

PRIMARY RECORD

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

Other Listings _____
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

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Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) 949 Scott Street

P1. Other Identifier: _____

*P2. Location: ☐ Not for Publication ☒ Unrestricted

*a. County Santa Clara

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Palo Alto, CA

Date 2023

*c. Address 949 Scott Street

City Palo Alto

Zip 94301

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

*e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number 120-17-074

***P3a. Description:** (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)
949 Scott Street is located on a 30' x 50' lot on the northeast side of Scott Street, between Addison and Channing avenues. Built in 1922, 949 Scott Street is a one-story residence designed in a simple Craftsman style. The rectangular-plan house, clad in stucco, sits on a concrete foundation, and is capped by an asphalt shingle hipped roof. The primary façade faces southwest. Fenestration consists of multi-lite wood windows with wood sills. The primary facade terminates in a hipped roof with a slight overhang. The house is set back in a small yard with a stone walkway enclosed by a wood picket fence.

The house appears to be in good condition.

Southwest (Primary) Façade

The southwest (primary) façade fronts Scott Street. The façade is symmetrical, containing a pair of fixed 12- lite wood windows on either side of the primary entrance (**Figure 2 and Figure 3**). At the center of the façade is a glazed 12- lite wood door behind a wood storm door, under an extended roof overhang, supported by two paneled square wood columns and accessible by concrete steps. Above the front door within the roof line is a three-pane wood dormer window capped by a hipped roof.

(Continued on page 2)

*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP2: Single Family Residence

*P4. Resources Present: ☒ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Object ☐ Site ☐ District ☐ Element of District ☐ Other

P5a. Photo



P5b. Photo: (view and date)

Southwest (Primary) Façade

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources: ☒ Historic ☐ Prehistoric ☐ Both
January 1922. Permit Card

*P7. Owner and Address:

Simon and Shamim Tong
949 Scott Street
Palo Alto, CA 94301

*P8. Recorded by:
Page & Turnbull, Inc.
170 Maiden Lane, 5th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94108

*P9. Date Recorded:
March 13, 2023

*P10. Survey Type: Intensive

*P11. Report Citation: None

*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)

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***P3a. Description (Continued)**



Figure 1: Aerial view of 949 Scott Street. Subject property outlined in red. Google Maps, 2023.



Figure 2: North half of southwest facade.



Figure 3: South half of southwest facade.

Northwest Façade

The northwest façade fronts a narrow gravel pathway and a concrete property wall, accessible by a wood picket gate to the south. The north (left) side includes two double-hung wood windows (**Figure 4**). At the center of the façade is a six-over-one double-hung wood window, slightly higher than the others on the façade plane. The south (right) side includes two double-hung wood windows (**Figure 5**).

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Figure 4: Northwest facade, looking southeast.



Figure 5: Northwest facade, looking northeast.

Northeast Façade

The northeast (rear) façade fronts a narrow graveled space next to a concrete property wall. The east (left) side has two concrete steps leading up a 10-lite wood door behind a screen door (**Figure 6**). A small rectangular wood vent sits west of the door. At the center of the façade is projecting vinyl garden window (**Figure 7**). The west (right) side has a projecting wood shed and a double-hung wood window (**Figure 8**).



Figure 6: Northeast facade, looking west.



Figure 7: Northeast facade, looking west.

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Figure 8: Northeast facade, looking east.

Southeast Façade

The southeast façade fronts a gravel walkway and tall hedge, accessible by a wood picket gate to the south. The south (left) corner of the façade contains a square nine-lite fixed wood window (**Figure 9**). The center has a second square nine-lite fixed wood window. Two double-hung wood windows sit on either side of a square fixed wood window. The rest of the north (right) portion of the façade contains no fenestration (**Figure 10**).



Figure 9: Southeast façade, looking northeast.



Figure 10: Southeast façade, looking southwest.

Surrounding Neighborhood

The immediate surrounding area is primarily residential. Scott Street dead-ends at small public park called Scott Park, which contains picnic tables, a half-court basketball court, a bocce ball court, toddler swings, and lawn. The area showcases a mix of residential styles, including Craftsman, Contemporary, and Spanish Revival. The homes were built starting in 1902 to 2011 (**Figure 11-Figure 14**).

