

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

REVISED

NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

1. STATE <u>California</u>	2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. <u>XV - Texas Revolution and War with Mexico</u>
3. NAME(S) OF SITE <u>Sonoma Plaza</u>	4. APPROX. ACREAGE <u>5</u>
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet) <u>Center of City of Sonoma, Sonoma County</u>	
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner) <u>City of Sonoma</u>	

7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)  
On June 14, 1846, a group of 33 Americans seized Sonoma, major Mexican military post, and took prisoner Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo, Commandante-General of the Northern Frontier of Alta California and the dominant Mexican figure in the north. After electing William B. Ide as president of their new republic, the Americans raised in the plaza their homemade Bear Flag as the symbol of their independent California. These actions marked the beginning of the Bear Flag Revolt, which preceded receipt of news in California of the official outbreak of war between Mexico and the United States.

The Bear Flag Revolt is one of the most confusing movements in California history. Its causes and effects, as well as its over-all importance, are subjects that historians have argued for more than a century. This is in part due to the actions of such enigmatic figures as John C. Fremont. It is also due to the fact that the Bear Flag Revolt was an interrupted movement. Had not the Mexican War intervened, the Bear Flaggers, as a preliminary to annexation by the United States, might have extended their control over northern California just as the revolutionaries had done in Texas a decade earlier.

In June 1846 California verged on explosion. Fremont and his band of heavily armed frontiersmen had participated in a number of escapades, such as the Hawk's Peak affair, which angered the Mexican Government and suggested to native Californians that the United States meant to acquire the territory by any means necessary. The several hundred American settlers who had arrived in California in recent years despised and distrusted the Mexican authority. Rumors circulated that Governor Jose Castro was gathering a small army to attack the foreigners, that all Americans would be expelled, and that further immigration would be forbidden. Although Fremont's command served as a rallying post and American settlers turned to him for leadership, the Captain adopted an attitude of neutrality.

The revolt began on June 10, 1846, when a dozen recruits under Ezekiel Merritt, a tobacco-chewing illiterate patriot, seized 200 horses that Governor Castro had ordered

(Continued on next page)

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works) Hubert H. Bancroft, History of California (7 vols, San Francisco, 1886) V; Robt. G. Cleland, A History of California: The American Period (New York, 1926); John A. Hussey, "Bear Flag Revolt," Am. Heritage (Spring 1950); Wm. B. Ide, Who Conquered California (Claremont, N.H., 1880); Harold Kirker, California's Architectural Frontier (San Marino, 1960); Allan Nevins, Fremont, Pathmarker of the West (New York, 1955).

9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.)  
Historic American Building Survey: Blue Wing Inn, 2 Photos (1934), General Vallejo House, 4 Photos (1934), Mission San Francisco Solano de Sonoma, 3 Photos.

10. PHOTOGRAPHS * <u>1326-B</u> ATTACHED: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	11. CONDITION <u>Plaza altered,</u> number of orig. bldgs. <u>          </u>	12. PRESENT USE (Museum, farm, etc.) <u>Park, museums, residences</u>	13. DATE OF VISIT <u>May 1958</u>
14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) <u>Charles W. Snell</u>	15. TITLE <u>Reg. Chief, Br. Historic Sites</u>	16. DATE <u>Aug. 23, 1963</u>	

\* DRY MOUNT ON AN 8 X 10 1/2 SHEET OF FAIRLY HEAVY PAPER. IDENTIFY BY VIEW AND NAME OF THE SITE, DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH, AND NAME OF PHOTOGRAPHER. GIVE LOCATION OF NEGATIVE. IF ATTACHED, ENCLOSE IN PROPER NEGATIVE ENVELOPES.

(IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED USE SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET, 10-317a, AND REFER TO ITEM NUMBER)

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SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET

This sheet is to be used for giving additional information or comments, for more space for any item on the regular form, and for recording pertinent data from future studies, visitations, etc. Be brief, but use as many Supplement Sheets as necessary. When items are continued they should be listed, if possible, in numerical order of the items. All information given should be headed by the item number, its name, and the word (cont'd), as, 6. Description and Importance (cont'd) . . .

