

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

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*NRHP/CRHR Status Code 5S3

Resource Name (Assigned by recorder) Trolley Car House

B1. Historic Name: None

B2. Common Name: 203 Blackburn St.

B3. Original Use: Single family residential

B4. Present Use: Single family residential

*B5. Architectural Style: Folk with Craftsman elements

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

Constructed in 1926. Interior repairs and remodel, addition to garage (SC BP #5497, June 7, 1944).

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

Original Location: n/a

*B8. Related Features:

Related garage.

B9a. Architect: Unknown

b. Builder: Unknown

*B10. Significance: Theme Architecture

Area: Central

Period of Significance: 1926

Property Type: Residential

Applicable Criteria: None

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

This 1926 built property was first occupied by F. R. Monday in 1926, according to city directories. Little information is available about Monday. By the mid 1930s, the property was occupied by Mrs. Mary Canepa. By 1944, the property was owned by Ora Brumbaugh. Brumbaugh repaired and remodeled the dwelling and added to the garage. By 1975, Nellie Campbell, a retiree, was living in the residence.

Embedded in the house is a decommissioned trolley car. From early Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, it appears that the trolley car was part of the original construction of the house in the 1920s. At about that time, electrified trolley lines were being phased out in many communities in the west, including Santa Cruz. Reuse of old trolley cars became associated with roadside Folk architecture in the Interwar years, and this house is a rare example of this type of architecture in the Santa Cruz area. The end of the car can be seen embedded in the house at this location from Neary Street.

(Continued on page 4, DPR523L)

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

*B12. References:

City of Santa Cruz building permits.
City of Santa Cruz Standard Map, 1929.
Lehmann, Susan. Historic Context Statement for City of Santa Cruz. 2000.
Polk. R. L., Santa Cruz City Directory. 1926-1989.
Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1928-1950.
U.S. Federal Census, 1900-1930.

B13. Remarks: None

*B14. Evaluator: Leslie Dill

*Date of Evaluation: May 6, 2009

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)



State of California - The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
LOCATION MAP

Primary #
HRI #
Trinominal

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* Map Name: Santa Cruz, Calif.

* Scale: n.t.s.

* Date of Map: 1954 (revised 1994)



TN*/MN
14°

Map created with TOPO!® ©2003 National Geographic (www.nationalgeographic.com/topo)

State of California - The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary #
HRI #
Trinomial

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* Recorded By F. Maggi/L. Dill/J. Kusz * Date 5/6/2009 ☒ Continuation ☐ Update

(Continued from page 1, DPR523a, P3a Description)

The vernacular frame house is clad in tri-bevel wood drop siding. The rake eaves are supported by knee braces, and the front eaves have exposed rafter tails. The projecting entry porch is roughly centered in the Blackburn Street façade; it has a simple shed roof that is set lower than the main roof. The front door is a French door, often used on vernacular homes of this era. Much of the original fenestration appears to have been altered. A shed addition on the west side of the exterior wall was added after 1950 and further conceals the trolley car wing.

(Continued from page 2, DPR523b, B10 Significance)

SIGNIFICANCE

The property was not found eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources. The building is not individually significant to the development of the downtown Santa Cruz neighborhoods, and thus would not appear to be eligible under Criterion (1). The early persons associated with the building, F. R. Monday and Mrs. Mary Canepa, are not known for contributions that are important to the development of the local community, therefore the property would not appear to be eligible for the California Register under Criterion (2). The specific builder of this house has not yet been identified, and it was not found eligible for listing under Criterion (3), as the building, although a unique example of local Folk architecture, is not a distinctive representative of its time.

When considered for listing within the Historic Building Survey of the City of Santa Cruz however, the property meets the following criteria:

5. The building possesses special aesthetic merit and value due to the nature of it's Folk design that incorporated an old trolley car into the building envelope, retaining sufficient features that show its architectural significance; and
7. The building retains sufficient integrity to accurately convey its significance.

Integrity

The property maintains much, but not all, of its apparent historical integrity as per the National Register's seven aspects of integrity. It maintains its original location on Blackburn Street, southwest of downtown Santa Cruz; it is still surrounded by much, but not all of its apparent historic setting, including surrounding houses of similar age, scale and design and parcels with similar setbacks, parking, and streetscape. It retains its 1926 residential scale and feeling and continues, through the still-visible curved forms and detailing of the streetcar, to illustrate its Folk design associations. The remainder of the cottage retains most of its integrity with the Craftsman style, providing a specific date for the trolley associations, including the low-pitched gabled roofs, knee braces, tri-bevel drop siding, and apex attic vents.

CONTINUATION SHEET

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View from Blackburn Street / trolley car visible embedded in building.