

PALO ALTO HISTORIC INVENTORY NOMINATION PROPOSAL HISTORIC RESOURCES BOARD HEARING ON NOVEMBER 9, 2023

The below groupings of properties are arranged with City-owned properties to be reviewed first, followed by smaller groupings based on the Palo Alto Historic Inventory Criteria under which the properties are being nominated. If a particular property has owner opposition, or some other need that requires individual attention, it will be removed from the group and placed as an individual item at the end of the hearing agenda, or on the January 2024 HRB hearing agenda, for discussion and individual action.

A summary of the proposed order of each property group and the number of properties proposed for designation under each criteria is as follows:

- City-owned properties: 2
- Properties grouped by Criteria for Designation:
 - Criterion 2 (25 properties)
 - Criteria 2 and 5 (10 properties)
 - Criteria 2 and 6 (5 properties)
 - Criteria 2, 5, and 6 (5 properties)
 - Criteria 2 and 3 (5 properties)
 - Criterion 3 (4 properties)
 - Criteria 1 and 2 (2 properties)
 - Criteria 1, 2, and 5 (2 properties)
 - Criteria 1 and 6 (2 properties)
 - Criteria 4 and 6 (2 properties)
 - Criteria 2 and 4 (1 property)
 - Criteria 1, 5, and 6 (1 property)
 - Criteria 3 and 5 (1 property)
 - Criteria 1, 2, and 4 (1 property)

The following tables (following city-owned properties) are organized based on how many properties are within each group. Properties within each table are arranged by proposed Historic Inventory Category, and then alphabetically by address.

City-Owned Properties

Address	Criteria	Category
201 Alma Street	1, 4, 5	1
Cistern and Pump House	1, 2	2

- Criterion 1 (The structure or site is identified with the lives of historic people or with important events in the city, state, or nation)
- Criterion 2 (The structure or is particularly representative of an architectural style or way of life important to the city, state or nation)
- Criterion 4 (The structure or site is connected with a business or use which was once common, but is now rare)
- Criterion 5 (The architect or building was important)

Properties proposed for designation under Palo Alto Criterion 2

- Criterion 2 (The structure or is particularly representative of an architectural style or way of life important to the city, state or nation)

Address	Criteria	Category
518 Byron Street	2	2
471 Channing Avenue	2	2
751 Channing Avenue	2	2
643 College Avenue	2	2
252 Cowper Street	2	2
1464 Emerson Street	2	2
482 Everett Avenue	2	2
446 Forest Avenue	2	2
1011 Fulton Street	2	2
975 Hamilton Avenue	2	2
317 High Street	2	2
323 High Street	2	2
342 High Street	2	2
832 Kipling Street	2	2
426 Palo Alto Avenue	2	2
245 Ramona Street	2	2
313 Waverley Street	2	2
326 Waverley Street	2	2
333 Waverley Street	2	2
947 Waverley Street	2	2
1545 Waverley Street	2	2

251 Webster Street	2	2
1235 Webster Street	2	2
1345 Webster Street	2	2
669 Channing Avenue	2	3

Properties proposed for designation under Palo Alto Criteria 2 and 5

- Criterion 2 (The structure or is particularly representative of an architectural style or way of life important to the city, state or nation)
- Criterion 5 (The architect or building was important)

Address	Criteria	Category
570 Coleridge Avenue	2, 5	2
1620 Cowper Street	2, 5	2
2150 Cowper Street	2, 5	2
75 Crescent Drive	2, 5	2
731 Emerson Street	2, 5	2
855 Hamilton Avenue	2, 5	2
469 Homer Avenue	2, 5	2
411 Lytton Avenue	2, 5	2
1056 University Avenue	2, 5	2
385 Waverley Street	2, 5	2

Properties proposed for designation under Palo Alto Criteria 2 and 6

- Criterion 2 (The structure or is particularly representative of an architectural style or way of life important to the city, state or nation)
- Criterion 6 (The structure or site contains elements demonstrating outstanding attention to architectural design, detail, materials or craftsmanship)

Address	Criteria	Category
162 Bryant Street	2, 6	2
1590 California Avenue	2, 6	2
825 Kipling Street	2, 6	2
1757 Park Boulevard	2, 6	2
530 Webster Street	2, 6	2

Properties proposed for designation under Palo Alto Criteria 2, 5, and 6

- Criterion 2 (The structure or is particularly representative of an architectural style or way of life important to the city, state or nation)
- Criterion 5 (The architect or building was important)
- Criterion 6 (The structure or site contains elements demonstrating outstanding attention to architectural design, detail, materials or craftsmanship)

