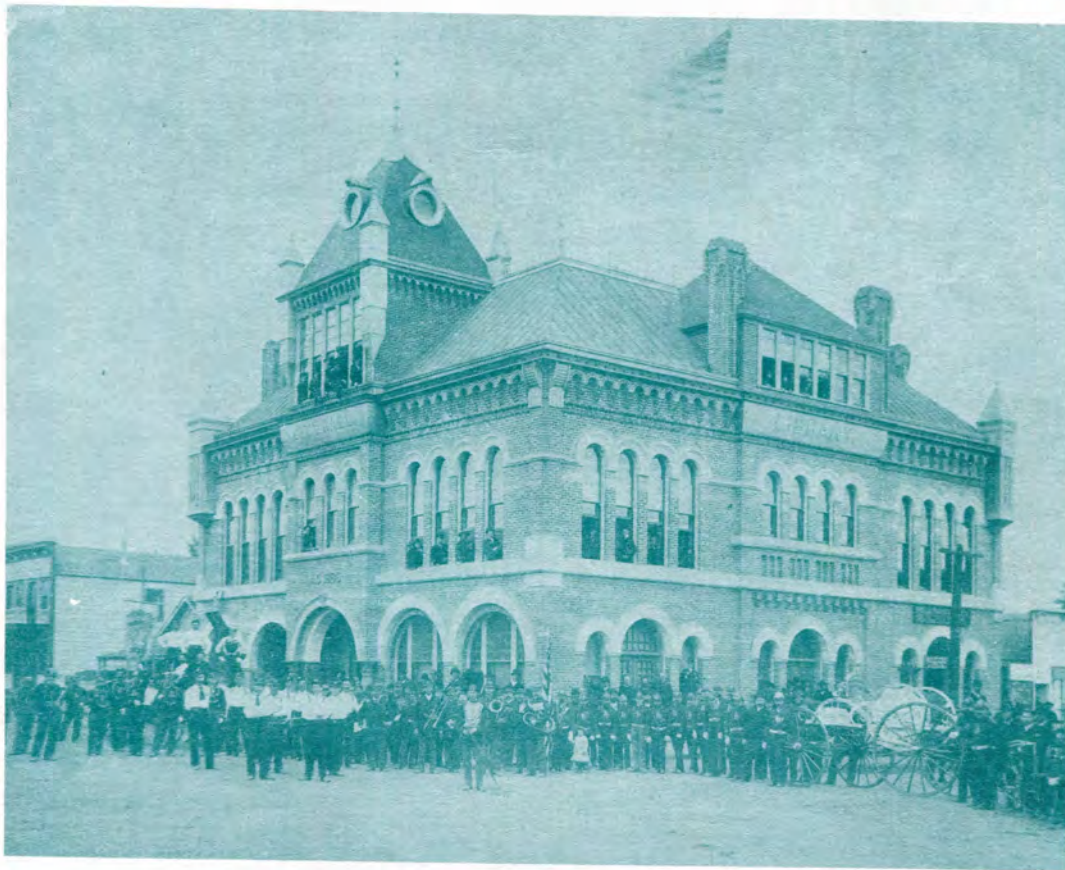


RUSSIAN RIVER RECORDER

Fall, 1988

Issue 34



City Hall and Public Library
Dedication Day Healdsburg, 1886

Healdsburg Museum and Historical Society
P.O. Box 952, Healdsburg, CA 95448

EDITOR'S DESK

There is a natural human desire to mark growth and progress by turning points and milestones. By any standard of measure, Healdsburg has reached a few of those lately. Specifically, Healdsburg is now ready to open a brand new library on Piper and Center Streets, and will soon begin the restoration of the 1910 Carnegie Library building on Matheson Street as the new home of the Healdsburg Museum, Edwin Langhart founder.

Those of you who read the *Healdsburg Tribune* (an admittedly more regular publication than ours) have kept abreast of the sometimes tortuous, sometimes astonishing progress of these two projects over the last year. Those of you who don't will be happy to know that everything came out well in the end - and all's well that ends well. (see article this issue)

The Healdsburg Public Library will soon be reaching its 100th birthday under City and County auspices (January 1989). The Healdsburg Museum is approaching its 12th birthday. In this issue we celebrate the happy expansion of both of these public cultural institutions, one a matured adult, the other a growing adolescent, with a look back at their beginnings. The public library finally succeeded after two failed attempts in a 20 year period. The public museum was a success after only one failed attempt, but it let 110 years go by in between. As with most things, the story of their struggle is glad, sad and sometimes just plain funny.

Currently we are happy to report only glad tidings. Congratulations, Public Library! Congratulations, Museum!
CONGRATULATIONS HEALDSBURG!

Recorder Staff:

Editor	Hannah M. Clayborn
Typeset	Cathryn Fairlee
Illustration	Art Reed

Table of Contents

Not By Bread Alone: A Social History of the Healdsburg Public Library.....	page 3
A Home For Our Ancestors: The Healdsburg Museum	page 9
Historical Society and Museum News..	page 13

CONGRATULATIONS HEALDSBURG!



MUSEUM'S BEST FRIENDS

Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Gauer

DISTINGUISHED FOUNDERS

Francis N. Branem
(in memory of Helen M. Branem)
Healdsburg Historical Society
Francis M. and Elsie Passalacqua
(in memory of Frank and Rachele Passalacqua)
The Evert B. and Ruth Finley Person Foundation
Garrett, Helen, and Jane Rosenberg
Charles H. and Sonja Turner

FOUNDERS

Exchange Bank Foundation
Geysler Peak Winery
Dick Low, Tip Top Cafe
Rena Phillips
Wells Fargo Bank

DISTINGUISHED BENEFACTORS

T.N. Jordan, Jr.
Leshar Communications, Inc.
Rossaline Mason Maher
General and Mrs. Fred C. Weyand

BENEFACTORS

Roberta Alexander
Carmel Bottini
Mr. & Mrs. Grant Canfield
Edgar & Judith Deas
Del DeVries
Lois A. Doran
Erle Cook Enterprises, Inc.
The Furth Foundation
Don Gourley (in memory of)
Russell, Betty Jean and Clay Green
Healdsburg Rotary Club
Healdsburg Tribune
Mrs. C. Leon Hendricks
Dr. Thomas W. Herzberg
Hybrinetics, Inc.
F. Korbel & Bros., Inc.
Max Machinery
William & Gloria Merkle
Fred W. & Fern C. Naber
Richardson Engineering Contractors, Inc.
Mrs. Cleone Snook Stevens Tilley
Quivira Winery
Mr. & Mrs. Harry H. Wetzel
Robert & Gertrude Young

PATRONS

Norbert & Judith Babin
Dr. & Mrs. Charles N. Bacigalupi
Dr. Perry E. and Barbara S. Beeson
Irving H. Bliss
Donald & Heidi Blumenthal
Gordon F. Burkhart
Lindsey Brown and Gina Fontana, D.D.S.
City of Healdsburg Employees
Cleone C. Clayborn (in memory of)
Eugene & Irma Cuneo
Glen V. Davis
Ernest Walter Frandsen
Leo Frediani (in memory of)
Healdsburg Machine Co., Inc.
John A. & Geraldine Holt
Robert and Lavelle Hill
Richard B. & Barbara H. Iverson
J.D.H. Investment Co.
John Romero Enterprises

Bob & June Jones
Camellia Inn
The Monson Family
Richard M. Mucci, M.D.
John & Carol Muir
Northbay Savings & Loan
The Opperman Family
Preston Winery
Raven Theater Associates
Margaret C. Rawlins
Donald & Betty Reukema
Franklin and Francis Ritz, D.D.S.
River Oaks Agricorn, Clos du Bois
Robert & Donna Sauers
Silveira Pontiac-Buick-GMC
Phillip & Nancy Smith
Temple & June M. Smith
Sonoma County Historical Society
Soroptimist Club of Healdsburg, Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Walter
Westamerica Bank
William Wheeler Winery

