



CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

Office of the Mayor and City Council • 500 Castro Street • Post Office Box 7540 • Mountain View, California 94039-7540
650-903-6305 • FAX 650-903-6039

January 22, 2019

California State Parks
Attn: Office of Historic Preservation
Julianne Polanco, California State Historic Preservation Officer
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816

NOMINATION FOR NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES: 938 VILLA STREET AND 954 VILLA STREET – WEILHEIMER HOUSE AND AIR BASE LAUNDRY

Dear Ms. Polanco:

The City of Mountain View received the notices, dated November 28, 2018, regarding State Historic Resources Commission's (SHRC) consideration of **Weilheimer House** and **Air Base Laundry** to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). While the City has not taken a formal position on the sites' NRHP eligibility, this letter documents the City's analysis recognizing these sites as historic resources.

These two properties were previously inventoried in the August 5, 2003 *Downtown Mountain View Precise Plan Areas A-J Historic Resources Survey (Downtown Survey)*. Both were found to be important local sites eligible for the Mountain View Register of Historic Resources (MVRHR). Neither was found to be eligible for the California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR) or the NRHP. Department of Parks and Recreation Historical Survey Forms (DPR forms) from the *Downtown Survey* are enclosed with this letter. The *Downtown Survey's* analysis included visual assessment and architectural character, and archival research, including Sanborn Maps, City and County records, general history materials for the survey area, and targeted archival research at the City Library and History Center.

A Citywide survey was also conducted in 2008, including a review of previous surveys (including the *Downtown Survey*) and preparation of detailed records and photographs for 1,980 Mountain View parcels. The Citywide survey found 41 properties eligible for listing in the NRHP, but did not identify Weilheimer House or Air Base Laundry among them.

The updated analysis in the SHRC notices includes historical detail about the resources that were not included in the *Downtown Survey* DPR forms. Both analyses agree that Weilheimer House is associated with significant persons (NRHP Criterion B and MVRHR Criterion 1), and that it embodies distinctive characteristics or artistic value (NRHP Criterion C and MVRHR Criterion 3). Both analyses agree that Air Base Laundry embodies distinctive characteristics or artistic value (NRHP Criterion C and MVRHR Criterion 3). In addition, the City's analysis found Air Base Laundry consistent with MVRHR Criterion 2 (association with a significant event) in its association with the 20th Century development of Mountain View's downtown.

The *Downtown Survey* provided necessary information and analysis to recognize these buildings as historic resources. As such, analysis of the impact of any proposed development on these resources would be required under the California Environmental Quality Act, with or without NRHP eligibility.

The City has not conducted expert technical analysis of the information in the notices provided, and for this reason does not have any specific comments beyond the City's previous analysis as set forth herein.

Please contact Eric Anderson, Senior Planner, if you have any questions. He can be reached by e-mail at Anderson@mountainview.gov or by phone at 650-903-6306.

Sincerely,

Lisa Matichak
Mayor

LM/EA/3/MGR
001-01-22-19L

Enclosure: City-Prepared DPR Forms

cc: Jean McCloskey, Livable Mountain View, by e-mail
Property Owners, 938 Villa Street and 954 Villa Street, by e-mail

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____
NRHP Status Code 5S1

Other Listings _____
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

Page 1 of 4

*Resource Name or #: 938-970 Villa

P1. Other Identifier: Weilheimer House

*P2. Location: ☐ Not for Publication ☒ Unrestricted

a. County Santa Clara

b. USGS 7.5' Quad _____ Date _____ T _____ R _____ 1/4 of _____ 1/4 of Sec _____ B. M. _____

c. Address 938 - 970 Villa Street City Mountain View Zip 94041

d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear feature) Zone _____ rnE/ _____ mN

