

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>California</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Los Angeles</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	<b>JUL 16 1973</b>

**1. NAME**

COMMON: **John A. Rowland Home**

AND/OR HISTORIC: **Same**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: **16021 East Gale Ave.**

CITY OR TOWN: **City of Industry (This is still the La Puente Post Office)**

STATE: **California** CODE: **91745** COUNTY: **Los Angeles** CODE: **06** CODE: **037**

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" 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"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" 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 (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME: **Hacienda La Puente Unified School District**

STREET AND NUMBER: **15959 East Gale Avenue**

CITY OR TOWN: **La Puente** STATE: **California** CODE: **91745** CODE: **06**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Hall of Administration, Room 205**

STREET AND NUMBER: **500 West Temple**

CITY OR TOWN: **Los Angeles** STATE: **California** CODE: **90012**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: **Tract #3193 (4 pages--M.B. 79-82)**

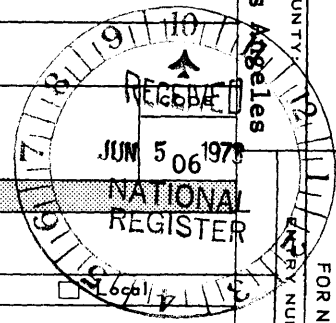
DATE OF SURVEY: **February 28, 1918**  Federal  State  County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **County Recorder of Los Angeles County**

STREET AND NUMBER: **227 North Broadway**

CITY OR TOWN: **Los Angeles** STATE: **California** CODE: **90012** CODE: **06**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: **California**  
COUNTY: **Los Angeles**  
ENTRY NUMBER: **16**  
DATE: **1973**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

**7. DESCRIPTION**

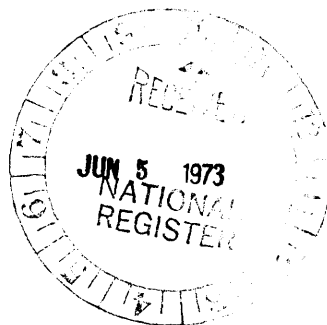
CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 John A. Rowland Home is a two-story stucco-covered brick house with basement and attic. There are four porches--first and second stories and front and rear. The two rear porches are now enclosed. The roof is four sided with dormer windows on each side. The house has 15 rooms. These are parlor, music room, dining room, holding room, office, four bedrooms, one of original travellers' rooms, bath room, two enclosed porches, a dressing room, and kitchen. The house is surrounded by an extensive wisteria arbor.

The John A. Rowland Home was built in 1855 from the second order of bricks from the newly organized and famous Mulluly Brick Co. of Los Angeles. As built, the house was a two-story red brick house with two white pillars at the front. Architecturally, it is an "H" shape construction with the upper and lower front and rear porches closing in the "H" square. There were originally 12 rooms. Each bedroom had one door only, which opened onto a hall or porch. There were five fireplaces to heat the house. There were seven bedrooms, two travellers' rooms off the front porch, parlor, dining room and holding room. All the original walls were solid brick throughout, from 10 to 15 inches thick. The attic was the dormitory for the Indian servant girls. One portion of the basement was a wine cellar. The Cook House, built of original adobe bricks from the 1842 Rowland Adobe, is located at the rear of the present home. The change in the roof line, stucco over bricks, and modern kitchen were added in 1897. Interior room changes were made in 1920, at which time one bedroom was made into a bathroom and another bedroom into a dressing room, and a third bedroom made into an office opening off the dining room. Gas lights were added in 1897 and electricity in 1920 to supplement the small amount of electricity added in the early years of the century.

(See also Attachment A)



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)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input checked="" 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 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 checked="" 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 John A. Rowland Home is the oldest two-story brick house in Los Angeles County and the oldest brick house now standing. The house was built in 1855 of the second important order of bricks fired by the newly formed J. Mulluly Brick Co. of Los Angeles.

John Rowland, builder, owner and resident of the Home, is significant in California History because he and his partner, William Workman, led the first American wagon train settlers into Southern California. On November 5, 1841, just two months after leaving Santa Fe, N. M., the Rowland-Workman wagon train arrived at its destination of Los Angeles. A well-planned expedition and the easy southern route contributed greatly to the wagon train's record time, making it possible for it to arrive 5 days ahead of the Bidwell-Bartleson party's arrival in San Jose on November 10, 1841.

John Rowland's first house, an adobe built in 1842, was located directly north of the present house. When the brick mansion was finished, Rowland tore down the adobe, using the bricks to build new sheds, barns, winery, and cook house for the ranch. The only adobe building currently standing is the Cook House at the rear of the present Rowland Home.

