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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16).

1. Name of Property

historic name None Known
other names/site number Los Gatos Historic Commercial District

2. Location

street & number 1-24 North Santa Cruz, 9-15 University, 14-198 West Main na not for publication
city, town Los Gatos na vicinity
state California code CA county Santa Clara code 085 zip code 95030

3. Classification

Table with 3 columns: Ownership of Property, Category of Property, and Number of Resources within Property. Includes sub-headers for Contributing and Noncontributing resources.

Name of related multiple property listing: na
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of certifying official: State R. George
Date: August 7, 1991
California State Historic Preservation Officer

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:
[X] 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:)
Entered in the National Register
Signature of the Keeper: Kenneth Sapsley
Date of Action: 9/13/91

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
See Continuation Sheet

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
See Continuation Sheet

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

See Continuation Sheet 6.1/7.1

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Not visible

walls Stucco

Brick

roof Not visible

other Wood

Stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Los Gatos Historic Commercial District is a group of commercial buildings which line both sides of West Main Street, North Santa Cruz Avenue, and University Avenue, an F-plan pattern of streets westerly from a canyon bridge in the southwest portion of the Town of Los Gatos, Santa Clara County, California. Of the 25 buildings in the district, 18 are contributing commercial buildings, and one house contributes because it appears individually eligible for the Register, 78% of the resources contribute to the district. Six buildings are non-contributors, and there are two parking lots. The buildings fill the sidewalk portions of their lots and are all one or two stories high with two exceptions: a witch-hatted Queen Anne corner tower that has become a principal symbol of Victorian Los Gatos, and the three-story but remodeled Ford Opera House (Sketch Map. No. 1 and 20, Photos 1-5, 20-22). The buildings are characterized by typical commercial storefronts. They have large glass sheets of display windows with minimal wall widths at ground level, and a larger parapet section with a strong cornice, usually horizontal, that conceals the roof. Richard Longstreth has called this facade composition the "enframed window wall" (Corbett, *Splendid Survivors*, 255). Where there are second stories, that part of the facade has a much higher proportion of wall to window. Second story windows are either double-hung residential types or larger, often arched ones for what were originally lodge or other meeting halls. The stylistic trim on these basic commercial boxes ranges in period from Queen Anne to Art Deco; one-third of the contributing buildings refer to Mission Revival style, another third to Classical or Colonial Revival. Wall material is usually stucco or brick. Structurally, nine of the buildings are unreinforced masonry. Except for typical and expected storefront changes, some three-fourths of the district retains the integrity of its 1941 forms as to location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

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Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

COMMERCE
COMMERCE / Specialty Store
COMMERCE / Financial Institution
SOCIAL / Meeting Hall
HEALTH CARE / Medical Business/Office
COMMERCE / Business
COMMERCE / Department Store
DOMESTIC / Hotel
DOMESTIC / Single Dwelling
SOCIAL / Civic
GOVERNMENT / Post Office
TRANSPORTATION / Rail-related

Current Functions

COMMERCE
COMMERCE / Specialty Store
COMMERCE / Restaurant
WORK IN PROGRESS
VACANT
DOMESTIC / Multiple Dwelling
DOMESTIC / Single Dwelling
PARKING LOT

7. Description: Architectural Classification

Other: Enframed window wall
Mission Revival
Late 19th and 20th century revivals
Romanesque
Queen Anne
Italian Renaissance
Art Deco
Bungalow

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Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)

7. Description (Cont.):

The setting is a nearly level bluff high above the canyon of Los Gatos Creek, where State Highway 17/880 now runs as a freeway. The canyon bridge was replaced as part of the freeway construction in the mid-1950s. Trees line the district's streets. There are 13 characterful metal Art Deco street light standards, cast and probably designed by Pacific Union Metal of San Rafael, California, and installed about 1950. Apart from the bridge and freeway, the district's immediate surroundings are commercial, quickly blending into residential. Hills and mountains are visible to the south and west.

Overall, the district's historic integrity is good. Like storefronts everywhere, most of those in the district have been modernized repeatedly, as the original builders foresaw in their designs. Storefront remodeling which does not extend onto the building frame is not here considered a significant departure from integrity. Luckily, four buildings appear to have most of their original storefronts. Four other facades which were heavily remodeled during the district's period of significance are considered contributors in their remodeled forms. Four of the 23 buildings are non-contributors because of more recent remodeling, and two are non-contributors because they are less than 25 years old. One of the parking lots fills the historic right of way of the Southern Pacific Railroad, which ran its last train to Los Gatos in 1959. The other one is on the site of two one-story commercial buildings which were demolished in 1967. Typical occupants of these buildings (in 1930) were florist O. A. Foster and optometrist Charles Curtis.

Boundaries of the district are shown on the enclosed sketch map. They are the rear property lines of all the assessor's parcel lots of the 25 buildings. For the parking lots, only a portion of each is included; the district's boundary line was arbitrarily drawn as a straight line across them and between the rear property lines of the adjoining lots. The two southern corners of the Main and Santa Cruz intersection are considered outside the district. The southwest corner was the historic Lyndon Hotel, demolished in 1967 and replaced with a modern building. The southeast corner was the railroad station yard; the station was demolished and replaced by a new post office in 1966, and the station yard has been turned into a landscaped public plaza.

The most recent activities within the district have been repairs and remodeling following the Loma Prieta Earthquake of October 17, 1989. Damage requiring repair occurred at Sketch Map Nos. 1, 4, 5, 6, 18, 19, and 20. Two of these are still undergoing work, and two are vacant with no work begun. The rest of the district is in very good condition and filled with small specialty shops and eating/drinking places, all of an upscale trendy sort paying high rents. Preservation appears to have come to stay.

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Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)

7. Description (Cont.):

Individual resources in the district are described, with their histories, in the following lists of contributing and non-contributing buildings.

Contributing Buildings

1. Hofstra Block/La Canada Building, 1-17 North Santa Cruz Avenue. This is three partywall brick buildings constructed at different times on a single assessor's parcel. There have been known remodelings to the whole group in 1947, 1972, and 1976, and after the Loma Prieta Earthquake of 1989, but the essential character remains. The three buildings are detailed below. Photos 1-5.

Sources: Sanborn Maps. Tax Assessment Rolls. Building Permits. Los Gatos Library Historic Photo #92. Hamsher Scrapbook 34B, 61.

1a. Hofstra Block/La Canada Building, 1-7 North Santa Cruz Avenue at West Main Street. This is a two-story, eight-bay brick offices-over-commercial building in Queen Anne style, with ornamentation matching Sketch Maps 1b and 1c, with which it shares a partywall and a single assessor's parcel. A circular bay window with ribbed witch hat roof projects out from the corner, which is the town's principal intersection. It was constructed in 1895 for Lake A. Hofstra, a "capitalist" living in San Jose. The corner store was a drugstore, first Skinkle's, later Watkins, and the upper floor was professional offices.

1b. Hofstra-Scott Block/La Canada Building, 9-13 North Santa Cruz Avenue. This is a two-story, seven-bay brick offices-over-commercial building in Queen Anne style, with ornamentation matching Sketch Maps 1a and 1c, with which it shares partywalls and a single assessor's parcel. It was constructed in two phases: the first floor for Hofstra in 1891, and the second floor in 1905 for the second owner, George W. Scott, president of the San Francisco realty firm Scott and Van Arsdale. The second floor was made to match the two adjoining buildings, and the name "La Canada" was listed as early as 1912. The ground floor was occupied by retail tenants such as grocers, dry goods, and a shoe store. The original upper floor tenant was E. E. Place's furniture store and mortuary.

