

MASINI ADOBE



LANDMARK NUMBER: 31

KNOWN AS: Masini Adobe aka Ortega Hill Adobe, also Pink Adobe

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: 129 Sheffield Drive, Montecito

LOCATION: West side of Sheffield Drive near Ortega Ridge Road

TYPE OF SITE: Residence

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 92-384

LANDMARK DATE: July 7, 1992

**DESIGNATION
OBTAINED BY:** Nominations for Historical Landmarks or Places of
Historic Merit submitted by Gary Meyer & David F. Myrick

PAST OWNERS: early owners are unsubstantiated
Pierre P. Masini (1860s-1871)
Margarita Ayala Masini (inherited 1871-1877 when sold
at auction after notice of default)
Josefa Loureyro and Josefa Lopez de Etchas (1877-abt.
1911)
Juan Arroqui (1911 until his death)
Helen Arroqui Meyer (inherited)
Charlotte Meyer (1967)
Gary and Edward Meyer (1991-2000)

CURRENT OWNER: Sherry Stockwell

CHANGES/
ALTERATIONS: A window was added in the downstairs room; the space between the kitchen and the main house was filled in with a bedroom and a bathroom

CONDITION: Good

DESCRIPTION:

An unusual two-story adobe with cantilevered balconies on the east and west sides of the house. The kitchen occupies the single story side of the house. Date of construction is unknown but may have been as early as 1815.¹

Its simple pine construction is of two large rooms, one above the other, with only a ladder to the second floor. The kitchen was once detached.²

The adobe was the setting for the wedding night for Helen Hunt Jackson's heroine, *Ramona*, written in 1854. It was also used in the novel, *John Dover*, whose title character lived in the adobe. The story included an attempted murder there, mimicking a sensational murder that took place in the adobe in 1881.

RESOURCES:

Willard Thompson, *Masini Adobe Timeline* (2007)

Willard Thompson, "Montecito's Nineteenth Century Adobes and the Settlers Who Built Them," *Noticias* (2009)



Originally the front; now the back side of the house



Kitchen wing

¹ Willard Thompson

² Noticias

1 RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
2 COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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5 A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT THE) RESOLUTION NO. 92- 384
6 MASINI ADOBE IS AN HISTORICAL)
7 LANDMARK DESIGNATED AS SANTA)
8 BARBARA COUNTY HISTORICAL)
9 LANDMARK NO. 31, WORTHY OF)
10 PROTECTION UNDER ORDINANCE NO.)
11 1716, AND PRESCRIBING CONDITIONS)
12 TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE)
13 LANDMARK.)

14 WHEREAS, the premises described as the Masini Adobe,
15 located at 129 Sheffield Drive, Montecito, in the County of
16 Santa Barbara, by reason of its great antiquity, authentic adobe
17 construction, rareness as a two-story adobe building, and its
18 colorful and eventful history, are of special historical,
19 aesthetic and cultural value; and,

20 WHEREAS, on April 9, 1992 the Santa Barbara County
21 Historical Landmark Advisory Committee declared the Masini Adobe
22 to be an historical landmark pursuant to the provisions of
23 Ordinance No. 1716 of the County of Santa Barbara; and,

24 WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of
25 Santa Barbara deems the Masini Adobe to be worthy of protection
26 and preservation as such historical landmark;

27 NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, as follows:

28 1. The Board of Supervisors, having duly set a public
hearing for July 7, 1992, has heard all interested

1 parties and has closed said public hearing, adopting the
2 conditions set out in Paragraph 2 of this Resolution.

3 2. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares the
4 Masini Adobe to be an historical landmark pursuant to Ordinance
5 No. 1716 and hereby imposes the following conditions on the
6 Masini Adobe pursuant to said ordinance.

7 a. Demolition, removal or destruction, partially
8 or entirely, is prohibited unless express consent in writing is
9 first had and obtained from the Santa Barbara County Historical
10 Landmark Advisory Committee. Such consent may impose all
11 reasonable conditions deemed appropriate by the Committee to
12 accomplish the purposes of Ordinance No. 1716.

13 b. No alterations, repairs, additions or changes
14 (other than normal maintenance and repair work) shall be made
15 unless and until all plans therefor have first been reviewed by
16 the Santa Barbara County Historical Landmark Advisory Committee
17 and approved, or modified and reasonable conditions imposed as
18 deemed necessary, and that all such work shall be done under the
19 direction and control of the Santa Barbara County Historical
20 Landmark Advisory Committee or other qualified persons
21 designated by it.