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

APN# 158-15-022

Downtown Mountain View Precise Plan Area A

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

This two story building is rectangular in plan, with a herringbone shingle-clad, intersecting gambrel and hipped roof. It is of wood-frame construction with 1x wood clapboard siding at the first floor and wood shingles at the second. Windows are wood, and one-over-one, and twelve-over-one double hung, as well as awning and casement units. An arched Palladian window graces the front gable end. Trim is unprofiled. The front door is single panel wood, and the side door is eight panel. The open verandah starts at the front door and wraps the corner. It has a closed rail with horizontal clapboard siding, and marbelized wood columns. Projections include a bay at the north side, and a dormer with an arched window at the south. The house is set back from the street with a front lawn that continues to the side, a stone walkway, a paved concrete side driveway, shrubs and trees around the perimeter, and a new sign in the front lawn. This building is in good condition. Associated with this structure is gable-roofed detached garage, clad similarly to the main structure.

*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP6 Commercial Building; HP2 Single Family Property

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



P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, etc.)
south and east facade, view toward
northwest, Photo No: 1-1, 2/11/03

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:

☐ Prehistoric ☒ Historic ☐ Both

1894

MVPA website

*P7. Owner and Address:

G. Aviet

Address Unknown

*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)
Connor E. Turnbull/Tiffany Centanni

Carey & Co. Inc.

460 Bush Street

San Francisco, CA 94108

*P9. Date Recorded: 2/11/03

*P10. Survey Type: (Describe)
Intensive

*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report/other sources or "none") Carey & Co. Inc., Downtown Mountain View Precise Plan Area
Historic Resources Survey, San Francisco, California, 2003

Attachments: ☐ NONE ☐ Location Map ☐ Sketch 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) _____

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Primary # _____

HRI # _____

Page 2 of 4

*NRHP Status Code SSI

*Resource Name or # - 938-970 Villa Street

B1. Historic Name: Weilheimer House

B2. Common Name: Chez TJ

B3. Original Use: Residential

B4. Present Use: Commerce

*B5. Architectural Style: Queen Anne

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

Constructed in c. 1894.

*B7. Moved? ☒ No ☐ Yes ☐ Unknown Date: _____ Original Location: _____

*B8. Related Features:

B9a. Architect: Unknown

b. Builder: Unknown

*B10. Significance: Theme Important Person and Architecture

Area Downtown Mountain View

Period of Significance 1894-1953

Property Type residential/commercial

Applicable Criteria MVRHR 1 & 3

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

See attached continuation sheet

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

*B12. References:

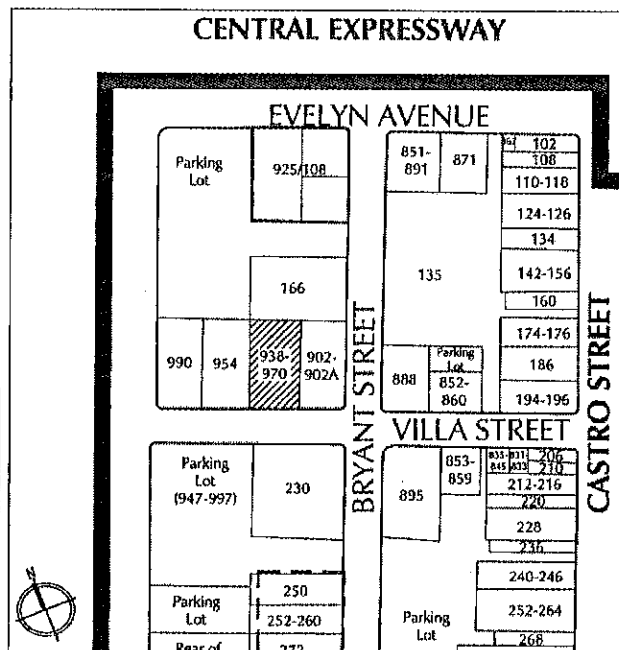
See attached continuation sheet

B13. Remarks:

*B14. Evaluator: Nancy Goldenberg/Connor E. Turnbull/Sarah M. Dreier

Date of Evaluation: 02 /11/ 03

(This space reserved for official comments.)



CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____

HRI# _____

Trinomial _____

Page 3 of 4

*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 938 Villa Street

*Recorded by Nancy Goldenberg/ Connor E. Turnbull/Sarah M. Dreller *Date 02/11/03 ☒ Continuation ☐ Update

B10. Significance

The property at 938 Villa Street has been home to some of Mountain View's more prominent residents, including Julius Weilheimer and his family. The Weilheimer's were well-known merchants in Mountain View, and the house was built for Julius and his new wife, Fannie Ickelheimer Weilheimer. Built circa 1894, it is a survivor of the 1906 earthquake. Julius Weilheimer inherited the Weilheimer Store at 124 Castro Street from his father, and was postmaster between 1886 and 1889. He was also a bank officer and member of the first Board of Trustees for the town of Mountain View until 1907. Another prominent resident of 938 Villa was Arthur Free, who was, at various times, postmaster of Mountain View, City Attorney, and a Congressman. Free resided in the house until 1914.

The property at 938-970 Villa Street does not appear to possess sufficient historic significance for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historic Places. However, it appears to possess the historic significance and integrity needed for Mountain View Register of Historical Resources eligibility.

This building is significant for its architectural distinction as an excellent example of a Queen Anne style cottage (MVRHR Criterion 3). It is also significant for its association with the life persons significant in the past, Julius Weilheimer and Arthur Free (MVRHR Criterion 1). Archival research did not identify historical associations (MVRHP Criterion 2) and the building does not appear to be important as an artifact (MVRHR Criterion 4).

The building maintains high integrity. Its location, setting, design, materials and workmanship are intact. Per Section 1.4.c. of the Mountain View Interim Urgency Ordinance for Preservation of Historical Resources (Ordinance No. 7.02), feeling and association are not included in the definition of integrity.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary #

HRI#

Trinomial

Page 4 of 4

*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 938 Villa Street

Recorded by Nancy Goldenberg/ Connor E. Turnbull/Sarah M. Dreier *Date 02/11/03 ☒ Continuation ☐ Update

B12. References

City of Mountain View Register of Historic Resources, "938 Villa Street", March 13, 2002.

Ignoffo, Mary Jo. *Milestones: A History of Mountain View, California*. Cupertino, CA: California History Center & Foundation, 2002.

Kinchen, Barbara. Historical Data Chairman, Mountain View Historical Association, unpublished research, Mountain View History Center, Mountain View, California.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1986.

Mountain View City Directories, 1914, 1930, 1940, 1954, Mountain View History Center, Mountain View, California.

Nick Perry, "Downtown Mountain View District Guide," In A Guide to Mountain View [online], available at: <http://members.aol.com/Nap98/Downtown1.htm>.

Now and Then: Exploring Mountain View's Architectural Heritage. Mountain View, California: City of Mountain View Planning Department 1979.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Maps, 1888-1956, Mountain View Public Library, Mountain View, California.

Santa Clara County Assessor's Records, 1990, Mountain View Public Library, Mountain View, California.

"Weilheimer House," In Mountain View Preservation Alliance [online], available at: <http://www.mv-pa.org/.properties.shtml>.

END.

