

# ARIZONA STATE HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY

APR 21 1980

<b>PROPERTY NAME</b> Balsz House	
<b>LOCATION</b> 475 Second Avenue	
<b>CITY/TOWN/VICINITY</b> Yuma	<b>COUNTY</b> Yuma
<b>OWNER</b> John Chapin	
<b>OWNER'S ADDRESS</b> 2855 4th Avenue Yuma, AZ 85364	
<b>FORM COMPLETED BY</b> Yuma County Historical Society	
<b>ADDRESS</b> 240 Madison Avenue Yuma, AZ 85364	
<b>PHOTO BY</b> P. Callahan	<b>DATE</b> 8/79
<b>VIEW</b> Front elevation from northwest	
<b>PRESENT USE</b> Residence/single family	<b>ACREAGE</b> less/acre
<b>STYLE OR CULTURAL PERIOD</b> Late 19th Century Adobe Cottage	
<b>SIGNIFICANT DATES</b> Constructed 1899	

Yu126



**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

The Balsz House is a one story adobe and frame structure of irregular plan and asymmetrical massing. The original roof consists of intersecting gabled elements. The gable wall facing the street contains a rectangular ventilator and a casement door. Another door is located in the recessed facade adjoining the gable wall. All doors and windows are discrete; they tend to be tall and narrow in proportion. Exterior wall surfaces are plastered; roof planes are shingled. A flat roofed addition was made to the rear of the house during the 1920s. The building appears to be sound and its original integrity is recoverable.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Built in 1899 by Harry Neahr, the residence at 475 Second Avenue is a well preserved example of middle class housing in Yuma at the turn of the century. It is also significant architecturally as one of the few remaining 19th century adobes still standing in the community. The asymmetrical massing is unusual for adobe construction in Yuma. In 1919 the property was acquired by Luz Balsz and given to her son David M. Balsz. David and his brother operated a meat market; their sister married E. F. Sanguinetti. The house remained in the Balsz family until 1976.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Block 116; Lot 8, Yuma Townsite