

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received DEC 22 1986

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Zalud House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 393 North Hockett St.

n/a not for publication

city, town Porterville

n/a vicinity of

state California

code 06

county Tulare

code 107

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name City of Porterville

street & number 291 North Main Street

city, town Porterville

n/a vicinity of

state California 93257

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Porterville City Hall

street & number 291 North Main Street

city, town Porterville

state Calif. 93257

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historical Resources Inventory

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date February, 1986

federal state county local

depository for survey records Office of Historic Preservation

city, town Sacramento

state California

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Zalud House is a one and one-half story brick dwelling in the Second Empire style, with mansard roof and double walls of brick with air space in between to accommodate San Joaquin Valley weather. Its integrity is excellent, as the structure is virtually unaltered. In its position at the southwest corner of Hockett and Morton, the house starkly contrasts to the bland, newer apartment house to the east and to the supermarket across Morton to the north. Yet, it is complimented by four other older homes of that period directly south and southeast. Together, these five old houses form a solid reminder of the time when this was the preferred residential area of Porterville. The one-third acre property also includes a finely landscaped garden, a popular location for local weddings.

The vertically inclined plane of the roof is uninterrupted except by dormers highly ornate and in conformation to strict symmetrical composition. These projecting ornamental elements bring light into the upper rooms through square headed double-hung sash windows framed by triangular pediments and carved wooden surrounds. Italianate influence is obvious in the exuberant ornamental detail of upper level fenestration. The front porch is also extravagantly decorated with finely detailed woodwork.

There is a transitional horizontal belt in the smooth wooden cornice line between contrasting forms and materials of the two levels of the structure. Both floors are rectangular with projecting wings giving a cross-axial effect. The masonry exterior from ground level to cornice is only broken by tall, narrow double-hung sash windows that are segmentally arched. These windows can be found on the front and sides of the house. The rear enclosed porch is utilitarian in character, single-story and covered with horizontal wood siding. Windows on the porch are plain, double-hung and grouped -- two long and two short -- to the left of the back door.

With few exceptions, the interior is structurally and aesthetically a mirror image of its Zalud family days. Most of its rich furnishings are family items, and wallpaper-paint restoration done in 1976 duplicates the original. That restoration, accomplished at city directive with Zalud estate funds, also included restructuring of upstairs ceilings, re-wiring and replastering -- all in order to comply with city building codes. Otherwise the interior is as always: four upstairs bedrooms and a single bathroom, all connected by a hallway leading directly from an unusually steep staircase; and, downstairs, a bedroom and kitchen with utility porch, half-bath, living room and dining room. Because it is a museum, all interior doors (except closets) are removed for easy viewing access. All hanging light fixtures are original, and the kitchen fixtures feature original bulbs in working condition. The kitchen has its original linoleum floor, single set of small cupboards with wainscoted doors, and windows admitting outside light. Originally heated by a wood stove (restored and in place), the kitchen gained a sub-floor gas furnace in 1939 and a gas stove, the only two modern changes to the house outside of electricity added between 1915 and 1920. The kitchen leads :

(See continuation sheet.)

