



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

Primary #  
 HRI #

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\*NRHP/CRHR Status Code 3CS

Resource Name (Assigned by recorder) Maclay Cottage

- B1. Historic Name: Maclay Cottage
- B2. Common Name: 20900 Big Basin Way
- B3. Original Use: Single family residential
- B4. Present Use: Single family residential
- \*B5. Architectural Style: Queen Anne
- \*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)  
 Constructed circa 1890.

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

\*B8. Related Features:  
 Water tower

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme Architecture Area: Saratoga Village  
 Period of Significance: c1890 Property Type: Residential Applicable Criteria: (3)

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

The Maclay Cottage 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 Queen Anne style, type and period.

The Maclay Cottage also appears eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources under Criterion (3), as the house embodies the distinctive characteristics of the Queen Anne house-type from Saratoga's period of Horticultural Development.

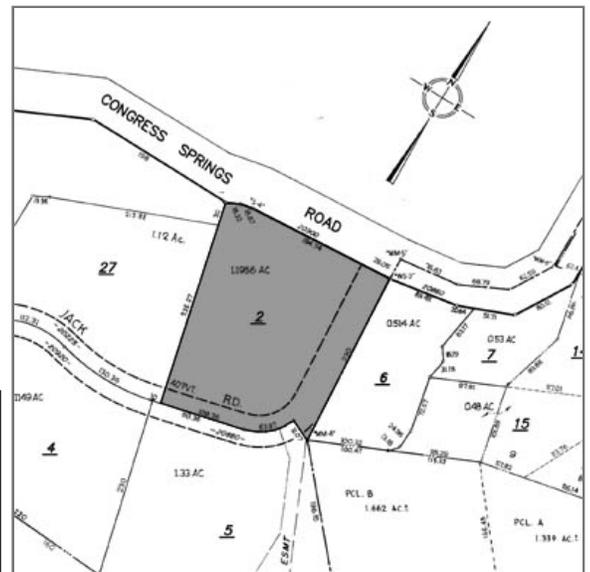
(Continued on page 4, DPR523L)

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

\*B12. References:

Saratoga Heritage Preservation Commission, Historic Resources Inventory form, 1988.

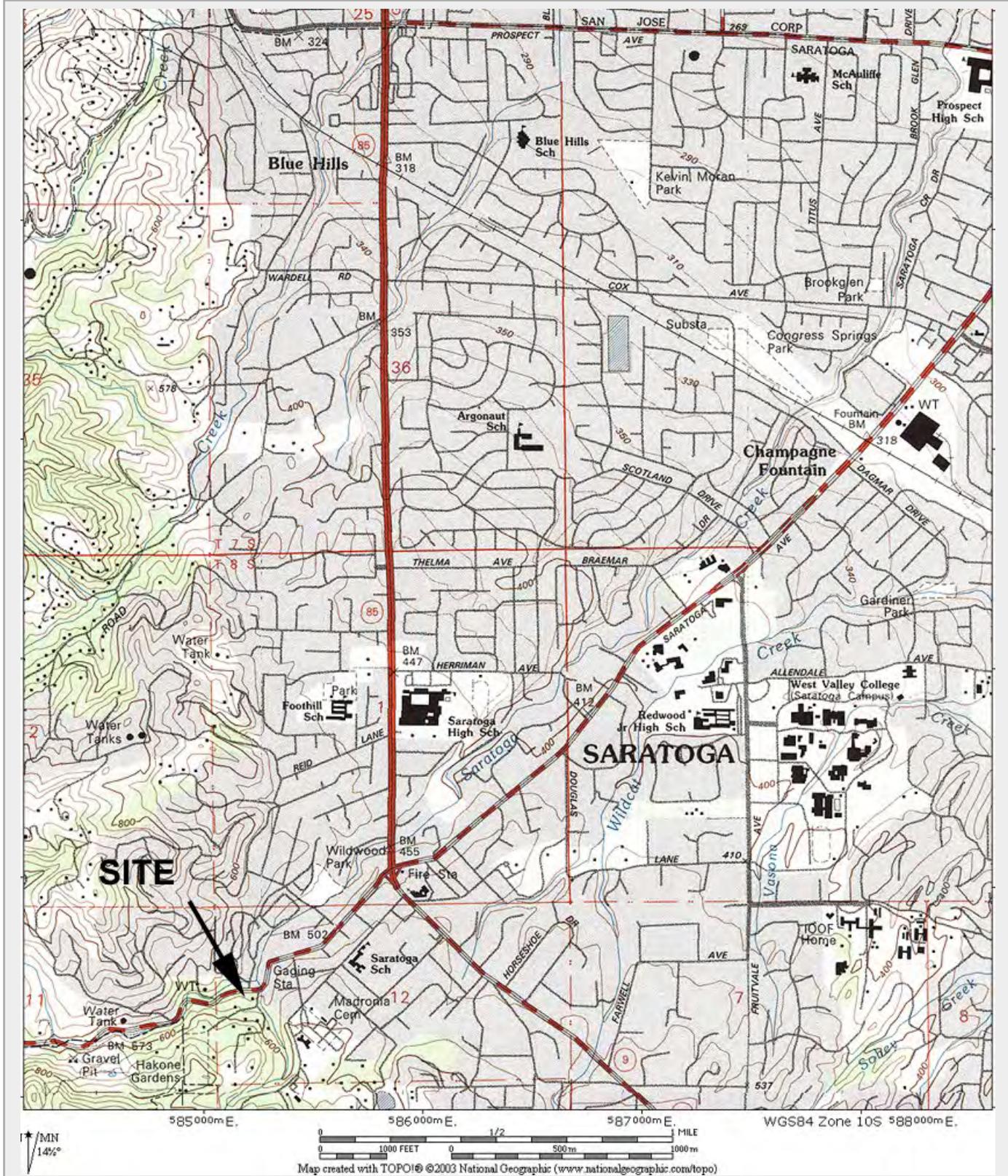
(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)



B13. Remarks: Listed Heritage Resource

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

(This space reserved for official comments.)



## CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 4 of 4 \*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Maclay Cottage

\* 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 about 1890 by Harry Maclay, son of then California State Senator Charles Maclay. Charles Maclay came to California 1851 with his two brothers Alexander and John, who were Methodist ministers. He settled first in San Francisco, then moved to the Santa Clara Valley where he purchased Haun's Redwood Mill, renaming it Bank Mills, which included a grist mill and tannery. He hoped to turn Saratoga into a great manufacturing center, and was involved in real estate, commercial operations and politics. He created the Maclaytown development which consisted of forty-seven odd-shaped lots, but it never developed into a successful subdivision. In politics, Charles Maclay was active as a State Assemblyman and later a State Senator for eight years. His house was located on Big Basin Way (across the street from the subject property) where he lived with his wife, Catherine, and their children. The house has since been demolished. Not much information has surfaced regarding Harry Maclay. It appears that by 1918 he was working as a foreman at Painless Parker Ranch in Cupertino.

### Integrity

The cottage retains adequate architectural design, workmanship and materials, as well as a compatible setting and original location, and the property continues to represent the historical associations and feelings of this residence.