

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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

**DRAFT**

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Dielmann, John, House

Other names/site number: Alana's Café

Name of related multiple property listing: \_\_\_\_\_

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

Street & number: 1020 Main Street

City or town: Redwood City State: CA County: San Mateo

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_ statewide      \_\_\_ local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

\_\_\_A      \_\_\_B      \_\_\_C      \_\_\_D

<p>_____  <b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b></p> <p>_____  <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>	<p>_____  <b>Date</b></p>
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<p>In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<p>_____  <b>Signature of commenting official:</b></p> <p>_____  <b>Title :</b></p>	<p>_____  <b>Date</b></p> <p>_____  <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>

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#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	sites
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	structures
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	objects
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register           

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/restaurant

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne

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**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Wood

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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#### Summary Paragraph

Built circa 1892 at 505 Middlefield Road (originally Second, and later Webster Street) in downtown Redwood City by a German immigrant baker named John Dielmann, the Dielmann House was moved to its site at 1020 Main Street in 1978 to save it from demolition. Today, the John Dielmann House remains one of the best-preserved Queen Anne-style cottages in Redwood City and one of only a handful of Victorian-era dwellings left in the city center. The Dielmann House is a fine example of the Queen Anne style, a primarily domestic form of design born in England in the 1870s that swept America during the 1880s and 1890s. The Deilmann House is a one-story dwelling with a finished attic enclosed within its steeply pitched hipped roof. The cottage is clad in redwood rustic channel siding and embellished with milled redwood ornament. Set back approximately 100' from Main Street, the dwelling's primary façade looks out onto a Victorian-style garden shared with its neighbor, the 1857 Offerman House, at 1018 Main Street. Starting in 1979, the Dielmann House was painstakingly rehabilitated, in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, by the Woodhams family, pioneers in Redwood City's preservation community. The exterior was faithfully restored and the interior modified only slightly to accommodate a restaurant on the first floor level and a new residential unit in the attic. The only exterior changes made included the addition of a dormer on the west

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facet of the roof and the construction of a new entrance on the north façade to access the residential unit. Nearly all of the Dielmann House's interior finishes and materials were retained in the rehabilitation, including its fir flooring, redwood wainscoting, paneled doors and casings, fireplace mantels, and built-in cabinetry. The Dielmann House retains integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

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## Narrative Description

### Site

The Dielmann House occupies the southwest corner of an irregularly shaped property on the west side of Main Street, just south of its intersection with Middlefield Road. The property, composed of parts of three lots (Lot 43 and parts of Lots 42 and 44), measures 105'-6" along Main Street, 159'-2" along the southern property line, and almost 200' along the northern property line. The property's irregular western boundary follows the diagonal alignment of Redwood Creek. The Dielmann House shares the property with the John Offerman House, an older Victorian-era dwelling that occupies the northeastern corner of the site. A separate National Register application is under review for the Offerman House. Between the Dielmann House and the Offerman House is a lush Victorian-style garden bounded by a Victorian-era wood fence along Main Street. The fence originally stood on "Holmgrove," the Donohoe estate, in Menlo Park, later the site of Menlo-Atherton High School. The garden itself is planted with many types of trees and shrubs characteristic of a Victorian garden, including a Canary palm, Norfolk pine, tree ferns, and various roses, perennials, and annuals. Recipient of several Redwood City Beautification Awards, the property also has a brick patio built in the 1980s of bricks salvaged from several local sites. Located east of the Dielmann House is a small, 132-sf wood-frame structure containing toilets and storage. Built in 1986, the "Summer House" as it is known, was designed to be compatible with the nearby Dielmann House. To the north of the Dielmann House is an asphalt-paved parking lot shared by it and the Offerman House. To the west is a pair of two sheds on non-permanent foundations; these were added circa 1985. The western property line is defined by a chain link fence and ornamental plantings. To the south of the Dielmann House is a narrow walkway and ADA ramp. The southern boundary is defined by a non-historic wood fence.

### Setting

To the north of the Dielmann House is the Redwood City Public Library's Parking Lot A. Between this parking lot and the library housed in an expanded 1921 firehouse at 1044 Middlefield Road (originally Redwood City Fire Station #1) is a small landscaped park called Roselli Mini Park. It occupies the former channel of Redwood Creek that was placed underground in a culvert in the 1970s. To the northwest of the site, straddling Middlefield Road, is Redwood City's Civic Center. The Civic Center is anchored by Redwood City Hall on the north side of Middlefield Road and Redwood City Public Library on the south side. Adjoining the subject property to the south is a non-descript condominium building constructed circa 1980 and Caltrain's Peninsula Corridor railroad tracks that run parallel to Pennsylvania Avenue. To the east of the subject property, on

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the opposite side of Main Street, are several low-rise commercial buildings dating to the early twentieth century. East of Main Street, Redwood City's downtown street grid shifts in orientation where it adjoins the Eastern Addition neighborhood. Continuing one block north along Main Street, one enters Redwood City's downtown, where one and two-story masonry commercial buildings from the early twentieth century alternate with much larger mixed-use projects constructed in the late twentieth and early twenty first centuries. To the northwest, straddling Middlefield Road, is Redwood City's Civic Center. The Civic Center is anchored by Redwood City Hall on the north side of Middlefield Road and Redwood City Public Library on the south side.

### Queen Anne Style

The Dielmann House is a Queen Anne-style cottage. The Queen Anne style that originated in England in the 1870s is primarily associated with the work of the architect Richard Norman Shaw. The name of the style is a reference to its primary inspiration, the vernacular architecture produced during the reign of Queen Anne (1702-14). The original Queen Anne style represented an amalgam of indigenous late-medieval forms blended with imported Italian Renaissance ornament. Shaw, who drew on this heritage for his widely published country houses of the 1870s, was very influential on American architects and builders during the last decades of the nineteenth century. The Queen Anne style first caught on in the United States during the Centennial Exposition of 1876 in Philadelphia, where the British government erected two half-timbered buildings designed in the style. During the 1880s, the Queen Anne, or "Free Classic," style took America by storm, particularly for the design of large summer residences outside Boston, New York, and Philadelphia. The style's picturesque ornamental detailing, including corner turrets, wraparound porches, lathe-turned posts, tiled chimneys, and gabled dormers, was well-suited for large lots where the house could be seen "in the round." Gradually, builders disseminated the style to the masses in the form of speculative rowhouses and cottages in nearly every American town and city of any size.

The Queen Anne style came to California later than to the cities of the East Coast and the Midwest, that were closer to Europe and its cultural influences. When the Queen Anne style reached California in the late 1880s it instantly became very popular, especially in the fast-growing cities of San Francisco, Los Angeles, Sacramento, and Eureka. In California, the style's most enthusiastic ambassadors were brothers Samuel and Joseph Cather Newsom. Their architecture firm of Newsom & Newsom designed the ebullient Carson Mansion in Eureka, one of America's best-known Queen Anne style mansions. In more cramped urban conditions, especially in San Francisco's Western Addition and Mission District, the Queen Anne style was pared down to its essential characteristics for lot-line hugging rowhouses. San Francisco's Postcard Row on Steiner Street showcases some of the best-known Queen Anne rowhouses in the United States (**Figure 1**).

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California's suburbs and smaller cities provided a middle ground between the elaborate Queen Anne mansions of the resort areas of the East Coast and the tightly packed rowhouses of San Francisco. In these areas, particularly the East Bay cities of Oakland, Alameda, and Berkeley, and other smaller towns on the Peninsula and Santa Clara County, there emerged a smaller, freestanding Queen Anne cottage. In suburban communities where wider 50'-wide lots were available, contractors erected hundreds of one-story, hipped-roof Queen Anne cottages. Nearly all were between 30' and 40' wide and about 50' to 70' deep. Nearly all were built atop raised basements that could be excavated for storage (and later, garages) or left as crawlspaces. Queen Anne cottages nearly all have a three-sided bay window in one corner of the primary façade, the primary entrance at the center of the façade, and a flush bay of windows in the other corner. The entrance and the flush bay are often enclosed within an open-air porch supported by turned posts with decorative brackets. Often the bay window is capped by a pedimented gable or dormer, where the majority of the decorative program was concentrated. Roofs could either be hipped or gabled or a combination of the two. In warmer climates the raised roof allowed heat to rise beyond the primary living area and the attic space was also suitable for building out extra rooms. Derived from high-style examples, most Queen Anne cottages feature elaborate ornamentation, including lathe-turned porch columns, scroll-sawn brackets, friezes milled to resemble tile work, fish-scale and other decorative shingle cladding (usually in the gable), sunburst panels, foliate plaster moldings, and molded door and window casings. And in contrast to most urban rowhouses, the non-street-facing façades of most California Queen Anne cottages have some ornament.

#### **Exterior Description: East Façade**

The primary (east) façade of the Dielmann House faces Main Street, set back about 100' from the property line. Three bays wide, the primary façade is partly concealed from view from the street by abundant vegetation. The left bay contains a three-sided bay window capped by a front-facing gable roof. Clad in rustic redwood siding like the rest of the exterior, the bay window is articulated by three double-hung wood windows. The windows are flanked by paneled woodwork depicting starburst motifs and they sit atop sills supported by narrow impost blocks. The center window is crowned by a decorative sunburst panel and an entablature supported by four scroll-sawn brackets. The smaller windows on the canted sides of the bay window are detailed similarly, though they are flanked by turned brackets instead of scroll-sawn brackets. Above the bay window the pedimented gable begins with a band of molded paneling designed to resemble a tiled frieze. Above this, the gable itself is clad in flush wood siding nailed in opposing diagonal alignments, creating a visually engaging pattern. At the center of the gable, within the area known as the tympanum, is a single wood window flanked by elaborate wood casings, including impost blocks and a bracketed hood. The apex of the gable contains a stylized oak tree panel. The gable itself is defined at the edges by a raking cornice embellished by rosette and triglyph moldings. The cornice is supported by scroll-sawn brackets.

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The center and right bays of the primary façade are sheltered within the porch. The porch itself is raised 3' above grade, creating a crawlspace beneath the building. The lower part of the porch is finished in vertical tongue-and-groove siding. The porch is accessed by a flight of five wood stairs flanked by wood cheek walls and contemporary hand railings. The porch is supported by three turned wood posts embellished with turned wood brackets matching those on the bay window. A scroll-sawn balustrade augmented by a non-historic two-by-four railing extends across the porch. The posts and the brackets support a simple molded entablature embellished with scroll-sawn brackets and a dropped pendant. Inside the porch, along the east wall of the house, is the main entrance. Located in the center bay of the primary façade, the main entrance contains a Victorian-era wood door with a glazed upper panel. The door is flanked by molded casings with chamfered corner moldings. The right bay features a pair of double-hung wood windows flanked by casings that match those of the main entrance.

#### **Exterior Description: North Façade**

The north façade of the Dielmann House faces the parking lot located between it and the northern property line. Except for the crawlspace clad in vertical tongue-and-groove siding, the north façade is otherwise clad in rustic channel siding. It is much less elaborate than the primary façade, as is typical of a California Queen Anne cottage, though it does have some applied ornament around the windows and at the roofline. The area toward the left side the north façade is punctuated by a non-historic entrance that provides access to the residential unit on the second floor. The non-historic entrance contains a wood door with a four-light glazed panel above. The door has molded casings embellished with bullseye moldings at the corners. The non-historic porch built in 1986 is supported by turned wood posts and it has scroll-sawn balusters that resemble the front porch. The right half of the north façade is articulated by three double-hung wood windows with a light pattern of one-over-one. These windows and their casings are detailed similarly to those on the primary façade. The north façade terminates with a molded wood frieze designed to resemble tilework. Pairs of scroll-sawn wood brackets above each window visually support the simple wood cornice.

#### **Exterior Description: West Façade**

The west façade of the Dielmann House is where the service entrance to the restaurant is located. It faces a pair of sheds at the rear of the property and the chain link fence that marks the western property line. The west façade is clad in redwood rustic channel siding, except for the crawlspace clad in vertical tongue-and-groove siding. A service porch extends across the majority of the west façade. The non-historic porch and the ADA access ramp are both detailed similarly to the historic front porch, with turned posts and scroll-sawn balusters. The west façade contains just three openings: a centrally located entrance and two double-hung wood windows. The entrance contains the original paneled Victorian door. The door is flanked by molded casings and surmounted by a transom window. The windows have simplified casings that are not as elaborate as the molded casings on the other three façades. The west façade terminates with a wood frieze matching the other three façades. The roof on the west side of



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the Dielmann House is capped by a non-historic gable-roofed dormer built in 1986 to provide code-required light and air to the residential unit. The dormer is articulated by three windows: a central fixed window flanked by two double-hung wood windows. The west façade contains several pieces of mechanical and ventilating equipment either attached to the building or mounted within the paved service area behind the building.

### **Exterior Description: South Façade**

It is not possible to photograph the south façade of the Dielmann House because it sits just five feet away from the southern property line fence. In terms of its massing, fenestration pattern, and ornamentation the south façade largely matches the corresponding north façade, though there is no entrance. In addition, the south façade is longer because it encompasses the bay window on the primary façade. The south façade is fenestrated with three windows – one individual window and one paired window – all of which are detailed the same as those found on the north façade.

### **Interior Description**

The interior of the Dielmann House consists of the first floor level in use as a restaurant, and the second floor level, formerly the attic, converted into an apartment in 1986. The first floor level consists of five main rooms, with the four front rooms used as dining rooms by the restaurant. A central hall divides the front two rooms. At the rear of the building are the original kitchen and the pantry that continue to fulfill the same purpose, modified for commercial use. Located at the southeast corner of the house is the parlor 12'-4" by 16'-2" in plan. Like the rest of the house it has 11'-high ceilings. The parlor has fir flooring, lath-and-plaster walls and ceiling, and unpainted redwood door and window trim with bullseye corner moldings. A tiled fireplace is located at the southwest corner of the parlor; it features a hardwood (likely walnut) mantel and over-mantel. The room is illuminated by what appears to be a reproduction Victorian-style light fixture suspended from a plaster medallion.

North of the parlor is the hall, 5' wide by 10' deep. The primary entrance opens into the hall, with fir flooring, lath-and-plaster walls and ceiling, and redwood casings around the doors and windows. The lower portion of the walls are finished in a Lincrusta-type wall covering.<sup>1</sup> The doorways all contain their original Victorian-era redwood panel doors with casings embellished with bullseye corner moldings. The hall is illuminated by an original Victorian-style pendant fixture that was converted from gas to electricity.

North of the hallway is what was originally most likely a bedroom. It measures 10' by 14'-3" and has fir flooring, lath-and-plaster walls and ceiling, and redwood picture rails and door and window trim. The doorways contain their original redwood panel doors and casings

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<sup>1</sup> Lincrusta is a deeply embossed wallcovering made of linseed oil and fine saw dust spread onto a paper base. The material is then rolled with a drum imprinted with the pattern. Designed to look like tooled leather or finely detailed plaster work, Lincrusta is frequently used in Victorian domestic and commercial architecture.

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embellished with bullseye corner moldings. The room is illuminated by what appears to be a reproduction Victorian-style pendant light fixture.

Located to the rear (west) of the parlor is the main dining room. Given its built-in fixtures and location next to the kitchen, it likely always served this purpose. This dining room, 15'-5" by 18' in plan, has fir flooring, lath-and-plaster walls covered in wallpaper, and a lath-and-plaster ceiling. In contrast to the two front rooms, the redwood trim in the dining room is painted though the casings are original, including the bullseye corner moldings. There are also several wood built-in cabinets, including a large built-in hutch on the west wall and shelving units on the east wall. The hutch retains its original art-glass glazing. The room is illuminated by what appears to be a reproduction Victorian-style chandelier.

Opening off the north wall of the dining room is a dining room that was almost certainly historically a bedroom. Its location toward the rear of the house suggests that it was used for this purpose. The room measures 14'-2" by 14'-3" in plan and has 11'-high ceilings. Like the rest of the house, it has fir flooring, lath-and-plaster walls covered in wallpaper, and a lath-and-plaster ceiling. The Victorian-era wood-panel doors and the windows retain their original redwood casings with corner bullseye moldings. A small corridor opening off the northwest corner of the room provides access to a small toilet room that appears to date to the 1986 interior rehabilitation. The room is illuminated by what appears to be a reproduction Victorian-style light fixture.

Occupying the entire rear of the Dielmann House is the kitchen. The original kitchen, probably smaller, was likely expanded when the building was converted into a restaurant in 1986. Presently it consists of two smaller but linked spaces: the kitchen proper and a dishwashing/prep area. Altogether the kitchen area measures 15' by 32'-8" in plan. Though the kitchen has been altered with the addition of stainless steel counters, appliances, and modern cooking and ventilation equipment, it still retains most of its original materials. The original fir flooring survives but it is concealed beneath contemporary resilient sheet flooring. The walls and ceilings are lath-and-plaster, though the area where the grill is located has cleanable vinyl surfaces to comply with health codes. The original door and window trim survives intact, though it has been painted. The kitchen also features a large redwood built-in cabinet likely original to the house.

The second floor level of the Dielmann House contains a one-bedroom residential unit. Converted from an unfinished attic space into an apartment in 1986, the unit contains a living room, kitchen, bedroom, laundry area, and a bathroom. The residential unit is accessed independently from the porch/entrance on the north side of the house. It contains no historic features or materials.

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### **Integrity**

Despite having been moved and converted into a restaurant between 1978 and 1986, the Dielmann House is remarkably well-preserved. Except for the porch and new entrance on the north façade, as well as the dormer on the roof of the west façade – both changes made in 1986 – no notable exterior alterations have been made to the building. The interior is also strikingly intact, including the original parlor and dining room, which were left essentially unaltered as they were both suitable for use as restaurant dining rooms. In 1986, the original kitchen and breakfast room/pantry were converted into a modern restaurant kitchen with industrial appliances and ventilation equipment but the existing built-in cabinets, doors, and trim were retained. That same year, a new stair was built in the closet space between the two bedrooms to give the residential unit on the second floor its own entrance, and the original bathroom on the first floor level was also made ADA-compliant. Aside from these changes no other substantial changes other than painting and wallpapering have been made in the interior of the Dielmann House.

### **Location:**

The Dielmann House does not retain integrity of location because it was moved from 505 Middlefield Road to its present location at 1020 Main Street in 1978.

### **Design:**

The Dielmann House retains integrity of design because it has not been substantially altered since it was constructed circa 1892. A comparison of photographs taken of the dwelling when it was at 505 Middlefield Road and at the time of nomination reveals virtually no changes to its overall massing, form, style, or detailing.

### **Setting:**

The Dielmann House does not retain integrity of setting. Moved in 1978 to its present site next to the circa 1857 Offerman House, the dwelling was placed toward the rear of the parcel. The area in front of the dwelling is occupied by a Victorian-style garden that was not part of the building's original site. Originally located in a residential neighborhood north of downtown Redwood City, the Dielmann House is surrounded by surface parking lots and large residential and commercial projects. However, because of the lush landscaping on the site, these modern uses do not intrude on the property.

### **Materials:**

The Dielmann House retains integrity of materials because it retains the vast majority of its original exterior and interior features. Rehabilitated in 1979 after the Woodhams family bought it and moved it to its present location, and again in 1986 when the interior was converted into a restaurant with a secondary residential unit, the Dielmann House lost very little historic fabric in these two projects. Furthermore, the Dielmann House is highly unusual in that it retains nearly all of its original Victorian-era interior features and materials.

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***Workmanship:***

The Dielmann House retains integrity of workmanship. The exterior, particularly the primary façade, displays abundant evidence of craftsmanship, in particular the scroll-sawn ornament, including the brackets, balusters, sunburst panel, oak tree panel, etc. Though most of this ornament was machine made, its manipulation and fabrication testifies to the skills of the carpenters who constructed the cottage.

***Feeling:***

The Dielmann House retains integrity of feeling. Though it has been moved and sited in a way that is not entirely congruent with its original location, its well-preserved and well-maintained exterior and interior, combined with its lush setting, create a feeling that is appropriate to the cottage.

***Association:***

The Dielmann House retains integrity of association because it looks the way it did when it was owned by the Dielmann family, the longest ownership by one family (1892-1961).

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**  
1892

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**  
1892

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**  
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**  
Unknown

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The John Dielmann House is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C at the local level of significance in the area of Architecture with a period of significance of 1892, its date of construction. Built for a German immigrant baker named John Dielmann, the Dielmann House was originally located at the southeast corner of what became the intersection of Middlefield Road and Fuller Street in downtown Redwood City. A native of Klingenstein, Germany, John Dielmann arrived in Redwood City from San Francisco circa 1881. A baker by trade, Dielmann operated Redwood City's City Bakery for 13 years, retiring in 1894 at the age of 42. Two years earlier, in 1892, the prosperous Dielmann commissioned a five-room cottage on the lot he had bought in 1890 from the Tacoma Mill Company (formerly Hanson Lumber Company). The unknown contractor who built the cottage employed the then-popular Queen Anne style. His source materials probably consisted of architectural pattern books, millwork catalogues, as well as other Queen Anne cottages being built in Redwood City and other suburban communities throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. The Dielmann House is significant for its highly intact Queen Anne exterior and interior, as well as for being one of only five nineteenth century dwellings left in downtown Redwood City. Narrowly escaping demolition in the late 1970s, the Dielmann House was saved by the Woodhams family and moved to its present location in 1978, its exterior restored in 1979, and its interior rehabilitated for restaurant and residential use in 1986. Both the exterior and the interior rehabilitation projects were completed according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. The Dielmann House meets the requirements of Criterion Consideration B: Moved Properties because it is retains its eligibility for architectural value.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

**Redwood City: 1850-1890**

Prior to California statehood in 1850, what later became Redwood City was part of *Rancho de las Pulgas*, a Spanish land grant held since 1795 by the Argüello family and later confirmed by the Mexican government in 1835. The Gold Rush brought in a tremendous influx of European and Anglo American immigrants to California. Many of the newcomers openly challenged the validity of Spanish and Mexican land grants and squatted on the *ranchos*. In 1850, American lumbermen engaged in logging the Peninsula's redwood forests to provide lumber for rapidly growing San Francisco discovered a deep-water channel on the Argüellos' land between the Santa Cruz Mountains and San Francisco Bay. They quickly built wharves, and soon the logs, instead of being hauled laboriously overland, were hauled the shorter distance down the eastern slope of the Santa Cruz Mountains to the slough that would become known as

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Redwood Creek. From there, lumber could be easily transported to San Francisco by water, thus greatly increasing the supply of redwood lumber to the fast-growing metropolis.<sup>2</sup>

The area around the wharves of Redwood Creek soon accommodated a settlement of several hundred workers employed in the port's lumber and shipping industries. Nearly all of the earliest settlers were squatters hoping to claim land for free under the aegis of American sovereignty. In 1853, Mrs. Soledad Argüello engaged a Basque/Puerto Rican lawyer named Simon Mezes to help her establish legal title to *Rancho de las Pulgas*. He succeeded in doing so in 1854, taking the case all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. As compensation for his efforts, Mezes was awarded three-twentieths of the *Rancho*. Whether as part of his compensation or by purchase from the Argüellos, Mezes gained title to much of the land that became Redwood City. In 1854, Mezes surveyed the land around the unnamed redwood port at the mouth of Redwood Creek and mapped a town site that he called Mezesville. Mezes required all squatters in the area to buy the land they occupied or leave. Though many complied, lingering hostility toward Mezes ensured that local residents would never call the town Mezesville, instead using the colloquial and descriptive name of Redwood City. Nonetheless, the Mezesville survey became the nucleus of Redwood City, comprising the city's downtown and a large rectangular area to the northwest.<sup>3</sup> The survey's eastern boundary was Main Street that lay on the east bank of Redwood Creek, including the future site of the Dielmann House.

In 1856, San Mateo County split off from San Francisco County. Located roughly midway between San Francisco and San Jose, and as the only significant settlement on the San Francisco Peninsula, Redwood City was chosen as the new county seat. In 1863, the San Francisco-San Jose Railroad was completed, with the tracks running just south of downtown Redwood City. The railroad drastically improved access from San Francisco to central San Mateo County and spurred on a significant amount of new population growth in and around Redwood City, especially estate development in the surrounding areas of Belmont, Fair Oaks (later Atherton), and Menlo Park. As the county seat, Redwood City became the primary trade center for the mid-Peninsula area. By 1867, the residents of Redwood City, looking ahead to a future of continued growth, petitioned county authorities to incorporate. In 1868, Redwood City became San Mateo County's first incorporated city. Following incorporation, Redwood City's population nearly doubled, growing from 727 in 1870 to 1,383 in 1880.<sup>4</sup>

As Redwood City continued to grow in the 1870s and 1880s, the economy began to diversify away from materials extraction toward trade and commerce, though lumber processing and leather tanning remained important extractive industries. During this time hundreds of tradesmen from San Francisco and beyond moved to Redwood City to set up businesses in

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<sup>2</sup> Archives Committee of the Redwood City Public Library, *Redwood City: A Hometown History* (Belmont, CA: Star Publishing Co., 2007), xxi.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, xxi.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, 68.



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downtown Redwood City. Commercial development clustered along Main Street and A Street (later Broadway). Commercial buildings began to take the place of pioneer dwellings along these two streets, including hotels, grocery stores, livery stables, saloons, dry goods stores, and laundries. To accommodate the growing population land speculators platted new residential tracts adjacent to the original Mezesville plat, including Diller's Addition and the Eastern Addition. Residential growth also occurred in the Mezesville plat, particularly on the gridded blocks north of A Street and west of Main Street. By 1890, the population of Redwood City exceeded 1,500 for the first time.

### **John and Mary Dielmann: 1852-1889**

John Dielmann (occasionally spelled Dielman) was born in 1852 or 1853 in Klingenmünster, a municipality in Südliche Weinstraße, in the Rhineland Palatinate.<sup>5</sup> He immigrated to the United States in 1871 at the age of 19.<sup>6</sup> By 1880 he was living in San Francisco, where he was employed as a baker.<sup>7</sup> The 1880 Census records John Dielmann as residing at 26 Garden Street in San Francisco's Western Addition along with his wife Mary (née Goetz, age 21), and their son John (age 5 months). According to the Census, John was originally employed as a teamster and Mary kept house.<sup>8</sup> A native of New York, Mary, like her husband, was of German extraction. On May 16, 1881, John Dielmann purchased the City Bakery in Redwood City from Mrs. Jacob Pfrang. This was almost certainly the year that the Dielmans moved to Redwood City.<sup>9</sup> This bakery was located on the south side of Bridge Street (later part of Broadway), just east of Redwood Creek, near the heart of downtown Redwood City. Dielmann's change in occupation represented an advancement in occupational status, from a hired semi-skilled employee to a skilled and self-employed tradesman.

### **Construction of the Dielmann House: 1889-1897**

On June 22, 1889, John Dielmann sold the City Bakery to George P. Baecker of San Francisco.<sup>10</sup> Soon after selling the bakery John and Mary Dielmann purchased Lots 5 and 6 of Block 3 in the Town of Mezesville plat from Charles Hanson, president of the Tacoma Mill Company (**Figure 2**).<sup>11</sup> Charles Hanson was an important Redwood City pioneer businessman. He had acquired a large tract of waterfront land from the Argüellos during the Gold Rush. He opened Hanson's Lumber Company in the 1850s and by the 1860s it was Redwood City's biggest business. He changed the name to Tacoma Mill Company after getting into the milling business.<sup>12</sup> The

<sup>5</sup> The Rhineland Palatinate was one of the many constituent states that would unify to form the modern nation of Germany in 1871.

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 1920 Census, Town of Redwood City, Enumeration District 79, Sheet 16A.

<sup>7</sup> California, Great Registers, 1866-1898 for John Dielmann.

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 1880 Census, City of San Francisco, Enumeration District 109, Sheet 12.

<sup>9</sup> "John Dielmann," Richard Schellens Archive, Karl A. Vollmayer Local History Room, Redwood City Public Library.

<sup>10</sup> *San Mateo County Times-Gazette* (June 22, 1889).

<sup>11</sup> San Mateo County Recorder's Office, Deed Book 47, p. 536.

<sup>12</sup> Archives Committee of the Redwood City Public Library, *Redwood City: A Hometown History* (Belmont, CA: Star Publishing Co.), 101.

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sprawling yard occupied most of the area east of 1<sup>st</sup> Street (later Jefferson Avenue) and north of C Street (later Bradford Street). The Dielmanns' two parcels were located at the southeast corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> and D streets (later the corner of Fuller Street and Middlefield Road), three blocks north of the San Mateo County Courthouse. The lots abutted Charles Hanson's sprawling lumber yard to the east.

It seems logical to expect that the Dielmanns built their new house soon after they purchased the land but no building contract appears in the *San Mateo Times-Gazette* during this time. The house does not appear on the 1891 Sanborn maps. These maps were published in February, so it is possible that the house was built later that year (**Figure 3**). John Dielmann first appears as a resident of the property in Redwood City in the 1892 *San Mateo County Great Register*, indicating that the Dielmanns were in residence at the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> and D streets (later Fuller Street and Middlefield Road) and suggesting that the house was completed that year. Because no original building contract appears to survive in local records it is not possible to identify who designed and/or built the cottage. The 1897 Sanborn maps illustrate the northern part of the Dielmanns' property (Lot 6) as containing a one-story, wood-frame cottage with an angled bay window and porches on the front and rear façades, and a one-story stable at the rear of the lot. Meanwhile, their adjoining lot to the south (Lot 5) remained vacant (**Figure 4**).

In February 1892, John Dielmann bought the City Bakery back. He ran it for two more years before selling it in August 1894 to a man named William Smith of Eureka Mills, California.<sup>13</sup> Dielmann, who had evidently made a good living off his baking skills, retired in 1894 at the age of 42. On July 13, 1897, John and Mary Dielmann sold Lot 5, the vacant lot next door, to a James J. Rogers, who soon built a house there.<sup>14</sup>

The 1897 Sanborn maps indicate that the blocks between A Street (later Broadway) and D (later Fuller) Street and 1<sup>st</sup> Street (later Jefferson Avenue) and 4<sup>th</sup> (later Winslow) Street were about 75 percent built-out with one-and two-story dwellings predominating. Many had flat façades with porches extending across their breadth, suggesting that they were older pioneer cottages or flat-fronted Italianates dating to the 1860s or the 1870s. A few had rectangular or angled bay windows, suggesting that there were a few newer Stick/Eastlake and Queen Anne-style dwellings from the 1880s and early 1890s. Most properties had stables at their rear, as well as outhouses and/or tank houses. A large public plaza, called California Square, occupied the block bounded by C, 3<sup>rd</sup>, B, and 4<sup>th</sup> streets (later Marshall, Hamilton, Bradford, and Winslow Streets). This park, set aside in perpetuity by Simon Mezes for residents of the town, became the site of the San Mateo County Superior Courthouse. The residential area north of downtown Redwood City was bounded to the north and to the east by industry along Redwood Creek. To the south it was bounded by A Street (later Broadway), the location of the San Mateo County Courthouse, the St. Charles Hotel, and several other businesses.

<sup>13</sup> "John Dielmann," Richard Schellens Archive, Karl A. Vollmayer Local History Room, Redwood City Public Library.

<sup>14</sup> San Mateo County Recorder's Office, Deed Book 74, Page 468.

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### The Dielmann House: 1897-1961

John and Mary Dielmann continued to live at the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> and D streets (later Fuller Street and Middlefield Road) from the 1890s until John Dielmann died on August 17, 1928.<sup>15</sup> The 1920 Census records them at 544 Webster Street, the property's address at that time.<sup>16</sup> In 1920, the Dielmann household consisted of John (age 67), Mary (age 60), and John's niece, Etta Lou Millard (age 22), a schoolteacher.<sup>17</sup> The Dielmann House appears on the 1919 Sanborn maps a year before the Census was undertaken. The maps show no changes to the house since 1897 aside from the conversion of the stable at the rear of the lot into an ancillary dwelling (**Figure 5**).

In contrast, the 1919 Sanborn maps show a lot of changes in the surrounding neighborhood. In 1916, the Tacoma Mill Company had closed and the site had been cleared for a mixture of new residential and commercial development, including a large gas tank owned by PG & E. Meanwhile, the six blocks later bounded by Fuller, Washington, Marshall, and Winslow Streets remained largely residential, though most of the remaining vacant lots had been infilled with new houses. California Square remained a public park on the block. Closer to Broadway (formerly A Street) the character of development was quite different, with the new San Mateo County Courthouse occupying the entire block bounded by Marshall, Webster, Broadway, and Hamilton streets. By 1919, most of the remaining pioneer dwellings on Broadway had been replaced by commercial blocks, banks, and the Sequoia Theater.

Mary Dielmann continued to live at 505 Middlefield Road, the property's address after 1934, for another three decades following her husband's death. Both the 1930 and 1940 Censuses record her as the sole occupant of the property.<sup>18</sup> The 1950 Sanborn maps illustrate the Dielmann House as it appeared while Mary lived there. Aside from the street address the maps show no changes to the property since 1919 (**Figure 6**). In 1953, eight years prior to her death, Mary Dielmann gave 505 Middlefield Road to her only child, John H. Dielmann.<sup>19</sup> In 1959, Mary Dielmann celebrated her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday at the Haven Rest Home in Menlo Park, several months after breaking her hip at home. Up until the accident she had been living at 505 Middlefield Road.<sup>20</sup> Over the next few years local newspapers reported on Mrs. Dielmann's 100<sup>th</sup>, 101<sup>st</sup>, and 102<sup>nd</sup> birthdays, acknowledging her as one of San Mateo County's oldest residents. Mary

<sup>15</sup> California Death Index, 1905-39.

<sup>16</sup> The address of the Dielmann House has changed several times since it was built. From circa 1892 until circa 1900, the house did not have a formal street address aside from its location at the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> and D streets. From circa 1900 until about 1910, the address was 310 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, and from circa 1910 until around 1930 the address was 544 Webster Street. By the early 1930s it was 505 Middlefield Road, an address that it retained until it was moved to 1020 Main Street in 1978.

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 1920 Census, Town of Redwood City, Enumeration District 79, Sheet 16A.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 1930 and 1940 Census, Town of Redwood City.

<sup>19</sup> San Mateo County Recorder's Office, Deed Book 2438, Page 310.

<sup>20</sup> "Mrs. Dielmann Notes 99<sup>th</sup> Birthday Today," *Redwood City Tribune* (1959).

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Dielmann died of an unidentified illness on August 31, 1961 at the age of 102. She was buried at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Glendale, California, alongside her husband John.<sup>21</sup>

### **The Dielmann House: 1961-1971**

In 1959, not long after his mother moved out, John H. Dielmann sold the property to Charles R. and Jean Long.<sup>22</sup> Not much is known about the Longs aside from the fact that Charles was an engineer. It is not known whether they lived at 505 Middlefield Road or if they rented it out. The Longs owned the property for a little over a decade, selling it to Dorothy Pearson on April 30, 1971. That same day, Pearson sold the property to the San Mateo County Employees' Credit Union.<sup>23</sup> It was part of a transaction in which the San Mateo Credit Union purchased three adjoining properties on the east side of Middlefield Road, including the Dielmann House and its two neighbors to the south. All three properties contained houses that were converted into offices for social service agencies. During the early 1970s, the Dielmann House housed the Service League of San Mateo County, an organization that assisted families of inmates incarcerated in the nearby San Mateo County Jail.<sup>24</sup>

### **Downtown Redwood City: 1961-1980**

During the post-World War II era, the neighborhood surrounding the Dielmann House changed drastically. Though Redwood City's population had increased significantly after the war, growing from 12,400 in 1940, to 25,000 in 1950, and 46,300 in 1960, most of this growth occurred south and west of El Camino Real. Most of the newcomers shopped and dined at the many new shopping centers opening in the new suburban tracts, thereby draining the city's aging downtown of its economic vitality. Seeking to arrest the decline, in 1964, city planners proposed to demolish nearly every building in downtown Redwood City, including the San Mateo County Courthouse, and replace them all with modern department stores and high-rise office buildings occupying large superblocks.<sup>25</sup>

Though this redevelopment project never got off the ground, the County Civic Center did expand into the formerly residential area north of Broadway. California Square was one of the first victims. Originally donated by Simon Mezes to the people of Redwood City in 1854, in 1958, California Square was replaced by an eight-story building housing the San Mateo County Hall of Records and the Hall of Justice.<sup>26</sup> The Civic Center eventually expanded northward to Veterans Boulevard (formerly the Old Bayshore Highway) and eastward to Middlefield Road. On the blocks not directly affected by Civic Center expansion, new office buildings housing law

<sup>21</sup> "Woman Succumbs at 102," *Redwood City Tribune* (September 1, 1961).

<sup>22</sup> San Mateo County Recorder's Office, Deed Book 3688, Page 207.

<sup>23</sup> San Mateo County Recorder's Office, Deed Book 5934, Pages 474-5.

<sup>24</sup> Redwood City Historic Resources Inventory.

<sup>25</sup> City of Redwood City, "Cultural and Historic Resources," *Redwood City Downtown Precise Plan Draft EIR* (August 24, 2010), 7-6.

<sup>26</sup> Archives Committee of the Redwood City Public Library, *Redwood City: A Hometown History* (Belmont, CA: Star Publishing Co.), 101.

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offices and bail bondsmen and surface parking lots replaced nearly every dwelling within the area bounded by Fuller Street to the north, Jefferson Avenue to the east, Broadway to the south, and Winslow Street to the west. Today there are only three nineteenth century dwellings left in this area, including the National Folk Style house at 620 Jefferson Avenue that was possibly built as workers' housing for employees of Hanson Lumber Mill Company, a circa 1895 Queen Anne cottage at 611 Middlefield Road, and the impressive 1863 "Steamboat Gothic"-style Lathrop House at 627 Hamilton Street. The Lathrop House was saved from demolition by preservationists and subsequently restored as a house museum operated by the Redwood City Heritage Association. Aside from these three properties, as well as the Dielmann House and its neighbor the Offerman House, at 1018-20 Main Street, there are no other nineteenth century dwellings left in downtown Redwood City.

### **Dielmann House: 1971-2015**

From 1971 until 1978, the Dielmann House was home to the Service League of San Mateo County. In 1978, the San Mateo County Employees' Credit Union decided to clear the three contiguous lots it owned at the southeast corner of Fuller Street and Middlefield Road and construct a new office building. When Gladys Woodhams, one of the founders of the Redwood City Heritage Association, found out about the planned demolition of the Dielmann House she convinced the San Mateo County Employees' Credit Union to sell it to her, with the proviso that it be moved off the property. In November 1978, Gladys and her husband Clifton Woodhams moved the cottage from 505 Middlefield Road to 1020 Main Street, just south of the Offerman House, a pioneer-era dwelling that the Woodhamses had bought in 1974.<sup>27</sup>

The Woodhamses hired the San Francisco-based architecture firm of William R. Mahar Jr., AIA, to oversee the relocation that included building a new concrete perimeter foundation and repairing and repainting the exterior of the house. In 1986, the Woodhamses, with the assistance of their grandson Hans Saier, rehabilitated the first floor of the Dielmann House as a restaurant and converted the unfinished attic into an apartment. The alterations resulted in the addition of a dormer on the west side of the roof and a new entry porch on the north façade. Aside from those two changes, the exterior was unaltered, as indicated by a photograph taken of the property when it was located on Middlefield Road (**Figure 7**).<sup>28</sup>

### **Significance**

The Dielmann House embodies the characteristics of a middle-class dwelling constructed for an upwardly mobile member of the city's growing merchant class in late nineteenth century Redwood City. During Redwood City's pioneer period most people lived in unsophisticated redwood-plank-frame dwellings. Though some of these houses displayed some characteristics of the contemporary Greek Revival style, most were little more than basic shelter. Following Redwood City's designation as San Mateo County's county seat in 1856 and its incorporation in

<sup>27</sup> "Bit of Redwood City History Goes Rolling Down the Road," *Redwood City Tribune* (November 12, 1978).

<sup>28</sup> Email correspondence with Judith Collas, March 3, 2015.

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1868, the community began to lose some of its roughness, especially as merchants and families began moving to the prosperous town. Initially dependent on lumber milling and shipping, as well as other extractive industries, Redwood City evolved into a middle-class commercial town in the 1870s and 1880s. The newcomers built houses for themselves and their families in the newly opened Eastern Addition and Diller's Addition tracts, as well as the undeveloped blocks north of A Street (later Broadway). In contrast to the humble dwellings of the pioneer period, the houses built by members of Redwood City's merchant and professional classes in the 1870s, 1880s, and 1890s, reflected the newly popular Stick/Eastlake and Queen Anne styles, or sometimes a blend of both.

The Dielmann House represents the distinctive characteristics of a type (Queen Anne cottage), period (1890s), and region (California). Though the Queen Anne style was an internationally popular style, the way it was interpreted in California was quite distinctive and different from how it was rendered in the older states of the Northeast and the Midwest. Reasons behind California's unique Victorian-era architecture are many, but the most important factors appear to be related to California's mild climate, the local abundance of redwood, and a budding sense of regional identity.

### ***Climate***

In regard to climate, most of coastal California does not record any significant snowfall. Nor does most of the state endure an annual freeze-thaw cycle. These factors reduce the need for expensive weather-tight construction. Such economies allowed for lighter-weight construction and the reallocation of a larger percentage of a construction budget toward ornament and other frills. In colder and wetter climates applied wooden ornament is vulnerable to the elements, particularly the freeze-thaw cycle. This is not the case in most of California, thereby encouraging its use. California's climate had other impacts on residential design and construction. Long periods of hot weather in inland areas inspired builders to raise dwellings above the ground by a few feet to allow air to circulate beneath the main living space. Builders also often incorporated steeply pitched hipped or pyramidal roofs to allow warm air to rise up into the attic. Finally, broad porches were often built across the front and along the back of many Victorian houses in California. Though not so common in chilly San Francisco, many Victorian-era dwellings built in the East Bay and the Peninsula have outdoor porches for sitting and sometimes sleeping. Though only partly related to climate, another architectural element widely adopted in Victorian housing in California was the angled bay window. Widely used in San Francisco to maximize square footage in tight urban areas and to throw light into dark interiors, the bay window was also commonly used in suburban and rural areas.

### ***Materials***

In regard to materials, brick was never very popular in California, where useable clay and lime (for mortar) were scarce and earthquakes common. Wood balloon framing became by far the most popular method of construction for most buildings in California early on during the

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American period. Throughout the nineteenth and much of the twentieth century, redwood was the dominant type of wood use. Flexible, nearly rot-proof, and once-abundant, redwood was the perfect construction material because it could be easily stamped, sawn, and turned into a variety of architectural elements at relatively low cost. Local lumber companies published catalogues containing hundreds of architectural elements, including posts, doors, door and window trim, moldings, frieze panels, brackets, fireplace mantels, and other features that could be purchased off the shelf or custom fabricated for a particular construction job. Because it was so versatile, abundant, and cheap, redwood made the heavily ornamented Victorian-era domestic architecture of California possible.

### ***Regional Identity***

Regarding regional identity, nearly all residents aside from the Native Americans and locally born Californios were transplants from Europe or the eastern states during the Victorian era. Located far from the centers of power and taste on the East Coast, and without a dominant culture to assimilate into, California's residents developed their own distinctive regional identity out of a *mélange* of cultural influences. California's regional identity and culture were expressed in many areas, including literature, painting, cooking, and the built environment. Though California's domestic architecture was derivative of both East Coast and English sources, many distinctive California touches were incorporated into the popular styles, including the Stick/Eastlake, also known as "San Francisco Stick," and the Queen Anne styles. In addition to the sheer profusion of millwork made possible by the state's mild climate and abundant redwood, Californians liked certain "artistic" touches on their houses, such as sunburst and oak tree panels. Art glass ornament often depicted local flora and fauna such as oak trees, brown bears, mountains, oceans, redwoods, and other distinctive elements of California's majestic scenery. The Dielmann House incorporates several of these features, including a sunburst and an oak tree panel on the primary façade.

### **Criterion Consideration B**

The Dielmann House was moved from 505 Middlefield Road to 1020 Main Street in 1978. The move, though it saved the house from demolition, altered its setting. The nomination satisfies Criterion Consideration B: Moved Properties because it is still eligible under Criterion C and retains enough historic features to convey its architectural values and retain integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Though the setting has changed since the move, in the vicinity of another Victorian era house and with landscaping that blurs the commercial/retail environment, the house appears much as it did in its original location.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Karl A. Vollmayer Local History Room, Redwood City Public Library; San Mateo County History Museum; San Mateo County Recorder's Office; Redwood City Planning Department

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** 4063-0011-0000

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreege of Property** Less than one acre

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 37.483753

Longitude: -122.226461

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundaries include the northerly 43'-4" of Lot 42 as shown on San Mateo County Assessor's Map 53-13 (**Location Map 1**), being approximately the southerly half of Assessor Parcel Number 053-137-020.

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**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries include only the Dielmann House and its adjoining landscaping at 1020 Main Street; it does not include the northern half of Assessor Parcel Number 053-137-020 or the Offerman House at 1018 Main Street, Redwood City.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Christopher P. VerPlanck  
organization: VerPlanck Historic Preservation Consulting  
street & number: 57 Post Street, Suite 512  
city or town: San Francisco state: California zip code: 94104  
e-mail: chris@verplanckconsulting.com  
telephone: (415) 391-7486  
date: March 2015

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

**Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

**Photograph Log**

Name of Property:	Dielmann, John, House
City:	Redwood City
County:	San Mateo
State:	California
Name of Photographer:	Christopher VerPlanck
Date of Photographs:	January 29, 2015
Location of Original Digital Files:	57 Post Street, Suite 512, San Francisco, CA 94104
Number of Photographs:	11

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CA\_San Mateo County\_John Dielmann House\_0001  
Setting, camera facing west

CA\_San Mateo County\_John Dielmann House\_0002  
East Façade, camera facing west

CA\_San Mateo County\_John Dielmann House\_0003  
Bay window and gable detail, camera facing west

CA\_San Mateo County\_John Dielmann House\_0004  
Entrance detail, camera facing west

CA\_San Mateo County\_John Dielmann House\_0005  
Porch detail, camera facing north

CA\_San Mateo County\_John Dielmann House\_0006  
Bracket detail, camera facing northwest

CA\_San Mateo County\_John Dielmann House\_0007  
North façade, camera facing southeast

CA\_San Mateo County\_John Dielmann House\_0008  
Window and frieze detail, camera facing south

CA\_San Mateo County\_John Dielmann House\_0009  
West façade, camera facing southeast

CA\_San Mateo County\_John Dielmann House\_0010  
Interior of parlor, camera facing west

CA\_San Mateo County\_John Dielmann House\_0011  
Interior of hall, camera facing east

