

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ NR 3 SHL \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM: A 10/512180/4274060  
C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Riverside Villa Mobile Park
2. Historic name: Oscar Walker Resort
3. Street or rural address: 541 Front Street  
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448 County Sonoma
4. Parcel number: 002-281-27-7
5. Present Owner: Eccles, John G. Address: 541 Front Street  
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448 Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
6. Present Use: Commercial Original use: Residential

DESCRIPTION

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

A two-story structure with gabled ends and a closed center gable. This rectangular structure has narrow molding covering the joint between the boxed cornice and the plain frieze which narrows under the front gable. Cut shingles fill the front gable. Windows are mostly tall narrow double-hungs with molded caps. Some of the windows do not appear to be original. Centered in the facade are single doors on both levels, the lower having a transom. The front porch has chamfered square posts with a molded rail and plain balusters. It is topped by a similar balustrade. The structure is covered with channel rustic siding.



8. Construction date:  
Estimated \_\_\_\_\_ Factual 1883
9. Architect \_\_\_\_\_
10. Builder \_\_\_\_\_
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage \_\_\_\_\_ Depth \_\_\_\_\_  
or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
27 Sep 82 20/18

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: Surrounded by Riverside Villa Mobile Park

**SIGNIFICANCE**

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)  
Taking advantage of his prime location on the Russian River, Oscar Walker began catering to summer visitor traffic in 1895, when he opened his resort. With this residence located on the banks of the river, he built a bathing gymnasium with pools of various depths, and a bath house for his guests comfort. Oscar, born in 1838 in Pennsylvania, married Mary (born 1854 in Iowa), and raised a family of eight children, along with being street commissioner between 1898 and 1904. The Villa was a hotel in the 20's and 30's, and again because of its location, was the center for bootlegging operations on the river. In 1947, Robert Edwards began the operation of a trailer court which has continued to the present time. Although the lower-story windows have been altered, this is a classic rural farmhouse with minimal ornamentation.

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)  
Architecture 2 Arts & Leisure 1  
Economic/Industrial \_\_\_\_\_ Exploration/Settlement \_\_\_\_\_  
Government \_\_\_\_\_ Military \_\_\_\_\_  
Religion \_\_\_\_\_ Social/Education \_\_\_\_\_
21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates). Tax Asses. 1873  
Trib: 6/27/1895, 5/5/1898, 8/6/04  
Ent: 5/7/04, 8/6/04  
1900 Census  
Int: Less Hay; Waldo Iverson;  
Cecil Petray August 12, 1983
22. Date form prepared \_\_\_\_\_  
By (name) Langhart Museum (clm)  
Organization City of Healdsburg  
Address: 133 Matheson Street  
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448  
Phone: (707) 433-4717

