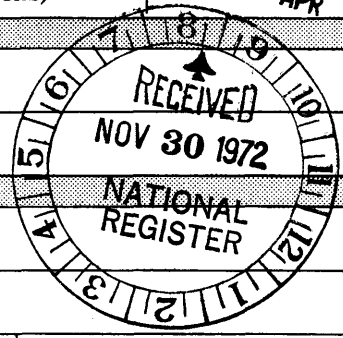


PH 003668

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	California
COUNTY:	Contra Costa
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 11 1973



1. NAME

COMMON: Bernardo Fernandez Home House

AND/OR HISTORIC: same

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 100 Tennent Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Pinole

STATE: California CODE: 06 COUNTY: Contra Costa CODE: 013

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	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"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Mariotti

STREET AND NUMBER: 100 Tennent Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Pinole STATE: California CODE: 06

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Contra Costa County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Martinez STATE: California CODE: 06

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Junior League of Oakland

DATE OF SURVEY: 1968-1971  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Bancroft Library

STREET AND NUMBER: University of California

CITY OR TOWN: Berkeley STATE: California CODE: 06

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:	California
COUNTY:	Contra Costa
ENTRY NUMBER	APR 11 1973
DATE	

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Mansion built for Bernardo Fernandez in 1894. Bernardo died in 1912, but house occupied by heirs until the 1950's, after son, Thomas, died in 1951.

Eclectic design of house is an example of a late 19th century style which was an intricate design combination of Second Empire (French Mansard), Queen Anne and Eastlake executed in wood and very common in California, particularly in San Francisco in the 1880's.

Two stories, wood frame over brick, full basement and with attic rooms. Main floor reached by 8-foot wide monumental exterior stairway consisting of sixteen risers and with banister of turned balusters and moulded hand rail.

Entrance stairs terminate at a square-columned porch ornamented with spindle-work, brackets and sawn latticework. The porch opens into an exterior vestibule located within a structural projection set out three and one half feet from the center of the facade. This projection of the facade rises towerlike through three stories, and terminates in a small pyramidal French Mansard roof with dormer windows on three sides.

Main block of house is approximately 41 feet square sheathed with 1" x 8" "V" rustic siding and crowned with a classic cornice supported by band sawn brackets that are composed with window architraves.

Main entrance motif is flanked by coupled windows, 2' 6" x 6' 10", symmetrically placed. Three story bay windows are placed on both sides of the building near the corners adjacent to the facade. Bays are superimposed with triangular pediments composed with the main cornice.

To the rear of the main block is a one-story and basement element which contains the dining room, kitchen and service porch.

The roof over the main entrance porch is supported by 9 3/4" square classic columns and entablature, similar to main cornice.

Ceiling height of main floor is 12 feet, second floor 11 feet and basement 8 feet.

Main entrance is double doors.

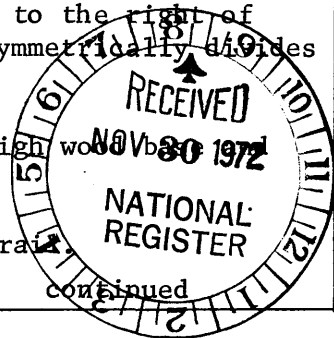
Roof originally was wood shingles but now covered with asphalt shingles.

Entrance hall extends to rear of main block of the house to the right of which is the stair hall to the second floor which also symmetrically divides the main block.

A wainscot, 3' 7" high of pressed leather and with 11" high wood wainscot cap lines the hallway and stairway.

Banister is of turned walnut balusters and moulded hand rail.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

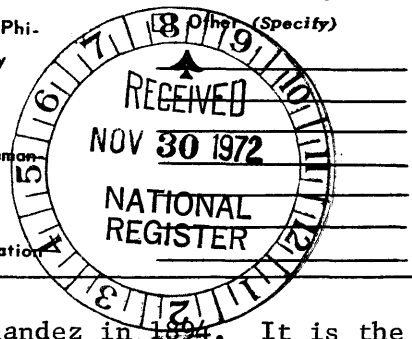
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input 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) **1894 (construction)**

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 type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The 20 room mansion was built for Bernardo Fernandez in 1894. It is the only significant house of this era and style of architecture extant in the City of Pinole. The eclectic design of the home is similar to that of the "San Francisco Style" (combined Second Empire-Queen Anne-Eastlake forms), and is an impressive and well-preserved example of this period.<sup>1</sup>

Of particular architectural and historical note, is the truncated pyramidal mansarded roof. It was from the vantage point of the arched dormer windows of this tower that Mr. Fernandez could oversee his busy waterfront enterprises of docks and warehouses.

