

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

NABS _____ MAER _____ Loc _____ SHL No. _____ NR Status 3D
 UTM: A 10/627396 4096497 C _____
 B _____ D _____

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: The Nimble Thimble
2. Historic name: Johnsons Drug Store
3. Street or rural address: 7451 Monterey Street
 City Gilroy Zip 95020 County Santa Clara
4. Parcel number: 79900755
5. Present Owner: Miguel Gaeta Address: 7320 Princeballe S
 City Gilroy Zip 95020 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Sewing Supply Store Original use: Commercial

DESCRIPTION

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

A relatively original presentation of the original structure, this single story rectangular building is an important component in Old Gilroy streetscape. The unaltered door, glass pannel in wood frame is deeply recessed from the sidewalk. The display windows angle to provide maximum exposure. Brick facing forms a column effect at each end of the storefront. Simple capitals appear to support a plain frieze with a molded cornice. The fenestration band above the sign band in 6 lighs of diamond pattern glazing, an unusual treatment that provides a touch of distinction in an area where most upper lights have been painted or covered with other materials. This structure is the basis for the cohisive styles of single story commercial structures along Monterey.



8. Construction date: Estimated _____ Factual 1924
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Palmer and Gurries
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
 Frontage 22 Depth 140
 or approx. acreage _____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
Mar. 1986

- 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 structure reflects the elements of commercial design appropriate to this type of structure on Monterey Street. This stripped down version of neoclassical revival is the mainstay of continuity in Downtown Gilroy. 7451 Monterey stand as an example for future rehabilitation. The loss of this structure would not only destroy an individual resource, but would seriously damage the integrity of the commercial area.

Within this building can be found many of the interior features of the old drug store (c. 1890). This adds additional value as an individual resource.

A two story building was on this site. It housed a drug store and Dr. Hugo Schmitt upstairs (1920).

This drug store building was built in 1924 for E. Martin Johnson. He and his brother Garrett, were the great grandsons of one of the first American settlers in the valley, the late pioneer, Julius Martin.

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

- 21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).
American Architecture Since 1730
Whiffen
Sanborn Map 1888, 1908, 1926

- 22. Date form prepared April 1986
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