STATE California	NAME(S) OF SITE Sonoma Plaza
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7. Continued:

brought to Monterey. Perhaps inspired by this easy success, and knowing the certainty of Mexican reprisal, the Americans decided to continue the attack. At dawn, on June 14, 33 patriots, "about as rough a looking set of men as one could well imagine," recalled one of them, descended on Sonoma, political and military center of the province north of Monterey. Here lived Mariano Vallejo, dominant figure among the northern Californians, a man friendly to the Americans, and already committed to Larkin's plan for independence. General Vallejo was roused from his bed, informed that the town had been seized, and that he was a prisoner. Negotiations were somewhat delayed by Vallejo's hospitality, as the American leaders were overcome by overdoses of the General's wine. The rank and file then elected William B. Ide to represent them. An idealist who believed that the time had come to establish the California Republic, he drew up the articles of capitulation, which were signed, and took possession of Sonoma. (There was no garrison in the town, but military supplies included 9 cannon, some 250 muskets, and a small amount of ammunition.)

As a first step in the creation of the new government, a flag was designed from a piece of white cotton cloth, consisting of a star colored with red paint, faced by a crude figure of a grizzly bear, also done in red, and along the lower edge the words California Republic, done in black. Along the bottom edge of this 36½ by 59 inch flag was sewn a 4-inch strip of red flannel. The Bear Flag, now California's official emblem, was raised over Sonoma Plaza on either June 14 or 15. On June 15, Ide, newly elected president of the republic, declared that the war for California's independence had begun and invited all patriotic citizens to join the movement. He proclaimed that the aim of the movement was to set up a "Republican Government" in place of the "Military Despotism," and promised that the new government would guarantee civil and religious liberty. Unable to resist the opportunity, Fremont ended his neutrality on June 23, his men reached Sonoma on June 25, and the Captain seized from Ide leadership of the movement. Although the Bear Flaggers fought one battle, the comparatively bloodless Battle of Olompali on June 24, soon thereafter came official news of the outbreak of the Mexican War. The American flag was raised over San Francisco and Sonoma on July 9, and over Sutters Fort on July 11. The burden then shifted to the military forces of the United States, and the Bear Flag movement had no further necessity.

Present Appearance: Sonoma Plaza, with the buildings surrounding the square, is one of the best preserved areas of the Mexican period in California. The plaza was laid out in 1835 by young Lieutenant Mariano Vallejo, then Military Commander

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STATE	NAME(S) OF SITE
California	Sonoma Plaza

7. Continued:

and Director of the Northern Frontier, who established the Pueblo de Sonoma in that year for the purpose of protecting Northern California from the intrusions of the Russian colony at Fort Ross. Under Vallejo's direction, Sonoma soon became the major Mexican military post in the north.

On the site of the original raising of the Bear Flag, at the northeast corner of the plaza, is a large monument, a bronze statue representing a young pioneer holding the staff of the Bear Flag, which floats above him. Facing the flag-raising site is the Sonoma Barracks, a two-story adobe building with a balcony in front, erected between 1836 and 1841, and used by Mexican troops, the Bear Flaggers, and finally U.S. troops, 1846-48. Among the other existing structures facing the plaza are:

1. General Vallejo's town house, 1836-51, situated next to the Sonoma Barracks, a large two-story adobe with a balcony across the front, completed about 1840.
2. The Blue Wing Inn, located at 133 East Spain Street, an excellent example of a Monterey Colonial two-story adobe built in 1840.
3. The Mission San Francisco Solano, restored, at 114 East Spain Street, founded in 1823 as the last of the 21 Californian missions and the only one to be established during the Mexican period.

Several other Mexican period adobes on the Plaza have been remodeled; these include the El Dorado Hotel, at Spain Street West and First Street West, originally a one-story adobe, with a second story of wood and balconies added in the 1860's; the "Swiss Hotel," 18 West Spain Street, built about 1840 by Salvador Vallejo, brother of the General, as his residence; the Salvador Vallejo adobe, at 417 First Street West; and on the southwest corner of the plaza, the Fitch House, a two-story adobe with balconies, now incased in wood, and built by Jacob P. Leese, the brother-in-law of Vallejo.

