

State of California - The Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION PRIMARY RECORD	Primary # HRI # Trinomial NRHP Status Code 5
Other Listings Review Code	Reviewer Date

Page 1 of 3 *Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) 8061 Valencia Street

P1. Other Identifier:

*P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted a. County: Santa Cruz
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)
b. USGS 7.5' Quad Soquel Date 1994 Revised T 11S R 1E B.M. Mt. Diablo
c. Address 8061 Valencia Street City Aptos Zip 95003
d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone 10S 598129mE 4092712mN
e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)
Assessor's Parcel Number: 041 021 12

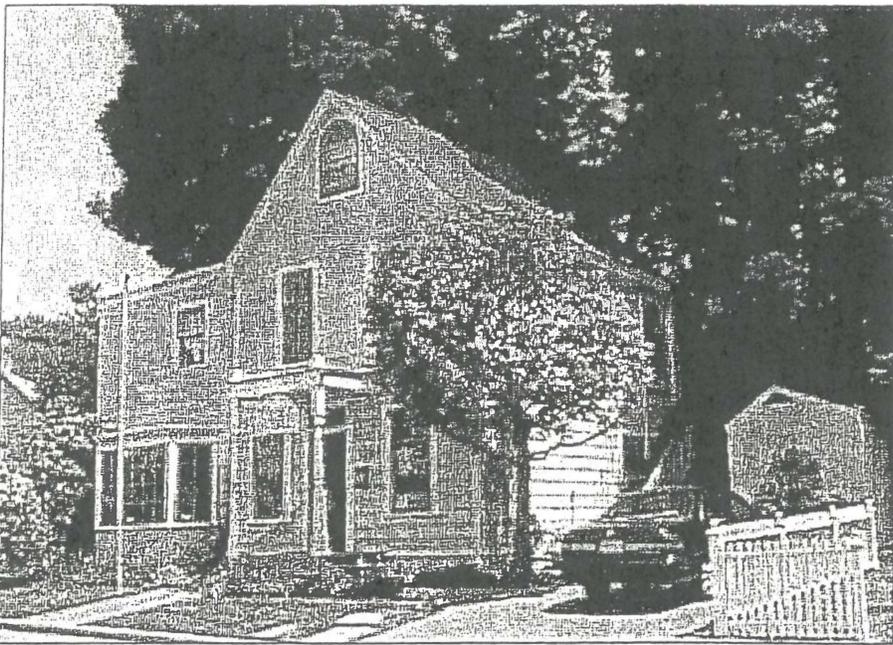
*P3a Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

CONTRIBUTING BUILDING (NR 5D)
Located at 8061 Valencia Street is a residential building constructed circa 1890. This two-story house with attic possesses characteristics associated with the National style such as its simplicity in design, rectangular shape, and front facing gable roof.

This building rests atop what appears to be a concrete perimeter foundation. Clad in Channel Rustic siding, this building of frame construction is visually separated into two distinct parts: the rectangular section of the house sheltered beneath the flat roof (added post 1979) and the rectangular portion of the house located beneath a front-facing gable roof. Wide wood trim outlines the various edges and corners of the building including the rake eaves. Although the addition on the west end of the southwest elevation is substantial, it is subordinate to the historic portion and appears to be a reversible change. (Continued page 2)

*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP2, HP6 - Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Office & Retail

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



P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #)
Photo of the southwest elevation. June 2002, K. Oosterhous

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:
 Historic Prehistoric Both
circa 1890

*P7. Owner and Address:
Steven & Cathy Holdaway
535 Baltustrol Drive
Aptos, CA 95003

*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, and address)
Kara Oosterhous
Dill Design Group
110 N Santa Cruz Ave
Los Gatos, CA 95030
Charlene Duval (Consultant)

*P9. Date Recorded: 06/02 Rev 3/7/03

*P10. Survey Type: (Describe)
Reconnaissance

*P11. Report Citation: (Site survey report and other sources or enter none) NONE

*Attachments: NONE Location Map Sketch Map Continuation Sheet Building, Structure and Object Record Archaeological Record
 District Record Linear Feature Record Milling State Record Rock Art Record Artifact Record Photograph Record Other (List)

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Resource Name or # (Assigned by Recorder)

8061 Valencia Street

Recorded By: K. Oosterhous & C. Duval

Date: 8/31/02 Rev 3/7/03

X Continuation ___ Update

Wide architrave trim surrounds all doors and windows. Fenestration on the front of the house, located beneath the flat roof, includes a bay window with wood sash comprised of a large window of twenty-four lites flanked by eight-lite windows on the first level and a six-over-one wood sash window on the second level. Located beneath the gable roof portion of the house, a stoop entry, with flat roof, supported by turned spindle posts denotes the main entrance to the house. A historic photograph indicates that the current porch structure is not original to the house. A single-lite transom tops the front door while six-over-one double-hung wood sash windows flank the door. Second story fenestration on the front elevation of this section of the house includes two, six-over-one, double-hung windows. Wood lintels accentuate the double-hung windows. Located beneath the apex of the gable is a double-hung arched window that replaced a louvered vent sometime after 1986. It appears as if various additions have been made to the rear of the house, none of which detract from the appearance of the front.

