

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

For HCRS use only
received MAY 27 1982
date entered

**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 Santa Clara Verein

and/or common Handicapped War Crafts and Salvage Shops

2. Location

street & number 1082 Alviso Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Santa Clara

N/A vicinity of

congressional district 12th

state California

code 06

county Santa Clara

code 085

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Handicapped War Crafts and Salvage Shops

street & number 1082 Alviso Street

city, town Santa Clara

N/A vicinity of

state California

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Santa Clara County Recorder's Office

street & number 70 West Hedding Street

city, town San Jose

state California

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Santa Clara County Heritage
Resource Inventory

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1975 and Revised 1979

federal state county local

depository for survey records Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Commission; Library of Congress

city, town San Jose

state California

①

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Trustees of the Santa Clara Verein¹ purchased one lot on Alviso Street on March 27, 1872 (Book 25, page 14), and another in October 1880. The decorated hall was completed by 1881. (Book 55, page 520.)

The structure measures 60'-2" x 62'-2 3/4". With six bays, this one-and-one-half storied building is nearly square in plan and has novelty siding. The foundation is sheathed with flush siding and has a beveled water table above it. The foundation is composed of wood posts which sit on mud sills, supporting a joist and beam system that supports the first floor. The building is an example of balloon frame construction. The main entrance door at the left of the street elevation is reached by three wooden stairs flanked by pipe handrailing. The corrugated metal addition in the back (west), has a recessed porch. Both the north and the south elevations have shacks and open sheds built in a lean-to fashion against the building. All of these sheds and shacks are not architectural appendages of the original building, but are clumsy expedient structures built with salvaged materials and deserve no architectural comment.

There is a brick chimney supported on a wooden shelf at the south elevation as well as a brick chimney at the ridge of the southern-most gable roof. Metal ventilators rise from the peaks of both gable roofs and they are cylindrical and have conical and circular metal caps on them. There are three ventilators on the northern gable and two ventilators on the southern gable.

Both sets of paired doors in the street elevation have architrave trim with a fine cornice of cyma reversa molding. Over each door is a transom with two lights. Both sets of double doors have two recessed panels and may be modern. The double door on the right side of the street elevation is no longer used and the stair to it has been removed. The south elevation has a door with transom above. The transom has three lights and two vertical muntins. The door is of crude construction. The front doors are flanked by large double hung windows with 2 x 2 lights. These windows are now covered with a wire screen. These four windows have the same cornice ornamentation of cyma reversa curve and are at the same level as the cornices of the doors, making for a handsome and unified front facade. The north elevation has four windows that are of the same quality of those windows on the front elevation, but these openings are considerably battered, and all are boarded up. The south elevation has two double hung windows with plain trim and 2 x 2 lights, but these windows are smaller than the grand windows on the north and east elevations. Further back on the south elevation, there are two double hung windows with plain trim, one with 2 x 2 lights and the other with 4 x 4 lights. At the west elevation there is one small window above the recessed porch. This flat-roofed addition also has a double hung window with 2 x 2 lights facing north from the stage area. In the rear of the original social hall, there is a window with plain trim and 6 x 6 lights. This window is at the right-hand side of the stage in the social hall. It should be noted, that when the social hall stood by itself, without any of the additions, there was a fine row of four windows, exactly the same as the windows in the north elevation, in its south side. These windows have become doors, or have simply become openings into the added rooms.

The building was apparently built in three stages, causing a complicated roof scape. The large social hall has a gable roof at the north section of the structure and another gable roof structure was added parallel to this hall at the south. The false-front of the original social hall was then extended across the street elevation to unify and help create a symmetrical composition. At the rear of this addition, which is not as long as the

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) ethnic
	<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

Specific dates Late 1870's **Builder/Architect** not known

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Santa Clara Verein is important as it is the principal reminder of the times when the Germans were a significant group in Santa Clara. This German social hall was also a popular meeting place for the community. Reputed to be the oldest extant turn verein in Northern California, the interior boasts an attractive hand stenciled canvas ceiling of Eastlake design.

In the mid-1850's, Germans started settling in Santa Clara. The numbers rose dramatically in the 1860's through the 1880's. The Germans were very influential in Santa Clara and in 1868, (April), the Santa Clara Verein was established. The Charter Members were: "C. W. Werner; F. C. Franck; Jacob Eberhard; C. Leibe; John Hetty; August Habich; Leopold Hart; William and August Gabriel; Henry Uhrbroock and Henry Albert." (Munro-Fraser, op cit.) In 1872, the members purchased a piece of land where they erected their club.

An 1881 book on the History of Santa Clara County said, "Their hall, a neat structure, is frescoed and tastefully ornamented, and is 60 feet by 34 feet with a commodious stage at one end. The Club is divided into a turn-verein for gymnastic exercises, as well as being for dramatic and musical affairs. The building was entirely built by private subscription." (Munro-Fraser, History of Santa Clara County, p. 552.)