The California Division of Beaches and Parks also administers a number of State Historical Monuments in and near Sonoma; these include the restored Mission San Francisco and the Sonoma Barracks, on the Plaza; General Vallejo's 1851-1890 Gothic Revival Home, "Lachryma Montis," at Third Street, West, on the edge of Sonoma; and 7 miles to the east, the Petaluma Adobe (Casa Grande), the largest adobe structure in California, built 1834-1844 in the Monterey Colonial style, and once the headquarters of General Vallejo's vast ranching operations.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Historic American Building Survey Records.
2. National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings.
3. Saga of Sonoma, Sonoma Valley Historical Society.
4. Unpublished data of Jim Alexander, Sonoma State Historic Park.
5. Chester Lyle Guthrie, 1936 - "California Historical Landmark Series."
6. Charles W. Snell, 1966 - "California Architecture, 1769 - 1916."
7. Philip S. Rush, 1964 - "A History of the Californias."

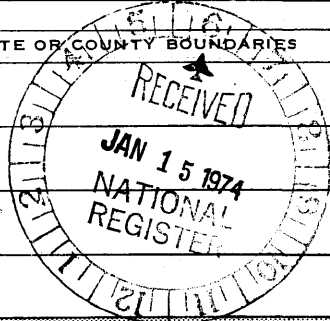
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	38° 17' 52"	122° 27' 32"	°	'	"	
NE	38° 17' 52"	122° 26' 51"	°	'	"	
SE	38° 17' 22"	122° 26' 51"	°	'	"	
SW	38° 17' 22"	122° 27' 32"	°	'	"	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Sonoma	097		
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Robert A. Cox, Historic Architect**  
**Thomas D. Mulhern, Jr., Landmark Program Specialist**

ORGANIZATION: **Western Regional Office, National Park Service**      DATE: **August 1, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER: **450 Golden Gate Avenue (Box 36063)**

CITY OR TOWN: **San Francisco**      STATE: **California**      CODE: **06**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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 National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National       State       Local

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

*A. P. Mortensen*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 1/24/74

ATTEST:

*William S. Smith*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date 1.24.74

7. DESCRIPTION: (Continued)

4) (Toscano) Hotel Annex, West Spain Street. Owned by State of California. Structure is being used as Sonoma Area Headquarters, Department of Parks and Recreation.

A Victorian Italianate, 2 story wood frame building, constructed 1900 to 1910. The structure provided hotel rooms on both floors. The structure is in excellent condition. Nearby is a small wooden two story structure.

Photographs enclosed.

5) Casa Grande; General Vallejo's home (site of). Constructed approximately 1836 - 1840. Spain Street, between Sonoma Barracks and Swiss Hotel, 18 West Spain Street. Destroyed by fire in 1867. Property owned by the State of California and administered as part of Sonoma Historic State Park.

Drawings, 1846 - 1851, indicated a two story adobe building with a second floor balcony running the length of the building facing the plaza. On the west side of the building was a tower. Nothing remains of the structure or tower above ground. The structure was the center of the Sonoma Pueblo administration and social life in its period.

6) Casa Grande Servants Quarters, the long two-story adobe structure, with a covered balcony on its east facing side was erected in 1837 as the servants quarters to General Vallejo's home, Casa Grande. The structure is of Monterey Colonial Style. Property owned by the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, Sonoma Historic State Park. Photographs enclosed.

7) Swiss Hotel, 18 West Spain Street, privately owned.

Constructed by Captain Don Salvador Vallejo about 1843 - 1845, Monterey Colonial Townhouse style. The building was constructed as the Post Commandancia. The exterior of the adobe house is covered with clapboard to protect it from elements. The west wall is out of alignment; typical of adobe structures. The building was remodeled in 1850.

Used originally as a dwelling in 1881, the building became a hotel and restaurant. It is presently used as a restaurant and the structure is in excellent condition.

Recorded, National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings 1960: California Historic Landmark number 496. Photographs enclosed.

8) The Country Inn (Sebastiani Hotel), 110 West Spain Street, corner of First Street West, privately owned.

A Victorian structure, classic revival, originally called Weyl Hall, of wood construction. Originally a theater was located on the second floor of the structure. Purchased by Sebastiani who rebuilt the structure and probably added the yellow stucco finish with white trim. Presently, the structure is used as a hotel and bookstore. Date of construction is uncertain. The hotel keeper thinks that the structure was built about 1896. Photograph enclosed.