SPONSORS / DONORS

Robert & Marjorie Albo
Alderbrook Vineyards
Alexander Valley Ladies Aid
Alexander Valley Vineyards
American Association of University Women
American Legion Auxiliary, Sotoyome Unit 111
Christy and Glenn Andrade and Kevin Rosa
William Auradou
John & Pam Bacigalupi
Orin & Rhea Bain
Gary & Martha Bannister
Gladys F. Barnes
Mr. & Mrs. John D. Barrett
Nancy F. Bauer
Margaret Becker
Bera M. Beeson
Alyce Bidwell
Bill & Gino's, Inc.
Bill's Spotless Janitorial Service
Charles & Barbara Binger
Walter K. and Barbara Bockholt
Ann, V. Boone
Barbara B. Bowman
Robert and Diane Brewer
Captain Carroll W. and Mary Lea Brigham
Lynn M. Brooks
John and Diane Brooks
Brooks Vineyard Mgmt., Inc.
Brush & Company, C.P.A.
Professor William J. Bryan
David & Darla Budworth
Werner & Dorothy Buechy
Edward D. Bullard
K.E. Burkes
W.M. Burzucki & M.L. Mager
Benjamin B. and Cynthia A. Byrd
Bill & Marny Caldwell
Blanche Carter
Carter Larsen Vineyards
Rayssa I. & Olga Castello
Century 21 - Les Ryan's Healdsburg Realtor
Mr. & Mrs. Truman Clark
Cloud 9 Productions, Inc.
Edward E. Collins
Louis & Engle Colombano
Dr. Thomas W. Conklin
Conley Plumbing and Backhoe
Ronald E. Conte, C.P.A.
Joseph J. Coppa

One year ago the Healdsburg Museum, Edwin Langhart founder, was without a permanent home. One year ago it looked as though the old Carnegie Library building on Matheson Street might be slated for the wrecker's ball. The fundraising project to restore and remodel the 1910 landmark building as a permanent home for the Museum was still a quarter of a million dollars short of its \$431,000 goal after all public grant sources had been exhausted in September 1987. We wish to thank the following people who by their generous donations have made the Healdsburg Carnegie Library/New Museum Restoration Project a reality. By collectively donating over \$278,000, they have made it possible for a beloved local landmark and a priceless historical collection to survive into the next century.

A.W. and Ann Coset
 Edna Cuneo
 Dr. Patricia Dahl and Dr. Manuel Fernandez
 Mr. & Mrs. W.F. Dallam
 Kenneth & Arlene Dalton
 Merle Daniel
 Davis Bynum Winery
 John & Nancy Dayton
 Deer Gnaw Gardens
 Elma L. Denner
 Dental Ceramics
 Luis M. Diaz, D.D.S.
 Dintiman Community Property Trust
 Dry Creek Farm Bureau Center
 Dry Creek Neighbors Club
 E. Joseph Dunst and Shirley Anderson
 Horace & Eunice Edrington
 Teresa Elsezar
 Carl J. & Mary Jean Elze
 Lee & Gladys Engelke
 W.L. & Ruth Engvall
 Evans Ceramics, Inc.
 Julius & Irene Faoro
 Far Horizons Travel
 Farmers Insurance Group
 Michael Florian
 Louis & Della Poppiano
 Sharlene & Ron Fream
 Don Frediani
 Arthur E. & Thelma W. Frey
 Friends in the Country
 Benny & Delores Gagliardo
 Garrett Hardware & Plumbing Co. Inc.
 Gibraltar Savings
 Dale R. Goode
 Gail Gordon, C.P.A.
 Nicholas Grace, M.D.
 Christopher Graham
 Mary Calhoun Graham
 Dr. Donald H. Grant
 Jim & Lee Kaye Greenwald
 George & Isabel Greeott
 Ralph E. & Daphne Hamilton
 Hansen & Short, Attorneys at Law
 William T. Hardy, Jr.
 Dennis & Bonnie Harris
 Dorothy Haub
 Karen & Dave Haugsten
 Robert & Jean Haugsten
 Robert J. and Nellie E. Haviland
 Haydon House
 Ed Head
 Healdsburg Garden Club
 Healdsburg Hospital Volunteers
 Healdsburg Investors, Ltd.
 Healdsburg Museum Board of Trustees
 Healdsburg Optometrists
 Healdsburg Paint Center
 Healdsburg Tax Service
 August Carl Helmholz
 Allan & Sharon Hemphill
 Willis A. & Joy E. Hiatt
 John & Carla Hoag
 Johanna Hoagland and Martha Willig
 Otto & Ione Hoefler
 Dick & Dodie Holmes
 Rexford & Rosinda Holmes
 Holtzen Sunset Manor, Inc.
 Yvonne Horton - Merrill Lynch Realty
 Elizabeth Howe
 Jann O. Howie
 J. Lee & Blanche Hoy
 Steve Hunter

In Vivo Metric
 Neil W. Iversen
 Allen & Linda Jackson
 Marjorie G. Jaffrey
 Heber & Jane Jensen
 Dr. Ron J. Jonas
 Jim & Billie Keegan
 Dr. Warren A. & Nancy B. Kitchen
 Kobe Chiropractic Office
 Velma & Bruce Kock
 K.L. Kohart, Inc.
 Joelle K. Kornell
 Alan F. & Jodi Kremen
 Felix & Verna Lafon
 N.A. Lamb
 Roderick & Patricia Larrick
 Vincent R. & Bernice B. Learned
 Richard N. Lerner/Donald E. Levy
 Marjorie H. Lillenthal
 Audrey L. Lincoln
 Mrs. Eloise Prince Liston
 Herbert & Eladore Lynch
 Shirley S. Lynch
 Dee L. Maciel
 Robert & Marjorie Maggiora
 Manusculpture
 Mark West Winery, Inc.
 Fred L. Mason
 Bill Matz
 Phil & Judy Mayhew
 Robert F. Mazzetti
 James R. Mazzoni, Jr.
 Ben E. & Barbara L. McCutchan
 April McDonald
 Wallace & Marsha McPheeters
 Memorial Beach Veterinary Hospital
 Don & Mary Mendez
 Dr. & Mrs. Emerson Meyer
 Robert H. & Elizabeth L. Meyer
 Guerdon G. & Dorothy L. Miller
 Don & Yvonne Milligan
 Roger & Trish Morf
 Mork Capital Management
 Tim & Patricia Murphy
 Murphy/Goode Vineyards
 Mary Emma Nave
 Dr. Edward M. and Margery S. Neal
 George Nichols, D.D.S.
 Beatrice C. Nyberg
 Ethel Marie Oakleaf
 John M. & Florence C. Obrien
 Byron J. & Eleanor M. Olson
 Kate & Marvin Palmer
 William & Christine Parr
 Pryor & Norma Passarino
 John and Christine Pedroncelli
 Marion Penry
 James E. Piercy
 John C. & Beverly Pillsbury
 Pillsbury's Office Products
 Piper Sonoma Cellars
 Zelma A. Ratchford
 Richard Ratto
 Bob Rawlins
 Carole & Arthur Read
 Elinore J. Read
 James & Gretchen Reed
 Nancy Gibbs Richard
 Robert & Sharon Roper
 Sarah R., Cathryn Marshall,
 and Dr. K. Daniel Rose
 Kenneth M. Rose, C.P.A.

TICKETS, 50 CENTS.

ADMIT ONE.

Friday Evening, December 1st, at 7:30.

Library Benefit.

Leonore R. Turner
 D.B. & Dorothy Van Winkle
 Viacom Cablevision
 The Video Store
 Vintage II Antiques
 Richard and Beverly von Borstel
 Bertha Vranna
 Stewart L. & Aria W. Wade
 Mr. & Mrs. James D. Walters
 John C. Warnecke
 Martha & Fred Warner
 Fred R. & Ruby Wasson
 Keith Weaver
 Opal & Glen Wendling
 Florence Wheeler
 Roland F. and Janette Z. Wilkinson
 Margaret Wiltshire
 Dallas e. Wright
 Walter F., Josephine & Joel Wright
 Lindsay & Paula Wurlitzer
 James & Diane Young
 Mr. & Mrs. Dale L. Zobel

Robert L. & Yvonne A. Rose
 Debra & Peter Rugh
 Art & Dorothy Ruonivaara
 Anna Dorothy Russell
 Eugene & Pat Saini
 John & Patti Saini
 Charles & Inez Scalone
 Donald J. & Patricia Kay Schmidt
 Eleanor C. Schwab
 Sylvia Seventy
 Shubel Chevrolet Olds, Inc.
 Joseph & Marie Smith
 Marie M. Sparks and Beverly J. Lee
 State Farm Insurance
 St. Clair Earthmoving
 Richard & Katherine Stein
 Steiner, Inc., dba Prescription Center
 Robert Stemmler Winery
 James J. Strong
 James & Betsey Thompson
 Tile Heritage Foundation
 Maria L. Toomey

NOT BY BREAD ALONE

A SOCIAL HISTORY OF THE HEALDSBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY



The Russian River Institute, built in 1857. It was here that a library was founded.

