

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 1 of 1

NRHP Status Code 5

\*Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) None

- B1. Historic Name: The Whitney Residence
- B2. Common Name: Tabaquin and Leyva Residence
- B3. Original Use: Residence
- B4. Present Use: Residence
- \* B5. Architectural Style: Prairie
- \* B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)

Enclosure of front porch, removal of ribbon drive, some interior alterations.

- \* B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_
- \* B8. Related Features:

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

- \* B10. Significance: Theme Residential Architecture Area Fresno  
Period of Significance \_\_\_\_\_ Property Type Residential Construction Applicable Criteria N/A

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

Constructed in 1918, the house was purchased by Ernest E. Whitney, a sales agent for the National Cash Register Company. Whitney sold the property in 1924 to Louis N. and Bertha F. Slater, owners Slater Furniture Company.

Louis Slater was born in Lithuania in 1886 and educated in Europe prior to his arrival in the United States in 1907. After spending time in New York and Milwaukee, Slater had settled in Fresno in 1911 to begin his furniture business. With as many as five stores at one time, Slater decided to combine the stores into one. This allowed Slater time for civic affairs and he served as president of the Old Commercial Club, chairman of the Finance Committee of the Fresno Chapter of the American Red Cross for twenty years, treasurer for the "March of Dimes," director of the Community Chest, director of the Fresno County Tuberculosis Association, the Merchants Association, and the director of the Fresno State College Foundation. He was also the chairman of Draft Board No. 128, and involved in the Kiwanis Club and the Masons. Mr. Slater also served as vice-president of the Fresno County Chamber of Commerce and Temple Beth Israel, as well as the president of B'nai B'rith.

The Slater's resided at 1025 East Yale until 1950 at which time it was purchased by Harry J. Hendry and his wife, Catherine. Hendry was an agent for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company. Current owners are Fe A. Tabaquin and Aileen Leyva.

The home relates well to the neighborhood and is a strong contributor to the Historic District.

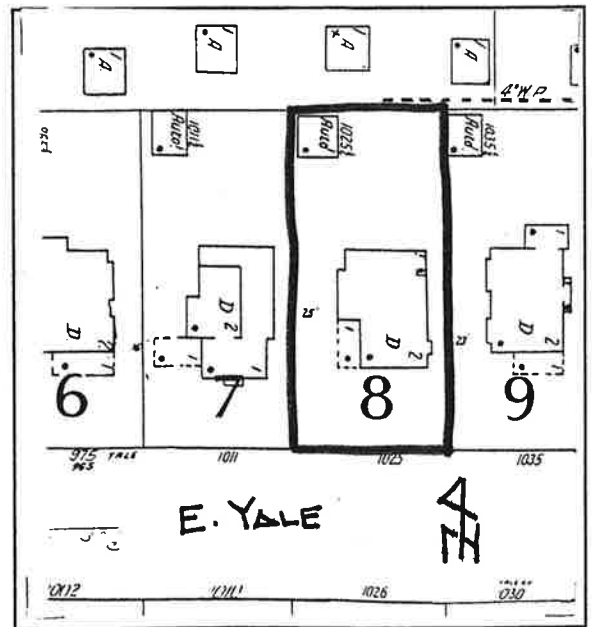
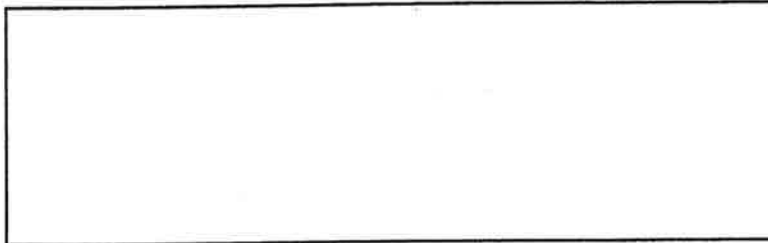
B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP2

- \* B12. References: "The Porter Tract, an Historical and Architectural Survey," CARA Group, Fresno City College, Spring, 1990. City of Fresno Development Department files. The Fresno City Polk Directories, 1919-1961. Fresno Community Book, 1946, Walker, Ben Randal. History of Fresno County and the San Joaquin Valley, 1933, Winchell, Lilborne

B. 13. Remarks: None

- \* B14. Evaluation: Laura Parrott and Dolores Mellon, Historic Preservation, City of Fresno

\* Date of Evaluation: 10/2000



Ser. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_ SHL No. \_\_\_\_\_ NR Status \_\_\_\_\_  
 UTM: A \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_  
 B \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY**

**IDENTIFICATION**

1. Common name: Wolfe/ Avila Home
2. Historic name: George A. Wolfe Home
3. Street or rural address: 1035 E. Yale Ave.  
 City Fresno Zip 93704 County Fresno
4. Parcel number: 444-084-14
5. Present Owner: Mr. & Mrs. Charles D. McKnight Address: 1035 E. Yale Ave.  
 City Fresno Zip 93704 Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
6. Present Use: Residence Original use: Residence

**DESCRIPTION**

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

The Wolfe Home is located 2.2 miles north of the Fresno County Courthouse on the north side of E. Yale Avenue, between Moroa and College Avenues.

This two-story Prairie Style home is constructed of wood frame with a brown stucco exterior on the first story and painted brown plain shingles on the second story exterior. The structure is rectangular in shape and includes approximately 2600 square feet. The cross gabled composition roof rests over the second story, while an asymmetrical low hipped roof, supported by vine covered pillars, covers the front porch and shades the entry. The bevelled glass windows on the first story front facade are asymmetrical, while the windows on the second story are symmetrical. The top portion of each of these windows has a diamond shaped design incorporated into the window.