9) Jones Adobe: 143 West Spain Street and privately owned.

The building is a small one-story adobe house of the Monterey Colonial style which is little altered on the exterior and is in use as a residence. The building has been restored and is in outstanding condition.

Photograph enclosed.

Buildings, West side of Plaza:

10) El Dorado Hotel: 411-17 First Street West, corner of Spain Street, privately owned.

The building was constructed as a one-story adobe in the 1840's and in 1848-49, it housed a noted hostelry. In the 1860's, the second frame story was added.

The considerably altered building contributes mass to the west side of the plaza and is operated as a restaurant.

Photographs enclosed.

11) Salvador Vallejo Adobe: 417 First Street West. Privately owned. Built by Indian labor, 1843-1845, this structure was an income property of Captain Salvador Vallejo, younger brother of General Mariano G. Vallejo, from 1843 to 1849.

The large rectangular shaped building has adobe walls which are plastered and white washed. Built in the Monterey Colonial style, the adobe's original appearance has been altered by a frame addition added on the south end of the building in 1931. There is a large veranda across the plaza side which is supported by wooden columns. The opposite side, rear, evidentially had a two-story wooden veranda running the length of the house.

The building currently contains private residences on the second floor, gift shops, a real estate office and a small plant nursery centered on the patio. The building is in good condition and possess considerable atmosphere.

The building was recorded in the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings in 1960 and is designated a California Historic Landmark, 501.

Photographs enclosed.

12) Ruggles Building: 437 First Street West, private ownership.

The wood frame structure is of Italianate Victorian design. The building perhaps dating from the 1870's is in good condition and is used as a Boutique and Music Store.

Photograph enclosed.

13) Sonoma Antique Shop: 447 First Street West. Privately owned.

The wood frame structure is of Classic Revival design and is in good condition. Used as an antique shop, the plain building is characteristic of the early 1850 period.

Photograph enclosed.

14) Batto Building and Masonic Temple: 453, 457, 461 and 465 First Street West. Both are privately owned and are in good condition.

The Batto Building is of Classic Revival style and was constructed in 1912. The structure is used for commercial offices.

The Masonic Temple: Of late Victorian design and was constructed in 1909. The brick structure has metal fire shutters.

Photograph enclosed.

15) Leese - Fitch Adobe: 487 West First Street, near the corner of Napa Street, Privately owned.

Built in 1841, by Jacob P. Leese, a brother-in-law of Vallejo, this house is a two-story adobe in the Monterey Colonial style with a wooden balcony across its front. This balcony may have been reduced in width at a later period. Originally the balcony was supported by two-story columns made of ship's masts.

From June 1849 to October 1851, the Pacific Division Headquarters of the War Department, commanded by General Persifer Smith was located in Sonoma in the structure. From July 1851 to January 1852, except for a period of duty in Oregon, Companies "A" and "E", 1st United States Dragoons commanded by Brevet Major Phillip H. Kearny, Jr., was stationed in Sonoma.

Many junior officers, later to achieve fame and advancement, were associated with the adobe during the military period; including Colonel Joseph Hooker, later known as "Fighting Joe" Hooker, Ulysses Grant, Andrew Smith, Lieutenant William T. Sherman, General Gibbs, John C. Fremont, and Kit Carson.

The building is in poor condition and houses an art gallery and tavern on the first floor and small patio, the apartments on the second floor and are not occupied. The structure is in need of rehabilitation.

Photographs enclosed.



## THE SONOMA PLAZA

The eight acre plaza was laid out in 1835 by General Vallejo. In 1850, the City of Sonoma incorporated.

In the early period of Sonoma, the plaza had a number of holes where the adobe soil had been obtained to build the buildings around the plaza. The plaza has had several different fences around it with stiles for access. On October 13, 1851, General Vallejo presented a petition to the City Council urging the leveling of the plaza. In 1853, a tax passed to improve the plaza with \$1,500. appropriated for improvements.

In 1879, the Sonoma Valley Railroad Company was granted part of the plaza and in 1880, erected a building. In 1890, the building was removed. The plaza is now a City park.

