

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No. _____
HABS _____ HAER _____ Loc _____ SHL No. _____ NR Status 6
UTM: A 10/627707/4096790 C _____
B _____ D _____

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: _____
2. Historic name: Mary E. Ward House
3. Street or rural address: 7554 Forest Street
City Gilroy Zip 95020 County Santa Clara
4. Parcel number: 84100516
5. Present Owner: Jorge Gonzales Address: 149 Gifford Ave
City San Jose Zip 95110 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Residence Original use: Residence

DESCRIPTION

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

This one story rectangular home is one of the oldest in Gilroy. The simple structure with horizontal board siding is a hall and parlor design (4 rooms). The medium pitch roof is covered with composition shingles.



8. Construction date: Estimated _____ Factual 1870
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet) Frontage 55 Depth 142
or approx. acreage _____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s) Mar. 1936

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

Thomas Eugene Ward was born in Tennessee in 1844. When he came to California is unknown. He appears for the first time in Gilroy records in 1872. He may have worked in the planning mill in town until 1884 when he left and went to the mills in the mountains west of town. What the connection is between Thomas E. Ward and Mary E. Ward could not be determined. Mary Ward is shown as the owner of the house from 1885 through 1915.

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

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).
 Gilroy Museum Files - Ward House
 A FIELD GUIDE TO AMERICAN HOUSES,
 McAlister
 Sanborn Maps: 1888, 1906, 1926

22. Date form prepared April 1988
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