It seems a simple thing to us now, a public library, where almost any man, woman, or child can discover what they will between the pages of a book - for free. But the founding of such a library in Healdsburg was the result of several separate attempts over the last 130 years that involved such controversial issues of the day as Women's Rights, the Temperance Movement, Democratic Ideals, and Capitalist vs. Reformist politics.

As in many enterprising infant towns in California in the 1850's, Healdsburg's founders tried to start everything at once. So the early roots of our library cannot be separated from the first attempts to found churches, schools, cultural societies, and newspapers. All of these early efforts aimed at the moral, educational, and cultural uplifting of its citizens. For a long while it was an uphill battle on this dusty frontier.

The earliest school in town was founded on the Cyrus Alexander

ranch in connection with the Presbyterian Church in 1853. This same civic-minded man, the first white settler in northern Sonoma County, built another school for the town on the land he owned called "Pine Grove", now near Tucker and East Streets. These schools would constitute the first small library of texts amassed for the public benefit.

A more ambitious undertaking was spurred by the arrival in 1857 of Roderick Matheson, a well-educated and highly literate Boston schoolteacher. After a remarkably successful political career in early San Francisco, Matheson turned his attention to the intellectual improvement of this struggling community. He became one of the first teachers to join pioneer educator Erastus Scott, who erected an academy in 1857 at the present University and Tucker Streets. The Russian River Institute had 103 pupils at the opening of its first semester in September, 1857, and it was here that private tuition and donations began to form the

nucleus of a small library that was eventually passed down to future generations.

But Healdsburg was, after all, a small farming community, and the outlay for tuition to a private school was more than many local families budgets could bear. When Matheson initiated an even more ambitious project, the founding of a University, he and the founding trustees bought out the financially foundering Institute. Matheson modeled this new college after the successful Farmer's and Mechanic's Institute which he had helped found in San Francisco.

The optimistic trustees named this new college the "Agricultural and Mechanical University of California" and commenced classes in November, 1859. In fact they had to close the old school down for one month before the opening, so as not to confuse the town and the student body. This was one of the few such institutions existing at this time. Such universities had been the dream of many of the founding fathers of the United States and with the help of Federal legislation, they finally took shape in California as the University of California system.

Along with the birth of a library came the formation of the first town newspaper and literary digest, a Russian River Institute student publication, in February, 1858. Ominously titled, *The Casket* was a combination of local news and student essays, prose, and poetry. Every article, boasted the editors, " ... we believe to be original in conception and composition." Even then the students were beginning to perceive the unique character and history of the Californians. In a June 1921, 1859 edition a student enthused over the elegant Spanish additions to the Californian's language, and in a humorous self character sketch he wrote:

"He [the Californian] throws himself upon a [church] seat, where no restraint compels him to sit upright, but either stretching himself full-length or displaying his leggings and boots on the seat in front of him, he turns over his fresh quid of tobacco, and spits sociably all

over the floor..."

Such was the medium in which literary pursuits took shape in early Healdsburg.

Although the "University" trustees invested heavily in the new school, the financial reports of 1860 showed that liabilities exceeded assets. To this the University Ways and Means Committee (consisting of Matheson and William Harrel) responded:

"All institutions of a literary and scientific character, that have any prominence in the world, unless endowed by the dying millionaire or royal bequest, have had, in their infancy to struggle for their very existence."

To Matheson their endeavor to open the minds of Healdsburg's youth was yet in the "womb of futurity".

The father of Healdsburg's first true library died a Civil War hero, Colonel of the First California Regiment, two years later. The college he helped to found continued until 1908, under various names and proprietorships. That school library, however, took on a life of its own.

The town's first organized group of bibliophiles, the Sotoyome Literary Society, was founded in October, 1863. The group of ambitious young men that made up the Society, many of whom were graduates of the town college, took over ownership of the old Mechanic's University library, and held its meetings on the campus grounds. At their first meeting the subject of debate was: "Resolved that George Washington was a greater general than Napoleon." George was judged the winner, of course. Their second meeting was spent arguing for which a young man would go farthest, a young lady or money? Not surprisingly, these young men, four of whom later became attorneys, decided that money won out.

The Sotoyome Literary Society was joined by other literary societies in the years that followed: the Mill Creek Literary and Debating Society in 1869, the Alexander Literary Society (students of the Alexander Academy, a descendant of

Matheson's University) in 1870, and the Healdsburg Literary Society in 1878. The purpose of such early societies was to bring to bear the member's literary knowledge on the pressing questions of the day, and to foster the love of books. How effective was the Public School System in California? Should the United States own and control railroads and telegraphs? These were relevant questions in the 1870's.

Healdsburg's Masonic Lodge instigated the first Public Library Association in February, 1869. To their eternal credit, the first trustees, S.M. Hays, W.S. Canan, D. Bloom, J.S. Shafer, and George Miller, set out a lofty purpose: "to establish a library and reading room together with a collection of natural curiosities, open to all who contribute." Thus this combination library and museum of "curiosities" would "not share the fate of independent libraries, which flourish for a short time and fail," or so hoped the local editor.

The "independent" libraries of which the editor spoke were private libraries. The idea of a public library, supported by member subscription, began in the U.S. as early as 1731 with Benjamin Franklin's "Library Company of Philadelphia". The idea traveled with the advancing western frontier, beginning with the founding of the Western Library Association in 1804. This last was often called the "Coonskin Library", as subscribers often paid in animal skins. In 1848 radical Massachusetts passed the first "free library" law, with California following in 1879.

The 1869 Healdsburg Library Association, using the subscription system, was given a ten year lease for a room on the upper story of the Masonic Building on the 300 block of Healdsburg avenue. Carpets and a chandelier were bought and a librarian hired, all through donations. This first official public library was bequeathed the original collection of books from the old Russian River Institute. It seems that only one year before, a professor, J.W. Anderson, who was

retiring from the old Institute, became concerned about the scattering of the books. He purchased them from the Sotoyome Literary Society, but now turned them over to the Library Association.

If At First You Don't Succeed...

Early reports on the new library appeared very positive, with various theatrical benefits supporting the project. The first library apparently failed, however, in the early 1870's, and in 1876 history stuttered, and the entire formation process was repeated.

Once again, it was the Masonic Lodge that was the impetus for the new library. This time they offered their second story room with a ten year lease of \$12.50 per month (first six months free), to a Public Library Association. Such an association was speedily formed by a group of 28 men and 5 women who passed by-laws modeled after the Mechanic's Library of San Francisco. Their avowed purpose was the "mutual improvement of its members and the cultivation of a friendly feeling." An elected board of nine male officers publicly proclaimed the obligation of Healdsburg ladies to plan fundraising festivals and solicit donations.

The grand opening of the library on May 2, 1876 brought many visitors to view the newly carpeted 1540 square foot room with hardwood finish, lit by three lovely gas chandeliers. Three hundred "choice" books lay on handsome tables. These books, that same original library of the Russian River Institute enlarged by later purchases, had been returned to its donor, Prof. Anderson, after the failure of the first library. He in turn sold them to C.E. Hutton, the principal of the Alexander academy, with the understanding that they would be kept for a town library. Hutton honored his promise by turning them over to the Library Association in 1876.

This 1876 library was open to all for reading without a fee, but only

members who subscribed at \$1 per quarter could borrow books. George Hudson was hired as librarian for a salary of \$15 per month.

Despite an auspicious beginning, the second attempt to operate a public library on a subscription system had failed by 1879. Perhaps coincidentally, the old University, now the Healdsburg Institute, failed in the same year and was taken over by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The editor of the local "Enterprise" newspaper bitterly blamed the failure of both projects on mismanagement of their respective boards, who were "unfit", "uninterested" businessmen who "lacked education". He recalled that the citizens had hailed that library opening in 1876 as the "...day when the pernicious influences of the barroom and its gilded sign of enticement would be dimmed by the healthy atmosphere of the Library Hall." Yet the young people who ventured into this haven were now met by stern (apparently female) faces who reprimanded the slightest infraction. With no fire in winter, the editor claimed, the library patron was alternately "...in direful pain or unrequited fear," during his short stay. Although almost \$1,000 was spent on the enterprise, the most recent management made the barroom look inviting by comparison.