16) Sonoma City Hall: Number 1, the Plaza.

The corner stone for the building, located in the center of the plaza, was laid on February 22, 1906. On December 9, 1908, the building was dedicated and is still in use.

The building is of Early Mission Revival design and is in good condition.

Photographs enclosed.

17) Bear Flag Flagstaff and Monument: Located in the northeast corner of Sonoma Plaza.

A photograph of a drawing (1851), recorded in the Historic American Building Survey, CAL-1436, of the northeast corner of the plaza shows the flagstaff with Casa Grande, the Mexican Barracks, and the Solano Mission behind the flagstaff.

The Bear Flag was raised on this spot on June 14, 1846, by the Bear Flag Party in their declaration of the freedom of California from Mexican rule. On July 9, 1846, the Bear Flag was hauled down and the American Flag was raised by Lieutenant Joseph W. Revere, U.S.N.

In 1913, the California State Legislature authorized \$500,00 for a monument to commemorate the raising of the Bear Flag.

The bronze statue commemorates the raising in 1846 of the flag which is now the California State Flag. The bronze plaque on the monument reads, "erected by the Native Sons of the Golden West and the State of California," and commemorated are the events of June 14, 1846 and July 9, 1846.

The monument consists of a sculptured figure of a Bear Flag Soldier with flag. The huge rock which forms the mass of the monument, originally stood at the northern end of First Street West and was moved to the site. The monument is California Historic Landmark, number 7.

Photograph encbsed



## SOUTH SIDE OF PLAZA

18) Vasquez House ( Salt Box): 541 First Street, West, private residence.

In 1851, Charles Lubeck, a Swedish sea captain imported 40 pre-fab wooden houses to California, six of which were erected in Sonoma.

This house is undoubtedly one of the imported houses and has retained its original appearance. The house is typical of many of the pre-fabs imported to California in the 1848 to 1851 period. In fair to good condition, the house is owned by Mr. Robert Lynch of Sonoma.

Photograph enclosed.

Napa Street, between First Street West and Broadway, South Side:

Two modern bank buildings of Spanish-Mexican design influence flank a smaller stone structure used as a grocery store. The structures provide a visual continuity to the respective south side of the Plaza.

Photograph enclosed.

Napa Street, between Broadway and First Street, East, south side:

Several stone structures with altered front exteriors facing the plaza along with more modern structures occupying this commercial area. The buildings, circa 1890 to 1930, contribute to the visual continuity of Sonoma Plaza.

Photograph enclosed.

Broadway: east side, south of Napa Street, numbers 524, 526, 530, 536 Broadway.

Several wood frame, Italianate Victorian structures are located facing Broadway. Condition of the structures vary from excellent (restored) to fair.

Photograph enclosed.

19) Nash-Patton Adobe, (Zolita Bates Adobe, Green House): 579 First Street East, privately owned. Monterey Colonial style.

Constructed in 1847, by William W. Scott, a member of the Bear Flag Party. There was a suit between Scott and Judge H. A. Green as to the ownership of the property. Scott won the suit, however, Green is described as the owner in 1847.

John H. Nash, who boarded with the Green's, was the first American Alcalde of the pueblo. In July 1847, Lieutenant William Techumseh Sherman, later General Sherman, acting on the orders of the Military Governor of California, Colonel Mason, took prisoner Alcalde Nash. Nash had refused to relinquish his post as Alcalde to Liburn W. Boggs, appointed in 1847. Nash was taken to Monterey, reprimanded and released from custody by the Military Governor.

Nash returned to Sonoma. Attracted to the gold mines, he died at Mormon Bar in 1848.

In 1851, Judge Green died and the property was sold to the Patton family. Their daughter, Nancy Bones, came to California in 1847 with the Donner Party. Nancy Bones had lost her husband in the tragedy and later married Lewis Adler, a Sonoma merchant. A descendent of this marriage, Zolita Bates, restored the house in 1931.

The original structure consisted of four rooms; two upstairs and two downstairs and a lean-to of three small rooms at the rear. The foundation walls are of large cobble stones and the adobe walls are some three feet in thickness. The partitions are of adobe, some two feet in thickness. Each room has an outside door. The timbers and beams are hand hewn redwood. The rectangular shaped adobe follows the traditional Spanish-Mexican plan, but includes some American features. These consist of an interior fireplace, shingled room, and a one-story covered porch across the front. The house is in good condition.

