IDENTIFICATION
1. Common name: 

2. Historic name: Mayor Fitzgerald House

3. Street or rural address: 111 Second Street

   City  Gilroy  Zip  95020  County  Santa Clara

4. Parcel number: 79900132

5. Present Owner: Daniel Palmerlee  Address: 111 Second 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:

The site is a very ornate example of a craftsman bungalow design. It exhibits an irregular plan and a multi-planer gabled roof. The roofline is essentially cross-gabled with gabled dormers projecting. Composition shingles cover the roof which has very large eaves and carved brackets. The exterior walls are sheathed in narrow clapboard. Board and batten construction sheathes the lesser gable faces. A large, partially enclosed veranda defines the front entry. Porch supports are in the form of squared posts that are formed together to make large square columns. Fenestration is varied with various vertical and horizontal forms; large singled paneled and small multi-paneled windows. The residence is in excellent condition, set amid a mature, lush landscape.

8. Construction date:
   Estimated  Factual  1913

9. Architect  Unknown

10. Builder  Unknown

11. Approx. property size (in feet)  75  145
    Frontage  Depth  or approx. acreage

12. Date(s) of enclosure photograph(s)  Mar. 1980
13. Condition: Excellent X Good _____ Fair _____ Deteriorated _____ No longer in existence _____

14. Alterations: ____________________________

15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land _____ Scattered buildings _____ Densely built-up X
Residential _____ Industrial _____ Commercial _____ Other: ____________________________

16. Threats to site: None known X Private development _____ Zoning _____ Vandalism _____
Public Works project _____ Other: ____________________________

17. Is the structure: On its original site? X Moved? _____ Unknown? _____

18. Related features: ____________________________

SIGNIFICANCE

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

Walter Fitzgerald was born August 30, 1873 in New Almaden, the oldest child of Thomas and Mary Ann Cullen Fitzgerald. The following year his family moved to 200 acres near Gilroy where they engaged in dairying and stock raising. Walter graduated from Gilroy High School and tried farming for a few years. However, in 1893, he went to San Jose to study law in the office of W.A. Johnson. Walter Fitzgerald was admitted to the bar in 1897 and practiced law there for several years before returning to Gilroy in 1903. Besides his law practice in Gilroy, Walter C. Fitzgerald also served as the City Attorney and a Councilman for Gilroy and was elected to two terms as Mayor from 1908 to 1910. He died in Gilroy on June 8, 1933 at the age of 69.

The site's significance is, without question, due to the architecture and the fact that the condition of the residence is so excellent that the building ranks with the best historical designs in the City of Gilroy. Built for Walter Fitzgerald in 1913. Mr. Fitzgerald was a prominent citizen of Gilroy, having served as Mayor from 1908-1910.

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

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).
Walking Tour Booklet (Taal)
A Field Guide to American Houses
McAlister
Sanborn Map 1888,1908
Gilroy Museum Files - Fitzgerald

22. Date form prepared April 1986
By (name) The Firm of
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