

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

PROJECT TITLE:	Historic Residence - 607 Figueroa Street
PROPOSAL:	Nomination for listing on the City of Folsom Cultural Resources Inventory
RECOMMENDATION:	Determine the resource eligible for listing
APPLICANT:	The Heritage Preservation League of Folsom (nomination form prepared by Tory Swim)
OWNER:	Robert Bovard
LOCATION:	Located on the south side of Figueroa Street at 607 Figueroa Street
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO.:	070-0112-003
ZONING:	The Figueroa Subarea/Two-Family Residence District (FIG/R-2)
GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATION:	Multi-Family Low Density (MLD)
ADJACENT LAND USES AND ZONING:	North: Figueroa Street and The Bradley House Bed and Breakfast Inn; FIG/R-2 South: Alley and single-family residential development; CEN/R-2 East: The Hyman House; FIG/R-2 West: The Landmark Baptist Church; FIG/R-2
SITE CHARACTERISTICS:	The residence at 607 Figueroa Street is located on a standard Theodore Judah lot (50' x 140'). The property is level and mature vegetation surrounds the structure.
FUTURE ACTION:	Add the nomination package to the City of Folsom Cultural Resources Inventory List that is available to the public at the planning counter.
APPLICABLE REGULATION:	The Historic Preservation Master Plan approved by Folsom City Council on November 24, 1998
ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION:	The project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to California Code of Regulation Title 14, Section 15061 (Review of exemption).

ATTACHED REFERENCE

MATERIAL:

1. Assessors Parcel Map
2. Nomination Package
3. Sanford Insurance Maps from 1899, 1910 and 1925

PROJECT PLANNER:

Lisbet Gullone, Associate Planner

BACKGROUND

The Cultural Resource Inventory

On November 5, 1998, the Folsom City Council approved the 'Historic Preservation Master Plan.' This document established goals and objectives for historic preservation within the City of Folsom, identified a process for the listing of locally significant historic sites and structures, and authorized the Historic District Commission to determine the eligibility of sites nominated for listing.

Jacob Miller

Jacob and Mahdalena Miller came to Folsom with their three children in 1869. After the couple settled in Folsom, Jacob became an undertaker and started a funeral home at Sutter Street. The family had four additional children and in 1879 the Millers bought the residence at Lot 4 of Block 51 (currently 607 Figueroa Street). Two of the Miller's daughters eventually married young men from the neighborhood (Jacob Klumpp and Chris Hansen). Today the Miller Funeral Home is known as one of the oldest businesses in Folsom.

NOMINATION

The Community Development Department has received a request for the listing of the historic residence at 607 Figueroa Street as a locally significant historical property. The submitted registration form was prepared by Tory Swim on behalf of the Heritage Preservation League of Folsom. Historic information regarding the property was obtained from local residents and historians, City and County records and the Folsom History Museum. The property has not previously been considered for historic listing.

Building History

The Sacramento County Assessor's records for the 607 Figueroa Street property go back to 1870 when R. K. Berry owned the developed lot. In 1879, John H. Clifford sold the property to Jacob Miller. The Miller family (including a married daughter named Alma Hansen) owned the residential property until 1970. The present owner, Robert Bovard, purchased the home in 1972.

The Sanford Insurance Maps show that the Miller residence was rebuilt or substantially remodeled between 1899 and 1910. Since that time, the footprint of the building has not changed, but the 1925 Sanborn Map shows that the porch was reduced to the front façade. At some point in time, a portion of the front porch was enclosed.

Current Building Description

The residence at 607 Figueroa Street has a Folk Victorian design with two front gables, a moderately pitched roof covered by corrugated iron and wood siding. Most of the windows are double-hung. The front porch has a shed roof supported by thin rectangular posts. Decorative elements that are typical for the design style include fish-scale shingles and spindle work in the front gable area.

CRITERIA FOR LISTING AND RESOURCE INTEGRITY

The Historic Preservation Master Plan specifies the following review criteria regarding the listing of a site or structure in the City's Cultural Resources Inventory:

- Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- Property embodies distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, construction method, or represents the work of a creative individual.
- Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in Folsom's prehistory or history.

In order to qualify for the Cultural Resources Inventory, a property must meet one of the four listed criteria. As demonstrated by the information provided in the nomination package, the residential property at 607 Figueroa Street meets two of the criteria for listing, as established by the Historic Preservation Master Plan (associated the lives of people significant in our past and embodies distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, construction method, or represents the work of a creative individual).

The Master Plan includes guidelines for the assessment of potential resources. The significance of a resource is established by answering the questions: why, where and when the property is important and the integrity of a resource can be determined by evaluating: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. In order to qualify for the Cultural Resources Inventory, a resource must have at least two types of integrity. The nominated residential property incorporates all the aspects of integrity that are identified in the Historic Preservation Master Plan

STAFF COMMENTS

The current property owner, Robert Bovard has been informed by the Landmark Baptist Church that his residence (or the original residence on the property) once served as the parish house for the Folsom Methodist-Episcopal Church (the first congregation that occupied the church at 609 Figueroa Street). According to church records, services were held in the residential building at 607 Figueroa Street during the construction of the church in 1860. Staff has not been able to reach a representative for the Landmark Baptist Church to discuss the early history of the nominated property.

The mature trees, shrubs and flowers around the residence at 607 Figueroa Street contribute to the overall impression of the historic property. A wood fence separates the front yard area from the side yards.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to California Code of Regulation Title 14, Section 15061 (Review of Exemption), as it can be said with certainty that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Historic District Commission determine the historic residence at 607 Figueroa Street eligible for listing on the City of Folsom Cultural Resource Inventory with findings.

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION ACTION

MOVE TO DETERMINE THE HISTORIC RESIDENCE AT 607 FIGUEROA STREET ELIGIBLE FOR LISTING ON THE CITY OF FOLSOM CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY WITH THE FOLLOWING FINDINGS:

GENERAL FINDINGS

- A. NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN AT THE TIME AND IN THE MANNER REQUIRED BY THE CITY OF FOLSOM HISTORIC PRESERVATION MASTER PLAN.
- B. THE PROJECT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE GENERAL PLAN AND THE ZONING CODE.
- C. THE PROJECT IS EXEMPT FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATION TITLE 14, SECTION 15061 (REVIEW OF EXEMPTION).

ELIGIBILITY FINDINGS

- D. THE PROPERTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE LIVES OF PERSONS SIGNIFICANT IN OUR PAST.
- E. THE PROPERTY EMBODIES DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF A TYPE, PERIOD, REGION, CONSTRUCTION METHOD, OR REPRESENTS THE WORK OF A CREATIVE INDIVIDUAL.
- F. THE INTEGRITY OF THE RESOURCE IN REGARDS TO LOCATION, DESIGN, SETTING, MATERIALS, WORKMANSHIP, FEELING AND ASSOCIATION HAS BEEN PRESERVED.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FINDING

- G. THE HISTORIC RESIDENCE AT 607 FIGUEROA STREET IS PROTECTED BY THE FOLSOM MUNICIPAL CODE AND THE DESIGN STANDARDS FOR THE FIGUEROA SUBAREA OF THE HISTORIC RESIDENTIAL SUBAREA IN THE FOLSOM HISTORIC DISTRICT.



607 Figueroa – North Elevation



(Courtesy of the Folsom Historical Society, 1920 Photograph of 607 Figueroa Street)