

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 92000252 Date Listed: 3/30/92

Dodson-Esquivel House
Property Name

Pima AZ
County State

Menlo Park MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

fr *Julian G. Lee*
Signature of the Keeper

3/30/92
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Statement of Significance: The Period of Significance is amended to read: 1921.

This information was confirmed with Jay Ziemann of the Arizona State historic preservation office.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property Dodson/Esquivel House

historic name Dodson House
other names/site number _____

PART OF: Menlo Park MPS

2. Location

street & number 1004 W. Alameda Street [N/A] not for publication
city, town Tucson [N/A] vicinity
state Arizona code AZ county Pima code 019 zip code 85745

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Menlo Park

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Sherleen Jensen 2/18/92
Signature of certifying official Date

State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic - Single dwelling

Current Function (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic - Single dwelling

7. DescriptionArchitectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Spanish Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls brick

roof flat, laid composition

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

SUMMARY

The Dodson/Esquivel house, 1004 W. Alameda Street (Survey #15-10), is an early 20th century residence located in the Menlo Park Neighborhood Survey Area on the northwest corner of the intersection of Grande Avenue and Alameda Street. The house is an excellent example of a locally significant Spanish Colonial Revival style house; a representative of the late-19th and 20th century Revivals in the Survey Area. The house is a stuccoed, parapet walled variation of the typical Spanish Colonial Revival style, and has a typical asymmetrical facade ornamented with Moorish decorative details. The Dodson/Esquivel house is larger and of more complex massing than most other Spanish Colonial Revival style buildings in the Neighborhood. Other than the conversion of the garage to a guest house and minor modifications to the house interior, the house has experienced very few alterations over the years and remains an intact example of the Spanish Colonial Revival style for which it is considered significant.

SITE AND SETTING

The Dodson/Esquivel house is located on its original south 100' of lots 9 and 10 of Block 11 of the Menlo Park Subdivision. Believed to have been constructed around 1921 by owner James Dodson, the residence was situated in a portion of Menlo Park where there was a higher density of historic era construction, the greatest proportion of which was of the Bungalow style.

CONSTRUCTION

The Dodson/Esquivel house is constructed of plastered, brick walls on a concrete foundation. The parapet walls are partially capped with a red, pressed metal roofing material which resembles Spanish tile. The raised floor and flat roof are of wood frame construction. Lintels are of wood and windows are pine casement. The residence is ornamented with decorative, cast concrete detailing.

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ORIGINAL APPEARANCE

The Dodson/Esquivel house had an informal, asymmetrical main facade, with a pent roof sheltered front door on Alameda Street. However, the side facing Grande Avenue, the important north-south street in Menlo Park, was more ornate. There was a very small porch serving the entry. The residence was massed in a U configuration about a central, rear patio, reflecting different wings with different functions. There was a one-car garage to the west of the residence. The Dodson/Esquivel House was perhaps most noteworthy for its ornamentation in a neighborhood where most residences, other than the Prairie House at 203 N. Grande Avenue, had been unornamented. The parapets were capped near the building corners with pressed metal, tile-like sheathing. The bedroom wing, projecting from the south facade, was capped with a partial hip roof, sheathed in pressed metal. The main window serving the living room, which looked out upon Grande Avenue, was surrounded by an intricate, cast concrete, Moorish inspired decoration of intertwined geometric forms, supported on spiral patterned, concrete columns. A smaller, decorative surround was placed around the window associated with the south facing, projecting bedroom. Ornamental, concrete urns were located atop the parapets in strategic locations. The windows were wood casement, with eight panes.

ORIGINAL INTERIOR

The Dodson/Esquivel house was a two bedroom, one bath residence with five rooms. The original interior was striking for its contrast of dark wood trim casings, lintels and built-in features with its plastered walls. The house had Bungalow-like wood work qualities of an almost Western flair in the living room and dining room. Moldings, simplified in the bedroom wing, were more typical for the period. The bedrooms had picture moldings. The floors were of oak in the more public portions of the house and fir in the bedrooms. The focal point of the living room was an ornamented fireplace with a firebox surround of tile in a Western motif. The ceiling level was also higher in the living room. The house featured built-in amenities such as bookcases, a dinette and buffet. The dining room buffet was part of a composition typical of the historic era, with windows on either side. The house may have had a screened porch to the rear at one time.

CURRENT APPEARANCE AND ALTERATIONS

The alterations have been very minor to the Dodson/Esquivel house, with the exception of the garage to guest house conversion, possible enclosure of a screened porch and remodelling of the kitchen. The main massing, materials and workmanship of the house are intact. Its condition is good and the integrity of the house has not been compromised by modifications.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:
 nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance
1905-1941

Significant Dates
1921

Cultural Affiliation
NA

Significant Person

Architect/Builder
James Dodson

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SIGNIFICANCE

The Dodson/Esquivel House is one of two more elaborate Spanish Colonial Revival style residences in the Menlo Park Neighborhood Survey Area. As a representative of the late 19th and 20th century Revivals, the house is locally significant under National Register Criterion C for its role in architectural development in Tucson from 1905 to 1941. The Dodson/Esquivel house is an excellent example of a popular style in a city with strong Hispanic roots.

