

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

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

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

**1. Name**

historic The James W. Finch House

and/or common The Finch-Fleischer House

**2. Location**

street & number 410 Monroe Street n/a not for publication

city, town Monterey n/a vicinity of congressional district 16th

state California code 06 county Monterey code 53

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" 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 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a	<input checked="" 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 Conrad J. Olsen & Nancy L. Olsen

street & number 410 Monroe Street

city, town Monterey n/a vicinity of state California (93940)

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Monterey County Courthouse

street & number 240 Church Street

city, town Salinas state California (93901)

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Historical American Building Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date May 1964  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Library of Congress

city, town Washington state Dist. of Columbia

## 7. Description

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

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Finch-Fleischer House is a two-story, redwood frame residence, sheathed in a horizontal drop-siding. The boxed cornice of the main block with its simple returns and capital corner boards suggests the Greek temple form. However, Italianate and vaguely Gothic elements in the porch details and the balustrade decide the eclectic nature of the dwelling. Early rear additions and a dormer window modification are the only alterations to the 1870 house.

Resting on a concrete foundation, the plan is irregular in form with flanking one-story wings off the central structure. The roof of the central block is steeply gabled and presents its gabled end to Monroe Street (east). The flanking wings also have gabled roofs, but the pitch is quite low and the eaves face the street. The main block and the original south wing have open porches, which are supported on slender posts with light spandrels. The posts and corner boards of the building are all capped with sawn capitals. The roof of the main porch, surrounded by a balustrade topped with turned wooden urns, forms a second-story porch. A pair of pedimented French windows lead out to this balcony, which overlooks Monterey Bay. The gabled roofs, with their boxed cornices and classic returns, are capped with wood shingles that have been replaced and repaired over time. A central chimney of brick with a corbeled cap pierces the main block with a second chimney piercing the roof of the south wing.

Fenestration is generally four-over-four double-hung sash. The French windows on the front facade (east) at the second-story level open outward with three lights per panel. The rear additions have paired one-over-one double-hung sash windows. Louvered shutters flanking the window openings on the front are original to the building. The front door has characteristic mid-Victorian variations of 18th century paneling, suggesting a more expensive type of an earlier period. It is flanked with colored glass side-lights (each consisting of three tall, narrow panes) and is capped with a two-light transom.

In 1881 when Finch moved into the structure, he added a north wing and kitchen addition to the original main block and south wing of the residence. The house was modified again between 1910 and 1920 when another kitchen was added to the rear of the north wing and two dormer windows were appended to the second story. The dormer of the northern elevation was removed in 1974. The current owners returned the building's interior appearance, as much as was practicable, to the 1881 appearance while adding a balcony which serves the two windows under the main gable at the rear of the house. This feature was produced from the original fencing that once enclosed the property. Although built at various times, the component parts of this interesting ensemble constitute a harmonious whole.

# 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** 1870 **Builder/Architect** James W. Finch & others

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Finch-Fleischer House is one of the few remaining intact examples of early American building styles in Monterey, a town noted for its collection of early Spanish/Mexican adobe structures. Built by the Finch family in 1870, the house embodies a Classical Revival mode with eclectic features common to the period of construction. As early settlers, the Finch family was important both in ranching in the nearby Carmel Valley and in Monterey commercial ventures.

James William Finch and his brother Charles arrived in California via the Overland Trail in 1854. The brothers established a stock-ranch in the Jamesburg section of Carmel Valley. James Finch was a stovemaker and iron worker by trade in addition to being a stock-raiser. During the Civil War, Finch supplied horses to the Federal Army. In 1870, the Finch brothers built this house for their mother. After her death in 1881, James Finch and his wife Ellen moved into the house, adding a northern wing and rear kitchen. Alma, one of two children of that union, lived in the house for many years with her son and husband Charles Fleischer. The Finch-Fleischer families were active in local social activities including amateur participation in melodramas at Monterey's First Theatre. On various occasions when the family returned to live at the Jamesburg ranch, the house was sublet; one notable renter was artist Charles Rollo Peters, well known for his nocturnal painting of Monterey adobes.

D-0950H

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Historical American Building Survey Records-Cal-1893, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.  
Fleischer, Mrs. A. J., Interview; "Echoes of Monterey's Past," Game and Gossip, May 1, 1961, Vol. II, No. 6, pp. 3, 20.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .172

Quadrangle name Monterey Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A 

1	0	5	9	8	4	0	0	4	0	5	1	0	0	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C 

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D 

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G 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Refer to Parcel Map attached and see continuation sheet (10-1).

