HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION
1. Common name: Prien House
2. Historic name: Radtke House
3. Street or rural address: 515 Fifth Street
   City: Gilroy Zip: 95020 County: Santa Clara
4. Parcel number: 79901924
5. Present Owner: Mary Prien
   Address: 515 Fifth Street
   City: Gilroy Zip: 95020 Ownership is: Public Private Y
6. Present Use: Residence
   Original use: Residence

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

Structure consists of a one story stucco building. Built in a rectangular building plan, and is designed in a manner influenced by California architectural traditions. The house features a tar and gravel hip roof, double hung windows and a wide covered veranda type porch with columns. Built in 1922 by William Radtke, Sr., the structure is a slight variation of the stucco craftsman bungalow that is very characteristic of the speculative residential construction of William Radtke throughout Gilroy. The residence exhibits all of the major characteristics of a late craftsman bungalow including the horizontal massing, the simple and rectangular shaped fenestration, and the tri-partite front window (2 double hung windows surrounding a single large pane). The entry door is off centered with a multi-light wooden door. The entry to the front porch is centered with wide low rising steps. Distinctive features include the centered metal vent, which is rounded, that punctuates the street facing roofline; the tall rectangular chimney with it rounded chimneys hood; and the 2 attached wooden structures which surround the porch entry and function as an arbor. Mature well-tended landscape keeps in character with the other residence on the block. In fact, the architectural significance of the site is primarily in its being a superior example of the design and scale of the immediate neighborhood. Handsome, large trees distinguish and help the neighborhood together reflecting as they do one of the dominant significant urban design elements of the city.

8. Construction date:
   Estimated Factual 1922

9. Architect
   Unknown

10. Builder
    William Radtke, Sr.

11. Approx. property size (in feet):
    Frontage 70 Depth 125
    or approx. acreage

12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
    Mar. 1986
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  X  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.)

This home was built by William Radtke, Sr. for the Radtke Family in 1922. Mr. Radtke was a noted building contractor in Gilroy from 1911 to 1965. He was inducted into Gilroy's Hall of Fame in 1985. In 1932, the house was sold to Lee Brown, manager of the Bank of America in Gilroy from 1925 to 1935. It was then purchased by Roland H. Prien, M.D. in 1935. Roland Prien practiced medicine in Gilroy from 1920 to 1942. The house's present owner is Mary Prien who was an Registered Nurse at Wheeler Hospital from 1933 to 1935. She is currently Director of the Gilroy Historical Museum and was recently appointed City Historian of Gilroy. The residence is located at 515 Fifth Street and is part of the Henry Miller and Lux subdivision.

Architecturally important in the design fabric of Gilroy, this residence is also important for the association with people who have made a valuable contribution to the areas of economic growth, medical care and cultural enhancement in Gilroy.

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

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).  
   Gilroy Advocate 1922 to 1935  
   Assessment Roll books 1922 to 1946  
   Book - History of Santa Clara Co., 1922  
   Telephone Directory 1920's to 1930's  
   Interview with Renz Family, 1985

22. Date form prepared  
   April 1986
   By (name)  
   The Firm of  
   Organization  BUNNIE L. BAMBURG  
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