

Ser. No. _____
HABS _____ HAER _____ Loc _____ SHL No. _____ NR Status 30
UTM: A 10/62737/4096710 C _____
B _____ D _____

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: _____
2. Historic name: _____
3. Street or rural address: 7579 and 7581 Monterey Street
City Gilroy Zip 95020 County Santa Clara
4. Parcel number: 79900642
5. Present Owner: Robert Weaver Address: 56 Corral de Tierra
City Salinas Zip 93901 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Commercial - Store Original use: Commercial

DESCRIPTION

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

This early 1900 structure is a stylistic version of the brick front commercial design. Retaining original design elements, the store front on the south has a recessed entrance. Modified in slant and using aluminum frames and a curbing to close the second entrance, the spaces is not modified beyond acceptability. Above the store front a band of concrete frames this area and separates the upper fenestration. From this band upward and outward, the facade is original in design. The brick is set to show a skeleton of structure with recessed pannels for signage. The curvelinear cornice is decorated with four molded shields and a semi-circular crown that may conceal building identification.



8. Construction date: Estimated 1920 Factual _____
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Radtke
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage 40 Depth 142
or approx. acreage _____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
Mar. 1986

8654-25

13. Condition: Excellent ___ Good X Fair ___ Deteriorated ___ No longer in existence ___
14. Alterations: Ornamentation removed from facade
15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land ___ Scattered buildings ___ Densely built-up X
Residential ___ Industrial ___ Commercial X 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.)

A slightly more ornate version of the standard commercial building design which lines Monterey Street. This structure is notable particularly in the handsome brickwork and distinctive curvilinear cornice line (in the manner of an Espadana). Plaster decorative shields further define the 4 squared parapets which punctuate the street facade. The other features of the building repeat the spatial breakup which characterize the commercial storefronts aluminum framing has been added to the facade entry. Although this too is a supporting structure, it provides a significant function in bridging the gap between the half dozen or so major buildings in downtown Gilroy and the plethora of small stripped commercial structures.

Another one of Gilroy's long time businesses was located in this structure through the 1930s. Chase Cleaners next door was Lawtons Gem Shop now located at 7436 Monterey Street.

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

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

American Architect Since 1780
Whiffin
Gilroy Museum File- Monterey Street
Sanborn Maps 1888, 1908

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