This shocking editorial prompted a strange reply from the most recent female librarian. Taking exception to his comments, she launched into a very amusing and erudite treatise on women's rights. Until that time the town librarians had been male. In Healdsburg, she raged, women were only thought fit to be mothers or school marms. A woman is not "the lesser man", she said, "not men spoiled in the making", but beings gifted on their own. She closed with the challenge that the "problem of the day is not what to do with our gifted and capable women, but what to do with our worthless and incapable men".

Women and Literature in Healdsburg

The role of women in

Healdsburg Minstrels!

— A T —

POWELLS THEATER

— O N —

Friday Evening, Sept. 7, 1877,

FOR THE BENEFIT OF

The Healdsburg Library!

DIRECTOR.....W. W. FERGUSON	TREASURER.....GEO. R. HUDSON
BUSINESS MANAGER....G. B. PENSE	PROPERTIES...GEO. W. CONGLETON
STAGE MANAGER.....W. E. FOSTER	MUSICAL DIRECT'R...A. P. MULLIGAN

PROGRAMME:

PART I.

INTRODUCTORY OVERTURE.....COMPANY
 "WHY DOES MOTHER STAY SO LONG?".....GEO. R. HUDSON
 "OLD CALEB.".....W. W. FERGUSON
 "GATHERING SHELLS FROM THE SEASHORE."...W. W. RENFREW
 "DON'T YOU GRIEVE AFTER ME.".....G. W. CONGLETON
 "SAVE YOUR KISSES ALL FOR ME.".....W. E. FOSTER

Finale: "Let Me Sing It."

BY THE COMPANY.

PART II.

BLUE GLASS!

ALEXANDER.....	W. W. FERGUSON
TIMOTHY.....	W. E. FOSTER
DR. SAWBONE.....	GEO. R. HUDSON
A SICK MAN,	} Blue Glass Eaters, {
ANOTHER SICK MAN,	
	G. W. CONGLETON

STUMP SPEECH---PENSE.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

E. P. WESTON.....	GEO. B. PENSE	TOM ALLEN.....	G. W. CONGLETON
LANDLORD.....	GEO. R. HUDSON	CLERK.....	J. H. REYNOLDS
COOK.....	W. W. FERGUSON	WAITER.....	W. W. RENFREW
MATILDA.....			W. E. FOSTER

Short Bits & Local Hits.

W. E. Foster.

Shadow Pantomime.

BY THE COMPANY.

Doors Open at 7 O'Clock. Performance Commences at 8.

ADMISSION, 50 CTS. CHILDREN, 25 CTS.

The Performance will be Followed by a

PHANTOM PARTY!

"HEALDSBURG ENTERPRISE" Job Printing Office.

Healdsburg's literary projects is interesting. Back when book learning and intellectual debate were thought to be "manly" arts, the membership of the first Literary Societies was almost exclusively male. By the 1890's, however, women had infiltrated and virtually taken over the societies. This coincided with the increase in female attendance at the local high school and college. As early as 1859 the University had 45 girls and 69 boys, but according to the school newspaper, "...owing to the continuance of the term after the haying season had commenced, a great majority of the young men were compelled to leave school to attend their farms." The local public high school, established in 1888, consistently had a majority of female graduates until the 1920's. Once again, the practical concerns of a small farming community infringed on the pursuit of the intellectual life of its young men. Girls might be spared from the farm until marriage, but the boys were needed for their strong backs. This partially explains why Healdsburg literary societies were predominantly female by the turn-of-the-century.

At the same time, the fight against slavery in the U.S. during the first half of the 19th century had drawn many American women into political activism. For the first time women became an organized political force. Once aroused, women also began to rankle at the more subtle chains that bound the gentle sex. By 1879, feminism, in the form of a feisty librarian, had finally reached Healdsburg.

The resistance to female liberation in Healdsburg was also evident in the 1870's. Aside from the editorial attack on the female librarian, a typical subject of debate for one of the all-male debating societies in 1876 was whether the "Women's Suffrage Movement is Degrading to Women". These males decided in the affirmative.

If at Second You Don't Succeed

It is uncertain how long Healdsburg went without a library after 1879. The local newspapers from

1880 to 1889 have apparently been lost to history. Later press comments indicate that the Women's Christian Temperance Union started up a reading room somewhere in town in 1885. It is known that a public library was planned for in the commodious and ornate Healdsburg City Hall building that was completed in 1886.

It was not until January of 1889, however, that the city trustees granted the "Ladies now conducting the Public Reading Room", the use of the west room on the second floor of the City Hall (approximately 50' by 30') free of charge. The "Ladies" in question were the Women's Christian Temperance Union, and the Public Reading Room that they dedicated in March of 1889 was praised by the local press. "The City Hall has begun at last to be utilized. Better late than never", groused the editor of the *Enterprise*.

The community backed this third (or fourth) attempt, and the fledgling *Healdsburg Tribune* newspaper began a fundraising drive in 1893 to raise \$100 for a 30 volume set of *Encyclopedia Britannica*, a dictionary, and various historical works and maps. How the library got along without a dictionary to that point is unknown, but it is interesting to note that better science and history texts were an aim of almost every fundraising drive of this era. As late as 1908 a letter to the editor advised fathers to keep their sons out of evil saloons by encouraging them to read history. Especially helpful, he thought was the study of local history, for learning to view his own area with perspective would effect his view of the world.

A report given on the W.C.T.U. Library in 1895 showed that electricity was donated by the local franchise and that other operating costs amounted to \$14 per month, offset by subscription of members. Mrs. M.J. Prunk was the undisputed - and unharassed - head librarian and president of the W.C.T.U.

Liquor and Libraries

There was a strong connection in many local citizens' minds between

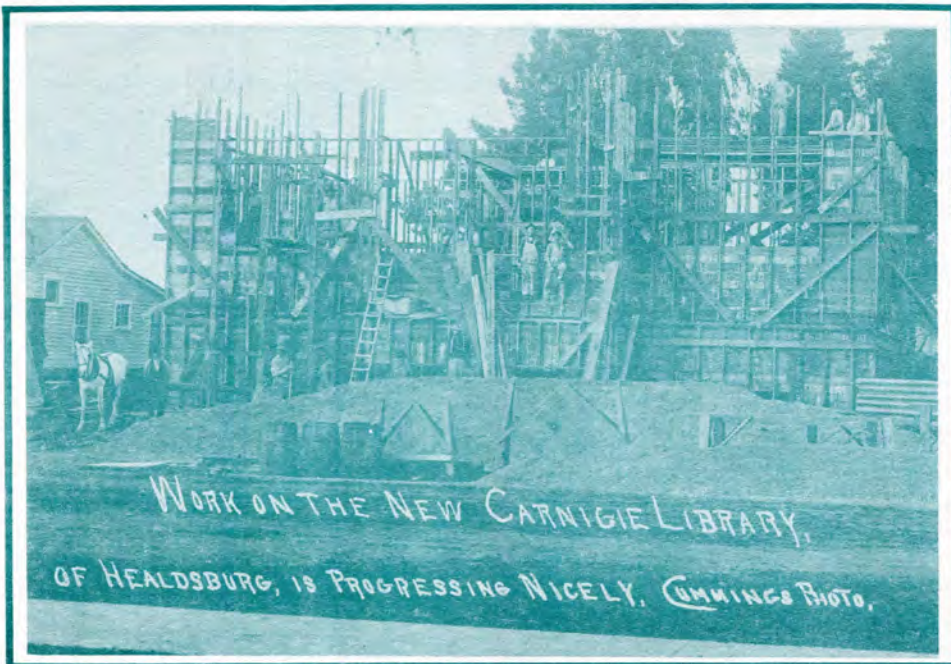
sobriety and a love of literature. That positive connection was mentioned anew with every attempted library until the 1890's. However, that connection was not always a positive one. In 1893 the *Tribune* felt obliged to come to the defense of the library and denied that there was a connection between the Temperance Movement and the management of the Public Library. He claimed that the public was being told to stay away because of the views of the W.C.T.U. Just one year later the city took over library operations, and the *Tribune* noted that attendance increased immediately. He hinted that this could be attributed to the fact that many people did not agree with the W.C.T.U.'s philosophy. Local hostility to the movement to ban alcohol may have even been the motivating factor for the city's takeover of the library in 1896.

