

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: _____
2. Historic name: Frank Passalacqua House
3. Street or rural address: 726 Fitch Street
City Healdsburg Zip 95448 County _____
4. Parcel number: 002-051-11
5. Present Owner: Passalacqua, Francis M. & Elsie Address: P.O. Box 925
City Healdsburg Zip 95448 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Residential Original use: Residential

DESCRIPTION

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

Dominating this block of Fitch Street is this imposing Neo-Classical Revival mansion of two stories built in 1914. The molded frieze with dentils, molded lintels and sills of the windows, a Palladian window above the entrance combined with the impressive porch denote the style. The porch is a shallow central bay with a pair of two-story round columns with Ionic capitals above egg and dart and a band of classical floral decorations. The entrance porch and stairs are white marble. Above the entrance framing the Palladian window is a balcony with a balustrade of turned and square posts and the corner square posts topped with turned knobs.



8. Construction date:
Estimated _____ Factual 1914
9. Architect Brainerd Jones
10. Builder _____
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage 266 Depth 228
or approx. acreage _____
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
11 Oct. 1982 26/09

13. Condition: Excellent Good _____ Fair _____ 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 Private development _____ Zoning _____ Vandalism _____
Public Works project _____ Other: _____
17. Is the structure: On its original site? Moved? _____ Unknown? _____
18. Related features: Concrete foundation

SIGNIFICANCE

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

This imposing home was built for Frank Passalacqua. Mr. Passalacqua was born in Italy in 1846. He came first to the mining camps of California then moved to Healdsburg where he had a truck garden and a vegetable wagon. He prospered and eventually owned a winery on Piper Street and circa 1904 bought the Fitch Mountain Winery whose vineyards stretched from the 700 block of Fitch Street to Sherman Street. Coming from humble beginnings to great wealth Frank was determined to build the "best house in town". By June 1914 with bids for construction awarded to William J. Cuneo and brickwork to James Burgett and Son, work was started on the house designed by Brainerd Jones. Jones was said to have designed the house to last 300 years. The house is now owned by Francis Passalacqua Jr. and has been meticulously maintained. This house is the most striking example of the economic success of the Italian/American community in Healdsburg.

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

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

Interview: Francis Passalacqua Jr.

22. Date form prepared July 21, 1983
 By (name) Langhart Museum (JM)
 Organization City of Healdsburg
 Address: 133 Matheson Street
 City Healdsburg Zip 95448
 Phone: (707) 433-4717