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Continuation sheet

Item number 7

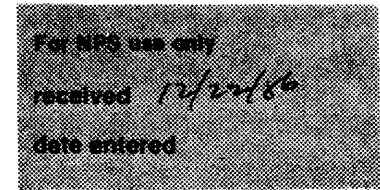
Page 2

through a west door to the covered porch/bath, and through an east door into the formal-style dining room. Most significant feature of the dining room is a floor-to-ceiling rosewood wall inset surrounding the house's only fireplace. The inset is completely hand-carved in a bamboo pattern commissioned by the Zaluds while in China. As in all rooms (except kitchen, bathroom), picture molding runs horizontally 10 feet high along the walls, and six-inches-wide, grooved moldings with "bulls-eye" corners are surrounding each window and door. Where there is no wallpapering, the interior walls and ceilings are painted white. Floors throughout are hardwood covered with oriental and Persian rugs collected by the Zaluds. The living room, in the southeast quarter downstairs, is reached through a living room door or by a northern door off the hallway entrance. As can be seen from exterior view, there is a 3-foot deep window box jutting from the living room on the front (east) side. here on a low, attached bench, piano lessons or parlour visiting took place. The living room, small entry hallway and staircase were the first visible interior features for visitors - and for many, the only open rooms. Few visitors realized the closed door facing them to the west was a bedroom attached by separate door to the dining room. In those two rooms and the kitchen, Zalud family privacy was maintained. Sturdy, turned wood posts make up the staircase balustrade leading to a small landing and a curved-in wall. A few steps more to the right leads to a sweeping corner entrance to the second floor hallway. All four bedrooms upstairs show off the building's Mansard-style architecture through their curving-in walls starting about two-thirds from floor line. The east bedroom, largest of all, has three windows to the east, north and south, each with deep sills found on all house windows. All upstairs rooms have tiny closets with doors. Halfway down the hallway are bedrooms on either side, both wallpapered in period patterns. Each juts out of the house's sides exactly following architectural contours. A final bedroom in the northwest corner is typical of the rest except that it adjoins a roomy bathroom with tiled floor and original bathtub, its clawed feet hidden by base tiling applied in the 1950's. All upstairs rooms are considered attic rooms since there is no attic. An attic-type ceiling trapdoor leads directly to the roof.

Outside, there are some changes from Zalud family days. In early 1986, a 6-foot-high ironwork fence was installed along the lot lines for security purposes, complementing the period look of the structure. The original, detached carriage house (on the southwest corner of the lot) was converted into a bridal dressing room with half bath in January, 1980. A simple, box structure with gabled shingle roof extending over the entrance for a canopy effect, the carriage house is severely altered inside for practical purposes, as is an adjacent stable/garage converted into a kitchen with storage area. However, they retain their

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Continuation sheet

Item number 7

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basic historic appearance, although the stable appears to have been re-sided since its construction. These two buildings are virtually hidden from view by extensive landscaping in the original style: neatly manicured grass strips trimmed by red-brick edgings forming plant and flower bed areas; carefully grouped thickets of rose bushes; strips of perennials and annuals; all inter-blended with old ivy crawling atop trellises and arbors. In her final days, Pearle Zalud allowed the garden to create a walled environment as if to deny passersby intrusion, but it has since been thinned to permit easy viewing and access.

Count of contributors:

Buildings contributing	3
Non-contributing	0

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1891 **Builder/Architect** Hugh and John Templeton

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The John Zalud house is significant primarily for its architecture. It is a very fine example of Second Empire styling and the only one of its type in the town of Porterville. Constructed in the 1890s, the house exhibits the typical mansard roof with dormer windows on its steep slopes. The building is distinguished by very fine wood detailing on both dormers and front porch. It is also remarkable for its brick construction, since wood is the material usually favored in this architectural style. Built by John Zalud, one of Porterville's wealthy early citizens, the house is notable for its architectural beauty and its high level of integrity. It is undoubtedly the finest nineteenth century residential structure in Porterville.

John Zalud (1851-1944) immigrated as a youth from Bohemia and married another Bohemian, Mary Herdlicka, in 1875. Shortly after their marriage, which took place in San Francisco, the Zaluds became one of the San Joaquin Valley's early settlers when they moved to the town of Tulare. Zalud opened a restaurant there, Delmonico's, an establishment that served railroad yard workers. The decline of the yards forced Zalud out of business and the couple moved to Porterville about 1890. In that year John Zalud opened a saloon on Main Street, a prosperous business that allowed the Zaluds to eventually accumulate many hundreds of acres of ranch land.

To build his grand home, Zalud commissioned Hugh and John Templeton. The brickwork was done by John Leach. They built the house in an area of town popular with Porterville's elite.

The Zaluds occupied the house until about 1912, when Mary died. John Zalud then moved to Los Angeles, where he died in 1944. Their daughter, Pearle, occupied the house until her death in 1970. She bequeathed the home to the city of Porterville for use as a museum. Since its opening in 1977 the house has attracted more than 32,000 visitors.

