

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No. _____
HABS _____ HAER _____ Loc _____ SHL No. _____ NR Status 5D
UTM: A 10/627630 4096546 C _____
B _____ D _____

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: _____
2. Historic name: Benevolent Society House
3. Street or rural address: 7429 Alexander Street
City Gilroy Zip 95020 County Santa Clara
4. Parcel number: 841-6-22
5. Present Owner: Rubin Trujillo Address: 7429 Alexander Street
City Gilroy Zip 95020 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Residence Original use: Residence

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Craftsman Bungalow
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical appearance* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

A single story rectangular structure with a double gable facade. The second gable is the roof of the porch and is supported by square piers sheathed in the narrow horizontal board that covers the house. Brackets support the front gable eaves and the porch railing is a cut out board typical of the cost efficient Craftsman design elements. The parcel is enhanced with landscaping very in keeping with the Craftsman movement, low juniper bushes, small pine and desert trees.



8. Construction date: Estimated _____ Factual 1916-1
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage 50 Depth 137
or approx. acreage _____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
April 1986

13. Condition: Excellent Good _____ Fair _____ Deteriorated _____ No longer in existence _____
14. Alterations: _____
15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land _____ Scattered buildings _____ Densely built-up
Residential Industrial _____ Commercial _____ Other: _____
16. Threats to site: None known Private development _____ Zoning _____ Vandalism _____
Public Works project _____ Other: _____
17. Is the structure: On its original site? Moved? _____ Unknown? _____
18. Related features: _____

SIGNIFICANCE

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

The early history of Gilroy was marked by its residents' concern for the needy and by many works of philanthropy. One such example was the Benevolent Society. This group of prominent women purchased property and built homes which were rented at low rates to poor and needy families. This Craftsman Bungalow, built 1917, is an example of this work.

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)
 Architecture 2 Arts & Leisure _____
 Economic/Industrial _____ Exploration/Settlement _____
 Government _____ Military _____
 Religion _____ Social/Education 1

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).

A Field Guide to American Houses
McAlister

Gilroy Museum File

22. Date form prepared April 1986
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