

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ NR \_\_\_\_\_ SHL \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM: A 492800 B 3611210  
C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Helen Kneiss House
2. Historic name: Charles Farmer House
3. Street or rural address: 354 Del Mar Avenue  
City Chula Vista Zip 92010 County San Diego
4. Parcel number: 568-351-16
5. Present Owner: Helen L. Kneiss Address: 354 Del Mar Avenue  
City Chula Vista Zip 92010 Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private
6. Present Use: residential Original use: residential

DESCRIPTION

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

Legal: Chula Vista Villa Tct No 2, Blk 5, Lot 14 Map 120C, Dec. #01971  
This one story bungalow features wooden shingles on the gable ends and clapboard siding from the foundation to the window sills. The siding is flared at the foundation line. The house has a medium, street-facing gable roof with a double gable in front, wide eaves with knee braces, and exposed rafter ends in most areas. The lower left side of the house roof is extended forward to form the left half of the gable roof that shelters an open front porch. The porch roof is supported by a short square pillar on a rock face concrete block pier at each front corner. A railing of concrete block surrounds the porch. The two street-facing windows in this home appear to be fixed. Each has a 14 pane fixed transom just above it. A small 8 paned attic window graces the front gable end. Other details include an interior block chimney, an angled bay window on the left side, and two popouts on the right side. Windows are double hung.



8. Construction date:  
Estimated 1909 Factual \_\_\_\_\_
9. Architect unknown
10. Builder unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage 50 Depth 125  
or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
1985

492800/3611210

12. Condition: Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated  No longer in existence
14. Alterations: none apparent
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?  Moved?  Unknown?
18. Related features: shrubs

**SIGNIFICANCE**

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

This house apparently was constructed in 1909. According to the tax assessment records, Mrs. E. M. Blodgett owned the property in 1912 and 1913. Later owners included Charles J. Farmer from 1914 to 1917, Lenora Hubbell in 1918 and 1919, and Myrtle Palmer from 1920 to 1930. During the 1920s, a number of people lived at this address with Myrtle Palmer, perhaps indicating that she took in boarders. This nicely designed bungalow retains integrity of style and materials. The house is one of only a few in Chula Vista that incorporate Wizard (concrete) as a construction material. The Wizard block machine was invented around the turn of the century and the type of blocks used in this house are called "rock face."

block

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).

Water records  
CV Tax Assessment Rolls  
City directories

22. Date form prepared 9-10-1985  
By (name) K Webster  
Organization City of Chula Vista  
Address: PO Box 1087  
City Chula Vista Zip 92012  
Phone: 691-5101

Locational sketch map (draw and label site and surrounding streets, roads, and prominent landmarks):

