

State of California - The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
PRIMARY RECORD

Primary #
HRI #
Trinomial
NRHP Status Code

Other Listings
Review Code Reviewer Date

Page 1 of 4 *Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder): Cox House

P1. Other identifier: HP-88-01

*P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted

*a. County Santa Clara County and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a location map as necessary.)

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Cupertino Date 1980 Photorevised T .8 S. ; R .1 W. ; Mount Diablo B.M.

c. Address: 19161 Cox Ave. City Saratoga Zip 95070
d. UTM:(give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone 10S ; mE/ mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

north side of Cox Avenue east of Homes Drive. APN# 386-47-040

*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements, include design, material, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

The one-and-one-half-story Joseph Cox House represents a vernacular Craftsman design from 1915. Houses from the Craftsman era—about 1905 to 1925—embody a local design response to the Arts-and-Crafts movement, as presented in such historic magazines as *Craftsman*. This side-gabled bungalow has many elements typical of the Craftsman period, including horizontal lap siding, wood shingles at the front dormer, knee braces, and creek stone for the chimney and front entry stair side walls. The stonework appears to have been altered recently. The front porch has a lower pitched roof than the main structure, and the beam is tapered. The bargeboards are supported by beveled knee braces and feature decorative notches, typical of the style. The windows are wood, both double-hung and casement.

*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP2. Single family property

*P4. Resources Present: Building Structure Object Site District Element of District Other (Isolates, etc.)



P5b. Description of Photo:
(View, date, accession #)
View facing north, July 2009.

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:

Historic Prehistoric Both
1915, 94 years old.

*P7. Owner and Address:

Yingzhou Dai & Jun Xie
19161 Cox Ave.
Saratoga CA 95070

*P8. Recorded By: (Name, affiliation, and address)

F. Maggi, L. Dill, & J. Kusz
Archives & Architecture, LLC
PO Box 1332
San Jose, CA 95109

*P9. Date Recorded: 10/26/09

*P10. Survey Type: (Describe)

Reconnaissance

*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none".)

Archives & Architecture: City of Saratoga Statement of Historic Context, 2009.

*Attachments:

- None Continuation Sheet District Record Rock Art Record Other (List):
 Location Map Building, Structure, and Object Record Linear Feature Record Artifact Record
 Sketch Map Archaeological Record Milling Station Record Photograph Record

DPR 523A (1/95)

* Required Information

State of California - The Resources Agency
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Primary #
 HRI #

Page 2 of 4

*NRHP/CRHR Status Code 5S3

Resource Name (Assigned by recorder) Cox House

B1. Historic Name: Joseph Cox House

B2. Common Name: 19161 Cox Ave.

B3. Original Use: Residence

B4. Present Use: Residence

*B5. Architectural Style: Craftsman

*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)

Constructed circa 1915.

*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: n/a

Original Location: n/a

*B8. Related Features:

Detached garage

B9a. Architect: Unknown

b. Builder: Joseph Cox

*B10. Significance: Theme Architecture

Area: Triangle North

Period of Significance: 1915

Property Type: Residential

Applicable Criteria: None

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

The Cox House is listed on the Saratoga Heritage Resources Inventory, included as a part of HP-88-01. It qualified under Criteria a, b, and c:

- a) the property exemplifies and reflects special elements of the cultural, social, economic, aesthetic, and architectural history of Saratoga;
- b) the property is identified with persons significant in local history; and
- c) the property embodies distinctive characteristics of the Craftsman style, type and period.

The Cox House does not eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources as the house does not embody the distinctive characteristics of the Craftsman house-type, and the long term residents, although a part of an important early Saratoga family, are not in themselves personages significant in local history.

(Continued on page 4, DPR523L)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) None

*B12. References:

- Foote, H. *Pen Pictures from the Garden of the World*, 1888.
- Saratoga Heritage Preservation Commission, *Historic Resources Inventory form*, 1988.
- Sawyer, E., *History of Santa Clara County*, 1922.