OWNERSHIP

The first individual to purchase the south half of lots 9 and 10, Block 11 of the Menlo Park Subdivision from Pima Realty Co. was a gentleman named Steinbrugge. The property apparently changed hands as it was purchased by James Dodson in 1921 from Benedict, a member of the Pima Realty Co. In the same year, Mr. Dodson took a loan with Southern Arizona Brick and Lumber, so he must have started construction at that time. James Dodson achieved local notoriety in the 1920's as the owner of the parcel upon which Sentinel Peak stands. This parcel was being used for commercial purposes, such as quarrying of rock, at that time. A city-wide "Save the Peak" movement was started to secure A Mountain as a city park. Individuals such as Henry E. Schwalen and Henry O. Jastaad supported the city's case. The city eventually won, after many months of public hearings. The present owner of the Dodson/Esquivel house is Judy Esquivel.

See continuation sheet

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INTEGRITY

Other than the minor modifications previously mentioned, there have been no substantive changes to the Dodson/Esquivel house. An excellent example of the Spanish Colonial Revival style, the Dodson/Esquivel house remains sufficiently unaltered so that its massing, materials and workmanship reflect the architectural qualities for which the property is considered significant.

9. Major Bibliographical Reference

Deed between Pima Realty Co. and Henry P. Steinbrugge, August 11, 1917
Records from Ticor Title Insurance
The Tucson Citizen, May 30, 1926

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one

UTM References

A

1	2	5	0	1	1	0	0	3	5	6	5	8	9	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the nominated property are those of tax parcel number 116-18-157A, further described as the south 100' of lots 9 & 10 of block 11 of the Menlo Park Subdivision.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundaries include the parcels above as originally platted. This is the present and historic extent of the property

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janet Strittmatter, Project Coordinator
organization Johns & Strittmatter Inc. date February 9, 1992
street & number 2960 N. Swan, # 217 telephone (602) 325-2591
city or town Tucson state Arizona zip code 85712

aforesaid. DO HEREBY CERTIFY, That George C. Field and Ann Nettie Field, his wife personally known to me to be the same persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person, and acknowledged that they signed, sealed and delivered the said Instrument as their free and voluntary act, for the uses and purposes therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of homestead.

GIVEN under my hand and Notarial seal, this 2nd day of August, A.D., 1917.

(Notarial Seal) Ernest E. Danke, Notary Public

Filed and recorded at request of Tucson Realty & Trust Co. Aug. 10 A.D. 1917, at 11:55 A. M.

R. B. Vinson, County Recorder,
By A. M. Shihell deputy.

THIS INSTRUMENT Made the 10th day of August, between PIMA REALTY CO., a corporation duly organized, created by and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Arizona, and having its principal place of business at the County of Pima, State of Arizona, party of the first part, and Henry F. Steinbrugge (single) of the party of.....the party of the second part.

WITNESSETH That the said parties of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars lawful money of the United States of America, to them in hand paid by party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, does by these presents bargain, sell, convey and confirm unto the said party of the second part and to his heirs and assigns forever, all that certain lot, piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the County of Pima, State of Arizona, and bounded and described as follows, to wit:

The South half (S $\frac{1}{2}$) of Lots Nine (9) and Ten (10) in Block (11) of Kenlo Park Subdivision, Pima County, Arizona, according to the official map and plat of said Kenlo Park made by E. C. Dietrich and on file in the office of the County Recorder's office, of Pima County, Arizona, in Book (3) of Maps and Plats, at page (42).

Together with all and singular the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining, and the rents, issues and profits thereof; and also all the estate, right, title, interest, property, possession, claim and demand whatsoever, as well in law as in equity, of the said party of the first part, of, or to the said premises, and every part and parcel thereof, with the appurtenances.

