

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): Higinbotham House

P1. Other identifier: HP-88-01

*P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted

*a. County Santa Clara County and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a location map as necessary.)

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Cupertino Date 1980 Photorevised T .8 S. ; R .2 W. ; Mount Diablo B.M.

c. Address: 14275 Saratoga Ave. City Saratoga Zip 95070
 d. UTM:(give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone 10S ; mE/ mN

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

northwest side of Saratoga Avenue southwest of Worden Way APN# 397-31-001

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

This one-and-one-half-story shingled Craftsman-era house sits in a wooded setting that almost entirely screens it from the public right-of-way. The side-gabled house features a shed-dormer, unpainted siding, and original wood windows. According to previous records, alterations and additions to the original structure were well integrated into the original design. The house and garage originally had copper roofs; the roof of the house has been replaced but the copper roof of the garage remains. Major alterations and additions include a library and deck off the dining room added in 1965, conversion of a screened porch to an office in 1970, and a "Great Hall" and master bedroom with deck on the second floor added in 1980. The property also contains a working miniature railroad including a train station, locomotive and a section of track that circles the house. An amphitheatre overlooking Saratoga Creek is used for dramatic presentations.

*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 northwest, July 2009.

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:

Historic Prehistoric Both
 1920, 89 years old.

*P7. Owner and Address:

Peck Family Trust et al
 14275 Saratoga Ave.
 Saratoga CA 95070

*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: 10/26/09

*P10. Survey Type: (Describe)

Reconnaissance

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

Archives & Architecture: City of Saratoga Statement of Historic Context, 2009.

*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

State of California - The Resources Agency
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Primary #
 HRI #

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*NRHP/CRHR Status Code 3CS

Resource Name (Assigned by recorder) Higinbotham House

B1. Historic Name: John U. Higinbotham House

B2. Common Name: 14275 Saratoga Ave.

B3. Original Use: Single family residential

B4. Present Use: Single family residential

*B5. Architectural Style: Craftsman

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

Constructed 1920.

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

Original Location: n/a

*B8. Related Features:

None

B9a. Architect: Unknown

b. Builder: Unknown

*B10. Significance: Theme Architecture

Area: Heritage Lane

Period of Significance: 1920

Property Type: Residential

Applicable Criteria: (3)

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

The Higinbotham House is listed on the Saratoga Heritage Resources Inventory, included as a part of HP-88-01. It qualified under Criteria a and c:

- a) the property exemplifies and reflects special elements of the cultural, social, economic, aesthetic, and architectural history of Saratoga; and
- c) the property embodies distinctive characteristics of the Craftsman style, type and period.

The Higinbotham House also appears eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources under Criterion (3), as the house embodies the distinctive characteristics of the Craftsman house-type within Saratoga's *City of Homes* period.

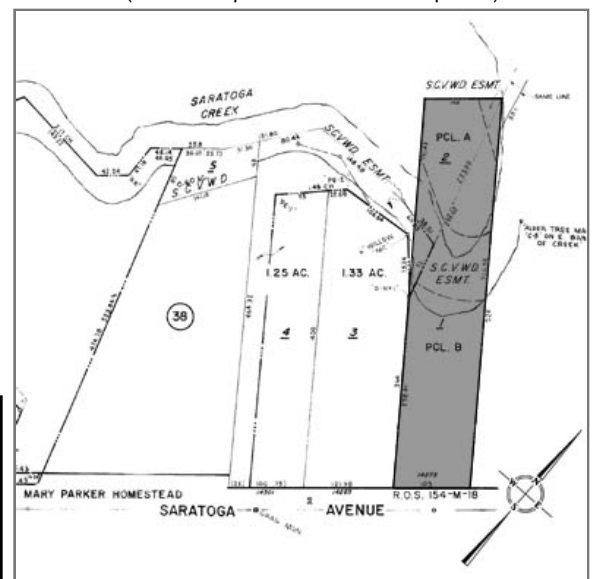
(Continued on page 4, DPR523L)

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

*B12. References:

Saratoga Heritage Preservation Commission, Historic Resources Inventory form, 1988.
<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/c/a/2008/06/11/HOQ3111K5K.DTL>