It was this original economic endeavor undertaken in 1854 (on this same location) that became the first operating industry in Pinole. The infant Fernandez waterfront location became the nucleus of an active mercantile center, Pinole being at that time one of the few landing ports east of San Francisco.

In building wharves, barns, home and supply stores, instituting a shipping industry and carrying the mail and passengers, Bernardo Fernandez built up a port complex at a strategic location in West Contra Costa County which gave Pinole its first existence as a city.

The site became an important trading center in West Contra Costa County. Fernandez' business built around the export of farm and ranch products attracted more settlers into the area. It was, to them, both an outlet for the products of their labors as well as being an important trade, supply and communications link with neighboring Bay Area urban centers via the shipping routes. So, by the early 1900's, the business provided leased land for many immigrants who had no other means of getting a start in the West.

As the family holdings prospered and gave work to many, a civic community grew up in which the Fernandez family played an active and benevolent role. One son, a doctor, practiced as town physician for 47 years and also donated the acreage to the City of Pinole now known as Fernandez Park.

continued

1. Edited by Raymond Girvigan, F.A.I.A. (Refer to California's Architectural Frontier, Harold Kirker, Huntington Library, San Marino, 1960, p. 107 and similar to plate 49 except that latter shows an example of an attached row house.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

East of These Golden Shores, Junior League of Oakland, Scrimshaw Press  
Collection of Historical Scrapbooks, Book 6, City of Pinole Historical Commission  
The Story of Richmond, John Fridell  
The Pacific Historian, Vol. 16, No. 2, summer 1972, University of the Pacific  
Martinez Gazette, "A Century of Progress" (1958)

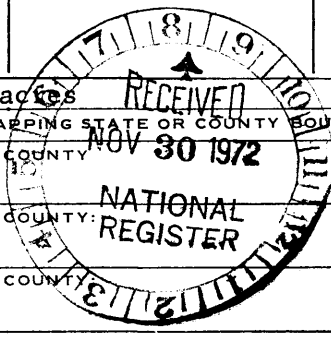
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38° 00' 42"	122° 17' 39"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 3 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



UTM  
10/561950  
4267120

SEE INSTRUCTIONS CD

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
George Vincent

ORGANIZATION: Pinole Historical Commission

DATE: October 2, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:  
2131 Pear Street

CITY OR TOWN: Pinole

STATE: California

CODE: 06

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

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name: <u>[Signature]</u></p> <p>Title: <u>State Liaison Officer</u></p> <p>Date: <u>NOV 8 1972</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date: <u>4/11/73</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date: <u>4.3.73</u></p>
--	--

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE California	
COUNTY Contra Costa	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER APR 11 1972	DATE

(Number all entries)

No. 7. Description (continued) (Page 2)

Floors of main floor are oak with inlaid borders of dark wood.

To the right of entrance double sliding doors open to the living room.

The living room - the size of two rooms - is divided into two parts by an archway with flanking Doric columns. Panelled wood wainscot lines up with window stools, and a moulded cornice and frieze extends down to the window heads. Walls are paper over wood lath and plaster. Fireplace with hard maple and mirror mantel at end of room.

To the left of the entrance matching sliding doors open to what originally was a library and reception room, but now used as an office. Treatment is similar to living room.

Dining room has six-foot high panelled wood wainscot with plate rail, coffered beam ceiling, wallpaper above wainscot, and a fireplace with brick mantel.

All main rooms have cast plaster center medallions and combination gas and electric lighting fixtures.

A continuing restoration program is in progress with a sympathetic consideration for the original decor.

The mansion is sited on a shelf excavated from the side of a hill with a gently sloping park-like foreground extending to the street which is fenced off by an ornamental iron fence. The front of the building is oriented to the northeast; but, it appears, more importantly toward the water front so that Mr. Fernandez could retire to the tower and oversee all that was going on at the busy docks and warehouses, and his other enterprises spread along the water front and Southern Pacific tracks.



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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE California	
COUNTY Contra Costa	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 244	DATE 11 1973

(Number all entries)

No. 8. Significance (continued) (Page 2)

No other family in the city has contributed as much to the history, growth and development of Pinole. In addition, the growth of Western Contra Costa County is also linked to the Fernandez complex as was the waterborne trade pattern and routes of the Bay Area in general in the mid and late 1800's.

The Fernandez Mansion and grounds today remain as the earliest and one of the last vestiges of the City's heritage still left standing.

