

**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 John J. Snyder House

and/or common Snyder House

2. Location

street & number 247 W. St. Charles Street N/A not for publication

city, town San Andreas N/A vicinity of congressional district 18th

state California code 06 county Calaveras code 009

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name James L. and Robin Brooks

street & number 247 W. St. Charles Street (P.O. Box 1408)

city, town San Andreas N/A vicinity of state California 95149

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calaveras County Recorder

street & number Government Center

city, town San Andreas state California

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title San Andreas Historic Site Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date June, 1983 federal state county local

depository for survey records State Office of Historic Preservation, P.O. Box 2390

city, town Sacramento state California 95811

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The John Snyder House is a large Queen Anne residence with a complex mix of architectural elements. It is centrally located on a large lot on a north-facing slope, surrounded by fruit, nut, locust, and oak trees in a broad expanse of meadow grass. The house is 1-1/2 stories high with a central front entrance. The exterior of the house is composed of gables, gablets, porches, polygonal windows, turned posts, brackets, friezes, spindles, channeled siding with patterned shingle courses, and a gable section filled with cement and colored stones and glass. The house remained in the same family from its construction in 1895 until 1975 and has retained its original appearance.

Recent alterations are minor and the current owner, while adding rooms to the basement and attic floors, plans to retain the original exterior appearance of the house.

The home has an L-shaped gable roof with smaller gables to the front and east sides. The facade of the house is dominated by a central gablet with a subordinate gable over a slanted bay containing a circular window with a patterned inset above a diamond patterned carved panel, an entrance porch on the western side with turned posts, brackets, and a course of turned spindles in the porch frieze. The front gable is decorated with a fan-shaped sunburst; indented beneath this is a fan-shaped louvre in a section plastered with a pebble dash infill of stones and colored glass. The central front door is reached by a stairway from ground level. The door is of the period, but not original to the house.

The east gable is centrally located over a slanted bay with arched window with a fanlight-divided upper section. The gable ends are decorated with octagonal patterned shingles. To the rear of the east wall is a small indented porch with turned and bracketed posts and porch frieze and with steps leading to the ground level. The siding is narrow and channeled and has a band course of patterned shingles running beneath the windows. There is a flared eave beneath the gables which is covered with octagonal shingles and which surrounds the house. To the west rear is another small indented kitchen porch with chamfered posts, square spindles, frieze, and brackets. The basement story is covered with channeled siding and is pierced with rectangular louvres. There are two brick chimneys in the house. The doors are five-panel Eastlake in design; the kitchen and dining room exterior doors have glass panes above. The windows, except for the two major windows in the slanted bays, are of single-pane sash. Those on the west side are paired. The rear and side gables are pierced with nine-paned square windows with fan-shaped louvres on either side. The original foundation is of schist.

The original interior floor plan consists of six rooms on one floor. On the east side is a double parlor with sliding doors, which in turn are connected with the dining room by double doors. Behind these rooms were the kitchen and pantry. Small porches are reached by both the dining room and kitchen doors. The front door enters into a central hallway with doors into the two parlors and the front bedroom. Along the west side of the house are located three bedrooms and one bathroom, the bathroom and the one bedroom open into the rear parlor, the back bedroom into the dining room. The only change which the current owner plans to make is to block the door from the front bedroom into the hallway, making it into a sitting room. The interior window and door casings are of redwood with corner blocks. There is wainscoting in the dining room which is made up of a series of rectangular panels.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1895 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The major significance of the John J. Snyder Home lies in the area of architecture. Although not a large house by urban standards, during its construction in 1895, the local newspaper referred to it as a "mansion" and one of the "finest residences in the mountains". It is one of the largest and finest Queen Anne houses in Calaveras County and has many architectural elements, (i.e., patterned shingle courses, spindles, brackets, carved panels, and a pebble-dash section filled with cement, stones, and glass) which are unusual to the area. In addition, it was built for John Snyder, District Attorney of Calaveras County from 1893-1899, and a member of two pioneer families of Murphys.

The architect of the house is unknown at this time, but the house was painted by Roberts and McAdams, two local housepainters, so it is assumed that it was built by a local builder, possibly with plans from a pattern book. It remained in the Snyder family until 10 years ago and was virtually unchanged until quite recently when the kitchen was remodeled, the floor carpeted, and sheet rock was installed to replace cracked plaster. The current owner is adding rooms to the basement and attic, but plans to restore it as much as possible to its original appearance on the exterior.

