

Ser. No. 0023-03R
HABS _____ HAER _____ NR 3 _____ SHL _____ Loc _____
UTM: A 10/712900/3906060B _____
C _____ D _____

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Kimball Home
2. Historic name: Fitzgerald Home
3. Street or rural address: 794 Buchon Street
City San Luis Obispo Zip 93401 County San Luis Obispo
4. Parcel number: 03-535-07
5. Present Owner: Kimball, F.C., et al. Address: 794 Buchon
City San Luis Obispo Zip 93401 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Residential Original use: Residential

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Italianate Villa with Classic Revival overtones
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical description* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

This two-story structure resting on a raised foundation is rectangular having a large addition at the back of the house. The slow pitched composition shingle roof has brackets. The exterior siding is shiplap. The open porch extends halfway across the house with an entrance way at the left. Two columns support the porch roof with a low railing. Two large fixed windows are on each side of the door. The top quarter contains three lights. On the left side rear is the driveway and garage. The front and right side wall is granite.



8. Construction date: Estimated 1902 Factual _____
9. Architect Unknown
W.W. Goodrich, Architect
SOPT
10. Builder J.A. Maino
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage 205' Depth 115'
or approx. acreage _____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
December 1982

13. Condition: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated No longer in existence
14. Alterations: _____
15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land Scattered buildings Densely built-up
Residential Industrial Commercial Other: _____
16. Threats to site: None known Private development Zoning Vandalism
Public Works project Other: _____
17. Is the structure: On its original site? Yes Moved? Unknown?
18. Related features: _____

SIGNIFICANCE

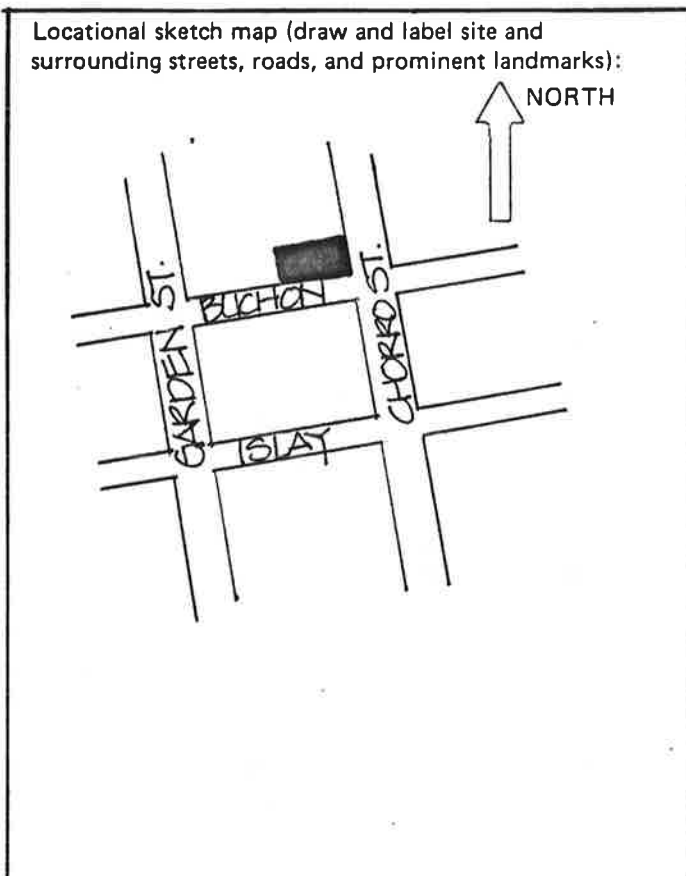
19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

This house is one of the very few surviving examples of a two story Italianate house in San Luis Obispo which existed in the late 1800's through 1900. Illustrative of the two story Italianate Villa, the house features curved brackets, a low pitched hipped roof, boxed cornice, ship-lap siding and a balustraded balcony. It was built circa 1902 by Joseph Maino for A.F. Fitzgerald. Maino, a native of Italy, became one of the foremost builders in the area after 1881 and his descendants continue to be active in real estate and construction in the county today. Born in Ireland, Fitzgerald came to San Luis Obispo in 1887. In 1889, he opened a real estate office as well as an insurance and loans business. Fitzgerald, a president of the San Luis Brick Co., was also involved with several local oil companies. In addition, he was a president of the Chamber of Commerce and active in the founding of Cal Poly State University.

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)
- Architecture 1 Arts & Leisure _____
Economic/Industrial 3 Exploration/Settlement _____
Government _____ Military _____
Religion _____ Social/Education 2

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).
- History of San Luis Obispo County by Myron Angel
"Heritage Walking Tour" (OTNA)

22. Date form prepared JUN 17 1983
By (name) Historic Res. Survey Staff
Organization City of San Luis Obispo
Address: P.O. Box 321
City San Luis Obispo Zip 93401
Phone: (805) 541-1000





FITZGERALD/KIMBALL HOUSE, 794 BUCHON STREET, c. 1902. At the same time Jacob Crocker was building his home in 1901, A.F. Fitzgerald built a two-story Italianate home across the street on the northwest corner of Buchon and Chorro. Fitzgerald owned several successful downtown businesses, served as the president of the chamber of commerce, and helped found California Polytechnic School (later to become California Polytechnic State University) in San Luis Obispo. In later years, Mayor Fred Kimball—who defeated longstanding Mayor Louis Sinsheimer—lived here. (Courtesy of the Swift Collection.)

Source: Janet Penn Franks, *Images of America: San Luis Obispo: A History in Architecture* (2004)