In consideration of the covenants herein, the said party of the second part agree for his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, that in the event of any of them building upon said premises, and every part and parcel thereof, with the appurtenances.

copy
W. H. H. H.
Aug. 11,
1917
(Shihell)

4
6
BK
D

In consideration of the covenants herein, the said party of the second part agree.. for his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, that in the event of any of them building upon said premises above described, to build a dwelling to cost not less than two thousand dollars (\$2000.00) said dwelling to face South East and set back from the South East property line of said South half of lots (9) and (10) not less than thirty (30) feet: and in the event of the failure of the party of the second part, or his heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, to comply with and keep the above conditions and covenants, the within described property is to revert to and become the property of the party of the first part herein, its successors and assigns, absolutely, as and for liquidated damages for the breach of said conditions and covenants. In further consideration of the conditions and covenants herein, party of the second part agree.. and binds his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, that the premises above described shall never be sold to a person or persons of Negro descent, and further agree that in the event of his failure or the failure of his heirs, executors, administrators or assigns to comply with or keep the conditions and covenants contained in this clause, the said above described premises are to revert to and become the property of said party of the first part, its successors and assigns, absolutely, as and for liquidated damages for the breach of this condition and covenant. The above conditions and covenants to be binding upon the party of the second part, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, from the date hereof, until June 1st, 1962.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, subject to the conditions and covenants above set forth, all and singular the above described premises, unto the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns forever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said party of the first part has caused these presents to be executed by its President, and attested by its Secretary, thereunto duly authorized, the day and year first above written.

ATTEST:

PIMA REALTY CO.

J. L. Roberts, Secretary, Pima Realty Co.

By John Nelson, Vice President.

(Seal)

STATE OF ARIZONA

County of Pima

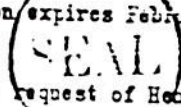
} ss.



This instrument was acknowledged before me this 11th day of August, 1917, by John Nelson, as Vice President, and J. L. Roberts, as Secretary, respectively, of Pima Realty Co., a corporation.

My commission expires February 19, 1920.

(Notarial Seal)



Geo. F. Myers, Notary Public.

Filed and recorded at request of Henry P. Steinbrugge, Aug. 11, A. D. 1917, at 4:55 P.M.

R. E. Vinson, County Recorder

By Geo. J. Shihell deputy.

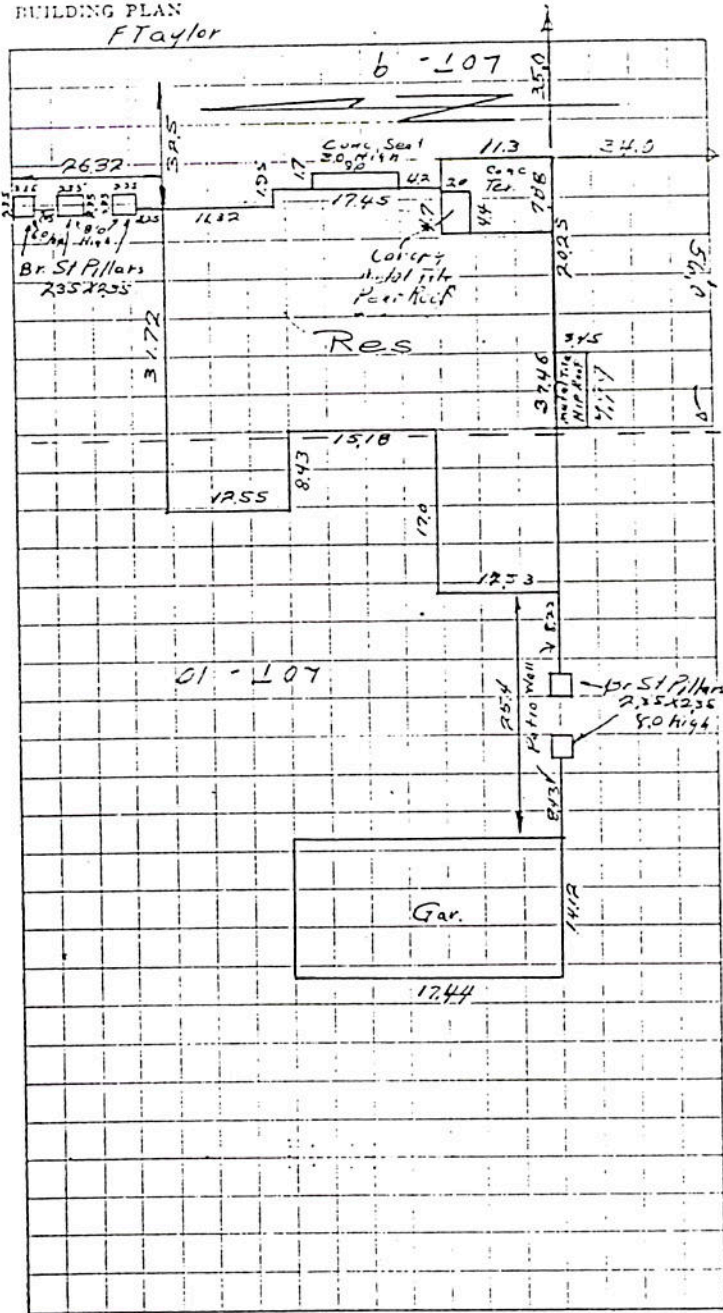
Building Permit No. _____ Built 1921
 1st Floor RE Measured 7-50-27
 2nd Floor E 3 Complete
 Plan No. 7-10-9
 Section No. 11
 Tract No. M E W L C PARK
 Owner _____

