

PH0065552

STATE: California	
COUNTY: San Bernardino	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
APR 24 1973	

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME	
COMMON: John Rains House	
AND/OR HISTORIC: Rancho Cucamonga	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 7869 Vineyard Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Cucamonga			
STATE California 91730	CODE 06	COUNTY San Bernardino	CODE 071



3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	OWNERSHIP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	STATUS <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Vacant residence</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: San Bernardino County			
STREET AND NUMBER: County Civic Building, 2nd Floor, 157 West Fifth Street			
CITY OR TOWN: San Bernardino	STATE: California 92401	CODE 06	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: San Bernardino County Hall of Records			
STREET AND NUMBER: 172 West Third Street			
CITY OR TOWN: San Bernardino	STATE: California 92401	CODE 06	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: State Historic Site Register			
DATE OF SURVEY: July 1970 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Historical Resources Section, Department of Parks and Recreation			
STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box 2390			
CITY OR TOWN: Sacramento	STATE: California 95811	CODE 06	

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

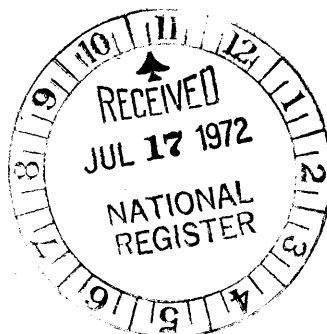
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The old house was a remarkably well-planned and comfortable residence, even being equipped with an early cooling device consisting of a system of ducts under the floor through which flowed cool water from a nearby creek. An unpublished history, written probably in the 1890's by an unnamed author, describes the old house.

"The old Tapia residence on the hill was abandoned and a new one built at the highest point of the east bank of the Arroyo, north of the vineyard. Labor and expense was not spared in its construction. The usual style of architecture was followed; two large east and west wings to the main south frontage, having a spacious patio in the center. The walls were built of heavy brick made of the red clay dug from the hills and roofed with thatches covered with brea mixed with tallow. The brea for this purpose was obtained at great expense, from the La Brea Rancho, southwest of Los Angeles, and transported the entire distance of about 50 miles in crude two-wheeled carts, by oxen driver Andrew A. Rubio, then a young lad. The Rains home was a center of social life and, attracted by the hospitality of its master, the beauty of its mistress, the sparkling wines and the festivities, there frequently gathered the representative wealthy and elite of the south."

The house is still surrounded by a number of fine old trees and shrubs, dating back to the days of John Rains, and by a small orange grove. It had been repaired and maintained, given a new roof and somewhat re-modeled, by subsequent owners who lived in it, until its recent sale. Since then the place has stood empty, and without protection, has been the target of vandals. The Rains house has been acquired by San Bernardino County, and procedures are under way for its protection and preservation.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



5. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1860-1861 (construction dates of house)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A prehistoric Indian settlement, the site of the Rains house at Cucamonga has been well known to Spaniards, Mexicans, and Americans since Anza camped there in 1774. He called it Arroyo de los Osos, and it is still known as Bear Gulch.

Cucamonga was a stop on the ancient Mojave Indian trail from the Colorado River to the coast, and on the old Spanish Trail from Santa Fe to Los Angeles. In 1853, when the Mormons broke out a direct road from Los Angeles to San Bernardino, it branched from the Cajon Pass road at Cucamonga. This San Bernardino road was continued east through San Timoteo Canyon, and thence through either San Gorgonio Pass or Warners to the Colorado River. Cucamonga was not only a stopping place, but also an important road junction, through the 1880's, for routes through the two main gateways to southern California.

The site was noted or described in the Spanish accounts of Anza, Font, Garces, Nuez, and Zalvidea, and by most of the American explorers and travelers in the area -- Whipple and Blake of the railroad survey, Heap of the Beale expedition, a number of 49ers, W. H. Jackson, Dr. Elliott Coues tracing the Garces route in 1865, and Judge Benjamin Hayes of Los Angeles, as well as young Herman Mellen on his way to help build the Silver King mill at Calico. Thus Spanish explorers and messengers, missionaries looking for likely locations for inland missions, Santa Fe traders with their pack trains, American trappers, Indian horse-thieves and the authorities sent to punish them, New Mexican and American immigrants, U.S. government railroad and wagon route surveyors, gold seekers, workers and wagon freighters bound for the desert mines, recruits for the desert forts, and local travelers between southern California ranchos and communities, all knew the Cucamonga site.

In mission days there was an Indian rancheria at Cucamonga. Soon the San Gabriel Fathers, expanding their influence and their range, established a cattle ranch there.

