LANDMARK NUMBER: 20

KNOWN AS: Ballard’s Station or Ballard Adobes

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: 2411 Alamo Pintado Road, Solvang

LOCATION: Intersection of Alamo Pintado Road and Grand Avenues

TYPE OF SITE: Residence

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 81-437

LANDMARK DATE: September 28, 1981

DESIGNATION OBTAINED BY: Nomination Application submitted by Mrs. G.G. Davidge

OBTAINED BY: 587 Refugio Road, Santa Ynez

PAST OWNERS: William Ballard (south adobe)
                Cynthia Ballard (south adobe)
                George and Cynthia Ballard Lewis (south adobe)
                Charles LaSalle (south adobe 1866-1869; built upper Adobe and put a floor in south adobe during these years) ¹
                J.J. Hobson and family lived here while their home was being built on land purchased from George Lewis ²
                W.E. Shanklin family lived in both adobes after the Hobsons left in 1881
                Isabel Perkins (widow of Charles E. Perkins (?-1947)
                Wesley and Bernice Rhodehamel (1947-1961?)

¹ Newspaper article written by Grace L. Davison
² Ibid
CURRENT OWNERS: Alexander and Dale Rossi

CHANGES/ALTERATIONS: Restoration of the Ballard Adobes began in 1947 by Bernice and Wesley Rhodehamel of Santa Barbara when they purchased the property. Restoration was completed in 1981. Part of the process joined the two adobe buildings to create a liveable home which was completed in 1961 when Dale (Rhodehamel) and Alexander Rossi took possession. Additions since 1991 included a new kitchen and a dressing room and bath.³

CONDITION: Very good

DESCRIPTION: Ballard’s Station was the first stage coach station in the Santa Ynez Valley. The adobes were built in the 1860s and are located at what is now the intersection of Grand Avenue and Alamo Pintado Road. The adobes were constructed when William Ballard acquired the property and determined that a stage stop was needed between San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara. The first adobe was completed in 1860 and contained Mr. Ballard’s home, a dining room for passengers, and a Wells Fargo express office.⁴

In 1866, a second adobe was constructed and was to be the home of Charles La Salle and his family. He had been summoned by his friend, William Ballard, to manage the stage station and ranch when Mr. Ballard became ill. After Mr. Ballard died, his widow married George W. Lewis and they lived at the stage station until moving onto land they owned and established the town which they named for William Ballard. After the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, a small private school operated in the largest room of the Adobes.⁵

Much of the original construction of the adobes remains including window glass panes, doors, and hardware. Later additions, particularly the Victorian touches found on the screen doors and porch posts recall that period.⁶

RESOURCES:
Grace L. Davison, “Old Ballard Station Adobes Hark Back to Days of Travel By Stage,” Santa Barbara News-Press (Sunday Morning, May 18, 1947)
Letter written by Alexander Rossi to David Bisol, chairman, Santa Barbara County Historical Landmark Committee (August 3, 1981)
Application for Designation as County Historical Landmark (including exhibits)

³ Letter written by Alexander Rossi dated August 3, 1981
⁴ Nomination Application
⁵ Ibid
⁶ Ibid
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE BALLARD
ADOBES TO BE HISTORICAL LANDMARK
NO. 20, WORTHY OF PROTECTION UNDER
ORDINANCE NO. 1716, AND PRESCRIBING
CONDITIONS TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE
THE LANDMARK.

WHEREAS, the Ballard Adobes, located at Grand
Alamo Pintado Road, in the Santa Ynez Valley, have gre
significance and interest to the general public as a l
reminder of pioneer days in Santa Barbara County; and
WHEREAS, on August 13, 1981, the Santa Barbara
Historical Landmark Advisory Committee declared the Ba
to be an historical landmark pursuant to the provisio
Ordinance No. 1716 of the County of Santa Barbara; and
WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County
Barbara deems the Ballard Adobes to be worthy of prot
preservation as such historical landmark;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, as follows:

1. The Board of Supervisors, having duly set a
hearing for September 23, 1981, has heard all intere
and closed said public hearing, adopting the condi
tion in Paragraph 2 of this Resolution;

2. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares th
Adobes to be an historical landmark pursuant to Ordin
1716 and hereby imposes the following conditions on th
Adobes pursuant to said Ordinance

a. Demolition, removal or destruction, enti
entirely, is prohibited unless express consent in wr
first had and obtained from the Santa Barbara County 
Landmark Advisory Committee. Such consent may impose
reasonable conditions deemed appropriate by the
completing the purposes of Ordinance No. 1716.
b. No alterations, additions or chang normal maintenance and repair work) shall be made until all plans therefor have first been reviewed and approved by the Barbara County Historical Landmark Advisory Committee or modified, and reasonable conditions imposed and that all such work shall be done under the control of the Santa Barbara County Historical Landmarks Committee or other qualified persons designated.
c. No public access to the property.

3. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Mrs. Alexander Rossi, 6802 Skyview Drive, Santa Barbara, California 92547.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, on __________, 1981, by the following vote:


NOES: None

ABSENT: None

William B.
Chairman, Bd.

ATTEST:
HOWARD C. MENZEL, COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

Deputy Clerk

(SEAL)