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PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED by the Board of
Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California,
this 7th day of July, 1992, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Ochoa, Rogers, Wallace, Owens, Stoker

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

W. B. Wilken
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST
ZANDRA CHOLMONDELEY
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

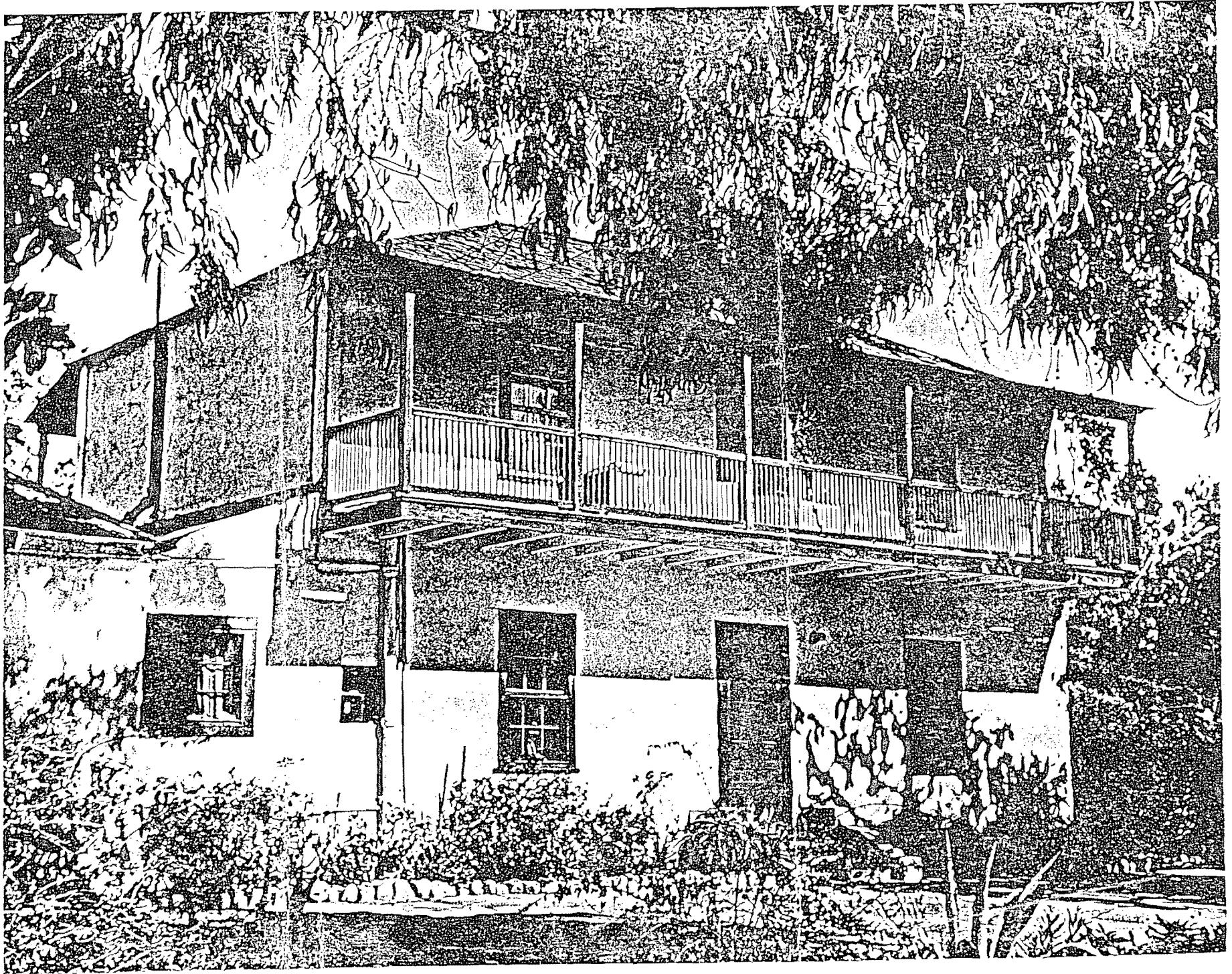
By: Robert Cohen
Deputy Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
DAVID NAWI,
COUNTY COUNSEL

By: Timothy McNulty
Deputy County Counsel

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