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Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)7. Description: Contributing Buildings (Cont.):

1c. Hofstra Block/Odd Fellows Hall, 15-17 North Santa Cruz Avenue. This is a two-story, four-bay brick lodge hall-over-commercial building in Queen Anne style, with ornamentation almost matching Sketch Maps 1a and 1b, with which it shares partywalls and a single assessor's parcel. Its parapet, however, is a little higher than the other two, and it has a low pediment. It was constructed in 1891 for Luke A. Hofstra. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) occupied the second floor as their lodge hall at least 1895-1956. The ground floor was commercial, occupied for a time by Place's furniture store.

2. Fragment of Theresa Block, 6-8 North Santa Cruz Avenue. This is a one-story stucco-faced brick commercial building in a late Mission Revival style, with a ceramic tile pent roof. It appears to have been constructed originally in 1892 as the rear portion of a two-story brick building called the Theresa Block that extended south of the present building some 62 feet to the corner of West Main Street. On the present rear elevation, the brickwork, arches, and keystones look like those in historic photos of the Theresa Block, named for the wife of the original owner, J. W. Lyndon, Los Gatos' largest landowner and an important developer. The present building occupies part of the Theresa Block's space as shown on Sanborn maps. About 1931, the southern 62 feet of the original building were torn down by Bank of America to be replaced by the building now standing as No. 23 on the Sketch Map. At about the same time, the bank removed the second story from this portion of the older building and remodeled the facade in an up-to-date style, repeating the zig-zag frieze used on the new corner building. Bank of America, which had been operating in the Theresa Block, may have used this remnant during construction of the new building. Other historic tenants of this space have included the Los Gatos Meat Market, a produce seller, an insurance office, and -- during Prohibition -- a seller of "soft drinks". The stores were remodeled in 1959 (\$3,000) and again in 1976 (\$1,000), but the enframing -- roof, frieze, pilasters, and green marble splash panels -- all survive from c. 1931. The bricks of the rear (1892) elevation are chipped as if stucco once covered them and was subsequently removed; they have since been painted. Photo 7 (and 1, 3).

Sources: Sanborn Maps. Tax Assessment Rolls. Building Permits.
Historic Photo in Bruntz, #99. 1941 Assessment Survey.

3. See list of non-contributing buildings.

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Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)

7. Description: Contributing Buildings (Cont.):

4. Bogart Block/Woodmen's Hall, 18-20 North Santa Cruz Avenue. This is a stucco-faced, two-story, reinforced concrete and wood posts commercial building in a commercial style, with some Classical Revival ornamentation: rusticated pilasters, modillioned cornice, paneled parapet, arc-headed second-story windows. It was constructed in 1907 for A. W. Bogart, who conducted a hardware business in it. The upstairs was the lodge meeting hall for the Woodmen of the World. In 1988, there were \$8,000 of tenant improvements. In the Loma Prieta Earthquake, the second story separated from the first, but it has been set back together and strengthened without changing the historic appearance. Photo 8.

Sources: Sanborn Maps. Tax Assessment Rolls. Hamsher Scrapbooks 10A, January 10, 1908; and 34B, 70. City Directories.

5. Latham Block/Salvation Army Hall, 19 North Santa Cruz Avenue. This is a stucco-faced, two-story, brick commercial building in a late Mission Revival style, with a ceramic tile pent roof. Constructed in 1892 for A. R. Latham, its front was modernized to Mission Revival style in 1916, still for the Latham family. Historic occupants have included a grocer, the Salvation Army (upstairs), and Aymer's Bakery. A 1981 permit shows \$17,500 worth of remodeling. Photo 6.

Sources: Sanborn Maps. Tax Assessment Rolls. Building Permit. City Directories.

6. Crall Stationery Store, 21 North Santa Cruz Avenue. This is a one-story, brick commercial building in a commercial style with Classical Revival ornamentation above the show windows. The frieze is arcaded, and the original transoms survive, along with original or early beaded tongue-and-groove interior finish and marble mosaic vestibule pavement. Constructed in 1895 for one Fred Larder, its facade was updated in 1910 for T. E. Johns, a former druggist. Crall Stationery moved here in 1916, and remained some 70 years. Originally, this building marked the north end of the business district. It was damaged in the 1989 earthquake and needs repairs. Photo 6.

Sources: Sanborn Maps. Tax Assessment Rolls. Bruntz, 91-92. Hamsher Scrapbook 39A, June 18, 1927. City Directories.

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7. Description: Contributing Buildings (Cont.):

7. Templeman Hardware Store, 24 North Santa Cruz Avenue. This is a one-story and mezzanine-reinforced concrete commercial building in Mission Revival style, with a combed brick parapet, molded accent blocks, and green marble splash panels. It was constructed about 1921 for Arthur W. Templeman as his hardware store, which remained here until 1966. The modern ground floor sash and wooden door may have been added in the \$1,500 remodeling of 1966. Photos 8, 9.

Sources: Sanborn Maps. Tax Assessment Rolls. Bruntz, xi. Hamsher Scrapbook 39A, 1916. City Directories. 1941 Assessment Survey.

8. Chamber of Commerce Office, 9 University Avenue. This is a small stucco-faced, one-story, masonry commercial building of no style. It was constructed in 1913 by property owner Walter Field to serve as the local Chamber of Commerce office, its first permanent home. The Chamber stayed until about 1932, when it moved to Sketch Map No. 19. The building continued for a while as offices, and then was converted to a store, without serious changes. Photo 10.

Sources: Sanborn Maps. Hamsher Scrapbook 6A, May 16, July 25, and August 1, 1913. 1941 Assessment Survey.

9. Libante's Gem City French Laundry, 11 University Avenue. This is a small stucco-faced commercial building of Art Deco style, one of Los Gatos' three best Deco buildings. It was constructed in 1934 for Jacques Libante, in the yard of his residence (Sketch Map No. 10), and is still owned by his widow. Libante and his wife ran a French hand laundry here into the 1960s, and many Los Gatans remember watching her iron shirts in the show window so everyone could see they were hand done. Photo 10.

Sources: Sanborn Maps. Parcel Map. Assessment Tax Rolls. Los Gatos Telephone Directory, 1938. Interview, Ross Chichester, June 19, 1990.

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Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)

7. Description: Contributing Buildings (Cont.):

10. Wagner, Charles, River Rock Bungalow, 15 University Avenue. This is a one-story, wood frame house of Bungalow style. Clad entirely (except for a rear addition) in rounded rocks from Los Gatos Creek, it is the only house in Los Gatos totally covered with this important local material. Others have river rock porches, chimneys, bases, fences, and/or other accessories, but this house appears individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places because of its unique cladding. It also belongs in the Los Gatos Historic Commercial District because it shares the assessor's parcel of a commercial building (Sketch Map No. 9), because the Libantes of No. 9 lived here and still do, because the original owner, Charles Wagner, conducted his barber shop a few steps away on West Main Street, and Mrs. Alice Wagner conducted her professional photography business in this house. It was built in 1906. Photos 10, 11.

Sources: Sanborn Maps. Assessment Tax Rolls. 1941 Assessment Survey. City Directories.

11. Montezuma Block/Foothill Hotel, 14 West Main Street. This is a two-story, stuccoed, wood frame apartment building that originally was housing over retail. Style is an urban variation of Colonial Revival, featuring round bay windows at both facade corners and an elaborate cornice. The exterior has always been stuccoed; the ground floor conversion from commercial to retail occurred in 1941 when the U.S. Government took over the building for war housing, and the storefronts were probably closed in about that time. Originally, it was constructed in 1903 as income property for William B. Rankin (see also Sketch Map No. 19), manager for 20 years of the Los Gatos Cooperative Winery, and vinyardist in his own right as well. In the 1920s and 1930s, the 27 SRO rooms upstairs were called the Foothill Hotel. Retail tenants over the years included the post office, a grocer, hardware store, restaurant, and plumber. Photos 12, 13.

