

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No. _____
HABS _____ HAER _____ NR 3 SHL _____ Loc _____
UTM: A10/517130/4282740 B _____
C _____ D _____

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Scherrer House
2. Historic name: Charles Alexander House
3. Street or rural address: 7752 Highway 128
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448 County Sonoma
4. Parcel number: 131-220-06-3
5. Present Owner: Scherrer, Edwin Rowe & Margaret Evelyn Address: 7752 Highway 128
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Residential Original use: Residential

DESCRIPTION

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

This rectangular two-story house has gabled ends and shed roofed veranda across the front. In the rear is a one-story addition. The cornices are closed or flush with the walls and the entire structure is covered with asbestos shingles. The windows are double-hung with plain frames. The veranda has square posts atop square, capped, pedestals. The balustrade are simple posts and rails. A chimney at one of the gable ends may be a recent addition or replacement.



8. Construction date: Estimated _____ Factual 1853
9. Architect _____
10. Builder Stewart
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage _____ Depth _____
or approx. acreage 73.81
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
7 Jan 83 40/13

13. Condition: Excellent ___ Good Fair ___ Deteriorated ___ No longer in existence ___

14. Alterations: Siding and rear bay

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: Vineyard, garages, and barns

SIGNIFICANCE

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

Charles Alexander, following the pattern of his uncle, Cyrus Alexander, the first Euro-American settler in the survey area, was the biggest promoter of Alexander Valley in its history. Born in 1829 in Illinois, he joined Cyrus in 1850, purchased this land and in 1853 hired Stewart, founder of Stewart's Point Mill on the Sonoma County Coast, to build his house, the logs coming from the mill at Stewart's Point. His wife, Achsah of the pioneer Levi Smith family, arrived with two children in 1853 and maintained this home for 30 years. Continuing to increase his holdings, which eventually amounted to 2,000 acres in 1870, bordering both sides of Maacama Creek, he experimented with new strains of fruit and nut trees and was recognized as having the largest orchard in the county. Frequently advertising his property for sale, he sold most of his holdings in the height of the quick silver mining excitement in 1875. Moving to Healdsburg in 1880, he died in 1897.

Superficial covering of this structure mars the otherwise pristine state of one of the earliest residences in northern Sonoma County. However, the basic structural integrity is intact.

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 1
Government ___ Military ___
Religion ___ Social/Education ___

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).

Hist. of Alex. Valley 1879
So. Co. Atlas 1877, 1898
Ent.: 11/14/1878, 2/27/1879,
10/17/1878.

Trib.: 6/1/1897 August 17, 1983

22. Date form prepared
By (name) Langhart Museum (TW)
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