

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No. _____
HABS _____ HAER _____ Loc _____ SHL No. _____ NR Status 5D
UTM: A 10/626782/4096324 C _____
B _____ D _____

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Renz House
2. Historic name: Renz House
3. Street or rural address: 555 Fifth Street
City Gilroy Zip 95020 County Santa Clara
4. Parcel number: 79901926
5. Present Owner: George Renz Address: 555 Fifth Street
City Gilroy Zip 95020 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
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:

This structure is a one story stucco building. The building has a flat tar and paper roof with tile trim. It has a covered recessed porch with round arches. In about 1935, an office and a bedroom was added to the building on the east side of the building. Steps and a door to that area was added also. The massing of the structure is somewhat irregular, defined by the various tile-sheathed shed roof sections which project from a rectangular flat roof. Distinctive detailing includes the rectangular window box under the street facing front window. The diamond-shaped ornament over the round arched entry and the large tripartite window on the front entry facade. The structure is set amid mature, well tended landscape and provides a further variation of the cottage scale which builder, William Radtke placed as speculative housing throughout this section of Gilroy.



8. Construction date:
Estimated _____ Factual 1924
9. Architect _____
Unknown
10. Builder Geo. Renz, Wm. Radtk
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage 47 Depth 125
or approx. acreage _____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
Mar. 1986

8672-30

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.)

This modern one story California Bungalow is the residence of George Renz. He has owned and lived in this house ever since it was built. George Renz was born at Tres Pinos and June 8, 1893 and came to Gilroy in June of 1913. He was a major force in the construction of many major buildings and roads in the Gilroy area. He worked for William Radtke, Sr. first and then formed his own construction company. He has been actively involved in community services and activities. He is a charter member of the Gilroy Rotary Club and has served as its president. he donated land on Hanna Street now known as Renz Park.

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).

Interview with George Renz 1985 (Dec)
Assesment roll books 1920 to 1930
Gilroy Advocate
Gilroy Museum Files

22. Date form prepared April 1988
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