

PH00 76261

STATE: California	
COUNTY: San Mateo	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
AUG 14 1973	

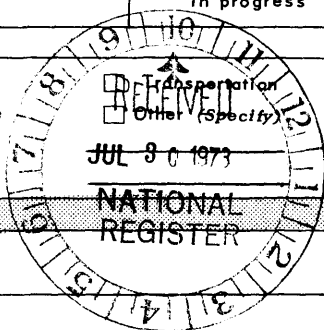
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME	
COMMON: Alpine Inn Beer Garden	
AND/OR HISTORIC: Casa de Tableta (Felix Buelna's)	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 3915 Alpine Road			
CITY OR TOWN: Portolá Valley			
STATE California	CODE 06	COUNTY: San Mateo	CODE 081

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	OWNERSHIP <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	STATUS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	



4. OWNER OF PROPERTY	
OWNER'S NAME: John R. Alexander and Donald D. Horther	
STREET AND NUMBER: 3915 Alpine Road	
CITY OR TOWN: Portolá Valley	STATE: California
	CODE 06

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: San Mateo County Recorder's Office	
STREET AND NUMBER: Hall of Records	
CITY OR TOWN: Redwood City	STATE: California
	CODE 06

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS	
TITLE OF SURVEY: State Landmark No. 825	
DATE OF SURVEY: August 1968 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: California State Department of Parks & Recreation	
STREET AND NUMBER: Box 2390	
CITY OR TOWN: Sacramento	STATE: California
	CODE 06

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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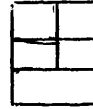
7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" 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

During its first fifty years the facade of this saloon was very similar to the way it appears today. It often served as a place to display political posters, circus advertisements, etc. The redwood exterior was given no attention with paint. To secure a new leasee in 1904, the owner painted the building a pristine white and raised the false front as it appears today. Recently the marquee was bolstered with a few posts. During its heyday before Prohibition a large, gold and black sign announced "The Wunder." During the building's lifetime numerous small lean-to, shed-like additions have appeared and disappeared on both sides. In the 1930s the addition of rest rooms created a permanent appendage across the rear.

Originally the interior was divided into five small rooms. Recently all partitions were removed to create one large room. The old bar, which had stood opposite the swinging doors in the narrow bar room, was pushed back along a side wall.



A significant fact is that the structure looks much the same after nearly one hundred and twenty-five years of mistreatment by patrons, leasees, and owners.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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) **ca. 1851**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The small insignificant wooden building with little structural changes holds several distinctions:

- (1) It served as a rendezvous for the Spanish-speaking Californios in the 1850s and 1860s when they were being harrassed by the invading populace.
- (2) It was located strategically at the junction of an Indian trail used by Californios and Americans to cross the San Francisco Peninsula, and of an old cattle and logging road, Arrastrado, to San José.
- (3) It has been used for dispensing liquor throughout all the American Period in California history.

After the American-Mexican War many Californios were pushed from their homes by the Gold Rush emigrants. At this time Maximo Martínez, the grantee of Rancho del Corte de Madera, gave a friend, Félix Buelna, ninety-five acres of land. The nearby city, San José, passed an ordinance prohibiting Sunday gambling and all Sabbath desecrating amusements. Buelna undertook the philanthropic enterprise of providing a roadhouse on this property. There his displaced friends met to play Monte. In 1867 Buelna leased el casa de tableta to a Mexican, Jesus Ramos, and a German-Italian, Fernando Valencia. The following year Buelna lost all of his property in a poker game for "forty and eight pesos" to William Eccles Stanton, an Irish teamster.

Leasing the gambling house to ^{an}Englishman, William Tate Philpott, disrupted the haven for Californios. After 1875 Stanton hired an emigrant from the Azores, Rodriquez Crovello, as barkeeper, and the saloon acquired his nickname, "Chapete's." Nearby construction caused business to flourish, and the new Stanford University provided a different patronage--students. University dignitaries were reminded by the County Board of Supervisors to "missionize at home before crossing the creek." (the county boundary) Saloons were eradicated in all surrounding towns, but this rural spot was invincible. Even a "dry zone" around the U.S. Army Camp Frémont did not include this saloon.

Its sign, "The Wunder," emphasized the international flavor and invulnerability of the structure. With Prohibition this sign was blackened, and the place was referred to as a picnic park. Nevertheless, the purpose remained unchanged. The doors never ceased "swinging."

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Regnery, Mrs. David C. (Dorothy F.), Buelna's Indestructible Bar,
San Mateo, San Mateo County Historical Association, 1969.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

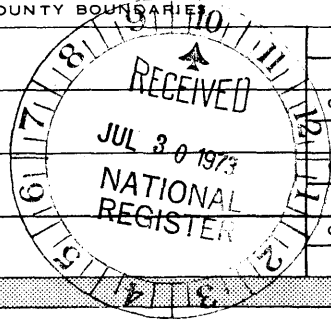
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37 ° 22 ' 57 "	122 ° 11 ' 33 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM
10/571470
4137370

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1.9 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



CD

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Dorothy F. Regnery**

ORGANIZATION: **---** DATE: **16 April 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER: **488 Westridge Drive**

CITY OR TOWN: **Portolá Valley** 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]*
State Historic Preservation Officer
Title: _____

Date: **July 17, 1973**

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Robert W. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: *8/14/73*

ATTEST: *[Signature]*
Keeper of The National Register

Date: *8 6 73*