



On the list

The Watsonville home of Monte and Betty Lewis is the first structure in the city to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Queen Anne Victorian at 128 E. Beach St. was constructed by J.S. Jennings in 1894 for Judge Julius Lee. Lee had bought the site in 1893 for \$10 from Dr. Will Rodgers. The two-story, eight-room house, according to Mrs. Lewis, is thought to be the first house in California

designed by architect William Weeks. Also listed on the National Register in the Watsonville area are the Ohlone Indian burial site off Lee Road and the Jose Joaquin Castro Adobe on Old Adobe Road. Placement of a structure or site on the Register provides tax incentives for restoring buildings and gives some degree of protection from demolition or alteration when federal funds are involved.