

Ser. No. _____
HABS _____ HAER _____ Loc _____ SHL No. _____ NR Status 5/SD
UTM: A 10/627659.4096441 C _____
B _____ D _____

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Dethlefsen House
2. Historic name: Dixon House
3. Street or rural address: 7391 Alexander Street
City Gilroy Zip 95020 County Santa Clara
4. Parcel number: 84100809
5. Present Owner: _____ Address: _____
City _____ Zip _____ Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Residence Original use: Residence

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Greek Revival/Eastlake
- 7b. Briefly describe the present physical appearance of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

A very unusual design, this one story structure has a projecting steep gabled front end that projects porches with a smaller but similar versions of the high gables. Both gables are filled with fish scale shingles and have cut out gable pendants. The boxed cornice and frieze are Greek revival while the decorated barge and porch brackets are Queen Anne Eastlake. The window frames and door frame are classic shelf and deep moulding. Sheathing is of horizontal board. Alterations have increased the size and architectural interest of this structure.



8. Construction date: Estimated _____ Factual 1887
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet):
Frontage 68 Depth 130
or approx. acreage _____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
Mar. 1986

13. Condition: Excellent Good _____ Fair _____ Deteriorated _____ No longer in existence _____
14. Alterations: Additions to the east and south sides of the structure.
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.)

Built in 1887, this unusual Gilroy house is an example of Greek Revival architecture. The highly decorative home features double gables with fish scale shingles and cut out pendants.

The house was built for Jacob Dixon. Little is known about Dixon, except that he came to Gilroy in 1885 and left in 1905. He had no family and his business is unknown. In 1906, the house was bought by Peter C. Dethlefsen. Dethlefsen was a native of Schleswig-Holstern and spent his youth in Australia and England. He was a rancher in Gilroy until his death in 1927. The home remained in the family until the early 1980's when it became the Gilroy Bible Church.

The architectural style and design represent the primary significance of this property.

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 interview and their dates).
 Gilroy Museum Files - Dethlefsen
A Field Guide to American Houses
 McAtister
 Sanborn Map 1888, 1908

22. Date form prepared April 1986
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