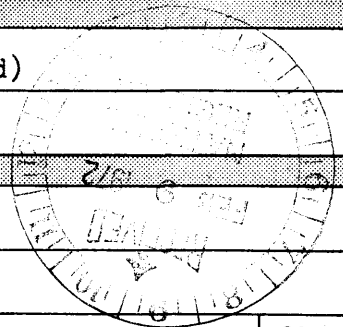


PH 0047171

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	California
COUNTY:	Alameda
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUN 13 1972	



**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Cameron-Stanford House (Will Cameron-Josiah Stanford)

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Old Oakland Public Museum

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1426 Lakeside Drive

CITY OR TOWN:  
Oakland

STATE: California      CODE: 06      COUNTY: Alameda      CODE: 001

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<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
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			Yes:
<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"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments <u>See enclosed Proposal</u>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
City of Oakland

STREET AND NUMBER:  
City Hall - 14th and Washington Streets

CITY OR TOWN: Oakland      STATE: California      CODE: 06

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Office of the City Clerk

STREET AND NUMBER:  
City Hall - 14th and Washington Streets

CITY OR TOWN: Oakland      STATE: California      CODE: 06

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: (1) Historic American Buildings Survey; (2) Jr. League of Oakland, Inc. Survey of Ala. & C.C. Counties

DATE OF SURVEY: (1) 15 July 1959     Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: (2) 1967-1971 ----- X County  
(2) The Bancroft Library

STREET AND NUMBER:  
(2) University of California - Berkeley

CITY OR TOWN: (2) Berkeley      STATE: California      CODE: 06

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: California

COUNTY: Alameda

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" 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 mansion is of wood frame, two stories high with full basement and attic, and of irregular plan with projecting wings and bays. The weather boarding is 1 x 8 "V" rustic, painted and off-white. The overall plan dimensions are approximately 50 ft. by 75 ft., not including additions that have been added during the period it served as the Oakland Public Museum, nor the original carriage house which has been incorporated with these additions. The first floor level is approximately 4 ft. above the ground at the front and the terrain slopes gently toward Lake Merritt at the rear to the east. The house is crowned with a prominent classic cornice supported by deep brackets the full depth of the panelled frieze.

The seven foot wide main entrance stairs consist of eight risers terminating at an ornate porch which wraps around to the south side of the house where it becomes a solarium. The porch cornice and roof is supported by slender columns, 4½" in diameter and 6'-4" high including out-size capitals which rest on railing high pedestals and have heavily moulded column extensions and ornamental knee braces that support the cornice. Tripple columns articulate the entrance stairs.

The entrance door is recessed and consists of a pair of doors 4'-6" wide and 8'-6" high over which is a lunette transom light. The windows at the first story are 7'-10" high, double hung single light, with round arched heads. The window heads at the second story are segmental arches. The exterior window casings at both stories have ornamental keystones and hood-mouldings. Octagonal two-story bays feature the front and north sides of the building and a square one-story bay features the south side.

The entrance door opens into a central hallway eight feet wide which extends the depth of the house. To the left as one enters is the reception room and across the hall is the ell shaped living room, which opens to the solarium. To the left beyond the reception room is the stairhall to the second floor, and beyond that the dining room, pantry, kitchen and servants quarters. There once was a fireplace in the reception room and the fireplace still exists in the dining room. Apparently there never was a fireplace in the living room.

To the rear of the living room was another smaller room which could have been a library or music room which opened to a sun porch and garden stairway which no longer exists.

The spaces to the rear of the dining room and the living room were greatly altered by Architect Frederick Soderberg in 1909 when the home was converted to a museum and was again altered in 1913 by Architect John J. Donovan, at which time a lecture hall was added and the carriage house incorporated into the building.

It appears that there were six principal rooms on the first floor and five bedrooms and two bathrooms on the second floor of the original house. The ceiling height of the first story is 12'-8" and that of the second story, 11 feet.

The principal rooms on the first floor have ryn plaster ceiling cornices and ornamental plaster ceilings escutcheons. The 7 in. wide, deeply moulded window and door casings and 12" high baseboards in these rooms are mahogany. Elsewhere the trim is soft wood stained and grained

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE California	
COUNTY Alameda	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 13 1972

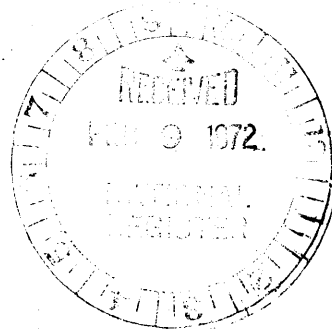
(Number all entries)

7. Description

mahogany. The stair railing and balisters and the handsome newel post with surmounted lamp, also, are mahogany. The hardwood floors are in bad condition.

