

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

UTM: A 10/627388/409417 C _____

B _____ D _____

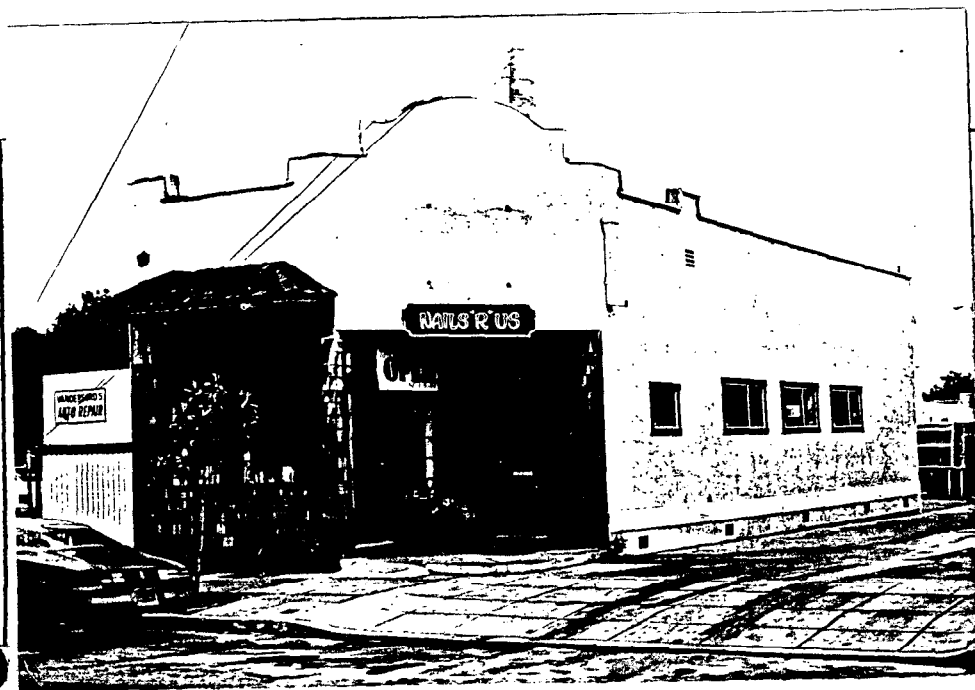
IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Gilroy Taxi
2. Historic name: Gilroy Advocate Building
3. Street or rural address: 55 West Sixth Street
- City Gilroy Zip 95020 County Santa Clara
4. Parcel number: 79900707
5. Present Owner: Santa Clara Transit Address: 1555 Berger Drive.
- City San Jose Zip _____ Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Taxi Office Original use: _____

DESCRIPTION

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

A rectangular structure one story with curvilinear parapet. A corner entrance has two doors. One to the shop which extends 70 feet, another second to a front office. A slope awning covered in Spanish tile shields the front office window. This design and form is one of Gilroy's finest examples of Mission Revival industrial architecture.



8. Construction date:
Estimated _____ Factual 1916
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder W. Radtke
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage 26 Depth 87
or approx. acreage _____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
Mar. 1986

8672-22

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: _____

SIGNIFICANCE

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

On February 5, 1916, the Gilroy Advocate moved into this new structure constructed specifically for the newspaper by William Radtke. Mr. Will F. Blake, Jr., editor and owner, purchased the Benn property on W. 6th one half block from Monterey. The Advocate was started in 1868 and is Gilroy's first newspaper. Purchased in 1877 by FW Blake, the weekly paper remained in the Blake family after FW's death in 1907 and Will F. Blake, son of FW, continued as publisher until 1934 when it became financially unable to continue. In 1935, the Advocate was taken over by the Dispatch, a daily publication. The significance of this structure is derived from both the history of the Advocate and from the commercial mission revival architecture.

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 1

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).
American Architecture Since 1780
Whiffen
Gilroy Museum Files

22. Date form prepared April 1986
 By (name) The Firm of
 Organization BONNIE L. BAMBURG
 Address: 247 N. Third Street
 City San Jose, CA Zip 95112
 Phone: (408) 971-1421