Address 1004 W. ALAMEDA

Structure	Roof	Bathroom	Floors
Residence ✓	Type Flat ✓	No. 1	Pine ✓
Complex	Gable	Walls	Oak ✓ 2 CM
Apartments	Chimney	Floors	Maple
Office Bldg.	Hip	Fixtures	Bamboo
Store Bldg.	Port	Tub	Tile, Ceramic
Service Station	Construction	Shower	Tile, Clay
Garage	Rafters 2x	Toilet	Tile
—Mobile	—Space C. to C.	Basin	Concrete
—Private		Class	Linoform
—Community			Printed
Shed			Battleship
Service Qtrs.			Cork Insert
Style of Architecture	Roofing Composition ✓	Kitchen	Dir
Foundation	—Laid lbs.	Sink ✓	Built-in Features
Brick	—Built up ply	Drainboard W/S ✓	Buffet ✓
Concrete	Shingle	Cupboards N.E.S.	Dinette ✓
Brick	Wood	Walls	Breakfast Room
Piers	—Compo.	Floor	Linen Closet
	—Metal	Range C.A.S.	Book Case ✓
	—Asbestos	Plumbing	Patent Beds
	—Clay	Hot water G.A.S.	Ironing Bd.
	—Asbestos	Automatic	Ventilation
	—Concrete	Laundry Tubs ✓	Sprinkler System
	—Corr. Iron	Slop Sink	Air Conditioning
	—Red	Faucet	Cooling Syst.
	—Galv.	Lighting	Detail
Construction	Gen. Construction	Lamps	Rooms—Total 5
Brick ✓	Materials	Gas	No. Dr. Rooms 2
Conc. Bldg.	New ✓	Electric	Cov. Porches
Re-Concrete	2nd hand	Class Fixt.	Roof
Tile	Mixed	Inside Finish	Floor
—Clay	Type	Ceiling	Supports
—Conc.	Good	None	Open Porches
Masonry	Medium ✓	Cloth	Floor
Steel Frame	Cheap	Beaver hd.	Wall
Frame	Basement	Plaster hd.	Screen Porch
Adobe	Whole	Wood	Floor
—Mud-laid	Part	Plaster ✓ R.E.S.	Wall
—Mortar-laid	No. Rooms	Partitions	Roof
Lintel's Wood	Walls	Material N.E.S.P.R.	Wall
Thickness 2"	Floor	2x	Sleep. Porch
Finish	Ceiling	Spaced 1/2 C. to C.	Floor
Plaster ✓	Stains	Finish R.E.S.P.R.	Roof
Stucco	Window Pits	Trim	Walls
Brick	Heat	Pine ✓	Terrace R.E.S.C.A.S.
—Common	Replace ✓	Birch	Concrete
—Wire-cut	Manrola Type	Amara	Canopy I.M.TILE
—Press	Areola Type	Mahogany	PERNOLA G.A.S.E.R.
—Glazed	Stove	Bull nose	Roof Garden
M. L. & P.	Areola Type	Painted ✓	Deck
Bay	Purnace	Stained ✓	Patio Wall
Siding	Hand fired	Varnished ✓	H.A.S.L.
Corr. Iron	Automatic	Sash	FLAMBER CAP
—Galv.	Fuel	Pine ✓ CASEMENT	Condition MED.S.
—Red	Hot Air	Steel	
Outside Trim	H & Water		
Art-Stone	Steam		
Cap			
Pointed			
Plain			
W. Iron Grilles			
Window Boxes			
Wing Walls			

① 2 GAS STEAM RADIATORS WITH INDIVIDUAL LINE WORK
 ② ORNAMENTAL CAST CONC. TRAVA
 ABOVE D. W. WINDOW OVER SEAT EXTENDS
 TO 2" LINE AND ABOVE WIND WARD
 EACH FLOOR WAS SET FOR
 CAST CONC. WAS SET FOR
 WIND

BUILDING PLAN
F Taylor



Structure	Area	Rate	Value
Br. St. Pillars	1221	722	2523
Garage	76	304	23
Cone Seat	15	15	15
Porch	13	15	15
Particulars	52	25	134

Assessed 11.50
 Valuation 2523
 11.50
 2523
 11.50
 2523

SENTINEL PEAK; THE PIONEER GUARD

By HAROLD G. WILSON

OVERLOOKING Santa Cruz valley, with a calmness and assurance that comes with age and experience, Sentinel Peak watches the development of Tucson, the expansion of the agricultural projects, the rearing of tall buildings into the sky-line, and smiles with satisfaction, for in this same valley the Peak has watched the slow but sure struggle of civilization to win the valley as its own.