In 1839 Rancho Cucamonga was granted to Tiburcio Tapia, who built an adobe house near the top of Red Hill. His mayordomo was Jose Maria Valdez. At his death from accidental poisoning in 1845, his daughter inherited the rancho, and it was managed by her husband, Victor Prudhomme. A legend has it that Sr. Tapia buried a treasure under a tree somewhere near the adobe, and diggers through the years have assisted the disintegration of the adobe, so that no sign of it remains.

(Continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bancroft, Hubert Howe - Register of Pioneer Inhabitants of California 1542-1849.

Beattie, George William and Helen Pruitt
Heritage of the Valley.

Ingersoll - Century Annals of San Bernardino County.

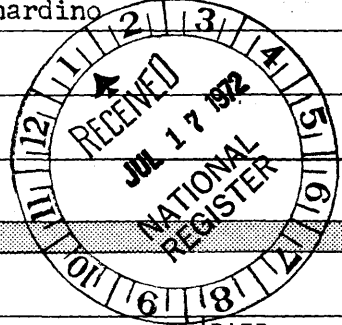
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	°	'	"	°	'	"	34°	06'	42"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	117°	36'	41"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
California		San Bernardino	
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Dr. Gerald A. Smith, Director

ORGANIZATION: San Bernardino County Museum & Historic Sites

DATE: June 2, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
18860 Orange Street

CITY OR TOWN: Bloomington

STATE: California 92316

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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: [Signature]

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: JUN 29 1972

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

[Signature]
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/24/73

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Keeper of the National Register

Date: 4/16/73

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(Continuation Sheet)

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8. Statement of Significance
John Rains House

Tapia had planted a small vineyard, but Rains developed a large new one, and erected the first commercial winery in California, which survives as State Historical Landmark #490.

In 1860 Rains also began building a new brick house, at the east foot of the hill, and across the creek from the Tapia adobe. It is believed to be the oldest fired-brick residence still standing in San Bernardino County. The next year the Rains family moved into the new house. During the Civil War, a large amount of supplies for the army was raised on Rancho Cucamonga, and sold at a reasonable price, although Rains' sympathies were with the South. But after some unfortunate business ventures, Rains had to mortgage the property.

While traveling from Cucamonga to Los Angeles in November 1862, John Rains was murdered. The case was never solved. The life of Mrs. Rains, believed by some to be implicated in it, was threatened. Ramon Carrillo, advisor to Mrs. Rains, and overseer of the rancho, was also waylaid near Rubottom's station and murdered in April 1864. Two months later, Mrs. Rains married his brother, Jose Carrillo.

Reduced to desperate financial straits, Maria Merced Williams de Rains-Carrillo, the proud, spoiled, and once wealthy granddaughter of Don Antonio Mario Lugo, continued to fill the old house with the gay social life to which she had been accustomed, though sometimes she was forced to depend for subsistence on small "loans" from neighbors and friends, such as her tenant, William Rubottom, who ran the Cucamonga stage station nearby. Little by little, parts of the rancho were foreclosed or sold, until finally, in the 1870's, it was entirely lost to her and she moved away. The land was then subdivided.