The adobe was identified in the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings in 1960 and is California Historical Landmark, number 667.

Photograph enclosed.

20) Julius Poppe House, (Mode residence): 564 First Street, East, privately owned.

In 1847, Nicholas Carriger, from Kentucky, constructed Sonoma's first redwood house and Sonoma's first well on this site. The redwood structure was in the 1850's incorporated into the present structure of gothic revival style. The Julius Poppe family came to Sonoma from Germany in the 1850's.

The present structure has been restored and is an excellent example of California Carpenters Gothic.

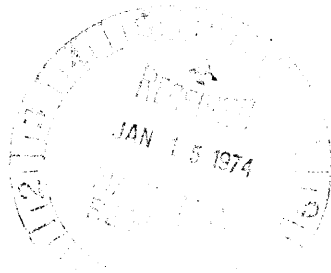
Photograph enclosed.

21) Baptist Church, (Ames Chapel), First Street East, east side, approximately 100 feet south of Napa Street.

Constructed in the early 1850's and originally known as the Ames Chapel, it was located on Napa Street, between 5th and 6th Streets. Ames Chapel is listed as the first Protestant church built north of San Francisco.

In 1868, the church was moved to its present site and the Christopher Wren style steeple added. In 1950, the structure was sold to the Baptist church.

Photograph enclosed.



Napa Street, south side, east from First Street East:

Several stone structures; 110 to 115 Napa Street, constructed in 1908 and 125 to 129 Napa Street, constructed in 1904, face north onto Napa Street. These buildings are structurally intact and are used for commercial purposes.

Located at 139 Napa Street is a wood frame late Victorian style house in use as a private residence. The highly ornate house is in fair to good condition.

Photographs enclosed.

22) Clewe Residence: 531 Second Street East.

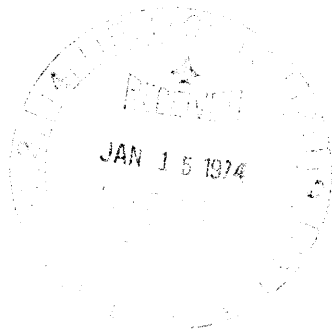
Constructed in 1880 - 1881, the Italianate style house was the home of Sonoma merchant Johann Frederick Clewe. Mr. Clewe died in 1902 and Mrs. Clewe in 1917. Owned by Colonel Walter Gerdau, the house is in outstanding condition.

Photograph enclosed.

23) Duhring Residence (Denny): 532 Second Street East

Constructed by 1860 by Frederick Duhring, the structure was originally a modest two-story frame building. Later, a Duhring daughter, Agens, married Judge Thomas Denny and lived in the house; who probably in the early 1920's added to the house and modified it to colonial-revival style. In 1960, on Judge Denny's death, the house was sold to Albert Domerigue, the present owners.

Photograph enclosed.



EAST SIDE OF SONOMA PLAZA

24) Italinate Commercial Building, Napa Street north side, 70 feet east of First Street East. Privately owned.

The unoccupied wooden commercial building is typical of 1870's style and in poor condition. The unaltered building could be restored.

Photograph enclosed.

25) Mission Hardwaré, 498 First Street East, corner of Napa Street, privately owned.

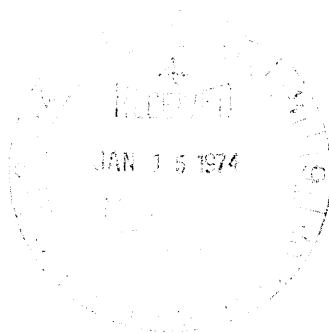
Constructed in 1892, the brick Victorian store is of mixed Classic Revival style. The building is in fair to good condition and is used as a hardware store. Building identified as 24 above is located on the same property.

Photograph enclosed.

First Street East, between Napa and Spain Streets:

Several store buildings, circa 1900 - 1910, are located in this block facing the Plaza along with more modern structures. The buildings provide visual continuity to the east side of Sonoma Plaza.

Photographs enclosed.