And in this struggle the peak itself has had a vital part. It is not just another peak, but a guardian, a veteran of Tucson's historic past, and a record across which time has flashed many and varied scenes.

Up the valley of the Santa Cruz the peak has seen the first advance of the Spanish padres, fired by religious zeal and spurred on by the promise of a land to reclaim. Across this same valley the peak has seen the waves of civilization scattering from the crowded east, to seek precious metals, a land of sunshine and health, and to build up the very beginning of San Augustine del Pueblo de Tucson. The peak has seen the hordes of wild Apaches scatter destruction in the path of the pioneers, and aided in the vigil that allowed the community to hold its own and then expand into the greatest outpost of northern Sonora, and later the capital and chief municipality of the Territory of Arizona.

At the foot of this Peak, Tucson's early populace lived and worshipped. Clothed in its shadows, they trudged homeward at the end of day, and with the morning sun reflected from its crest they started out afresh each morning to win another bit of ground for civilization.

First a Rock Quarry

In by-gone days it was to this peak that Spaniards went to obtain their useful utensils, for it was covered with a rock very suitable for the construction of "metates," which were used in grinding grain. The rock found there was of such a peculiar volcanic character that it found great favor with its patrons and, according to Charles T. Connell, keen student of Tucson's early days, the peak itself was first known as the "Picacho de Metates."

The Peak was also the site of an early fortification, few remains of which can now be seen and which are recalled by many Tucson pioneers who can relate many tales of early day experiences on this peak.

Although a majority of the hieroglyphics which were found on Sentinel Peak in the early days have been removed by Tucsonans who sought the rock as foundation material and to construct retaining walls, some still remain, a written record of the work of a long forgotten race.

Despite the important part that the Peak played in Tucson's early history, Tucson forgot the guardian as she grew and prospered. She shook off her dependence to the Peak as she did to the old adobe wall that once enclosed Tucson.

It was only a couple of years ago that a city-wide movement was started to secure the Peak as a city park, when it was found that it was in the hands of private owners and was in danger of being utilized for commercial purposes. The citizenry was aroused, and civic clubs and civic leaders took up the cry to save the Peak.

Through the local chamber of commerce the City of Tucson filed a suit against James R. Dodson and Christine M. Dodson, who were then the owners of a tract which included the Peak. Prior to the public hearing, at which the matter was officially discussed, there was widespread comment and support of the plan to secure and preserve the Peak.

When the public hearing was started in Tucson in October, 1925, the city was represented by D. B. Morgan of the Phoenix firm of John P. Page and company. John W. Walker was appointed referee by the U. S. land register at Phoenix.

Pioneers Make Pica

General L. H. Manning, Henry O. Jaastad and T. J. Boettger were among the first pioneers to go on the stand in behalf of the city's case. Others called were Mrs. George Kitt, Mrs. Clara Fish Roberts, Mrs. E. L. Moffitt and Mrs. H. B. Leonard. All told of their studies and observations regarding the mountain, pointing out its use as a picnic

ground and its value as a historical point of interest. On the second day of the trial Prof. G. E. P. Smith, D. S. Cochran, Al H. Conwron, E. C. Dietrich, Kirke T. Moore and Frank H. Hereford went on the stand in behalf of the city, while witnesses for the Dodson estate also were heard.

The hearing was continued until October 13 and was completed on the afternoon of October 14. No decision was rendered until March 3, 1926.

Frank C. Lockwood, dean of the college of letters, arts and sciences, has made a considerable study of early Arizona history and is one of those Tucsonans who were vitally interested in the movement to preserve Sentinel Peak as a city park.

Discussing the movement at the time the public hearing was held in Tucson, Dean Lockwood recalled his conversation about the Peak with Dr. Robert Forbes, another keen student of early Tucson history. A broad, well-built, well-defined civic patch—a switchback—led up to the Peak, Dr. Forbes stated, beginning very near what is now the ruins of the old Warner mill.

Path of the Sentinels

It was up this path that the official sentinels came and went. It was called Sentinel Peak because it was the place where the sentinels were constantly posted. From this point for decades the very life of the city was watched over and safeguarded.

"In later and more peaceful days," Dean Lockwood stated, "friends and lovers and picnicking parties climbed back and forth up this switch-back, and from its summit, viewed the wide-spread, amazing stretches of mountain and mesa, and it is to be hoped, communed in their hearts of the historic and heroic days of their ancestors."

"To this day, village urchins, groups of Sunday afternoon pleasure seekers, nature lovers and old settlers in whose hearts there still lives the pride and romance of other days, go straggling

up this old, broad, but fading trail. It is to be hoped that when the city acquires Sentinel Peak as a community park the original historic trail on the northeast slope of the mountain will be re-defined, well marked and much frequented."