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____
NRHP Status Code 5S1

Other Listings _____
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

Page 1 of 3

*Resource Name or #: 954 Villa Street

P1. Other Identifier: _____

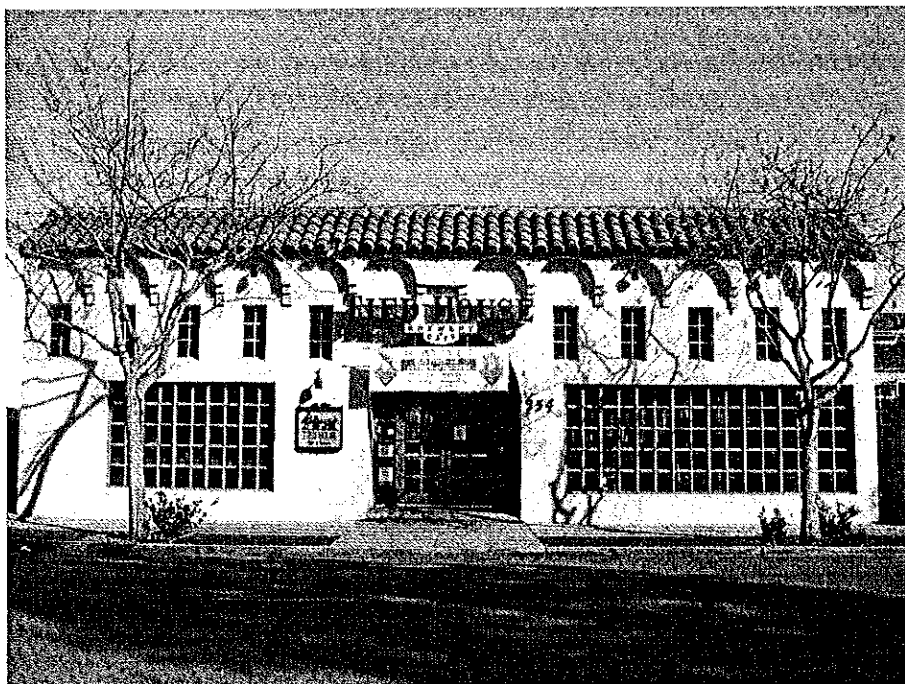
*P2. Location: ☐ Not for Publication ☒ Unrestricted
a. County Santa Clara
b. USGS 7.5' Quad _____ Date _____ T _____ R _____ 1/4 of _____ 1/4 of Sec _____ B. M. _____
c. Address 954 Villa Street City Mountain View Zip 94041
d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear feature) Zone _____ rnE/ _____ mN
e. Other Locational Data: (e.g. parcel #, legal description, directions to resource, elevation, additional LITMs, etc. as appropriate)
APN# 158-15-023
Downtown Mountain View Precise Plan Area A

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

This one-and-a-half story commercial structure is rectangular in plan. It is of concrete construction with a-painted exterior finish. The main roof is gabled with a central monitor skylight. The Villa Street (primary) elevation features a decorative barrel tile-clad roof with protruding eaves, visually supported by a machicolation-derived fascia. Windows are mostly steel and include narrow six lite windows with pebbled glazing, and industrial style fixed and casement window systems at the monitor and at each side elevation. Two, non-original aluminum multi-pane windows flank the main arched entry at the base of the primary elevation. This entry also contains a non-original aluminum door and window system. The building's rear elevation contains an entry with a cloth awning, and a tented outdoor seating area. The building appears to be in good condition. Alterations included the addition of the new aluminum door and window systems, new mechanical system units on the roof and one side of the building, and the addition of the rear awning and tented area. Landscaping includes two large street trees in front of the primary elevation and a trellis along one side of the building which creates an outdoor seating area.

*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP6 Commercial Building, 1-3 Stories

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



P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, etc.)
south facade, view towards north, Photo
No: 1-1, 02/11/03

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:

☐ Prehistoric ☒ Historic ☐ Both

c. 1931

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Maps

*P7. Owner and Address:

M & J Land & Equipment

Address Unknown

*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)
Connor E. Turnbull/Tiffany Centanni

Carey & Co. Inc.

460 Bush Street

San Francisco, CA 94108

*P9. Date Recorded: 2/11/03

*P10. Survey Type: (Describe)
Intensive

*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report/other sources or "none") Carey & Co. Inc., Downtown Mountain View Precise Plan Area
Historic Resources Survey, San Francisco, California, 2003

*Attachments: ☐ NONE ☐ Location Map ☐ Sketch 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) _____

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Primary # _____

HRI # _____

Page 2 of 3

*NRHP Status Code 5S1

*Resource Name or # 954 Villa Street

B1. Historic Name: _____

B2. Common Name: Tied House Restaurant

B3. Original Use: Commerce

B4. Present Use: Commerce

*B5. Architectural Style: Spanish Eclectic

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

Constructed 1931.