Like the ubiquitous municipal water fountain, the Public Library had become a symbol of sobriety to many. In 1908 a prominent citizen proclaimed that Healdsburg was waking up to the necessity of ridding itself of the "saloons and gambling dens which disgrace it in the eyes of all decent people." A library, he claimed, promotes mental and moral culture. The writer himself was saved from a life of sin by books, and he stated that Andrew Carnegie was put on the road to success in the Pittsburg Public Library.

Free For All

When the city took over the library on September 9, 1896, they declared it a free lending library for all persons over 14 years of age. A Library Board of Trustees was appointed and a special tax of 5¢ per \$100 assessed value was instituted for its support. All of the trustees appointed were prominent men, and a male librarian, J.B. Leard, was hired.

City management seemed to improve the library's holdings and circulation almost immediately. A report in 1898 showed that monthly book circulation had risen in one year from 55 per month to 250 per



Postcard for tourists, November 1910 (note that "Carnegie" is misspelled).



Carnegie Library, circa 1925.

month. Book holdings totalled 825. Two years later there were 1575 library volumes, and a monthly circulation of 417.

The Ladies Improvement Club renovated and cleaned the library rooms in 1901, and in 1903 the collection was converted to the Dewey Decimal System. By 1909 the now overcrowded rooms were circulating 1075 books per month

and the average daily attendance was 80. It was time to build a real public library.

Carnegie To the Rescue

The Healdsburg Library Board of Trustees may have asked self-made millionaire industrialist, Andrew Carnegie, for a grant of \$10,000 to construct a library as early as 1906. The *Tribune* reported such inten-

tions in March of that year. It was not surprising that Healdsburg wanted to be included on the list of Carnegie grant recipients.

Even before he published his controversial book, The Gospel of Wealth and Other Essays, in 1900, Andrew Carnegie had been busy giving away his fortune. "The man who dies ...rich dies in disgrace", proclaimed Carnegie. His particular interest in gifts for construction of libraries began in 1881 with a gift to his birthplace in Scotland. Libraries appealed to Carnegie's "work ethic" philosophy. "The fundamental advantage of a library is that it gives nothing for nothing. Youths must acquire knowledge themselves." But in a public library, the millionaire's son has no advantage over the pauper's son, an important concept to this self-educated Scottish immigrant.

By 1917 Carnegie had made grants for the construction of 2,509 free public libraries in the English-speaking world, 1,679 of which were in the United States. These gifts were in addition to his other philanthropic projects. By the end of his life Andrew Carnegie had given away 300 million dollars.

But each applicant city had to meet Carnegie's eligibility requirements, which included a minimum population and tax base. His gifts were also contingent on each city providing a building site and a yearly maintenance (totalling at last 10% of the gift). The town was also left to provide the books to fill the building.

In 1909, Carnegie, then living in his Skibo Castle in Scotland, informed the library board that their request for \$10,000 was granted. Things got underway quickly after that. The old Flack property at Matheson and Fitch Streets was purchased in January, 1910 for \$2,125. In February, Petaluma architect, Brainerd Jones, was chosen to design the new library. Jones had designed the Petaluma Carnegie Library in 1903, and had designed several residences in Healdsburg. He would later design the impressive Frank Passalacqua house at 726 Fitch

Street.

By 1908 Carnegie had become concerned over the frivolous ostentation and inefficient planning of some Carnegie Libraries throughout the U.S. In 1911 they published a pamphlet with architectural guidelines for construction. But Healdsburg did not need such prodding to be economical. While Petaluma had added substantially to their Carnegie endowment of \$12,000 to construct a grand edifice with coursed stone and a stained glass skylight, spending a total of \$16,000 in 1903, Healdsburg requested and got a reinforced concrete neo-classic structure for exactly \$10,500. That was only 5% over their Carnegie endowment.

To reach this budget Jones' original plans were altered to exclude excavation for a sunken ground floor, economizing by raising the plan to ground level. However, working within the budget, Jones was able to design a charming, dignified building with such detailing as Douglas fir columns in the interior and extensive system of built-in bookcases. In the end this simple library was more reflective of Healdsburg's collective attitude in 1910.

The original floor plan called for a "Receiving Room" and a "Future Social Hall" on the ground floor. Above, on the main floor, a "Book Room", "Children's Room", "Librarian's Committee Room", and a "Reading Room" were planned. Here also two "Hat Alcoves" on either side of the main entrance were thoughtfully provided. A galvanized metal "Fumigating Locker" in the Committee Room was designed for sterilizing books after use by those with infectious diseases.

One of the items in Jones' original architectural plan that was cut during construction was a pair of five foot bronze light standards that were to be placed on either side of the monumental steps. A fundraising drive, initiated in 1912 to plant a lawn at the site and install these standards was only partially successful. It was not until 1916 that Esther Rosenberg donated the

money for their installation. They were apparently removed because of electrical problems in the 1960's. Unfortunately we have been unable to locate them so that they might be restored to the building.

Local contractor, Frank Sullivan, was awarded the bid for construction for \$9,473 in October, 1910, and all subcontracts went to local businesses. Although construction began immediately after award of the bid, it was not completed until May of 1911.

Politics, Celebration and Taxes

By today's standards, the construction and opening of the Carnegie Library received very little attention from the *Healdsburg Tribune*. This may have been due to the political philosophy of its editor (a progressive reform Republican), Alexander Crossan. In one of the few references he made to the Carnegie gift, Crossan grudgingly stated on May 17, 1911:

"And it should not be forgotten that the generosity of Andrew Carnegie made this magnificent structure a possibility in Healdsburg. The accumulation of such vast wealth in the hands of one man is certainly against the interest of popular government, but it is a great blessing if the man that accumulates it can see that duty calls him to bestow his fortune for the benefit of the community."

This statement hints at the controversy that may have surrounded the new library.

A planned benefit concert by the Brewster Herold Concert Company and Lytton Orphanage Band for the opening of the new building was held across the street at the Adventist Church on May 25, 1911. It was hoped that the library would be finished and open to the public on that night, and it was hoped that the benefit concert would pay for the construction cost overruns of \$500. At the Adventist Church on that grand night, performer Brewster read a poem especially penned for the occasion by Healdsburg poet and historian, Julius Myron Alexander. While hand-

painted colored slides of the library were projected on the wall, Brewster dramatically intoned the last verse:

"Oh building! Guard safe our jewels dear;

Oh books! Our friends through every year;

God keep thee safe, though storms may ride,

To us be a light, a beacon guide.

Column and building and books for each,

Live! Live for the age, for Eternity teach."

On a more practical note, local citizens were taxed at a rate of \$1.26 per \$100 of assessed valuation on that year to pay for the purchase of the building site and other costs. However, there are no recorded protests of this special tax or the construction cost overruns. Healdsburg was proud of its new, free public library.

Epilogue

Over the years the library patronage, circulation, and book collection grew. Some of those original books from the old Russian River Institute collection may even have survived the years. The library remained under municipal control until it was absorbed into the County-wide library system in the mid-1970's. That development, as well as the recent decision to build a new library at Center and Piper Streets, involved much indecision, controversy, and group effort. We look back now to those many struggles in the early years to found a public library, and we are glad that someone persevered. No doubt future generations will look back on these recent struggles with as much appreciation.

Over the last 78 years the old library building served as both a place of learning and a place where the community could meet to share ideas. It finally fulfilled those goals of that pioneer Public Library Association in 1876, which was the "mutual improvement of its members and the cultivation of a friendly feeling."

A Home For Our Ancestors

THE HEALDSBURG MUSEUM



Edwin Langhart inspects Civil War cannon from Alexander/American Legion collection in City Archives, 1964.