The Rowland Home and its occupants contributed significantly to an area that has seen continual land use. This land was first inhabited by Indians of Shoshonean Stock called the Awig-nas. The Awig-na Indian Village, about 1/2 mile distant from the Rowland Home, was located on the current site of La Puente High School. These Indians had lived in the area for more than a hundred years before Cabrillo sailed along the coast of California in 1542.

Father Serra and Portola camped in the vicinity of the Rowland Home along the San Jose Creek on July 30, 1769, and built a bridge to cross the creek. This is thought to be the origin of the name "La Puente" (Bridge).

During the Mission Period, the La Puente Rancho was one of 24 belonging to the San Gabriel Mission. At this period the Indians of the area were called Gabrielino; grapes and wheat were the crops and cattle grazed on the hills.

(Continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Bancroft, H.H. California, Vol IV Pages 276--278, 343  
 Vol III, Chapter XIII  
 McPherson, Homes in Los Angeles County  
 Crespi's Diary (translated), P. 34  
History of La Puente Valley, Booklet of reprints from the Oct. 6, 1960,  
 50th Anniversary Edition of La Puente Valley Journal  
History of La Puente Valley, W.P.A. Project by Janet and Dan Powell  
 Heizer, Robert, The Indians of Los Angeles County, Hugo Reid's Letters of 1852  
Saddleback Ancestors, Orange Co., Calif., Geological Society, pp. 77, 141-148  
 Rowland, Leonore, The Romance of La Puente Rancho

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

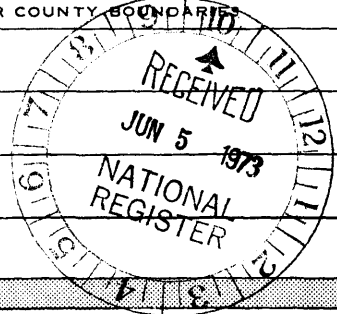
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	34°	0'	39"	117°	57'	24"
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"						
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"						
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"						

UTM  
 11/411660  
 376350

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **One Acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Claire G. Radford (Mrs. P.H.) President**

ORGANIZATION: **La Puente Valley Historical Society, Inc.** DATE: **December 7, '72**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1750 Kanola Rd.**

CITY OR TOWN: **La Habra** STATE: **California 90631** CODE: **06**

**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]  
 State Historic Preservation Officer  
 Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: **MAY 22 1973**

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

[Signature]  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: **7/16/73**

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 Date: **7 10 73**

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE <b>California</b>	
COUNTY <b>Los Angeles</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
<b>JUL 16 1973</b>	

(Number all entries)

8. Statement of Significance (Continued)

Following the Mexican Government's secularization of the Mission lands, John Rowland and his partner William Workman applied for the La Puente Rancho. The preliminary grant was given in 1842 by Governor Alvarado and the final grant by Governor Pio Pico, the last Mexican governor of California.

With the coming of Rowland and Workman, the Indians moved to a rancheria along the San Jose Creek between the two men's homes. Wheat, grapes and cattle were the wealth of the land until a drought in the 1860's, followed by a very rainy year, destroyed the cattle industry. Sheep were introduced and flourished until another drought destroyed the sheep industry. Land use then shifted to oranges and walnuts. Then, in the 1950's, subdivisions and factories began to cover the land.

The Rowland Family were to a large extent responsible for the two main transcontinental railroads coming through the Valley. The Union Pacific passes within a few feet of the original Rowland Adobe and the Southern Pacific is 1/2 mile distant.

The original La Puente Rancho had 48,790 acres. Now the cities of La Puente, City of Industry, Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, West Covina, Covina to San Bernardino Road, and parts of El Monte, Whittier, and Baldwin Park lie within the boundaries of this great Rancho.