Address	Criteria	Category
541 Bryant Street	2, 5, 6	2
951 Hamilton Avenue	2, 5, 6	2
680 Homer Avenue	2, 5, 6	2
360 Kellogg Avenue	2, 5, 6	2
959 Waverley Street	2, 5, 6	2

Properties proposed for designation under Palo Alto Criteria 2 and 3

- Criterion 2 (The structure or is particularly representative of an architectural style or way of life important to the city, state or nation)
- Criterion 3 (The structure or site is an example of a type of building which was once common, but is now rare)

Address	Criteria	Category
904 Bryant Street	2, 3	2
630 Lincoln Avenue	2, 3	2
2115-2121 Cornell Street	2, 3	3
2127-2133 Cornell Street	2, 3	3
719 Webster Street	2, 3	3

Properties proposed for designation under Palo Alto Criterion 3

- Criterion 3 (The structure or site is an example of a type of building which was once common, but is now rare)

Address	Criteria	Category
635 Bryant Street	3	2
815 Kipling Street	3	3
817 Kipling Street	3	3
845 Waverley Street	3	4

Properties proposed for designation under Palo Alto Criteria 1 and 2

- Criterion 1 (The structure or site is identified with the lives of historic people or with important events in the city, state, or nation)
- Criterion 2 (The structure or is particularly representative of an architectural style or way of life important to the city, state or nation)

Address	Criteria	Category
2230 Amherst Street	1, 2	2
538 Churchill Avenue	1, 2	2

Properties proposed for designation under Palo Alto Criteria 1, 2, and 5

- Criterion 1 (The structure or site is identified with the lives of historic people or with important events in the city, state, or nation)
- Criterion 2 (The structure or is particularly representative of an architectural style or way of life important to the city, state or nation)
- Criterion 5 (The architect or building was important)

Address	Criteria	Category
1990 Newell Road	1, 2, 5	1
211 Quarry Road	1, 2, 5	1

Properties proposed for designation under Palo Alto Criteria 1 and 6

- Criterion 1 (The structure or site is identified with the lives of historic people or with important events in the city, state, or nation)
- Criterion 6 (The structure or site contains elements demonstrating outstanding attention to architectural design, detail, materials or craftsmanship)

Address	Criteria	Category
695 Arastradero Road (Alta Vista Cemetery)	1, 6	2
720 Waverley Street	1, 6	2

Properties proposed for designation under Palo Alto Criteria 4 and 6

- Criterion 4 (The structure or site is connected with a business or use which was once common, but is now rare)
- Criterion 6 (The structure or site contains elements demonstrating outstanding attention to architectural design, detail, materials or craftsmanship)

Address	Criteria	Category
132 Hamilton Avenue	4, 6	2
260 Homer Avenue	4, 6	2

Properties proposed for designation under Palo Alto Criteria 2 and 4

- Criterion 2 (The structure or is particularly representative of an architectural style or way of life important to the city, state or nation)
- Criterion 4 (The structure or site is connected with a business or use which was once common, but is now rare)

Address	Criteria	Category
212 Emerson Street	2, 4	2

Properties proposed for designation under Palo Alto Criteria 1, 5, and 6

- Criterion 1 (The structure or site is identified with the lives of historic people or with important events in the city, state, or nation)
- Criterion 5 (The architect or building was important)
- Criterion 6 (The structure or site contains elements demonstrating outstanding attention to architectural design, detail, materials or craftsmanship)

Address	Criteria	Category
555 Forest Avenue	1, 5, 6	2

Properties proposed for designation under Palo Alto Criteria 3 and 5

- Criterion 3 (The structure or site is an example of a type of building which was once common, but is now rare)
- Criterion 5 (The architect or building was important)

Address	Criteria	Category
334 High Street	3, 5	2

Properties proposed for designation under Palo Alto Criteria 1, 2, and 4

- Criterion 1 (The structure or site is identified with the lives of historic people or with important events in the city, state, or nation)
- Criterion 2 (The structure or is particularly representative of an architectural style or way of life important to the city, state or nation)
- Criterion 4 (The structure or site is connected with a business or use which was once common, but is now rare)

