

PH0076457

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
California
COUNTY:
Santa Clara
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE
OCT 29 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
McCullagh-Jones House
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
18000 Overlook Road
CITY OR TOWN:
Los Gatos CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
10
STATE: California CODE: 06 COUNTY: Santa Clara CODE: 085

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 type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<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:
Dr. Dale Williams c/o W. R. Hamsher Real Estate
STREET AND NUMBER:
La Canada Building - 3 1/2 No. Santa Cruz Avenue
CITY OR TOWN:
Los Gatos 95030 STATE: California CODE: 06

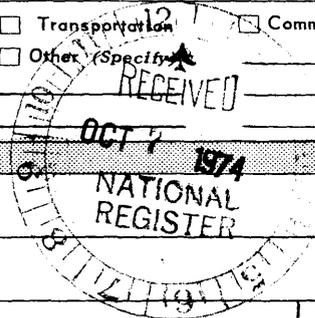
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Registry of Deeds, Santa Clara Co. Court House Bk 89
STREET AND NUMBER:
139 North First Street
CITY OR TOWN:
San Jose 95113 STATE: California CODE: 06

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Santa Clara County Historic Heritage Com.
DATE OF SURVEY: Aug. 1973 Federal State County Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
County Office, West Hedding Street
STREET AND NUMBER:
70 West Hedding Street
CITY OR TOWN:
San Jose 95110 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

The following description of the McCullagh House appeared in the August, 1902 issue of House and Garden:

"The place is a part of an old Spanish grant called the Rancho Rinconada de Los Gatos, meaning "the corner of the cats" (wild cats). It is situated on a gently sloping hillside near the town of Los Gatos. The house faces east; and lying as it does, about three hundred feet above a valley, it enjoys a superb view in that direction. Across the valley are the mountains of the Coast Range. Mt. Hamilton rises above its neighbors there, and the celebrated Lick Observatory is seen upon the summit.

The old California missions have plainly been the starting point of the architectural design. Those Mexican pioneers who built in California nearly a century and a half ago have left their impress on the land, even though many of their picturesque monastic establishments have now crumbled to unrecognizable ruin. The quiet simplicity of those buildings, their low elevations, helped by the low angles of their roofs and gables of wide spreading curves made fitting outlines for the genial landscapes of California. Add to this the romantic story of the early fathers, the fortitude and zeal of de Galvez, Junipero Serra and a dozen other leaders, and there is sufficient impulse for the attempt to reproduce in modern houses the beauty of a San Juan Capistrano, a San Fernando or San Juan Bautista.

The above structures were cruder in detail than some of the other missions; but in the design of the present house, the spirit of all the buildings of that early period, rather than that of any special group, has been successfully expressed by the architect, Mr. Willis Polk. There is an agreeable absence of fussy detail; the parts of the design are large; and wall surfaces have been broken by openings as little as possible. The low walls are covered with a nearly white rough stucco made to look as much as possible like adobe, the material of which the missions were built. The roofs are of the so-called "Mexican" terra-cotta tile, of a bright red color. The principal feature of the front of the house is a broad open corridor, one end of which is shaded by two redwood trees, planted in 1883,--the sequoia sempervirens. In an interior view of the corridor on this page is a wall lantern from the mission of La Purissima near Santa Barbara. On the opposite page, the other end of the corridor is shown; where, beside a beautiful low doorway, stands the papyrus antiquorum.

The live-oak grove penetrated by a drive over which an ivy arch has been reared continues to the southwest of the house and screens the stables, the cowyard and chicken yard. Immediately to the west of the house, is a space enclosed upon the north by a recently constructed pergola and also by a single screen wall which projects from the house and contains the garden gate--an entrance to the pergola. In the topping of this wall the curbed gable at San Luis Rey Mission has been reproduced."

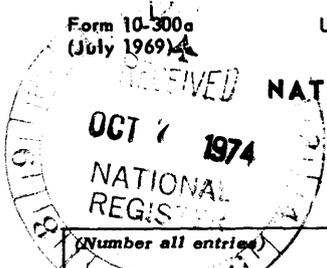
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

(See continuation Sheet)

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#7, Description Continued --

The following account, taken from "The McCullagh Estate Story", discusses the construction of the house and subsequent alterations:

"In the spring of 1870, the McCulloughs, Frank H. and Mary Evans McCullough, came to Los Gatos as a bride and groom. Mr. McCullough had been in the shipping business in Philadelphia but was in rather poor health. His wife thought that he might improve if they lived in California; this proved to be the case because they both lived to ripe old ages. Mr. McCullough passed away at the age of 84 in 1937, and Mrs. McCullough passed away at 85 in 1938.