Used as Watch Tower

Recalling stories heard in his childhood, Mose Drachman, Tucson pioneer, tells of hearing tales of the days when the peak was used as a natural watch tower, where a vigil was maintained to guard against the encroachments and raids of the hated Indians. He recalls the old stone fort, or barricade, the remains of which could still be seen when he was a boy.

The Peak, in his estimation, has been the means of saving Tucson on many occasions from surprise attacks by the Indians, and should always be preserved as a monument to the pioneer who labored beneath its slopes and depended upon it for a watch for pending danger.

A winding road should be constructed to the top of this peak, he declared, so that people could drive up the slope and from there view the surrounding country.

"As a boy I have climbed to the top of the peak many times, with companions, and one who has never seen the view from this point cannot imagine its magnificence. Vast expanses of mountains, mesas and valleys are brought to view, and at night when the lights are burning the view from the Peak is really impressive," he stated.

D. A. R. Peak's Guardian

The Daughters of the American Revolution at their meeting October 1, 1925, passed a strong resolution favoring the retention of the area as a public recreational ground.

This resolution declared that the land had been used by the general public and by organizations of the city since the founding of the Pueblo of Tucson, specifically as a point of vantage and vigilance when the town was threatened by hostile Indians, as a natural park for recreational and inspirational outings, as the site of ceremonials for patriotic organizations, for Easter sunrise services, and several of the activi-

ties of the University of Arizona students.

The land also contains the original trail which during the Indian wars was used by pioneer Tucsonans in stationing the city's sentinels within a stockade on the peak, constituting an historical landmark which the society has planned to designate with a permanent marker.

Mrs. Simon Heineman, president of the Saturday Morning Musical club, took a deep interest in the movement to preserve the peak, declaring: "For Tucsonans to lose Sentinel Peak will be to lose something that is rightfully theirs—something which they have learned to associate with the dearest traditions of the Old Pueblo's romantic history."

Additional support for the project of converting the peak into a park was given by John L. Reilly, local undertaker and pioneer in the city, who stated:

"Sentinel Peak belongs to Tucson, and is possibly closer to the hearts of her pioneers than any landmark in the vicinity. The place would make an ideal location for a public park, both because of its hallowed past as a barrier against surprise invasion by the murdering Apaches and because of its ideal physical characteristics.

"Its flora is such in years when rains are plentiful that little additional landscaping would be needed to turn it into a paradise of flowers. I have seen it literally covered with yellow poppies, and to my mind there is no prettier wild flower."

It was only a month ago that Hilario Gallego, Mexican, who was born in the walled city of Tucson 75 years ago, called at headquarters of the Arizona Pioneers and Historical society and talked over the Peak's part in Tucson's early life with Mrs. George Kitt, secretary.

A lookout was maintained from the Peak, he stated, recalling that from this point of vantage the dust of an invading group could be seen for a long distance in plenty of time to come down

(Continued on Page Twelve)

The Sentinel

APR 13 1930

Tucson's timeless guardian collects more than history

ARIZONA DAILY STAR

By PAT MORAN BENTON
The Arizona Daily Star

Sentinel Peak isn't spectacular insofar as mountains go.

It only rises to 2,900 feet, hardly a towering summit. But if mountains could talk, this one would have countless tales to tell, for it has witnessed incredible history.

The mountain saw the Hohokam Indians centuries ago. They farmed the land along the banks of the river that flowed along its base.

It saw the Spaniards trudge in during the 17th century and put the yoke of Christianity and civilization upon the valley and its peoples.

The mountain even gave its name to the modern city that was to spring just east of it. The Indians had called their small community Schuk shon. It supposedly meant "at the foot of the black mountain," the name they gave the mound that rose like a sentinel over their lands. The Spaniards thought it sounded like Took-sohn. And the American settlers who came in the mid-1800s softened it to Too-sahn.

The mountain hasn't been entirely unappreciated. The makers of history showed gratitude sometime ago by designating the summit a city park. A cad might say the park befits the mountain: It's unspectacular.

But the park is worse than that. It is filthy, a mess, trashy, strewn with broken glass. Hardly what one would expect to see when visiting a designated historical site. That is another honor the mountain has been accorded — historical site.

A drunken poet might find beauty in the tiny pieces of glass, remnants of countless broken bottles that shroud the mountain top. The light of the western sun bounces off the bottle-trash. You don't see tiny desert jewels. You see glare. Garish glare that hurts the eyes and detracts from the breathtaking panorama that fans out beneath the mountain.

The view from the mountain draws people to it today. The city spreads eastward from the foot of the mountain, not even from behind the mountain and all around.

The mountain is called Sentinel Peak because the Indians used it as a lookout. Or "A" Mountain because of the whitewashed rock A that is at its peak. It was placed there in 1915 by University of Arizona students. It was but one act of desecration

visited upon the mountain by the people who live in its valley. Carloads of students continue to add insult to injury. Every year they trek up the mountain laden with buckets of white paint and joyously, mirthfully splash the A white again.

