

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 William G. Barrett House (Casa Madrona Hotel)

and/or common Casa Madrona Hotel

**2. Location**

street & number 156 Bulkley Avenue      not for publication

city, town Sausalito      vicinity of      congressional district 5th

state California code 06 county Marin code 041

**3. Classification**

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

**4. Owner of Property**

name John W. Mays

street & number 65-F Gate Five Road

city, town Sausalito      vicinity of      state California 94965

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder's Office

street & number Marin County Civic Center

city, town San Rafael      vicinity of      state California 94901

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Historic Resources Inventory has this property been determined eligible?      yes X no

date 1975      federal      state X county      local

depository for survey records State Office of Historic Preservation

city, town P.O. Box 2390, Sacramento      vicinity of      state California 95811

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## 7. Description

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

Situated in the hills of Sausalito, the Casa Madrona Hotel overlooks Richardson Bay, San Francisco Bay and Sausalito's artistic downtown area. This rectangular three story building contains approximately 6,600 square feet and is built on a foundation of brick and concrete. It is a wood frame building with wood siding. It has a low-pitched, broadly projecting hip roof whose eaves, as well as projecting cornice, are supported by single concave curved brackets. On the face of the structure, centered on the roof line, stands a false gable. Two of its three double stack chimneys are situated on either side of the roof; the third stands adjacent to the southernmost exterior wall. The fenestration of the building can be described as having double hung windows flanked by pilasters and protruding sills. The middle floor windows, with the exception of the face of the building, have fishscale shingled hoods which are supported by curved brackets, while the cornice of the structure serves as a hood for the upper floor windows. A pair of arched-headed windows can be found on the second story at the southern side of the building.

The main entrance to the hotel is through the rear of the building, situated on the uphill slope, and leads to the second floor. A second entrance leading to the lower level is located on the southern side of the building. Both entrances are sheltered by a portico whose pilasters, columns and balustraded entablature supports a overhanging pediment. The main entrance portico is flanked by an unenclosed porch.

In 1967 the original veranda at the front of the building on the lower level was enclosed in glass, and a sun deck was added adjacent to it. This veranda supports a columned portico that consists of plain columns with capitals and a turned balustrade which spans the entire width of the second story. A wooden door with glass panels leads from the entrance hall to the portico.

Major interior features contribute to the architectural significance of the building. The long, narrow entrance hall has a series of Victorian panel doors. The door frames are fluted with circular designs in either corner, as are the larger door frames of the sliding wood panel doors which close off rooms for privacy. The windows are also framed in this identical fashion. This pattern is continuous throughout the structure, the wooden wainscoting also having fluted baseboards and trim. The heavily ornamented wooden newel post, situated in the entrance hall, calls attention to the staircase and its double balustrade, one ascending the length of the staircase to the upper floor, the other returning through the entry hall to a second stairway leading to the first floor.

# 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/ 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"/> 1600-1899	<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		

Specific dates 1885 Builder/Architect

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Casa Madrona Hotel, built in 1885, is significant not only for its architectural design and craftsmanship, but for its historic association with the origin and development of Marin County. In 1850, when California was admitted to the Union, Marin was established as an original county. With the creation of the Sausalito Land and Ferry Company, Marin began to flourish. During the late 1860's, this company purchased a vast amount of Sausalito territory, subdivided the land for resale, and initiated a ferry service to San Francisco. This allowed for the development of a commuting community, thus enhancing the growth of Sausalito.

Donald Tillinghast, one of the original incorporators of the Sausalito Land and Ferry Company, met William G. Barrett, a wealthy Vermont born lumber baron, and sold him a picturesque Sausalito hillside property. Here, in 1885, Barrett built his dream house, which he named the Casa Madrona. He and his family lived high above the town in his beautifully designed Italian Villa country home. Architecturally, it was a mastery of craftsmanship, a tall and stately mansion which stood upon the hillside. Its three stories, with handsome porticos and verandas, projecting cornice with curved brackets, and hooded windows, received prominent recognition from the community. This resulted in an article in the Sausalito News in 1885, which praised Mr. Barrett's "New Mansion...its fine appearance, magnificent view", and called the Barrett place "one of the finest improved sites in Sausalito."

In the Great Fire of June 4, 1893, which engulfed much of Sausalito, the Casa Madrona could have met its demise, but the gardens and grounds sustained the only damage. The Barretts occupied the house until 1902, when it was converted into a guest house, and attorney, John P. Gallagher, purchased the Casa Madrona in 1910. For the next thirty years, it was the "Casa Madrona Hotel," the "Gallagher Inn" and, rumor has it, a bordello. It was an era of changing identities for the Hotel, until it was purchased by Floyd Allensby just before World War II.

