

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No. _____
HABS _____ HAER _____ NR 3 SHL _____ Loc _____
UTM: A 10/513660/4270820 B _____
C _____ D _____

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: _____
2. Historic name: R.A. Petray Property
3. Street or rural address: 11971 Old Redwood Highway
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448 County Sonoma
4. Parcel number: 086-120-47
5. Present Owner: Busick, C.J. and Virginia Address: 11971 Old Redwood Hwy.
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Residential Original use: Residential

DESCRIPTION

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

This house is 1½ stories tall with open gable ends and a centered front gable. To one side is a one-story wing which may be original or a very early addition since the detailing is very much like the taller portion of the house. The boxed cornice has a frieze with molding and pairs of sawn brackets. The end gables have bracketed returns. Double-hung windows with semi-elliptical tops are placed in pairs and have molded, bracketed hoods. The doors have similar frames and over the front door is a fan light. A door in the front gable open onto the balustraded roof of the portico which has bracketed square posts and a metal railing (probably a recent addition). The flat roof of the wing has a bracketed, molded cornice but no frieze. It has a wooden balustrade similar to the one atop the portico. The siding is channel rustic. In the rear and adjacent to house is a square tank house with tapering sides and a flat roof.



8. Construction date:
Estimated _____ Factual 1867
9. Architect _____
10. Builder _____
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage _____ Depth _____
or approx. acreage 16
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
14 Apr 83 53/25&26

13. Condition: Excellent Good _____ Fair _____ Deteriorated _____ No longer in existence _____
14. Alterations: Wrought iron below front porch posts, sun deck
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: Barns and water tower, large oaks.

SIGNIFICANCE

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)
Ransome Alexander Petray had this house built in 1867. Born in Illinois in 1831, Alexander came to California in 1854, and after mining in the northern gold fields, came to Sonoma County in 1856 and settled on a ranch directly south of this site. Petray formed a partnership with another Sonoma County pioneer Harrison Barnes, and opened a mercantile business in Windsor which they ran for seven years. In 1867 Petray bought this ranch and built this house. He lived and ranched on his 475 acre ranch until his death in 1906. He had five children from three marriages, Henry, James, Frank, Nellie, and May.

This structure is a good example of the mixture of styles typical of so many Victorian farmhouses. In excellent condition, it remains a focal point for the neighborhood.

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).

Atlas 1877, 1898
Trib.: 11/15/06

22. Date form prepared August 12, 1983
By (name) Langhart Museum (TW)
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