

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Souverain Winery
2. Historic name: Souverain Winery
3. Street or rural address: 400 Souverain Road
City Geyserville, CA Zip 95441 County Sonoma
4. Parcel number: 140-030-26-3
5. Present Owner: North Coast Cellars Address: P. O. Box 528
City Geyserville, CA Zip 95441 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Commercial Original use: Winery and Restaurant

DESCRIPTION

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

This two story building is C shaped with the arms of the C ending in towers. Most of the structure has a low hip roof with shed roof dormers. The towers have steep hip roofs topped with a flat roofed cupola. The towers also have shed roofed dormers. Windows are plate glass of various dimensions. The roof of the long side of the structure covers a second story walkway. Materials used to create this building were concrete for the walls and wood for the window frames and roof shingles.



8. Construction date:
Estimated _____ Factual 1973
9. Architect John Marsh Davis,
Sausalito
10. Builder Schaff-Jacobs-Vinson
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage _____ Depth _____
or approx. acreage 20.24
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
12/10

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: Vineyards

SIGNIFICANCE

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)
Reminiscent of the old hop kilns which were once prevalent in an area in Alexander Valley known as "the plains", the Souverain Winery was founded by the Pillsbury Company of Minnesota in 1973. The winery was built that same year. In 1976 the winery was sold to North Coast Cellars, a group of independent grape growers. The site of Souverain has always been associated with grapes. The earliest being planted by local Valley Indians. The earliest owner of the property was Andrew Bouton, the famous horticulturist. Bouton, who specialized in fruit trees was such an avid temperance man that he did nothing to increase the grape acreage. The next owner J. McMinn in 1893 continued planting grapes as did the next owners, Wisecarver, and then Trentadue. The Trentadue's sold the site to the Pillsbury Company. The quality of craftsmanship in this building is comparable to the many awards for excellence that Souverain has received for its fine wines. This unique structure is one of the most outstanding examples of modern architecture in the survey area. The architect took the form of the once common hop kiln and translated its form and function into the requirements of this winery/restaurant complex.

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)
Architecture Arts & Leisure _____
Economic/Industrial _____ Exploration/Settlement _____
Government _____ Military _____
Religion _____ Social/Education _____
21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).
Hist. Alex. Valley, 1979
Int.: Lois, Rep., Souverain Winery 8/83
So. Co. History 1889
22. Date form prepared August 31, 1983
By (name) Langhart Museum (clm)
Organization City of Healdsburg
Address: 133 Matheson Street
City Healdsburg Zip 95448
Phone: (707) 433-4717