Sources: Sanborn Maps. Tax Assessment Rolls. City Directories. Interview, John Sorenson, May 31, 1990. 1941 Assessment Survey.

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7. Description: Contributing Buildings (Cont.):

12. Sorenson Plumbing, 21-23 West Main Street. This is a one-story and basement wood frame commercial building in Mission Revival style. It is especially notable for its unaltered original storefronts and windows. It was constructed in 1906 as an investment for realtor John A. Hicks. In the 1930s, owner Maurice J. Weiser conducted his secondhand furniture business here. Other historic tenants include a tailor and a sporting goods store. In 1941, the property was bought by Mr. Sorenson, when the government forced him to move his plumbing business out of the Foothill Hotel across the street (Sketch Map No. 11). Sorenson Plumbing has been here ever since. Photos 14, 15.

Sources: Sanborn Maps. Tax Assessment Rolls. City Directories.
Interview, John Sorenson, May 31, 1990.

13. Martin's Sunflower Candy Kitchen, 25 West Main Street. This is a small two-story, wood frame commercial building of vernacular style with a Classical Revival entrance. The Sunflower Candy building constructed here in January 1902 right after the big fire of 1901 was destroyed in another fire in October 1913. It was rebuilt in 1915, and Leonard J. and Flora A. Martin continued to occupy it, living above the business. As a widow, Mrs. Martin changed to dressmaking in the same building. Photos 14, 16.

Sources: Sanborn Maps. Tax Assessment Rolls. Los Gatos Mail, January 16, 1902, 1/2. Hamsher Scrapbook 5A, October 10, 1913. City Directories.

14. See list of non-contributing buildings.

15. See list of non-contributing buildings.

16. Berryman, A., Building, 78 West Main Street. This is a narrow two-story, wood frame residential-over-commercial building in a vernacular version of Colonial Revival style. The bay window, bracketed cornice, and rustic drop siding appear original; the storefront and aluminum side windows are alterations of 1974 and 1976 that do not detract from the historic appearance enough to make the building a non-contributor. It was constructed in 1909 for realtor, banker, and early civic leader A. Berryman. Historic tenants have included Golden Poppy confectioners and an optometrist. Photos 1, 17, 20.

Sources: Sanborn Maps. Tax Assessment Rolls. City Directories.
Bruntz, 14, 44, 63, 84, 93, 95, 96, 116.

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7. Description: Contributing Buildings (Cont.):

17. Fretwell Building, 88-98 West Main Street at University. This is an imitation stone-faced one-story and basement reinforced concrete commercial building in Richardsonian Romanesque. Architecturally, it is significant for the early use of heavy reinforced concrete construction, for the fine detailing of the concrete facade which really looks like stone, and for the essentially intact storefronts. Local architect F. Lobdell built it in 1907 for Joseph J. Fretwell, Los Gatos' first jeweler, whose sign used to be a huge clock face over the roof. The First National Bank of Los Gatos occupied the building 1912-1918. Other historic tenants included a hardware store, realty office, barber, and beauty parlor. Photos 16-20.

Sources: Sanborn Maps. Tax Assessment Rolls. Hamsher Scrapbook 1B, April and July 22, 1906; and 10A, January 10, 1908. Bruntz, 94. City Directories. Historic Photo.

18. See list of non-contributing buildings.

19. Rankin Block, 123-149 West Main Street. This is a two-story and basement stucco-faced brick commercial building of Mission Revival style. In spite of having lost two curvilinear parapets before 1924 (perhaps to the 1906 earthquake), some storefront fabric, and applied relief ornament on the upper floor, the Rankin Block is an important visual anchor for the district, sharing a double intersection with Sketch Map Nos. 1, 22, and 23. It retains the historic hip-roofed towers, the exterior stucco, fenestration, ornamental window mullions, corner entrance, brick pilasters, vertical divisions, entrance, and hallways for the upstairs. Facing the railway depot, the building was constructed in 1902 right after the fire of October 13, 1901 as income property for Clara B. Rankin, wife of William B. Rankin (see Sketch Map No. 11) and the first woman elected to full membership in the Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce. The post office was located here 1917-1948, and the Chamber of Commerce c. 1932-October 17, 1989. Other historic tenants include John & Johnson drugs, W. A. Pepper's Union Market, Hunter Saloon, C. E. Wright confectionery, numerous professional offices (including a former Town Attorney) and some SRO residential units. The building awaits repair. Photos 24-27.

Sources: Sanborn Maps. Tax Assessment Rolls. Hamsher Scrapbook 6A, February 15, 1910 and January 12, 1911; and 39A, 12. 1900 Census. City Directories.

20. See list of non-contributing buildings.

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Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
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7. Description: Contributing Buildings (Cont.):

21. See list of non-contributing buildings.

22. First National Bank Building, 160 West Main Street. This is a tall, one-story, brick commercial building in high Renaissance Revival style, a very fine design. It was constructed in 1920 on the site of 2/3 of the Lyndon Block (see Sketch Map No. 21) for the First National Bank of Los Gatos (1911-1955), under the presidency of Clarence F. Hamsher, whose historic articles and clippings collection have preserved much of Los Gatos' history. The architect of record was M. G. West & Company of San Francisco, a bank equipment firm, but the design was probably prepared by that company's assistant manager in 1919, Albert G. Roller, who was to become a prominent architect, designing the NBC and Masonic Memorial Auditorium buildings in San Francisco, among others. The construction was well covered at the time in First National's public service magazine, Bank Service. The lunettes over four windows contain bas relief sculptures of California missions. The building has been carefully converted to restaurant use, and at the rear is a large but inoffensive addition. Photos 20, 22, 23.

Sources: Bank Service, January, May, and October 1920. Sanborn Maps. Tax Assessment Rolls. Bruntz, 94-95. City Directories of Los Gatos and San Francisco. Splendid Survivors. 1941 Assessment Survey.

23. Bank of America Building, 198 West Main Street. This is a stucco-faced, two-story, reinforced concrete fireproof commercial building in Art Deco style. It was constructed in 1931-1932 on the site of most of the Theresa Block (see Sketch Map No. 2), as one of the earliest new buildings constructed for the bank after the name change from Bank of Italy to Bank of America. The design is attributed to H. A. Minton, house architect for Bank of America, who did somewhat similar buildings for the organization in Santa Cruz and in San Francisco's North Beach. This building differs from its sister banks in that it has more and deeper bas relief sculpture than Santa Cruz, an enframed window wall composition as opposed to North Beach's four separated bays. In addition, under the ceramic tile roof is a fine zig-zag frieze, which is continued onto the concurrent remodeling of the remaining Theresa Block. Bank of America stayed here until 1963, and the building is now occupied, without exterior remodeling, by a bookstore. Photos 7, 28.

Sources: Sanborn Maps. Tax Assessment Rolls. Bruntz, 93. Chase, Sidewalk Companion to Santa Cruz Architecture, 1979, 176. North Beach Historical Project, State Historic Resources Survey of 1982 (architect's rendering displayed inside bank). 1941 Assessment Survey. Margaret Jones, Biography of a Bank.

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Los Gatos Commercial District District
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7. Description (Cont.):

Non-Contributing Buildings:

3. Commercial building, 14 North Santa Cruz Avenue. This one-story building does not contribute to the district because it was constructed in 1967 (contractors Driskell and Revallier). Photo 8.

Source: Building Permit.

14. Commercial building, 33-55 West Main Street. This two-story building does not contribute to the district because it was constructed in 1987 (architect Martin Oakley Associates). Photo 16.

Source: Building Permit.

