

ARIZONA STATE HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY

HISTORIC PROPERTY NAME Gus Kratzka House		COUNTY Pinal County	INVENTORY NO. CG-126
COMMON PROPERTY NAME Gus Kratzka House		QUAD/COUNTY MAP	
PROPERTY LOCATION-STREET & NO. North Maricopa and 3rd Street			
CITY, TOWN/VICINITY OF Casa Grande		ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO. 507-07-032	
OWNER OF PROPERTY Millard E. Jernigan		PHONE	
STREET & NO./P.O. BOX P. O. Box 1311			
CITY, TOWN Casa Grande,		STATE Arizona	ZIP 85222
FORM PREPARED BY Janus Associates Inc.		DATE 9/82	
STREET & NO./P.O. BOX 2121 South Priest Suite 127		PHONE 967-7117	
CITY, TOWN Tempe,		STATE Arizona	ZIP 85282
PHOTO BY Casa Grande Survey Volunteer		DATE June 1982	
VIEW looking east			
HISTORIC USE residence			
PRESENT USE residence		ACREAGE less/one	
ARCHITECT/BUILDER			
CONSTRUCTION/MODIFICATION DATES Built 1929			



PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The Gus Kratzka House is a large single-story bungalow of rusticated concrete block construction, with a medium-pitched gable roof covered with composition shingles. The broad over-hanging roof has exposed eaves and the gable end of the main facade is bracketed. The building features a full-length open porch with rusticated concrete block walls, and low square piers at the porch entry and block support piers at the corners. The gable end of the porch is stuccoed and is tapered with a central peak. Stuccoed side walls of the porch form an arch. A rectangular five-light window with lattice ventilator above is located beneath the gable. A steeply pitched gable dormer rests on the west slope. The rear (south) portion of the roof is hipped with a latticed gable. Three-light windows on the main facade flank the offset single-leaf, three-light panelled door. Side windows are covered with screen. On the south facade are two iron-grilled windows, a single-leaf central door and two small windows. The house is exceptionally well-maintained. A modern concrete block out-structure with a gabled roof is behind the main structure.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE/HISTORY

The Gus Kratzka House is an outstanding example of a bungalow executed in rusticated cast concrete. Built in 1929, the house has been exceptionally well-maintained and exhibits major bungalow design features. An unusual interior feature of the house when built was a "California cooler", a cupboard connected to the basement to provide a cooled place for foods.

Gustav Kratzka was a German immigrant who opened the Berlin Bakery and Cafe in Casa Grande in 1912, in addition to farming 720 acres west of town. He rebuilt his bakery and restaurant after the 1914 fire, and retired in 1928. During this period, he was elected a director of the Casa Grande Valley Water Users' Association, organized a brass band, and bred Percheron horses.

The Kratzka House, with its stylistic qualities and its well-maintained condition, makes a positive contribution to the overall character of the surrounding neighborhood.

SOURCES OF ABOVE INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY

Casa Grande Valley Historical Society newspaper index
Casa Grande Valley Historical Society history files

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA/LEGAL DESCRIPTION/VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 1, 2, 3, Block 6, Casa Grande Townsite

USGS QUAD - CASA GRANDE WEST

UTM references on continuation sheet

GENERAL COMMENTS/FUTURE PLANS FOR PROPERTY