

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No. 5060-261
 HABS _____ HAER _____ Loc _____ SHL No. _____ NR Status B
 UTM: A 10/1080 026.4092317 C _____
 B _____ D _____

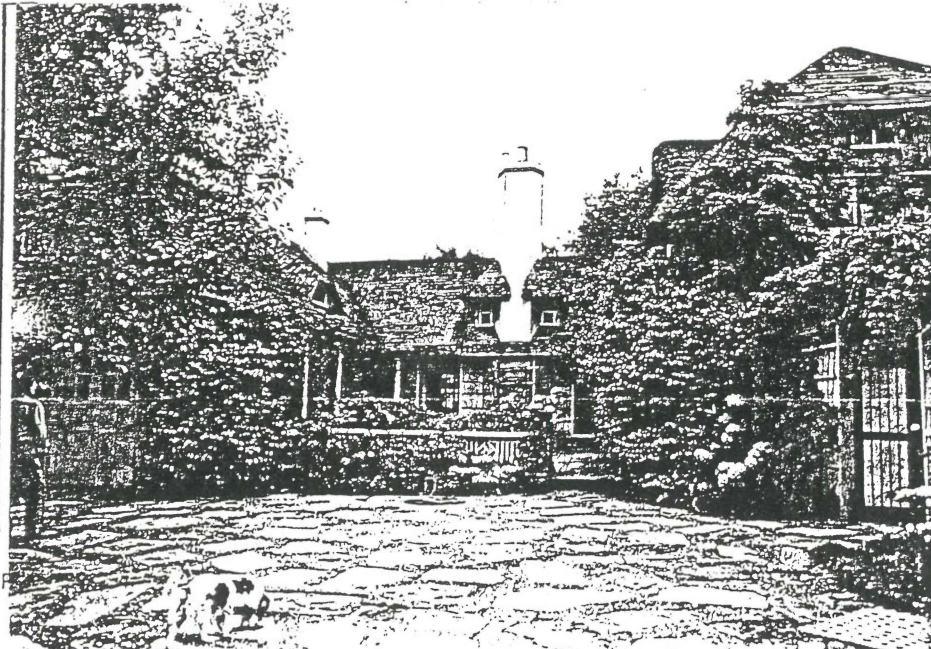
IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Ashcraft
2. Historic name: Gardner House Eureka Canyon
3. Street or rural address: 245 Corralitos Road
 City Watsonville Zip 95076 County Santa Cruz
4. Parcel number: 10818110
5. Present Owner: Harry Ashcraft Address: 245 Corralitos Road
 City Watsonville CA Zip 95076 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Residence Original use: Residence

DESCRIPTION

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

The site consists of a large, rambling two story residence constructed on a "U" shaped plan and designed in a beautifully rendered Elizabethan/Jacobean Revival style. The most distinctive feature of the house is its wood-shingled hipped roof constructed to simulate the curving flaws of a thatched roof. Punctuating the roofline are tall rectangular concrete chimneys with molded caps and eyebrow dormers. Gablets and a larger double windowed dormer with a chimney separating it add further picturesque touches to the structure. Wood shingles sheath the exterior walls. Fenestration consists of rectangular shaped windows both double hung and casements. Large beams act as supports of a wide rectangular shaped bay which projects from one of the side facades. A large pergola accents a raised patio found in the center of the "U". A matching shingled garage is detached. A long deck lines the view side of the building which also provided the formal front door. The residence is in excellent condition with superbly maintained, luxurious landscaping adding to the overall beauty of the site. It is without question one of the most beautiful period revival residences extant in Santa Cruz County.



8. Construction date: Estimated _____ Factual 1923
9. Architect John Gardner
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
 Frontage _____ Depth _____
 or approx. acreage 4
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
May 1986

13. Condition: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated No longer in existence
14. Alterations: _____
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: _____

SIGNIFICANCE

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

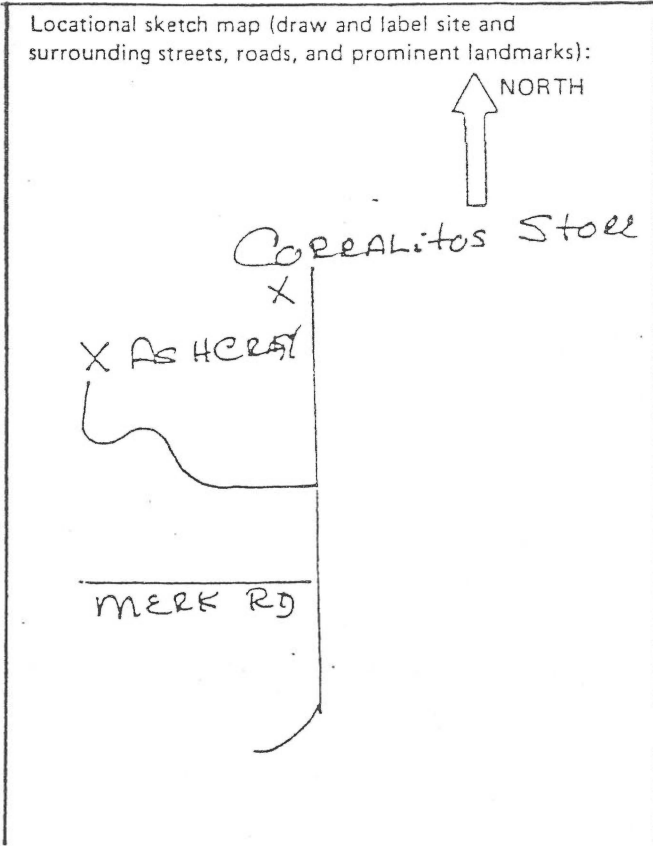
The apple growing business is one of the major agricultural enterprises of the Pajaro Valley. By the early 1900s there were many individual growers in the Watsonville area, but they were not organized to work together in perfecting the packing, shipping and marketing of their product. In June of 1915 John Gardner, a prominent Watsonville attorney, was chosen presiding officer of the newly formed Watsonville Apple Distributors organization. For the first time the apple growers and local businessmen and bankers were brought together to put the industry on a sound financial footing. The success of the apple growers was a vital part of the economics of the area and John Gardner's leadership substantially aided that success.

In 1923 John Gardner, an important local lawyer, built what has been referred to as his fantasy house at 245 Corralitos Road. The home has been in the same family since it was built. Dr. and Mrs. Harry Ashcraft, both members of a long time Watsonville family, now occupies the home.

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)
 Architecture 1 Arts & Leisure _____
 Economic/Industrial 2 Exploration/Settlement _____
 Government _____ Military _____
 Religion _____ Social/Education _____

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).
 Historical Museum Files
 Sanborn Maps 1908
 A Field Guide to American Houses, McAlister
 Zalia Kennedy, Marilyn McLachlan

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



Ashcraft (245 Corralitos Rd.)

ADDENDUM—1994

PHYSICAL INSPECTION

Date: April 31, 1994

Result of Inspection: Appears to be unchanged.

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