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

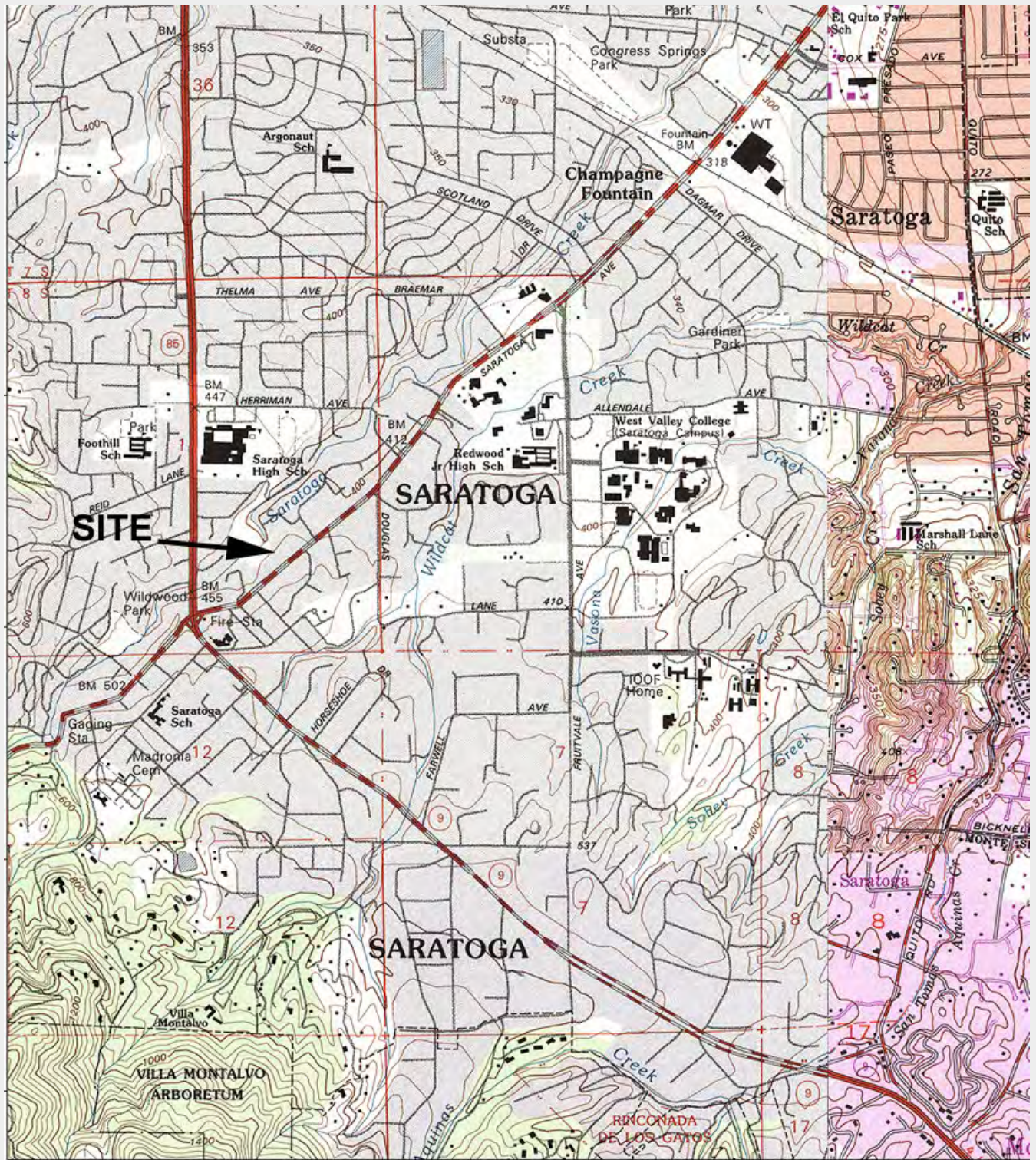


B13. Remarks: Listed Heritage Resource

*B14. Evaluator: Franklin Maggi

*Date of Evaluation: October 26, 2009

(This space reserved for official comments.)



MN
14°

586000m E. 587000m E. 588000m E. 589000m E. WGS84 Zone 10S
0 1000 FEET 0 1/2 500m 3000m MILE
Map created with TOPO!® ©2003 National Geographic (www.nationalgeographic.com/topo)

CONTINUATION SHEET

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

* Recorded By F. Maggi, L. Dill, & J. Kusz * Date 10/26/2009 Continuation Update

(Continued from page 2, DPR523b, B10)

Historical Background

The original owners of this house were John U. and Bernadine Higinbotham. The Higinbothams were authors of travel books. John Higinbotham was an attorney, born in Kansas in 1868, and apparently later lived in Chicago. He also wrote a column of light commentaries for the *Los Gatos Mail News* and the *Saratoga Star*. The latter paper was owned from 1922 to 1929 by Llewellyn Peck, father of Willys Peck, who purchased the house from the Higinbotham estate in 1951.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Peck have been active in the community life of Saratoga. Willys, a native of Saratoga, worked as an attorney and a copy editor for the *San Jose Mercury News*, and has served as president of the Saratoga Historical Foundation (1963-82), during which time the Saratoga Historical Museum was established. He also served on the Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Commission, and the County Bicentennial Commission. Betty Peck has been a kindergarten teacher at Saratoga School for 27 years, and founded the Saratoga Community Garden in 1972.

Integrity

The integrity of this property cannot be determined for this survey.