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Figure 11: 353 Addison Avenue.



Figure 12: 327 Addison Avenue.



Figure 13: 935 Scott Street.



Figure 14: 943 and 936 Scott Street.

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

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*NRHP Status Code 6Z

*Resource Name or # 949 Scott Street

B1. Historic name: _____

B2. Common name: 949 Scott Street

B3. Original Use: Residence

B4. Present use: Residence

*B5. Architectural Style: Craftsman

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

Prior to construction in 1922, the site was previously undeveloped. (Refer to continuation sheet, page 7)

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

*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: _____ Unknown b. Builder: _____ Unknown

*B10. Significance: Theme _____ N/A Area University South, Palo Alto

Period of Significance _____ N/A Property Type _____ Residential Applicable Criteria _____ N/A

Historic Context:

Palo Alto History

The earliest known settlement of the Palo Alto area was by the Ohlone people. The region was colonized in 1769 as part of Alta California. The Spanish and Mexican governments carved the area into large ranchos which contained portions of land that became Palo Alto including Rancho Corte Madera, Rancho Pastoria de las Borregas, Rancho Rincon de San Francisquito, and Rancho Riconada del Arroyo de San Francisquito.¹ These land grants were honored in the cession of California to the United States, but parcels were subdivided and sold throughout the nineteenth century. The current city of Palo Alto contains the former township of Mayfield, which was located just southwest of Alma Street. In 1882, railroad magnate and California politician Leland Stanford purchased 1,000 acres adjacent to Mayfield to add to his larger estate. Stanford's vast holdings became known as the Palo Alto Stock Farm. On March 9, 1885, Stanford University was founded on land of the Palo Alto Stock Farm through an endowment act by the California Assembly and Senate.

Originally looking to connect Stanford University as a part of the already established town of Mayfield, Stanford asked residents of Mayfield to make the town a temperance town. Their refusal in 1886 caused Stanford to found the town of Palo Alto with aid from his friend, Timothy Hopkins of the Southern Pacific Railroad. Hopkins purchased and subdivided 740 acres of private land, that was known initially as University Park (or the Hopkins Tract).² This land was bounded by the San Francisquito Creek to the north and the railroad tracks and Stanford University campus to the south. A new train stop was created along University Avenue and the new town flourished in its close connection with the university. University Park, under its new name of Palo Alto, was incorporated in 1894. (Refer to continuation sheet, page 9)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: N/A

*B12. References: Refer to footnotes

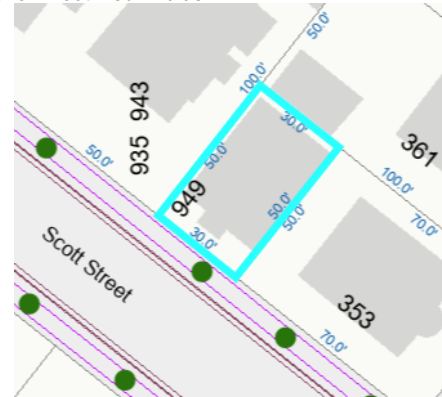
B13. Remarks: N/A

*B14. Evaluator: Page & Turnbull, Inc.

*Date of Evaluation: March 29, 2023

(This space reserved for official comments.)

Source: City of Palo Alto, Online Parcel Reports, 2023. Subject Parcel shown outlined in blue.



¹ Ward Winslow and the Palo Alto Historical Association, *Palo Alto: A Centennial History*, (Palo Alto: Palo Alto Historical Association, 1993), 12-17.

² City of Palo Alto, *Comprehensive Plan 2030* (adopted by City Council, November 13, 2017), 16, accessed January 2, 2019, <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62915>.

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***B6. Construction History (continued):**

949 Scott Street was constructed in 1922 as a residence in the University South Neighborhood. No known architect or contractor was identified in the course of historic research. The house is visible on a 1924 Sanborn Map then later in a 1941 aerial photo (**Figure 15 and Figure 16**). The footprint of the house has been the same from 1924 to present. The house was reroofed in 1979, first completed as an unpermitted project, but later corrected that same year. In 1983, a permit was issued to “rebuild fire damaged residence as was existing with new electrical service.” It is not explicitly stated what portion of the residence suffered the damage, and no photos of the house were found from this period. Given that the aerial photos from 1941 and present show the same footprint, as well as wood windows throughout each facade, it could be presumed that the fire damage was on the interior, or the house did not suffer much damage. Other interior improvements were made in 1998, according to permit records. Upon visual inspection, there do not appear to be unpermitted changes to the house.

