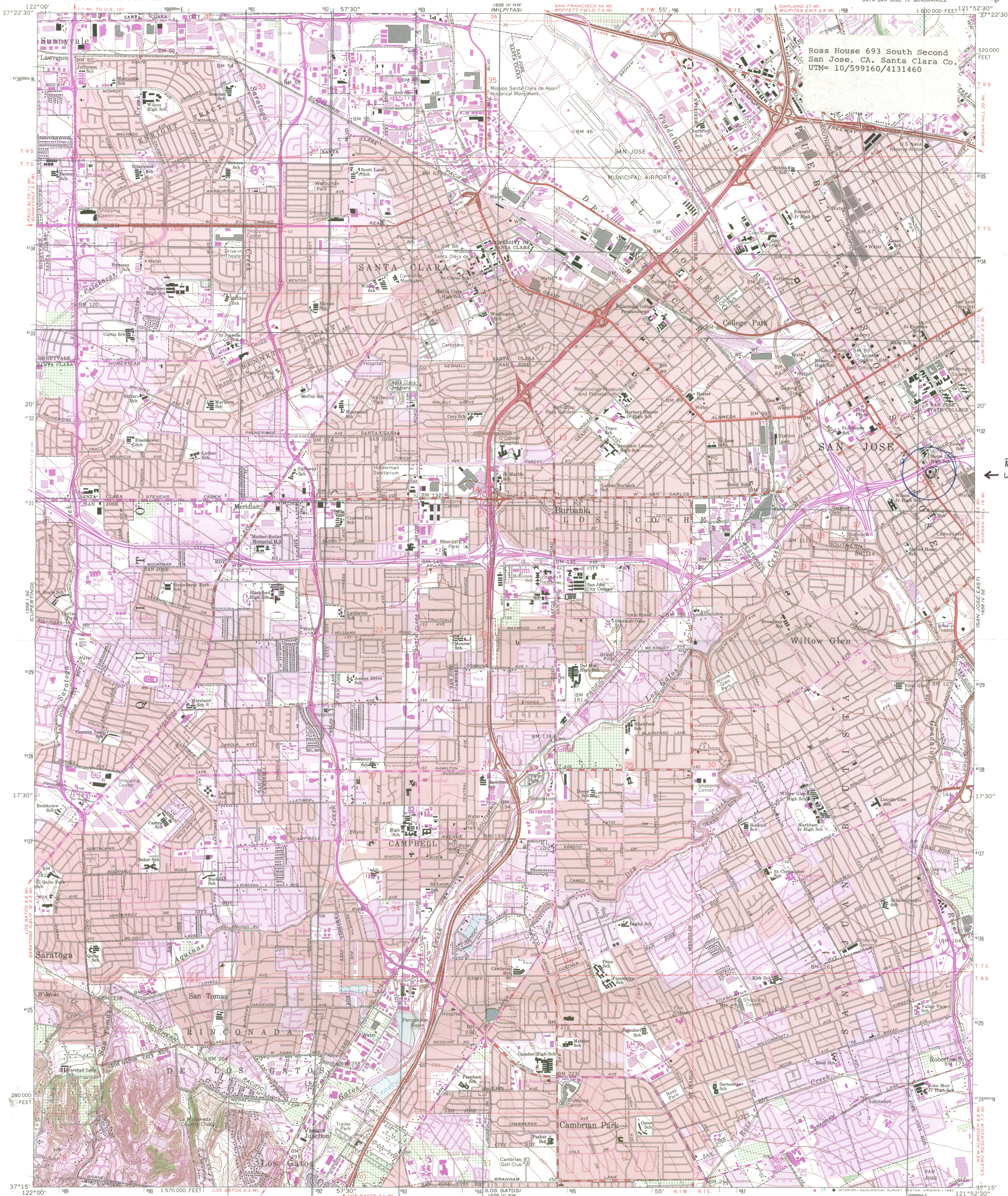
Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet











Ross House 693 South Second
San Jose, CA, Santa Clara Co.
UTM= 10/599160/4131460

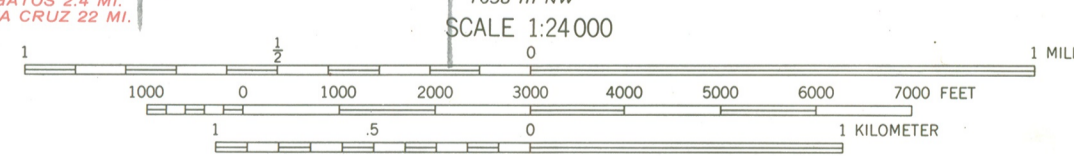
Ross House
← UTM:
10/599160/
4131460

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
with cooperation by the California Department of Water Resources
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and USCE

Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods
and by plane-table surveys 1953. Aerial photographs taken 1948
Revised from aerial photographs and by plane-table surveys 1961
Aerial photographs taken 1960.

Polycyclic projection. 10,000-foot grid based on California coordinate
system, zone 3. 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 10, shown in blue. 1927 North American Datum. To place on the
predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines
13 meters north and 94 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Dashed land lines indicate approximate locations
The north two-thirds of this map lies within a subsidence area

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled from
aerial photographs taken 1979 and other source data
This information not field checked. Map edited 1980
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

SAN JOSE WEST, CALIF.
SW/4 SAN JOSE 15' QUADRANGLE
N3715-W12152.5/7.5

1961
PHOTOREVISED 1980
DMA 1658 IV SW-SERIES V895

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

POST OFFICE BOX 2390

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95811



September 29, 1982

Mr. Jerry Rogers, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
U.S. Department of Interior
440 G Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20243

Dear Mr. Rogers

We submit the Ross House for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. This property is located in San Jose, Santa Clara County, California.

Sincerely,

Knox Mellon 

Dr. Knox Mellon
State Historic Preservation Officer

