

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

Primary #
HRI #
Trinomial
NRHP Status Code 1D

Other Listings P-43-001468
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

Page 1 of 2 *Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) La Montagne Boarding House

P1. Other Identifier: PG&E Boarding House

*P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted

*a. County Santa Clara and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Milpitas Date 2021 T 06S; R 01W; of of Sec ; Mt. Diablo B.M.

c. Address 1044 Catherine Street City San Jose Zip 95002

d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone 10S, 590531.00 mE/ 4142780.00 mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)
APN 015-02-049

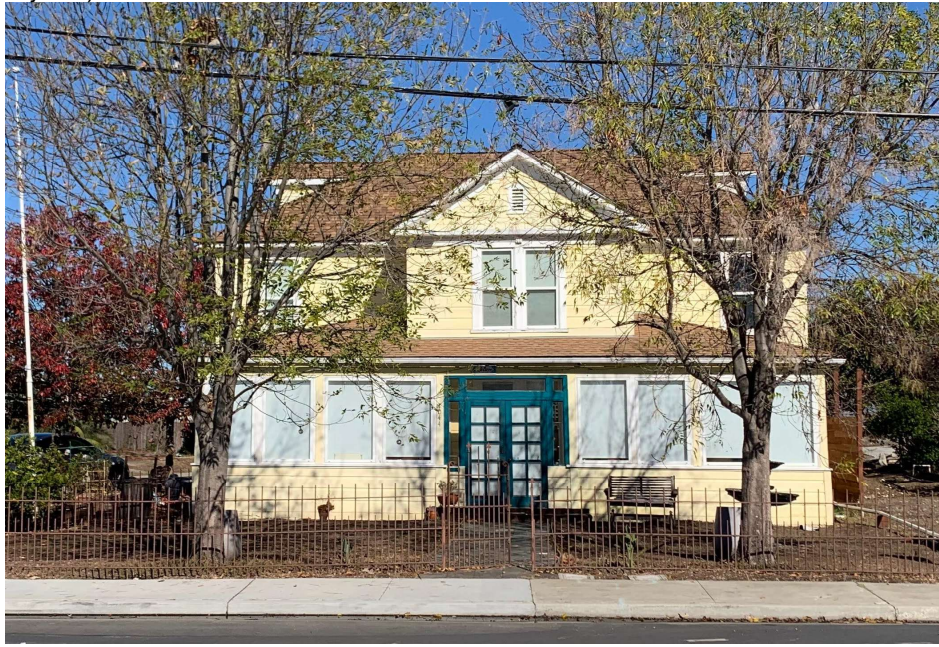
*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

This Colonial revival residence has a hip roof with small gable dormers and a large, central, gabled, two-story bay window. The eaves are boxed and the front gable has a closed pediment with a centrally located attic vent. The house is clad with drop channel siding trimmed with corner boards and the pediment is clad with shingles. The full width front porch is enclosed with fixed, single-lite windows. The south (primary) façade has a pair of 10-lite French doors with a transom and sidelights that serves as the main entrance. The second floor has two-over-two single hung windows while the remaining facades have one-over-one single hung windows. All are modern replacements and each is flanked by decorative shutters. A small one-story addition is located on the rear of the building. Associated with the house, is a two-story tank house with battered sides, a square plan, and flat roof. Like the main house, it is clad with drop channel siding, box eaves, and a wide frieze.

See Continuation Sheet.

*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP2

P5a. Photograph or Drawing (Photograph required for buildings, structures, and objects.)



*P4. Resources Present:

Building Structure Object Site
 District Element of District
 Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession #) View from Catherine Street, looking north, November 2022

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source: Historic Prehistoric
 Both

c.1870, NR Nomination

*P7. Owner and Address:

Nicolas L. Briel and Amil R. Labbas
1044 Catherine Street
San Jose, CA 95002

*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, and address)

Becky Urbano, ESA
787 The Alameda, Ste. 250
San Jose, CA 95126

*P9. Date Recorded:

March 30, 2023

*P10. Survey Type: (Describe)

Intensive

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

Neighborhood of Alviso Historic Context and Survey

*Attachments: NONE Location Map Continuation Sheet Building, Structure, and Object Record
 Archaeological Record District Record Linear Feature Record Milling Station Record Rock Art Record
 Artifact Record Photograph Record Other (List): _____

CONTINUATION SHEET

Property Name: La Montagne Boarding House

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P3a: Description (Continued)

History

Originally built as a private home sometime before 1895, the house at 1044 Catherine Street was reportedly remodeled in 1904 to serve as a boarding house for PG&E employees.^{1,2} It was later purchased by William Clampett and Jane Huxham in the 1920s. During the 1940s, boat restoration work for PG&E was performed in the barn behind the home. Today it is fondly known by town residents as the Big Yellow House.³

There is some evidence to suggest that the house served as a boarding house as early as 1890 when A. La Montagne [sic] is listed as a boarding housekeeper in Alviso. While the original date of construction is reported to be c.1870 on the 1972 National Register Nomination, the appearance of the house is more appropriate to 1890 - 1900 design trends.

Status

The building is a contributing feature to the 1972 Port of Alviso National Register District and is included in the 1995 *Port of Alviso, California Point of Historical Interest*.^{4,5}

¹ The building appears on an 1895 photograph of the area as shown in *Santa Clara County and Its Resources*, (San Jose: San Jose Mercury News, 1895), p.281. It is highly doubtful that the building dates to the 1870s as reported in some documentation. The style, size, and association with the La Montagne family cannot be verified beyond the early 1890s.

² The association with PG&E has not been verified. However, it is reported in both the 1995 California Point of Interest application and on the historical marker in front of the property. City of San Jose, *Application for California Point of Historical Interest: Port of Alviso*, 1995, p. 47.

³ "La Montagne Boarding House, ca.1890," *The Historical Marker Database*, revised February 7, 2023, <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=24450>.

⁴ Phyllis Butler and the Santa Clara County Historical Landmarks Advisory, *National Register Nomination: Port of Alviso (San Jose)*, April 7, 1972, <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/123861641>.

⁵ *Application for California Point of Historical Interest: Port of Alviso*.