



City of Santa Barbara
Planning Division

Memorandum

DATE: March 9, 2016

TO: Historic Landmarks Commission

FROM: Nicole Hernandez, City Urban Historian

SUBJECT: **Addition to Potential Historic Resources List**

ADDRESS: **3135 Calle Mariposa Street**

The 1934 Tudor style house in the San Roque neighborhood was recommended for listing on the City's Potential Historic Resources List by Commissioner Murray in writing on February 23, 2016 to the HLC Designations Subcommittee. The HLC Designations Subcommittee reviewed the property at its meeting on February 24, 2016 and found that the building has good integrity and meets criteria outlined in the Santa Barbara Municipal Code, Section 22.22.040. The building meets Criterion A, D, and G and would qualify as a City of Santa Barbara Structure of Merit.



This Listing allows the Historic Landmarks Commission to treat the building as a historic resource, and it is being added to the Potential Historic Resources List as per the Santa Barbara Municipal Code Section 22.22.030 C. Identification of Potential Resource by Commission Members. A member of the Commission may identify a structure, a real property site, or a natural feature that, in the Commissioner's opinion, may qualify for possible inclusion on the City's Potential Historic Resources List. Any such identification may be made by the filing of a written request for the listing of the structure, site, or natural feature as a Potential Historic Resource pursuant to the provisions of this Section. Such written request shall state in detail the reasons the Commissioner believes that such a listing is appropriate and shall be made in accordance with criteria for listing a Potential Historic Resource established in the MEA Historic Resource Guidelines.

Criterion A. Its character, interest or value as a significant part of the heritage of the City, the State or the Nation

Widely popular throughout the country, Tudor Style architecture takes its well-earned place among the Period Revivals of the early 1900s. Embodying a romantic view with European roots, the Tudor style looks to the English Vernacular and Medieval castle for inspiration. The result adds charm and variety to the City of Santa Barbara and is a testament to an era that saw great development in the City, thus qualifying the building under Criterion A.

Criterion D. Its exemplification of a particular architectural style or way of life important to the City, the State, or the Nation

Born into an era that looked to picturesque styles for inspiration, the Tudor style grew in popularity from the beginning of the 1900s until the 1930s and maintained its strength until the late 1930s. Tudor styles have a broad scope of references. The range includes much of the Medieval era, with everything from thatched-roof cottages to large manors as sources of inspiration. The steeply pitched, front-facing gables became a hallmark of the American Tudor style. This house had a thatched roof to mimic the picturesque thatched roofs of rural England. The house now has a false thatched roof made up of composition shingle roof material that is rolled around the eaves and rakes to suggest a thick layering of thatch. In the 1930s, parking was an ancillary use which was typically located at the rear of the site. This garage for this house was set back down a driveway that runs along the side of the house. The garage had a steeply pitched roof false thatched roof that mimics the steep roof of the main house. Santa Barbara is home to a number of Tudor buildings. In general, Santa Barbara's Tudor styles tend to have more plaster and less masonry used in their wall treatments than those in the rest of the country. The style was popular in the 1920s and 1930s and can be found in the neighborhoods that were developed in that era, like the Lower Riviera and the San Roque neighborhoods of Santa Barbara. With its steeply pitched, front-facing gables, half timbering in the gable, and pronounced stucco chimney on the front-facing elevation, the house at 3135 Calle Mariposa is an excellent example of the Tudor style in Santa Barbara, qualifying it under Criterion D.

Criterion G. Its embodiment of elements demonstrating outstanding attention to architectural design, detail, materials and craftsmanship

The massing of the Tudor house is composed of a steeply pitched roof with double front gables over the front windows with a cross gable. The house features verge boards in the front gables, a prominent stucco chimney on the front elevation with two flues expressed in decorative chimney pots, and a front entrance defined with steps to a stoop. These are character-defining features of Tudor houses across the country, and they demonstrate an outstanding attention to architectural design. The front door and windows feature outstanding attention to detail, materials, and craftsmanship. The front door features heavy wood with a small vertical light and heavy trim surround. Of the variety of windows on the front elevation, there are tall, wood, true divided light casements and triptych windows with a large pane flanked by true divided light windows, each with six panes. The wood windows and their trim are recessed at the stucco wall plane with stucco return. Because the house demonstrates these outstanding elements, it qualifies as a Structure of Merit under Criterion G.

Historic Integrity

The house is in good condition, with almost all of the original materials still present. In addition, the surrounding area has also maintained much of its historic integrity, with many English Vernacular and Tudor styles from the 1930s. The main alteration has been the change from wood shingles to asphalt shingles on the roof. It is the goal of the new owner to replace the existing shingles to appropriate wood shingles. The house retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, which allows it to convey its original appearance.

Recommendation

The HLC Designations Subcommittee and Staff recommend that the Historic Landmarks Commission add the Tudor style house at 3135 Calle Mariposa to the City's Potential Historic Resources List.