John J. Snyder was the son of Peter Snyder and Anna Barbara Hauselt, both early settlers of Murphys in Calaveras County. John Snyder attended local schools and first practiced law in 1891. He was elected to the post of District Attorney in 1893, a position he held until his death. In December of 1895, Snyder married Elizabeth O'Connell, and built the house for her. He didn't live long to enjoy his magnificent new home however, for he died in January of 1899 of typhoid fever. The property passed to Elizabeth and their young daughter, Rowena. The 1900 census lists Mrs. Snyder as a boarding house keeper, and it is known that she rented rooms in the house. She lived in the house with her sister, Mayme O'Connell until ill health forced a move to Washington in 1938. She died in 1955, but the estate wasn't settled until 1975. Thus, the house remained in its original condition until quite recently. The house was used as a rental during that time, and although empty in recent years, remained in its original condition until quite recently. The present renovation is being carried out in conformance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Calaveras Prospect, 1895, 1899
County Assessments and Deeds
Peter Snyder, oral interview, 1980
Mary Ann Snyder Strohan, ms, 1981
Rowena Snyder, oral interview, 1983

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approximately 1.17 acres

Quadrangle name San Andreas

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	0	7	0	2	7	2	0	4	2	3	0	0	4	5
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 11, block 14, Assessor's Parcel Map Book 42, page 009. Originally a portion of lots 14 and 15, block 14 on the Townsite Survey Map of 1872. Boundaries shown on attached parcel map encompass the historic building and its grounds.

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

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Judith Cunningham, Director

organization Calaveras County Museum and Archives date October, 1983

street & number Government Center telephone (209) 754-4203

city or town San Andreas state California 95249

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 Maurice Mitchell-Wilson

title Deputy SHPO

date 6/26/84

For HCERS use only

I hereby certify that

[Signature]
Keeper of the National

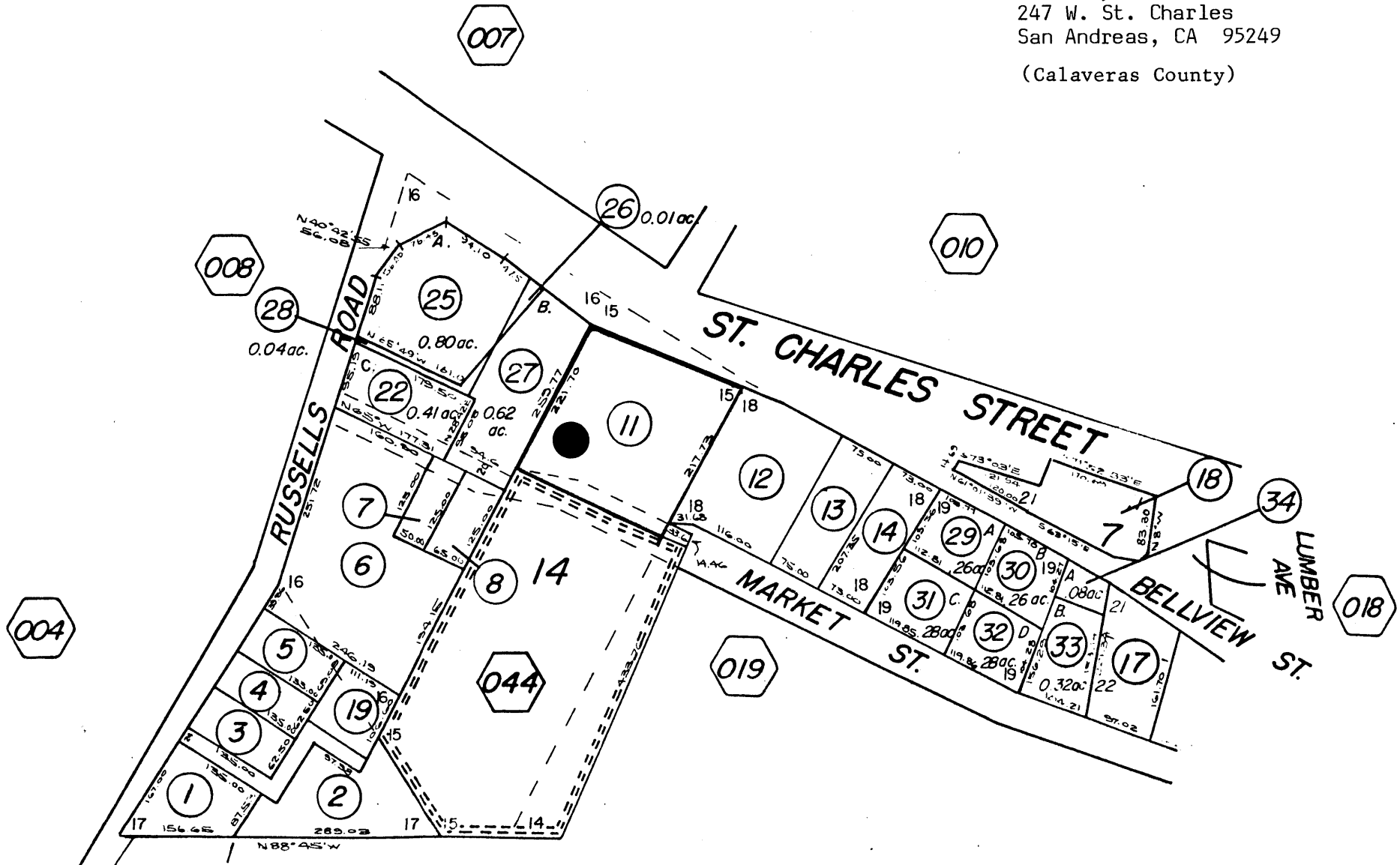
Attest:

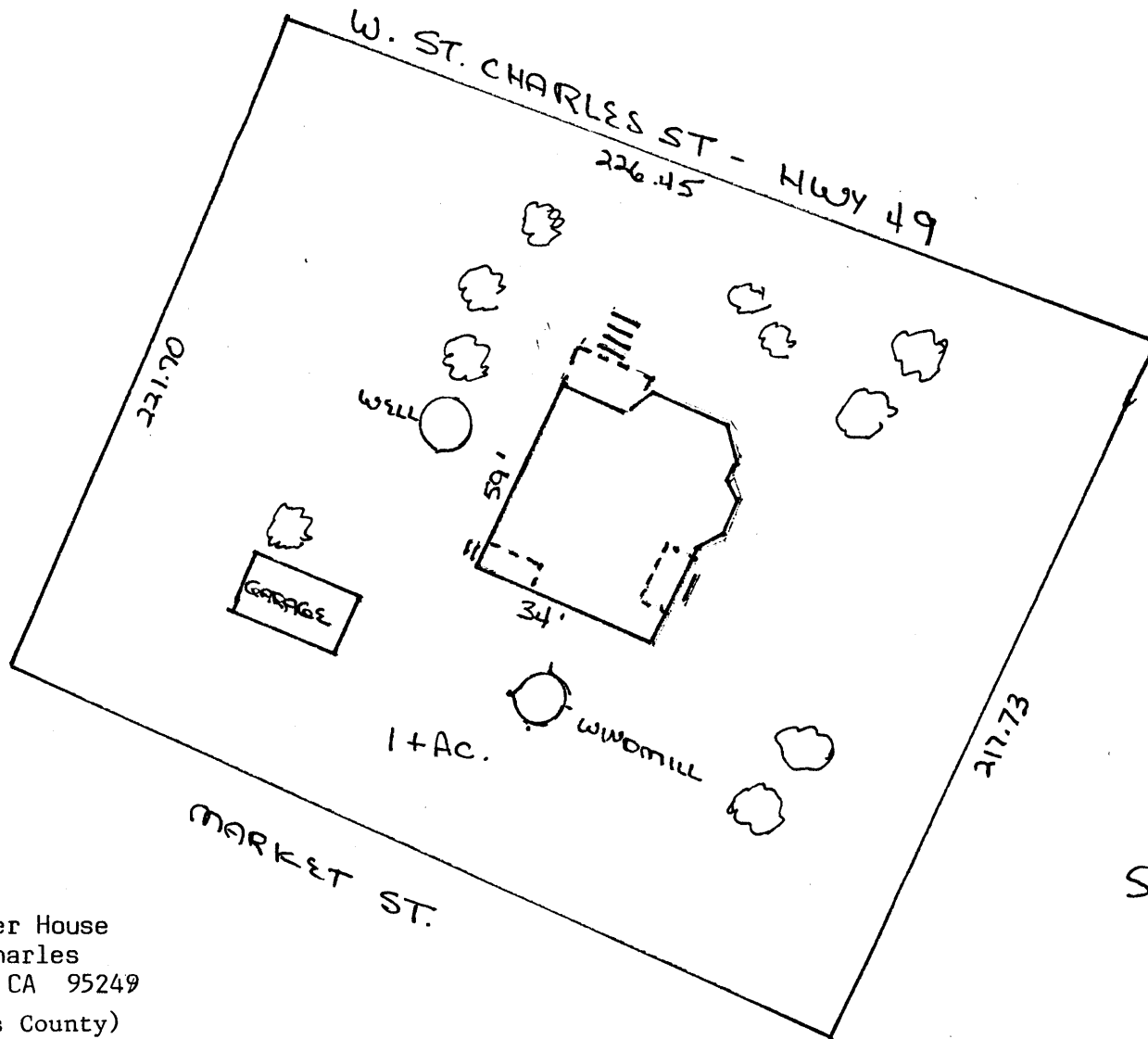
Chief of

SAN ANDREAS TWST
 POR. BLKS. 7 & 14

TAX AREA COL

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