15. Vermont Block, 65-109 West Main Street. This one-story and basement, five stores, brick building does not contribute to the district because the entire street frontage was remodeled in Googie style in 1950. The original building, however, was constructed in 1909 for J. W. Lyndon (see Sketch Map Nos. 2 & 21), Los Gatos' largest landowner and an important developer, whose descendants still own the property. The building was named for his native state. Photos 24, 25.

Sources: Building Permits. Tax Assessment Rolls. Hamsher Scrapbook 10A, November 1909; and 34B, 70. Interview, Jim Farwell, June 28, 1990.

18. Aram and Morse Blocks, 100-130 West Main Street. This pair of buildings does not contribute to the district because they have been altered to appear as a single Tudor Revival building, and the 1990 earthquake repair reinforced this appearance when shotcrete was fixed on the exterior of the east wall facing University Avenue. The Aram Block, a one-story brick structure at the corner of Main and University, was built for Grace Aram in 1902 immediately after the great fire of October 13, 1901. The Morse Block, a two-story, bay-windowed, frame structure adjacent to the west, was built for Margaret Morse at the same time. Historic tenants have included publisher Henry Trantham's news dealership, town father George S. McMurtry's real estate office, Isaac Marks' general merchandise store, a barber, a shoe repair, a Hat Shoppe. Photos 20-22.

Sources: Field Survey. Sanborn Maps. Tax Assessment Rolls. Los Gatos Mail, January 9, 1902, 8/3; January 16, 1902, 1/2; January 23, 1902, 8/3. Los Gatos News, April 20, 1906, 1. City Directories.

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Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)7. Description: Non-Contributing Buildings (Cont.):

20. Ford Opera House, 140 West Main Street. This three-story commercial building does not contribute to the district because the facade has been entirely remodeled from top to bottom three times: in 1916 for a new owner and use, in about 1953 as perfectly plain stucco, and again in 1990 as brick veneer after considerable damage by the Loma Prieta earthquake. The 1990 repairs included removal of historic galvanized metal siding stamped to imitate rustic stone blocks, which had been on the east side elevation and visible from University Avenue. Originally brick veneered, the building was constructed in 1902-1903 as income property for E. L. Ford, the local South Pacific Railroad depot agent. He developed the upper portion as a 500-seat opera house in 1904, lining the ceiling and walls "with late designs of steel finish, body painted cream, trimming in light green"; this stamped metal interior still exists and is being restored by the present owner. In 1916, J. Walter Crider bought the building and remodeled it; his department store occupied it 1916-1958. The opera auditorium upstairs was used for traveling theatrical and musical performances, school graduations and plays, lectures, and large public meetings. Photos 1, 10, 20-22.

Sources: Hamsher Scrapbook 34B, 39 (quote above); also 6A, July 21, 1916; 34B, 149; 39A, June 18, 1927. Sanborn Maps. Tax Assessment Rolls. Field Survey. Building Permits. Los Gatos Mail, January 16, 1902, 8/3; and January 23, 1902, 8/3. Los Gatos News, February 14, 1902, 3/2; and April 27, 1906, 1.

21. Lyndon Block Remnant, 150 West Main Street. This wood-faced, one-story, brick commercial building does not contribute to the district because the facade was totally remodeled in 1975. It was originally constructed in 1901-1902 as the eastern third of the Mission Revival style Lyndon Block, which consisted of three stores at the northwest corner of West Main and the railroad line. In 1920, the other two stores were demolished to make way for the First National Bank building (Sketch Map No. 22). This store continued to house the Nuss and Hayes (later Los Gatos) Hardware Company. Photos 20, 22.

Sources: Building Permit. Field Survey. Sanborn Maps. Historic Photos. Los Gatos Mail, January 9, 1902, 8/3; and January 16, 1902, 1/2.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce
Architecture

Period of Significance

1891-1941

Significant Dates

na

Cultural Affiliation

na

Significant Person

na

Architect/Builder

Unknown and multiple; see list in block 7

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Los Gatos Historic Commercial District appears eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A, event/patterns, for the association with the economic development of the community. The district also appears eligible under Criterion C, architecture, as the town's only concentration of reasonably intact commercial buildings over 50 years old. The district proclaims to the casual visitor that Los Gatos did indeed have a small commercial center to complement its turn-of-the-century residential architecture. The context for the district's significance is the economic development of Los Gatos, 1852-1955. The district's period of significance is 1891-1941, from the construction of the earliest surviving commercial building to the arbitrary cut-off date of 50 years ago because the commercial significance continues into the present. While the majority of building facades were constructed after the devastating 1901 fire, the two prefire survivors (Sketch Map No. 1a and 1c, Photos 1-5) are so important visually and symbolically that the period of significance extends before the fire to include their construction, 1895 and 1891, respectively. The district's one house (Sketch Map No. 10, Photos 10, 11) appears individually eligible for the Register under Criterion C, architecture, as the only building in Los Gatos clad entirely with stone, in this case with river rocks from nearby Los Gatos Creek. The commercial buildings tend to have altered storefronts -- four perhaps have original ones -- but otherwise the contributory buildings are intact as to location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

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Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)

8. Statement of Significance (Cont.):

Context:

The Town of Los Gatos is located in southwestern Santa Clara County, in the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains, on State Highway 17/Interstate 880, about ten miles southwest of the center of San Jose. The natural terrain is an amphitheater formed of the foothills, drained by Los Gatos Creek, and opening out into a flat valley to the north. The population has grown from less than 500 in 1875 to 1,510 in 1880, 1,915 in 1900, 2,317 in 1920, 3,597 in 1940, and 26,594 in 1980. The town was incorporated in 1887 and kept the same boundaries, enclosing 1.6 square miles, until December of 1955.

Its economic development as a town began with the construction of a stone flour mill in 1852-1855, on the east bank of Los Gatos Creek where the southern extremity of the agriculturally rich Santa Clara Valley meets the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains, whence the descent of water could power such an industry. For a decade, the mill and its workers' shacks stood alone near the ancient trail over the mountains formed by Ohlone Indians and used from 1791 by Spanish and Mexican traffic between the missions of Santa Clara and Santa Cruz. Lumber was brought out of the mountains by the same route.

In 1858, a toll road was built over the mountains. It began in what is now Los Gatos, a little south of the present district and along the route of what is now South Santa Cruz Avenue. Two roads led from the north to the toll road, one along each side of the creek. The high west bank road from Santa Clara became the route of today's North Santa Cruz Avenue, and the low east bank road to San Jose and branching off to the Almaden mercury mines, became Main Street, crossing Los Gatos Creek near today's bridge and bending into what is now called Los Gatos Boulevard. With the toll road came a stagecoach route and, in the future town, a stage stop called Ten Mile House for its distance from San Jose. This developed into the town's principal hotel, Lyndon House, which stood at the southwest corner of Main and Santa Cruz 1877 to 1963.

Lumbering continued an important activity. The mill went through a succession of owners and remodelings, to increase its power and remedy under-capitalization. It eventually became an ice plant, and its 1880 addition survives as a museum listed in the National Register. Farms developed in the area before the town itself. First, they were wheat farms, later orchards and vineyards. Regular commercial activities began in 1863

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Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)8. Statement of Significance: Context (Cont.):

when W. S. McMurtry and J. W. McMillan opened a general store on Main Street east of Los Gatos Creek near the mill. In 1864, an official post office was established. Other businesses followed, so that in 1875 the Paulson directory reported two general stores, two blacksmiths, and two saloons, all presumably on Main Street east of the creek, plus the hotel west of the creek.

The early businesses were typical of what might be expected in the trading center of an agricultural area. For instance, the Thompson atlas of 1876 listed the following businesses in Los Gatos: S. H. Langford, the hotelier; the brothers J. H. and J. W. Lyndon, merchants; Robert H. Mowbray, carpenter; W. H. Rogers, miller; George Seanor, blacksmith; W. J. Simpson, teamster; George Timm, carpenter; and S. G. Wilson, wagonmaker.