They purchased the site of the present home which, at that time, was a two-story farm house. The entire site consisted of 160 acres and extended from Bayview Ave. far up into the hills. The only developed street in Los Gatos at that time was Glendridge Ave. and the area above Glenridge was just an open field up to McCullough's gate, hence the name of the original place "Longfield".

In 1873, Mr. and Mrs. McCullough sold the property and returned to Philadelphia. In 1880, they again came out to California, to remain the rest of their lives. They purchased their former home, the two-story farm house and ten acres, but paid more for it than they did for the original 160 acres they had sold previously. In 1901, the old farm house was redesigned by the famous architect Willis Polk. The house was cut in half and pulled apart by two teams of horses, and the present loggia was built between the two halves. A small plaque hangs in the back of the house, under an overhang commemorating the day the house was divided. The exterior finish of the house was designed as a replica of the San Miguel Mission. Mrs. McCullough was a great student of history and had a particular interest in the California Missions; she was also a great horticulturist, being at one time the president of the American Peony Society. Her peony garden was world-famous.

The entrance of the house was at the head of Pennsylvania Avenue, where the two gates marked the present entrance of 600 Pennsylvania Apartments. Mrs. McCullough's peony gardens were where the present apartments are now. A winding road leading from the gate up to the house was lined with citrus trees, many of which are still standing.

Mr. and Mrs. McCullough traveled extensively and brought trees and seeds from all parts of the world. The large Cedar of Lebanon tree at the rear of the house was actually brought from Lebanon as a small seedling. The tree is about 80 years old at this time. The large Cypress trees in the front of the house were supposedly planted as seedlings and have obtained their present height over these many years.

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#7, Description Continued --

The McCulloughs had a fabulous private water supply which originated from a 12-acre piece up above the house in the hills. The water came down by gravity and was stored in two large underground tanks, each of which had a capacity of 55,000 gallons. This made it possible for Mrs. McCullough to develop her beautiful gardens in the manner she did.

After the deaths of Mr. and Mrs. McCullough, the estate was sold to Dr. and Mrs. Horace Jones in 1939. A great many changes had to be made on the inside of the house, but the general character of the house was maintained. The exterior was preserved without any change except for the addition of the back patio. Another construction problem that faced the Joneses was the roof. It was necessary to take off every tile from the roof and put on an asbestos roof and then replace the tiles. The Joneses sold the property, including the house, in 1961. It was the intention of the builder of the 600 Pennsylvania Ave. to use the home as a recreation center and community center for the apartment at 600 Pennsylvania. The use of the house did not materialize."



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input 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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The McCullagh-Jones House is one of the most sensitive interpretations of Mission Revival style. Its designed, Willis Jefferson Polk, was a leading San Francisco Bay Area architect of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Very few "Mission Revival" structures are known to have been designed by Polk, which makes the McCullagh House a rare example of his efforts in this direction.

But the significance of this building goes beyond its connection with a famous architect. While most works on Missions were exotic and bizarre in detail, they were actually quite superficial. The McCullagh-Jones House, on the contrary, succeeds in capturing much of the spirit of early Spanish buildings without copying them. The arrangement of its rooms, the ordering of its spaces is resolved in terms of the external characteristics of design.

The McCullagh-Jones House is an example of efforts centered along the eastern seaboard to move away from ostentatiousness and formality toward a means of expression more in keeping with local building traditions. It was probably for this reason that the House was selected by a group of Eastern architects as the first West Coast building to be written up in their newly-found magazine HOUSE AND GARDEN in 1902.

The McCullagh House is one of only three* structures designed by Polk which remains intact in the Santa Clara County. Thus, the house has merit and has been recognized on both the local and national level.

The home has local historic significance due to the fact that two of the town's foremost families resided here (McCullagh, 1901-1938; Jones 1939-1961).

Francis (Frank) Hepburn McCullagh (1843-1937) was the son of Robert Poalk McCullagh (1811-1893), an organizer and first Secretary-Treasurer of the Trust, Safe Deposit and Insurance Co. of Philadelphia. The Frank McCullaghs arrived in Los Gatos in 1870 and purchased 160 acres including the "Willis Polk" home site.