A small, non-historic outbuilding, clad in wood siding, is located to the southeast of the building.

Some of the historic residential buildings within the neighborhood have been converted into office or business space. The housing stock is a mixture of historic and new construction. The Works Progress Administration (WPA) installed the sidewalks and curbing (1940) located throughout the neighborhood. Historic vegetation permeates the neighborhood in conjunction with non-historic vegetation. Despite the new construction, this small, primarily residential neighborhood still possesses a sense of place.

Despite the addition on the west end of the southwest elevation, this house possesses integrity of location, setting, design, feeling, association, workmanship, and materials as it remains true to its historic design and appearance. It is a contributing resource to the Aptos Village Historic District.

History

The two-story house located at 8061 Valencia Street was constructed between 1888 and 1892 on Lot 6 of Block B of Hihn's subdivision. The building is said to have 18-inch wide by 20-foot long timbers used in its construction. In 1919, when the movie *One Way Trail* was filmed on Valencia Street, this house served as a "hotel," a key location in the movie. In 1926, the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph office moved from one of Paul Johnston's buildings at 8034-8036 Soquel Drive into one of the small front rooms of the house. On July 1926 Fred W. Davis and his family moved into 8061 Valencia Street, initially renting the house and later purchasing it. His occupation was "millwright," and his wife Emely was the manager and only employee of the telephone company. Mrs. Davis continued as manager until 1951. During that period, the service expanded from one switchboard to three, and the staff of one to twenty-one. The nine Davis children who grew up in the house, each helped their mother when old enough to accept the responsibility. Upon Mrs. Davis's retirement, next door neighbor at 8059 Valencia, Mrs. Mabel Knapp assumed the responsibility, until the conversion to Dial Service was completed about 1952 or 1953. The telephone company then moved to the new building at 8058 Valencia Street. In 1926, when the Davis family moved into the house, it was just the two-story building. Mr. Davis removed the interior partition between the telephone office and the parlor. He also added a large room off the western elevation of the building in the mid 1940s. Mrs. Davis passed away in 1955, followed by her husband in 1957. The house was subsequently sold. In 1965, the house was purchased by the C. G. Sommers family; and by 1968, their daughter Tanya started a gift shop in the house. In 1970, they added a room downstairs with a large bay window and one upstairs to accommodate their expanding business and satisfy the need for more living space. The house became known as the Somerset House, and continued operation as a gift shop.

Sources

Koch, M.

1971 On Valencia Street, In Aptos. *Santa Cruz Sentinel*. 22 August.

Grass, Mrs. Warren

1971 *The Voice of the People*, Some Background on Sommer House. *Santa Cruz Sentinel*. 22 August.

Map of the Town of Aptos

n.d. Annotated copy of original Santa Cruz County Recorded Map 37:2. On file at UCSC Map Room.

n.d. Annotated copy of original Santa Cruz County Recorded Map 37:2. On file at UCSC Map Room, Hihn Map #18.

Photograph of 8061 Valencia Street. Davis Family Collection. Aptos Museum. 1920s.

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Resource Name or # (Assigned by Recorder)

8061 Valencia Street

Recorded By: K. Oosterhous & C. Duval

Date: 8/31/02 Rev 3/7/03

Continuation

Update

Polk's Watsonville City Directory
1967 Valencia Street.