Only a sophomore would think it beautiful.

Another blasphemous act was the carving of black "holes" in the mountain's side. From the black holes came black rock used to build the foundations of many of the city's early homes. Sometimes even the walls.

For awhile, when the city was less populated, desert fox and squirrels lived in dens dug out of the bigger hole's perpendicular sides. They would scurry in equilibrium-defying antics across the rock wall and peer curiously at the children below who found them comical and wondrous. Then, it seemed that all the boys in the nearby neighborhoods must have received guns of one sort or another and the animals sought refuge elsewhere. Only the echo of footsteps bouncing off the dark rock survives.

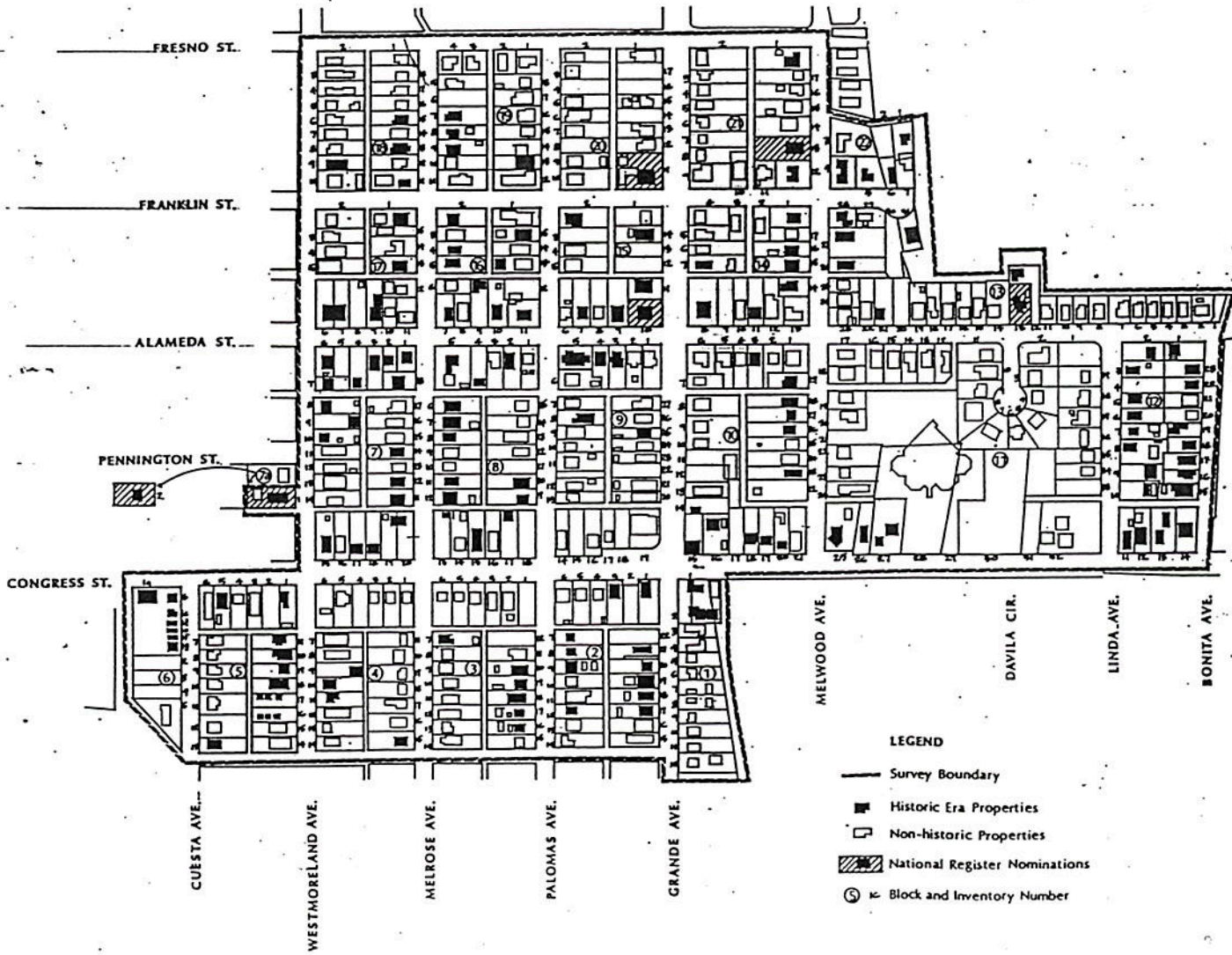
Not content with digging into its bowels or painting its top, mankind continues to mark the mountain. Beer bottles, six-pack cartons, crumpled hamburger wrappers and stubby cigarette butts are carelessly tossed about, non-decaying 20th century decorations. The mountain resembles a landfill. It is almost as if the trash mysteriously draws more, casting a dirty spell on the people and causing them to deliberately ignore the too few trash cans.

