

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

UTM: A 10/627600/4095880 B \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Sydney Johnson Residence
2. Historic name: Logan Whitehurst Home
3. Street or rural address: 170 West Ninth Street  
 City Gilroy Zip 95020 County Santa Clara
4. Parcel number: 79901127
5. Present Owner: Sandra Rappazini Address: 170 West Ninth Street  
 City Gilroy Zip 95020 Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
6. Present Use: Residence Original use: Residence

DESCRIPTION

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

This large, architecturally complex home is hidden behind a small forest of a variety of trees and is located on a lot which covers about one half of the entire block. The property surrounding this house, including lots across Church and Ninth streets, is part of the estate and has been kept vacant. The house has a double hipped gambrel roofline with enclosed eaves, dentils and a decorated frieze. The large, second floor gable facing Church Street has an oblong window and is topped with a very fancy and exclusive finial. The Narrow clapboard siding is interrupted in the smaller gable above the veranda porch by a row of three double hung windows decorated with wood crisscross patterns. The classic influence is also reflected in the round columns on the porch and the pedimented window outlines.



8. Construction date: Estimated \_\_\_\_\_ Factual 1909
9. Architect Whitehurst
10. Builder Hansen
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
 Frontage 151 Depth 190  
 or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
Mar. 1986

8670-36  
8679-8

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.)

Lyttleton A. Whitehurst (born 1834, Virginia) came west during the Gold Rush. After failing to strike it big, he went east returning to California in 1859 to engage in lumbering in the hills above San Jose. In 1870, he moved to Gilroy and purchased a major interest in William Hanna's old lumber mill. In 1876, he was elected to the Gilroy Common Council and by 1879 was president of the Gilroy Bank. His public service continued with two terms as City Treasurer 1882-86 and 1899-92. In 1892, he was elected Mayor. During this time his business interests expanded into agriculture and the canning industry. In the same year he was elected Mayor, he was also elected to the California State Senate.

Lumbering was a major business and under the partnership with Pleasant Hodges, the team bought a planning and finishing mill, completing all the necessary functions to take lumber from the forest to finished boards. In 1924, with lumbering on the wain around Gilroy, the Whitehurst Hodges holdings were sold.

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

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

A Field Guide to American Houses,  
McAlister  
Gilroy Museum Files - Whitehurst  
Sanborn Maps 1886, 1906

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

Locational sketch map (draw and label site and surrounding streets, roads, and prominent landmarks):