The building has achieved some recognition for its architectural merit. It is listed in A Guide to Architecture in Los Angeles and Southern California, by David Gebhard and Robert Winter. It was also designated a National Register eligible property in Porterville's historic resources inventory.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Edwards, Jeff, The Zaluds of Porterville, Fresno, 1977.
Gebhard, David and Robert Winter, A Guide to Architecture in Los Angeles and Southern California, Santa Barbara, 1977.
Mitchell, Annie, Sites to See — Historical Landmarks in Tulare County, n.p., 1983.
Stiner, Ina, Porterville California, An Appreciation of the Past, n.p., 1956.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .33 acres
Quadrangle name Porterville, California

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	1	3	1	8	5	0	0	3	9	9	3	6	8	0
Zone		Easting					Northing							

B

Zone		Easting					Northing							

C

Zone		Easting					Northing							

D

Zone		Easting					Northing							

E

Zone		Easting					Northing							

F

Zone		Easting					Northing							

G

Zone		Easting					Northing							

H

Zone		Easting					Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification Lots 1 and 2 of Block 6 of Hocketts Addition per Record Map 3-28. The property consists of two rectangular lots, 60' by 110' each, bounded on the north side by Morton Avenue, on the east by Hockett Street, on the south by private residence and on the west by an alley. This is identical to the original historic property.

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

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Terry Winckler and Milt Stowe

organization City of Porterville

date March 28, 1986

street & number P.O. Box 432, 291 N. Main St.

telephone (209) 784-1400 Ext. 461

city or town Porterville

state California 93258

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Kathryn Swattson

title

date

12/8/86

For NPS use only

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

William B. Bushong
for Keeper of the National Register

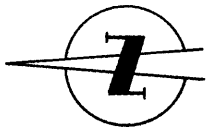
date 3/31/87

Attest:

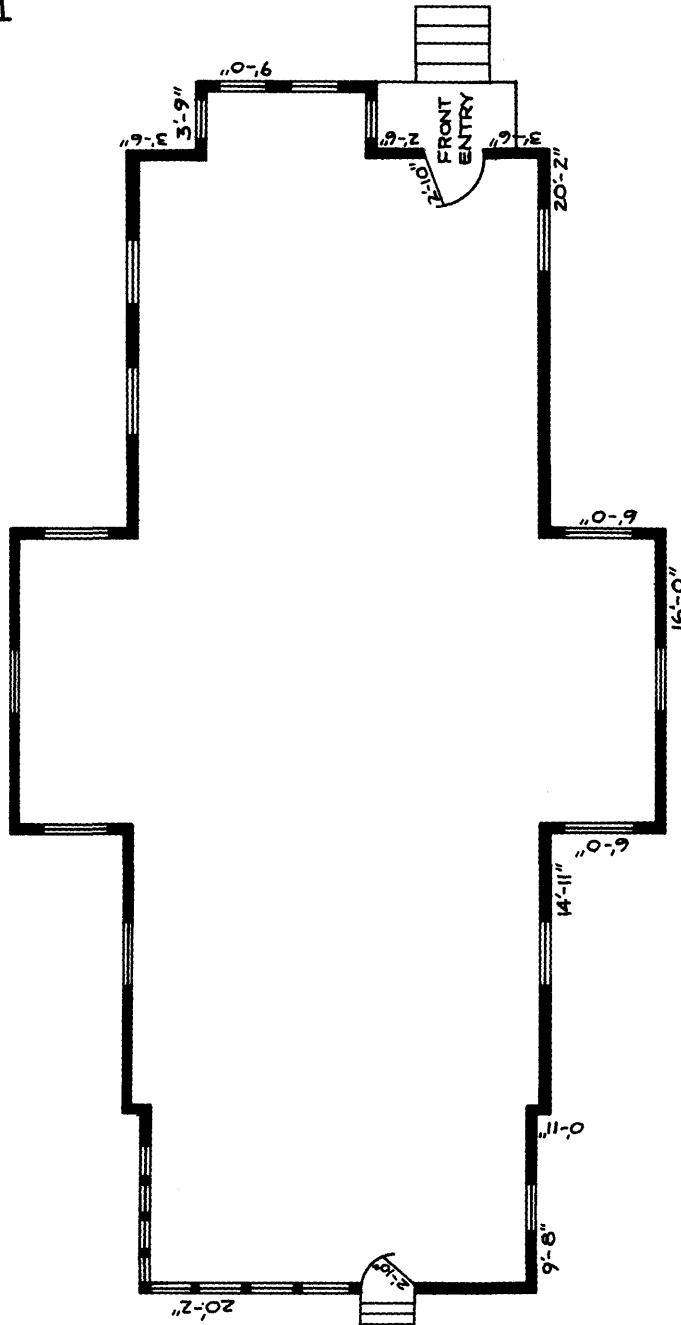
Chief of Registration

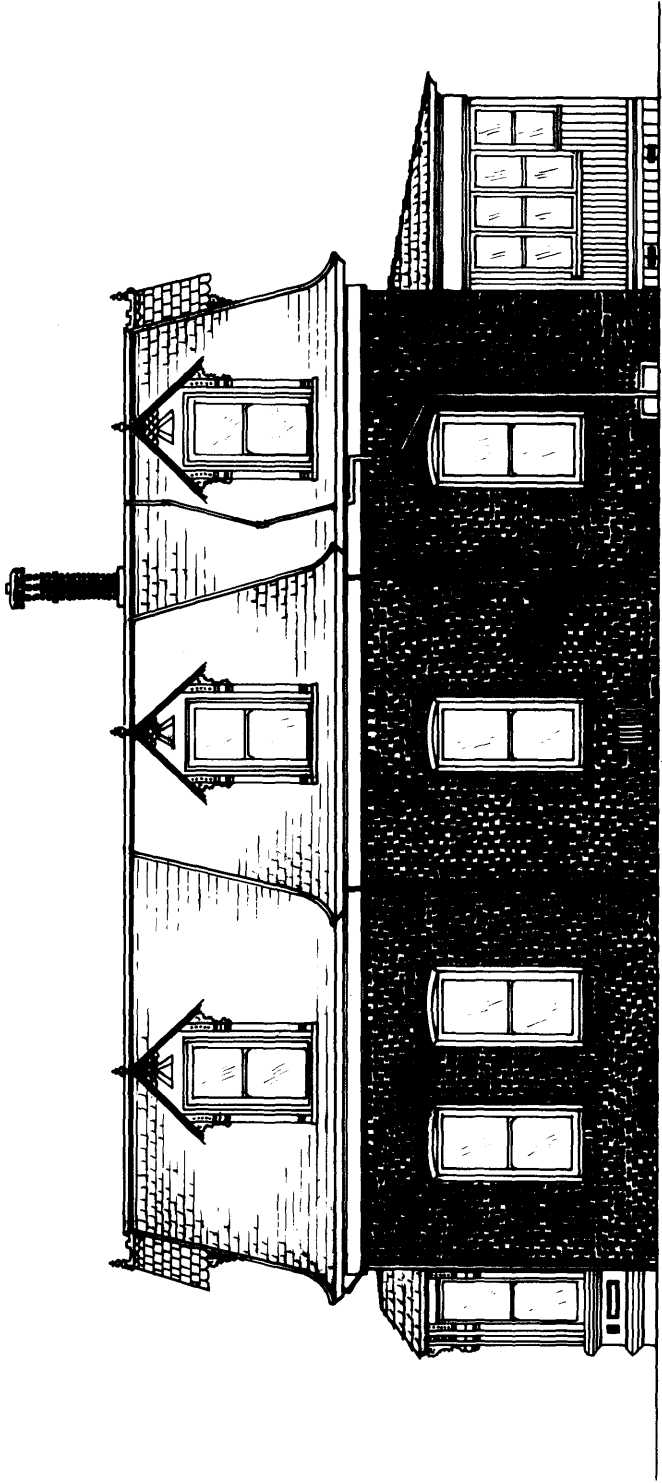
MORTON AVE.