Los Gatos' economic development took a great leap forward when the railroad arrived in 1877. The population tripled in three years, to 1,510. The railroad brought tourists and health seekers, many of whom decided to stay, or at least to come for the summers. The added population required service business from provisions to realtors, doctors and dentists, to milliners. The railroad line ran west of and roughly parallel to Los Gatos Creek. The railroad station and yard were at the southeast corner of Main and Santa Cruz, where the public plaza and the 1966 post office are located today. The station caused the commercial development to extend to the west side of the creek, where the historic commercial district is found today.

The 1888 Sanborn map shows these businesses in the area that would become the historic district: hardware, millinery, drugs, lodgings, general store, lodge hall, barber, notary, jewelry, surveying and insurance, two saloons, cigars and notions, produce, printing, butcher shop, and a hotel. Elsewhere, along South Santa Cruz and East Main, there were commercial stables, smithys, Chinese laundry, post office, hardware, and more of the same kinds of businesses. None of these 1888 buildings survives. North of the district was a cannery; the railroad ran nearly parallel to Santa Cruz Avenue between 160 and 198 West Main Street (Sketch Map Nos. 22 and 23), and its right-of-way has become a parking lot labeled "Station Way". Some commercial activities faced the station in 1888. Across the bridge the older, still vital half of the commercial district continued for two or three blocks. Main Street was indeed the main street; all the town's commercial action occurred on Main or a few steps away on selected side streets.

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Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)8. Statement of Significance: Context (Cont.):

Fire shaped the commercial structures. A huge fire on July 27, 1891 destroyed about two blocks of Main east of the then-wooded bridge, inspiring the Town Board to authorize a second volunteer fire company and to require only brick or stone construction within fire limits designated by the ordinance. The town's earliest brick buildings date from immediately after this fire, including Sketch Map Nos. 1, 2, 4, and 6. On East Main, three other brick buildings from this period had to be destroyed after the Loma Prieta Earthquake of 1989, and a fourth, the largest, lost its entire facade and rear wall. (The original facade is currently being replicated in glass fiber reinforced concrete (CFRC).) Other buildings on East Main were destroyed in a fire of 1943.

The fire that most influenced the historic district occurred on Sunday, October 13, 1901. It wiped out everything on both sides of West Main Street between the bridge and the railroad tracks (sites of Sketch Map Nos. 7-21). The only thing left standing was the vault of the Commercial Bank, on the site of Sketch Map No. 19. By January of 1902, the local papers were describing new replacement buildings already under construction, and the first ones, Sketch Map Nos. 18 and 21 (Photos 20-22), opened in February, a mere four months after the destruction. Others built in 1902 were Sketch Map Nos. 19 and 20 (Photos 24-27). In the remainder of the devastated area, the replacements came more gradually, but all the holes were filled by 1910. In spite of the fire law, not all owners put up brick structures, or even ones clad in brick.

The 1906 earthquake shook the town and scared even the saloon keepers into closing, but none of the commercial buildings was damaged enough to require demolition. The weekly Los Gatos News reported on April 27 that, "The Rankin Block (Sketch Map No. 19) was shaken and the coping on the west (sic) and south sides shaken off." This may have occasioned the complete removal of the building's original curvilinear parapets depicted in Photo 26 of 1904. In any case, these parapets disappeared early in the 20th century, for Photo 27 shows the pre-1924 railroad station and the side of the Rankin Block already without its curvilinear parapet.

In the first half of the 20th century, as the population grew from 1,915 in 1900 to 3,597 in 1940, the Los Gatos economy continued along the lines set earlier. It was the trading center for the surrounding farms, most of them orchards. This is shown by the large number of hardware stores, and by the canneries (demolished) and dehydrator factory well north of the commercial district.

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8. Statement of Significance: Context (Cont.):

The town continued to be a mecca for health seekers, vacationers, scenery lovers, and retired persons. A majority of the directory listings show residents without occupation, probably indicating either principal residence (and occupation) elsewhere, such as San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose, or of retired or wealthy status. In the commercial district, this section of the economy is shown because the number of milliners, hairdressers, and fine grocers was disproportionately large for an ordinary small country town. The 1902 Los Gatos Directory ran ads appealing to the summer residents: a French laundry, a cyclery, a piano tuner-musical instrument repairer. One hardware store specifically advertised "Fishing, Tackle, Ammunition, Guns and Pistols, Striking Bags, Boxing Gloves, Foot Balls, Base Balls". And the dairy's boldface words, "Milk from Fresh Cow furnished upon application", surely addressed an affluent non-farm population with urban habits.

In these 40 years when the population was almost doubling, the commercial center of Los Gatos gradually expanded north along Santa Cruz Avenue, replacing houses with commercial buildings. Stores and a movie theater (41 North Santa Cruz) sprouted not long after the cannery moved in 1907. Autos and their supplies were sold opposite, on the railroad side of the street. A Queen Anne mansion at 115 North Santa Cruz was turned into a funeral home in 1920. A fine Art Deco tiled bus depot went up at 135-147 North Santa Cruz in 1939. In the late 1940s, a realtor developed the "Little Village", shops of Mother Goose style, in the 300 block which reaches to Saratoga Avenue. Since multiple annexations began in December 1955, and since the freeway was constructed about the same time, the commercial center of gravity has moved still farther north. But the 1965 civic center on East Main Street and the symbolic Queen Anne tower of the Hofstra Block/La Canada Building (Sketch Map No. 1) have kept businesses firmly anchored on the old Main Street.

Architecturally, Los Gatos business buildings of all periods were almost universally of enframed window wall composition: large display windows over a base of splash panels, with a strip of transom windows and a "frame" of solid building wall to the sides and above. Any ornamentation was applied and historicist, whatever imagery might be considered fashionable at the time. Old photographs show many one-story stores (e.g., Photos 1, 3, 13, 20, 27). Second stories had a higher percentage of wall, and their window shapes were appropriate for residences or meeting halls. Buildings filled their lots at the sidewalk, creating a pedestrian environment favorable to business.

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Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)8. Statement of Significance: Context (Cont.):

In the last decade of the 20th century, the old buildings remain an environment favorable to business, especially boutique businesses which trade on quaintness rather than size and easy parking. Bulkier businesses, like auto show rooms, supermarkets, and shopping centers, are now located exclusively north of Saratoga Avenue. The town fathers have, however, addressed the parking issue in the old area by turning the railroad right-of-way, last used in 1959, into a parking lot, and by encouraging another lot closer to the bridge in place of some demolished buildings. As the town has prospered mightily in the wake of Silicon Valley prosperity, storefronts have been changed often, but the two bank buildings successfully changed use without exterior alterations to the original fabric. Quite a few buildings in Los Gatos, both commercial and residential, sustained damage in the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake; some have been or are being repaired, while others await financial arrangements.

Relationship of this district to the context

The Los Gatos Historic Commercial District is the town's only surviving concentration of commercial buildings over 50 years old. Elsewhere, the historic commercial buildings are isolated: 11 East Main at the east end of the bridge, 34 East Main between a motel and the vacant site of a hotel, the bus depot at 137 North Santa Cruz, also 108, 112, 122, and 130 North Santa Cruz. Some surviving historic buildings outside the district lack integrity: 47 and 308 East Main, the theater at 41 North Santa Cruz, one-story stores at 29-39 and 47-57 North Santa Cruz. Others outside the district are really houses converted to commercial use: 262 East Main, 115 and 221 North Santa Cruz. The 1989 earthquake cost Los Gatos a significant concentration of 19th century brick commercial buildings at 31-45 East Main, and two are being replicated. Every remaining commercial building on Main or Santa Cruz was constructed since World War II. The Main Street bridge itself dates from mid-1950s freeway construction. At least the fourth bridge on the site, it replaces a stone and concrete arched bridge dedicated two weeks after the 1906 earthquake. The district's boundaries were selected to enclose the sole remaining concentration. Along its 1,000 feet of street frontage stand 18 reasonably intact historic commercial buildings.