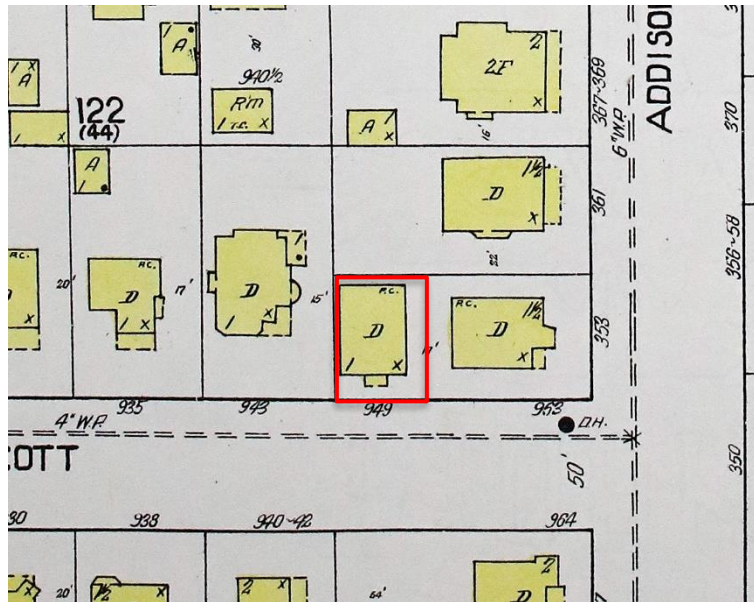


Figure 15: Sanborn Map Company Fire Insurance Map, 1924. 949 Scott Street outlined in red. Source: San Francisco Public Library.



Figure 16: Aerial photograph of 949 Scott Street, 1941. Subject property outlined in red. Flight C-7065, Frame 43. Source: University of Santa Barbara.

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The following table includes known construction and alterations undertaken at the subject property based on the permits on file at Palo Alto Development Services.

Permit #	Date	Owner	Architect/Contractor	Description
Unknown	6/6/1979	Dennis Lovett	Unknown	Reroof (noted that the roof was replaced without a permit in May 1979)
B-83-86	2/8/1983	Dennis Lovett	Keith Ahhen	Rebuild fire damaged residence as was existing with new electrical service
983815	12/17/1998	Jeanne Anne Breen	Unknown	Heater replaced. Built in shelves and mantel added on the interior

***B10. Significance:**

Historic Context (continued)

In its early years, Palo Alto was a temperance town where no alcohol could be served. The residents were mostly middle and working class, with a pocket of university professors clustered in the neighborhood deemed Professorville. The development of a local streetcar in 1906 and the interurban railway to San Jose in 1910 facilitated access to jobs outside the city. They also increased access to Stanford University and encouraged more people to move to Palo Alto.³ In July 1925, Mayfield was officially annexed and consolidated into the City of Palo Alto.⁴

Like the rest of the nation, Palo Alto suffered through the Great Depression in the 1930s and did not grow substantially. World War II brought an influx of military personnel and their families to the Peninsula; accordingly, Palo Alto saw rapid growth following the war as many families who had been stationed on the Peninsula by the military or who worked in associated industries chose to stay. Palo Alto's population more than doubled from 16,774 in 1940 to 33,753 in 1960.⁵

Palo Alto's city center greatly expanded in the late 1940s and 1950s, gathering parcels that would house new offices and light industrial uses and lead the city away from its "college town" reputation. Palo Alto annexed a vast area of mostly undeveloped land between 1959 and 1968. This area, west of the Foothill Expressway, has remained protected open space. Small annexations continued into the 1970s, contributing to the discontinuous footprint of the city today. Palo Alto remains closely tied to Stanford University; it is the largest employer in the city. The technology industry dominates other sectors of business, as is the case with most cities within Silicon Valley. Palo Alto consciously maintains its high proportion of open space to development and the suburban feeling and scale of its architecture.⁶

