BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH

LANDMARK NUMBER: 26

KNOWN AS: Christian Church at Los Olivos

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: 2293 Alamo Pintado, Los Olivos

LOCATION: On the north side of Alamo Pintado and across from Santa Barbara Street, Los Olivos

TYPE OF SITE: Church

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 85-476

LANDMARK DATE: October 21, 1985

DESIGNATION OBTAINED BY: Application for Santa Barbara County Historical Landmark submitted by the trustees, deacons, and members of the Berean Baptist Church

PAST OWNERS: Trustees and successor trustees for the Christian Church of Los Olivos (1894-1958)

CURRENT OWNER: Berean Baptist Church of Los Olivos, a corporation
2904 Grand Ave #3
Los Olivos, CA 93441

CHANGES/ALTERATIONS: See Description

CONDITION: Good
DESCRIPTION:
Built in 1894, this was the first Protestant church built in the Santa Ynez Valley. It was originally known as the Christian Church at Los Olivos. The establishment of a church was proposed by W.L. “Will” Davis who had moved his family from Indiana to California in December 1887. They moved to Los Olivos March 1888. Will enlisted John W. Sides, Tom J. Davis, F.J. Van Etten, and John W. Hartley to join him as trustees of the new church. They bought a 50’ by 100’ lot from the West Coast Land Company for $50. Lumber for the church was brought from northern California by steamship to Port Harford, then to Los Olivos by narrow gauge rail, and then loaded onto farm wagons and hauled to the building site. Men began building the church in September 1894 and services began the next month. At that time, a church bell was hung in the steeple. The building was finally completed a few months later. At the outset, men and women entered the church through separate entrances one for the men and the other for the women who sat inside accordingly. With time, neither the entrances nor the seating for the services were segregated. In 1961, the front porch was enclosed to make a foyer and cement steps were added. A Sunday school building was constructed in January 1963. On October 16, 1957 the Christian Church became the Berean Baptist Church (Independent) by vote of the membership. The pastor was Glen D. Golike. On April 28, 1965, Keturah D. Campbell donated two adjacent lots to the church. Then on January 12, 1970, Richard M. Polsky, Francis M. Findlay, and H. Merrill Findlay donated two lots and an abandoned portion of Santa Barbara Avenue to the church. Today sits a parking lot and parsonage on these gifts of land. Upon receiving landmark status, a bronze plaque was installed with the following inscription:

Christian Church
at Los Olivos
1894
Santa Barbara County
Historical Landmark #4

RESOURCE:
Application for Designation as a Santa Barbara County Historical Landmark
(September 3, 1985)
A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH AT LOS OLIVOS (NOW KNOWN AS THE "BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH") IS AN HISTORICAL LANDMARK DESIGNATED AS SANTA BARBARA COUNTY HISTORICAL LANDMARK NO. 26, WORTHY OF PROTECTION UNDER ORDINANCE NO. 1716, AND PRESCRIBING CONDITIONS TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE LANDMARK.

WHEREAS, the Christian Church at Los Olivos (now known as the "Berean Baptist Church"), located at 2293 Alamo Pintado Avenue, Los Olivos, in the County of Santa Barbara, has great historical significance and interest to the general public as a landmark and a reminder of pioneer days in Santa Barbara County; and

WHEREAS, on September 4, 1985 the Santa Barbara County Historical Landmark Advisory Committee declared the Christian Church at Los Olivos (now known as the "Berean Baptist Church") to be an historical landmark pursuant to the provisions of Ordinance No. 1716 of the County of Santa Barbara; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara deems the Christian Church at Los Olivos (now known as the "Berean Baptist Church") to be worthy of protection and preservation as such historical landmark;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, as follows:
1. The Board of Supervisors, having duly set a public hearing for October 21, 1985, has heard all interested parties and has closed said public hearing, adopting the conditions set out in Paragraph 2 of this Resolution.

2. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares the Christian Church at Los Olivos (now known as the "Berean Baptist Church") to be an historical landmark pursuant to Ordinance No. 1716 and hereby imposes the following conditions on the Church pursuant to said ordinance.

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

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

   PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California,
this 21st day of October, 1985, by the following vote:

AYES: Robert E. Kallman, William B. Wallace, DeWayne Holmdahl

NOES: None

ABSENT: David M. Yager, Toru Miyoshi

ATTEST:
HOWARD C. MENZEL
COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

BY
Deputy Clerk

CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
KENNETH L. NELSON,
COUNTY COUNSELM

By
Deputy County Counsel