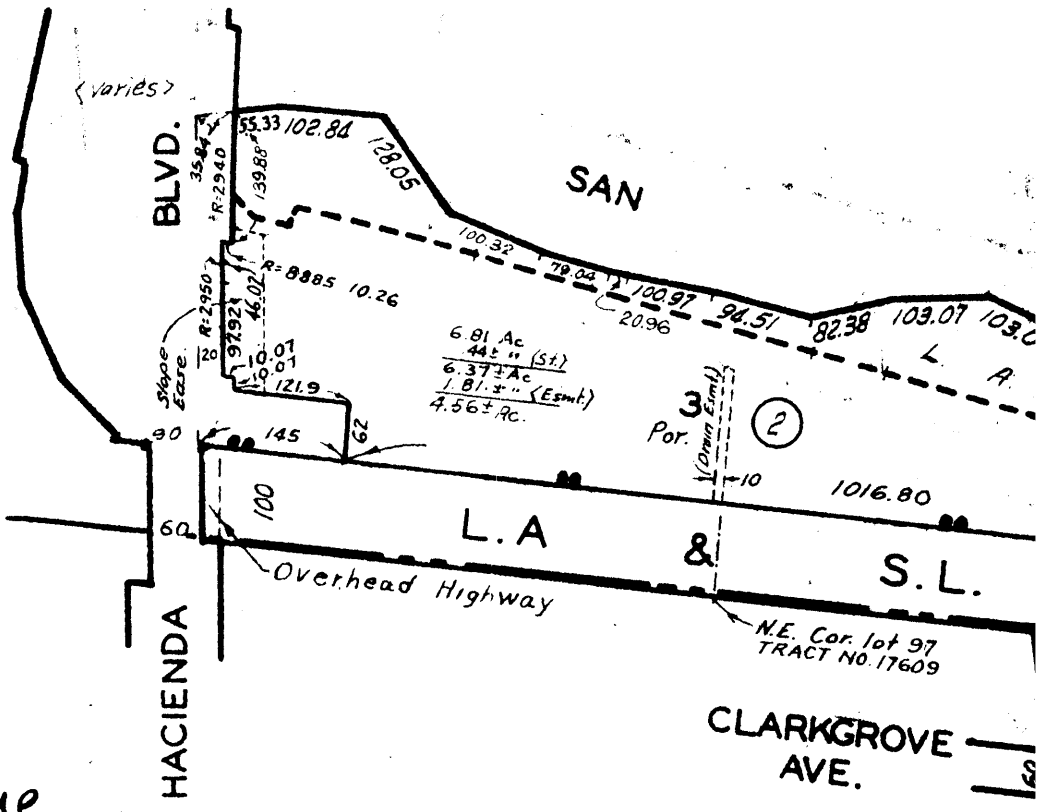
(See also Attachment B)



Within Baldwin  
 Park Quadrangle  
 7.5 minute series

34° 07' 30" 34° 07' 30"  
 118° 00' 117° 52' 30"  
 118° 00' 34° 00'  
 117° 52' 30" 34° 00'

