

PH0065781

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: CALIFORNIA	
COUNTY: SAN DIEGO	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.5.06.0014	DATE 5/6/71

1. NAME

COMMON:
VILLA MONTEZUMA

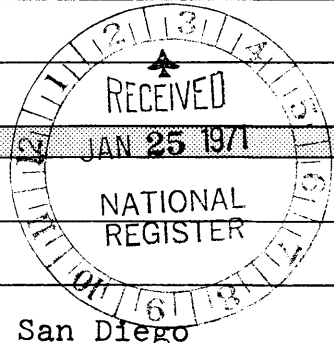
AND/OR HISTORIC:
THE JESSE SHEPARD HOUSE

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
1925 "K" Street

CITY OR TOWN:
San Diego

STATE: California CODE: 06 COUNTY: San Diego CODE: 073



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered By City of S.D.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. David E. Porter

STREET AND NUMBER:
4024 St. James Place

CITY OR TOWN: San Diego STATE: California CODE: 06

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
County Recorder's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
220 West Broadway

CITY OR TOWN: San Diego STATE: California CODE: 06

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY, Cal. 432

DATE OF SURVEY: Approved 1/22/65 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: (Copy of Photographic Data)
Library of Congress (Book Report Attached)

STREET AND NUMBER:
Washington, D.C.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington, D.C. STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: California
COUNTY: San Diego
ENTRY NUMBER: 71.5.06.0014
DATE: 5/6/71
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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

The Villa Montezuma defies exact architectural classification, combining elements, forms and detail of Moorish or Turkish and Gothic influence in the general Queen Anne style. Architects were Comstock and Trotsche. Stained glass by John Mallon of San Francisco.

The exterior exhibits all the original materials covered by a spray coating, though somewhat weathered with minor decay. A composition roof covers the original shingles with ornamental metalwork on ridges and cast metal gargoyles at gable ends and atop roof domes.

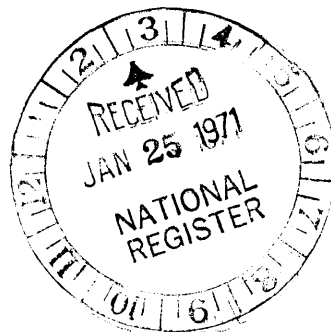
The interior is remarkably preserved in its approximate original condition with minor exceptions. Ceilings, wall paneling, trim and doors (mostly polished redwood) with Lincrusta Walton covering and stained glass windows (both on exterior windows and over interior doors.) There are fireplaces in each room with exotic hardwood mantles, mirrors and custom tile facing and hearth.

The residence is wood frame, two story with basement. Basement contains the kitchen and storage rooms. A dumbwaiter (still operable) serves the Dining Room above. The first floor contains the Entry (from K Street on the north), Reception Room (Pink Room), the Music Room, the Drawing Room, Jessie Shepards Bedroom (Red Room), the Library (Gold Room), another Bedroom occupied by Shepard's Secretary L.W. Tonner (Blue Room) and the Dining Room.

The Entry contains a beautifully detailed stairway to the second floor. The second floor contains a large room used by Shepard as a Study and has an additional stair to the Tower from which he could observe an unobstructed view of San Diego and the Bay. The tower is accented by a Saracenic Dome originally covered with a metal roof (now shingled over).

A detailed description of the interior is contained in "The Journal of San Diego History" for Summer '70 published by the San Diego Historical Society.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



6. SIGNIFICANCE

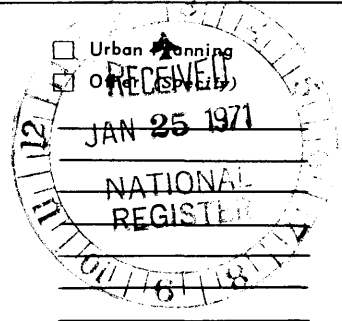
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **Const Complete 1887**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <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 type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Music | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Jesse Shepard was born Sept. 18, 1848 in Birkenhead, England, to Joseph Shepard and Emily Grierson Shepard. The family migrated soon afterward to the United States, and settled in Sangamon County, Illinois in 1849. Shepard grew up on the mid-western prairies.