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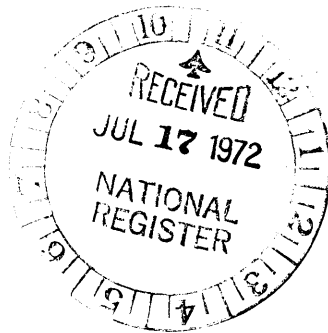
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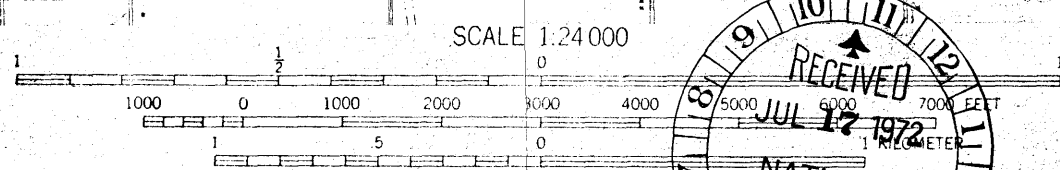
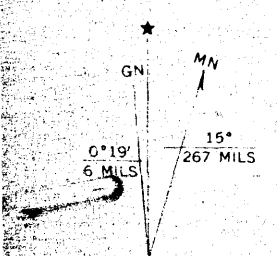
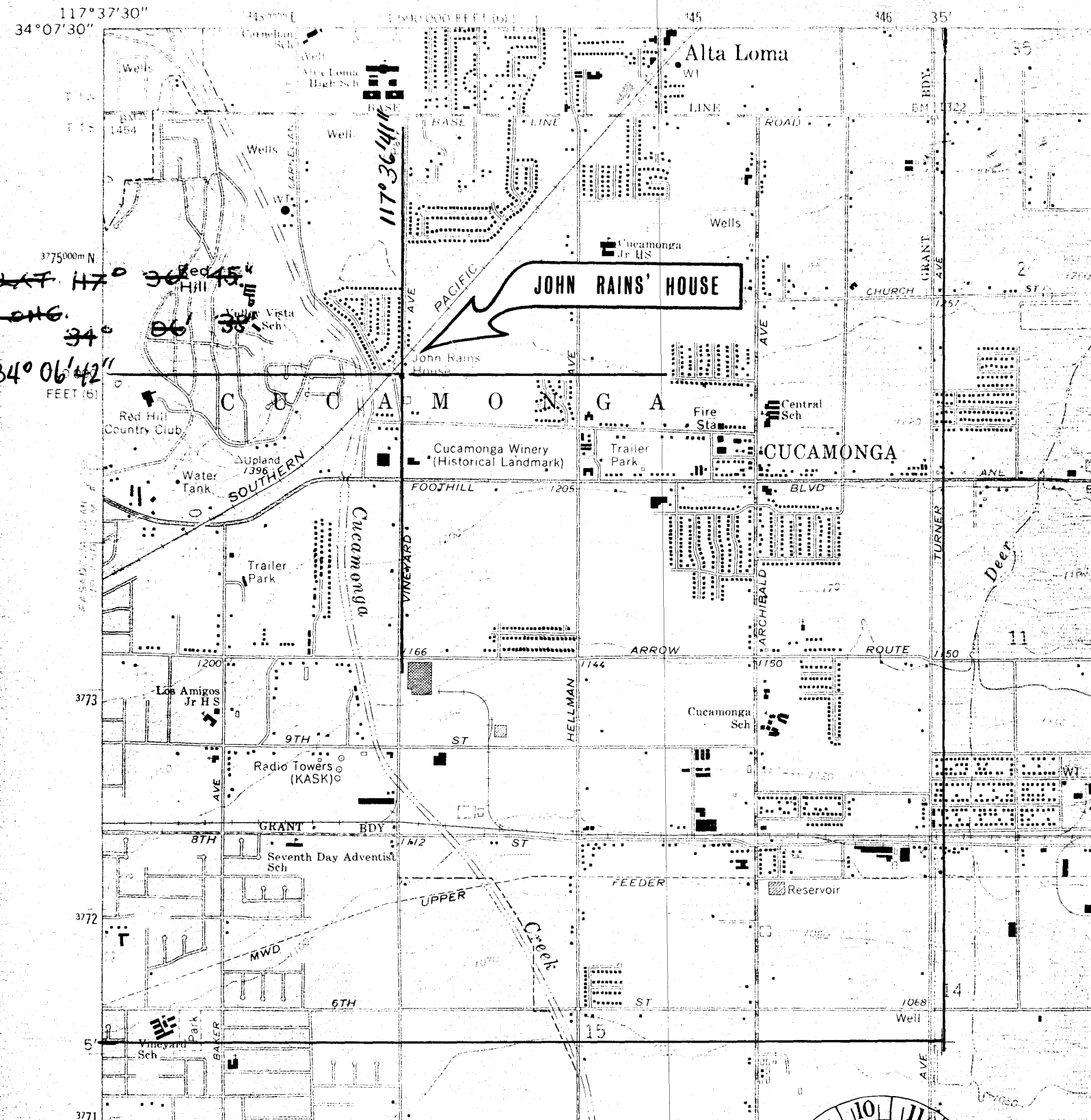
In 1859 John Rains, son-in-law of Isaac Williams, sold his wife's interest in the Chino Rancho, and bought the Cucamonga Rancho from the Prudhommes. Immediately he set about improving the place.



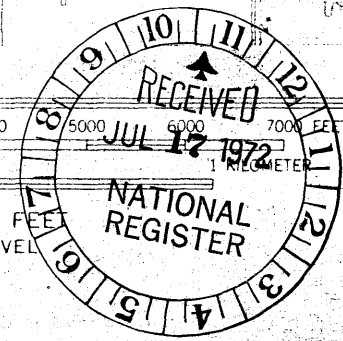
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

QUASTI QUADRANGLE
CALIFORNIA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SE/4 ONTARIO 15' QUADRANGLE

2053 (NW)
(MT. BALDY)



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



TM GRID AND 1966 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET