HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION
1. Common name: Hecker House
2. Historic name: Hecker House
3. Street or rural address: 222 Martin Street
   City: Gilroy   Zip: 95020   County: Santa Clara
4. Parcel number: 84100640
5. Present Owner: Theodoro Zamarron
   Address: 222 Martin Street
   City: Gilroy   Zip: 95020
   Ownership is: Public   Private: X
6. Present Use: Residence
   Original use: Residence

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

222 Martin is a large Italianate house which has become deteriorated. The front porch is partially enclosed and rear porch is fully enclosed. Two fireplaces exist, one on the east side and one on the south side. Detail includes eave brackets and classical porch supports. Asphalt shingle siding on all additions. This single story structure is rectangular in form with a hipped roof. Wide boxed eaves extend on all sides. A full width porch supported by etruscan columns appears to be a later addition.

8. Construction date:
   Estimated   Factual 1874
9. Architect
   Unknown
10. Builder
    Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
    Frontage 142
    Depth 120
    or approx. acreage
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
    Mar. 1986
This large Italianate house was built in 1874 for the Wood family. David Wood came to California in 1849 to try his fortune in the gold mines. He returned to Illinois that same year, but in 1853, led a wagon train across the plains to Sacramento. Wood arrived in Gilroy in December 1853. After another trip to Illinois, Wood brought his family to Gilroy by ship around Cape Horn. He was an investor and financer in the early days of Gilroy.

In 1888, David Wood's second daughter, Mary Wood, was married to Henry Hecker. The home on Martin Street passed to that family. Henry Hecker came to Gilroy in 1883 and successfully established himself in the grocery business. Henry Hecker was elected Treasurer of Gilroy in 1892 and held the position until 1916. He was President of the Bank of Gilroy from 1908 to 1916 when he was elected to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. He served on that Board until 1945, and was President of the Board several times. He was largely responsible for the building of the Gilroy-Watsonville Road, which bears his name. Hecker was also instrumental in the purchase of Mt. Madonna as a county park in 1927. The house on Martin Street remained the family for many years. It is now the prospecting residence of Theodore Zamarron.