

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

Primary #  
HRI #  
Trinomial  
NRHP Status Code 1S, 1D

Other Listings  
Review Code Reviewer Date

Page 1 of 4 \*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder): Miller-Melone Ranch

P1. Other identifier: HP-92-01

\*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 Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted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 .2 W. ; Mount Diablo B.M.

c. Address: 12795 Saratoga-Sunnyvale Rd. 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)

west side of Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road north of Pierce Road. APN# 503-18-091

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

The property is mostly concealed from the public right-of-way with a high fence and mature landscaping. The one-story house represents a modest, architect-designed Craftsman house from the beginning of the twentieth century. The design features a moderately pitched, side-gabled roof with deep eaves and exposed rafter tails. The front facade includes a low-slope shed dormer accented by a pair of wide casement windows divided into small lites. The gable ends are supported by exposed wood beams and knee braces. The walls are clad with wood lap siding. Original fenestration consists primarily of double-hung wood windows. The recessed front porch is supported by four full-height square columns clad in siding. At each end of front stairs there is a low wall. The front door is a flush wood door with three asymmetrical horizontal rectangular windows. The footprint is approximately square and there is a partial basement.

This resource was evaluated in 1993 for listing on the National Register.

\*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  
1909-1911, about 100 years old.

\*P7. Owner and Address:

Marc L Kocir  
12795 Saratoga-Sunnyvale Rd.  
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 #**

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**\*NRHP/CRHR Status Code** 1S

**Resource Name** (Assigned by recorder) Miller-Melone Ranch

B1. Historic Name: Miller House

B2. Common Name: 12795 Saratoga-Sunnyvale Rd.

B3. Original Use: Single family residential

B4. Present Use: Single family residential

**\*B5. Architectural Style:** Craftsman

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

Constructed 1909-1911.

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

**Original Location:** n/a

**\*B8. Related Features:**

Garage Tank house (restored), windmill w/pump, aviary

B9a. Architect: Frank D. Wolfe (Wolfe & McKenzie)

b. Builder: Unknown

**\*B10. Significance: Theme** Architecture

**Area:** Mt. Eden

**Period of Significance:** 1910

**Property Type:** Residential

**Applicable Criteria:** A, C

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

The Miller House is listed on the Saratoga Heritage Resources Inventory, included as a part of HP-92-01. It qualified under Criteria a, c, and f:

- a) the property exemplifies and reflects special elements of the cultural, social, economic, aesthetic, and architectural history of Saratoga;
- c) the property embodies distinctive characteristics of the Craftsman style, type and period; and
- f) the property represented a significant concentration or continuity of site or buildings unified by past development.

The Miller House is listed on the California Register of Historical Resources, and it is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

(Continued on page 4, DPR523L)

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

**\*B12. References:**

National Register Listing, #93000260, added 1993.

