city, town

local

state

#### **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service** For NPS use only **National Register of Historic Places** AUG | 0 1983 received Inventory—Nomination Form date entered Received OHP 10/15/82 See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms Type all entries—complete applicable sections Name 1. historic William T. Hendrick House and/or common William T. Hendrick House 2. Location 218 Center Avenue street & number N/A not for publication Pacheco N/A vicinity of city, town California 06 Contra Costa 013 state code county code 3. Classification **Present Use** Category **Ownership** Status \_ district public X\_ occupied agriculture museum x private <u>x</u> building(s) х commercial \_ unoccupied park \_ structure both work in progress educational private residence \_ site **Public Acquisition** Accessible entertainment religious yes: restricted \_ object in process government scientific being considered X yes: unrestricted industrial transportation x N/A military other: no **Owner of Property** name Mark L. Cutler 28 Herriman Court street & number Clayton N/\_Avicinity of CA 94517 city, town state Location of Legal Description 5. Contra Costa County Hall of Records courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. 822 Main Street street & number Martinez CA 94553 city, town state **Representation in Existing Surveys** 6. N/A <u>yes x</u>no title has this property been determined eligible? federal state date county . depository for survey records

## 7. Description

#### Condition

A57

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**Check one** X original site

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N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Check one

The William T. Hendrick house was built in 1857 as a rectangle 20 x 40 feet with a porch surrounding the house. A kitchen of unknown dimensions was located ten feet from the back of the house and has since been leveled. In the 1890's the house was expanded on the west to measure  $42\frac{1}{2} \times 40$  feet with a slanted bay window on the front. The house retains its appearance from the 1890's remodeling.

The building is a single story house with a raised basement. The porch extends from the front door 25 feet toward the east side of the house. The stairs extend in two landings to the ground elevation. The stairs have been reconditioned due to decay and weathering. A door and three windows have been added to the raised portion of the basement and were not part of the early structure. The roof is hipped with a gablet on the east and a cross gable over the 1899's addition. Composition shingles have been placed over shakes. The east side has two original windows with another door in the middle. The porch extends across this side of the house. A pair of French doors have recently been added to the right of the door. The front (south) of the house contains two windows and the main entrance door in the earlier section of the house. The porch extends across the eastern half of the front. The 1890's extension protrudes to the left of the entrance in a slanted bay. Patterned shingles fill the gable.

Most of the interior has been left intact with very few changes. The windows are all double hung sash except for those in the raised basement. The wainscoting, doors, and door knobs are original and have been carefully maintained. The door trims are intact but those of the original structure differ somewhat in design from those in the addition. Many brass light and bathroom fixtures are also original. The addition to the house contains a parlor with heavy redwood sliding parlor doors and a brick fireplace, although the fireplace is currently closed up.

Rehabilitation of the house has mostly consisted of new interior wallpaper and interior and exterior paint. Some of the lath and plaster walls were replaced by sheetrock. The electrical wiring was replaced and the roof reshingled. The foundation, found to be crumbling, was replaced and new plumbing has been installed.

The original house was a simple rectangular structure with a hipped roof and encircling veranda. The original clapboard siding can be seen on the north and east sides, while the shiplap of the facade still remains on the south. In the 1890's the building was enlarged on the west to create its present appearance. The new addition included a large front parlor, bedroom and bathroom. The new addition was somewhat Queen Anne in character with a slanted bay window and fishscale patterned shingles under the gable. The interior moldings in this newer part of the house are Eastlake in character.

### 8. Significance



#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The William T. Hendrick house is significant for its historic association with the development of Pacheco, California. It is located two blocks from what was once the center of town. The house is one of the last remnants of the early town, which was once a major center of activity in Contra Costa County.

William T. Hendrick was the owner of the largest flour mill in Contra Costa County which was located directly to the south of his home. He was 29 years old in 1857 when he came to Pacheco accompanied by his wife Julia and new born son, Myron. Personal finances being rather meager, he built a small house, which still survives as the eastern portion of the present structure.