Address	Criteria	Category
437 Kipling Street	1, 2, 4	2

BACKGROUND MATERIAL

In March 2022, Palo Alto's City Council directed City Planning Division staff to work with the City's Historic Resources Board (HRB) to review the list of properties that were previously deemed eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) in the 1997-2001 Palo Alto Historical Survey Update. The goals of the 2023 Historic Resource Reconnaissance Survey were to: (1) update the known list of historic properties to reflect their current status of eligibility as historic resources, taking into account that changes have likely occurred to the built environment in the last 22 years, and (2) prepare proposals to designate those properties that remain eligible historic resources to the Palo Alto Historic Inventory.¹ The above-listed properties, were previously determined eligible for the National Register under Criteria A and C, expressing an association with both significant events and development trends in Palo Alto, and for their architecture. These sixty-eight (68) properties were surveyed by Page & Turnbull and found to retain their historic integrity and significance associated with the National Register, and are proposed for designation to the Palo Alto Historic Inventory.²

Properties Identified in the 1997-2001 Survey Update

Properties identified as "Eligible for the National Register" during the 1997-2001 Survey Update were found significant at the local level for one or more of the National Register's Criteria of Significance:

Criterion A (Events): Association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

Criterion B (Persons): Association with the lives of significant persons in our past

Criterion C (Architecture): Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction

Criterion D (Information Potential): Have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in history or prehistory

For each historic resource, Page & Turnbull identified the appropriate Criteria of Significance for the Palo Alto Historic Inventory that most closely corresponds to the previously determined National Register Criteria of Significance. The Criteria of Significance for the Palo Alto Historic Inventory are

¹ Any individual or group may propose designating a historic structure, site, or district to the Inventory according to the procedure found in the Historic Preservation Ordinance (Municipal Code Section 16.49.040). Properties nominated for designation are recommended by the Historic Resources Board and decided upon by the City Council.

<https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/Departments/Planning-Development-Services/Historic-Preservation/Historic-Registers>

² Page & Turnbull, *2023 Historic Resource Reconnaissance Survey*, August 9, 2023. Information regarding the survey effort and evaluation of integrity is included in this Survey Report.

listed below and the corresponding National Register (NR) Criteria theme (either Events, Persons, or Architecture) are listed in brackets:

- Criterion 1:** The structure or site is identified with the lives of historic people **[Persons]** or with important events in the city, state or nation **[Events]**;
- Criterion 2:** The structure or site is particularly representative of an architectural style **[Architecture]** or way of life important to the city, state or nation **[Events]**;
- Criterion 3:** The structure or site is an example of a type of building which was once common, but is now rare **[Architecture]**;
- Criterion 4:** The structure or site is connected with a business or use which was once common, but is now rare **[Events]**;
- Criterion 5:** The architect or building was important **[Architecture]**;
- Criterion 6:** The structure or site contains elements demonstrating outstanding attention to architectural design, detail, materials or craftsmanship **[Architecture]**.³

An assessment of significance was completed to determine under which Category of Significance the resource would be eligible. Thresholds for each category were developed by Page & Turnbull, in consultation with City Staff and with input from the Historic Resources Board. The definition of each Category is listed below and the threshold used for the 2023 Reconnaissance survey is listed immediately following each definition.

Category 1: An “Exceptional Building” of pre-eminent national or state importance. These buildings are meritorious works of the best architects, outstanding examples of a specific architectural style, or illustrate stylistic development of architecture in the United States. These buildings have had either no exterior modifications or such minor ones that the overall appearance of the building is in its original character.

Threshold for Category 1 Properties in 2023 Reconnaissance Survey: Properties that were designed or constructed by prominent architects and builders previously identified as significant or are excellent examples of a style.

Category 2: A “Major Building” of regional importance. These buildings are meritorious works of the best architects, outstanding examples of an architectural style, or illustrate stylistic development of architecture in the state or region. A major building may have some exterior modifications, but the original character is retained.

³ Palo Alto Municipal Code, Chapter 16.49 Historic Preservation. Subsection 020: Definitions.

Threshold for Category 2 Properties in 2023 Reconnaissance Survey: Properties that are good examples of a style or a rare building type. Associations with individuals who were found to have made significant professional or personal accomplishments that demonstrate and enrich the history of Palo Alto are also represented under Category 2.

Category 3 or 4: A “Contributing Building” which is a good local example of an architectural style and relates to the character of a neighborhood grouping in scale, materials, proportion or other factors. A contributing building may have had extensive or permanent changes made to the original design, such as inappropriate additions, extensive removal of architectural details, or wooden facades resurfaced in asbestos or stucco.

Threshold for Category 3 Properties in 2023 Reconnaissance Survey: Properties that are good examples of early development patterns, or are common or typical buildings that retain their historic integrity to a high degree. These buildings are not particularly rare but have very good to excellent historic integrity.

Threshold for Category 4 Properties in 2023 Reconnaissance Survey: Properties to be listed as Category 4, are similar in level of significance to Category 3, but have been altered to a higher degree and may have good to poor historic integrity.