IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: 

2. Historic name: 

3. Street or rural address: 7581 Rosanna Street
   City: Gilroy  Zip: 95020  County: Santa Clara

4. Parcel number: 79901956

5. Present Owner: Martina Chavez
   Address: 7581 Rosanna Street
   City: Gilroy  Zip: 95020  Ownership is: Public  Private  X

6. Present Use: Residence
   Original use: Residence

DESCRIPTION

7a. Architectural style: Pioneer

7b. Briefly describe the present physical appearance of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

This single story rectangular structure is a very small pioneer structure approximately 20' x 35'. It has squared boxed columns on the front porch support. the front edge of the front porch is set back by only about 2 feet from the sidewalk. There is a small partial rear basement.

8. Construction date: 
   Estimated 1871  Factual

9. Architect: Unknown

10. Builder: John Harrison

11. Approx. property size (in feet)
    Frontage 41  Depth 70
    or approx. acreage

12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s) 1986

(Rev. 11/85)
SIGNIFICANCE

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

This property was divided from the original lot that included both of the adjoining lots to the north and south. Alvah Gilman was the owner in 1870. The house was built between 1870 and 1875 on property owned by John Harrison. Mr. Harrison died on September 7, 1876 at the age of 65, and bequeathed his property to the Gilroy Benevolent Society in trust of the poor of Gilroy. Mr. Harrison was from Yorkshire, England, and came to America as a young man, then to San Ysidro in 1850 as a cook for Smith and Allen. He soon became the proprietor of the business. He had no family or relatives, and therefore left his properties to the Benevolent Society. The execution of his will was not settled until 1879, in favor of the Society. They kept the property for housing of the poor until it was deeded to C. J. Weppner in 1926.

The Society began in 1871 as a relief effort for families who lost homes in fires. The remaining funds were given to an organization of ladies who had shown their concern for the poor and disadvantaged.

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  Social/Education  

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).
Gilroy Advocate, June 28, 1879
Gilroy Dispatch, May 26, 1969
Gilroy Museum File - John Harrison

22. Date form prepared  April 1988
By (name)  The Firm of
Organization  BONNIE L. RAMBURG
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