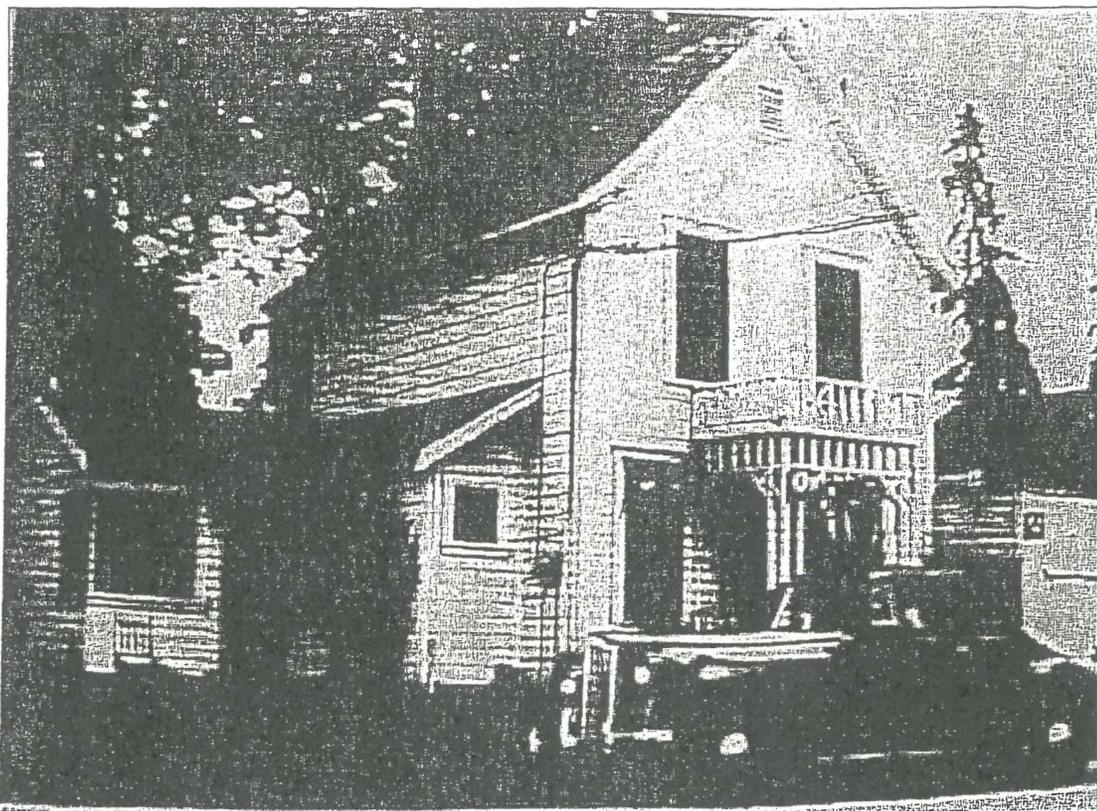
Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps
1888- Aptos.
1929

Santa Cruz County
n.d. Assessor's Map, T11S, R1E, Sec 18, [after 1945].

Santa Cruz Sentinel
1929 Interesting History of Aptos and Its Development. 17 May.

Silva, Phyllis Davis, Beatrice Davis Grass, Emely Renee Davis Foster, and Vonnie Davis Watters
n.d. The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company in Aptos. Oral history on file in the Aptos Museum/Aptos Chamber of Commerce.

U. S. Population Census
1930 Aptos.



Circa 1919 photograph.

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

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Ser. No. _____
 HABS _____ HAER _____ Loc _____ SHL No. _____ NR Status 5
 UTM: A 10/598095.4092692 C _____
 B _____ D _____

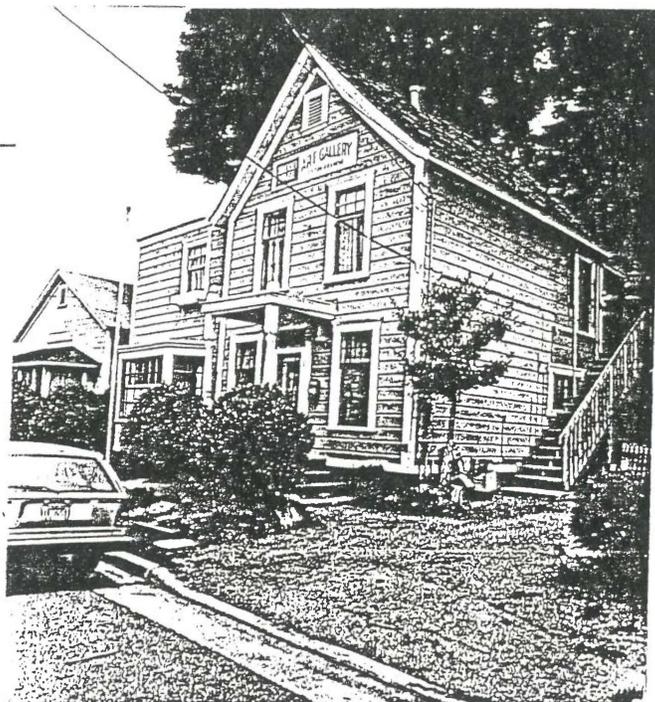
IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Somerset House
2. Historic name: Hihn - Aptos Subdivision
3. Street or rural address: 8061 Valencia Street
 City Aptos Zip 95003 County Santa Cruz
4. Parcel number: 04102112
5. Present Owner: KARLEEN, DON & PEGGY Address: 1905 DOLPHIN DR.
 City APTOS CA Zip 95003 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Retail Original use: Residence

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Greek Revival
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical appearance* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

This is a two and a half story structure constructed of wood. It is divided into two sections; the first an original part of the structure is the pitched roof rectangular, vernacular Greek Revival style. It is sheathed in horizontal board and has two windows on the second floor, the door in the center flanked by two windows on the first floor. There is a porch covering supported on turned posts over the door way, with small finials in the corners. An addition, a square box has been added to the south. This has a rectangular window on the second floor of the facade and a wide slanted bay on the ground floor. The slanted bay is trimmed with molding hood. The structure is one of the largest residential structures in old Aptos.



