

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ NR 4 SHL \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM: A10/511000/4274980 B \_\_\_\_\_  
C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Hassett's Castle
2. Historic name: Hassett's Ranch
3. Street or rural address: 94 West Grant  
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448 County Sonoma
4. Parcel number: 089-130-21-5
5. Present Owner: Austin, Perry D. & Norma H. Address: 94 West Grant  
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 two-story house has a centered front gable and gabled ends. In the rear is a one-story shed roofed addition. The house has a molded boxed cornice and frieze. The siding is channel rustic and extends into the open gables which have returns. Windows are double-hung and are placed symmetrically in the front. Some are in groups of three. Across the front is a shed-roofed porch with constructed square pillars atop a solid balustrade with narrow vertical siding. The rafters ends are exposed and there are open braces. The facade appears to have been altered and the front porch was probably a later addition.



8. Construction date:  
Estimated 1870 Factual \_\_\_\_\_
9. Architect \_\_\_\_\_
10. Builder \_\_\_\_\_
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage 147 9 Depth 150  
or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
11 Nov 82 34/24

13. Condition: Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated  No longer in existence
14. Alterations: Entrance door and some aluminum windows
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: Tall redwoods and one cedar

#### SIGNIFICANCE

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)  
This structure, although missing most of its exterior detail was one of the most prestigious homes of its day. Built between 1870 and 1875 by pioneer John D. Hassett, it quickly became known as "Hassett's Castle" by residents. Hassett, born in Ohio in 1832, came to California as a miner in 1852 and to Healdsburg in 1853. With his brother, Aaron, he worked at the sawmill of Felty Miller on Mill Creek (built 1850). Hassett built his own saw mill in 1855. In 1858 Aaron and John built the first grist mill in Healdsburg, and later established the Sotoyome Meat Market. Meanwhile, both brothers became large landowners and ranchers, having adjoining ranches in this area. Hassett married Ella Laughlin, and this property was inherited by their daughter Carrie, who married George C. Mason in 1902.

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. So. Co. 1880, 1926  
So. Co. Atlas 1877, 1898  
Int. Robert Hassett 1/83
22. Date form prepared August 16, 1983  
By (name) Langhart Museum (clm)  
Organization City of Healdsburg  
Address: 133 Matheson Street  
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448  
Phone: (707) 433-4717

