

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): McGrew-Atkinson 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 Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted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: 13915 Saratoga 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)

northwest side of Saratoga Avenue northeast of Herriman Avenue. APN# 393-45-023

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

Heavily altered, this house includes a National-style cottage of the late-nineteenth century. This local vernacular building type dates from as early as the pre-railroad American era, from the 1850s to the 1870s, although National-style houses continued to be built as late as the 1880s. Typical of this style, the one-and-one-half-story house has the distinctive proportions of a balloon-frame building, including a raised rectangular footprint, simple wall planes, and moderately steep roofline with angled boxed eaves. The house is clad in channel-rustic siding, and the property features a round creek-rock stone chimney and rock wall around the residence and driveway entrance. The windows have been replaced. The house appears to have had new wings added over time.

*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 west, July 2009.

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:

Historic Prehistoric Both
c1880, about 129 years old.

*P7. Owner and Address:

Tienchuan Ko & Hsin Yi Li
13915 Saratoga 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) McGrew-Atkinson House

- B1. Historic Name: G. W McGrew House
- B2. Common Name: 13915 Saratoga Ave.
- B3. Original Use: Single family residential
- B4. Present Use: Single family residential
- *B5. Architectural Style: National (Pioneer)
- *B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)
 Constructed circa 1880. Addition to rear of house.

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

*B8. Related Features:
 None known.

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

*B10. Significance: Theme Architecture Area: Heritage Lane
 Period of Significance: c1880 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 McGrew-Atkinson House is listed on the Saratoga Heritage Resources Inventory, included as a part of HP-88-01. It qualified under Criteria a and c:

- a) the property exemplifies and reflects special elements of the cultural, social, economic, aesthetic, and architectural history of Saratoga; and
- c) the property embodies distinctive characteristics of the National style, type and period;

Thomy House does not appear eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources, as the house lacks appears to sufficient integrity to its original form and detailing to qualify.

(Continued on page 4, DPR523L)

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

*B12. References:
 Saratoga Heritage Preservation Commission, Historic Resources Inventory form, 1988.

B13. Remarks: Listed Heritage Resource

*B14. Evaluator: Franklin Maggi
 *Date of Evaluation: October 26, 2009

(This space reserved for official comments.)

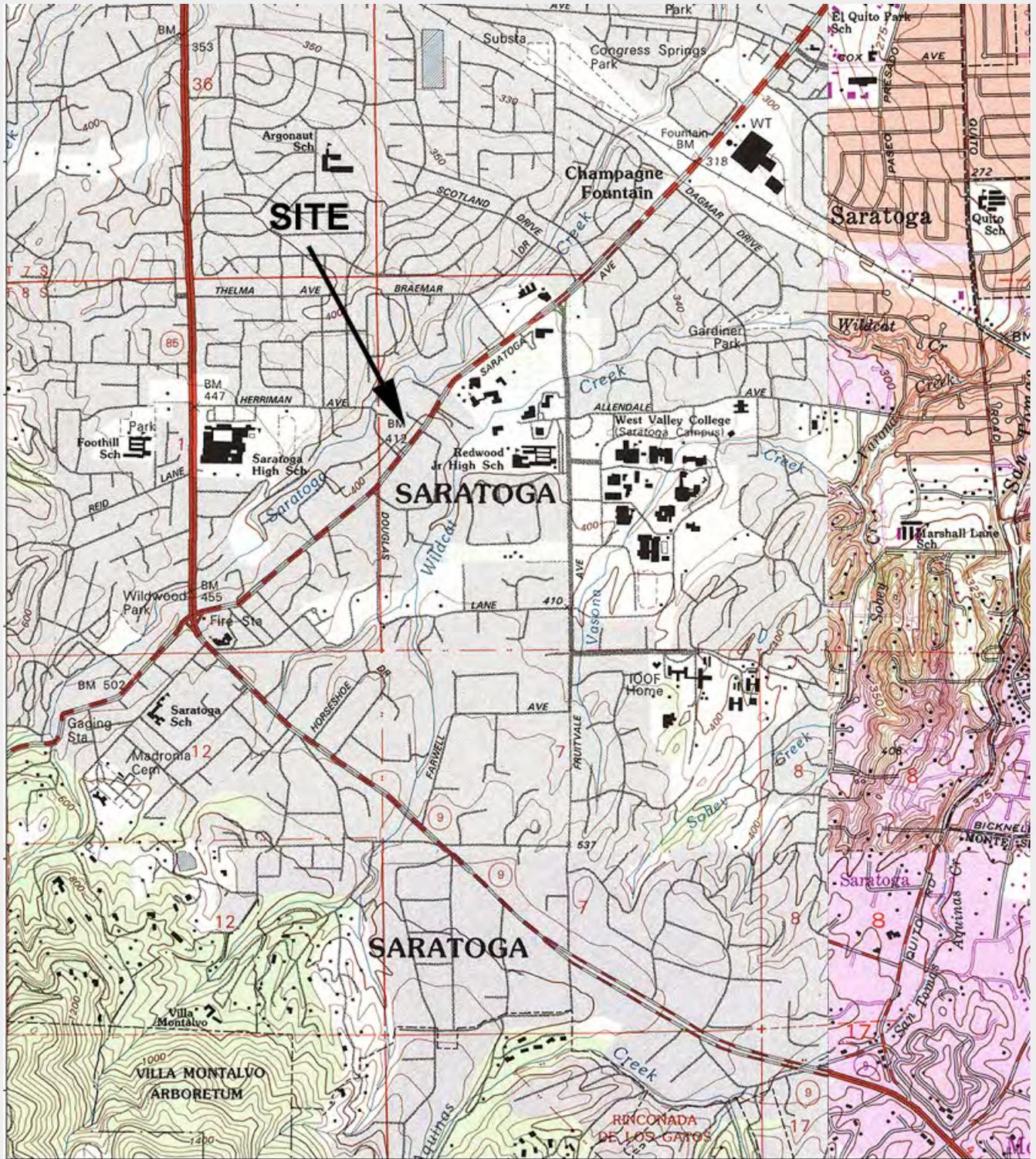
(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)



* Map Name: Multiple

* Scale: n.t.s.

* Date of Map: Varies



MN
14°

586000m E. 587000m E. 588000m E. 589000m E. WGS84 Zone 10S
0 1000 FEET 0 1/2 500m 3000m MILE
Map created with TOPO!® ©2003 National Geographic (www.nationalgeographic.com/topo)

CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 4 of 4 *Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) McGrew-Atkinson 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 originally the home of W. George and Matilda McGrew in the 1880's; he is believed to have been Saratoga's first poet. George McGrew was a librarian, who was born in Ohio about 1815. George and Matilda arrived in California at least by 1872, when their son Luther was born. Older son Franklin had been born in Ohio in 1856. By 1888 the property, then about seven acres, is listed as owned by M. McGrew, who is assumed to be his wife. George McGrew is buried in a marble-enclosed grave in Madronia Cemetery.

Some also believe that this home may have been a preliminary or interim residing place of Mrs. Mary Ann Day Brown, abolitionist John Brown's widow, during her years in Saratoga which were between 1881 and 1883. The oral tradition was not investigated as a part of this recording.

By 1900 the McGrews appear to have still been residing on this property, with Franklin McGrew as head of the family, with mother Matilda living with him. Franklin was an orchardist at that time; he was single, and living with him were his younger brother Luther and Luther's wife Nellie.

Integrity

Altered with new porch, windows, trim, and additions over time, the house retains only its original location and channel-rustic siding to represent its associations with the historic design. The feelings associated with the original architectural design, workmanship, and materials have been lost.