What is a museum, anyway? To the ancient Greeks who invented the word it meant a temple of the Muses, the nine daughters of Zeus who presided over the inspiration of man. In the minds of most Healdsburg citizens in the late 1800's, the answer was similarly vague. Most museums of that era were ambiguous collections of statuary, fine art, exotic animals, "antiquities", specimens, and natural "curiosities". The idea, mainly, was to show people things from far away, things that they had never seen before. So a small Victorian museum would exhibit a piece of petrified wood beside a statue of Hermes and a stuffed monkey. Stereopticon photographic views of ancient Roman catacombs might share space with a bad copy of "Blue Boy". At first there was very little local history in western museums, because the west was considered too young to have much of a history by citizens of the United States.

A Collection of Curiosities

The first mention of a museum in Healdsburg came in February, 1869, at the same time that the first Public Library Association was formed. The members of the Masonic Lodge who became the first Library Association Trustees wanted to establish a library together with a "collection of natural curiosities open to all who contribute." This "collection of curiosities" apparently shared the fate of the first attempt to found a library, which failed soon after for a lack of subscribers.

The next museum attempt was also in the Masonic Lodge building on the 300 block of West Street (now Healdsburg Ave.). As described by the local press on December 12, 1878, it was:

"WORTH SEEING -- Lester Stevens' Centennial Museum in the Masonic building is well worth seeing. The views include scenery of all descriptions, statuary, etc., and

one can see more in an hour than he could in a month's travel. Only 25¢ is charged, which is dirt cheap, as we can testify. Go and see it by all means."

This museum, named in honor of the 1876 national centennial, was never mentioned again. And no attempts to found a new one were reported on for another half century.

But that does not mean that there was no local interest in collections of many types. Several of the more illustrious pioneer settlers maintained private collections of interesting objects that were occasionally described in the press. As in most public museums of the era, these private collections were extremely eclectic. One typical collection belonged to Col. L.A. Norton, a veteran of the war with Mexico and many other colorful exploits, who settled as an attorney in Healdsburg in 1857. Norton became the celebrated (or infamous) attorney for the Fitch heirs in the land disputes surrounding the Sotoyome land grant in the late 1850's and 1860's. He also became the first town Mayor and City Attorney. His private collection was sometimes on public view in his downtown office and included a patent steamer wheel of his own design, the sword he used in the Mexican War, and other relics that he gathered during his travels. Two of the most interesting were a 1675 embroidery on silk of the Virgin Mary, confiscated during a guerilla raid in Mexico in the 1840's, and one of the three existing facsimile maps of Virginia, originally drawn by Capt. John Smith (of "Pocahantas" fame) in 1606.

The First "Local Historian"

As time went on, such private collections began to incorporate items of local history. The town of Healdsburg was only about 46 years old when native son, Julius Myron Alexander, began to collect local history in 1903. Julius was the nephew of Cyrus Alexander, the first white settler in northern Sonoma County. Born in 1857, the year Harmon Heald laid out the town,

Julius grew up on a farm in Alexander Valley. His father, Charles, had written the biography of Cyrus Alexander in 1876, and so young Julius may have been exposed to historical thought at an early age.

After several different business careers in nearby locations Julius returned to Healdsburg in 1903 to become the town's official secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, and the unofficial local poet laureate, town booster, and historian. More than any other man of his time Julius was respected and loved for his untiring boosterism and literary tributes to Healdsburg. He became a good friend of horticulturist Luther Burbank, was acquainted with Henry Ford, and was a cousin to Mrs. Thomas Edison.

Alexander began his historical writings in 1919, and he had a large collection of local historical artifacts by the late 1920's. This collection included 50 guns and firearms of the local pioneers, the first organ to reach Healdsburg via Cape Horn, and "other relics of the Sotoyome locality", including many photographs and newspapers dating back to 1861. His collection also included such items of note as a stirrup from the saddle of Kit Carson and a fife from the Battle of Waterloo. In all there were "several hundred items", and all of these were donated in 1929 to the American Legion to display in their Center Street clubhouse "as a nucleus for a museum of pioneer and war relics" of the Healdsburg area.

When Alexander died three years later the entire town mourned his passing. He had come to symbolize the spirit of the pioneers and Healdsburg itself. The American Legion continued to display his collection at its clubhouse, and Alexander left instructions that his historical papers be cared for by the city. He wrote:

"These 2 boxes of manuscripts and writings are to be strapped and placed in the vault of the City Hall to be in care of the City of Healdsburg Trustees or Manager and the City Clerk. They contain Historical Records to be very valuable at dates in the future. They should not be

allowed to be taken away from the City Hall except briefly for perusal."

In this way Julius Myron Alexander was the first major donor to the historical collection of the City. Unfortunately, since the items in the boxes were never listed, it is difficult to tell which of those manuscripts have survived since 1932. It is recorded that two anthropologists from U.C. Berkeley came to City Hall in that year to study the papers, looking specifically for Indian folklore.

writings with very few exceptions were all about Healdsburg. His writing began as a series of articles written for the *Healdsburg Tribune* in 1938. He recorded much that he remembered about the town from his boyhood and much that he gleaned from the old-timers and his own research. Although some of his essays now appear dated, especially his attitude toward the Pomo Indians and other ethnic groups, they are still a very valuable record, and were the most complete



Julius Myron Alexander participates in the sacred Pomo Indian dances, near Healdsburg, circa 1925.

Alexander Inspires a Successor

One of those who was inspired by the collections and writings of Julius Alexander was a man named William Shipley. Like Alexander, he was a Healdsburg native, born in 1872 to a local pioneer school-teacher, John Shipley and his wife, Josephine. Young William earned his medical degree in San Francisco in 1900 and came back to practice in northern Sonoma County. In 1920 he established Cloverdale General Hospital.

Although Dr. Shipley eventually moved with his family to Santa Rosa in 1927, his voluminous historical

historical accounts of Healdsburg written to that time.

Shipley also collected historical artifacts. The most impressive parts of that collection were the exquisite Pomo Indian baskets and crafts, most of which were probably made in the Cloverdale and Healdsburg area. According to Petaluma historian Ed Fratini, who knew Dr. Shipley well, Shipley stated that many of these baskets were purchased from Pomo families who would come to the Santa Rosa Courthouse whenever a circus came to town. Because of their love for these circuses, they would sell the

baskets for a few dollars to cover the admission price. These same baskets would now be worth hundreds or even thousands of dollars.

Shipley donated this collection to the Sonoma Historical Society, a pioneer historical organization which he helped to found in 1948. Although the first official name of that organization was the "Sonoma County Museum and Art Gallery Association", the museum and art gallery did not materialize. Dr. Shipley died in 1960, and his historical essays were published by the Society in 1965.

A New "Mr. Healdsburg"

The becalmed Sonoma County Historical Society was revived by nine prominent history lovers from around the county in 1962. There was now a new representative from Healdsburg, Sequestor Edwin Langhart (known throughout his life as "Ed" or "Zeke"). Like Alexander and Shipley, Langhart was a native of Healdsburg. Born in 1915, he had no doubt met Dr. Shipley and read his historical works during the end of Shipley's life. Dr. Shipley's ambition to found a County Museum may even have sparked a similar ambition in Langhart, who was elected Healdsburg City Clerk in 1948. (Eventually a County Museum was established in 1964 with the help of the Coddling family, and a new County Museum has recently been established in the old Santa Rosa Post Office building.)

Meanwhile Edwin Langhart was taking an increasingly greater interest in the City of Healdsburg Archives, which now contained a considerable amount of historical material. As the son of the most prominent local photographer in Healdsburg from the 1920's to about 1960, Langhart was familiar with the valuable record that historical artifacts provide. It is uncertain when he first began to think about a local museum to store the historical resources of the town, perhaps from the very beginning of his career with the city. Certainly he must have considered it as early as the

1950's when he accepted a variety of "relics" for the City Archives, storing them in the old 1886 City Hall building.

The first major collections donated to the city during Langhart's tenure came in 1961, just after the old City Hall was demolished and a new one built on the same lot. Annette Downing Brown donated the hundreds of original Sonoma County photographs taken by her father, Joseph H. Downing, between 1871 and 1873. This photo collection is now the oldest and most valuable in the county. In a letter to Mrs. Brown's daughter years later, Langhart stated that it was this 1961 donation that started him thinking seriously about a museum in Healdsburg.

