

From humble abode to historical landmark



Diane Varni

The Pajaro Valley Historical Association owns this landmark house.

IT'S OFFICIAL. Two more buildings in Watsonville have been designated as historical landmarks. The William M. Volck Memorial Museum and the Orr home, both on East Beach Street, join the ranks of the Porter Building, the Horgan House on 139 Maple St., and the Delcina Ash home at 255 East Lake Ave.

The Volck Museum, like the Delcina Ash home, was designed by noted architect William Weeks. Located at

261 East Beach St., it was formerly known as the Richard Pearson Home and is now owned by the Pajaro Valley Historical Association.

The Orr home and gardens, at 332 East Beach St., was originally owned by Godfrey Bockius, an early, well-to-do citizen of Watsonville. Bockius built the home in 1862.

The five Watsonville structures now designated historical landmarks were among the more than 100 identified

as worthy of historical designation in a 1976 survey.

The Pajaro Valley Historical Association is encouraging owners of other buildings on that list to apply to the Watsonville Planning Department for that recognition.

Through its ordinance on historical preservation the city wants to protect, enhance and perpetuate the use of "structures of special character or special historical, architectural and aesthetic interest or value."



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The Orr home was built by Godfrey Bockius, an early Watsonville citizen.

REFERENCE