8. Construction date:
 Estimated 1895 Factual _____
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
 Frontage 98 Depth 260
 or approx. acreage 25,500 #
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
May 1986

13. Condition: Excellent Good _____ Fair _____ Deteriorated _____ No longer in existence _____
14. Alterations: Several
15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land _____ Scattered buildings _____ Densely built-up
Residential Industrial _____ Commercial _____ Other: _____
16. Threats to site: None known Private development _____ Zoning _____ Vandalism _____
Public Works project _____ Other: _____
17. Is the structure: On its original site? Moved? _____ Unknown? _____
18. Related features: Mature Redwood Trees

SIGNIFICANCE

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

Frederich A. Hihn was Santa Cruz County's first millionaire. He was a pioneer merchant, lumber mill owner and agriculturist. He built the original Camp Capitola and the Santa Cruz Railroad to Watsonville.

Hihn was also an early real estate developer. During Aptos' building boom, from the 1880s to the turn of the century, he subdivided his property in the area of Aptos. Hihn also built many of the houses in the subdivisions on a speculative basis. This house is significant as one of those in Hihn's development, which had a great impact on Aptos' growth.

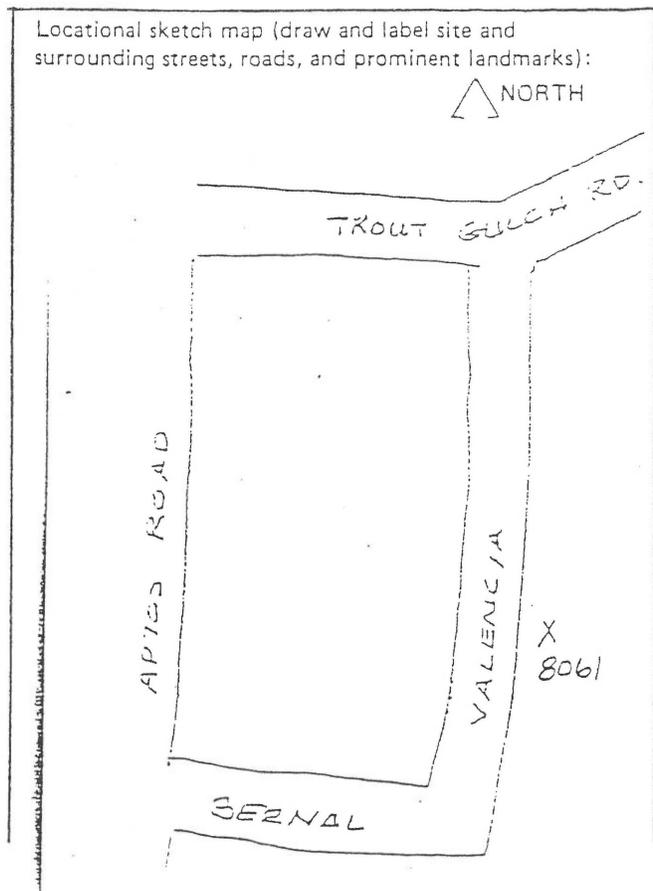
This building first appears on the 1888 Sanborn Map as a much smaller building. It is reported to have been enlarged to accomodate the Aptos telephone exchange.

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)
 Architecture 1 Arts & Leisure _____
 Economic/Industrial _____ Exploration/Settlement _____
 Government _____ Military _____
 Religion _____ Social/Education _____

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).

Sanborn Maps 1888, 1906
 Parade of the Past, Margaret Koch
 A Field Guide to American Houses, McAlister

22. Date form prepared April 1986
 By (name) The Firm of
 Organization DONNIE L. BAMBURG
 Address 247 N. Third Street
 City San Jose, CA 95112 Zip _____
 Phone: (408) 971-1421



8061 Valencia Street

ADDENDUM—1994

PHYSICAL INSPECTION

Date: February 2, 1994

Result of Inspection: No apparent structural changes.

CONSULTANT'S PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS:

No change.

(Change of rating pending public hearing before the Historical Resources Commission with final approval by the Board of Supervisors).

Context: 2 (architecture)
Property type: house