

State of California - The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No  
Nat. Register Status 5 (s1)

IDENTIFICATION AND LOCATION

Local designation

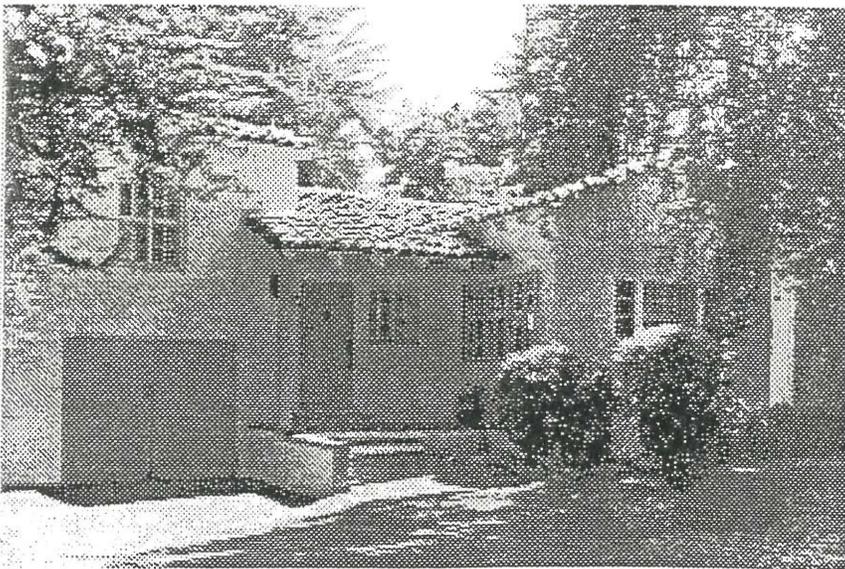
1. Historic name None
- \*2. Common or current name None
- \*3. Number & street 311 Cliff Drive Cross-corridor  
City Aptos (Rio Del Mar) Vicinity only \_\_\_\_\_ Zip 95003 County Santa Cruz
4. UTM zone        A                    B                    C                    D
5. Quad map No.                            Parcel No 043-021-35 Other

DESCRIPTION

6. Property category building If district, number of documented resources

\*7. Briefly describe the present physical appearance of the property, including condition, boundaries, related features, surroundings, and (if appropriate) architectural style.

This one story L shaped building is a simplified version of the Spanish Colonial Revival style. Walls are stucco and the roof is red tile. Windows are metal frame multipane casement. A roof extension with exposed rafters shelters a small porch which has a brick floor and two brick steps. The integral garage has the original hinged wooden doors. The house is surrounded with decorative planting and mature trees, bushes and hedges.



8. Planning agency County Planning
9. Owner & address  
Gaffney, Walter W and Phyllis  
741 Peekskill Drive  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087
10. Type of ownership private
11. Present use residence
12. Zoning R-1-6
13. Threats none apparent

Send a copy of this form to: State Office of Historic Preservation, P.O. box 942895, Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

\*Complete these items for historic preservation compliance projects under Section 106(36CFR800). All items must be completed for historical resources survey information.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

\*14. Construction date(s) 1929 E Original location Same Date moved

15. Alterations & date None apparent

16. Architect unknown Builder Unknown

17. Historic attributes (with number from list) HP 2

SIGNIFICANCE AND EVALUATION

18. Context for evaluation: Theme Tourism (Resort)/Architecture Area Santa Cruz County  
Period 1850-1940 Property type residence Context formally developed? Yes

\*19. Briefly discuss the property's importance within the context. Use historical and architectural analysis as appropriate. Compare with similar properties.

This residence is significant because it is one of the few unaltered structures in the community of Rio Del Mar that was built during the early years of the subdivision. Originally the area was a Native American rancheria and later part of the Aptos Rancho which was purchased by Claus Spreckels from Rafael Castro in 1872. Spreckels, an entrepreneur who pioneered the sugar beet industry in the county, developed the Aptos hotel, a luxurious resort. The area known as Rio Del Mar was not developed until 1922 when the heirs of Spreckels sold the property. Like those in neighboring La Selva Beach, developers of Rio Del Mar had financial problems as a result of the Depression and few lots were sold or developed. This property is one of the few unaltered examples that remain.

20. Sources

County of Santa Cruz Survey  
of Historic Resources

S.C. County Historical Resources Commission  
and Planning Dept., 1989.

County of Santa Cruz Survey  
of Historic Resources

Update and Context Statement, S. C. County  
Historical Resources Commission, 1994.

21 Applicable National Register criteria NA

22 Other recognition NA

State Landmark No. (if applicable)

23. Evaluator Susan Lehmann

Date of Evaluation 8-1-95

24. Survey type Comprehensive

25. Survey name County of Santa Cruz Survey  
of Historic Resources Update

\*26. Year form prepared 1995

By (name) Susan Lehmann, Consultant  
Organization for S.C. County Historical  
Resources Commission and County  
Planning Dept.

Address 701 Ocean Street

City & Zip Santa Cruz 95060

Phone (408) 454-2123