Pennsylvania and Wissahickon Avenues were named by the McCullaghs. F.H. McCullagh, an orchardist, was Vice-President of Commerical Bank of L.G.

(See continuation sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Kirker, Harold, California's Architectural Frontier. Huntington Library, San Marino, Ca., 1960, pp. 120-130
 Record of Deeds, Santa Clara County, Ca. 1901-1968
 "The McCullagh Estate Story", Pat Reilly, San Jose Light Opera Association, 1967
House & Garden 1902
 Los Gatos TIMES-OBSERVER July 12, 1973
 Whiffen, Marcus, American Architecture Since 1780. M.I.T. Press, Cambridge, Mass. 1969

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

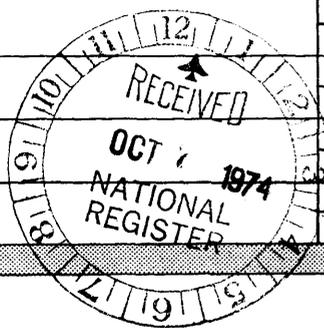
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37° 13' 37" (North)	121° 59' 35" (West)	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM
 10/589310
 4126320
 CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1.8 acre site**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
George G. Bruntz
 ORGANIZATION: **Los Gatos Heritage Preservation Society** DATE: **Feb. 12, 1974**
 STREET AND NUMBER: **17041 Los Robles Way** Rev: **Apr. 25, 1974**
 CITY OR TOWN: **Los Gatos** STATE: **California 95030** CODE: **06**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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 Historic Preservation Officer
 Date: July 30, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.
[Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 Date: 10/29/74
 ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date: 10-25-74

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#8, Significance Continued --

Dr. Horace Jones has been a beloved figure in Los Gatos for over fifty years as the town's leading physician and surgeon, school board trustee and civic spirited citizen.

As of April 19, 1974, the McCullagh-Jones House qualified as a local historic landmark by Town Council vote. It is one of eight of the first designations recommended by the Los Gatos Heritage Preservation Advisory Committee under the provisions of the recently enacted Landmark and Historic Preservation Ordinance. (#1133, adopted November 5, 1973)

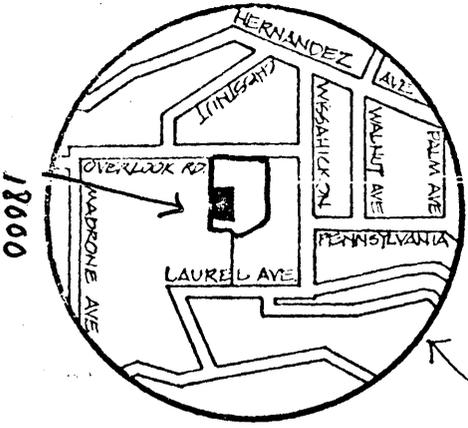
On August 1, 1973 the Historical Heritage Commission of Santa Clara County acting in their advisory capacity, informed the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors of their resolution adopted July 31, 1973: i.e., The Frank McCullagh home at 18000 Overlook Road, Los Gatos, California should be added to the Preliminary Inventory of County Historical Landmarks of 1962.

A request from the local Town Council for County Landmark designation by the Board of Supervisors is now being made.

The property owner wishes to develop his land in order to realize the largest financial return possible on his investment. This precludes the preservation of this landmark. The Los Gatos Heritage Preservation Society feels that the house must be saved.

* One of these, Le Petite Trianon, at DeAnza College Campus, Cupertino, California, received National Registry stature Nov. 15, 1972





VICINITY MAP

S 7° 53' 05" W

CONC. WALL

BRICK PATIO

2. STORY STUCCO HOUSE w/ BASEMENT

36" RAMP CONC. PORCH

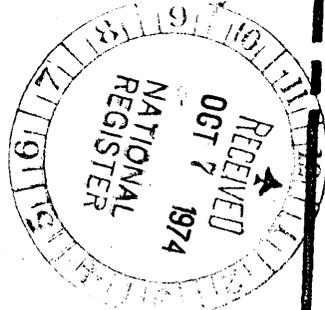
STAIRS

PROPOSED BOUNDARY

S 84° 43' 00" E

30' BAY 10' 30' R.W.D.

(Property boundaries outlined in Red)



JONES-McCULLAGH HOUSE
 HISTORIC DESIGNATION
 TOWN OF LOS GATOS PLANNING DEPT. • JAN. 14, 1974 • DRAWN BY: RTE

18000 OVERLOOK RD.