

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No. _____
HABS _____ HAER _____ Loc _____ SHL No. _____ NR Status 5D
UTM: A 10626281/4096347 C _____
B _____ D _____

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: _____
2. Historic name: Riksheim House
3. Street or rural address: 546 Fifth Street
City Gilroy Zip 95020 County Santa Clara
4. Parcel number: 79901802
5. Present Owner: Russel Hodges Address: P.O. Box 183
City Tres Pinos Zip 95075 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Residence Original use: Residence

DESCRIPTION

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

This structure consists of a one story stucco building that was built in a rectangular plan. The roofline is covered with tar and paper. It is in very good condition. Distinctive features include the squared projecting bay with its horizontal-shaped tripartite window which dominates the street facade and the side entry porch with its single squared pillar as support. Four concrete straight steps lead to the porch. Characteristic craftsman elements include the very low gabled roofline with the characteristically exaggerated eave line punctuated by well spaced rafters. Note also the slight shed roof over the bay with its smaller rafters. Oversized and carved gable ends add some detail. Again landscaping unites this site with its neighbors.



8. Construction date:
Estimated _____ Factual 1922
9. Architect _____
Unknown
10. Builder _____
John Riksheim
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage 47 Depth 125
or approx. acreage _____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
Mar. 1986

8672-31

13. Condition: Excellent Good _____ Fair _____ Deteriorated _____ No longer in existence _____
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.)

The builder of this house, John Riksheim, was one of three noted building contractors in Gilroy during the 1920's, 30's and 40's. His wife, Agnes, worked for the Filice and Perrilli Canning Company for many years. She was the supervisor in charge of the department actually putting the fruit or vegetables into the cans. This important position, with the largest cannery in Gilroy, was at the time when the canning industry was at its peak as a leading industry in the region.

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

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).
 Tax Roll books
 Telephone Directories
 Gilroy Museum Files
 Interview - Mary Prien

22. Date form prepared April 1988
 By (name) The Firm of
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