

Ser. No. _____
HABS _____ HAER _____ Loc _____ SHL No. _____ NR Status 3
UTM: A 10/627647.4096620 C _____
B _____ D _____

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Hecker House
2. Historic name: Hecker House
3. Street or rural address: 222 Martin Street
City Gilroy Zip 95020 County Santa Clara
4. Parcel number: 84100640
5. Present Owner: Theodoro Zamarron Address: 222 Martin Street
City Gilroy Zip 95020 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Residence Original use: Residence

DESCRIPTION

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

222

Martin is a large Italianate house which has become deteriorated. The front porch is partially enclosed and rear porch is fully enclosed. Two fireplaces exist, one on the east side and one on the south side. Detail includes eave brackets and classical porch supports. Asphalt shingle siding on all additions. This single story structure is rectangular in form with a hipped roof. Wide boxed eaves extend on all sides. A full width porch supported by etruscan columns appears to be a later addition.



8. Construction date:
Estimated _____ Factual 1874
9. Architect _____
Unknown
10. Builder _____
Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage 142 Depth 130
or approx. acreage _____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
Mar. 1986

13. Condition: Excellent ___ Good ___ Fair ___ Deteriorated X No longer in existence ___
14. Alterations: enclosed porches
15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land ___ Scattered buildings ___ Densely built-up X
Residential X Industrial ___ Commercial ___ 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 large Italianate house was built in 1874 for the Wood family. David Wood came to California in 1849 to try his fortune in the gold mines. He returned to Illinois that same year, but in 1853, led a wagon train across the plains to Sacramento. Wood arrived in Gilroy in December 1853. After another trip to Illinois, Wood brought his family to Gilroy by ship around Cape Horn. He was an investor and financier in the early days of Gilroy.

In 1888, David Wood's second daughter, Mary Wood, was married to Henry Hecker. The home on Martin Street passed to that family. Henry Hecker came to Gilroy in 1883 and successfully established himself in the grocery business. Henry Hecker was elected Treasurer of Gilroy in 1892 and held the position until 1916. He was President of the Bank of Gilroy from 1908 to 1916 when he was elected to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. He served on that Board until 1945, and was President of the Board several times. He was largely responsible for the building of the Gilroy-Watsonville Road, which bears his name. Hecker was also instrumental in the purchase of Mt. Madonna as a county park in 1927. The house on Martin Street remained the family for many years. It is now the property and residence of Theodore Zamarron.

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

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates.)
- City Tax Rolls
Gilroy Advocate
Gilroy Museum files - Wood family
H. Hecker

22. Date form prepared April 1986
By (name) The Firm of
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