

Ser. No. _____
HABS _____ HAER _____ NR 3 SHL _____ Loc _____
UTM: A 10/514640/4269700 B _____
C _____ D _____

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Purple House
2. Historic name: Ward Ranch
3. Street or rural address: 10860 Old Redwood Highway
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448 County Sonoma
4. Parcel number: 065-310-16
5. Present Owner: Smith, F. & M. Address: 10860 Old Redwood Hwy.
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Residential Original use: Residential

DESCRIPTION

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

A large, rectangular, two-story house with a hip roof and a centered front gable. The house has a plain boxed cornice and frieze. In the front gable is a small single-paned window, surrounded by cut shingles. This structure has double-hung windows with each sash having two panes. They occur singly and in pairs and have molded caps. The siding is channel rustic.



8. Construction date:
Estimated _____ Factual 1887
9. Architect _____
10. Builder _____
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage _____ Depth _____
or approx. acreage 19.4
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
14 Apr 83 53/18

13. Condition: Excellent ___ Good ___ Fair X Deteriorated ___ No longer in existence ___
14. Alterations: _____
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 X Private development ___ Zoning ___ Vandalism ___
Public Works project ___ Other: _____
17. Is the structure: On its original site? X Moved? ___ Unknown? ___
18. Related features: _____

SIGNIFICANCE

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

Thomas Alfred Ward built this large, and highly visible (located near Hwy. 101 freeway near Windsor), ranch home in 1887. Part of the "third wave" of agricultural immigrants to come to Sonoma County (1880-1890), Ward was born and raised in Hull, England, son and grandson of extensive ship owners. Thomas apprenticed on a sailing ship in 1833, becoming junior officer within four year. His travels took him many times around the world, and in fact he landed in the Port of San Francisco in 1849 but did not abandon ship. Entering his father's shipping firm in 1860, he married Lucy Kneeshaw in 1868 and immigrated to Minnesota in the same year. They ranched for twenty years in Anoka, Minnesota, and had all of their children there. In 1886 the family moved to New Zealand and in 1887 they came to Healdsburg to purchase the ranch that was their last home. Thomas A. Ward's wife died in Minnesota in 1873; he died in Healdsburg June 29, 1917. This very large but simple structure is typical of the economy of form used to construct ranch houses for large families.

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 ___ Social/Education 1
21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).
Hist. So. Co.: 1937
INT.: Evelyn Iversen 3/83
Trib.: 6/5/17
So. Co. Atlas 1877, 1898
22. Date form prepared August 11, 1983
By (name) Langhart Museum (TW)
Organization City of Healdsburg
Address: 133 Matheson Street
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448
Phone: (707) 433-4717

