

6.A
1615 EL DORADO
026- 181-23

September 26, 2006

County of Santa Cruz
Planning Department
701 Ocean Street, 4th Floor
Santa Cruz, California 95060

Dear Steve Guiney:

The property located at 1615 El Dorado Avenue is under consideration for the Santa Cruz County Historic Resources Inventory (NR5). We disagree with the recommendation to place this property on the National Registry for the following reasons:

The property had extensive additions and changes, including the removal of a large portion of the back of the home which has significantly changed the original characteristics of the structure. The siding on the south side of the home is not the original; the entire siding was replaced with modern siding. The front porch was completely replaced and subsequently remodeled. The second home on the property is only forty years old and is quite modern. Only the front of the home facing Capitola Road has retained any of the original characteristics and they are minimal as again, the majority of the house and property is not in its original state. The home has extensive termite damage and is in need of major construction repairs. The foundation needs to be raised as it is bowing; the plumbing needs to be completely re-done. The siding needs to be replaced, windows and window frames show evidence of dry rot and termite damage and in need of replacement, and the property is in need of upgrades to the electrical and roofing. There is also termite damage and dry rot on the wood siding which cannot be repaired and must be replaced. Due to the significant deterioration of the home including the interior, the repairs to get the home in order are considerable and will compromise any importance to the nominal historical value. The property is also surrounded by multiple new homes; the majority of which are multiple units.

Additionally, the home was originally built by the Morrissey family. While their contributions to the development of the county were very important, by and large the average citizen will barely recognize the family name, with the exception of the boulevard located in the city of Santa Cruz. If the home and property were still near its original state, we believe this designation would be merited. However, based upon the numerous changes to the original structure and property we feel this property is best left out of the National Registry.

6.A

- 2 -

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Christine La Francesca, my sister, was deeded the home by our now deceased parents. She is the sole caretaker for our brother Joseph, a severely disabled veteran whom also resides at the home. Christine has severe health issues as she recently had a heart valve replacement, hip surgery and she is also diabetic. If something should happen to our brother, the home would need to be sold immediately as she would be unable to retain the home due to financial constraints.

Due to the dire disrepair of the home, Christine's severe health condition, and the continuous and required care for Joseph not to mention the financial burden this will place upon the family, we are requesting the property located at 1615 El Dorado Avenue be removed from consideration for the NR5.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George E Barbic".

George E Barbic