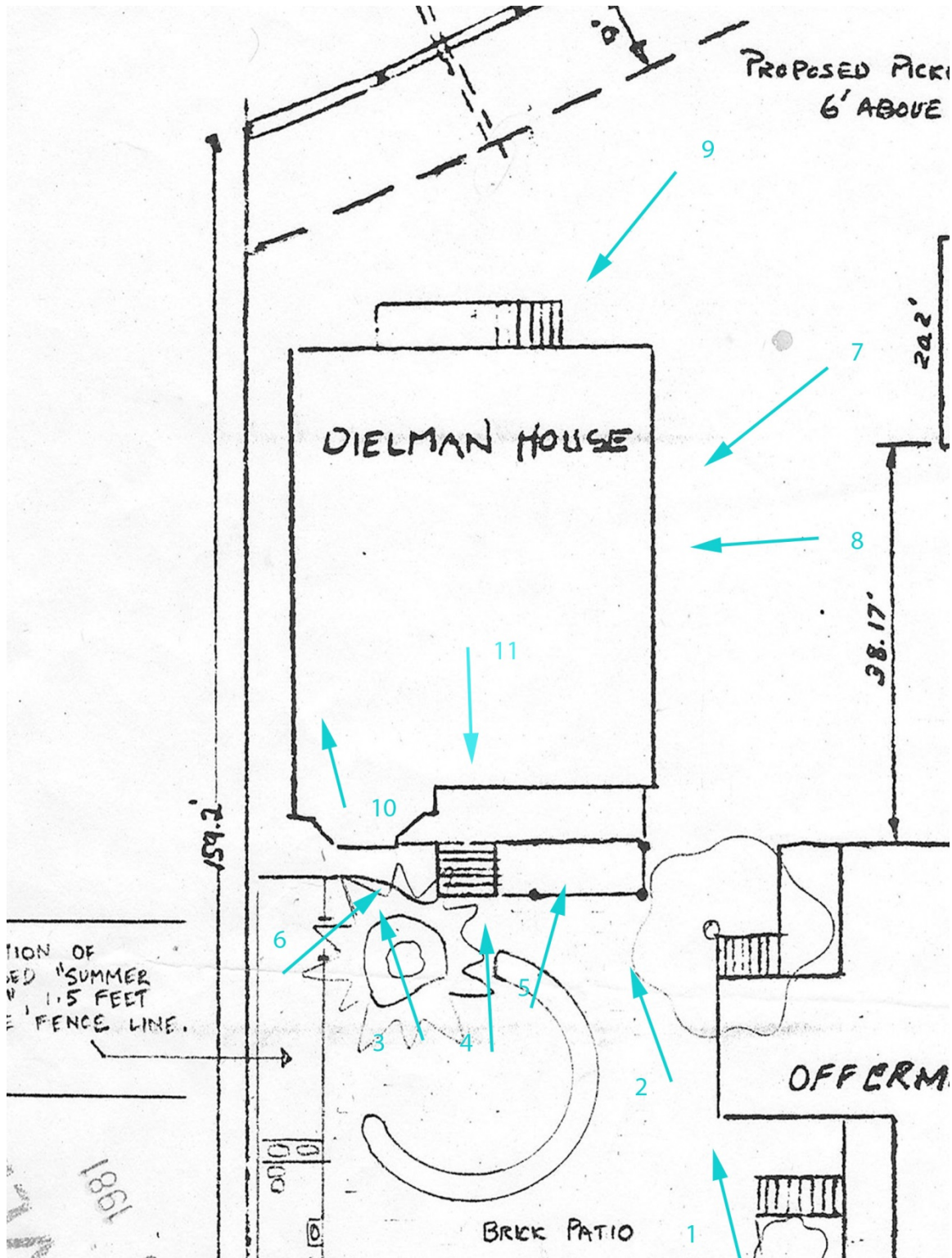
**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Dielmann, John, House  
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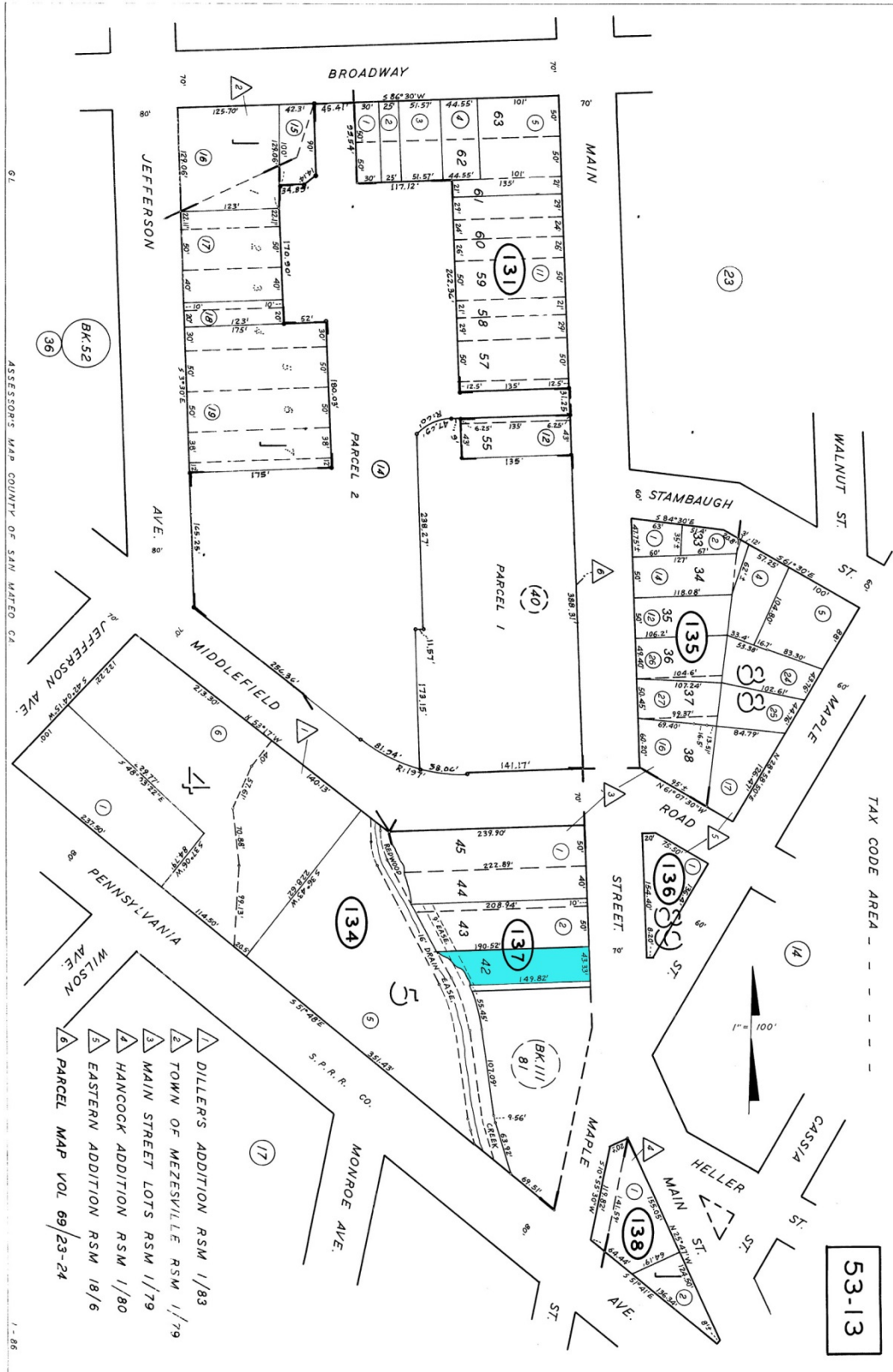
Photo Key



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**Location Map 1 Assessor Parcel Map showing location of 1020 Main Street, Redwood City**  
**Source: San Mateo County Office of the Assessor-Recorder**



