

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ NR 3 SHL \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM: A10/515940/4280800 B \_\_\_\_\_  
C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Alexander Valley Community Center
2. Historic name: People's Church
3. Street or rural address: 6640 Highway 128  
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448 County Sonoma
4. Parcel number: 131-170-11
5. Present Owner: Alexander Valley Community Church Address: 3674 Highway 128  
Association c/o Mrs. Ruby Wasson  
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448 Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
6. Present Use: Private non-comm Original use: \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION

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

A bell tower with a pointed roof emerges from the left side of the gable roof on this one-story church. The siding is rustic and the cornices are boxed. The windows are double-hung with sill blocks. In front, stick work above a pair of windows forms a gothic arch. There is similar stick work over the panelled double-doors though it is obscured by a small gabled portico with square, tapered column atop a solid balustrade. The tower has sawn brackets, a geometric balustrade and an arch with a pendant on all four sides. Topping the tower is a weathervane. There are additions in the rear.



8. Construction date: Estimated \_\_\_\_\_ Factual 1896
9. Architect \_\_\_\_\_
10. Builder \_\_\_\_\_
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage 69.30 Depth 312.84  
or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
11 Jun 83 40/30, 40/31

13. Condition: Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated  No longer in existence
14. Alterations: None visible in front but perch may be an addition
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: Vineyards

**SIGNIFICANCE**

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)  
Peoples Church of Christ founded 1876, has been serving the religious and social needs of Alexander Valley residents for over one hundred years. Built manually and financially by the people of the Valley in 1896 the "Peoples Church" was dedicated that year. A new social hall was built in 1912, and a kitchen added to the annex in 1916. The Peoples Church of Christ declared itself non-denominational in 1897, baptisms were held in the Russian River with Preacher Will Ware ministering til 1915. Ware often used his son, Paul, as an example when young children were afraid of the water. Consequently, Paul was baptized five times. Rev. William Floyd of Healdsburg was the first pastor.

This church, unaltered since its construction, is a classic example of the late victorian aesthetic applied to rural architecture.

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)  
Architecture 2 Arts & Leisure   
Economic/Industrial  Exploration/Settlement   
Government  Military   
Religion 1 Social/Education

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).  
Trib.: 8/6/1896, 4/8/1897, 4/15/1897, 11/24/1898, 1/4/12, 3/9/16.  
Ent.: 12/25/15  
INT.: Paul Ware 4/83

22. Date form prepared August 17, 1983  
By (name) Langhart Museum (TW)  
Organization City of Healdsburg  
Address: 133 Matheson Street  
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448  
Phone: (707) 433-4717

