

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

HABS	HAER	Loc	SHL No.	NR Status
UTM: A	10/627353/4096723		C	3/30
B			D	

IDENTIFICATION

- Common name: Montgomery Auto Parts
- Historic name: Masonic Temple
- Street or rural address: 7598 Monterey Street  
City Gilroy Zip 95020 County Santa Clara
- Parcel number: 84100565
- Present Owner: Montgomery Auto Parts Address: 7598 Monterey Street  
City Gilroy Zip 95020 Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
- Present Use: Auto parts store Original use: Masonic temple

DESCRIPTION

- Architectural style: Italian Renaissance
- Briefly describe the present *physical appearance* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

This two story, turn-of-the-century collection of styles is classified Mediterranean Revival style due to the tile roof and the many arches and columns which decorate the walls of the building. The detailing includes ideas from many other architectural schools, such as the quatrefoil windows and the decorated brackets under the eaves. Other distinguishing features include small round windows above the overhanging hoods that shade the side windows, fancy scrollwork located above the four center windows facing Monterey Street and a flagpole with a finial. A series of columns divides the upper story windows and there is a glass storefront on the lower story.



- Construction date:  
Estimated \_\_\_\_\_ Factual 1902
- Architect William Weeks
- Builder William Radtke
- Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage 55 Depth 193  
or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
- Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
Mar. 1986

13. Condition: Excellent \_\_\_ Good ^ Fair \_\_\_ Deteriorated \_\_\_ No longer in existence \_\_\_
14. Alterations: storefronts
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.)

The Gilroy Masonic Lodge, number 187, was begun in January, 1868. It was named for Hohn M. Keith, who was one of the petitioners for the incorporation of the city of Gilroy and the first Town Clerk. Plans for the Masonic Temple were begun in 1901. The well known architect, William H. Weeks, designed this building. Property for the Masonic Temple was donated by Alexander Watson, a member of the lodge. The first meeting in the new building was held in September of 1902. In 1921 local builder William Radtke was given the contract to improve and extend the building.

The lower portion of the building today houses the Montgomery Auto Parts Store.

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 2

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).

American Architecture Since 1780, Whiffen  
Sanborn Map 1888, 1908

22. Date form prepared April 1986  
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