

PH0362701

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED AUG 17 1976

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Jose Joaquin Castro Adobe, also called San Andreas House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

184 Old Adobe Road

CITY, TOWN

Watsonville

STATE
California

VICINITY OF

CODE

06

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

16th

COUNTY

Santa Cruz

CODE

087

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. David Potter

STREET & NUMBER

184 Old Adobe Road

CITY, TOWN

Watsonville

VICINITY OF

STATE

California

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Recorder's Office

STREET & NUMBER

701 Ocean St.

CITY, TOWN

Santa Cruz, California

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

California History Plan

DATE

August 1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

California Department of Parks and Recreation

CITY, TOWN

P. O., Box 2390, Sacramento, CA 95811

STATE

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 Castro Adobe is an isolated, rectangular building two stories tall. The exterior walls are of typical adobe construction: adobe bricks covered with plaster and painted white.

There is a low gable roof covered with wood shingles, featured only by a single chimney. The edge of the roof is close to the wall at the gable end, and along the front and back the eaves project with the rafters exposed.

The typical window has a simple flat opening, surrounded on all sides with plain molding, and a slipsill at the bottom. It is divided horizontally into two sashes and is double hung. Each sash is divided into six panes.

The main entrance is in the center of the front of the house. Above that is another door which serves as entrance to the second floor. The upper door is reached by an exterior stairway at the front of the building, which was returned during the restoration to its original orientation and ascends from east to west toward the center of the second floor gallery.

The main door itself has a simple flat opening and is surrounded with plain molding like the windows. It is a plain French-type doorway, recessed slightly into the wall. Each door in the pair has a lower wood panel and two rectangular panes of glass above. The threshold is at the level of the front porch and is reached without steps.

In the front, the first floor opens out onto a covered walkway. On the second floor, a gallery extends the length of the building. Square wooden posts chamfered in portions of their length, extend from ground to eaves. Reinforcing metal rods extending from the interior beams pass through the adobe walls along both front and back.

During an earlier restoration, concrete buttresses were added to help support the south side wall and a carport was added to the north side. Near the carport is a tool shed, constructed of adobe in recent years.

Landscaping of the property has been tastefully executed utilizing many of the native and exotic plantings associated with Hispanic settlement in California. Bare earth walkways are bordered by coastal sage, pepper trees, loquats and olives, and the galleried front porch is draped with ancient grape vines. The subtle landscaping compliments the adobe and helps to maintain an atmosphere appropriate to the period of the building.

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 checked="" 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exploration/Settlement	

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Jose Joaquin Castro

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Castro Adobe is one of the few remaining adobes in the county dating from the Hispanic period. It was built by Joaquin Castro*, who came to California as a boy of 6 with his father, a soldier in the Anza party of 1776.

The following biographical material on Joaquin Castro and his father is taken from Los Fundadores by Leon Rowland:

CASTRO, Joaquin Isidro

Born in 1732 in Sinaloa. Came as a soldier in 1776 Anza party. He brought his wife, Martina Botiller, also a native of Sinaloa. When Santa Clara mission was established in 1777 he was sent to the guard there. They lived in or near San Jose until Joaquin Isidro died at Monterey in 1802. Martina died in Santa Cruz in 1813. They brought eight children and an eight year old Indian boy servant, Francisco Antonio.

(among the children listed)

Joaquin, aged 6 in 1776. Married in 1791 at Mission Dolores, Antonia Amador, native of Loreto, daughter of Pedro Amador. They baptised 11 children at San Carlos and Santa Cruz. Antonia died at Santa Cruz in 1827 and Joaquin in 1830 married Rosalia Briones, aged 14, daughter of Manuel Briones of San Jose. They had four children. Joaquin died in 1838 at Santa Cruz.

Joaquin Castro was granted the Rancho San Andres in 1833 on the condition that he occupy the property and build a house on it. Exactly when he built the house is not recorded, but since it is known that he built the house for his second wife, it could have been built any time after 1830. Robert Becker of the Bancroft Library proposes that the building could date later than the 1830's and possibly as late as the 1850's. He bases his opinion on the Weeks diseno of 1846, which shows two small "casas" and a corral on the rancho, but nearer the ocean. The 1860 Tracey survey shows, in addition to the above, the present adobe which is identified as "Jose Castro's house". Furthermore, the timbers of the building show circular saw marks, and although lumber was cut on Rancho San Andreas in the 1830's, power milling was not carried on in Santa Cruz County until after 1840.

* Note: Jose Joaquin Castro is generally referred to as simply Joaquin Castro.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hoover and Rensch. Historic Spots in California. 3rd edition, revised. Stanford University Press. 1966.
 Rowland, Leon. Annals of Santa Cruz. privately printed, Santa Cruz, California. 1947
 Rowland, Leon. Los Fundadores. Academy of California Church History, Fresno. 1951.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 9 1/2

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,0	6,0,5	8,6,0	4,0	8,9	3,6,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING				
C							D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mark Taylor / Museum Assistant

ORGANIZATION

Santa Cruz County Historical Museum

DATE

October 16, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

118 Cooper Street

TELEPHONE

425-2540

CITY OR TOWN

Santa Cruz

STATE

California

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

Debra Meadows

TITLE

Director, Dept. of Parks and Recreation

DATE

AUG 40 1978
AUG 10 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Attest

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

12/12/98

ATTEST

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12/6/26

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Joaquin and his children formed one of the most influential families in the county during Mexican days. Besides the San Andreas rancho held by Joaquin, the Castros owned the Aptos, Soquel, Soquel Augmentation, and Refugio ranchos. Together, Joaquin and his children owned more land than any other family in the county before or since. Joaquin himself was also involved in local politics and was alcalde of the Villa de Branciforte in 1831.

The building exhibits strong elements of the so-called "Monterey Colonial Style," which was a fusion of Yankee and Mexican building traditions, originating in nearby Monterey in the early 1830's. This translation of the American frame house into the local adobe vernacular produced a form characterized by two stories of height, with a two story gallery extending across the facade, a low pitched shingled roof, the use of imported American glass and other appurtenances, and the use of East Coast window and door framing techniques. The Castro adobe is the only remaining example in Santa Cruz County of this particular architectural type. It has been carefully restored. Plantings around the house are of the type traditionally associated with the Hispanic Era. The building retains a strong feeling of early California, and is an outstanding link with the Santa Cruz area's early history.