The heavy rains of 1973-74, in addition to the death of Floyd Allensby, left the fate of the Casa Madrona uncertain. Finally, in 1976, 91 years after its original construction, the Casa Madrona was purchased by its current owner, John Mays. Mr. Mays' intention to restore the once elegant building to its original Victorian condition has met with overwhelming success. Now, due to this carefull renovation, which has retained and enhanced the structure's historical architectural significance, the Casa Madrona has re-emerged as an inviting reminiscence of Sausalito life during the lovely and gracious days of the late 19th century.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Waldhorn, J.L. and Woodbridge, S.B. Victoria's Legacy San Francisco, California:101 Productions, 1978  
Olmsted, Roger and T. H. Watkins, Here Today: San Francisco's Architectural Heritage, Chronicle Books, San Francisco, 1978

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property  $\frac{1}{2}$  (approximate) 22,645 sq. ft.  
Quadrangle name San Francisco North UTM NOT VERIFIED  
Quadrangle scale 1:24000 ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

UMT References

A	1 0	5 4 5	7 2 0	4 1 8 9 9 1 0			
	Zone	Easting		Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
C							
E							
G							
B							
D							
F							
H							

**Verbal boundary description and justification** The property nominated occupies city lot 11, parcel #65-063-26, is 22,645 square feet in size, and includes a principal structure and four outbuildings. The site is basically rectangular with 100 feet of frontage along Bridgeway, extending 192 feet along its

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 John W. Mays

organization Casa Madrona Hotel date November 21, 1979

street & number 156 Bulkley telephone (415) 332-0502

city or town Sausalito state California 94965

# 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Knox in Ellen*

title *52* date May 5 1980

**For HCERS use only**

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

*for W. Ray Luce* date 6/17/80  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: *[Signature]* date 6/13/80  
Chief of Registration

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED

JUN 17 1980

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Representation in Existing Surveys:

Historic Sites Project  
Junior League of San Francisco, Inc.  
2226 Fillmore Street  
San Francisco, California

Local survey, 1963-1968

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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The three fireplaces add a significant dimension to the overall structure and the rooms in which they are situated. They are of classic Victorian design, including add-on mantels and an elaborate overmantel with mirror and "what-not" shelves. The high ceilings accentuate the elaborate plaster rosettes from which suspend chandeliers.

Situated on the property are four outbuildings. They are of simple design, wood framed, with wood siding and a gabled roof. The largest is believed to have been used as a carriage house, while the remaining three may have been utilized for storage or additional quarters.

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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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3

### OUTBUILDINGS

Of the four outbuildings situated on the property, three are believed to be historically significant. They are situated on the south side of the main building, are fully detached, and are built in a row beginning with the uphill structure which faces west toward Bulkley Avenue and ending with the downhill structure facing east towards Bridgeway.

The first structure faces Bulkley Avenue and is the largest of the four structures. The structure appears to have been built between 1901 and 1919 according to a 1919 Sanborn map and enlarged thereafter. This rectangular-shaped structure is built on a slope and is single storied at the uphill level and double storied at the lower level. Its foundation is concrete. It is wood framed with wood shingles throughout the upper story and wood siding on the lower story. It has a gable roof with plain box cornices. The southwest corner of the building projects outward to form a small room and has a separate low gable roof which protrudes outward from the main roof. To the rear of the structure on the first story is an enclosed veranda with glass pane windows and a shedlike roof. Below the veranda on the lower level are two fixed windows. The remaining fenestration of the building varies, combining double hung sash windows on the facade and southwest corner of the building and fixed multipane windows throughout the remainder of the structure. The main entrances face west on the upper level, and consist of two side-by-side hardwood panel doors covered by a hood supported by brackets. These lead into the living areas of the building. A third door is located on the lower level on the north side of the structure and leads into a storage and work area.

The second structure is situated directly below the first. It is a smaller rectangular wood framed, wood sided building which appears to be situated on piers. It has a gable roof which is offset at a right angle on its eastern slope by a low-pitched gable roofed porch. At the rear of the building is a small wood-sided attachment with a rectangular fixed window and a shed roof. Stationary windows appear on either side of the attachment, and wood framed windows appear directly below the gable at the front and rear of the structure. The entrance is on the north side of the building sheltered by a triangular hood supported by brackets.

The structure appears on a 1919 Sanborn map but is believed to have been constructed around 1910 when John P. Gallagher purchased the Casa Madrona. This is also believed to be the case with the third outbuilding.

