

Ser. No. _____
HABS _____ HAER _____ Loc _____ SHL No. _____ NR Status 5/SP
UTM: A 10/ 10372720.409625 C _____
B _____ D _____

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Hersey House
2. Historic name: Holsclaw House
3. Street or rural address: 7531 Rosanna Street
City Gilroy Zip 95020 County Santa Clara
4. Parcel number: 79901961
5. Present Owner: Bill Sickmiller Address: 7531 Rosanna 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

The residence is a single story wooden design on a rectangular plan in an Italianate style. The residence has two front bay windows, and a projecting pediment over the entrance supported by classic columns and balustrades. Enclosed eaves with brackets, vertical segmental arched windows and quoins along the corners add Italianate detailing. Prior to World War II, there was metal decorative cresting the central roof area. This was removed for scrap iron during the war. The nine concrete step straight stairway with metal pipe handrailing is an alteration. A full basement sets the site apart from the majority of other structures in the neighborhood. The residence is sheathed in wide shiplap with wooden panels above and below the double hung bay windows. Dentils and a plain frieze further define the exterior design. Composition shingles sheath the roof which is multi-planar in form. The massive double door entry with segmental arched transom is particularly impressive. The structure is in somewhat deteriorated condition as is the mature landscape. Without question, however, this site is one of Gilroy's finest Italianate victorians.



8. Construction data:
Estimated _____ Factual 1874
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Milton Holsclaw
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage 72 Depth 140
or approx. acreage _____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
Mar. 1986

13. Condition: Excellent ___ Good ___ Fair X Deteriorated ___ No longer in existence ___
14. Alterations: Stairway with metal railing
15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land ___ Scattered buildings ___ Densely built-up ___
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 house was built for Milton Holsclaw in 1874. Mr. Holsclaw was from Howard Co., Missouri, and came to California with two brothers in 1849. They worked in the Diamond Springs Gold Mine and later Milton started freighting in Sacramento, Grass valley, Yuba City and Placerville. Finally, he came to Gilroy in 1851 with his brother James. They were instrumental in the start of a protestant church, also started the first blacksmith shop and later raised wheat, barley and moved on to a farm. He married Mary Ann zuck in 1855. She was the daughter of David Zuck, of Zuck, Rogers, and Hoover Real Estate Group. Holsclaw then purchased, lived in and sold several farms and city properties during the 60 and 70;s. He lived in this house for only about one year before he purchased and moved to a farm on what was to become Holsclaw Road where the family lived for the remainder of their life. Both daughters graduated from Stanford in 1896. Florence became a medical doctor, as well as a professor of pediatric medicine at both Stanford and University of California Medical Schools. Grace taught for 38 years in Public Schools. Mr. Holsclaw sold the house to George Hersey, who came to California from Massachusetts in 1876. He was a cashier, and Director of the Bank of Gilroy. Following his death from cholera, Mary Hersey, his widow continued to live in the house until her death. It was in the estate until 1911. The house then was owned by S.C. and Neil Neel until 1920

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

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).

Gilroy Advocates 5/31/02; 11/1/29
 Assessment Rolls of Gilroy
 San Jose Daily, Mercury 8/14/92
 History of Santa Clara Co., Alley Bowen, 1881

22. Date form prepared April 1983
 By (name) The Firm of
 Organization: BONNIE L. BAMBURG
 Address: 247 N. Third Street
 City San Jose, CA Zip 95112
 Phone: (408) 971-1421

