

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ Loc X SHL No. \_\_\_\_\_ NR Status 5  
UTM: A 10/627190.4096916 C \_\_\_\_\_  
B \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

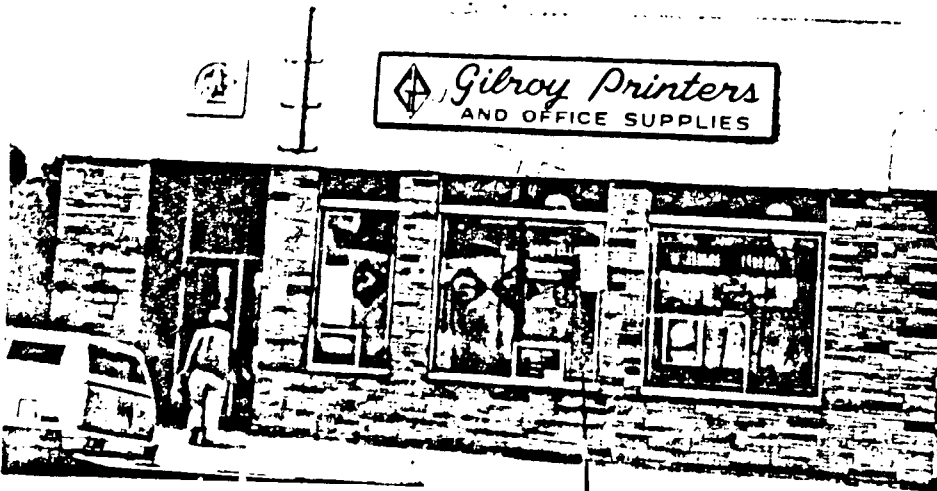
IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Gilroy Printers
2. Historic name: Old Post Office
3. Street or rural address: 30 Third Street  
City Gilroy Zip 95020 County Santa Clara
4. Parcel number: 79900401
5. Present Owner: Andrew and Lois Battagin Address: P.O. Box 96  
City Gilroy Zip 95020 Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
6. Present Use: Print Shop Original use: Post Office

DESCRIPTION

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

The site is a very minimalist example of late 1940's - early 1950's architecture in Gilroy. The building is constructed on an emphasized rectangular plan with a dearth of detail. The most significant design element is the building's surface which is sheathed in horizontal bands of multi-colored brick. A recessed rectangular-shaped entry frames large plate glass doors and windows which are themselves framed in small aluminum strips. Three rectangular apertures further break up the building's street facade. The siting of the building directly on the sidewalk, the slightly over one story size and the block massing with minimal ornamentation all fits into the older commercial structures of downtown Gilroy. The building will no doubt become more and more valued as the number of simple, 1950's international style influenced structures decreases in the cityscape. The building reflects quite well the function and aesthetics of its purpose and time.



8. Construction date:  
Estimated 1955 actual \_\_\_\_\_
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage 30 Depth 100  
or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
Mar. 1986

13. Condition: Excellent \_\_\_ Good X Fair \_\_\_ Deteriorated \_\_\_ No longer in existence \_\_\_
14. Alterations: \_\_\_\_\_
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.)

This building on Third Street in Gilroy, which today houses the Gilroy Printers and Office Supply, was originally the second post office for the city. Built in the mid 1950's, the structure is an example of the post World War II commercial style which predominated in the downtown business section of the city at that time.

The reflection of architectural function in the design of the structure is its significance. The Post Office is always an important building because of the function, delivering information to the community.

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 1 Military \_\_\_\_\_  
Religion \_\_\_ Social/Education \_\_\_\_\_

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates)  
American Architecture Since Whiffen  
Interview - Mary Prien 4/86

22. Date form prepared April 1986  
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