

Margaret J. Simondi House  
River Street Historic District  
331 West Saint John Street  
San Jose  
Santa Clara County  
California

HABS No. CA-2384

HABS  
CAL  
43-SANJOS,  
25-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Western Region  
Department of the Interior  
San Francisco, California 94107

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Margaret J. Simondi House

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CAL  
43-SANJDS,  
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Location: 331 West St. John Street, River Street Historic District  
San Jose, California  
UTM Coordinates: 10-597675-4132425

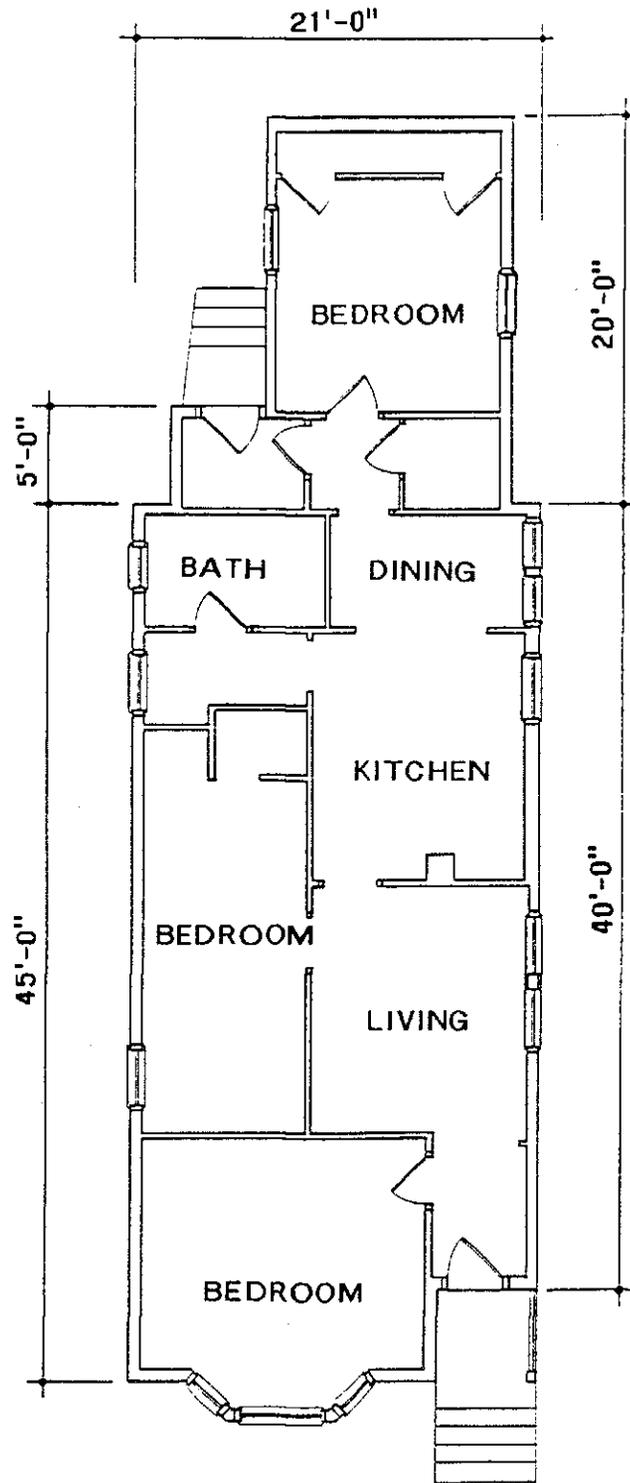
Significance: The Margaret J. Simondi House, due to its architectural integrity and contribution to the urban fabric, forms an integral part of the River Street Historic District, a rare intact late nineteenth and early twentieth century working class neighborhood in San Jose.

Description: The Margaret J. Simondi House, a one-story wood framed house, contains a gabled roof with the gable end facing the street. The structure includes an inset porch at the right (east) of the facade and a three-sided angled bay window. This bay window is somewhat shallower than others in the district but is similarly composed: a large central transom window with narrower one over one double hung side windows. It is sided in channel rustic siding, except for fishscale shingles in the gable end. Unlike many of the attic windows in the district, the Margaret J. Simondi house features a vertically oriented rectangular attic window, as well as wood sawtooth detailing under the sill. This cottage contains many Queen Anne features including fishscale shingles, a highly decorative barge board, and interesting sawtooth detail around the porch column and entryway. The plan also appears to have once contained two bedrooms along the west wall, which have since been converted into one long room. Two gable-roofed additions to the rear provided additional storage space and a separate bedroom which probably provided an additional rentable unit.

History: This cottage, built around 1910, was occupied by various people until 1919. Residents during this period included Mrs. Emma Williams and A.J. Maffia. In 1924 the property was owned by Margaret Simondi, a seamstress, who lived in this house from 1919 to 1942. She was originally listed as Mrs. Giocoletti Simondi (Giocoletti may have been her husband's name) and also as Mrs. Margaret Giocoletti (probably a typo). The house lay vacant from 1943 to 1944 and was later used as a rental unit.

Sources: California Historic Resources Inventory Form, prepared by  
Stephen D. Mikesell, 1988.  
San Jose City Directories.  
San Jose 1924 Block Map.

Historian: Hardlines: Design & Delineation  
Columbus, Ohio & Bethesda, Maryland  
July - October, 1993



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

1" = 10' - 0"