

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

Primary #  
HRI #  
Trinomial  
NRHP Status Code

Other Listings  
Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Page 1 of 4 \*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder): Howe House

P1. Other identifier: None

\*P2. Location: ☐ Not for Publication ☒ Unrestricted

\*a. County Santa Cruz County

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a location map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Santa Cruz Date Revised 1994 T .11 S. ; R .2 W. ; Mount Diablo B.M.

c. Address: 711 California St. City Santa Cruz Zip 95060

d. UTM:(give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone 10S ; 585922 mE/ 4092020 mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

west side of California Street between Rigg and Otis Streets.

APN# 006-491-09

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

This vernacular Stick style house is a Victorian-era residence from the late-nineteenth century, dating to sometime in the late 1880s; it appears to have been built over time, with both smaller and larger gabled volumes. The classic Stick style details of the front portion of the one-and-one-half-story portion of the residence include the fish-scale shingles in the front gable end, the one-story projecting angled bay window with its three equal 2/2 double-hung windows, the dormers on the side elevations, the channel-rustic siding, and simple inset front porch (which has been partially enclosed), and the balloon-framed proportions. A detached garage is also located on the property, to the rear of the residence.

\*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, 2009.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:

☒ Historic ☐ Prehistoric ☐ Both  
ca. late 1880s, recorded deeds,  
about 120 years old.

\*P7. Owner and Address:

\*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: 5/6/09

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe)

Intensive

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none".)

Santa Cruz Historic Building Survey - Vol. III, Department of Planning and Community  
Development, City of Santa Cruz, 2012.

\*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

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 2 of 4

\*NRHP/CRHR Status Code 3CS

Resource Name (Assigned by recorder) Howe House

B1. Historic Name: Howe House

B2. Common Name: 711 California St.

B3. Original Use: Single family residential

B4. Present Use: Single family residential

\*B5. Architectural Style: Stick

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

Constructed ca. late 1880s. Addition constructed in 1977 (SC BP # A24086)

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

Original Location: n/a

\*B8. Related Features:

Garage.

B9a. Architect: Unknown

b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme Architecture

Area: Westside

Period of Significance: 1880s

Property Type: Residential

Applicable Criteria: (2)

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

The early owner was Arden Hall, a carpenter who arrived in Santa Cruz in about 1869 with his wife, Julia. The house was inherited by Hall's daughter, Helen Emily Hall. Emily Hall married Fred Howe in 1899 and by 1902, they were living in the subject residence. In 1904, Fred Howe instigated substantial street improvements on California Street by installing a sidewalk in front of his house and the City graded the street at that time as well. Howe served as Santa Cruz's Mayor from 1915-1917 and was appointed Postmaster in 1921. Emily died in 1914, and in 1916 Howe married Vernie Violet White, and then later married Ilma Fargo McPherson, all while retaining ownership of the property. In the late 1930s, Howe was Director of the Greater Santa Cruz Oil Corporation. This company was formed with the anticipation of finding and selling oil in DeLaVeaga Park. In testament to his contributions to the City, the *Sentinel* devoted half of the front page to him at the time of his death in 1948. Following Howe's ownership, the house was acquired by Charles Wheat in the 1950s and later William Robinson, who constructed an addition to the residence in 1977. (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. 1892, 1902, 1916-1989.  
 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1888-1950.

(continued on page 54, DPR523L)

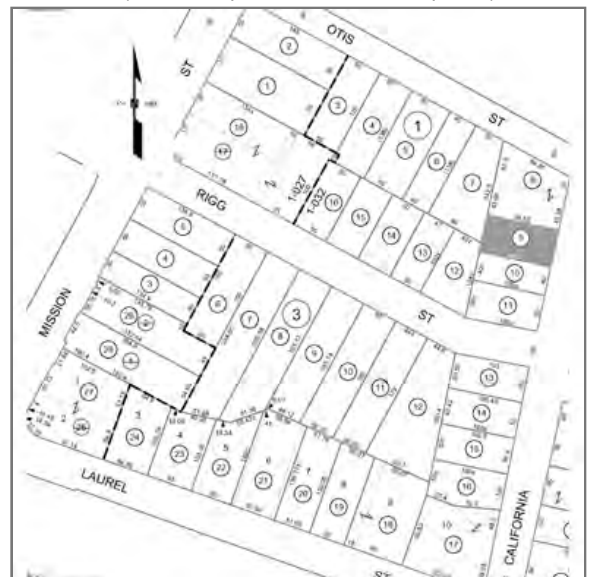
B13. Remarks: None

\*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

Page 3 of 4      \*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Howe House

\* Map Name: Santa Cruz, Calif.

\* Scale: n.t.s.

\* Date of Map: 1954 (revised 1994)



TN\* / MN  
14 1/2°

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

Page 4 of 4 \*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Howe House

\* Recorded By F. Maggi/L. Dill/J. Kusz

\* Date 5/6/2009

☒ Continuation ☐ Update

(Continued from page 2, DPR523b, B10)

**SIGNIFICANCE**

The property was found eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources under Criterion (2). The earliest person associated with the building is Arden Hall, although Arden Hall is not known for contributions that are important to the development of the local community. The subsequent owner was Fred Howe, who was a Postmaster, merchant, an early Santa Cruz Mayor, and local business investor. As the long-time residence of one of Santa Cruz's more significant early residents, the property remains significant due to this direct association and long-standing occupation. The specific architect of the building has not yet been identified, thus it was not found eligible for listing under Criterion (3), as the building is not a distinctive representation of its time or the Stick style.

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

1. The building is a significant example of the built environment heritage of the City as a representative of a late 1880s building; and
3. The property is associated with a person, Fred Howe, who significantly contributed to the development of the City; and
5. The building possesses special aesthetic merit and value due to its quality of Stick style architecture, retaining sufficient features that show its architectural significance; and
7. The building retains sufficient integrity to accurately convey its significance.

**Integrity**

The property maintains most of its apparent historical integrity as per the National Register's seven aspects of integrity. It maintains its original location on California Street, west of downtown Santa Cruz, in an area developed mostly in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; 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 residential scale and feeling and continues, through its form, massing and detailing, to illustrate its associations with minor patterns of residential design and development in the twentieth century. The house retains its integrity with its Victorian-era Stick style.

(Continued from page 2, DPR523b, B12)

*Santa Cruz Evening News*. Fred Howe and Chas Clark Buy Valuable Business Property. 10/17/1922.

*Santa Cruz Sentinel*. Fred Howe obituary. 10/28/1948.

*Santa Cruz Surf*. California Street Improvements. 4/4/190

U.S. Federal Census. 1880, 1900-1930.