

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
PRIMARY RECORD

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

Other Listings _____
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

P1. Resource Name: Homer A. Allen Home

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

b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Photorevised 1981, T13S, R20E

c. Address: 548 N. Yosemite Avenue, Fresno 93728-3340

d. Assessor's Parcel Number: 452-273-03

***P3a. Description:** This distinctive home is a tour de force in masonry brick design and construction. Stylistically the home draws from the Mission Revival as well as the Arts and Crafts and Prairie aesthetic. In plan the home is two intersecting rectangles, with a one story volume facing the street and a two story addition offset on the southeast corner. Mission details include the flat roof on the one-story portion, Mission barrel roof tiles (of tin!) and visor (pent) roofs on the north, west and south elevations. Additionally, the one story has stout piers at each corner which extend above the roof and which have a coping of tan colored brick. Brick patterns include common bond, English bond as well as bricks laid in threes perpendicularly to one another to make an intricate pattern below the cornice line. The wide overhanging eaves are boxed with wood brackets both plain and decorative. The heavy wood and glass Mission-style front door is offset to the north and has sidelights of leaded glass in an Art Deco pattern with bulkheads of wood. Ribbon windows to the south of the front door include two 15/1 true divided sash windows flanking a 24/1 wood sash window in the center. Windows on the north elevation include a combination of double hung sash windows in 27/1, 12 and 9/1 lights. A stained glass window is located on the south elevation and is flanked by two 21/1 wood sash windows. The two story addition has a hipped roof of tiles and 1/1 double hung sash windows. A pergola style front porch is supported now by slender iron poles. A one car wood framed garage with front facing medium pitch gable roof is located on the northwest corner of the parcel.

***P3b. Resource Attributes:** HP2 (Single-family residence)

***P4. Resources Present:** ●Building



P5b Photo date: 2 September 2016

***P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:** 1915 building permit #2439

***P7. Owner and Address:**
Michael D. Leary and Wendy Lee Stanfield 548 N. Yosemite Avenue
Fresno, CA93728

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

***P9. Date Recorded:** 13 September 2016

***P10. Survey Type:** Intensive

***P11. Report Citation:** "Evaluation of the Homer A. Allen Home located at 548 N. Yosemite Avenue for the Local Register of Historic Resources"

***Attachments:** ●Building, Structure and Object Report ●Continuation Sheet

*Recorded by: Karana Hattersley-Drayton, M.A.

*Date: 13 September 2016

■ Continuation

**Windows on front porch, front door and stained
glass window on south elevation of front room**





Juncture of one story and two story addition; pier on southwest corner of façade; garage 13 September 2016.



BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

*NRHP Status Code: 5S2

*Resource Name: Homer A. Allen Home

B3. Original Use: Residential

B4. Present Use: Residential

***B5. Architectural Style:** Mission Revival with Arts and Crafts details

***B6. Construction History:** Building permit granted to owner on 11 January 1915. New garage permitted in 1916. A permit for "alterations to existing building" was submitted on 6 July 1959.

***B7. Moved?** ■No

***B8. Related Features:** The home is located adjacent to the Wilbur F. Chandler Home on a quiet stretch of N. Yosemite Avenue in the Bloomington Park Tract which was annexed in April 1910. The Dry Creek Canal runs along the rear of the property. This entire street appears to be potentially eligible as a historic district.

B9a. Architect: N/A

B9b. Builder: H.A. Allen (owner in 1915)

***B10. Significance: Theme:** Fresno's Northward Expansion **Area:** Bloomington Park Tract

Period of Significance: 1915-1938 **Property Type:** Mission Revival influenced residence

Applicable

Criteria: i, iii.

This masonry brick home is located on a .13 acre parcel in the Bloomington Park Tract. Beginning in 1902, the City of Fresno expanded both east and north with the construction of street car suburbs. The Bloomington Park Tract was surveyed prior to 1905 and was developed north of Belmont Avenue and west and adjacent to the Dry Creek Canal, parallel to the Forthcamp (now Fulton Street) Line (1902). A permit for a new house was granted to H.A. Allen in 1915; the permit for the wood framed garage followed a year later. Homer A. Allen is identified as a brick contractor who well may have designed and constructed this home and possibly the Chandler Home next door as well. Both houses remained on the same parcel at least as late as 1970, which underscores their connection. By 1916 C. B. Hanner, a building contractor, lived at the address. By 1918 A.J. Evans, a proprietor for a meat market, was the resident. In 1922 Evans left Fresno and purchased a cattle herd and 5,000 acres of ranch property on the Kings River. In 1921 John S. McCain, a farmer and real estate broker, owned and resided at this address. Missouri born, McCain worked for the *Bulletin* in San Francisco and was subsequently employed by Miller and Lux as a hydrographic engineer in Firebaugh. By 1936 McCain was the Fresno County Purchasing Agent. He died in 1938, the same year the house is shown as vacant in the City Directories. The Homer A. Allen Home is eligible for listing under Criterion iii as a unique example of a Mission Revival residence of masonry brick construction. It is also eligible under Criterion i for its association with the early expansion of Fresno and the development of streetcar suburbs.

***B12. References:** Building permits on file with the City of Fresno; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for 1919, 1948, 1950, 1963. 1970; City Directories, 1915-1938; Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*; *Fresno Bee* 5 July 1953; Walker, *Fresno County Blue Book* 1941:408. (Thanks to County Librarian, Melissa Scroggins for research help).

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

***Date of Evaluation:** 19 September 2016

(This space reserved for official comments.)

