**HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY**

**IDENTIFICATION**

1. Common name: First Baptist Church
2. Historic name: First Baptist Church
3. Street or rural address: 431 Fitch Street
   City Healdsburg Zip 95448 County Sonoma
4. Parcel number: 002-161-16
5. Present Owner: First Baptist Church of Healdsburg Address: 311 North Street
   City Healdsburg Zip 95448 Ownership is: Public Private X
6. Present Use: Church Original use: Church

**DESCRIPTION**

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

The First Baptist Church of Healdsburg consists of two buildings: one at the rear is a Greek Revival Church dated in 1856 and added to in 1908 is the larger Gothic Revival building facing Fitch Street. The front of the Greek Revival Church is flanked by two square towers; one truncated at the belfry level and one level with the eaves. Both towers contain high arched windows presently boarded up.

The Gothic Revival Church has high gothic arched stained glass windows and another square tower truncated at the eave level. Windows in the tower are round arches. The entrance to the main church is in this tower. Above the double doors is a stained glass transom inscribed, "First Baptist Church 1908".

8. Construction date: 1868/1908
   Estimated Factual
9. Architect
10. Builder: James W. Terry
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
    Frontage 98 Depth 143
    or approx. acreage
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
    19 August 1982 11/03
13. Condition: Excellent ___ Good ___ Fair X ___ Deteriorated ___ No longer in existence ___

14. Alterations: ____________________________________________________________

15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land ___ Scattered buildings ___ Densely built-up ___ Residential X ___ Industrial ___ Commercial ___ Other: _____________________________

16. Threats to site: None known X ___ Private development ___ Zoning ___ Vandalism ___ Public Works project ___ Other: _____________________________

17. Is the structure: On its original site? __________ Moved? X __________ Unknown? __________

18. Related features: _______________________________________________________

SIGNIFICANCE

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

This building is architecturally significant because of the combination of styles and primarily because it is a rare example of gothic revival not generally found except in churches in small towns. The congregation having been organized in Healdsburg in 1854, a new Baptist Church was built in 1868. It was 34 X 55 feet and forms the back portion of the present church building at 431 Fitch St. In 1908, the original building was moved back on the lot, reoriented to face the alley, and built the present front portion of the structure. The 1908 portion of the structure boasts outstanding stained-glass windows, and the structure has been in continuous use by the Baptists since 1868.

*Note: since time of photo 116 year old tower at rear removed (1984) by owner

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 X ___ Social/Education _________

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).

Hist. So. Co. 1880
Langhart Museum
Vintage Memories, 1979
Int.: Nora McMinn 1979

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