Pacheco was the hub of activity for Contra Costa County between 1858 and 1873. As cattle herds in the area diminished, the settlers turned their efforts to raising grain. The following was written by John S. Hittell, an attache of the <u>Alta</u> <u>California</u>, which appeared in the <u>Contra Costa Gazette</u> September 29, 1860; "The town of Pacheco or Pachecoville is one of the newest in the State, being only a year and a half old. It is built at the head of navigation of the Pacheco slough and is the shipping port of Pacheco, San Ramon, Diablo, and Taylor valleys. The distance to Martinez is four miles, further than farmers like to haul their grain when they can avoid it. To bring the shipping port nearer to them, Pacheco was built. Last year Pacheco shipped 180,000 sacks of grain, this year it will ship 200,000 of which nine tenths are wheat and one tenth barley."

Anticipating the rising demand for a mill, William T. Hendrick erected one on a site adjacent to his house. The flour mill was powered by a 45 horsepower steam engine fueled by coal taken from nearby Nortonville and Somersville. Every day the "mill team" as it was called made a trip to the coal mines bringing back a load of soft coal. The Pacheco flour mill was described in the Contra Costa Gazette of August 23, 1862 as follows: "This mill, which runs by steam power, has been kept very busy for the last four or five weeks. Night and day for a month past with scarcely any intermission, the process of converting wheat into flour, has been going on. The average quantity of flour manufactured is about one hundred barrels per day or about the amount of three thousand barrels per month. The proprietor, William T. Hendrick, attends carefully to business, and turns out as good an article of flour as can be made from the wheat furnished."

William T. Hendrick was an influential member of the community of Pacheco. Hendrick's house and mill were of great importance to local Pacheco history. Many people congregated at the mill and at his home while waiting for their flour to be ground, consequently, the house was considered to be a central gathering place for daily business and social activity. Proving his social influence, Mr. Hendrick was one of the

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Loucks, A. <u>A History of Pacheco</u>; Contra Costa Library, Pleasant Hill Branch. <u>History of Contra Costa County</u>; Contra Costa Library, Pleasant Hill Branch. <u>Contra Costa Gazette</u>

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FHR-8-300A (11/78) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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founders of first Odd Fellows Lodge in the area. He was also treasurer of the Contra Costa Agricultural Society and the Pacheco Engine Company, No. 1, a social and fire protection society.

Earthquakes and fires continually plagued the growth of Pacheco. However, the biggest deterrent to growth for Pacheco was the yearly flooding in the area. Even with yearly natural setbacks the citizens of the town undauntedly struggled to conquer the area as is illustrated in the following article by the editor of the <u>Contra Costa Gazette</u> February 1, 1862, "The Creek is open, and the 'flourishing town of Pacheco' is surrounded by unfathomable depths of mud and water, business is dull, and our town is not in holiday attire; still, Phoenix-like, we have twice arisen from the ashes, and within us we feel the inherent strength necessary for arother arising, and know it will come. What fire would not consume, water will not quench -- hence, Pacheco may be said to be un-'stopped'".

Gradually, the leaders of the area began to relocate. William T. Hendrick sold his house and mill in 1868 and left. The natural disasters prompted Don Salvio Pacheco, a large landowner, to lay out a new townsite that eventually became Concord, California. By 1900 Pacheco resembled a ghost town compared to its earlier bustling days.

William T. Hendrick's house is one of the very few structures that remain in the area of Pachedo as a reminder of the explosive growth and subsequent decline of the town. The center of Pacheco has been complete altered. The only structure that dates to the 1860's, the Eagle Hotel, was remodeled beyond recognition in 1981. Two 1860 era homes were destroyed by fire and four others were demolished by freeway construction, While several other early structures exist nearby, they have suffered numerous alterations over the years. The Hendrick house remains as the best surviving tangible link with the old town of Pacheco.

William T. Hendrick House PARCEL MAP A PORTION OF THE RANCHO LAS A 218 Center Avenue PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF GOD Pacheco, Contra Costa County California, 94553 CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIFOR SUBDIVISION MS 27-SCHELL AND MARTIN, INC. LAND SURVEYING & CIVIL ENGINEERING LAFAYETTE, CALIFORNIA JULY, 1979 SGALE: 1"- 20' Eliza. ARCEI PARCEL

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