The home features hardwood floors, a large clinker brick fireplace that covers the entire west wall of the livingroom and a glassed in back porch. The glassed in back porch or garden room was added later and includes French doors collected from various neighboring homes on E. Cambridge and E. Yale Avenues.

In 1977, several walls were removed and the kitchen enlarged and remodeled.

The landscaping is mature, well maintained and typical of the area.



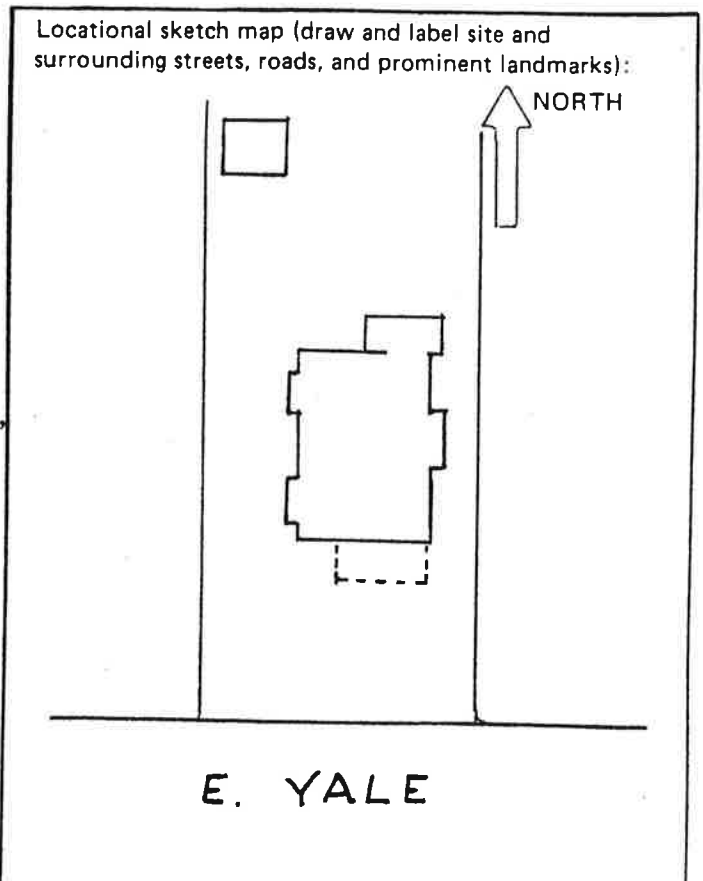
8. Construction date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Estimated 1915 Factual \_\_\_\_\_
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
 Frontage 75 Depth 135  
 or approx. acreage .232
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
April 1990

13. Condition: Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated  No longer in existence
14. Alterations: Glassed in back porch, removed several walls to enlarge and remodel kitchen
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?  Yes Moved?  Unknown?
18. Related features: \_\_\_\_\_

#### SIGNIFICANCE

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)  
The home was first occupied by George A. Wolfe (1885-1944) and his wife, Joanna (1892-1957), in 1915. Mr. Wolfe was a member of the Giffen-Wolfe Agency, authorized dealer for Ford and Lincoln automobiles and owner of Fordson Tractors and Garage Supplies.  
The second prominent resident was Mr. Henry Avila and his wife Anna. Mr. Avila was assistant manager of Pacific Southwest Trust and Savings and later vice-president of Security-First National Bank. In 1926, he was elected treasurer of the Exchange Clubs of California.  
The home has had eight residents over the past seventy-five years, including Mr. Ergo A. Majors, a relative of the founder of the Pony Express, and Reverend Buford M. Karraker, formerly director of Youth for Christ, presently the pastor of the Northwest Baptist Church. During Reverend Karraker's residence, the home was known as the "Youth for Christ House" and was frequented by many of the youth of Fresno. The current resident, Mrs. Joan B. McKnight reports that this block of E. Yale was known as the "Block of Ministers" for the number of ministers residing there.

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)  
Architecture  Arts & Leisure \_\_\_\_\_  
Economic/Industrial  Exploration/Settlement \_\_\_\_\_  
Government \_\_\_\_\_ Military \_\_\_\_\_  
Religion \_\_\_\_\_ Social/Education \_\_\_\_\_
21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates). FIELD GUIDE TO AMERICAN HOUSES, McAlester; HISTORY OF FRESNO COUNTY, Vandor; FRESNO MORNING REPUBLICAN, 5-29-26; Interview. McKnight/Thompson, 4/1/90
22. Date form prepared May 10, 1990  
By (name) Cheryl R. Thompson  
Organization Fresno City College, Special  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Studies 77  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



## ADDENDUM

1. **Common Name:** Maily Residence
2. **Historic Name:** Wolfe Residence
3. **Address:** 1035 East Yale
5. **Present Owner:** Jocelyn Maily

7c.



**Date of Photo:** 10/2000

21. **References:** CARA Group, "The Porter Tract, an Historical and Architectural Survey," Fresno City College, Spring, 1990. City of Fresno Development Department files. The Fresno City Polk Directories, 1919-1961. Walker, Ben Randal, Fresno Community Book, 1946. Vandor, Paul E., History of Fresno County, 1919, v.2.

22. **Date of Addendum:** October, 2000  
**By:** Laura Parrott and Dolores Mellon  
**Organization:** City of Fresno  
**Address:** 2600 Fresno Street, Room 3076, Fresno, CA 93721  
**Phone:** (559) 498-2639