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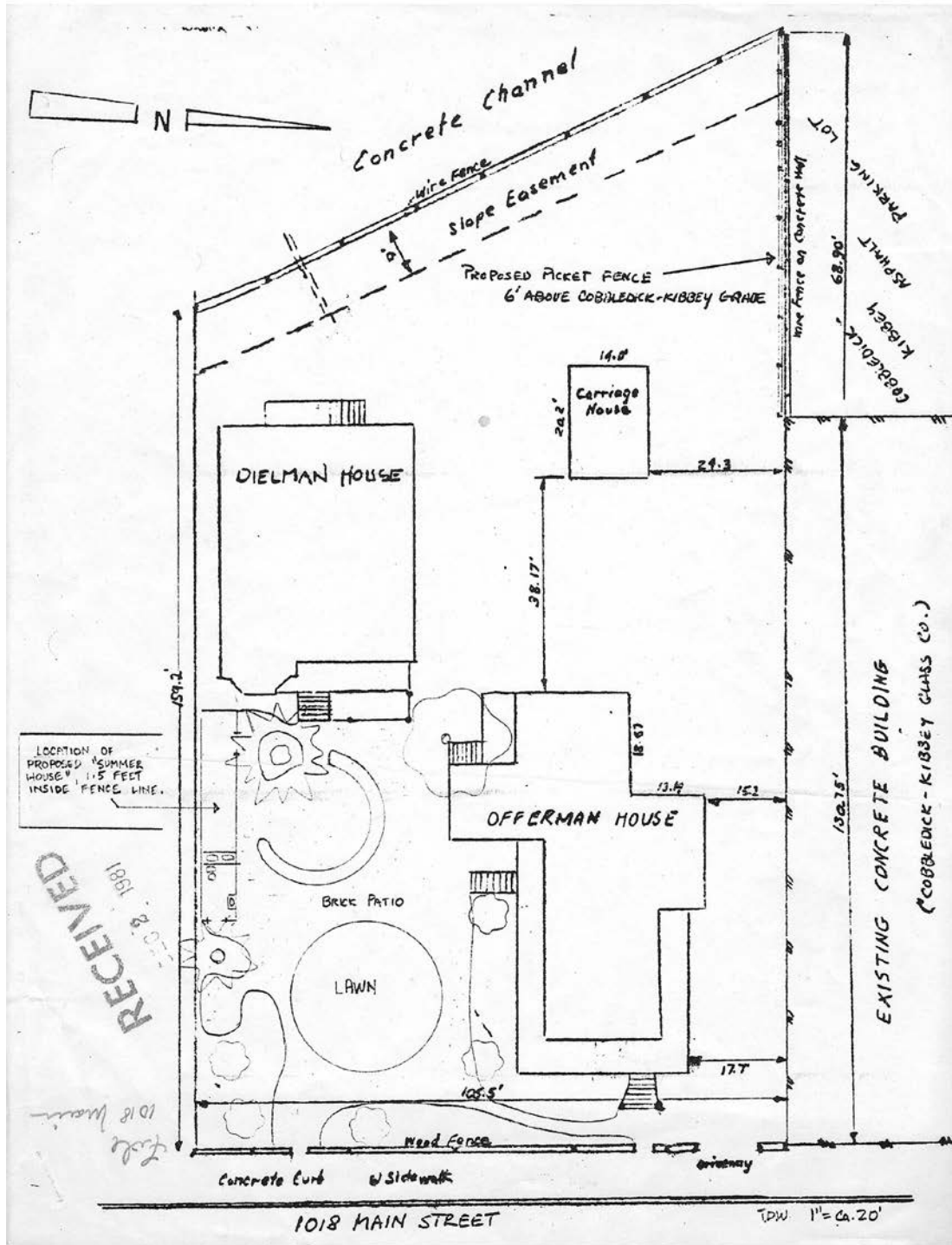
**Location Map 2: Annotated Aerial Photograph of 1020 Main Street, Redwood City**  
Source: Bing.com, annotated by Christopher VerPlanck



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Sketch Map: Sketch Plan of 1018-20 Main Street, Redwood City, circa 1978.<sup>29</sup>  
Source: Collection of Judith Collas



<sup>29</sup> Note: Carriage house on sketch plan not extant in 2015.

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**Additional Information: Historic Maps and Photographs**

**Figure 1. Postcard Row in San Francisco, 2012**

Courtesy Raed Al-Jawad, photographer, <https://mycamerajournal.wordpress.com>





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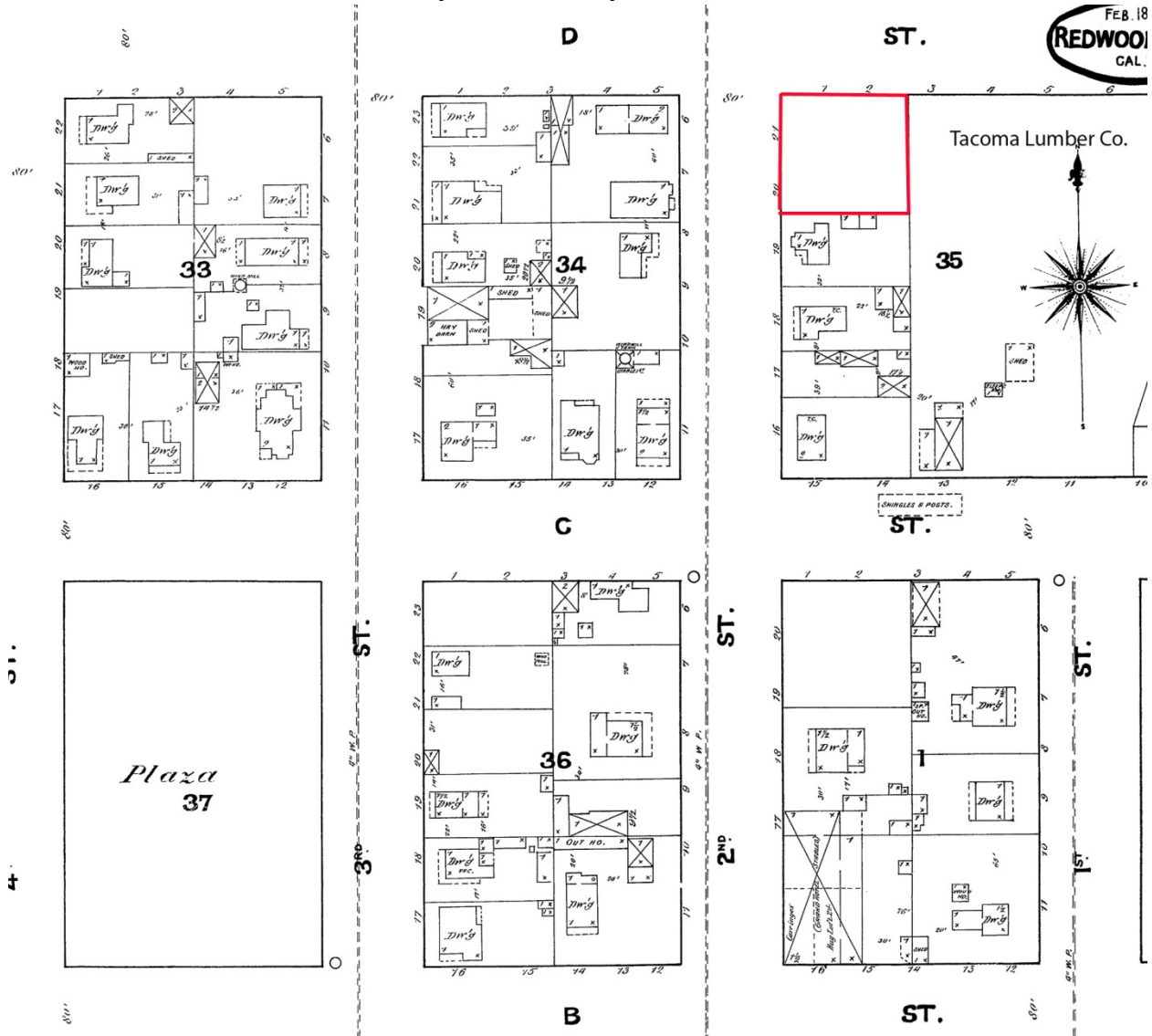
**Figure 2. 1854 Map of Redwood City with original location of Dielmann property outlined**  
Source: San Mateo History Museum Archives



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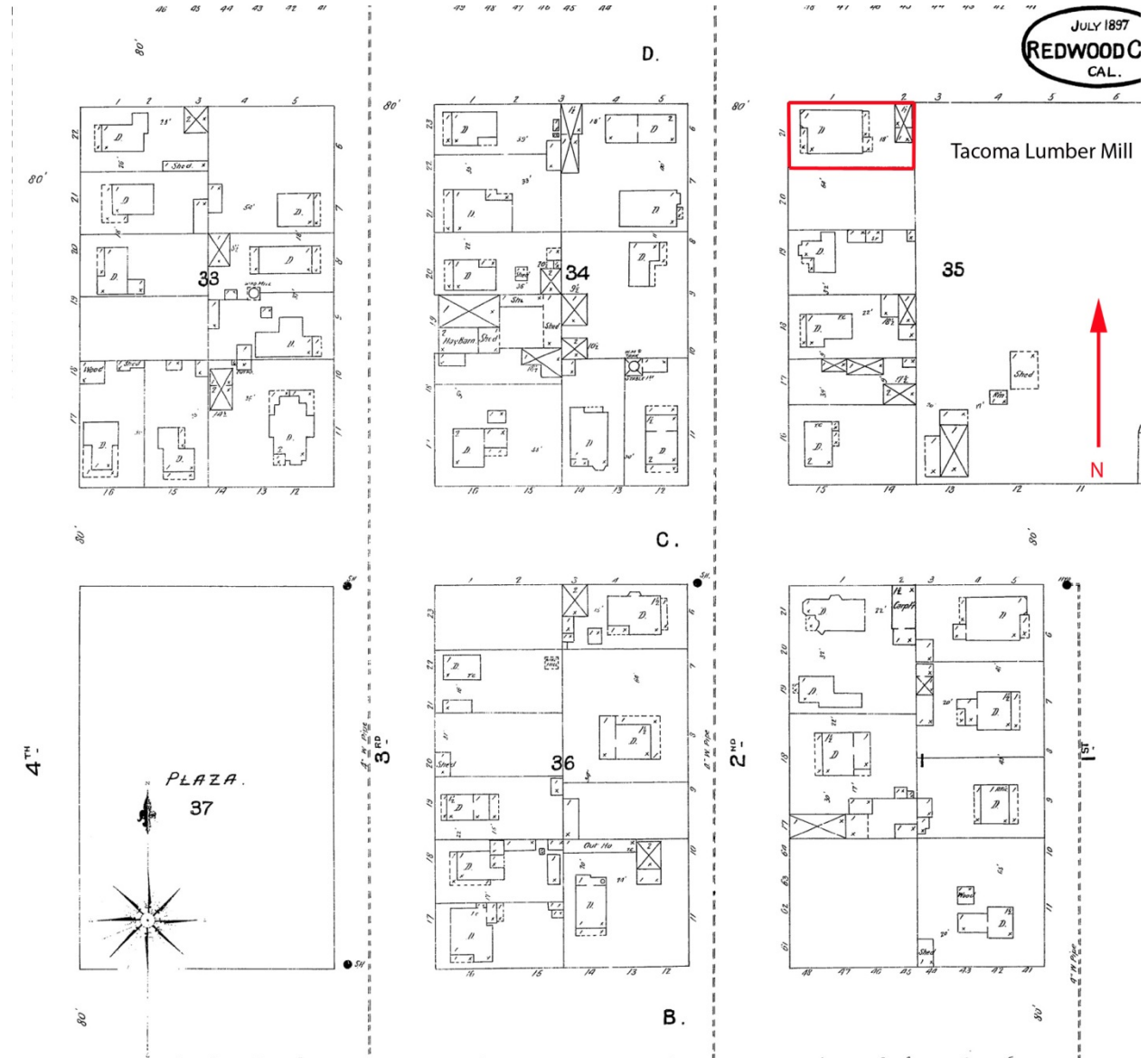
**Figure 3. 1891 Sanborn Map of Redwood City with Dielmann property outlined in red**  
Source: Redwood City Public Library



