HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION
1. Common name: Gilroy Grange
2. Historic name: Japanese School
3. Street or rural address: 8191 Swanston
   City: Gilroy Zip: 95020 County: Santa Clara
4. Parcel number:
5. Present Owner: Gilroy Grange #398 Address: 8191 Swanston
   City: Gilroy Zip: 95020 Ownership is: Public Private X
6. Present Use: Meeting Hall Original use: Ethnic School

DESCRIPTION
7a. Architectural style: Industrial - Mission Revival False Front
7b. Briefly describe the present physical appearance of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:
   An enlarged rectangular single story wood frame with metal roofing. The fronts differ in design although both are horizontal board false fronts. The older section appears to be the simple stepped design. A window is centered where a door most likely occurred. The large is a mission revival curvilinear center with stepped side awnings. A porch roof of shingles and exposed eaves is supported on columns, a small pitched gable gives a classical feeling to this element. Fenestration is balanced single windows of double hung wood sash.

8. Construction date:
   Estimated _______ Factual 1929
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
    Frontage _______ Depth _______
    or approx. acreage 1 acre
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
    Mar. 1986

8677-4
13. Condition: Excellent ___ Good X ___ Fair ____ Deteriorated ____ No longer in existence ___

14. Alterations: buildings are joined together

15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land ___ Scattered buildings X ___ Densely built-up ___ 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.)

Used by the Japanese Community for a school and social hall, the structure reverted to the city for back taxes of $14.95 plus a penalty of .74 during the Japanese internment (1943-44). The city transferred ownership to the Grange in 1944.

The Gilroy Grange #398 was organized in 1922 with F.E. Stelling the first Master. Meeting for over 20 years in the old Masonic Hall on Monterey Street, the Grange continues to use this Swanston Lane Building.

The significance of this building is derived from association with both the Japanese Community School and the Gilroy Grange. An example of property that was "let go" for taxes during the internment of the Japanese Americans provides an increased significance.

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

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates.)
   Assessment Tax Rolls
   Gilroy Advocate 3/1/29, 3/8/29
   American Architecture Since 1780, Whiffen
   Interview, Mary Preen, Gilroy Museum

22. Date form prepared April 1986
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Locational sketch map (draw and label site and surrounding streets, roads, and prominent landmarks): NORTH