

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # _____

HRI # _____

Trinomial _____

NRHP Status Code _____

Other Listings _____

Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

Huntington Boulevard Historic District

Map Ref. #22

P1. Resource Name: The Clarence and Bessie Bernhauer Home

***P2. Location:** *a. County: Fresno

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno South, California (Photorevised 1981); Section 2,T14S R20E

c. Address: 3428 E. Huntington Boulevard, Fresno

d. Assessor's Parcel Number: 461-181-03

***P3a. Description:** This Italian Renaissance style home is a full two-stories and rigorously symmetrical. It faces north onto Huntington Boulevard on a .5 acre parcel, which once included tennis courts. The truncated ceramic tile hipped roof has wide overhanging eaves, a boxed cornice and decorative brackets. The front entrance is inset under a portico that is supported by three Ionic style columns on each side of the raised porch; fluted pilasters connect the porch to the house façade. The door is recessed and is heavy wood panel, flanked by leaded glass sidelights. The portico has a flat roof with a roof-top balustrade of wood. The ceiling of the porch is beaded wood tongue and groove and is painted a traditional light blue. The matching ribbon windows on the first story façade have a fixed central window with a leaded glass transom above, flanked by matching double hung sash windows; the upper sash of these side windows have true divided lights. Windows on the second story include a set of ribbon windows on each side which match the double hung sash windows on the first floor. A French door leads onto the portico deck roof and is flanked by double hung sash windows as described for the other locations. An external chimney is located on the east side of the home.

***P3b. Resource Attributes:** HP2 (Single Family Residence)

***P4. Resources Present:** ● Building ● Element of District



P5b Photo date: 9.17.09

***P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:** 1920, building permit

***P7. Owner and Address:**
Robirda and Paul Lyon
3428 E. Huntington Blvd.
Fresno, CA 93702-3222

***P8. Recorded by:**
Karana Hattersley-Drayton
Historic Preservation Project
Manager, City of Fresno

***P9. Date Recorded:** 10.9.09
and 6.28.13

***P10. Survey Type:** Intensive

***P11. Report Citation:** "Huntington Blvd. District Nomination to Fresno's Local Register of Historical Resources"

***Attachments:** ● District Record

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

*NRHP Status Code: 5B, 3CB

*Resource Name: The Clarence and Bessie Bernhauer Home

B3. Original Use: Single Family Residence

B4. Present Use: Single Family Residence

*B5. **Architectural Style:** Italian Renaissance Revival

*B6. **Construction History:** A permit for the house and garage was issued on November 28, 1919. A permit for an outbuilding (possibly a new garage) was granted on October 16, 1930. A permit for general repairs to the house and garage was issued on September 16, 1949.

*B7. **Moved?** No

*B8. **Related Features:** The home faces onto the former right-of-way for the Sunnyside and Recreation Lines. The dual track for the street car was removed in 1939 and the area is now a grassy median.

B9a. Architect: Unknown

B9b. Builder: Unknown

*B10. **Significance: Theme:** Streetcar Suburb **Area:** Alta Vista Tract/Huntington Blvd.

Period of Significance: 1919

Property Type: Residence **Applicable Criteria:** i, 1; ii, 2; iii, 3

Clarence Bernhauer was the Vice President of the Fresno Planing Mill, one of the most prosperous businesses of its kind in the San Joaquin Valley. Bernhauer was born in Rock Island, Illinois in 1886 and came to Fresno with his family as a young child. He entered a partnership with his father in farming and used \$3,000 of his profits to invest in the Mill which was organized by this brother, Arthur W. Bernhauer. He and his wife were prominent in civic affairs. The Bernhauer home is an elegant example of the Italian Renaissance Revival which was reintroduced for residential building in the late 19th century and closely replicated the *palazzi* of Northern Italy. The property appears to be eligible for both the California Register and Fresno's Local Register of Historic Resources for its association with the Bernhauer family (Criterion 2, ii, as an excellent example of an architectural style, The Italian Renaissance Revival (Criterion 3, iii) and as an early property and contributor to the proposed Huntington Blvd. Historic District (Criterion i)

*B12. **References:** 1919, 1948, 1963, 1968-70 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps; Building permits on file with the City of Fresno Planning Division; Draft Nomination forms for Huntington Boulevard, National Register of Historic Places (1994); Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, 2002; Garcia, Uvaldo. "History of the Alta Vista Tract and Huntington Boulevard: A Work of Albert Graves Wishon." Unpublished Ms. Prepared for History 100, Fresno State University, 13 May 2003; Personal communication, Robirda Lyon 17 September 2009; *Fresno County Blue Book*, 1941.

*B14. **Evaluator:** Karana Hattersley-Drayton, M.A.
Historic Preservation Project Manager
Fresno, CA

*Date of Evaluation: 1 August 2014

(This space reserved for official comments.)



*Recorded by: Karana Hattersley-Drayton

*Date: 28 June 2013

■ Continuation



Parlor, Bernhauer home 2009; façade windows and portico, 2009.