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NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL
REGISTER

DHP

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Noyes Mansion

other name/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: 1750 First Street

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Napa

vicinity: N/A

state: CA

county: Napa

code: 055

zip code: 94559

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private

Category of Property: building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. See continuation sheet.

Steady R. Craig

May 18, 1992

Signature of certifying official

Date

California Office of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

- entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.
determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
determined not eligible for the National Register
removed from the National Register
other (explain):

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic: Domestic Sub: single dwelling
Current: Commerce/Trade Sub: business

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Colonial Revival

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation concrete roof asphalt
walls shingle other

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: at the local level

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1902

Significant Dates : 1902

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Corlett, William H.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above. X See continuation sheet.

 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: City of Napa Cultural Heritage Commission

 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>10</u>	<u>561905</u>	<u>4238860</u>	B	_____	_____	_____
C	_____	_____	_____	D	_____	_____	_____

____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ____ See continuation sheet.
 Napa County Assessor's parcel 003-192-05

Boundary Justification: ____ See continuation sheet.

The boundary includes the entire assessor's parcel that has been associated with the resource since approximately 1950.

 11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Donald S. Napoli

Organization: _____ Date: March 25, 1992

Street & Number: 1614 26th Street Telephone: (916) 455-4541

City or Town: Sacramento State: CA ZIP: 95816

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7

Noyes Mansion Page #1

Description

The Noyes Mansion is a two-and-a-half story house with a truncated hipped roof, shingle siding and wide wood casings around doors and windows. The building has a horizontal orientation, which is emphasized by its wide frieze. Detailing is classical but subdued and includes corner pilasters and Tuscan columns. The house rests upon a stone foundation that extends two feet above ground level. Behind the building is a one-and-a-half story carriage house with a steep gable roof and shingle siding. The landscaping at the front of the house includes the original concrete semi-circular drive and three palms located curbside. The property is prominently located on a half-block in downtown Napa and remains substantially unaltered.

The truncated hipped roof, which is composed of asbestos shingles, has a moderate pitch and dormers on at each elevation. Each dormer has a steeply pitched gable roof, plain banded cornice that forms an overhanging eave, and a double hung one-over-one window flanked by two multi-paned decorative windows. The dormers are centered on all elevations except the east, where it is offset to the south. Two narrow brick chimneys penetrate the roof, one near the center of the house and one on the west side. The latter has been shortened, refaced above the roofline, and given a metal canopy. The roof is trimmed with a plain banded cornice. Under the wide eaves is a broad frieze with narrow bands at the top and a simple architrave beneath.

The front elevation faces south and has a symmetrical plan. Centered in the second story is a semi-circular bay with three double-hung one-over-one curved windows. Flanking the bay window are an oval window on the east and a small double-hung window on the west. Beyond these are larger double-hung windows on both sides. Below the bay, and centered on the first story, is a flat-roofed porch that projects across the driveway to form a porte cochere. The roof is supported by Tuscan columns--two across the driveway, two sets of three at the end of the front porch, and two near the doorway. A balustrade runs between the columns on each side of the porch, the floor of which, like the stairs, is concrete. The entrance is recessed with a panelled wall surface, plain banded trim and entablature, multi-paned sidelights, and semi-circular fanlight. Flanking the wood door, which is panelled, are two oval windows with leaded glass. On the west of the entrance is a double-hung window, and on the east a three-part window topped with a prominent shelf. At the corners are plain two-story pilasters with capitals placed below the architrave. Finally, beyond the pilaster on the east and throwing the elevation somewhat out of balance, is the south side of a two-story sun porch.

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Noyes Mansion Page #2

The porch dominates the east elevation. Its second story has board siding, a banded cornice, and four narrow and one wide multi-pane windows with a sill band and panels beneath. The first story has a banded cornice and broad frieze, shingle siding, and a front-facing bay window on the south. Tuscan colonettes are placed between the windows. The cornice and frieze continue to the north around a circular portico with a flat roof and Tuscan columns. Looking out on this side porch, which is approached by curved stairs, is a door with glass panel and three small windows. Above the portico is a slanted bay window.

Projecting from the east side of the rear facade is a hipped-roof addition (ca 1920). The projection has two double-hung windows on the second floor, two paired double-hung windows on the first floor, an adjacent pair of sliding windows, and a multi-paned door accessed by a short flight of wooden stairs. To the west on the second story are five double-hung windows. The first story has a long slanted bay with five double-hung windows. Immediately above the windows is a broad frieze like those elsewhere on the building and above it a balustrade like the one on the front porch. Further to the west is another double-hung window.

The west elevation has six double-hung windows, three on each story. Just behind the front pair is a plain brick chimney. Also on this elevation, as on the others, are short, wide basement windows that have two panes and are recessed into the foundation.

The interior, which is now used as offices, retains some of its original features. These include: wide door and window trim, main staircase with turned oak balustrade, and a floral patterned, stained glass skylight.

At the end of the driveway that runs along the east side of the building is the matching carriage house. It has one and one half stories, a steeply pitched side-facing gable roof with hipped-roof dormers, shingle siding, and a symmetrical design. Beneath the roofline is a broad, plain frieze. A hipped-roof portico with Tuscan columns shelters the wide barn-door entrance. Flanking the portico are two multi-pane double-hung windows with shutters. At each corner of the structure are engaged Tuscan columns.

The north facade is identical to the south except that the entrance portico has been enclosed. The west side retains the original second-story loft door and its protective overhang. The east side reflects the west side except for the loft door. Both the east and west sides have identical multi-paned double-hung windows. The east side ground level has a single door and screen door.

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Noyes Mansion Page #3

The south portion of the property contains some original landscape materials, including the concrete driveway--both the semi-circular section in front and the linear section leading to the carriage house--three fan palms, and one copper beech tree. In back of the house, the northwest corner of the parcel is covered by an asphalt parking lot, installed in the 1950s. The original parcel covered the entire block and was subdivided ca. 1950. The east half remained undeveloped until the lot split and never contained any structures associated with the mansion. The immediate setting of the property is a neighborhood that is changing from residential to commercial use. Many older houses still exist to the south and west, however.

The property has had a number of alterations over the years. The four main balustrades on the house--those originally atop the main roof, porte cochere, sun porch, and side portico--have been removed. The second story of the sun porch was added about 1920 and enlarged later, perhaps in the 1930s. The door and windows of the side entrance were also changed during one of these remodelings. The small double-hung window on the second story of the front elevation is a replacement for the original oval window. The hipped-roof addition on the rear also dates from ca. 1920. The interior has been altered, primarily to assist the conversion to offices ca. 1956. Now missing are: the marble entry floor, several walls, at least two large sliding bevelled-glass doors, and a wrought iron elevator. The carriage house, which has become a restaurant, was set ablaze by an arson in 1991. The greatest damage occurred to the interior, which had to be completely remodeled and now contains only a few remnants of the original detailing--primarily the ceiling beams. Exterior damages were to the loft door on the west facade and the roof. All of the damaged elements of the exterior have been repaired or replaced with compatible materials.

The main building and the carriage house of the Noyes Mansion are in good condition. Although they have received some alterations since construction in 1902, they retain a high level of all seven aspects of architectural integrity.

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Significance

The Noyes Mansion is one of Napa's most prominent examples of residential architecture from the earliest years of this century. It illustrates the growing use of the "shingle style" in Napa. In particular, it represents the trend toward shingle siding in houses with classical antecedents. In comparison with the hundreds of other residences from the period in Napa, the Noyes Mansion is one of the few with these historical associations. Set far back on a spacious lot and coupled with a large carriage house, the building looks much as it did in when constructed in 1902.

Napa builders began using shingle siding as a substitute for redwood board in the 1890s. They lagged behind their counterparts in New England by about a decade. There a small group of architects used shingles to enclose peculiarly shaped volumes in houses of informal design. Compared to the Queen Anne, shingled residences relied less on detailing, had fewer contrasts in color and texture, and were more likely to display a horizontal orientation. By the turn of the century the "shingle style" had spread geographically and thematically. In California it emerged in the First Bay Tradition and in the Craftsman movement, both of which emphasized buildings of unusual shapes with little traditional detailing. The national trend, however, was toward the use of shingles in houses with classical references.

The Noyes Mansion illustrates the national trend. The architect, William H. Corlett of Napa, gave the building typical features of the Colonial Revival, including symmetrical facade, entrance portico, and classical details. Like most shingle buildings, it has little surface variety, with rough, stained shingles and smooth, painted board dominating each wall. Corlett chose to dramatize the contrast of materials with wide window surrounds, pilasters, and unusually broad friezes beneath each roof. The friezes, which are undecorated and help to give the house an overall horizontal orientation, show that Corlett was not ready to abandon all the East Coast precedents of the style. Also contributing to the elongated effect are the building's oblong shape and shallow-pitched roof. Corlett did not take complete advantage of shingle siding--there are no curved surfaces, for example--but he did successfully blend ideas of the shingle and Colonial Revival modes.

The building's size and siting adds to its impressiveness. Built for local lumber magnate Frank Noyes, who lived in it until 1956, the mansion has approximately 6,000 square feet of living space on its two main floors. It is set well back from the street on a large lot that takes up almost half a city block. The house is approached by a long circular driveway. At the rear of the building, behind another driveway that parallels the edge of

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Noyes Mansion Page #5

the parcel, is a spacious carriage house. This building matches the main house in siding and details. Its roof, with a sweeping gable, is in fact more typical of the shingle style than the one on the house.

The Noyes Mansion is one of Napa's most impressive shingle houses. The city contains several dozen examples, including a well-known house in the First Bay Tradition, possibly ten architect-designed homes from the first decade of the century, and any number of Craftsman bungalows. Only a few show such a successful use of the shingle style, especially its adaptation to classical forms, as does the Noyes Mansion. None is so enhanced by the features of its site.

The Noyes Mansion retains its architectural integrity. The intent of the design remains clear, and most of the original materials are still in place. The removal of balustrades from all but one of the rooflines, however, has severed some of the connection to classical antecedents. In addition, modifications to the sunporch have given the east elevation a disorganized appearance. These changes are relatively minor. They are offset by the immediate setting, with its large lot and carriage house, which remains much as it did in 1902. The Noyes House thus retains its important historical associations and ranks as one of Napa's most architecturally significant buildings.

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Noyes Mansion Page #6

Major Bibliographical References

Napa, California. Cultural Heritage Commission. File HP-13

Sacramento, California. State Department of Parks and Recreation. Napa
Historic Resources Inventory, 1978.

Scully, Vincent. The Architecture of the American Summer: The Flowering
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Whiffen, Marcus. American Architecture since 1780. Cambridge, Mass.:
M.I.T. Press, 1969.

CLAY STREET

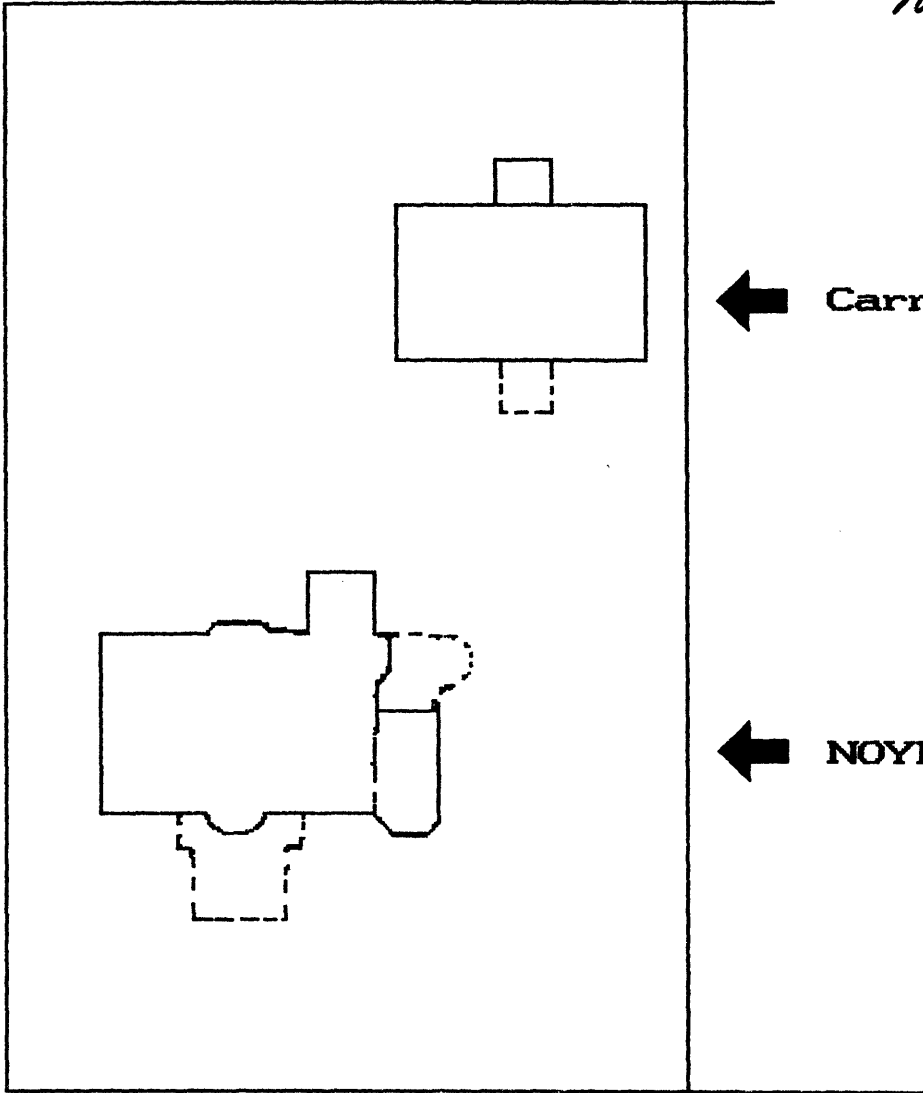
Noyes Mansion
1750 First Street
Napa, California

Napa County

← 50' →



JEFFERSON STREET



← Carriage House

← NOYES MANSION

FIRST STREET

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Additional Documentation

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Photographs

All photographs have the following information in common:

3. Thomas Schardt, Photographer
4. July, 1991
5. Napa City Planning Department
1600 First Street
Napa, CA 94559

Photo No. 1

6. View from the Southwest

Photo No. 2

6. View from the Southwest

Photo No. 3

6. View from the Northeast

Photo No. 4

6. View from the Southwest
(Carriage House in front)

Photo No. 5

6. View from the Northeast
(Carriage House in front)

Photo No. 6

6. View from the West