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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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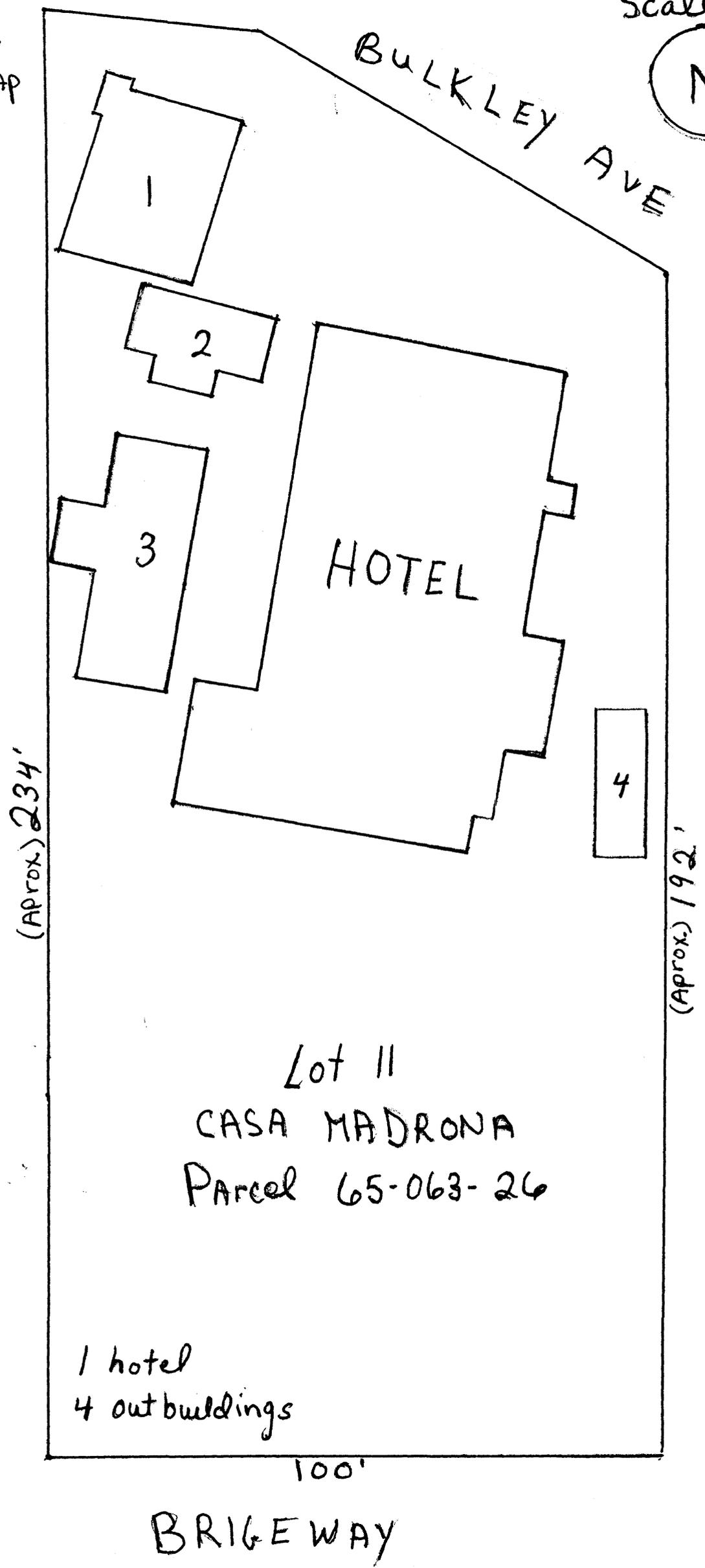
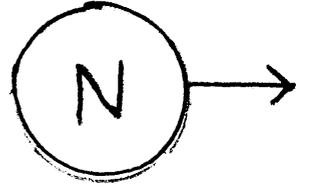
The third structure completes the row of outbuildings on the south side of the main structure. It is an "L" shaped wood frame, wood sided building with a concrete foundation. It has a low pitched gable roof which extends over the portion of the building which forms the "L" shape. This portion of the roof has a lesser pitch than the remainder of the roof. The roof has recently been reshingled with wood due to the deterioration of the original wood shingle. The main entrance is on the west side of the structure and is enclosed by a porch with wood siding and latus stickwork, with a shed roof. A second exterior door is situated on the south side of the building. The fenestration of the structure can be described as having fixed rectangular windows on its south side and fixed rectangular windows below a triangular sectional window conforming to the shape of the gable on the eastern side facing Bridgeway. The window is divided by a single concave curved bracket attached to the roof edge in the center of the gable.

The fourth structure is the smallest of the four outbuildings and is situated on the northeast corner of the property. It is a split-level wood framed, wood sided structure situated on concrete piers. It has a very low-pitched gable roof with projecting eaves. A wooden staircase leads up to the main entrance on the south side of the structure. Two single-sash windows are positioned on either side of the door. A second entrance is at the rear of the building, facing west. A rectangle single-sash hinged window is positioned near this entrance. A pair of slide windows are on the face of the structure. On the lower level, below the staircase, is a third door which leads to a storage area.

0-2164D

Item 10.  
Sketch map

Scale 1" = 20'



Lot II  
CASA MADRONA  
Parcel 65-063-26

1 hotel  
4 outbuildings

BRIGEWAY

Casa Madrona Hotel  
Sausalito, Marin Co. Calif