ZALUD HOUSE



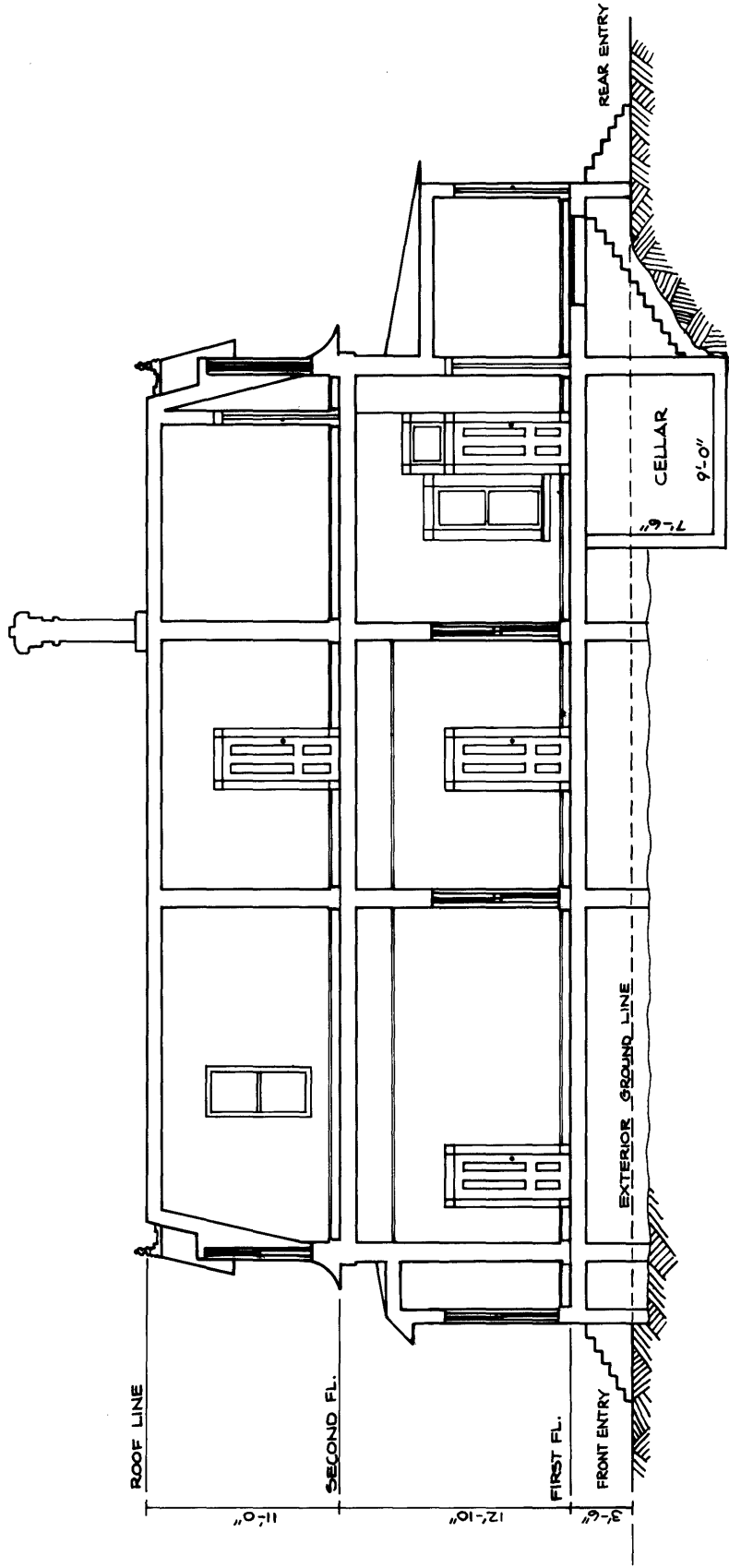
PLAN VIEW
SCALE 1" = 10'