34° 0' 39"  
 117° 57' 24"  
 John A. Rowland Home



**PARTITION OF LANDS OF  
 CHARLOTTE M. ROWLAND DECEASED**

S.C.C. 1098  
 L.S. 4 - 45

**RANCHO LA PUENTE**

P. 1 - 43 - 44

**TRACT NO. 319.3**

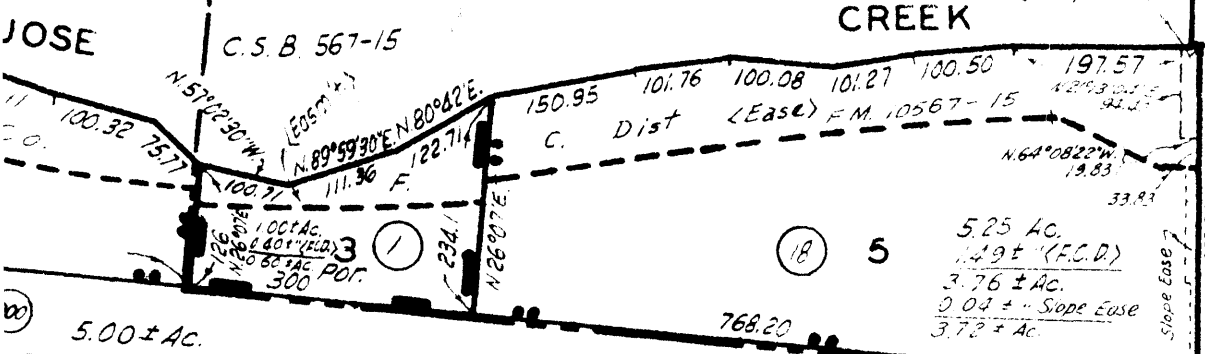
M.B. 35 - 79 - 82

CODE  
 4367  
 4441

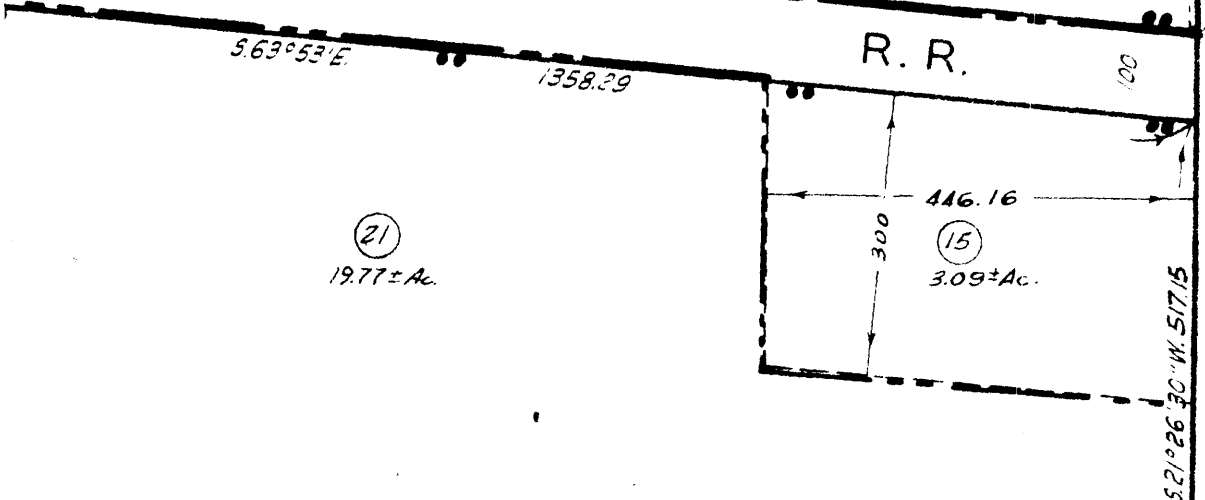
REVISED:  
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 6-28-61  
 11-16-62  
 10-22-63 R  
 2-21-64 E  
 4-19-65  
 5-28-65  
 6-29-65  
 7-25-65

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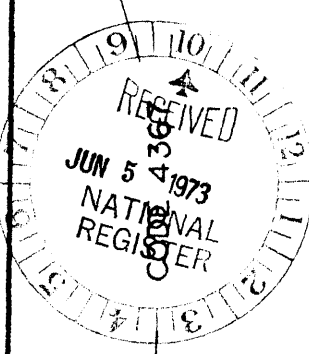
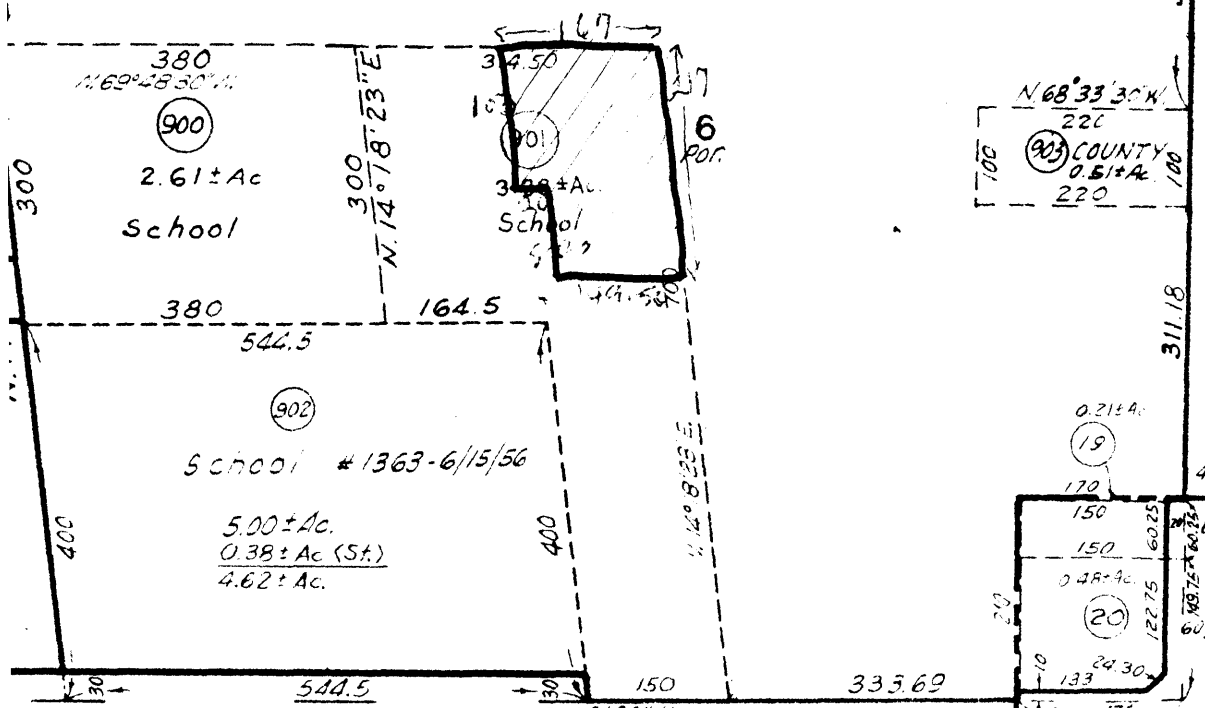
DE 4441 CODE 4367



AVE. CODE 4367



CODE 4441



STIMSON

CODE 4441