## EAST SPAIN STREET

26) Blue Wing Inn: Located at 133-135 East Spain Street, the building is owned by the State of California.

Assuming its present form in 1849, the Blue Wing Inn is an excellent example of the application of the Monterey Colonial style to commercial structures. The building was erected by Antonio Ortega as a typical one-story adobe, measuring 65 by 35 feet, in 1835 - 36. In 1849, James C. Cooper and Thomas Spriggs purchased the building and added 30 feet to the length of the building, the adobe second story, and also the narrow two-story wooden verandas on the front and rear. In October of that year, they opened the enlarged structure as the Sonoma Inn. About 1851, it was renamed the Blue Wing Inn and was utilized as a hotel until about 1856, when it became a residence and saloon. The house was restored in 1948 and is now used as a gift shop and apartments.

Photographs enclosed.

27) Sonoma Mission (Mission San Francisco Solano de Sonoma): Located at 114 East Spain Street at East First Street, owned by the State of California, and administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation.

The Mission was founded on July 4, 1823 by Frair Jose Altimira and on August 25, 1823, actual work began on temporary buildings.

This mission is the last of the 21 California missions and the only one to be founded during the Mexican period. A crude wood structure, 105 ft long, 34 ft. wide, was dedicated April 4, 1824. In 1824, a granary, eight houses, all of wood, existed. Near the end of 1824, three adobe buildings were ready for roofing when heavy rains melted them into mud. It was secularized in 1834 and its buildings were in poor condition. The adobe mission church was destroyed.

The present ~~parrish~~ church is a small one-and-a-half story adobe structure with a tile roof and is 16 ft. wide and 36 ft. long. The facade has a rectangular door with a single square-headed window above. The front wall is built of adobe, faced with burnt brick, and is about six feet thick. The lateral walls, which are pierced by three rectangular windows on each side, are of plain adobe. A vestibule about 15 feet square precedes the nave proper, and from the entry steps lead to a choir loft over the door. A one-story tile-roofed adobe convento or residence for the priest, which is nearly 120 feet long, adjoins the chapel on the east side to give the two buildings an L-shaped ground plan.

In 1881, these buildings were sold and utilized as a hay barn, winery, and blacksmith shop. The property was donated to the State of California in 1903 and restored by the State in 1911-13. The buildings are open to visitors.

The Historic American Buildings Survey recorded the building in 1934, CAL-1138. The National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings recorded the site in 1958 under the Themes: Spanish Exploration and Settlement, War with Mexico, Architecture (colonial). The mission is also recognized as California Historic Landmark, number 3.

Spain Street, between First Street East and Second Street East:

Historical records and drawings indicate that in the area both on the north and south side of the street (east of the mission and also east of the Blue Wing Inn), several structures were located in the area during the Mexican period.

The inclusion of this area, between the existing historic structures on the west and east is essential to protect the historic setting of the mission and Blue Wing Inn and also to protect sites which may provide information and artifacts through historic archeology.

28) Ray-Adler Adobe, (Rays Hotel): 205 East Spain Street, privately owned residence.

The house was built by John C. Ray, an American Settler. In 1848 the first section of wood was erected and in November 1851, the original section was incorporated with the more recent adobe half of the residence at a cost of \$4,000.

The two-story structure has a hipped roof and a borad veranda around all four sides. The front section of the adobe has 22 inch thick walls and the rear section of the structure is of redwood.

The adobe section, added in 1851, was evidentially added for rental purposes and the building was called Ray's Hotel. The dirt for the adobe came from across the street.

In 1851, Lewis Adler purchased the structure and it continued under the name Ray's Hotel. On Adler's death, the property went to his wife and on her death, it went to Amelia Adler Bates, who sold it in 1902.

The structure is well preserved and apparently little altered. It is now used as a private residence.

In 1851, the house was used as the Officers' Mess for Colonel Stevenson's detachment; the New York Volunteers, the 160th Regiment.

On May 6, 1851, Masonic Temple Lodge number 14, received its charter. A Masonic meeting hall was established in the upstairs of the Ray House. Colonel Stevenson was the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge in California.

Members of Lodge 14, meeting in the structure, included Stevenson, Johnston, Hooker, Sheridan, Grant, Brackett and Sherman; most junior officers at the time and later to gain fame in the Civil War.