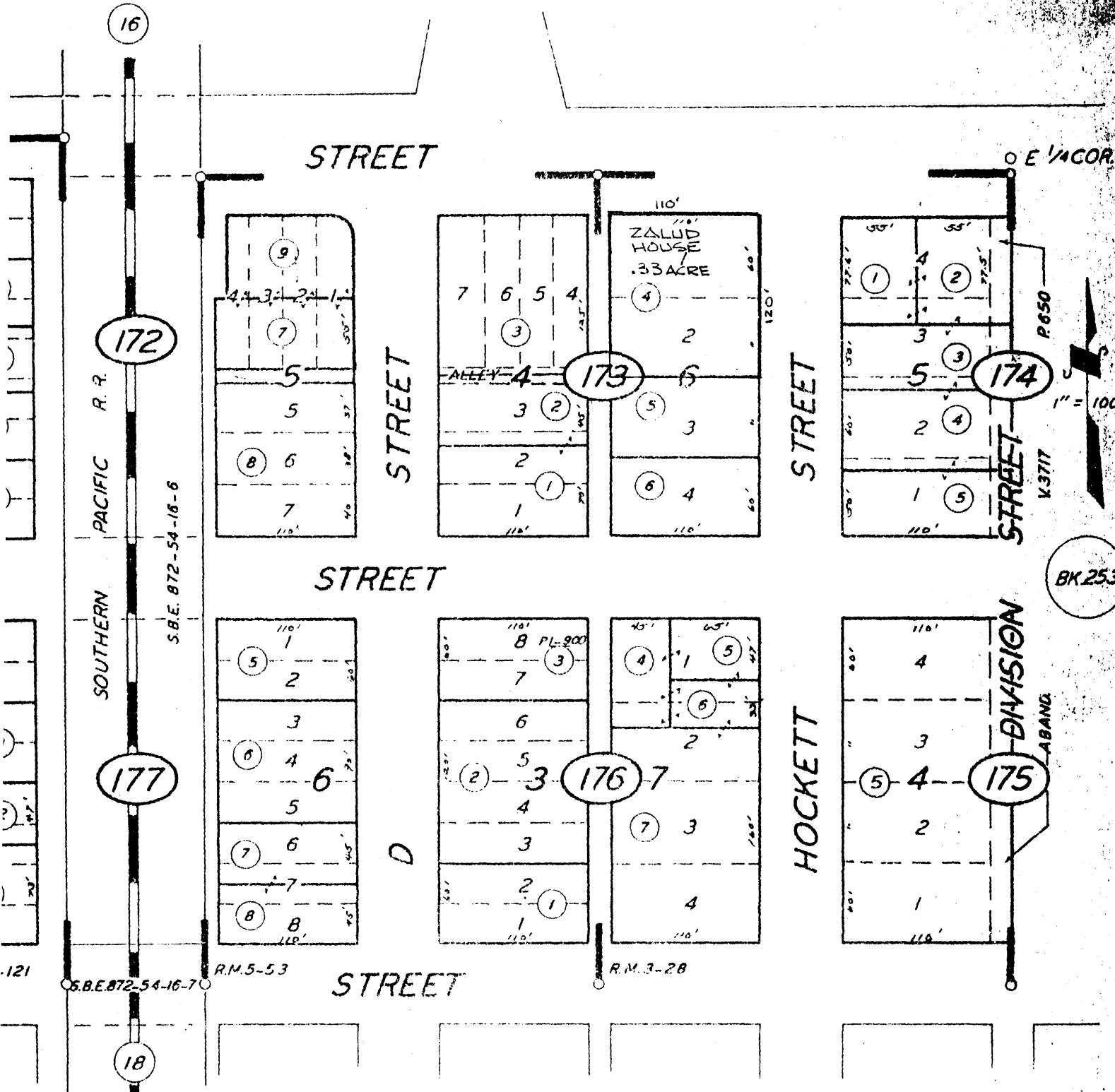
Zalud House

NORTH ELEVATION
APPROX. SCALE 1" = 10'



ZALUD HOUSE
 NORTH ELEVATION
 APPROX. SCALE 1" = 10'