It is apparent that the home during its heyday was very sumptuous, and with the gardens and setting beside Lake Merritt was a delightful and pretentious mansion.

A. Lewis Koue, A.I.A.



**1. 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry             | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | x <u>Museum</u>                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | x <u>Local History</u>                              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape            | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | x <u>For new use</u>                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture         | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | <u>see enclosed</u>                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature           | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | <u>Proposal pp. 4-5</u>                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military             |  | x <u>Cultural History</u>                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                |  |   |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Overlooking Lake Merritt from a eucalyptus-shaded lawn very near the center of downtown Oakland, this handsome ~~Italianate~~ Victorian structure is rich in historical associations: first as a splendidly situated and elegant private home, later as the repository for the museum collections of an innovative researcher-collector-curator, Charles P. Wilcomb.

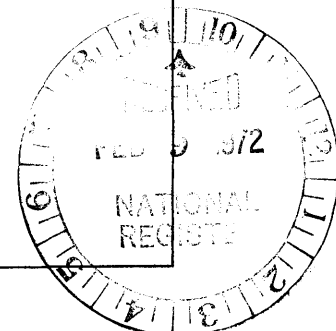
The house was built in 1871 by Will W. Cameron for his bride Alice Marsh. Cameron was the grandson of the Reverend John Cameron of New Salem, Illinois, a friend of Abraham Lincoln; Alice was the only daughter of Dr. John Marsh of Contra Costa County. They moved into the house in September, 1871. According to George Lyman, theirs was "an extravagant establishment. There were servants, a coachman, carriages, horses and harness mounted in silver".

Saddened by the death of a daughter, the Camerons sold the house in 1880 to Josiah Stanford, farmer and brother of Leland Stanford, Sr., the founder of Stanford University. During the near quarter-century that it remained the Stanford residence it was the scene of many brilliant social events. President Rutherford B. Hayes was entertained there.

The Stanford family sold the house in 1903 to John and Terrilla Wright. In 1907 the property, with its 110-foot frontage and 325-foot depth, was purchased by the City of Oakland for \$40,000. The previous year, Mayor Frank K. Mott--impressed by the Golden Gate Park Museum (later to be known as the M. H. deYoung Museum)--had proposed that Oakland establish a public museum, and entered into negotiations with Charles P. Wilcomb, who had been Curator of the Golden Gate Park Museum from 1894 to 1905. Wilcomb was able to supply the Oakland Public Museum with important ethnological collections and, upon being appointed Curator in 1907, made an extended trip East to secure American historical artifacts, especially of the Colonial period. He had great success, as is revealed in the Worcester, Massachusetts Telegram of October 4, 1909:

"The curator has just finished up a three days' canvass of territory within a 25-mile radius of the heart of the Commonwealth, and in that short time, by dint of active research, he has unearthed a treasure of antiques, which he exhibited to a Telegram reporter, yesterday, before packing for shipment to Oakland.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

1. The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.
2. California Room Archives, Oakland Public Library.
3. "East of These Golden Shores"; Dave Bohn; Jr. League of Oakland & Scrimshaw Press: 1971.
4. History Division Library, The Oakland Museum.
5. "The Ultimate Victorians"; Elinor Richey; Howell-North Books: 1970.
6. "The Beginnings of Oakland", California; P.T. Conmy; Oakland Public Library: 1961.
7. "Historic Spots in California"; Hoover, Rensch & Rensch-rev. Abeloe; Stanford University Press: 1966.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

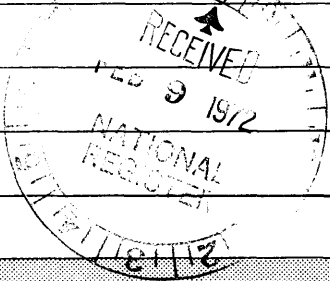
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	37 °	48 .	5.489-
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	122 °	15 .	40.004
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

UTM  
10/56506  
4183840

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Part of City's Open Space Area

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:  
Richard D. Ehrenberger, President and Jo Ann B. Price, Member

ORGANIZATION: Cameron-Stanford House Preservation Association      DATE: 8 Dec. 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:  
261 Pershing Drive,

CITY OR TOWN: Oakland      STATE: California 94611      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 type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name: <u>[Signature]</u></p> <p>Title: <u>State Liaison Officer</u></p> <p>Date: <u>1/27/72</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>6/13/72</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date: _____</p>
--	--