During the (Civil) war, Shepard served as a page on the staff of General John C. Fremont; but in 1863 moved to Niagara Falls, and here Shepard first began to play the piano and to sing. The following year, the Shepards lived in Chicago where Jesse studied the piano. Shepard's mother wrote proudly of his progress to her cousin, Gen. Benjamin Henry Grierson.

By 1869, Shepard, just twenty-one, began the many years of wandering that characterized the remainder of his life ending with his death in Los Angeles, in 1927. He was tall and thin, handsome, poetic, and extremely gifted, somehow he found his way into the salons of Paris, where soon his musical improvisations and his singing of operatic selections (in which his tremendous vocal range enabled him to sing all parts, from bass to soprano) charmed his audiences. In 1871, Shepard went to St. Petersburg, where he played for the Czar. Here he expanded his already growing interest in Eastern mysticism and met General Jourafsky, who instructed him in the art of conducting seances. In 1874, he visited the celebrated medium, Madame Blavatsky. She was the founder of Theosophy, a mystical intuitive philosophy of life that appealed to many artistic and sensitive people in the late 19th Century.

No one seems to know just exactly why and when Jesse Shepard came to San Diego. L.W. Tonner, in a biographical sketch of Shepard published in 1927, said very little about San Diego and what transpired here, except that "Certain rich townspeople gave the land and some of the money to build the Villa; the idea being to attract attention to the town."

When the boom died out in San Diego in 1889 we had to sell for what we could get. We gave half the proceeds to those who had supplied the money, which they considered quite generous, for it was not thought necessary to return any; and the following year we went to Europe.

Jesse Shepard wrote essays in his own name which were first published in Golden Era, a San Diego publication: "The Abbe Roux", "Pensees et Essais" (Paris, 1889) (As Francis Grierson, he was the author of The Valley of Shadows and

(cont'd Pt 9)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lincoln, the Practical Mystic.)

"Jesse Shepard", Mrs. Clare Crane, Historical Site Board Research Committee, San Diego Public Library, June, 1970.

"Illuminations", Mrs. Joan Bigge, Historical Site Board Research Committee, San Diego Public Library, June, 1970.
(Both articles published in the Journal of the San Diego Historical Society, July, 1970 - Copy attached)

Other references: Harold P. Simonson, Francis Grierson (N.Y. 1965) The Golden Era (April, 1887)

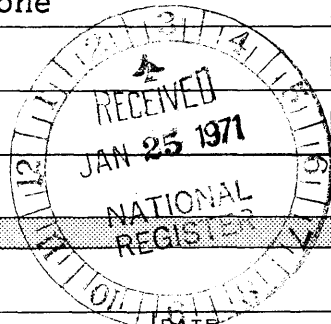
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	° ' "	° ' "		32 ° 42 ' 29 "	117 ° 08 ' 45 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: One Quarter Acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
None		None	
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



No
LHM
CO

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: William E. Rick, Chairman

ORGANIZATION: Historical Site Board, The City of San Diego DATE: Oct 1, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER: Office of the Mayor, City Administration Building

CITY OR TOWN: San Diego STATE: California CODE: 06

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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]