12/2/21

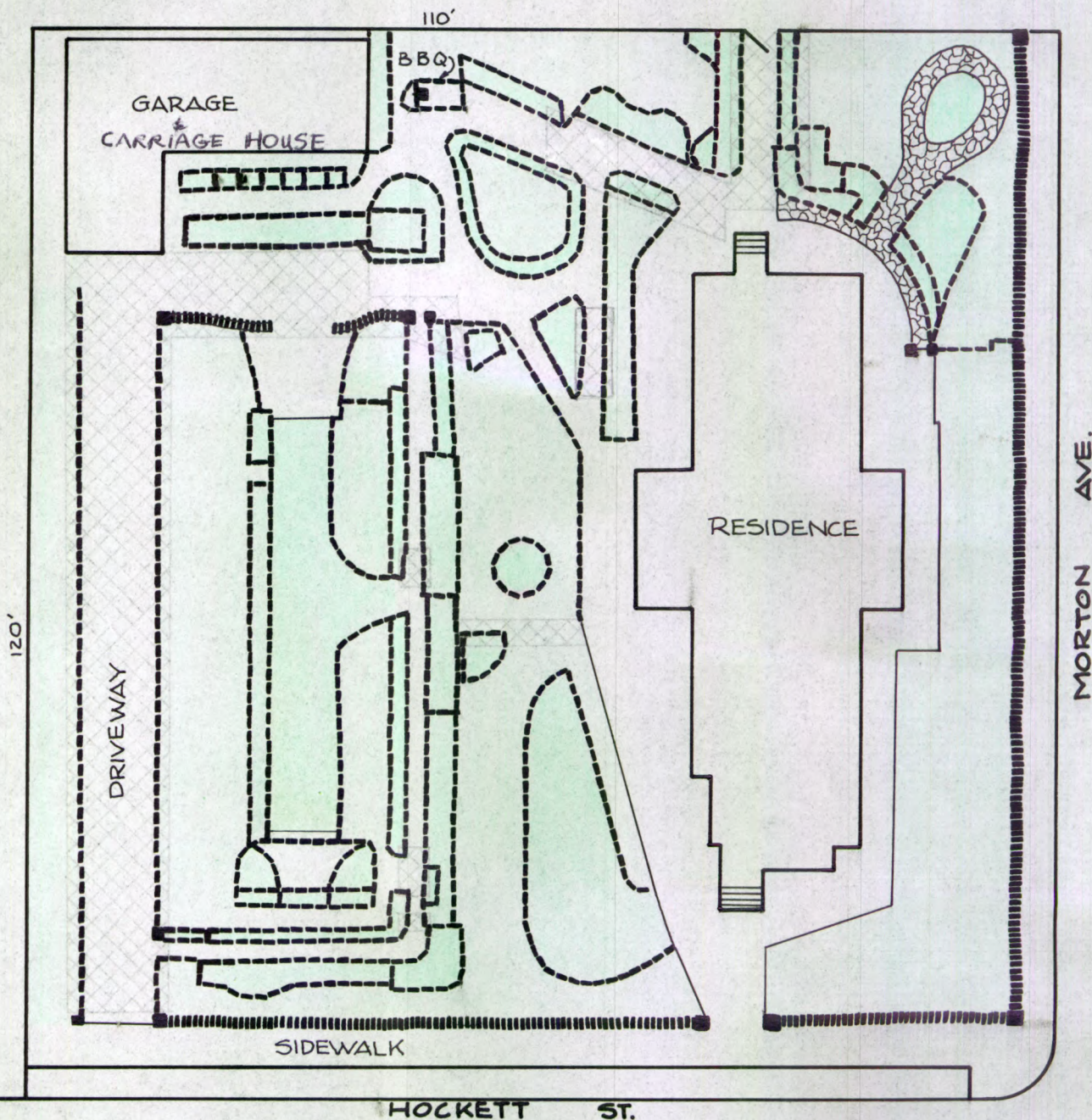


CITY OF PORTERVILLE




ASSESSOR'S MAPS BK. 252, PG. 17.

COUNTY OF TULARE, CALIF.

NOTE - ASSESSOR'S BLOCK NUMBERS SHOWN IN ELLIPSES
RESPECTIVE PARCEL NUMBERS SHOWN IN CIRCLES



LEGEND

-  ARBOR
-  PLANTER
-  BRICK WALL

**ZALUD HOUSE
GARDEN**

PLAN VIEW - SCHEMATIC