The district's interruptions to integrity do not destroy the sense of time and place. Two new buildings, fortunately in scale, replace three old ones and a gas station. Four historic buildings have been heavily remodeled. Two parking lots interrupt the sidewalk lines of the buildings, but one occupies a

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Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)

8. Statement of Significance: Relationship of this district to the context (Cont.):

site never built upon, the railroad right of way, and it bears a street sign "Station Way". The south corners of Santa Cruz and West Main are not included in the district because the historic hotel and railroad station there have been replaced. One building in the district is not commercial, but it appears individually eligible for the Register as discussed below.

The symbolic center of the district, and indeed of the town's commercial center, is the double intersection of West Main Street with North Santa Cruz Avenue and the former railroad right of way. The six buildings there present a rich panoply of historic architecture. Visually, the focal point is the witch hat tower of the Queen Anne Hofstra Block/La Canada Building (Sketch Map Nos. 1a, 1b, and 1c; Photos 1-5). This group of three buildings has been the subject of innumerable historic and contemporary photographs and other visual representations. The tower's visibility from a distance sheds a 19th century aura over the whole area, promoting Los Gatos' commercial reputation as a historic town. The two-story 1902 Mission Revival Rankin Block (Sketch Map No. 19, Photos 24-27) guards the south side of Main Street. On the north are the two intact banks, the Italian Renaissance gem of First National and the Art Deco Bank of America (Sketch Map Nos. 22 and 23, Photos 23 and 28).

Northward along Santa Cruz and eastward along Main are smaller contributing buildings, all facades composed as enframed window walls or two-part small commercial blocks (see Corbett, Splendid Survivors, 255). Two of them stand out; the Fretwell Building (Sketch Map No. 17, Photos 16-20) is a small Richardsonian Romanesque set of shops, executed in early concrete made to look like rusticated stone, and it retains what appear to be its original storefronts with an elaborate muntin pattern. Sorenson Plumbing (Sketch Map No. 12, Photos 14, 15) is a typical wooden double store building with Mission Revival parapet, beaded tongue-and-groove interior, and, wonder of wonders, the original storefronts intact even to subdivided display windows.

The district reflects Los Gatos' commercial history. While this part of Main Street didn't become commercial until 15 years after its continuation on the east side of the creek, no commercial structure in town survives from before 1891, the year when Lake A. Hofstra put up the first sections of La Canada Building (Sketch Map Nos. 1b (first floor) and 1c; Photos 1-5).

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Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)

8. Statement of Significance: Relationship of this district to the context
(Cont.):

Town leaders had their businesses here: Mayors J. W. Lyndon, T. E. Johns, and J. Walter Crider; ex-Town Attorney Richard F. Robertson; Town Treasurer Watkins, Councilman Templeman, unofficial historian Clarence F. Hamsher. Prominent businessmen located or owned property here: developer J. W. Lyndon, realtor/banker A. Berryman, earliest jeweler J. J. Fretwell; William B. Rankin who managed the Los Gatos Cooperative Winery; realtor G. S. McMurtry; newspaper publisher W. H. B. Trantham. Important institutions are represented in the district: the town's only two banks, the Chamber of Commerce, the Post Office, the Los Gatos Telephone Company, two fraternal lodges (Odd Fellows, Woodmen of the World), and the Salvation Army. Groceries, hardware stores, professional offices, drug stores, almost everything a town needs in a commercial center was located here except the Town Hall. It was in the other half of the historic commercial district, on East Main Street, where today almost every building is newer than 1941.

The non-commercial building

Charles Wagner's River Rock Bungalow (Sketch Map No. 10, Photos 10-11) can be considered a contributor to the district because it appears individually eligible for the Register on the local level of significance under Criterion C, architecture, as Los Gatos' only stone-clad building. It is a house of modest size, hipped roof, bungalow shape, and battered porch posts. It displays fine stone craftsmanship. The house's distinction is the river rocks which cover the walls and porch. They came from Los Gatos Creek and were a popular local building material for chimneys, porches, foundations, and fences. Nowhere else in Los Gatos is there a house entirely covered with river rocks. Even the commercial district never had a stone-clad building; stone was used there only occasionally, for ornament. The one building that looks stone clad, the Fretwell building (Sketch Map 17, Photos 16-19) is actually covered in concrete imitating sandstone. Wagner's Bungalow is unique.

Its history is that Charles Wagner, a barber working nearby on Main Street, constructed it in 1906 as his residence. Mrs. Alice Wagner conducted a photography studio in the building according to the 1912 directory. The Libante family acquired the property about 1930. On the same assessor's parcel in 1934, they constructed an Art Deco commercial building for their French laundry (Sketch Map No. 9, Photo 10). Mrs. Libante still lives in the River Rock Bungalow.

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9. Major Bibliographical References:

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Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)

9. Major Bibliographical References (cont.):

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Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)

9. Major Bibliographical References (cont.):

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Dates

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Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)

10. Geographical Data: Boundary Justification

The boundary of the Los Gatos Historic Commercial District was drawn to enclose the only surviving group of historic commercial buildings in the town. It includes all parcels fronting on North Santa Cruz Avenue from West Main on the south to the end of the concentration of reasonably intact historic resources on the north; and all parcels fronting on West Main Street from the bridge over Los Gatos Creek canyon on the east to Santa Cruz Ave./Montebello Way on the west (minus the non-adjacent portions of two large parking lots); and one parcel on University Avenue which continues the concentration of historic resources. The surroundings are freeway and its bridge to the east, and open space or new construction elsewhere.

SKETCH MAP

LOS GATOS HISTORIC COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

LOS GATOS, CALIFORNIA
Santa Clara County

Scale: 1" = 100'

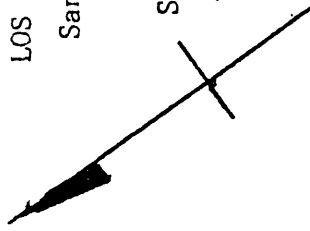
Property line

District boundary

Contributing building

Non-contributing bldg.

P Parking



UNIVERSITY AVENUE

Elm St.

NORTH SANTA CRUZ AVENUE

Station Way

Lundy Le.

WEST MAIN STREET

Park Ave.

