

Ser. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ NR 3 SHL \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM: A 10511600 4274580 B \_\_\_\_\_  
C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

### HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

#### IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Dr. Seawell's House
2. Historic name: Powell Mansion
3. Street or rural address: 211 North Street  
City Healdsburg Zip 95448 County Sonoma
4. Parcel number: 002-161-25
5. Present Owner: Lewand, Raymond G & Delmas P. Address: 211 North Street  
City Healdsburg Zip 95448 Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
6. Present Use: Commercial Original use: Residential

#### DESCRIPTION

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

This is a two story building with the typical Italianate roof and cornice bracketed detailing. The exterior materials are horizontal siding stop at the corners with a quoin type detailing. The entrance of the building is set off by a deeply recessed door with a paladian type fan light transom. The roof of the entrance is supported with doric columns and pilasters. There is a rear extension to the building which is done in the same architecture as the original. Sonoma County Atlas 1877 shows a flat bracketed portico on this building. Apparently the columned portico was added when the later addition was done.



- . Construction date:  
Estimated \_\_\_\_\_ Factual 1871
- . Architect \_\_\_\_\_
- J. Builder William H. Middleton
1. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage 89 Depth 323  
or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
2. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
19 Aug 1982

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: \_\_\_\_\_

### SIGNIFICANCE

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

This house is an example of the more formal and stoic Italianate that characterized the earlier dwellings of the period. There is a noticeable lack of any exuberant millworking details characteristic of later houses. Built by one of Healdsburg's most wealthy, and influential pioneers in 1871, this recently-restored structure is a pivoted landmark of the North Street district. Born in Tennessee in 1824, Powell came to the California mines in 1849 and to Healdsburg in 1856, opening a pioneer grocery. Powell eventually became the largest landowner in northern Sonoma County after switching to real estate in 1860. Powell had two Healdsburg streets named after him, helped organize the Farmers and Mechanics Bank, and survived five wives before his death in 1910. In 1892 he sold this home to build another (see 089-110-07). Most important to current local memory are the second residents (1892 to 1969) the Dr. J.W. Seawell family. The most known and loved doctor ever to have lived in Healdsburg (delivering most of the new population in that era), Seawell ran a sanitarium and hospital in an addition to this residence and later helped found the first Healdsburg General Hospital in 1920 before his death in 1937.

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

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates). Hist. So. Co. 1880, 1889, 1911  
Langhart Museum  
History of Sonoma County, p. 895-7  
Russian River Recorder (fall & Win. Tax Asses.: 1867-1892 1982)

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

