Scherrer House

Charles Alexander House

7752 Highway 128
Healdsburg, CA 95448

131-220-06-3

Scherrer, Edwin Rowe & Margaret
Evelyn
Healdsburg, CA 95448

Public

Residential

Homestead

This rectangular two-story house has gabled ends and shed roofed veranda across the front. In the rear is a one-story addition. The cornices are closed or flush with the walls and the entire structure is covered with asbestos shingles. The windows are double-hung with plain frames. The veranda has square posts atop square, capped, pedestals. The balustrade are simple posts and rails. A chimney at one of the gable ends may be a recent addition or replacement.
SIGNIFICANCE
Charles Alexander, following the pattern of his uncle, Cyrus Alexander, the first Euro-American settler in the survey area, was the biggest promoter of Alexander Valley in its history. Born in 1829 in Illinois, he joined Cyrus in 1850, purchased this land and in 1853 hired Stewart, founder of Stewart's Point Mill on the Sonoma County Coast, to build his house, the logs coming from the mill at Stewart's Point. His wife, Achsa, of the pioneer Levi Smith family, arrived with two children in 1853 and maintained this home for 30 years. Continuing to increase his holdings, which eventually amounted to 2,000 acres in 1870, bordering both sides of Maacama Creek, he experimented with new strains of fruit and nut trees and was recognized as having the largest orchard in the county. Frequently advertising his property for sale, he sold most of his holdings in the height of the quicksilver mining excitement in 1875. Moving to Healdsburg in 1880, he died in 1897.

Superficial covering of this structure mars the otherwise pristine state of one of the earliest residences in northern Sonoma County. However, the basic structural integrity is intact.

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

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).
Hist. of Alex. Valley 1879
So. Co. Atlas 1877, 1898
Ent.: 11/14/1878, 2/27/1879, 10/17/1878.
22. Date form prepared August 17, 1983
By (name) Langhrat Museum (TW)
Organization City of Healdsburg
Address: 133 Matheson Street
City Healdsburg, CA Zip 95448
Phone: (707) 433-4717