

PRIMARY RECORD

NRHP Status Code

Other Listings
Review Code

Reviewer

Date

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*Resource Name or #: Flores Casita

P1. Other

Identifier:

P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted

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

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad _____ Date T 4N; R 27W 3 of 3 of Sec 11/12 B.M.

c. Address 1809 Stanwood Dr City Santa Barbara Zip 93103

d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone __, _____ mE/ _____ mN

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

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

The Flores House is a modest 528 square-foot *casita* built in approximately 1939 by Leo Flores for his younger sister Barbara (Flores) Martinez and later permitted as a legal residence by the City of Santa Barbara building department in 1949. The architectural vernacular of the Flores *casita* is that of a rustic ranch house, a style that evolved from early homestead cabins as well as the transient hunting and fishing log and frame cabins of the family's Gibraltar Road and Santa Cruz Creek "Flores Flats" homesteads. The *casita* is a rectangular wood frame structure measuring roughly 22' x 24', not including the 5' x 22' creek side porch. The roof is a simple gable roof with an offset ridge line that allows for a lower slope roof on the north side porch and closet. While the south side screened porch is integral to the structure, the east and north side porches were added to the building as low slope veranda-style additions. The eastside porch has a picket rail balustrade between posts supporting the porch roof. The porches have been dismantled in order to install the new foundation. The siding is 1x12 redwood board and batten, and the doors are wood paneled doors with original hardware. The simple double-hung windows have wood sash. The roofing is presently single-ply mineral roofing. (See Continuation Sheet 1)

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

*P4. **Resources Present:** Building Structure

P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession #) plates described under each photo

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



Plate 1. East and south elevation of building. Facing Northwest. A. C. Cole, May 2007

*P6. **Date Constructed/Age and Source:** Historic, Approximately 1939.

*P7. **Owner and Address:** Linda Dye, 911 Tennyson Lane, Ventura, Ca 93003

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

*P9. **Date Recorded:**

*P10. **Survey Type:** (Describe)

*P11. **Report Citation:** (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Cole, Alexandra C. and Roy Harthorn, 2007, Historic Structures/Sites Report 809 Stanwood Drive Santa Barabara CA APN 021-143-005.

*Attachments: Building, Structure, and Object Record, Location Map Continuation Sheets (6) Photograph Record (within continuation sheets)

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

*NRHP Status Code _____ Page 2 of 8

Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) _____

- B1. **Historic**
- B2. **Common**
- B3. **Original Use:** Residence
- B4. **Present Use:** Residence currently unoccupied
- B5. **Architectural Style** Vernacular ranch house/ homestead cabin
- B6. **Construction History:** (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)

There have been minimal alterations to the house since its construction in 1939. Other than the 2003 replacement concrete foundation and the removal of the porches for this foundation work, no significant alterations to the structure since its original construction in the late 1930's have been noted.

*B7. **Moved?** **No** **Unknown Date:** NA **Original Location:** NA *

B8. **Related Features:**

B9a. **Architect:** NA b. **Builder:** Leo Flores

B10. **Significance: Theme** Mount Valley on Calif. State Highway 192 **Period of Significance** 1930-1964

Property Type Rural **Applicable Criteria**

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

Constructed by Leo Flores for his sister Barbara and her family in approximately 1939, the Flores House (Casita) qualifies as a California Point of Historical Interest because is the last, only, and most historically significant property associated with the early descendents of the Flores Family, a Santa-Barbara Mexican-American family important to the early history and culture of Santa Barbara. The house is the oldest and last remaining vestige of the ranch purchased by Leo Flores' and Barbara (Flores) Martinez's grandfather Anastacio in 1869, portions of which, including the Casita, were owned by the Flores Family until approximately 1964.

Go To Continuation Sheets 2

B11. **Additional Resource Attributes:** (List attributes and codes)

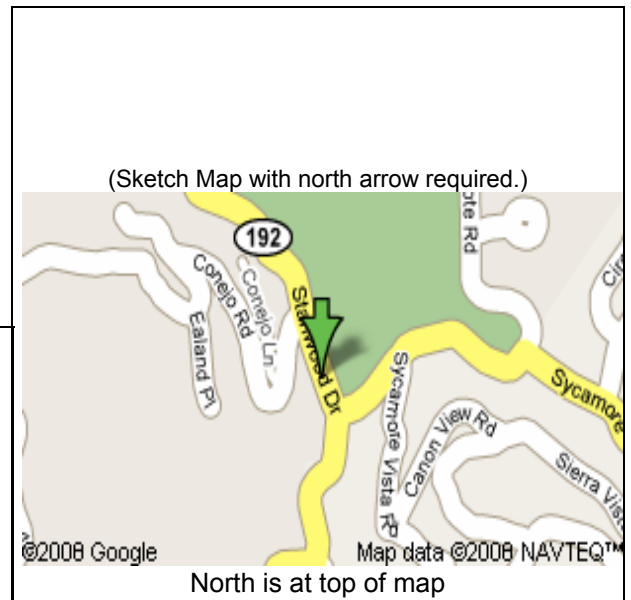
*B12. **References:** Go to Continuation Sheet 4

B13. **Remarks:**

B14. **Evaluator:**

_____ *Date
of Evaluation:

(This space reserved for official comments.)