The idea became firmly entrenched after that. In 1962 the American Legion contributed the Julius Myron Alexander Collection to the City Archives. That collection had been reduced somewhat since 1929, but it was still mainly intact. Donations of other private collections to the public pool continued, including donations of bound volumes of the local newspapers from both Arnold Santucci and the Healdsburg Public Library.

Langhart had been storing these items in the City Hall safe for years and now he set up small displays in the lobby of City Hall. By this time he spoke regularly to local oldtimers and was doing a considerable amount of research on local history in libraries throughout California. With the prospect of a future museum in mind, he systematically sought out descendants of the pioneer families and corresponded with them regularly. Like Alexander in his day, Langhart spoke to school and civic groups and was the new contender for the title, "Mr. Healdsburg".

The Museum Is Founded

When Langhart retired as City Manager in August of 1974 he was appointed the first official City Historian and Archivist by the City Council, although he had held that post unofficially for many years

before that. In retirement he finally had the time to organize for the proposed Healdsburg Museum.

The Healdsburg Historical Society and the Historical Museum were established in the same year, 1976. That was exactly 110 years after the first attempt to create a "collection of curiosities" in the old Masonic Building.

In the first issue of *The Russian River Recorder* in July, 1976, editor Langhart wrote:

"The two organizations, though formed in the same year, are separate entities; the Historical Society being a non-profit corporation guided by a board of directors, the museum, a branch of the municipal government but managed by a board of trustees appointed by the Mayor. Each will complement the other.

The purpose of the Historical Society is to record the history of the Healdsburg area through the collection and preservation of all materials and to actively foster the appreciation of our local history through programs and activities.

There is a wealth of historical material in the community that should in time be made a part of the collection of the museum. All members of the society are urged to look for items that were a part of our local history and arrange if possible for the eventual transfer of this material to the museum."

The city purchased the building at 133 Matheson Street for the Museum, and work got underway to remodel half of that space in October, 1976. Many local people and businesses donated parts and labor including Ray Masini, EMCO Electric, Waldo Iversen, The Soroptomists, and Bob Curtis. Still, the remodeling exceeded the city budget and Langhart made an historic first request for private funds to complete the job.

The museum opened with a public celebration on December 12, 1976, just making it under the wire for the bicentennial year. The first Museum Board of Trustees were Bernice Auradou, Darrel Barbieri, Alice Grove, Jack Trotter, and Brad Witherell. Ed Langhart, of course,

was named the Museum Curator. The first Historical Society officers were Ed Langhart (president), Rose Demostene, Carol Barbieri, Jan Harrison, Billie Jo Haley, Barbara Beeson, Robert Hassett, and Jack Relyea.

Museum operations went along smoothly despite one or two political and philosophical controversies that are a natural part of museums, it seems. One of these prompted Langhart to resign his volunteer curator's position in late 1977, but his resignation was not accepted by the board. The first real test of the Museum's staying power came with the sudden death of Edwin Langhart in January, 1979. Not since the death of Julius Myron Alexander in 1929 had there been such an outpouring of public grief at the loss of a citizen. In the minds of many, Edwin Langhart was a symbol of Healdsburg. Certainly he was seen as the embodiment of the museum that he had worked so hard to create, and some saw him as the embodiment of Healdsburg itself. To a few it seemed as though the museum was a personal project, not a public institution.

The museum sailed rough seas in the years immediately following. As in the founding of the museum, political and philosophical controversies were inevitable. The decision to hire a museum professional to run the museum (not born in Healdsburg), the rightful ownership of the museum and City Archive collections, and the proper name for the museum were all controversial issues in the early 1980's.

Meanwhile, the business of the museum to collect, preserve, and interpret local and regional history was coming along just fine. Instituting an extremely active schedule of rotating exhibits, the museum continued to generate interest. High standards in care and recordkeeping of collections encouraged artifact donations. The museum collections have tripled since 1980.

Everything that Edwin Langhart wrote during his career as City Clerk, Manager, Archivist, and Museum

Curator, indicates that he saw this museum as the culmination of a century-long effort to record and preserve Healdsburg's history. Far from a personal project only, it was his express wish that it remain a free, public museum, municipally owned and operated for the benefit of all. He, along with Julius Myron Alexander and Dr. William Shipley, would be delighted at the progress and growth of the museum, and the now impending move to more secure and spacious quarters in the Carnegie building.

The Healdsburg Museum, Edwin Langhart founder, is at once a gift to the future and a home for our ancestors.

Letters:

We are so excited about the restoration of the Carnegie Library building and your subsequent move there! We are very fortunate to live in a community whose citizens foster such charm...

John D How

We are very pleased to contribute to the fine work being done to save the library for the museum...

Betty Jean Green

...Most of you will remember me as Ed Langhart's twin sister. Recently your Mayor, Bill Lucius, sent us clippings about the plans for the Carnegie Library Building restoration to house the museum Ed began and the generous offer of Mr. Ed Gauer to donate matching funds. I am very grateful to him and to all the people of Healdsburg who are fulfilling Ed's dream...

Arline Weyand
Honolulu, HI

...History is in the making in Healdsburg and we are pleased to be a part of the project.

Ruth C. Rakosky
Assistant Vice President
Westamerica Bank

...My wife and I wish to thank the Museum, Belvedere Winery, Clos Du Bois, Chateau Souverain, Alexander Vineyards and Simi Winery for a memorable "The Vintner's Table" on June 11th. It went so well.

Peter Rugh
Oakland

...Many thanks for your wonderful presentation on the indigeneous people, industries, etc to the kids from Synergy School. Your love and excitement for life "back then" captivated all of us...

Arlene Naschke
Deer Gnow Gardens

[Many local school classes send us charming notes to thank us for slide shows or museum tours. One typical example:]

...Thank for showing us the dolls I liked that part the moste. Even thogh I liked all of it. There was so many things to see I can't remember all the things I saw. I hope it wasn't to much truble. From,

Eli Dickison
Fitch Mountain School

Captain Proctor's Battery.



Captain Proctor's Light Battery passed through town one day this week and has gone into camp on Mill creek. We understand, that when the battery returns it will be used in the hop fields to shoot the hops off the vines:

Down by the marge of Russian river,
Where the sun unbinds his quiver,
And the starlight streams forever,
Stood a cannon light and free.
At its breach stands Captain Proctor,
And the charge he fired just knock'd her —
Ta-ra-ra-a-Boom-der-ee!

A TRIBUTE TO THE CARNEGIE CONSERVATION CORPS

There are many people to thank for our successful fundraising project to restore the Carnegie building for a new Museum, including our 318 generous donors. But we would also like to pay tribute to the people who had the courage to attempt this fundraising feat, our unselfish workers - the "Carnegie Conservation Corps".

In the summer of 1987 things looked rather bleak for our project. Many people believed that we could never raise \$244,000 in private funds in a city this size - and they said so. Nevertheless, seven brave Museum Board Trustees unselfishly decided to expend their energy to beat the odds. They were joined along the way by six more hardworking members of the community. And of course our Historical Society Board of Directors never stopped lending their support whenever they could.

In addition, we were joined early in the project by two very hardworking and generous team members, Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Gauer.

They not only challenged the community by offering \$110,000 in matching funds for the project, they also worked right along with us, writing letters, twisting arms, and beating the bushes for donations.

To all of the following,
Thank You for a job well done.

Special Fundraising Committee

Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Gauer

Museum Board of Trustees

Rhea Bain Bob Jones
John Brooks Emil Passalacqua
Thelma Frey Dr. Francis Ritz
Karylyn von Moren-Grist

Museum Fundraising Committee

Eric Drew Peggy Rawlins
Ted Etheredge Donald Reukema
John Holt Phillip Smith

Historical Society Officers and Directors 1987 - 1988

Francis Branern Fern Naber
Bill Caldwell Clyda Ritz
Nancy Citro Pat Schmidt
Verna Lafon June Smith
Miguel Mojica Phillip Smith
Carol Muir

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Dear Fellow Members,

It is my fervent hope that you all saw the Wednesday, August 10 issue of the Healdsburg Tribune with the headline "Congratulations Healdsburg!". How exciting to see the list of all of the 318 people who made donations to the Healdsburg Carnegie Library/New Museum Restoration Project. I have lived in the area six years and I have not seen the whole community all working together in such a determined effort. I'm so proud of us all.