Title State Liaison Officer

Date January 22, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

[Signature]
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

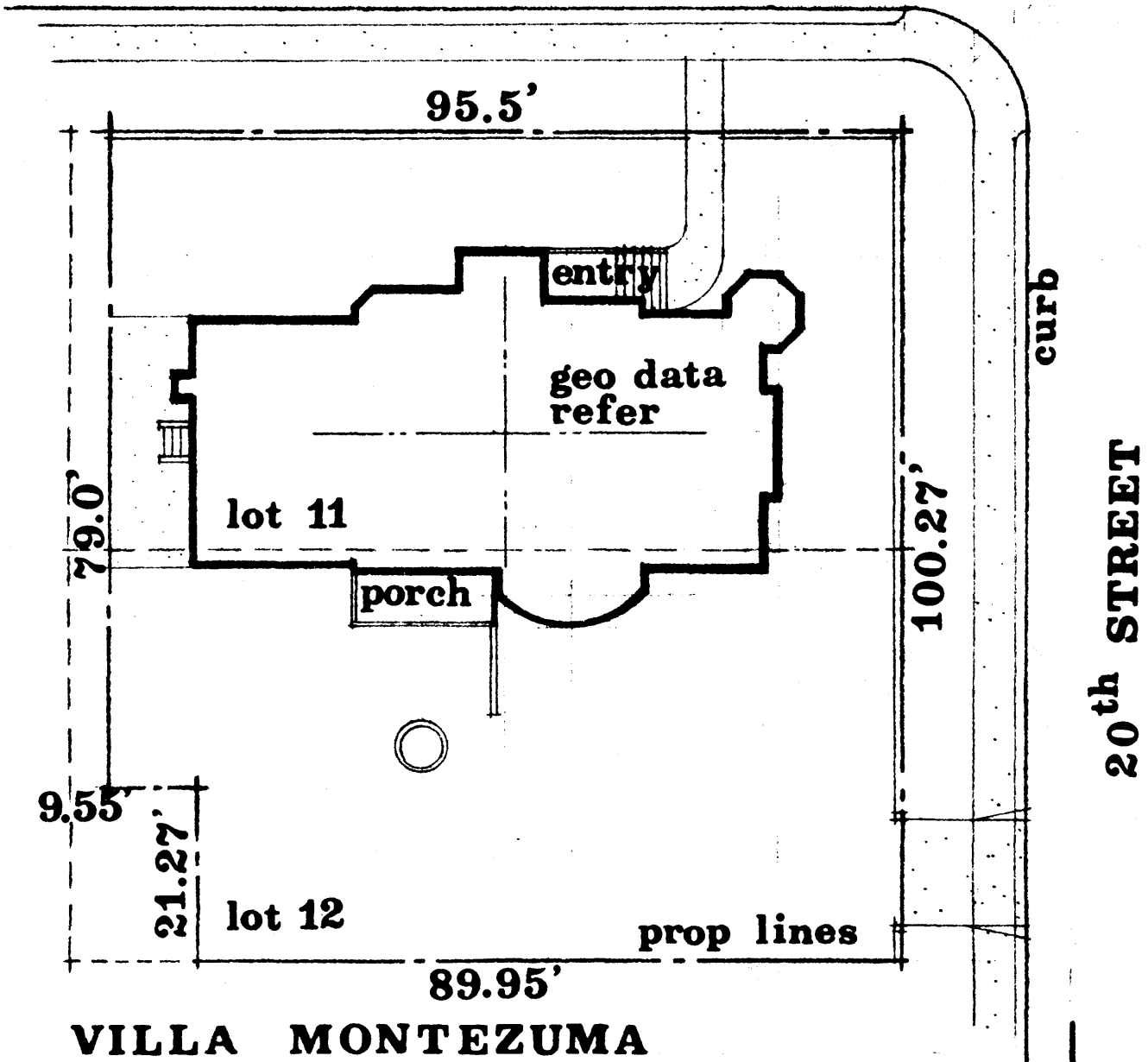
MAY 6 1971

Date _____

ATTEST:
[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

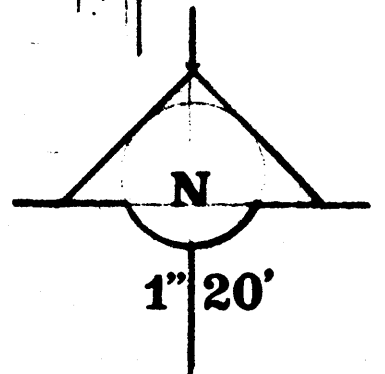
Date APR 9 1971

K STREET



VILLA MONTEZUMA

**A. HART'S RESUB · MAP 186 · OF
BLOCK 42, SHERMAN'S ADD'N
· MAP 856 · SAN DIEGO, CALIF.**



POINT LOMA QUADRANGLE
CALIFORNIA—SAN DIEGO CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NW/4 SAN DIEGO 15' QUADRANGLE

(LA MESA)



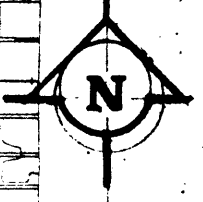
MIRAMAR 11 MI.
LINDA VISTA 3.2 MI.
EL CAJON 12 MI.
LA MESA 8.3 MI.

173000 FEET
117°07'30"
32°45'

210 000
FEET

LEMON GROVE 7 MI.
JAMUL 18 MI.

42'30"



VILLA MONTEZUMA

Logan Sch
Memorial
- Jr H S