

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

 HABS _____ HAER _____ Loc X SHL No. _____ NR Status 3/50
 UTM: A 10/627110/4096579 C _____
 B _____ D _____

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Don Chesbro Residence
2. Historic name: Dr. H.R. Chesbro House
3. Street or rural address: 7541 Church Street
 City Gilroy Zip 95020 County Santa Clara
4. Parcel number: 79900607
5. Present Owner: Don Chesbro Address: 7541 Church Street
 City Gilroy Zip 95020 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Residence Original use: Residence

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Queen Anne Cottage
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical appearance* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

A one and a half story Queen Anne Cottage with enclosed eaves and rounded dentil decoration. From the hipped roof there is a projecting gable, with an arched window, facing Church Street. Also on the roof are many low, wide dormers with sets of three windows. The wide clapboard siding is interrupted in the front below the gable by a square projecting window. The veranda porch is supported by turned columns and has cut-out designed squares in the railing. Other features include a decorative fence on the top of the shed dormer and eyebrow windows above the front entrance.



8. Construction date:
 Estimated _____ Factual 1888
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder O.F. Hanson
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
 Frontage 60 Depth 140
 or approx. acreage _____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
1986

13. Condition: Excellent ^A 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: Mature Landscaping

SIGNIFICANCE

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

This is one of the very few nineteenth century Gilroy homes still occupied by family of the original owners. It was built in 1888 for Dr. Heverland Rogers Chesbro, one of the best known and most popular medical practitioners in town. Migrating to Gilroy in the mid 1880's, Chesbro set up practice and soon become active in civic affairs as well as medicine. He served on the City Council in 1890 and was Mayor from 1898-1904. Chesbro was President of the Gilroy Telephone Company from 1911 until 1947 and was on the Board of Directors of the Bank of America in both San Jose and Gilroy. During his long career, he became one of Gilroy's most admired citizens. Don Chesbro, son of Dr. H. R. Chesbro, is the owner of the Gilroy Hardware Company.

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)
 Architecture 1 Arts & Leisure _____
 Economic/Industrial _____ Exploration/Settlement _____
 Government 3 Military _____
 Religion _____ Social/Education 2

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

Gilroy Museum File - Chesbro
 A FIELD GUIDE TO AMERICAN HOUSES,
 McAlister.

22. Date form prepared April 1983
 By (name) The Firm of
BONNIE L. BAMBURG
 Organization 247 N. Third Street
 Address: San Jose, CA 95112
 City (408) 971-7421
 Phone: _____