We did nominate & elect officers for the Healdsburg Historical Society and installed the following officers in January. Serving for 1988 are:

President	Carol Muir
Vice President	Verna Lafon
Recording Secretary	Clyda Ritz
Corresponding Secretary	Fern Naber
Treasurer	Miguel Mojica
Membership	
Board of Directors	

Pat Schmidt
June Smith
Phil Smith
Bill Caldwell

The meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Senior Citizens Center at 10:00 a.m. and we would welcome anyone who wishes to attend.

The 2nd annual Zinfandel Hop plans are well underway. We can still add more items to our auction. If you have any donations, please call Orin or Rhea Bain at 433-7348.

Mark your calendar for December 10 for the Antique Toy Show at Madrona Manor. This should get us all in the mood for the holiday season.

See you at the Zinfandel Hop.

Carol Muir

MUSEUM NEWS

The Museum staff and volunteers have been very busy since last summer planning and organizing our fundraising effort. Now that we have reached our goal, we hope to get back to our regular schedule of exhibits at the Museum.

Our Eighth Annual Christmas Toy and Doll Exhibit was a great success as always. This year a special one-day event at Madrona Manor on December 20th was an added treat. We thank Carol Muir once again for letting us fill the manor with antique toys and Christmas cheer for this special fundraising event.

Since our Christmas exhibit closed in January we have been showing a very fine selection of local historical themes at the Museum. From local pioneers to early entertainment to the coming of the automobile to Healdsburg. Be sure to see it before it closes this November.

We will be using what little time we have until our next Christmas exhibit to plan the first

special exhibit at our new location in the Carnegie Library building. We are looking for northern Sonoma County quilts (1850 - 1930) and extra Pomo Indian basketry as loans for that first special exhibit. If you can help call Hannah at 431-3325.

The Vintner's Table

On June 11th five local wineries: Belvedere, Clos Du Bois, Alexander Valley, Souverain, and Simi, put on one of the most elegant progressive dinners ever. Along with our Museum Board member, Karylyn von Moren-Grist, these wineries raised over \$7,800 for our New Museum Project and gave all 75 people who attended a very magical evening. The phone calls and letters from happy diners confirmed that this is one event that we hope will happen every year. Special thanks to Mary Evelyn of Simi Winery who coordinated the gala evening of gourmet food, vintage wines, gorgeous locations, and ballroom dancing.

Raven Theater Benefit Opening

Part of the proceeds from the grand opening of the Raven Theater in Healdsburg on June 3rd, were donated to our New Museum Project. We were happy to attend this great affair, featuring the music of Norton Buffalo and friends and a special film tribute to director Sam Peckinpah. We give special thanks to Don Hyde and his staff at the theater and we wish them every success in their new project.

Carnegie Library/New Museum Groundbreaking

On July 29th groundbreaking ceremonies for the restoration of the old Carnegie Library building for the new Museum took place. About 90 donors gathered to watch Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Gauer receive a special tribute for their \$110,000 matching donation to the project. Museum Director, Hannah Clayborn, gave an address to all present just before the champagne toast to celebrate the start of the transformation of this landmark building. The champagne was donated by Korbel Champagne Cellars, a benefactor of our project. At 7:00 p.m. the bells of St. Paul's and St. John's Churches rang out to celebrate with us.

Looking Ahead At the New Museum Project

Eddinger Enterprises of Healdsburg was recently awarded the low bid for the old Carnegie library building for \$322,861. Previous construction estimates for the project had been about \$360,000, so this is very good news for us. Four other construction firms turned in bids ranging from \$359,217 to \$416,670.

Our fundraising goal of \$431,000, which has now been exceeded, includes estimated construction costs, architect's fees, built-in inflation and contingencies, inspector's fees and other miscellaneous costs. The low construction bid means that the final project may now include 21 work items that were cut from the project last year to bring it down to the \$431,000 total. These 21 work items include such things as the restoration of the front steps, a drinking fountain for the public, special fire sprinkler heads to protect the archives areas, and a special handicap access door.

Although we still remain cautious because of unforeseen problems that can arise with old buildings, the outlook for a fully-completed new Healdsburg Museum looks very good. The architectural firm that planned the restoration, Architectural Resources Group, of San Francisco, will be overseeing the project during construction along with a special inspector hired by the City.

We now hope that the public library, which has experienced extended delays in ordering and installation of shelving for their new building at Piper and Center Streets will move by the end of September. That means that restoration construction on the Carnegie building would begin about October 1, 1988. It is estimated that construction will take between six to nine months. If all goes well the Museum could move into its "new" old building in the late spring or early summer of 1989. Let's hold a good thought!

In Memorium

We regretfully acknowledge the following Historical Society members who have passed away since our last publication:

Elizabeth Anderson
Leo Frediani
Vivian Keegan
Helen Kennedy
Jean Perry Smith

Bibliography: A Home For Our Ancestors

Julius Myron Alexander:

Tribune: 8/11/06; 6/13/12; 9/24/14; 11/16/16; 1/9/19
Enterprise: 7/25/29; 10/17/29; 3/10/32; 7/21/32

Edwin Langhart:

Tribune: 8/15/74
Russian River Recorder: April 1979, Issue #12

L.A. Norton:

Norton, Col. L.A.; *Life and Adventures of Col. L.A. Norton*; Pacific Press Publ., Oakland 1887
Democratic Standard: 11/3/1866
Enterprise: 2/21/1878; 3/20/1879; 12/15/1888

William Shipley:

Tales of Sonoma County; Dr. William Shipley; Mrs. Edward H. Conner, ed.; Sonoma County Historical Society, Santa Rosa, CA; 1965

Museums:

Russian River Flag: 2/4/1869
Enterprise: 12/12/1878
Russian River Recorder: July 1976; Jan. 1977; Oct. 1977; April 1979

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Not By Bread Alone

Booklets/Periodicals

Healdsburg Centennial 1867 - 1967; City of Healdsburg, 1967
Clayborn, Hannah; "Colonel Roderick N. Matheson: A Civil War Hero From Healdsburg", in the *Russian River Recorder*, Healdsburg Historical Society; July/August 1981
Clayborn, Hannah; "Healdsburg Schools 1853 - 1982", in *Russian River Recorder*, Healdsburg Historical Society, April 1982

Unpublished Reports

Kaiser, Barbara. *The St. Helena Library and Andrew Carnegie*. B.A. Thesis, Sonoma State University, 1980
Kortum, Lucy. "National Register Nomination for Healdsburg Carnegie Library". City of Healdsburg, 3/11/88

Original Documents

"Constitution, By-Laws, and Minutes of Meetings of the Agricultural and Mechanical University of California". Healdsburg, May 12, 1859 to Sept. 20, 1860 [Healdsburg Museum]
Minutes of the Healdsburg City Board of Trustees, Healdsburg, Calif.; 1876 - 1912. [Healdsburg City Hall]
Plans for the Healdsburg Carnegie Library, Brainerd Jones, architect, 1910. [Sonoma County Library]
Sandborn Fire Insurance Maps of Healdsburg, California, showing Healdsburg City Hall, 1884 and 1911 [Healdsburg Museum]

NEWSPAPERS: *The Casket*, 6/21/1869; *Russian River Flag*, 1869: 2/4, 2/18, 5/26; 1876: 2/4, 3/9, 3/16, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13, 4/20, 4/27, 5/4, 5/25, 6/8, 6/22; 1879: 11/13. *Enterprise*: 1878: 2/28; 1879: 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 11/20; 3/13/1889, 6/16/06. *Tribune*: 2/26/1891, 6/2/1892, 1/5/1893, 1/12/1893, 10/17/1895, 12/12/1895, 2/20/1896, 9/24/1896, 12/3/1896, 10/13/1898, 11/22/1900, 1/10/10, 12/5/01, 11/16/05, 8/9/06, 3/1/06, 11/28/07, 3/26/08, 2/5/09, 8/20/09, 4/27/10, 10/12/10, 5/17/11, 5/24/11, 5/31/11, 4/11/12, 7/25/12, 11/21/12, 2/17/16, 7/5/17, Diamond Jubilee Edition, 8/26/40.

Return to:
Healdsburg Historical Society
P.O. Box 952
Healdsburg, CA 95448

3rd class
Address Correction

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Healdsburg, CA
Permit No. 149

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE EXPEDITE