University South Neighborhood History

The current University South neighborhood was located in the southern portion of the original University Park track platted by Timothy Hopkins. It was the core part of the early city, along with today's Downtown North neighborhood (located northwest of University Avenue, the main commercial corridor within the original core of Palo Alto). The neighborhood contains the residential and commercial areas that lay southeast of University Avenue, although does not encompass Professorville, the residential neighborhood closely associated with early Stanford faculty members and their families. As a result, the neighborhood is U-shaped, bounded by University Avenue at the northwest, Alma Street and the railroad tracks at the south, and Middlefield Road at the northeast. The southeast boundary follows Embarcadero Road but steps northwest to Addison Avenue, so as to exclude Professorville.

The 1895 Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map illustrates that stores were located along University Avenue, and were particularly concentrated at its southwestern end, where a large lumberyard stood near the railroad. Residences were scattered along the street just east and west of University Avenue on Hamilton and Lytton Avenues. A few churches, hotels, and boarding houses also stood among many vacant lots. Contemporary newspapers called the homes that housed artisans and merchants in this area "neat cottages"—which stood in contrast to the houses occupied by Stanford faculty members, located to the southeast in what is today the Professorville neighborhood. Some grander homes for more affluent residents were sprinkled throughout the current-day University South neighborhood.⁷

³ Dames & Moore (Michael Corbett and Denise Bradley), *Final Survey Report – Palo Alto Historical Survey Update: August 1997-August 2000* prepared for the City of Palo Alto Planning Division (February 2001), 1-4.

⁴ City of Palo Alto, *Comprehensive Plan 2030*, 16.

⁵ "Depression, War, and the Population Boom," Palo Alto Medical Foundation - Sutter Health, accessed January 2, 2019, <http://www.pamf.org/about/pamfhistory/depression.html>.

⁶ City of Palo Alto, *Comprehensive Plan 2030*, 11-20.

⁷ Palo Alto AAUW, *...Gone Tomorrow? "Neat Cottages" and "Handsome Residences"* (Palo Alto: American Association of University Women, 1971, revised 1986) 5.

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By 1901, Palo Alto had grown, and the Sanborn map showed more than just the original core. Houses were filling in the lots on the blocks around the railroad while scattered residential development extended up to and beyond Middlefield Road. Additional institutions had been built in the area, including a public school and high school.

Ownership and Occupancy Summary

The following table outlines the ownership and occupancy history of 949 Scott Street. This information was compiled from Palo Alto City Directories, Santa Clara Assessor records, building permit applications, newspaper articles, and public records available through Ancestry.com.

Year of Occupancy	Known Occupants (known owners in bold)	Occupation
1924-1947	Elizabeth Fu Son Josephine Fu Son (1931-1947) Frances Sims (1924-1927)	Teacher Christian Science Practitioner Pastry Maker/Christian Science
1950	Vacant	
1953-1955	James H Swezy Isabel Swezy	Salesman
1961	Charles E. Stollenwerk Carolyn Stollenwerk	Engineer at Lockheed
1962	John J. Bosley	Psychologist
1965	William W. Bromund	Student
1969	Vacant	
1972	No Return	
1974	Cheryl Romner	Unknown
1976	Andrea Burris	Unknown
1979-1983	Dennis Lovett	Unknown
1984	Alan L. Svec Jennifer M. Svec	Unknown
1986	Robert Leon Baer	Technician
1993-1998	Jeanne Anne Heilig Breen Patrick R. Heilig James L. Heilig Jr. David Breen	Unknown
2012	Anita Coutts	Unknown
2023-Present	Simon Tong Shamim Tong	Unknown

Elizabeth Fu Son, Owner and Occupant 1924-1947

If an owner or occupant resided at 949 Scott Street from its construction in 1922 to 1924, that person is not documented in city directories.

