

## 47. BALMANNOS RESIDENCE 207 Elmwood Court (1927)



**Landmark Preservation Commission Resolution:** March 15, 1999  
**Designated by City Council:** May 4, 1999

**Description:** This 1.5-story rectangular residence is sheathed in stucco and has a steeply pitched, gabled roof of composition shingles. An intersecting gable faces the street and extends to cover an arched entry on one side and a matching archway leading to the rear yard on the other side. Decorative brick work outlines both arches. The main entrance is slightly recessed and its rounded top reflects the shape of the arched structural opening. Between the two archways is a large stationary window with a curved top. Centered in the wall to the other side of the entrance is a prominent double chimney, constructed of stucco and trimmed with brick. Flanking the chimney is a pair of tall multipaned casement windows. There is a single, front facing shed dormer with a diamond paned window. The peak of the gable contains a narrow, arched louvered vent the house and surroundings are well maintained.

**Historic Significance:** The house was constructed by Lloyd and Ida Gross in 1927. Gross served with the American Forces during World War I as a pilot He received his training at March field and was commissioned as a second lieutenant After his discharge in 1919, he became an aerial photographer. His aerial views of Modesto in the early 1920s are in the McHenry Museum archives. His wife, Ida Foote Gross, was a longtime art instructor at Modesto and Downey High Schools and became a well-known local artist after her retirement in 1961.