By 1881 there were forty-five members. Its membership represented the most important people, economically and politically, in Santa Clara. The Eberhards started the tannery across from Santa Clara University and produced the "finest saddle and harness leather in California." (Cox, Santa Clara's German Colony Mostly Memories Now, San Jose Mercury News, Oct. 6, 1958.) The Klins owned the brewery around the corner from the Santa Clara Verein. Frederick Franck, a Mexican war veteran, goldminer and former saddlemaker, helped organize the Santa Clara Fire Department in 1851, developed real estate in Santa Clara and was a State Senator. Habich (August), ran a steam feed mill. Anton Doll was a baker. George Lauck's Brewery was also near the Santa Clara Verein. Its members were also involved with nearby Santa Clara College (now the University of Santa Clara). The College's Golden Jubilee was celebrated in 1901 and Druffel (D.O.), acted as president of this occasion and one of his aids was J. J. Eberhard.

Many activities took place at the Verein. Exercising, physical fitness, dramas, musicals, dances, graduation exercises were some of these activities. In interviews with old residents of the community, the most vivid recollection was of the social events. One lady fondly recalled how festive the Verein was at Christmas with its decorations, tree, and parties. Many of the old timers in Santa Clara commented that the Verein was the "in" place in town at the beginning of this centry. The Verein also let out their hall to other organizations. It must have been a popular place as the newspaper is filled with activities taking place there. Headlines include "Native Sons of the Golden West will hold Annual Grand Ball in Turn Verein Hall."; "Prominent Speakers will address Public on behalf of the Commercial League at the Santa Clara Verein--Music will be furnished both vocal and instrumental"; "Mrs. Mary Weaver McCauley will appear in Concert May 23 at the Santa Clara Verein Hall for this concert and dramatic recital. Whistling solos and

9. Major Bibliographical References

(See attachment, 9-B)

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 15,150 sq. ft. (.35 acres)

Quadrangle name San Jose, West

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

10	593760	41134170
Zone	Easting	Northing

B

Zone	Easting	Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

On Alviso Street between Franklin and Main Streets. Santa Clara County Records, Book 9489, Page 584, "Being all of Lot #1, Block 1 North, Range 2 East. Measuring 151.5' x 100'."

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

state N/A code county N/A code

state N/A code county N/A code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sibyl McCormac-Groff, Supervisor, Santa Clara County HABS Team

organization Historic American Buildings Survey date 25 August 1979

Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service

street & number U.S. Department of the Interior telephone (202) 343-6217

city or town Washington, D.C. state

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 [Signature]

title date 10-30-81

For HCERS use only

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

[Signature] date 1/19/1984

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 27 1982

DATE ENTERED

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

Santa Clara

CONTINUATION SHEET

Verein

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 7-B

original gabled roof structure, a one story flat-roofed structure was added that extends beyond the original gabled-roof structure. All roofs are covered with asbestos shingles. The front elevation is composed of two distinct sections, the original elevation of the social hall to the right, and the left portion, which is an abbreviated imitator of the original elevation. Two decorative pilasters mark the edges of the building, and one pilaster marks the seam where the addition took place. The middle pilaster is not at the center of the composition. The pilasters have decorative inset panels and applied circles that are surrounded by moldings. The pilasters rise on the elevation and terminate in large wide brackets that support a cornice below which is plain frieze. The cornice has a small shed roof on top of it that slopes from the parapet. The cornice extends a small dimension beyond the edges of the building because it is supported on brackets that are perpendicular to those brackets on the face of the building. The parapet attempts to establish some symmetry for the street elevation, rises above the cornice, and has two Baroque curve scooped-out sections at either corner of the structure.

Public access to the current thrift shop that occupies the building is at the left door. The left-hand side of the structure consists of five rooms sharing a maze-like relationship because of the needs of the present owners. When entering the first room on the left side of the building, a room used for storage and the cashier, the door on the right-hand wall leads to the former social hall which is still grand and not divided. The stage at the west wall is immediately apparent.

The walls are lathe and plaster and are painted. The most important decorative feature of the Verein is the hand-stenciled canvas ceiling. The ceiling was apparently decorated when Eastlake design was fashionable. The stenciled decoration contains a hounds-tooth border, grape leaf motifs, Greek key bands, roundels, and panels, all luxuriously embroidered with linework. The colors of the painting are subdued, being cool grays, muted yellows and maroons with an occasional accent of bright red linework. The proscenium arch from the former stage has a rectangular opening and is framed with architrave trim. A decorative arch hangs from the ceiling about twelve feet from the stage. This arch forms one of the sides of the coved ceiling that has been discussed. The arch itself is flat-topped and has some Baroque molding configurations symmetrically placed at either side.

¹ "Verein" and "Turn Verein" are Old High German terms that refer to a social club, often featuring physical exercise as a means of promoting social grace and health, unity, and comradeship.