Elizabeth Fu Son (spelled Fuson in the U.S. Census records of 1920, 1930, and 1940) lived at 949 Scott Street starting in 1924, according to Palo Alto city directories.⁸ Originally from Goshen, Indiana and born about 1871, she was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Presbyterian Church of Palo Alto.⁹ Elizabeth was a longtime teacher at Miss Harker's School and lived at the school (addressed 118 Greenwood Avenue) with Catherine Harker and other teacher/lodgers in 1920. She appears to have also owned a property in Goshen, Indiana, as she also appears in a 1920 U.S. Census there with her friend, Frances Sims.¹⁰ She lived at 949 Scott Street with Frances Sims from 1924 to 1927, then with her sister Josephine Fu Son from 1931 until 1947. Elizabeth Fu Son lived in the home until her death in 1947. Research did not find Elizabeth Fu Son significant to the overall development of Palo Alto.

⁸ Note: while the name Fu Son appears to potentially indicate an Asian surname, Ms. Fu Son was white according to U.S. Census records.

⁹ "Elizabeth Fu Son dies; funeral set for Monday," The Peninsula Times Tribune, July 5, 1947, Accessed March 7, 2023, https://www.newspapers.com/image/838649384/?article=0935b9d8-feb8-487d-8070-029a999e1046&focus=0.3694026,0.65429586,0.48802704,0.76918787&xid=3355&_gl=1*g9pkxt*_ga*MTU2MTA4MzQ1OC4xNjUyODkxMzA5*_ga_4QT8FMEX30*MTY3ODIyNjE5Mi4xNjUyODkxMzA5*_ga_B2YGR3SSMB*ODM4MzdkZTEtZGNjOC00MzZiLWExY2ltZTl4YTRmYTk1MjFkLjgwLjEuMTY3ODIyNjUyODkxMzA5*_ga=2.115031559.1615584679.1678220685-1561083458.1652891309.

¹⁰ U.S. Federal Census, 1920 for Elizabeth Fuson. Accessed March 27, 2023 from ancestry.com.

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All other owners and occupants lived at 949 Scott Street for a relatively short period of time.

Design of 949 Scott Street

949 Scott Street is designed in a simple Craftsman style, which was popular in California from the 1900s to the 1930s. The Craftsman style was utilized predominantly in residential properties and evolved from the English Arts and Crafts Movement and later, the work of innovative American architects working in the Midwest and California, in particular Frank Lloyd Wright and Greene & Greene. The style was strongly associated with the graphic designs and furnishings of William Morris and the architecture of M.H. Baillie Scott and Charles F. A. Voysey. *The Craftsman* magazine, published in America from 1901 to 1917, further disseminated the ideals of the Movement, such as anti-industrialism and emphasis on handcrafted products in North America. The Craftsman style took off in California during the first decade of the twentieth century in response to the work of Greene & Greene in Southern California and the Bay Area. Additional influences included Japanese architecture and the native-grown Bay Region Tradition of Northern California. Ranging from the elaborate one-off homes of the wealthy in Pasadena and the Berkeley hills to the rows of bungalows of Oakland, Los Angeles and San Jose, Craftsman dwellings are typically characterized low-pitched gabled roofs with wide, unenclosed eave overhangs, decorative beams or braces, tapered square columns or pedestals and extending porch elements. In Palo Alto, as in many contemporary smaller California communities, the Craftsman style is the dominant residential style present within many neighborhoods in the city. 949 Scott Street characteristics of Craftsman style include overhanging eaves, a centered dormer window, and a projecting porch supported by square columns.

Statement of Significance:

In order for a property to be considered eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register), the property must possess significance and retain integrity to convey that significance. The criteria for significance are:

Criterion 1 (Events): Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.

949 Scott Street does not appear to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register under Criterion 1 (Events), as the subject building does not appear to have contributed to the broad patterns of history in Palo Alto, the state, or the nation. The property was constructed in 1922 in the University South neighborhood of Palo Alto. At the time of the subject building's construction, the subdivision was one of several in the area undergoing increasing development and infill, and the property is not significant to the development of University South neighborhood. No significant events were known to have occurred at 949 Scott Street, such that it would be individually eligible under Criterion 1. The house at 949 Scott Street does not appear to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register under Criterion 1.

Criterion 2 (Persons): Associated with the lives of persons important to local, California or national history.

949 Scott Street does not appear to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register under Criterion 2 (Persons). Since its construction in 1922, the subject property has had one long term owner and many short-term owners and occupants. Elizabeth Fu Son owned and lived at 949 Scott Street from 1924 to 1947. Research was unable to uncover significant professional or personal achievements by Elizabeth Fu Son that would make the subject building individually eligible for listing on the California Register. Therefore, 949 Scott Street does not appear to be individually eligible for the California Register under Criterion 2 (Persons).