Of late, its top has become a favorite launching spot for gliders who soar to the earth below. The eagle-imitation lends a semblance of dignity to the mountain.

The mountain is the site of not one, but two historical markers. One marks the spot of the old Warner Mill, at the northeastern base of the mountain, where Mission Lane meets Mission Road. The marker describing the mountain is located at the base of Sentinel Peak Road and is usually ignored by drivers as they whiz by on their way to the top. There should be another marker at the summit.

The park and historical designations are measures of respect. But as long as the mountain continues to be heaped with trash these declarations can only be considered half-way measurements of the mountain's worth to the inhabitants of the city that is slowly surrounding it.

Dodson/Esqivel House



MENLO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD SURVEY PROPERTY INVENTORY

1" = 200'

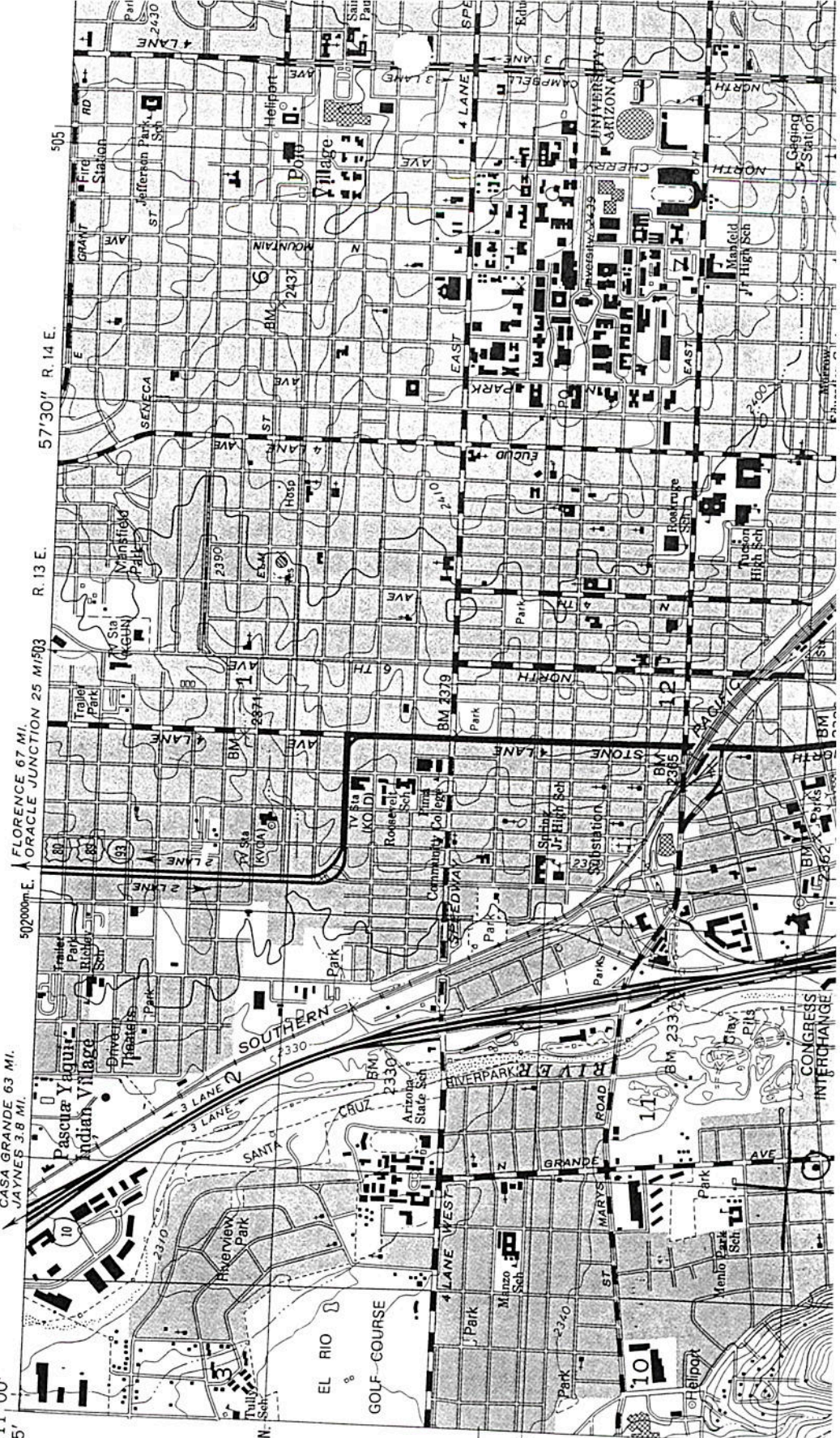


UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

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Dodson/Esquivel
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