

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

HABS _____ HAER _____ Loc _____ SHL No. _____ NR Status 3D
 UTM: A 10/627323.4096647 C _____
 B _____ D _____

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Bruhn's
2. Historic name: Robinson Building
3. Street or rural address: 7541 and 7543 Monterey Street
- City Gilroy Zip 95020 County Santa Clara
4. Parcel number: 79900648
5. Present Owner: Dick Bruhn Address: P.O. Box 600
- City Salinas Zip 93902 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Clothing Store Original use: Commercial

DESCRIPTION

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

This handsome two story brick building is designed in an early 20th century commercial style with some slight neo-classic touches. It is one of the half dozen major buildings which give Gilroy's central business district its architectural flavor and helps unify the surrounding smaller commercial buildings. The structure is constructed on a large rectangular plan with all of the design elements of the commercial style: a varied parapet, a pronounced cornice with oversized bracket and dentils; paired rectangular windows which are double hung and set in a band across the second story elevation; pronounced molded stringcourses separating floors, and the streetside band of large plate glass windows surrounding recessed glass double door entries. Further detailing is provided by the decorative shield with an inscribed "R" which is centered under a centrally placed flagpole. The centered flagpole is a repeated element found on various downtown Gilroy commercial buildings which is a design holdover from the nineteenth century commercial buildings.



8. Construction date:
Estimated 1915 Factual _____
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage 64 Depth 142
or approx. acreage _____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
Mar. 1986

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

When built, circa 1915, the Robinson Building was a two story hardware store, est. by Amos Robinson. The attractive and interesting facade featured decorative friezes above and below the second story windows. A large "R" monogram at the center top of the structure lends a distinctive touch. The ground level floor, today, houses the Dick Druhn's and M' Lady Bruhn fashion stores. The Robinson Building is a significant commercial structure in the Mainstreet streetscape of Monterey Road.

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 Architect Since 1780
Whiffen

Sanborn Map 1888, 1908

Gilroy Museum File

22. Date form prepared April 1986
By (name) The Firm of
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Locational sketch map (draw and label site and surrounding streets, roads, and prominent landmarks):

