

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No. _____
HABS _____ HAER _____ NR 3 SHL _____ Loc _____
UTM: A 10/510770/4270520 B _____
C _____ D _____

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Floyd Darby House
2. Historic name: John R. Truitt House
3. Street or rural address: 3280 Westside Road
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448 County Sonoma
4. Parcel number: 110-080-21-5
5. Present Owner: Tellyer, Harry B. & Marg M. Address: 3280 Westside Road
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Residential Original use: Residential

DESCRIPTION

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

This one-story house has gabled ends and a large 1½ story gabled bay in the front. There are also two gabled front dormer. The cornices are boxed and the siding is lap rustic. The gables are steep with sawn braces and finials. Two of the gables have bracketed ends. The windows are multi-paned double-hungs with narrow molded caps. On either side of the bay are roofed porches.



8. Construction date: Estimated 1865 Factual _____
9. Architect _____
10. Builder _____
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage _____ Depth _____
or approx. acreage 7.24
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
22 Apr 83 50/09

13. Condition: Excellent ___ Good ___ Fair X Deteriorated ___ No longer in existence ___
14. Alterations: None visible
15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land X 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.)

Hailed as "Boss of the Wheat Raisers" in 1879 John R. Truitt raised 29 to 33 bushels to the acre at a time when wheat fields were deteriorating in general in the area. Located in lower Dry Creek Valley this was the home of John R. and Sarah Hopper Truitt. John, born 1839 in Missouri, crossed the plains with his parents in 1849 to work the gold fields. Finding success, they went to Texas where they owned a cotton farm. On their return to California in 1856, 36 passengers of their group lost their lives in a massacre. The family lived on several ranches in the survey area between 1856 and 1864 when he settled on this ranch and married Sarah Hopper. He also managed several ranches in the vicinity. Sarah, daughter of David Hopper, land magnate of Dry Creek Valley, was born 1848 in Missouri, and came to Healdsburg in 1857. She and John had two children. John died in 1927, Sarah in 1899. The home was remodeled in the 1930's by Floyd Darby.

This is one of the earliest farmhouses existing in good repair in the survey area, and is virtually unaltered. As such, it is an excellent example of its era.

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).

Atlas: 1877, 1898
 Trib.: 11/9/1899
 Ent.: 8/7/1879, 3/15/1919,
 3/10/1927

22. Date form prepared August 15, 1983
 By (name) Langhart Museum (TW)
 Organization City of Healdsburg
 Address: 133 Matheson Street
 City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448
 Phone: (707) 433-4717