P3a Description Continued

The house retains integrity of location and setting. It also retains its original materials and design, and has not been altered with the exception of the temporary removal of the porches, which was necessary in order to install a new foundation. The property is located in the Cielito neighborhood, as identified in the Land Use Element of the City's General Plan, which is bounded on the north, east and west by the City limits, and on the south by the top of Mission Ridge. The neighborhood is rural residential within an area of creek side benches and hillside topography. Most of the parcels are medium to large in size, in some cases containing one or more acres. The Flores House is listed on the City's Potential Historic Structures/Sites List and is eligible for designation as a City of Santa Barbara Structure of Merit, principally due to its association with persons important to the early history and culture of Santa Barbara and the State of California, and for its vernacular architectural style.



Plate 2. East elevation of cabin before porch was removed for repair. Facing west. 2002. Courtesy Linda Dye



Plate 3. East elevation of cabin before porch was removed for repair. Facing west. 2002. Courtesy Linda Dye



Plate 4. North and east elevations of cabin. Facing southwest. A. C. Cole, May 2007



Plate 5. North and east elevations of cabin before porches were removed for repair. Facing south west. 2002. *Courtesy Linda Dye*

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*Resource Name

Recorded by:

* Date 8/25/08

Continuation

Update

B10 Significance, history continued

The Flores House at 1809 Stanwood Drive in Sycamore Canyon rests on land that was once part of a large ranch purchased in 1869 (and patented in 1875) from Miguel S. Gutierrez by Anastacio Flores who later subdivided, selling portions to Juan Flores, William Ferl, Santa Barbara County and Martha Barker (T. Miller family records). Anastacio's son José Flores also subdivided the property, selling or gifting portions to family members in 1900, 1907 and 1920. José's sons Edward and Leo Flores again subdivided their remaining land in 1956, and last by José's grandson Charles Ruiz in 1963, again with portions either sold or gifted to family.

In 1938 José died, and Leo inherited the remaining Flores Ranch parcel encompassing the land of what is now 1808 and 1809 Stanwood Drive and where the family's old adobe homestead had stood until it was replaced in 1932. At the time of Jose's death, Leo's sister Barbara, recently divorced and remarried, was in need of housing for herself, her son Charles Ruiz, and her second husband Charles V. Martinez. The needs of the family were modest, and Leo built the small dwelling, or *casita*, at 1809 Stanwood Drive for this sister and her family in 1939. In keeping with family tradition, the house was no larger than the other mountain cabins that Leo, his father José, and Uncle Carlos had built in the Santa Barbara and Santa Ynez mountains.

Charles Ruiz (b 1924, currently 84) recalls as a teenager, prior to WWII, living in the little *casita* with his mother and stepfather. Charles regularly rode his horse "Chunky" to Cold Springs School and to Santa Barbara Junior High. Charles also helped Leo with roundup both at home and at the T.P. Ranch. In 1941 Charles was drafted into the U.S. Army and served on the Pacific front during World War II. After the war he returned to Sycamore Canyon, married and worked at various Montecito estates much like his uncle before him.

In 1961, Barbara and her son Charles's property at 1815 and 1809 Stanwood was again subdivided and sold, and it has since changed hands several times. It was sequentially owned by various friends and extended family that lived in the house through the 60s and 70s. Charles lived both at 1808 Stanwood and later at a newer house he built in 1961 at 1815 Stanwood, next to his mother's *casita*. In 1964 the *casita* and property was sold to the Brouhard family who rented it to various tenants until 1979 after which it sat vacant and boarded up for more than 20 years while the Brouhards planned to eventually restore the building. Those plans were never realized, and in 2002 the now elderly Brouhards finally sold the property to Ms. Linda Dye. Ms. Dye works in Resources Management at Channel Islands National Park and is restoring the *casita* in a manner that is consistent with the original design.

The Flores House (Casita) qualifies as a California Point of Historical Interest because is the last, only, and most historically significant property associated with the early descendents of the Flores Family, a Santa-Barbara Mexican-American family important to the early history and culture of Santa Barbara, including events such as Old Spanish Days and Los Rancheros Visitadores. The house is the oldest and last remaining vestige and a visual reminder of the ranch purchased by Leo and Barbara's grandfather Anastacio in 1869, portions of which, including the Casita, were owned by the Flores Family until approximately 1964. The building retains its integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association.

B12 References

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- "Death Claims Native Son." 1938. *Santa Barbara News Press*, July 29. "Early Days Vaquero Had Colorful Life." 1963. *Santa Barbara News Press*, April 1.
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- Myrick, David F. 1990. *Montecito and Santa Barbara, From Farms to Estates*. Glendale, California: Trans-Anglo Books.
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- Cole, Alexandra C. and Roy Harthorn, 2007, *Historic Structures/Sites Report: 1809 Stanwood Drive Santa Barbara CA*.
- U. S. Land Records. 1878. National Archives, College Park, Maryland.

Archives Consulted

City of Santa Barbara Plan Archives
City of Santa Barbara Public Library
County of Santa Barbara Assessor's Office
County of Santa Barbara Surveyor's Office
County of Santa Barbara Hall of Records
Huntington Library Early California Population Project
Rancho Oso Historical Records
Montecito History Committee Archives
Gledhill Library, Santa Barbara Historical Society
Santa Barbara Presidio Archive Library
Personal files of E. R. Blakley
Santa Barbara Mission Archive Library
Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society Library

Maps

1901 & 1907 "Map of Survey Made by F. F. Flournoy of Flores Ranch, Sycamore Canyon"

1922. Montecito and Summerland City Map. Chase Real Estate.

B12 References

BIBLIOGRAPHY continued

Plans

1949 Record Permit Drawings

2003 and 2007 Charles Grant, P.E. foundation plans

Personal Communication

T.P. Dalzell

Charles Ruiz

Tomasita (Rivera) Miller

Lupe Rivera

E. R. Blakley