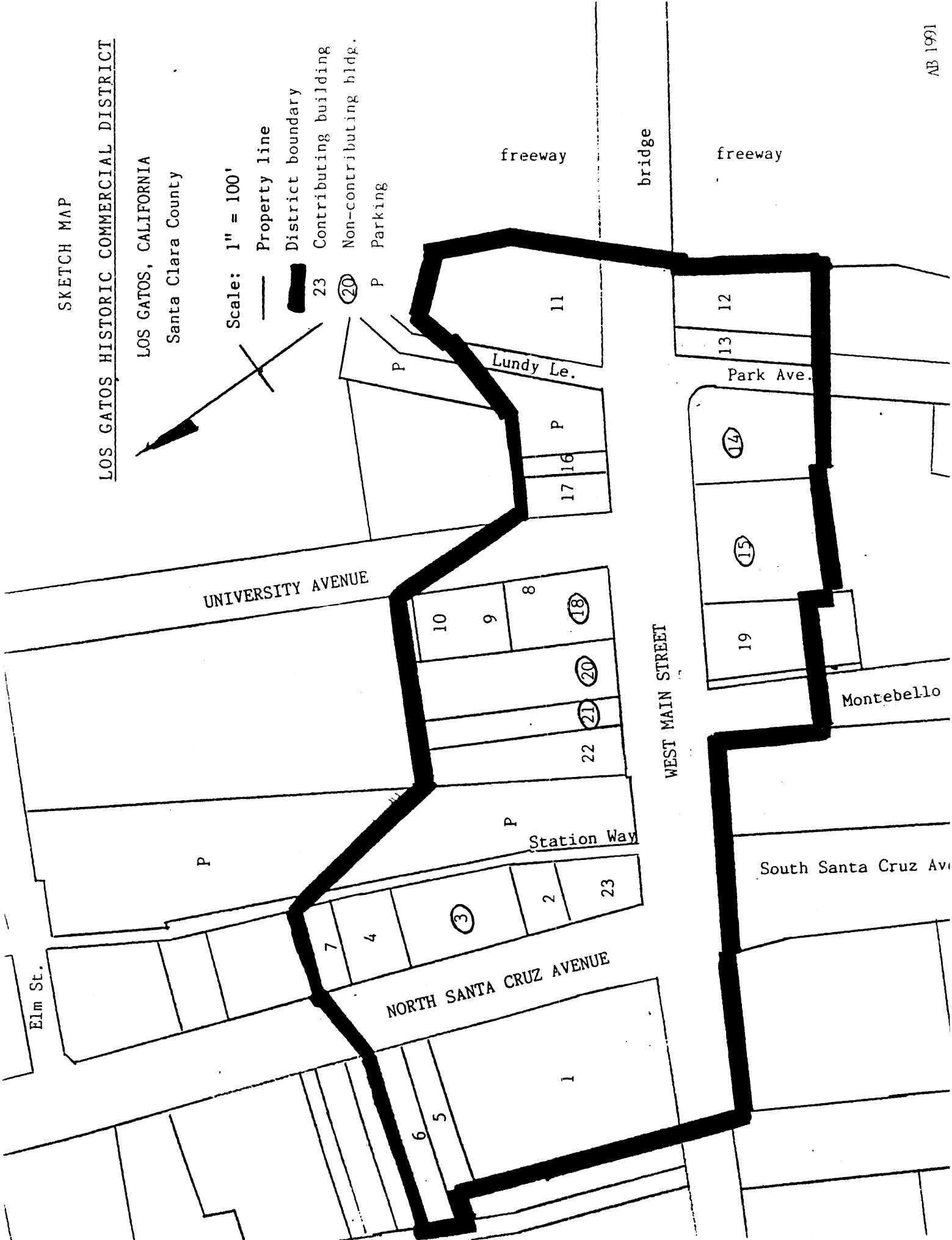
South Santa Cruz Av

Montebello

freeway

bridge

freeway



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Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)

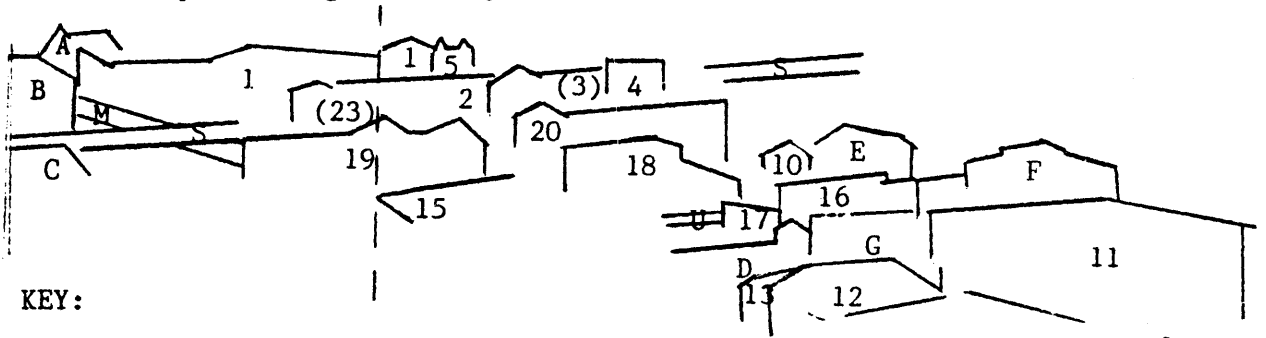
List of Photographs:

All the following photographs are of the Los Gatos Historic Commercial District, which is located in Los Gatos, California

The photos dated 1989 through 1991 were photographed by Anne Bloomfield, and their negatives are located in the Planning Department of the Town of Los Gatos.

The other, historic, photos were taken by unknown photographers, and copy negatives of them are located in the library of the Town of Los Gatos.

Photo 1. View of Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
c.1912 (Library neg.)
Looking northwest from hill behind the present Civic Center
To identify buildings, see Key below



KEY:

District resources, by Sketch Map No.:

1. Hofstra Block/La Canada Building
2. Theresa Block (original state)
3. Site of new commercial building
4. Woodmen's Hall
5. Salvation Army Hall
10. Wagner's River Rock Bungalow
11. Montezuma Block
12. Sorenson Plumbing
13. Sunflower Candy Kitchen
15. Vermont Block
16. Berryman Building
17. Fretwell Building
18. Aram and Morse Blocks
19. Rankin Block
20. Ford's Opera House
23. Site of Bank of America Building

Streets:

- M. Main Street
- S. Santa Cruz Avenue
- U. University Avenue

Demolished buildings:

- A. Baptist Church
- B. Lyndon Hotel
- C. Railroad station
- D. Site of Sketch Map No. 14
- E. Residence
- F. Carnegie Library
- G. Site of parking lot

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Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)

List of Photographs (cont.):

- Photo 2. West side of North Santa Cruz Avenue
31 May 1990 (neg. ABLG-041-23)
Looking northwest along Santa Cruz (left) and West Main
From left, Sketch Map No. 1 and 5
- Photo 3. View of North Santa Cruz Avenue
c. 1900 (Library neg. B-92)
Looking northwest along Santa Cruz from West Main
From left, Sketch Map No. 1 (in three parts, before completion of second
story), 2, 3, out-of-district, 23/2 (original Theresa Block, site of
Bank of America Building)
- Photo 4. Detail of Hofstra Block/La Canada Building
26 October 1989 (neg. ABLG-004-15)
Looking up at corner tower, Main Street facade on left, Santa Cruz on right.
Sketch Map No. 1
- Photo 5. Detail of Hofstra Block/La Canada Building
31 October 1989 (neg. ABLG-005-8)
Portion of Santa Cruz Avenue facade, near center of building
Sketch Map No. 1
- Photo 6. Salvation Army Hall and Crall Building
30 October 1989 (neg. ABLG-005-11)
Looking west from across North Santa Cruz Ave.
From left: Sketch Map No. 5, 6, and out-of-district
- Photo 7. Rear of Theresa Block Fragment
26 October 1989 (neg. ABLG-004-16)
Looking west from Station Way parking lot
From left: Sketch Map 23, 2, 3
- Photo 8. Woodmen of the World Hall
31 October 1989 (neg. ABLG-005-35)
Looking east from across North Santa Cruz Ave.
From left: Sketch Map No. 7, 4, 3
- Photo 9. Templeman Hardware
31 October 1989 (neg. ABLG-005-33)
Looking east from across North Santa Cruz Avenue
From left: out-of-district, Sketch Map No. 7, 3

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Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)

List of Photographs (cont.):