Criterion 3 (Architecture): Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values.

949 Scott Street does not appear to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register under Criterion 3 (Architecture). The residence was constructed in 1922 by an unknown architect or builder. The house was designed in a simple Craftsman style, which was common in the 1920s in Palo Alto. The design is without exposed rafters, patterned windowpanes, or other details often seen in the Craftsman style, and does not possess high artistic values. Therefore, 949 Scott Street does not appear to rise to a level of individual significance under Criterion 3. The property does not appear to be eligible as a contributor to a historic district, as the subject block features a variety of architectural styles. However, the evaluation of a potential district is outside the scope of this report. The house at 949 Scott Street does not appear to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register under Criterion 3.

Criterion 4 (Information Potential): Has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation.

The property at 949 Scott Street does not appear to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register under Criterion 4 as a building or property that has the potential to provide information important to the prehistory or history of the City of Palo Alto, state, or nation. It does not feature construction or material types, or embody engineering practices that would, with additional study, provide important information. Evaluation of this property was limited to age-eligible resources above ground and did not involve survey or evaluation of the subject property for the purposes of archaeological information.

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Conclusion

The property at 949 Scott Street does not appear to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources under any criteria. The California Historical Resource Status Code (CHRSC) of "6Z" has been assigned to the property, meaning "Found ineligible for National Register, California Register, or Local Designation through survey evaluation."¹¹

Resources

California State Office of Historic Preservation Department of Parks and Recreation. *Technical Assistance Bulletin #8: User's Guide to the California Historical Resource Status Codes & Historical Resource Inventory Directory*. Sacramento November 2004.

City of Palo Alto. *Comprehensive Plan 2030* (adopted by City Council, November 13, 2017). Accessed March 21, 2023. <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civicax/filebank/documents/62915>.

Dames & Moore (Michael Corbett and Denise Bradley). *Final Survey Report – Palo Alto Historical Survey Update: August 1997-August 2000*. Prepared for the City of Palo Alto Planning Division. February 2001.

"Depression, War, and the Population Boom." Palo Alto Medical Foundation - Sutter Health. Accessed March 21, 2023. <http://www.pamf.org/about/pamfhistory/depression.html>.

"Elizabeth Fu Son dies; funeral set for Monday." The Peninsula Times Tribune. July 5, 1947. Accessed March 7, 2023. https://www.newspapers.com/image/838649384/?article=0935b9d8-feb8-487d-8070-029a999e1046&focus=0.3694026,0.65429586,0.48802704,0.76918787&xid=3355&_gl=1*g9pkxt*_ga*MTU2MTA4MzQ1OC4xNjUyODkxMzA5*_ga_4QT8FMEX30*MTY3ODIyNjE5Mi4xNjAuMS4xNjc4MjI2NDMwLjYwLjAuMA..*_ga_B2YGR3SMB*ODM4MzdkZTEtZGNjOC00MzZILWExY2ItZTI4YTZRmYTk1MjFkLjgwLjEuMTY3ODIyNjQzMS42MC4wLjA.&_ga=2.115031559.1615584679.1678220685-1561083458.1652891309.

Palo Alto AAUW. ...*Gone Tomorrow? "Neat Cottages" and "Handsomeness Residences."* Palo Alto: American Association of University Women. 1971, revised 1986.

Palo Alto City Directories. 1920-2002. Ancestry.com.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. San Francisco Public Library.

The Peninsula Times Tribune. "Community Calendar." May 18, 1928. Accessed January 6, 2023. <https://www.newspapers.com/image/838344054/?terms=%22240%20Rinconada%20Avenue%22&match=1>.

United States Federal Census for 1920, 1930, 1940. Accessed March 27, 2023 from Ancestry.com.

Winslow, Ward and the Palo Alto Historical Association. *Palo Alto: A Centennial History*. Palo Alto Historical Association. 1993.

¹¹ California State Office of Historic Preservation Department of Parks and Recreation, *Technical Assistance Bulletin #8: User's Guide to the California Historical Resource Status Codes & Historical Resource Inventory Directory*, Sacramento, November 2004.