B13. Remarks: Listed Heritage Resource

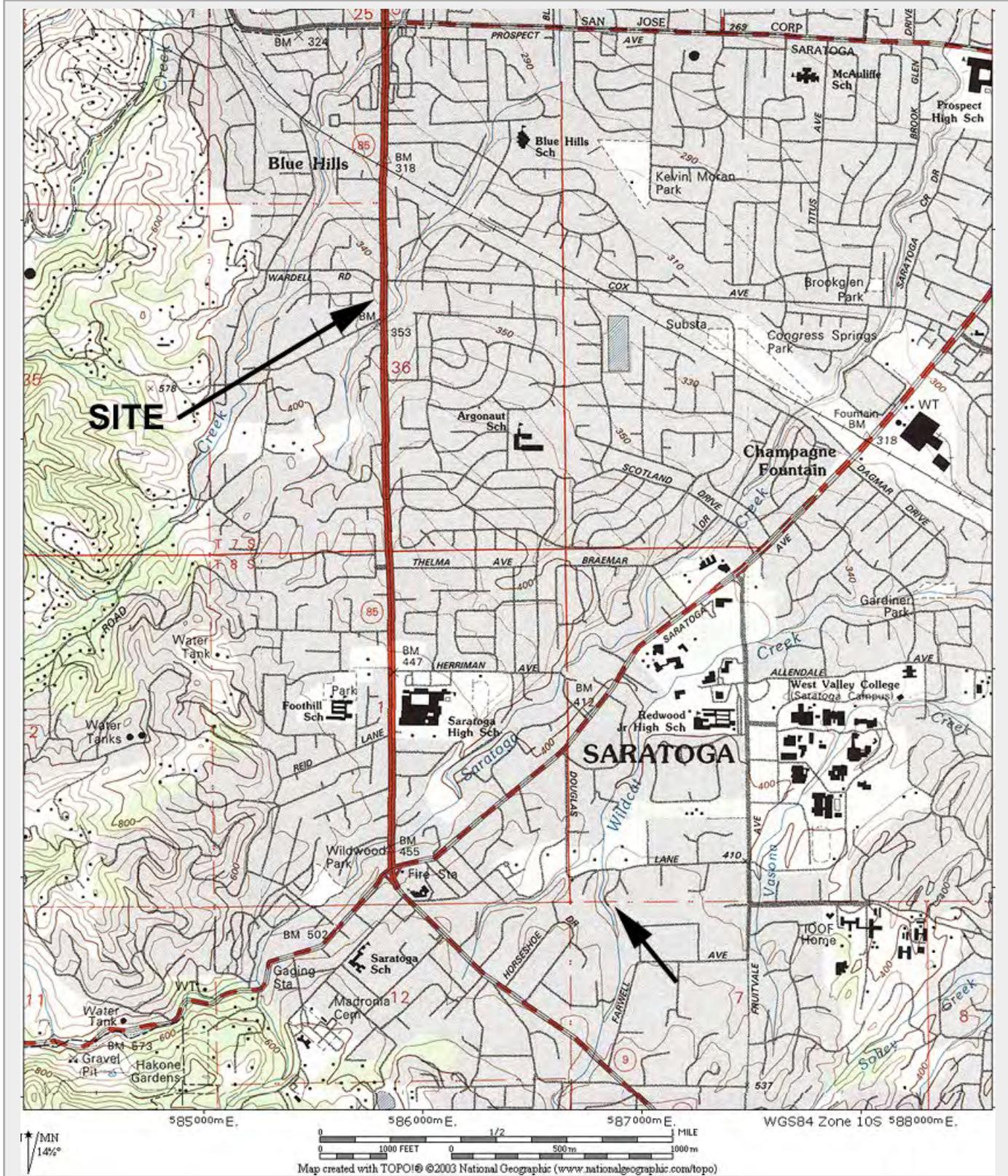
**\*B14. Evaluator:** Franklin Maggi

**\*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) Miller-Melone Ranch

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

(Continued from page 2, DPR523b, B10)

### Historical Background

The house was built between 1909 and 1911 by Charles and Lillian Miller. Lillian Miller, born Lillian Malone, inherited the property, originally 40 acres, jointly with her sister. The property had previously been a fruit ranch, and Mr. & Mrs. Miller kept the trees. Mr. Miller ran a gas station (Union '76) on the property as well as a small general grocery. Mrs. Miller sold home-made cookies which according to a sign on the property were "Really Good". Charles Miller also used the barn on the property to do machine work and repair cars. Mr. Miller was a coronet player and one of the founders of the Saratoga Band. The gas station was closed in 1968, but Mrs. Miller continued to live on the property until it was acquired by the present owners.

### Architectural Context

The architectural firm of Wolfe & McKenzie practiced in San Jose from the late 1890s until about 1911. Frank Delos Wolfe (1863-1926) was born in Green Springs, Ohio, and came to San Jose with his father, builder Jeremiah Wolfe and family in 1888 after working briefly for architect W. L. Ross in Newton, Kansas. First working as a builder, he established his own architectural office in 1892. Soon working with veteran architect J.O. McKee, he took over his office when McKee retired in 1894. Early designs include San Jose's Grace Lutheran Church and the King Conservatory of Music. Charles McKenzie (1874-1957), who had been working for McKee as a draftsman, became Wolfe's partner in the late 1890s, and together are responsible for many significant commercial and residential buildings in Santa Clara County. Wolfe & McKenzie designed a large portion of the prestigious houses in the Naglee Park, Palm Haven, and Shasta-Hanchett residential neighborhoods in San Jose. In 1907, they published their *102 Designs from Wolfe & McKenzie*, a pattern book that defined local residential architecture during the early years of the twentieth century. By 1911 the firm had split, Wolfe later partnering with his son Carl Wolfe, and then later Ernest Higgins. McKenzie continued to practice architecture until the beginning of World War II.

### Integrity

Difficult to see from the public right-of-way, the house appears to retain its architectural design, workmanship and materials, as well as a compatible setting and original location, and the property appears to continue to embody the historical associations and feelings of this residence.