*B7. Moved? ☒ No ☐ Yes ☐ Unknown Date: _____ Original Location: _____

*B8. Related Features:

B9a. Architect: Unknown

b. Builder: Unknown

*B10. Significance: Theme Commerce and Architecture

Area Downtown Mountain View

Period of Significance 1931-1953

Property Type commercial

Applicable Criteria MVRHR 2 & 3

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

See attached continuation sheet

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

*B12. References:

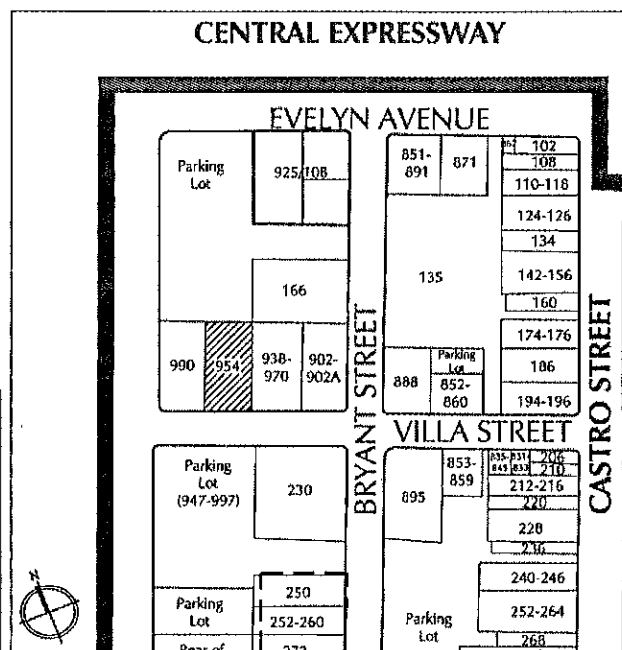
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B13. Remarks:

*B14. Evaluator: Nancy Goldenberg/Connor E. Turnbull/Sarah M. Dreller

Date of Evaluation: 02 / 11 / 03

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 3 of 3

*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 954 Villa Street

*Recorded by Nancy Goldenberg/ Connor E. Turnbull/Sarah M. Dreller

*Date 02/11/03

☒ Continuation ☐ Update

B10. Significance

The property at 954 Villa Street does not appear to possess sufficient historic significance for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historic Places. However, it appears to possess the historic significance and integrity needed for Mountain View Register of Historical Resources eligibility.

This building is historically significant for its direct association with the 20th century development of Mountain View's downtown (MVRHP Criterion 2) and for its architectural distinction as an excellent example of a Spanish Eclectic style commercial building. (MVRHR Criterion 3). Archival sources did not indicate association with the lives of persons significant in the past (MVRHR Criterion 1) and the building does not appear to be important as an artifact (MVRHR Criterion 4).

Despite alterations, including the addition of the new aluminum door and window systems, new mechanical system units on the roof and one side of the building, and the addition of the rear awning and tented area, it retains sufficient integrity to convey its historical association and architectural distinction. Its location and setting are intact; its design, materials and workmanship are only partially compromised. Per Section 1.4.c. of the Mountain View Interim Urgency Ordinance for Preservation of Historical Resources (Ordinance No. 7.02), feeling and association are not included in the definition of integrity.

B12. References

Ignoffo, Mary Jo. *Milestones: A History of Mountain View, California*. Cupertino, CA: California History Center & Foundation, 2002.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1986.

Mountain View City Directories, 1930, 1940, 1954, Mountain View History Center, Mountain View, California.

Nick Perry, "Downtown Mountain View District Guide," In A Guide to Mountain View [online], available at: <http://members.aol.com/Nap98/Downtown1.htm>.

Now and Then: Exploring Mountain View's Architectural Heritage. Mountain View, California: City of Mountain View Planning Department 1979.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Maps, 1888-1956, Mountain View Public Library, Mountain View, California.

Santa Clara County Assessor's Records, 1990, Mountain View Public Library, Mountain View, California.

END.