Later, Heinrich Schlieimann, often called the Father of Archeology, lived in the house while courting Adler's sister. Schlieimann is known for his discovery of ancient Troy.

The Historic American Building Survey recorded the house in 1934, CAL 1439.

Photographs enclosed.

29) Dr. Taylor House: 245 East Spain Street, Lot 37 Sonoma, circa 1852-1857, a private residence.

This structure greatly resembles the enclosed adobes of 1847-1851 period. However, it has always been of frame construction.

The house, of Monterey Colonial Style, has a long front porch and has wide horizontal redwood siding with butt joints on the front of the house which is original. Redwood stumps were utilized as a foundation for the front porch which were replaced in recent years. The house has been restored with a garage and a rear wing added about 20 years ago.

The property was part of the original grant to Don Marieno G. Vallejo. The property has also been owned by Lilburn W. Boggs, the American Alcalde of the District of Sonoma, Territory of California, who sold the property to John G. Ray on January 11, 1848. Exactly when the house was constructed is not certain.

The earliest occupant was named Cook (or possibly Cooke) who sold the house in 1861 to a wagon maker named Hope.

A Martin E. Cooke, came to Sonoma in 1852 as General Vallejo's attorney. In 1856, he purchased the Blue Wing Inn and later served as State Senator.

In the 1940's a Fred Jenner owned the house and sold it to Dr. Taylor in the 1950's, who restored the house. The house is in excellent condition.

Photograph enclosed.

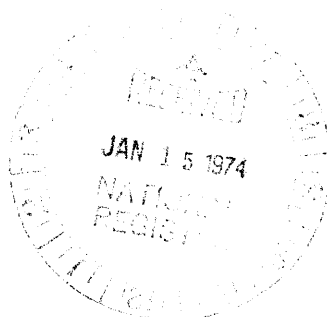
30) Castagnasso House: 256 East Spain Street, a private residence.

In 1850, Lewis Alder moved into the new frame building which was known as Meyer and Alder's Store. The building was located on East Spain Street across from the Blue Wing Inn.

In 1856, it was purchased by another merchant and moved to the southwest corner of First Street East and Napa Street.

The building was later purchased and moved to 256 East Spain Street for use as a residence. Later, probably in the 1880's a second story was added.

Photograph enclosed.



6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (Attachment)

6. a. Historic American Building survey

Depository: Photoduplication Service  
Library of Congress  
Washington, D. C. 20540

b.-c. 1) National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings,  
1958 + 1967

2) Sonoma Plaza National Historic Landmark

Depository:

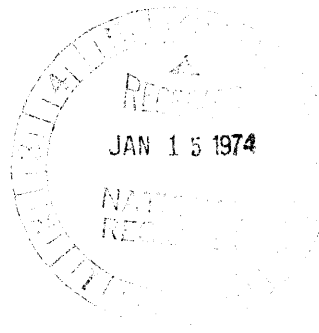
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
National Park Service  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C. 20240

d.-e. 1) California Historical Landmarks

2) Sonoma State Historic Park

Depository:

Department of Parks and Recreation  
1416 - 9th Street, Room 1311  
Sacramento, California 95814





Structures Discussed in Text

1. Sonoma Barracks
2. Toscano Hotel
3. Kitchen (Toscano Hotel)
4. Hotel Annex (Toscano)
5. Casa Grande (Site)
6. Casa Grande Servants Quarters
7. Swiss Hotel
8. The Country Inn
9. Jones Adobe
10. El Dorado Hotel
11. Salvador Vallejo Adobe
12. Ruggles Building
13. Sonoma Antique Shop
14. Batto Bld. and Masonic Temple
15. Leese - Fitch Adobe
16. Sonoma City Hall
17. Bear Flat Flatstaff & Monument
18. Vasquez House
19. Nash - Patton Adobe
20. Jules Poppe House
21. Baptist Church
22. Clewe Residence
23. Frederick Duhring Residence
24. Italinante Commercial Building
25. Mission Hardware
26. Blue Wing Inn
27. Sonoma Mission
28. Ray - Adler Adobe
29. Dr. Taylor House
30. Castagnasso House