- Photo 10. View along University Avenue
31 May 1990 (neg. ABLG-041-36A)
Looking southwest from across and a little way up University Ave.
From left: Sketch Map No. 18, 8, 9, 10; in rear Sketch Map No. 20
- Photo 11. Detail of Wagner's River Rock Bungalow
26 October 1989 (neg. ABLG-004-4)
Looking west at entry porch
Sketch Map No. 10
- Photo 12. Montezuma Block/Foothill Hotel
9 November 1989 (neg. ABLG-006-21)
Looking northeast from across West Main St.
Sketch Map No. 11
- Photo 13. Historic view of bridge and Main Street buildings
c. 1915 (neg. ABLG-041-29)
Looking west northwest from east side of Los Gatos Creek
Foreground, stone and concrete bridge. Right, Sketch Map No. 11
- Photo 14. Sorenson Plumbing Building
31 May 1990 (neg. ABLG-041-27A)
Looking southwest from across Main St.
From left: Sketch Map No. 12, 13, 14
- Photo 15. Detail of Sorenson's Plumbing Building
31 May 1990 (neg. ABLG-041-34A)
Looking south from Main St.
Sketch Map No. 11, right hand store
- Photo 16. View along West Main Street
31 May 1990 (neg. ABLG-041-25A)
Looking southeast from west side of University Ave.
From right: Sketch Map No. 17, bridge, Sketch Map No. 12, 13 ("Gina's"), 14
- Photo 17. View of West Main Street at University
31 May 1990 (neg. ABLG-041-24A)
Looking northeast from across Main St.
From right: out-of-district, Sketch Map No. 17, 16

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Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)

List of Photographs (cont.)

- Photo 18. Detail of Fretwell Building
31 May 1990 (neg. ABLG-041-25A)
Looking east on University Ave.
Sketch Map No. 17
- Photo 19. Detail of Fretwell Building
31 May 1990 (neg. ABLG-041-27A)
Looking northwest from Main St. at University.
Foreground: Sketch Map No. 17. Background, from left: Sketch Map No.
18, 8, 9
- Photo 20. Historic view of Main Street
c. 1925 (Library neg. A-19)
Looking east from across West Main St.
From left: railroad crossing gate; Sketch Map No. 22, 21, 20, 18 (two
buildings), 17, 16; site of Lundy Lane parking lot; Sketch Map No.
11; bridge, 11 East Main (out of district)
- Photo 21. Northwest corner of Main and University
26 October 1989 (neg. ABLG-004-0)
Looking northwest from across Main St.
From Left: Sketch Map No. 20, 18, 8
- Photo 22. View of Main Street
3 January 1991 (neg. ABLG-047-22)
Looking northeast from across Main St.
From left: Sketch Map No. 22, 21, 20, 18
- Photo 23. First National Bank Building
26 October 1989 (neg. ABLG-003-33)
Looking north across Main St.
Sketch Map No. 22, 21
- Photo 24. Rankin Block
36 October 1989 (neg. ABLG-003-29)
Looking southeast from across Main St.
From left: Sketch Map No. 15, 19

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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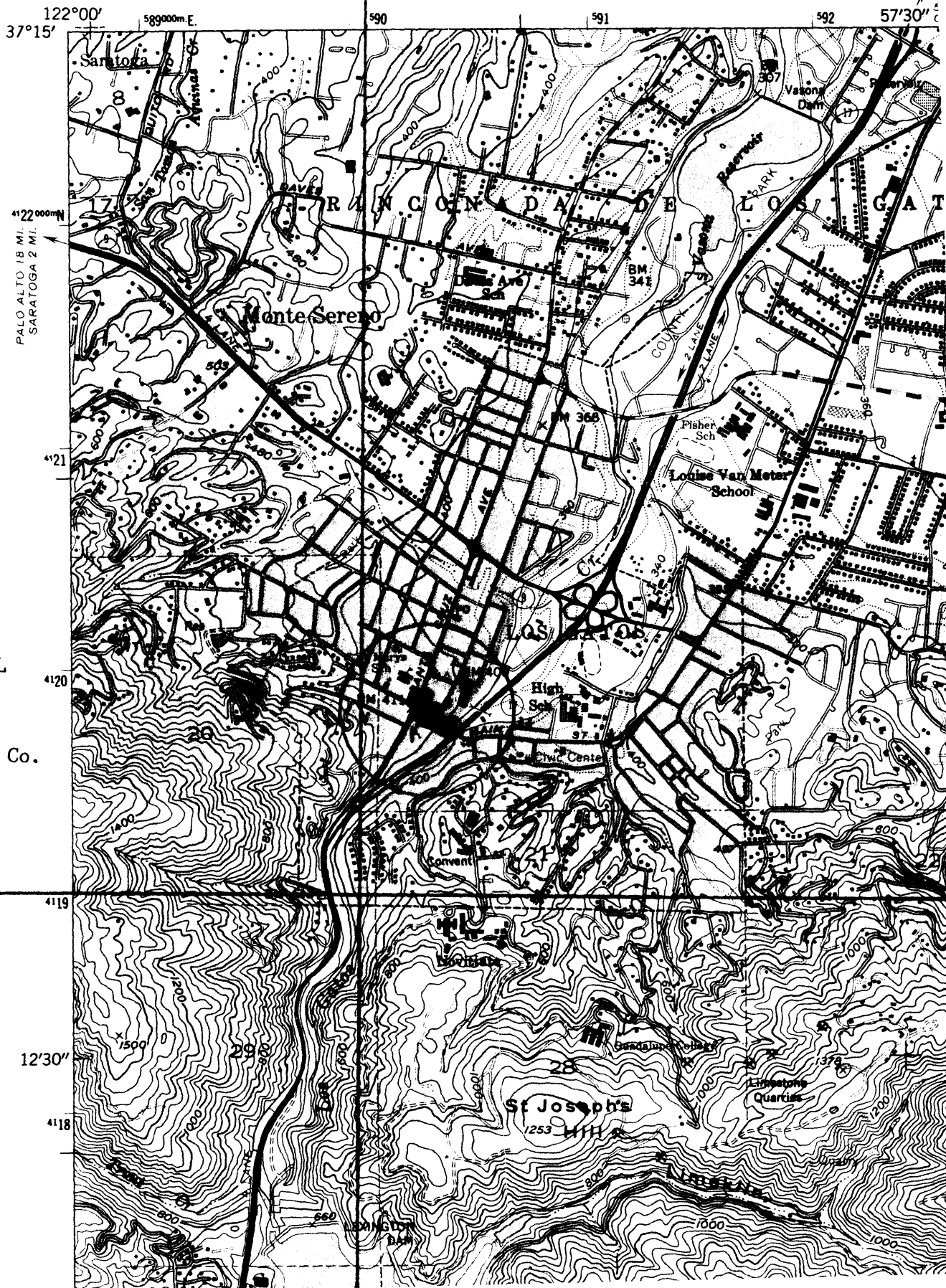
Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
Los Gatos, CA (Santa Clara County)

List of Photographs (cont.):

- Photo 25. Rears of Rankin and Vermont Blocks
9 November 1989 (neg. ABLG-006-34)
Looking west from Park Ave.
From left: Sketch Map No. 19, 15, 14
- Photo 26. Rankin Block, historic photo
c. 1904 (Library neg. B-84)
Looking southeast from tower of Hofstra Block
Sketch Map No. 19 (note curvilinear parapets)
- Photo 27. Montebello Way, historic photo
Before 1924 (Library neg. A-11)
Looking south along Montebello Way
From left: Sketch Map 19, Montebello Way, railroad station and yards
(note curvilinear parapet replaced by straight cornice)
- Photo 28. Bank of America Building
26 October 1989 (neg. ABLG-004-11)
Looking north from across West Main St.
From left: Sketch Map No. 1, 23; Station Way

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

15581 SE
(CUPERTINO)



*Los Gatos Historic Commercial District
10-590245-4119760
Los Gatos, Santa Clara Co., Calif.
Santa Clara Co. (Santa Clara Co.)*

LOS GATOS
HISTORIC
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Los Gatos,
Santa Clara Co.
California