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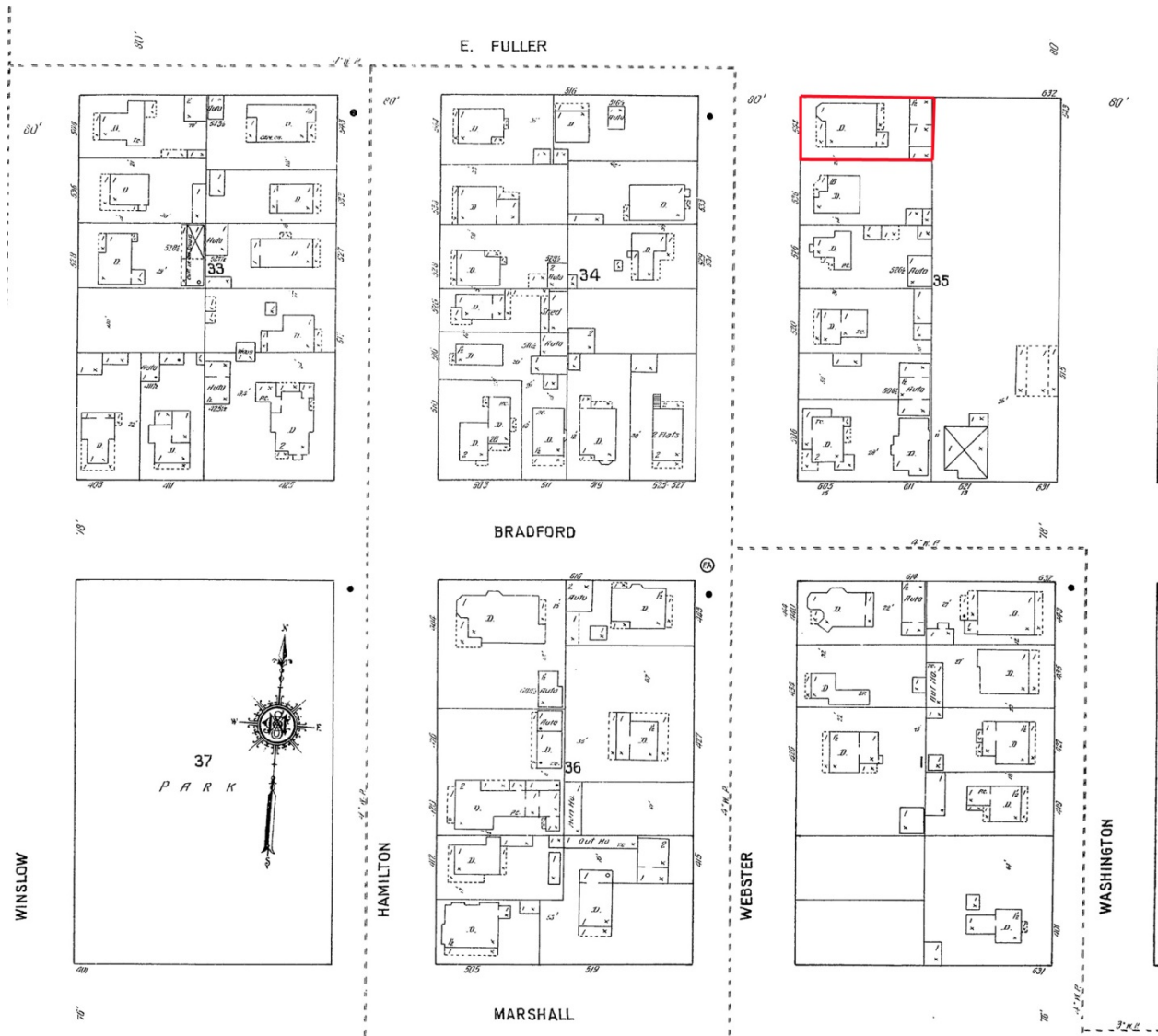
**Figure 4. 1897 Sanborn Map of Redwood City with Dielmann property outlined in red**  
Source: Redwood City Public Library



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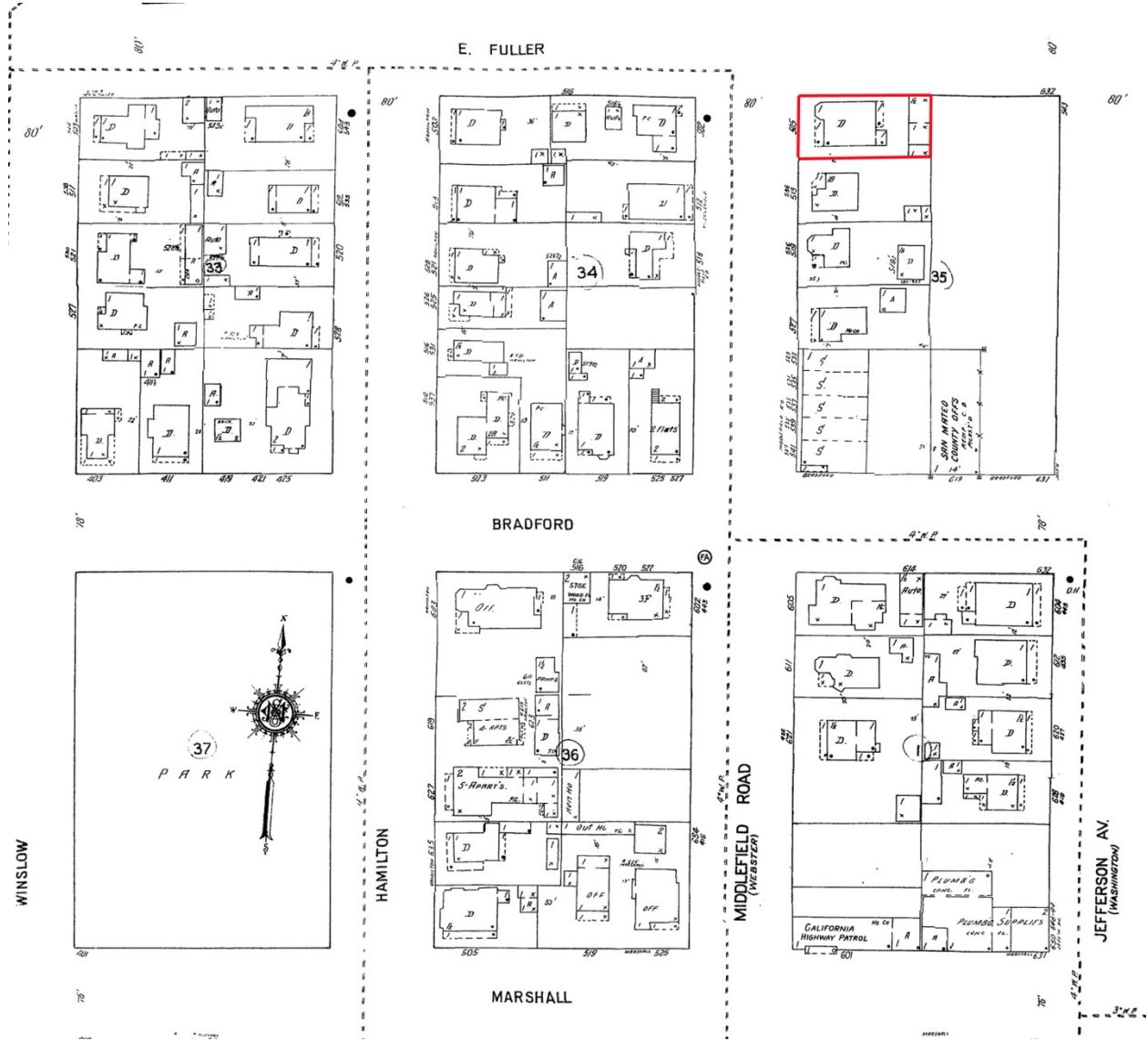
**Figure 5. 1919 Sanborn Map of Redwood City with Dielmann property outlined in red**  
Source: Redwood City Public Library



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Figure 6. 1950 Sanborn Map of Redwood City with Dielmann property outlined in red  
Source: Redwood City Public Library



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**Figure 7. Photograph of the Dielmann House at 505 Middlefield Road, circa 1975  
Source: Karl A. Vollmayer Local History Room, Redwood City Public Library**

