

Other Listings  
Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Page 1 of 4 \*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder): Rhein House

P1. Other identifier: None

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Santa Cruz County and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a location map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Santa Cruz Date Revised 1994 T .11 S. ; R .2 W. ; Mount Diablo B.M.

c. Address: 1121 Laurel St. City Santa Cruz Zip 95060

d. UTM:(give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone 10S ; 585813 mE/ 4091862 mN

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

south side of Laurel Street between Mission and California Streets. APN# 004-011-07

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

This two-story Neoclassical house uniquely blends the late Queen Anne form of the 1890s with Neoclassical detailing of the early twentieth century. The roof form is unusual; a two-story hipped main roof projects forward into an accent gable while the front slope of the main roof continues forward to become the bell-cast one-story porch roof. Within this long slope is a hipped dormer with classical columns. The wide front gable features an arched attic window and curved bargeboards, the eaves are supported on shaped exposed joist tails, and the fenestration is varied, including a diamond-patterned upper sash at the front focal unit, similar multi-lite sash at the dormer and front accent window, and arched carvings above a side accent window. The first floor is clad in tri-bevel drop wood siding and the upper floor is clad in wood shingles that flare out over the belly band. One-story bay windows complete the main composition on each side of the house.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP2. Single family property

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)



P5b. Description of Photo:  
(View, date, accession #)  
View facing south, 2009.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:

Historic  Prehistoric  Both  
1908, city directories, 101 years old.

\*P7. Owner and Address:

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

F. Maggi/L. Dill/J. Kusz  
Archives & Architecture, LLC  
PO Box 1332  
San Jose, CA 95109

\*P9. Date Recorded: 5/6/09

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe)

Intensive

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

Santa Cruz Historic Building Survey - Vol. III, Department of Planning and Community Development, City of Santa Cruz, 2012.

\*Attachments:

- None
- Continuation Sheet
- District Record
- Rock Art Record
- Location Map
- Building, Structure, and Object Record
- Linear Feature Record
- Artifact Record
- Sketch Map
- Archaeological Record
- Milling Station Record
- Photograph Record
- Other (List):

State of California - The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Primary #  
 HRI #

Page 2 of 4

\*NRHP/CRHR Status Code 3CS

Resource Name (Assigned by recorder) Rhein House

B1. Historic Name: Rhein House

B2. Common Name: 1121 Laurel St.

B3. Original Use: Single family residential

B4. Present Use: Single family residential

\*B5. Architectural Style: Neoclassical

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)

Constructed in 1908.

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: n/a

Original Location: n/a

\*B8. Related Features:

None.

B9a. Architect: attributed to Wolfe & McKenzie

b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme Architecture

Area: Westside

Period of Significance: 1908 - 1948

Property Type: Residential

Applicable Criteria: (3)

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

The house was constructed on Lot 10 and a small portion of Lot 9 of the Corona Heights Subdivision, recorded in 1907. The house was constructed in 1908 by local real estate agent and developer Henry Rhein. Rhein was born in the Alsace-Lorraine region and immigrated to the United States from France in 1884. He lived for a time in San Antonio, Texas before finally settling in Santa Cruz. He was a prolific developer of residential properties during the first half of the twentieth century. He lived in the house with his wife, Jeanne, and their three daughters, Rose, Violet, and Lillian until his death in 1947. Jeanne Rhein continued to live in the residence until her death in 1948.

The house appears to have been designed by the San Jose architectural firm of Wolfe & McKenzie, headed by Frank Wolfe and Charles McKenzie. This firm is well known in the South San Francisco Bay Area for a unique style of eclectic Neoclassical and Craftsman architecture and was commissioned for a number of projects in the area. (Continued on page 4 DPR523L)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) None

\*B12. References:

- Espinola, G., *Cottages Flats Buildings & Bungalows*, 2004.
- City of Santa Cruz Standard Map, 1929.
- Lehmann, Susan. *Historic Context Statement for City of Santa Cruz*. 2000.
- Polk. R. L., *Santa Cruz City Directory*. 1911, 1916-1989.
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1905 -1950.
- Santa Cruz Surf. *Henry Rhein, New Laurel St. Home*. 5/11/08.
- U.S. Census, 1910-1930.

B13. Remarks: None

\*B14. Evaluator: Leslie Dill

\*Date of Evaluation: May 6, 2009

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)







TN \* / MN  
14 1/2°

Map created with TOPO!® ©2003 National Geographic (www.nationalgeographic.com/topo)



Page 4 of 4 \*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Rhein House

\* Recorded By F. Maggi/L. Dill/J. Kusz \* Date 5/6/2009  Continuation  Update

*(Continued from page 1, DPR523a, P3a Description)*

The roof form is unusual: a two-story hipped main roof projects forward into an accent gable while the front slope of the main roof continues forward to become the bell-cast one-story porch roof. Within this long slope is a hipped dormer with classical columns. The wide front gable features an arched attic window and curved bargeboards; the eaves are supported on shaped exposed joist tails, and the fenestration is varied, including a diamond-patterned upper sash at the front focal unit, similar multi-lite sash at the dormer and front accent window, and arched carvings above a side accent window. The first floor is clad in tri-bevel drop wood siding and the upper floor is clad in wood shingles that flare out over the belly band. One-story bay windows complete the main composition on each side of the house.

*(Continued from page 2, DPR523b, B10 Significance)*

#### SIGNIFICANCE

The property was found eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources under Criterion (3). The building is not individually significant to the development of Santa Cruz's Westside neighborhoods, and thus would not appear to be eligible under Criterion (1). The early person associated with the building was Henry Rhein, who was a local real estate developer during the early part of the twentieth century. Henry Rhein is not individually known for contributions that are important in the history of the local community, therefore the property would not appear to be eligible for the California Register under Criterion (2). The specific architect of the building has not yet been identified with certainty, but appears to be the work of the prominent San Jose firm of Wolfe & McKenzie, and is a distinctive work of the period, and would therefore appear to be eligible for listing under Criterion (3).

When considered for listing within the Historic Building Survey of the City of Santa Cruz however, the property meets the following criteria:

1. The building is a significant example of the built environment heritage of the City as a representative of a 1908 building constructed to serve Santa Cruz's emerging population during the first decade of the twentieth century; and
5. The building possesses special aesthetic merit and value due to its quality of Neoclassical style architecture, retaining sufficient features that show its architectural significance; and
6. The building possesses distinctive stylistic characteristics of the Neoclassical style; and
7. The building retains sufficient integrity to accurately convey its significance.

#### Integrity

The property maintains its historical integrity as per the National Register's seven aspects of integrity. It maintains its original location on Laurel Street, in Westside Santa Cruz. The house is surrounded by a mixed residential setting. The area includes some adjacent houses of similar age and unique design, other single-family houses of a similar scale and size, and neighboring parcels of a similar scale and setback, as well as mature street trees and other landscaping. The house retains its early twentieth century residential scale and feeling and continues, through its form, massing and detailing, to illustrate its associations with unique Neoclassical design in Santa Cruz. The exterior of the house retains historic materials and workmanship, including: the bell-cast porch roof, classical porch columns, boxed eaves, accent hipped dormer, flared upper story trim, exposed joist tail details, shingle and horizontal wood siding, wood windows, leaded glass, and associated trim.