B13. Remarks: Listed Heritage Resource

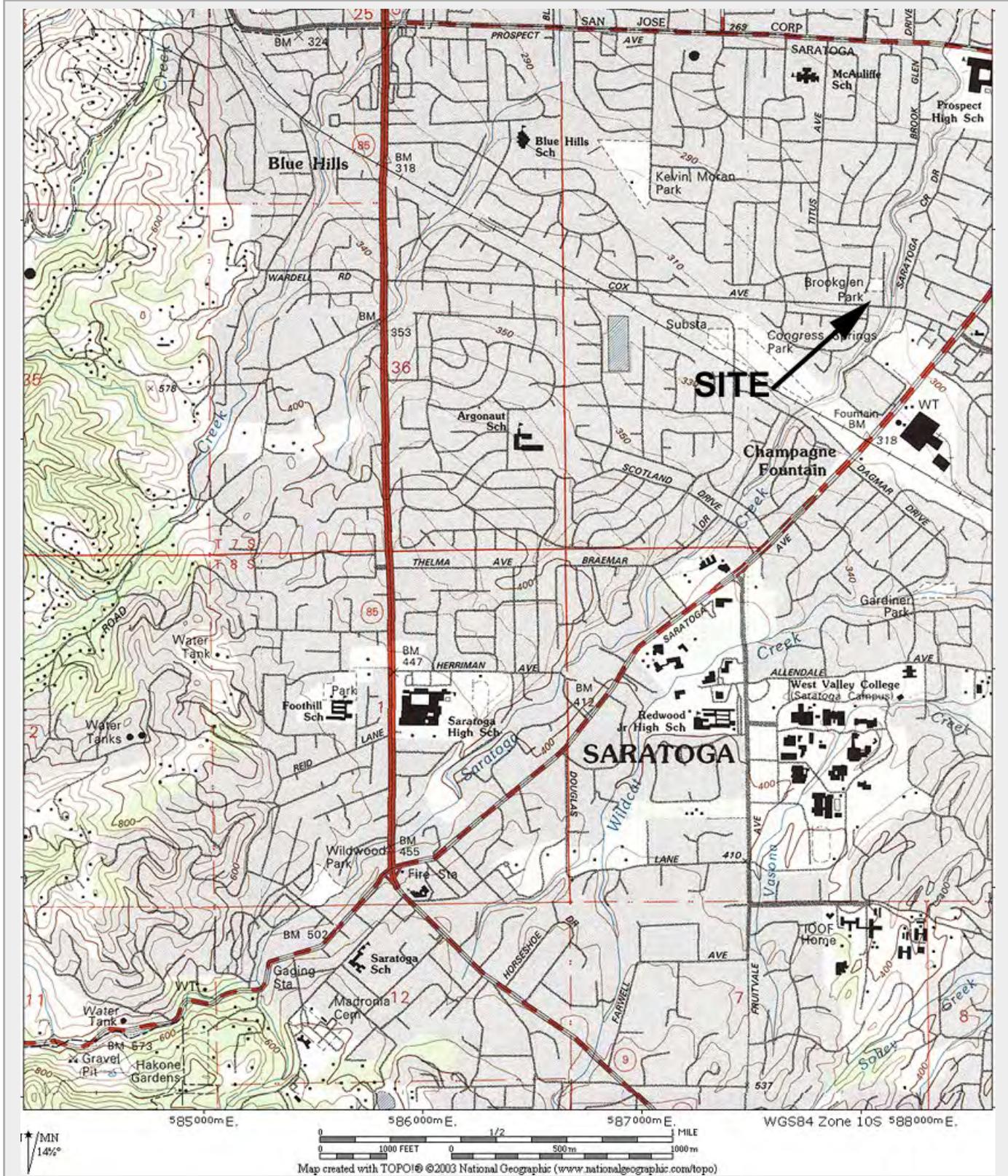
*B14. Evaluator: Franklin Maggi

*Date of Evaluation: October 26, 2009

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)





CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 4 of 4 *Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Cox House

* Recorded By F. Maggi, L. Dill, & J. Kusz * Date 10/26/2009 Continuation Update

(Continued from page 2, DPR523b, B10)

Historical Background

This house was built in 1915 by Joseph Emory Cox, son of William Cox, an early pioneer farmer/rancher in Saratoga. William Cox was born in Ohio in 1827, moved to Iowa in 1846 where he married Dicey Baggs in 1848. The Cox family came to Santa Clara Valley in 1852.

William began in farming as a hired hand, then rented a piece of land and put in his own crop on Saratoga Avenue and finally bought 70 acres in the Saratoga area in 1874. He ultimately owned 315 acres, all under cultivation and known locally as the Dicey Cox Subdivision. The property was divided and given to his six children. William's son, Joseph, who was born in 1866, married Emma Scale, a native of Kentucky, in 1890. He built this bungalow for his son Floyd and his wife Velma, who moved away and passed the property to his younger brother, Edwin Cox. Edwin lived in the house with his wife, Helen, until his death in 1977.

Joseph Cox is known for his propagation of a French Prune called Cox's Double X, that became very sought-after by the Pacific Coast prune industry. Cox established a nursery in Saratoga where they grew the Double X for sale to other orchardists. Cox also served as Deputy County Assessor for the area, beginning in 1904.

The naming of Cox Avenue is associated with the early Cox Ranch.

Integrity

Although somewhat altered with new stonework, the house retains adequate character-defining architectural design, workmanship and materials, as well as a historic location and setting, and the property continues to represent the historical associations and feelings of this residence.