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

state	n/a	code	county	code
state	n/a	code	county	code

state	n/a	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kent L. Seavey/Historical Consultant

organization n/a date August 1981

street & number 310 Lighthouse Avenue telephone (408) 375-8739

city or town Pacific Grove state California (93950)

## 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 September 1, 1982

For HCERS use only

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

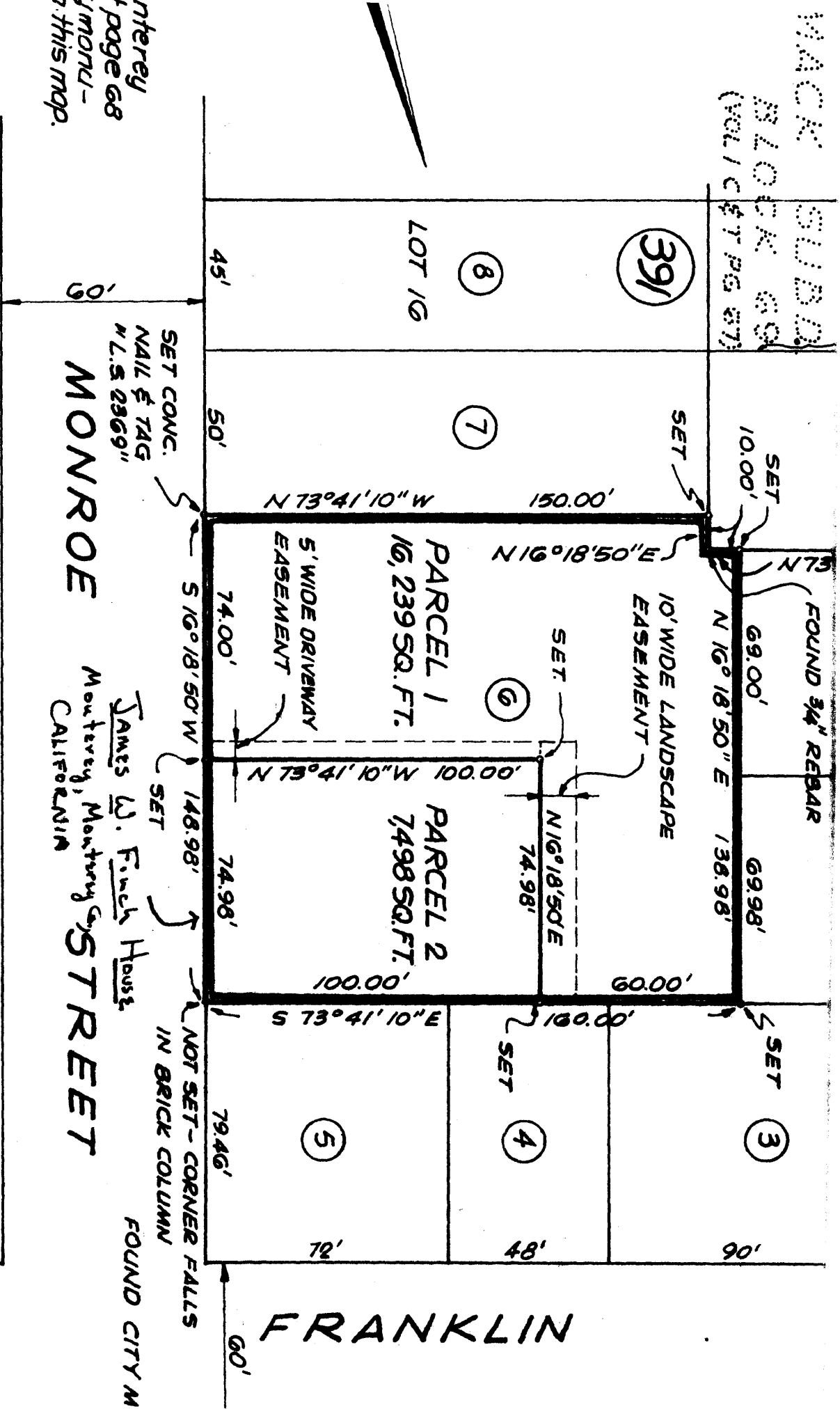
Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Chief of the National Register

MACCK  
SUBDIVISION  
BLOCK 69  
(VOLUME 17 PAGE 87)



interreg  
page 68  
ymond  
this map.

**CITY ENGINEER'S CERTIFICATE**

This map has been examined for conformance with the requirements of the Subdivision Map Act and local ordinances.

SET CONC.  
NAIL & TAG  
N.L.S 2369"  
**MONROE STREET**

James W. Finch House  
Monterey, Monterey  
CALIFORNIA

**FRANKLIN**

7/20/76

**PARCEL MAP**

OF

A D M N 1-201-06