

March 24, 1990

TO: Diana Seider, History Division Director

FROM: Kate Whitmore, Museum Assistant

SUBJECT: Historic Property Evaluation, 21999 Grant Avenue, Wildomar, California

WED

This small farm is presently sitting on approximately four acres and consists of a house and several outbuildings including a garage, woodshed, tankhouse, chicken coop, and potting (soil) shed. The northeast side of the property has an adjoining grove of eucalyptus. The house has both classical revival (pediment style gable with the eaves extending partly around the corner of the roof line) and Victorian features. Overall, the house and outbuildings are in excellent condition; however, extensive "rehabilitation" and alteration has taken place.

The house interior has been extensively altered (i.e., new bath, kitchen and wall paneling throughout), however, positions and size of rooms have remained intact. A large "family" room on the west side of the house was added in the 1950s.

The site is listed on the Historic Resources Inventory and the house and outbuildings should be protected. The present owner was told that the house was built by an early settler to the area by the name of McVicker. McVicker is listed in Gunther's Riverside County, California, Place Names as the surname of three brothers who came into the Elsinore-Wildomar area in 1884. The 1893-94 Riverside Directory, shows both a Donald McVicar (farmer) and a Robert McVicar (retired) living in Wildomar. McVicar is the name of the nearest cross-street to the east of the property. Whether this particular farm was built by the McVicar's however, has not been established; and at this time, more research needs to be done.

County Ownership Options if owner is interested in donating the property):

1. Regional Historic Interpretive Center
Although the farm has historic value, because of the extensive rehabilitation and "restoration" the house and outbuildings have had, the farm has lost its value as a Regional Historic Interpretive Center.
2. Community Park
With the present acreage intact, the farm has possibilities as a community center.
3. Adaptive Reuse as a Halfway House (i.e., prisoners, drug/alcohol rehabilitation)
Adaptability of this site for a halfway house would be based on needs and requirements of the agency. The site also has potential for other kinds of nonprofit or commercial reuse (i.e., restaurant).

The potential for adaptive reuse remains highest if the surrounding acreage remains with the property.